

# FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE AGENDA



Friday 6 November, 2015

at 10.00 am

in the Council Chamber,  
Civic Centre, Hartlepool.

MEMBERS: FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE

Councillors C Akers-Belcher, Barclay, Cranney, James, Loynes, Richardson, Riddle, Simmons, Sirs, Springer and Thompson.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

**2. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS**

**3. MINUTES**

- 3.1 To receive the minutes of the meeting of the Finance and Policy Committee held on 16 October, 2015.

**4. BUDGET AND POLICY FRAMEWORK ITEMS**

None.

**5. KEY DECISIONS**

- 5.1 Tees Valley Devolution Deal – *Chief Executive*

**6. OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING DECISION**

None.

**7. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

None.

**8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT**

FOR INFORMATION:

Date of next meeting – Monday 23 November, 2015 at 1.00 pm in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool.



# FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE

6<sup>th</sup> November 2015



**Report of:** Chief Executive

**Subject:** TEES VALLEY DEVOLUTION DEAL

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## 1.0 TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

Key Decision, test (ii) (General Exception Provisions Apply)

## 2.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 2.1 The purpose of the report is to seek the endorsement of Finance and Policy Committee prior to referral to Council to formally sign up to a Devolution Deal with HM Government, on which the five Tees Valley authorities have negotiated hard to arrive at a deal worth £450m over 30 years.
- 2.2 This Devolution Deal is a set of resources and powers, to be devolved down from Government to the Tees Valley Combined Authority, due to be established from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016. This is in return for developing a new governance model in the form of the election of a Elected Mayor for the Tees Valley which will follow subject to legislation currently going through Parliament.
- 2.3 As part of a 'Fast Track' Deal with Government, the Leaders and Elected Mayor from the five authorities have signed an agreement 'in principle' with Government. Members are now asked to formally approve the Deal. This request is being made of all five Tees Valley Councils.
- 2.4 If agreed by each of the five councils, further detailed negotiations will take place with Government in the coming months to make the Deal happen.

The Deal is attached at **Appendix 1**.

## 3.0 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 In July 2015, the five Leaders / elected Mayor that comprise the Shadow Tees Valley Combined Authority, working together with business through the Local Enterprise Partnership (the LEP), were invited by Government to submit proposals for a Devolution Deal for the Tees Valley. What followed has been a fast-track process that puts the Tees Valley in the first wave of new Deals, shaping the agenda and influencing Government's resource allocation ahead of the Spending Review announcement in November 2015, when Government departmental budgets will be set for the rest of this Parliament. Our proposals,

“Tees Valley Powerhouse Plan” were submitted to Government on 4<sup>th</sup> September. Since then, there have been detailed negotiations with Government to arrive at the Deal attached to this report.

### **Tees Valley Context**

- 3.2 Tees Valley, the area covered by the local authorities of Darlington, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar and Cleveland, and Stockton-on-Tees, share a coherent economic identity and a background of highly effective collaboration.
- 3.3 Tees Valley is one of the most significant integrated industrial economies in the UK. It is home to England’s third largest port and produces some 30% of the UK’s process output. With a positive balance of trade and GVA worth £11.4 billion to the UK economy, we are a key ingredient in the nation’s future growth and prosperity.
- 3.4 In Tees Valley Unlimited, through our innovative Local Enterprise Partnership, we have established a mature and robust partnership, a ten year proven track record of delivery and willingness to collaborate for the benefit of our combined community. Following earlier Council approvals to submit a scheme for the establishment of a Tees Valley Combined Authority to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government and subject to the necessary Order being made, we are on track to establish a Tees Valley Combined Authority in April 2016.
- 3.5 This devolution proposal builds on that background and on the City and Growth deals already agreed with Government to take our economic growth to a new level.

### **Our Vision**

- 3.6 Our vision is that Tees Valley is an area with:
- Rapid and sustainable local economic growth to benefit Tees Valley and the whole of the UK, with a full role in the Northern Powerhouse
  - Improved life chances and opportunities for communities so that local people directly benefit through improved prosperity and wellbeing; and
  - Real strength and vibrancy as a place in which to live, work, visit and invest

### **Progress So Far**

- 3.7 Through our Local Enterprise Partnership, the five local authorities and business work very well together in the Tees Valley and have made some good progress. We have lobbied for and secured full membership of Transport for the North; seen a 20% growth in our digital sector; and a 15.6% growth in our business start up rate. We have secured significant external funds through Tees Valley Unlimited and we have a good track record in using those funds to enable businesses to create jobs. For example:

- £104m of Local Growth Funding is creating 5,000 jobs and 1,500 new homes
- City Deal is creating 3,500 jobs and £10m of investment
- £6m of Government investment in the Tees Valley Jobs and Investment Scheme has created over 700 jobs in just 18 months.
- In total, we have created 11,000 private sector jobs in Tees Valley since 2011.

3.8 There is, however, much more to be done to diversify and strengthen the Tees Valley economy and make it more resilient to external shocks, such as the recent announcement about SSI and steel. The Devolution Deal would help us to accelerate jobs growth.

#### **4.0 The Devolution Deal**

##### **What does the devolution deal mean for the Tees Valley?**

4.1 The devolution deal would bring £450m of additional money into the Tees Valley over the next 30 years and take decision-making powers away from Whitehall and into the area under local democratic control. The deal is focused on driving economic growth, accelerating delivery of the 25,000 new jobs as set out in the Strategic Economic Plan, and creating up to 14,000 additional new jobs. Final agreement depends on the support of each of the five local authorities (Darlington, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar & Cleveland and Stockton). This summary describes what the deal would mean to the Tees Valley.

