

(Note: These minutes are subject to confirmation at the next meeting of the sub-committee scheduled to be held on 25 June 2019.)

## **Economic Prosperity Sub-Committee**

**26 March 2019**

Present: Councillor Janet Hunter (Chair)  
Councillors B Burdis, M A Green,  
J Harrison, K Lee, M Madden, J Mole,  
J O'Shea, M Rankin, W Samuel and  
J Walker.

### **EP18/03/19 Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J Cassidy, D Drummond and P McIntyre.

### **EP19/03/19 Substitute Members**

Pursuant to the Council's constitution the appointment of the following substitute members was reported:-

Councillor J O'Shea for Councillor D Drummond  
Councillor M A Green for Councillor J Cassidy

### **EP20/03/19 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations**

There were no Declarations of Interest or Dispensations reported.

### **EP21/03/19 Minutes**

**Resolved** that the minutes of the previous meeting held on the 13 November 2018 be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

### **EP22/03/19 North of Tyne Combined Authority**

The sub-committee met with Paul Hanson, the Council's Chief Executive, and Jackie Laughton, the Council's Head of Corporate Strategy to receive an overview of the Combined Authority's vision and emerging work programmes and to consider their likely impact on the economy in North Tyneside.

On 1 November 2018 the Secretary State for Housing, Communities and Local Government made a parliamentary order establishing The North of Tyne Combined Authority (NTCA). The Order gave effect to a devolution deal agreed between Newcastle, Northumberland and North Tyneside Councils, the North East Local Enterprise Partnership and the government in November 2017. The devolution deal represented a significant shift

of powers, funding and responsibility from central government to the local level. The deal enabled the three councils to pursue through NTCA a shared ambition for an inclusive economy.

NTCA would have a £600m investment fund, worth £20m a year over 30 years, which was expected to generate £1.1 billion for the local economy, create 10,000 new jobs and leverage £2.1 billion in private sector investment. As well as this £600m of extra money to invest in the North of Tyne area, the deal included:

- a new, directly elected Mayor for North of Tyne to give a strong and powerful voice to the area;
- projects to improve education, skills and help people get into work;
- local control of the £23 million per year budget for adult education;
- powers to develop land for economic growth and regeneration;
- projects that increase the growth and productivity of rural communities;
- better working with Government to boost trade and investment;
- projects to grow the digital sector and low-carbon economy;
- a joint committee to manage public transport across the North East; and
- a commitment to explore new opportunities for the North of Tyne in future.

The inaugural meeting of the Combined Authority's Cabinet took place 8 November 2018 when it:

- a) approved the Vision for the North of Tyne Combined Authority;
- b) agreed the following initial projects for further development and appraisal
  - Inspiring the development of STEM and Digital skills in young people;
  - Helping residents into work;
  - Attracting new businesses to the North of Tyne;
  - Enhancing Rural Business Growth.
- c) agreed that the following projects be invited to apply for business case development funding:
  - Local full-fibre network proposal;
  - North Shields Town Centre Redevelopment / Fish Quay;
  - Energy Central Learning Hub in Blyth;
  - Targeted employment support for areas of the Newcastle with highest unemployment levels;
  - Economic opportunities associated with Northumberland, North Tyneside and Newcastle Rail Line.

The sub-committee asked a series of questions when the following issues were considered in more detail:

- a) the relationship between the Combined Authority's strategies, plans and projects and delivery of the three constituent authorities' local plans so that, for example, the right transport infrastructure is developed to support the proposed future developments;
- b) the likely influence of the Elected Mayor's agenda on the Combined Authority's plans and strategies;
- c) the role of the authority in promoting the area overseas with the aim of attracting inward investment;
- d) the importance of educational attainment and developing skills and qualifications that were right for the growth sectors to help people get into work; and
- e) how the role of the Combined Authority might develop in the future.