

Extraordinary Cabinet

24 March 2014

Present: N Redfearn (Elected Mayor) (in the Chair),
Councillors EN Darke, R Glindon, I Grayson, JLL Harrison,
F Lott, CB Pickard, L Spillard and JJ Stirling

In Attendance: R Layton (JTUC)

CAB208/03/14 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor C Burdis.

CAB209/03/14 Declarations of Interest

Councillor F Lott indicated that he had been advised that he did not have an interest in the appointments to the transport bodies referred to in Minute CAB209/03/14 below; however he stated that he would not take part in any voting on the matter.

CAB210/03/14 Combined Authority – Appointments to Committees and Sub Committees of the Combined Authority (Previous Minute CAB204/03/14)(All Wards)

Cabinet received a report seeking appropriate appointments and delegations to the Elected Mayor and Head of Law and Governance to ensure that the processes were in place for the nominations to be made to the Durham, Gateshead, Newcastle Upon Tyne, North Tyneside, Northumberland, South Tyneside and Sunderland Combined Authority (the Combined Authority).

The Combined Authority was required to have a Constitution, included in which was the detail of how its functions would be delegated and which body or officer would discharge those functions on behalf of the Combined Authority's Leadership Board. Detailed consideration of how the transport functions would be discharged and by which body within the Combined Authority had taken place. Whereas it was proposed that certain transport functions would remain with the Leadership Board of the Combined Authority, it was expected that the bulk of transport functions would be undertaken by other bodies or officers.

The transport functions not reserved to the Leadership Board were proposed to be discharged by the following bodies:-

- Transport North East Committee (TNEC) - This was a Committee consisting of 14 members, 2 from each LA7 constituent authority. One of the members from each constituent authority would be the member with the portfolio responsibility for transport. In addition to having certain functions delegated to it, it was proposed that the Leadership Board would also refer certain transport matters to TNEC for a recommendation before the Leadership Board made a decision.
- Transport North East (Tyne and Wear) Sub-Committee (TWSC) - This was a proposed Sub-Committee of TNEC and would deal only with the transport functions relating to the Tyne and Wear Authority areas. It would consist of 5

members made up of the 5 transport portfolio holders from the Tyne and Wear Authorities. TWSC would amongst other things supervise and monitor NEXUS.

In relation to Durham and Northumberland, the intention was that the Combined Authority would delegate to the respective executives of the County Councils specified operational transport functions and it was likely that the executives would in turn delegate functions to officers within the Counties as considered appropriate.

The other Committees of the Combined Authority to which appointments were required to be made were as follows:

- Overview and Scrutiny Committee - The Combined Authority was required by the terms of the Order laid before Parliament to have an Overview and Scrutiny Committee. No member of the Combined Authority could sit on the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. It was proposed that the Committee would consist of 14 members, i.e. 2 members from each Authority with the nominations to the Committee being based on the political balance prevailing at each constituent authority. In accordance with this arrangement 2 members of the Labour Group would be nominated. It was proposed that these nominations be sought through the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny from the membership of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and submitted on behalf of the Authority to the Combined Authority by the Elected Mayor.
- Governance Committee (Audit and Standards responsibilities) - It was proposed that the Combined Authority would have a joint audit and standards committee which would be known as the Governance Committee with 1 member nominated from each constituent authority. Given the expertise acquired by members that sat on Audit and Standards Committees, it was proposed that a nomination be sought through the Chair of the Governance Committee from the Authority's Audit and Standards Committee members. The nomination to the Combined Authority was proposed to be delegated to the Elected Mayor.

Resolved that (1) Councillor F Lott be appointed as the member with the portfolio responsibility for transport to the proposed Transport North East Committee of the Combined Authority and to the proposed Transport North East (Tyne and Wear) Sub-Committee;

(2) the Elected Mayor be given the delegated authority to appoint one further member of the Authority to the proposed Transport North East Committee of the Combined Authority;

(3) delegated authority be given to:

- a) the Head of Law and Governance to seek nomination of two elected members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee from the Chair of the Committee for appointment to the proposed Overview and Scrutiny Committee of the Combined Authority, and
- b) the Elected Mayor to nominate on behalf of the Authority those members so identified to the Combined Authority for appointment to the proposed Overview and Scrutiny Committee of the Combined Authority;

(4) delegated authority be given to:

- a) the Head of Law and Governance to seek nomination of one elected member of either the Authority's Audit or Standards Committees from the Chair of the Standards Committee for appointment to the proposed Governance Committee of the Combined Authority, and
- b) the Elected Mayor to nominate on behalf of the Authority the member so identified to the Combined Authority for appointment to the Governance Committee of the Combined Authority.

(5) delegated authority be granted to the Elected Mayor, in consultation with the Chief Executive and the Head of Law and Governance, to make alternative or any additional nominations to the Combined Authority if the current proposed arrangements for decision-making within the Combined Authority change.

(Reason for decision – to ensure arrangements are in place to enable the Combined Authority to create appropriate frameworks for decision making as soon as that Authority comes into being. As a result of this requirement it is necessary to identify members from each of the Constituent Authorities prior to the formal creation of the Combined Authority who will be in a position to undertake these new roles. The proposed Committee and Sub-Committee structure will also enable the Combined Authority to operate efficiently and effectively.)

CAB211/03/14 Date and Time of Next Meeting

6.00pm on Monday 7 April 2014

Minutes published on Tuesday 25 March 2014.

The decisions contained within these Minutes may be implemented (unless called in by 3 Non-Executive Members for consideration by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee) immediately following the expiry of the call-in period; i.e. 5.00pm on 1 April 2014.