##### **Governance (paragraphs 1-10 of the full document)**

- 4.2 The Chancellor has said clearly that every devolution deal on this scale requires an elected mayor. If the deal is agreed, there will be an elected mayor for the whole area of the Tees Valley Combined Authority.
- 4.3 The Mayor would be an integral part of the Combined Authority and would lead it alongside the leaders of the five local authorities. The Combined Authority will have its own constitution which will set out in detail how it functions. We will develop that constitution in the next few months. What we know already is that in order to use his/her powers the Mayor will need to have the support of the majority of local authority leaders.
- 4.4 We are expecting the Combined Authority to come into being on 1 April 2016 and the first Mayor to be elected in May 2017.

##### **Tees Valley Investment Fund (paragraphs 11-13)**

4.5 The Government will provide extra funding of £15m a year for 30 years or £450m in total for the Tees Valley as part of the deal. The Combined Authority will be able to spend that money to generate economic growth in the area. In addition, the Combined Authority will also get the power to use the money

which Government already spends in the area more flexibly – moving it between years and between services. We will also get to keep the benefits of economic growth and reinvest them in the region. That all means that the Tees Valley Combined Authority will be in a much better position to spend money in ways which will benefit local people as opposed to decisions being taken in Whitehall.

### **European Funding (paragraph 14)**

- 4.6 The Tees Valley Combined Authority will have new powers to make decisions about European funding. That will mean better decision-making based on local knowledge and support for projects which will make a real difference here.

### **Planning and Housing (paragraphs 15-16)**

- 4.7 A new Tees Valley Development Corporation, which would be under the democratic control of the Combined Authority, will move quickly to bring surplus land into use for housing and business use. That would facilitate the construction of more affordable and aspirational homes that people need across the area.

### **Transport (paragraphs 17-19)**

- 4.8 There are a number of key transport schemes which are needed to make it easier for passengers and businesses to move around the region (including widening the A19; a new Tees crossing; improvements to Darlington station; improving east-west connectivity in the area and electrification of the Northallerton-Teesport line). These schemes are major projects which take years to develop. The deal recognises the importance of those schemes and commits the Government to working with Tees Valley to develop detailed business cases.
- 4.9 The deal also puts Tees Valley at the forefront of new proposed arrangements for buses which will mean we can improve services so that people have better access to jobs and can travel more easily around the area.

### **Business support (paragraphs 20-25)**

- 4.10 There are major benefits for businesses in the deal. The devolution of powers on skills funding, education and employment programmes will enable us to focus on the needs of employers now and in the future.
- 4.11 The deal also commits Government to using its resources to provide better support which is more tailored to the needs of Tees Valley businesses. We will work with Government on a joint plan to improve exports in the area and on an event to help inward investment. And the deal puts in place the mechanisms for Government to recognise the Tees Valley's strength in innovation.

**Education, Skills and Employment (paragraphs 26-31)**

- 4.12 We will move towards full control of funding for adult skills in the Tees Valley within 3 years. That will enable us to focus funding where it is really needed to improve training so that local people have the skills to take up the new jobs being created. Tees Valley will be in the first phase of area reviews of Further Education to make sure that the sector meets the needs of students and employers. Government will work in partnership with the Combined Authority leaders to transform education and skills in the region so that young people have the qualifications they need to thrive in the modern world.
- 4.13 Tees Valley will work with the Government to design a future programme for those who are struggling to find work so that those who really need support get the support they need.

**Energy and climate change (paragraphs 32-34)**

- 4.14 Tees Valley will get support to become a market leader in new technology that mitigates the environmental impact of heavy industry (Industrial Carbon Capture and Storage). Again, Government will work with us on the future for Hartlepool Power Station.

**Culture (paragraph 35)**

- 4.15 We will work with Arts Council England to get a fairer share of the national culture budget and to put the money that comes to Tees Valley to good use.

**Evaluation and economic assessment (paragraphs 36-39)**

- 4.16 Government requires that we carry out an evaluation every five years of the social and economic impact of the extra funding we are getting to show that it is being well used.

**Next steps and Commitments (paragraphs 40-50)**

- 4.17 These paragraphs describe the process of implementing the commitments Government and Tees Valley would make as part of this deal. The planning will involve a lot of intensive work over the next few months.
- 4.18 The deal flags the possibility that Tees Valley and the Government may want to do future deals to devolve further funding and powers to the Tees Valley.
- 4.19 A more detailed analysis is attached at **Appendix 2**.

**5.0 Who will this benefit and how?**

- 5.1 Communities, businesses and Government will benefit. In particular, some of our most disadvantaged communities will stand to benefit as we create more jobs, targets skills funding to training and apprenticeships that will help them

secure the jobs we are creating, help connect people with work opportunities, provide for more and better housing options, and offer confidence in their futures in the Tees Valley.

## **6.0 How will it deliver our priorities and improve our performance?**

- 6.1 The Deal, if approved by Members, will contribute to our individual and collective priorities and performance targets in relation to economic regeneration and the wellbeing of our communities. In particular, it will enable us to go beyond our existing commitment in the Tees Valley to create 25,000 new jobs as set out in the Strategic Economic Plan, and enable us to create a further 14,000 new jobs.

