

TYNE AND WEAR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT JOINT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting of the
TYNE AND WEAR ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT JOINT COMMITTEE
held in the Board Room at the Company
Offices of the Tyne and Wear
Development Company Ltd., Investor
House, Colima Avenue, Sunderland
Enterprise Park, Sunderland on
THURSDAY 5 MARCH 2009 at 2.20 p.m.

PART I

Present:-

Councillor P Watson in the Chair	- Sunderland City Council
Councillor F Anderson	- Sunderland City Council
Councillor D Allan	- Sunderland City Council
Councillor R Armstrong	- Newcastle City Council
Councillor A Kerr	- South Tyneside Council

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted to the meeting on behalf of Councillors Henry, Mearns, Goldsworthy, Shepard, Shipley, I Malcolm, J Allan and Mayor Harrison.

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

Minutes

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting of the Joint Committee held on 15 January 2009 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

Date, Time and Venue of Future Meetings 2009/2010

The Clerk to the Joint Committee submitted a report requesting that the Committee consider proposed dates for meetings of the Joint Committee together with meetings of the Sub-Committees of the Joint Committee, as appropriate, for the year 2009/2010.

Having given consideration to a suggestion from the Treasurer regarding two of the dates, it was:-

2. RESOLVED that meetings of the Joint Committee and its Sub-Committees, as appropriate, take place on the following dates at the conclusion of the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Tyne and Wear Development Company Limited or of its subsidiary companies as appropriate:-

25 June 2009
10 September 2009
12 November 2009
14 January 2010
18 March 2010
24 June 2010

Tyne and Wear Economic Development Joint Committee Extension of Arrangements

The Clerk to the Joint Committee submitted a report containing proposals to extend the existing Joint Committee arrangements.

On the dissolution of Tyne and Wear County Council, the Tyne and Wear Development Company was established to manage residual property assets on behalf of its successor authorities. Following a change in regulations governing Local Authority companies, the Joint Committee was established in March 1999 to ensure the continued favourable treatment of the financial resources available to the authorities.

The Joint Committee was established under Sections 101 and 102 of the Local Government Act 1972 and was to continue for a period of five years from 31 March 1999. The agreement was subsequently extended for a further five year term which would be due to come to an end in March this year unless extended.

Each participating Council has to give consent to the agreement being extended and arrangements have been made for reports to be considered by the Cabinet of each of the five districts.

It was:-

3. RESOLVED that the proposal to extend the current arrangements for a further five years be endorsed.

Internal Audit Strategy and Operational Audit Plan 2009/2010

The Treasurer submitted a report outlining the Internal Audit Strategy and Operational Audit Plan for 2009/2010 and the Terms of Reference for Internal Audit (the Audit Charter).

The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2003 require the Joint Committee to conduct annual reviews of its system of internal control, system of internal audit and its governance arrangements and publish a statement to this effect within its annual financial statements (now called the Annual Governance Statement). The annual review will rely, in part, on the work of Internal Audit.

The Internal Audit Charter was presented to the Joint Committee setting out the statutory role, objectives and responsibilities of Internal Audit Services (IAS). The Internal Audit Operational Plan 2009/2010 details one piece of work to be done for the Joint Committee and three audits for the Development Company in 2009/2010 and also explains that performance will be monitored against the Operational Plan and Key Performance Indicators.

It was:-

4. RESOLVED that the Internal Audit Strategy and Operational Plan for 2009/2010 including the Internal Audit Charter be endorsed.

Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006

At the instance of the Chairman, it was:-

5. RESOLVED that, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded during consideration of the remaining business as it involved a likely disclosure of exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of particular persons (including the Authority holding that information) (Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A, Part I, Paragraph 3).

(Signed) P WATSON
Chairman

Note:-

The above minutes comprise only those relating to business during which the meeting was open to members of the public.

Additional minutes in respect of other items of business are included in Part II.