## **7.0 What are the resource implications (financial, human resources)?**

- 7.1 The Deal, if agreed, will provide £450m for the Tees Valley over 30 years. The main staffing resource for delivering the work of the Combined Authority, and enhancements through the Devolution Deal, will be from our existing, jointly-funded team at Tees Valley Unlimited.
- 7.2 In pure financial terms, on a per head of population basis, the Tees Valley deal is the best so far secured by any City Region (all of which are over 30 years).
- **Greater Manchester:** £900m, population 2.7m = **£333 per head**
  - **Sheffield:** £900m, population 1.8m = **£500 per head**
  - **Tees Valley:** £450m, population 660,000 = **£681 per head**

## **8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS**

- 8.1 The Deal will accelerate job creation, skills development and the improved wellbeing of some of our most disadvantaged communities. It will create opportunities for people of all ages and backgrounds

## **9.0 CHILD AND FAMILY POVERTY CONSIDERATIONS**

- 9.1 The Proposals incorporated in the deal will provide a range of opportunities to advance and accelerate the economic development of the area, the employment opportunities and allied to these the potential positive impact on Child and Family Poverty

## **10.0 LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS**

- 10.1 The Devolution Deal would be legally binding.

## **11.0 RISK IMPLICATIONS**

- 11.1 There are likely to be further significant cuts in local authority funding, over and above what we already know. The Spending Review, to be announced in late November 2015, is expected to confirm this. These cuts to local authority

budgets will happen irrespective of any Devolution Deals. The Deal offers us significant new resource. Even with the Deal, we may be worse off in years to come when compared to 2015, but we would almost certainly be much more worse off if the Deal is rejected, which would mean we would lose out on resources for job creation, investment and influence in infrastructure and transport, housing and skills etc.

- 11.2 Being part of a devolution deal now provides options and opportunities in the future as part of a collective which jointly can have a stronger voice with Central Government. Not being part of it at this early stages runs the risk of being significantly marginalised in terms of the devolution of powers, local democratic accountability and the availability of funding.
- 11.3 Given that local government as a sector has asked for devolved powers and resources for many years, if we say no now, there is the likelihood that any future deal would not be as good as the one on offer now.
- 11.4 We know that Devolution Deals are likely to come in phases – that is what is happening. We would begin to plan for further devolution of powers and resources after this one, building on the strong track record we have in the Tees Valley.
- 11.5 There are risks associated with a new governance model in the form of a Tees Valley elected Mayor. This would be a new form of governance for us. We have had a successful model of collaboration of the Leaders and Mayor working alongside business through the LEP and now the Shadow Combined Authority. We would work with Government to ensure that this strength, widely admired by other regions, is built upon.
- 11.6 Tees Valley would be required to put in place a programme of evaluation agreed at the outset with Government (Gateway Reviews) to demonstrate economic and social impact of our investment. We will need to be ambitious and robust in our negotiations with Government.

## **12.0 What Options have been considered?**

- 12.1 This is the Deal on offer from Government. We have negotiated successfully to ensure that the Tees Valley's needs are at the heart of the Deal. Our options are to accept the Deal on offer, or to reject it.

## **13.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 13.1 The reason for the recommended option is to secure significant additional resources and powers from Government that will help us to accelerate economic growth and improvements in well-being in our communities. Agreeing to the deal will provide Hartlepool with significant influence on the sub regional agenda and the ability to have influence over the allocation of funding and any further devolved powers.



## **14.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 15.1 That Finance and Policy Committee endorse the Devolution Deal as attached and thereafter make recommendations to Council.

## **16.0 APPENDICES AND FURTHER INFORMATION**

- 16.1 Appendix 1 – The Tees Valley Devolution Deal.
- 16.2 Appendix 2 – The Devolution Deal – What does it mean for the Tees Valley?

## **17.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 17.1 No background papers other than published works were used in writing this report.

## **18.0 CONTACT OFFICER**

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Chief Executive  
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# Tees Valley Devolution Deal



HM Government



**Cllr Bob Cook**

Leader, Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council .....

**Cllr Sue Jeffrey**

Leader, Redcar and Cleveland Council .....

**Cllr Christopher Akers-Belcher**

Leader, Hartlepool Borough Council .....

**Mayor Dave Budd**

Mayor of Middlesbrough .....

**Cllr Bill Dixon**

Leader, Darlington Borough Council .....

**Paul Booth OBE**Chair, Tees Valley Unlimited Local  
Enterprise Partnership .....**The Rt.Hon. George Osborne**

Chancellor of the Exchequer .....

**The Rt. Hon. Greg Clark**Secretary of State for Communities and  
Local Government .....**Lord O'Neill of Gatley**

Commercial Secretary to the Treasury .....

**James Wharton**Minister for Local Growth and the Northern  
Powerhouse .....

**Summary of the Devolution Deal agreed in principle by the Government and Tees Valley  
Shadow Combined Authority Leadership Board**

The Tees Valley Shadow Combined Authority Leadership Board and the Government have agreed in principle a radical devolution of funding powers and responsibilities. A Combined Authority will be created as soon as possible and a directly elected Mayor for Tees Valley will be established from May 2017. The Mayor will work as part of the Combined Authority subject to local democratic scrutiny, and in partnership with business, through Tees Valley Unlimited, the Local Enterprise Partnership for Tees Valley. This agreement will be conditional on the legislative process, agreement by the constituent councils, and formal endorsement by the Tees Valley Combined Authority Leadership Board (which currently exists in shadow form).

The deal provides for the transfer of significant powers for employment and skills, transport, planning and investment from central government to the Tees Valley. It paves the way for further devolution over time and for the reform of public services to be led by Tees Valley. It enables the Combined Authority to create an Investment Fund, through a 30 year initial allocation of funding for capital financing of at least £15 million a year. Tees Valley will in addition have access to the Local Growth Fund and will benefit from new Enterprise Zones, subject to the current bidding round.

In summary, a new, directly elected Mayor of Tees Valley will act as Chair to the Tees Valley Combined Authority and will exercise the following functions devolved to that Authority:

- Responsibility devolved from Government for a consolidated transport budget, with a multi-year settlement to be agreed at the Spending Review
- Creation of new Mayoral Development Corporations and leadership of a land commission to examine what publicly owned land and other key strategic sites should be vested in the development corporation.

The Tees Valley Combined Authority, working with the Mayor, will exercise the following powers devolved to it:

- To create a Tees Valley Investment Fund, bringing together funding for devolved powers and used to deliver a 30 year programme of transformational investment in the region
- Control of a new £15 million a year funding allocation over 30 years, to be included in the Tees Valley Investment Fund and invested to boost growth
- Leadership of the comprehensive review and redesign of the education, skills and employment support system in Tees Valley
- Responsibility for a devolved approach to business support from 2017, to be developed in partnership with Government.

Further powers may be agreed over time and included in future legislation.

**Governance**

1. The proposal for a Mayoral Combined Authority (as defined in The Cities and Local Government Devolution Bill) is subject to final formal consent of the Combined Authority, the constituent councils, agreement of ministers, and to the enactment of the necessary primary legislation (The Cities and Local Government Devolution Bill) and to parliamentary approval of the secondary legislation implementing the provisions of this agreement.
2. Strengthened governance is an essential pre-requisite to any further devolution of powers to any city region. Through this deal Tees Valley will introduce a directly elected city region Mayor (i.e. a Mayor covering the whole city region, not just one local authority), who, working with other leaders as part of the (still to be established) Tees Valley Combined Authority will: provide overall leadership; be directly accountable to the Tees Valley electorate and have new powers on transport, housing and planning to drive through reforms to stimulate the area's economic growth.
3. The Mayor will be the Chair and a Member of the Tees Valley Combined Authority and within the statutory framework for combined authority mayors, subject to the Authority's Constitution and associated procedures (to be amended in the light of the introduction of a Mayor). The powers contained in this deal document will be devolved from Government to the Mayoral Combined Authority. Working within the Constitution of the Combined Authority, the Mayor will exercise certain powers autonomously and also deliver his/her mandate as Chair of the Combined Authority. Other members of the Tees Valley Combined Authority Leadership Board (to be renamed as a Cabinet) will become portfolio leads for aspects of the Combined Authority's responsibilities, on the basis to be set out in its Constitution, and agreed with the Mayor.
4. The Mayor for Tees Valley will be elected by the local government electors for the areas of the constituent councils of Darlington Borough Council, Hartlepool Borough Council, Middlesbrough Borough Council, Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council and Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council. Subject to parliamentary time allowing for the passage of legislation through parliament, the first election will be held in May 2017.
5. Proposals for decision by the Combined Authority may be put forward by the Mayor or any Cabinet Member. All members including the Mayor will have one vote. Any questions that are to be decided by the Combined Authority are to be decided by a majority of the members present and voting, subject to that majority including the vote of the Mayor, unless otherwise set out in legislation, or specifically delegated through the Authority's Constitution.
6. Recognising the Tees Valley model of governance, the Combined Authority will also be strengthened with additional powers devolved from central Government. The agreement will protect the integrity of the five existing Tees Valley Local Authorities, and continue to support strong working between the local authorities and Local Enterprise Partnership.
7. The directly elected Tees Valley Mayor will receive new powers over transport, housing, and planning. The Mayor would be able to exercise these powers within the structure of the Tees Valley Combined Authority, though he/she and the Tees Valley Cabinet (comprising the leaders of the five Tees Valley local authorities) will be required to be scrutinised and held to account by a new scrutiny panel to be established. The Mayor will also be required to consult the Tees Valley Cabinet on his/her strategies, which it may reject if three-fifths of the members agree to do so. The Tees Valley Cabinet will also examine the Mayor's spending plans and will be able to amend his/her plans, again if three-fifths of the members agree to do so.

8. Economic growth is a shared endeavour and is vital in delivering the Northern Powerhouse ambitions. The Mayoral Combined Authority will continue to work very closely with HM Government for the benefit of the public.
9. Tees Valley Combined Authority commits to work with partners across the North of England to promote opportunities for pan-Northern collaboration, including Transport for the North, to drive northern productivity and build the Northern Powerhouse.
10. In recognition of this strengthened governance system, the government will devolve the powers set out below to the Combined Authority to be exercised by the Tees Valley City Region Mayor.

#### **Tees Valley Investment Fund**

11. HM Government will work with the Tees Valley Combined Authority to agree specific funding flexibilities to a Spending Review timetable. The joint ambition will be to give Tees Valley Combined Authority an investment fund to invest in its economic growth. This fund will comprise a flexible, multi-year settlement providing the freedom to deliver its growth priorities, including the ability to re-direct funding to reflect changing priorities, whilst upholding its statutory duties. This local freedom will be over a range of budgets to be determined by Tees Valley and HMG in the run-up to and beyond the Spending Review. HM Government expects to disburse this agreed settlement to the Tees Valley City Region annually in advance. Existing commitments that utilise this pot will need to be agreed with Tees Valley Combined Authority.
12. HM Government agree to allocate an additional £15m per annum of capital and revenue funding for 30 years, which will form part of and capitalise the Tees Valley Combined Authority investment fund. This is subject to the passing of five-yearly assessment gateways. Success at the gateways would depend on the outcome of an independent assessment of the economic and social benefit of business growth and infrastructure projects implemented by Tees Valley; funding would cover the period 2017-18 to 2047-48. The Government will work collaboratively with Tees Valley on the delivery of many of these projects.
13. The Combined Authority and Government will pilot a scheme which will enable the Combined Authority to retain all business rate growth that would otherwise have been paid as central share to government, above an agreed baseline, for an initial period of five years, with 2015/16 forming the starting point for the baseline.

#### **European Funding**

14. The Government is committed to working with the Tees Valley Combined Authority to achieve Intermediate Body status for ERDF and ESF. HM Government will work with Tees Valley Combined Authority to agree how to delegate powers to select projects on the basis of strategic fit with operational programmes and local conditions. This will allow the Tees Valley to integrate and align investments with other aspects of the devolution deal, to select projects for investment, to improve performance and maximise economic impact.

## Planning and Housing

15. Government will give the Mayor of Tees Valley and the Tees Valley Combined Authority the power to create democratically controlled Mayoral Development Corporations as envisaged by the Cities and Local Government Devolution Bill. This new corporation will seek to prioritise economic development and housing on under-developed land within the Tees Valley. Government and Tees Valley will establish a land commission to examine what publicly owned land and other key strategic sites could be vested in the development corporation. HM Government will work with Tees Valley local authorities to explore what additional planning powers and responsibilities would support their development ambitions. Increases in the value of the land as a result of the work of the development corporation will be reinvested in the corporation to deliver new schemes.
16. Government will continue to explore the devolution of housing financial transaction funding with Tees Valley.

## Transport

17. The Government recognises that Tees Valley have identified a number of key strategic transport schemes seen as essential to facilitate growth in the Tees Valley. Transport for the North (TfN) was established to enable the region to collectively identify the key strategic transport interventions that could help to forge a single Northern economic area and support economic growth. Government welcomes Tees Valley's participation in Transport for the North. As one of the new members of TfN, the Tees Valley has only recently started to participate in the workstreams established by TfN to identify strategic transport interventions. Working with TfN and Rail North, the government has committed to facilitate the Tees Valley partners as they further develop proposals in conjunction with Highways England and Network Rail to ensure their key strategic infrastructure projects will be considered as part of the development of the Northern Transport Strategy. These priorities include:
  - Enhancements to the A19 corridor and the requirement for an additional Tees River crossing
  - Darlington station to be HS2 ready and improve the rail gateway into and across the Tees Valley
  - Delivery of improved east west road connectivity from the A1 to the international gateway at Teesport
  - Electrification of the Northallerton to Teesport rail line to improve connectivity for business and passengers.
18. The Tees Valley clearly has ambitions to continue to strengthen the bus network and indeed the relationship and influence it has with local bus operators. The Government is currently developing a number of policies that will form part of the buses bill to be shortly laid before Parliament and this will set out a range of new mechanisms and opportunities for local areas to influence bus services. The Government looks forward to discussing a franchising model or other appropriate mechanism(s) with Tees Valley as they are finalised in the coming months.
19. The Government will pool and devolve relevant central funding for local transport to Tees Valley and provide a multi-year transport settlement at the next Spending Review, as part of the single capital pot to be devolved to the directly elected Mayor of the Tees Valley Combined Authority. This settlement will be on the same basis as capital and resource settlements given to Government departments at that time.

**Business support**

20. Working within the scope of existing contracts (2015/16 and 2016/17), Government will work with Tees Valley to align the Business Growth Service and other national services with local business support through its Growth Hub, to give businesses a joined-up, simplified service that meets their needs. Government will work with Tees Valley to develop a devolved approach to the delivery of business support from 2017 onwards. What is ultimately devolved will reflect the decisions taken in the next spending review on the shape of – and level of spending on – business support schemes.
21. An export plan will be agreed between Tees Valley and UKTI which will allow Tees Valley flexibility (being tailored to meet local requirements). UKTI will also work with Tees Valley to ensure UKTI services are integrated into overall business support within Tees Valley with sharing of customer data and common marketing. Ringfenced resource remains subject to departmental budget changes.
22. HMRC, as the UK customs authority, is committed to supporting economic growth through the provision of efficient, simple and transparent customs facilitations and procedures to existing and new customers. HMRC is happy to support Tees Valley Combined Authority to identify the best options for local businesses, discuss application criteria and processes, and provide guidance on where to find detailed information.
23. The Government will work with Tees Valley Combined Authority to mitigate the impact of significant industrial closures on the local economy, particularly in SSI's suspension of production. This will be the subject of future work to develop an appropriate economic recovery plan.
24. The Government will prioritise Tees Valley for Smart Specialisation Advisory Hub and/or Innovate UK innovation workshops. These will help Tees Valley identify their existing and potential innovation strengths in response to identified needs. Such activity is also likely to support any future application to participate in a Science and Innovation Audit.
25. The Government will support an annual inward investment event to be held in Tees Valley. UKTI Investment Group will agree with Tees Valley the details of a joint business investment event in 2016.

**Education, Skills and employment**

26. The Government will enable local commissioning of outcomes to be achieved from the 19+ adult skills budget starting in academic year 2016/17; and will fully devolve budgets to Tees Valley Combined Authority from academic year 2018/19 (subject to readiness conditions). These arrangements do not cover apprenticeships.
27. Devolution will proceed in three stages, across the next three academic years:
  - a. Starting now, the Tees Valley Combined Authority will begin to prepare for local commissioning. It will develop a series of outcome agreements with providers about what should be delivered in return for allocations in the 2016/17 academic year. This will replace the current system of funding by qualifications as providers will receive their total 19+ skills funding as a single block allocation. This new arrangement will allow the Tees Valley Combined Authority to agree with providers the mix and balance of provision that will be delivered in return for the block funding, and to define how success will be assessed.



- b. For the 2017/18 academic year, and following the area review, Government will work with the Tees Valley Combined Authority to vary the block grant allocations made to providers, within an agreed framework.
- c. From 2018/19, there will be full devolution of funding. The Tees Valley Combined Authority will be responsible for allocations to providers and the outcomes to be achieved, consistent with statutory entitlements. Government will not seek to second guess these decisions, but it will set proportionate requirements about outcome information to be collected in order to allow students to make informed choices. A funding formula for calculating the size of the grant to local / combined authorities will need to take into account a range of demographic, educational and labour market factors.

28. The readiness conditions for full devolution are that:

- a. Parliament has legislated to enable transfer to local authorities of the current statutory duties on the Secretary of State to secure appropriate facilities for further education for adults from this budget and for provision to be free in certain circumstances.
- b. Completion of the Area Review process leading to a sustainable provider base.
- c. After the area-reviews are complete, agreed arrangements are in place between central government and the combined authority to ensure that devolved funding decisions take account of the need to maintain a sustainable and financially viable 16+ provider base.
- d. Clear principles and arrangements have been agreed between central government and the Combined Authority for sharing financial risk and managing failure of 16+ providers, reflecting the balance of devolved and national interest and protecting the taxpayer from unnecessary expenditure and liabilities.
- e. Learner protection and minimum standards arrangements are agreed.
- f. Funding and provider management arrangements, including securing financial assurance, are agreed in a way that minimises costs and maximises consistency and transparency.

29. Government, including the DfE, DWP and BIS will work with the Tees Valley Education, Skills and Employability Board to transform standards in education and skills through the delivery of City Region and national responsibilities and priorities.

30. Government will provide advice to support Tees Valley in their work to secure more apprenticeship places with employers, particularly among SMEs and also drive up demand from individuals looking for apprentice jobs.

31. To help tackle long-term unemployment in Tees Valley, the Government will work with Tees Valley Combined Authority to agree how local and national provision could be co-ordinated. Tees Valley Combined Authority will work with DWP to co-design the future employment support, from April 2017, for harder-to-help claimants, many of whom are currently referred to the Work Programme and Work Choice.

**Energy and climate change**

32. The Government is committed to working with Tees Valley to explore how it can continue to develop its industrial carbon capture and storage (CCS) proposals towards deployment of this infrastructure for its industrial sites in the 2020s.
33. HM Government will work with Tees Valley to understand the challenges associated with connecting to the local electricity network.
34. Government will continue to make clear that it welcomes new nuclear investment in Hartlepool as one of the potential sites listed in the Nuclear National Policy Statement.

**Culture**

35. Recognising the considerable cultural and historic assets within Tees Valley, Government will work with Tees Valley and Arts Council England to examine how Arts Council England funding could support Tees Valley's economic growth through culture.

**Evaluation and economic assessment**

36. Tees Valley will be required to put in place a programme of evaluation, agreed at the outset with the Cities and Local Growth Unit. This will include gateway assessments for the Tees Valley Investment Fund. Tees Valley and the Cities and Local Growth Unit will jointly commission an independent assessment of the economic benefits as well as the social and economic impacts of the investments made under the Investment Fund, including whether the projects have been delivered on time and to budget. This assessment will be funded by Tees Valley, but agreed at the outset with the Cities and Local Growth Unit and HMT, and will take place every five years.
37. The next five year tranche of funding will be unlocked if the Cities and Local Growth Unit and HMT are satisfied that the independent assessment shows the investment to have met the objectives and contributed to national growth; the gateway assessment should be consistent with the HMT Green Book, which sets out the framework for evaluation of all policies and programmes, and where relevant with the more detailed transport cost-benefit analysis guidance issued by the Department for Transport (DfT). The assessment should also take into account the latest developments in economic evaluation methodology.
38. The government would expect the assessment to show the activity funded through the Tees Valley Investment Fund represents better value for money than comparable projects, defined in terms of a Benefit to Cost ratio; evaluation of the impact of the devolution agreement, including the new governance arrangements. This could take the form of, for example, Randomised Control Trials for the different policy interventions.
39. Tees Valley will agree with HMT and the Cities and Local Growth Unit and confirm with government its plans for this evaluation, with the first review to be completed in 2021-22.

**Next steps**

40. The Leadership of the five local authorities agree to take the necessary next steps to progress the contents of this Agreement, including the progression of the details through individual councils, and the government undertakes to work jointly with Tees Valley Combined Authority to develop a detailed Implementation Plan.

41. Government and the Tees Valley signal their willingness to make further agreements on devolution including further devolution of funding in due course.
42. The Mayor for the Tees Valley City Region will be elected by the local government electors for the areas of Darlington Borough Council, Hartlepool Borough Council, Middlesbrough Borough Council, Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council and Stockton-On-Tees Borough Council. Subject to the necessary legislative changes, it is expected that the new elected Mayor will be in place by May 2017.
43. Additional funding or budgets that are devolved as a result of this agreement will go to the Tees Valley Combined Authority to be the responsibility of the Mayor or members of the Combined Authority collectively as provided for in this agreement.

#### **Tees Valley Combined Authority commitments**

44. Tees Valley Combined Authority will work with HM Government to develop a full implementation plan, covering each policy agreed in this Deal, to be completed ahead of implementation. This plan will include the timing and proposed approach for monitoring and evaluation of each policy and should be approved by the DCLG Accounting Officer.
45. Tees Valley Combined Authority will continue to set out their proposals to HM Government for how local resources and funding will be pooled across the city region.
46. Tees Valley Combined Authority will agree overall borrowing limits with HM Government and have formal agreement to engage on forecasting. Tees Valley Combined Authority will also provide information, explanation and assistance to the Office for Budget Responsibility where such information would assist in meeting its duty to produce economic and fiscal forecasts for the UK economy.
47. Tees Valley Combined Authority will agree a process to manage local financial risk across local public bodies and will jointly develop written agreements with HM Government on every devolved power or fund to agree accountability between local and national bodies on the basis of the principles set out in this document. This will include assurance work to be undertaken in partnership with DCLG and HCA on processes to be implemented and capability to be employed in managing any investments across their lifecycle.
48. Tees Valley Combined Authority will continue to progress amongst its constituent authorities their programme of transformation to streamline back office functions and share more services and data, including on assets and property. It paves the way for further devolution over time and for the reform of public services to be led by Tees Valley.
49. Tees Valley Combined Authority will continue to adhere to its public sector equality duties, for both existing and newly devolved responsibilities.
50. The agreement set out in this document will be subject to future Spending Reviews.

**APPENDIX 2****THE DEVOLUTION DEAL – WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR TEES VALLEY?**

<b>Summary of the Devolution Deal agreed in principle by the Government and Tees Valley Shadow Combined Authority Leadership Board</b>	
<b>Text in the deal</b>	<b>What does this mean?</b>
The Tees Valley Shadow Combined Authority Leadership Board and the Government have agreed in principle a radical devolution of funding powers and responsibilities. A directly-elected Mayor for Tees Valley will be established, working as part of the Combined Authority and subject to local democratic scrutiny, and partnership with business, through Tees Valley Unlimited, the Local Enterprise Partnership for Tees Valley. This agreement will be conditional on the legislative process, agreement by the constituent councils, and formal endorsement by the Tees Valley Combined Authority Leadership Board.	The devolution deal has been agreed in principle by leaders and elected mayor of the five local authorities (Darlington, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar and Stockton) which together form the Tees Valley Combined Authority. Final agreement is subject to debate and agreement in each local authority..
The deal provides for the transfer of significant powers for employment and skills, transport, planning and investment from central government to the Tees Valley. It paves the way for further devolution over time and for the reform of public services to be led by Tees Valley. It enables the Combined Authority to create an Investment Fund, through a 30 year initial allocation of funding for capital financing of at least £15 million a year. Tees Valley will in addition have access to the Local Growth Fund and will benefit from new Enterprise Zones, subject to the current bidding round.	This deal hands a set of powers from the Government to the Combined Authority and mayor. Further deals may follow this one including on the reform of other public services.
In summary, a new, directly elected Mayor of Tees Valley will act as Chair to the Tees Valley Combined Authority and will receive the following powers devolved from central Government: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responsibility for a devolved and consolidated transport budget, with a multi-year settlement to be agreed at the Spending Review.</li> <li>• Creation of new Mayoral Development Corporations and leadership of a land commission to examine what publicly owned land and other key strategic sites should be vested in the development corporation.</li> </ul>	As part of the deal and as with other devolution deals elsewhere in the country there is a requirement for a Tees Valley elected mayor who will have certain executive powers across the area.
The Tees Valley Combined Authority, working with the Mayor, will receive the following powers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To create a Tees Valley Investment Fund, bringing together funding for devolved powers and used to deliver a 30 year programme of transformational investment in the region.</li> <li>• Control of a new £15 million a year</li> </ul>	This deal brings £450m of extra money into the Tees Valley. The Tees Valley Combined Authority, of which the elected mayor will be part, will get the power to spend that money.

<p>funding allocation over 30 years, to be included in the Tees Valley Investment Fund and invested to boost growth.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leadership of the comprehensive review and redesign of the education, skills and employment support system in Tees Valley.</li> <li>• Responsibility for devolved business support from 2017, to be developed in partnership with Government.</li> </ul>	
<b>Governance</b>	
<p>1. The proposal for a Mayoral Combined Authority (as defined in The Cities and Local Government Devolution Bill) is subject to final formal consent of the Combined Authority (Leadership Board), the constituent councils, agreement of ministers, and to the Parliamentary process for the necessary primary legislation (The Cities and Local Government Devolution Bill) and subsequent orders and to parliamentary approval of the secondary legislation implementing the provisions of this agreement.</p>	<p>The legislation for elected mayors is still going through Parliament; it is expected to become law in early 2016. Tees Valley will need its own statutory order to pass through Parliament to set out how an elected mayor can best work here.</p>
<p>2. Strengthened governance is an essential pre-requisite to any further devolution of powers to any city region. Through this deal Tees Valley will introduce a directly elected city region Mayor (i.e. a Mayor covering the whole city region, not just one local authority), who, working with other leaders as part of the (still to be established) Tees Valley Combined Authority will: provide overall leadership; be directly accountable to the Tees Valley electorate and have new powers on transport, housing and planning to drive through reforms to stimulate the area's economic growth.</p>	<p>The elected mayor is a key part of devolution from the Government's perspective and will have certain executive powers (but there will be safeguards to prevent the abuse of that power).</p>
<p>3. The Mayor will be the Chair and a Member of the Tees Valley Combined Authority and within the statutory framework for combined authority mayors, subject to the Authority's Constitution and associated procedures (to be amended in the light of the introduction of a Mayor). The powers contained in this deal document will be devolved from Government to the Mayoral Combined Authority. The Mayor will exercise certain powers autonomously and also deliver his/her mandate as Chair of the Combined Authority. Other members of the Tees Valley Combined Authority Leadership Board (to be renamed as a Cabinet) will become portfolio leads for aspects of the Combined Authority's responsibilities, on the basis to be set out in its Constitution, and agreed with the Mayor.</p>	<p>The mayor will chair the Combined Authority and the other LA leaders will form the rest of the Cabinet of the Combined Authority and will have defined responsibilities across the area.</p>
<p>4. The Mayor for Tees Valley will be elected by the local government electors for the areas of the constituent councils of Darlington Borough Council, Hartlepool Borough Council, Middlesbrough Borough Council, Redcar and</p>	<p>All eligible people in the Tees Valley will be able to vote for their choice of mayor in May 2017.</p>

Cleveland Borough Council and Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council. Subject to parliamentary time allowing for the passage of legislation through parliament, the first election will be held in May 2017.	
5. Proposals for decision by the Combined Authority may be put forward by the Mayor or any Cabinet Member. All members including the Mayor will have one vote. Any questions that are to be decided by the Combined Authority are to be decided by a majority of the members present and voting, subject to that majority including the vote of the Mayor, unless otherwise set out in legislation, or specifically delegated through the Authority's Constitution. The Cabinet will examine the Mayor's spending plans and will be able to amend his/her plans if three-fifths of the members agree to do so.	The detail of how decision making will work will be set out in the Tees Valley statutory order and the constitution.
6. Recognising the Tees Valley model of governance, the Combined Authority will also be strengthened with additional powers devolved from central Government. The agreement will protect the integrity of the five existing Tees Valley Local Authorities, and continue to support strong working between the local authorities and Local Enterprise Partnership.	The devolution deal does not affect the identities of the five LAs which will remain separate. This is not about re-forming Cleveland County Council.
7. The directly elected Tees Valley Mayor will receive new powers over transport, housing, and planning. The Mayor would be able to exercise these powers within the structure of the Tees Valley Combined Authority, though he/she and the Tees Valley Cabinet (comprising the leaders of the five Tees Valley local authorities) will be required to be scrutinised and held to account by a new scrutiny panel to be established. The Mayor will also be required to consult the Tees Valley Cabinet on his/her strategies, which it may reject if three-fifths of the members agree to do so. The Tees Valley Cabinet will also examine the Mayor's spending plans and will be able to amend his/her plans, again if three-fifths of the members agree to do so.	The Tees Valley Mayor will get new powers from Whitehall. There will be safeguards on the use of these powers – the mayor will have to have the agreement of three out of the five LA leaders for spending and strategy.
8. Economic growth is a shared endeavour and is vital in delivering the Northern Powerhouse ambitions. The Mayoral Combined Authority will continue to work very closely with HM Government for the benefit of the public.	The powers devolved by this deal will enable the Tees Valley to play a full role in the Northern Powerhouse.
9. Tees Valley Combined Authority commits to work with partners across the North of England to promote opportunities for pan-Northern collaboration, including Transport for the North, to drive northern productivity and build the Northern Powerhouse.	Tees Valley now has a full role in the decision-making body for strategic transport projects in the North, Transport for the North.

10. In recognition of this strengthened governance system, the government will devolve the powers set out below to the Tees Valley City Region Mayor.	
<b>Tees Valley Investment Fund</b>	
11. HM Government will work with the Tees Valley Combined Authority to agree specific funding flexibilities to a Spending Review timetable. The joint ambition will be to give Tees Valley Combined Authority an investment fund to invest in its economic growth. This fund will comprise a flexible, multi-year settlement providing the freedom to deliver its growth priorities, including the ability to re-direct funding to reflect changing priorities, whilst upholding their statutory duties. This local freedom will be over a range of budgets to be determined by Tees Valley and HMG in the run-up to and beyond the Spending Review. HM Government expects to disburse this agreed settlement to the Tees Valley City Region annually in advance. Existing commitments that utilise this pot will need to be agreed with Tees Valley Combined Authority.	Tees Valley will get a single pot of money currently spent here by Government. We will be able to set our own priorities for this money and move it between years and between services to make sure we get the most from it.
12. HM Government agree to allocate an additional £15m per annum of capital and revenue funding for 30 years, which will form part of and capitalise the Tees Valley Combined Authority investment fund. This is subject to the passing of five-yearly assessment gateways. Success at the gateways would depend on the outcome of an independent assessment of the economic and social benefit of business growth and infrastructure projects implemented by Tees Valley; funding would cover the period 2017-18 to 2047-48. The Government will work collaboratively with Tees Valley on the delivery of many of these projects.	There will be £450m extra money coming into the Tees Valley through this deal over 30 years. In order for the funding to continue to another five year period we will need to demonstrate that we have done things which will drive economic growth and/or deal with key social issues.
13. The Tees Valley Combined Authority will receive any additional business rate income over expected growth, with 2015/16 forming the starting point for the baseline.	The Government and Tees Valley local authorities currently share the income from business rates. In future, when we generate economic growth the extra rates will stay in the Tees Valley for the benefit of the people here.
<b>European Funding</b>	
14. To deliver the other aspects of the devolution proposals, the Government is committed to working with the Tees Valley Combined Authority to achieve Intermediate Body status for ERDF and ESF. HM Government will work with Tees Valley Combined Authority to agree how to delegate powers to select projects on the basis of strategic fit with operational programmes and local conditions. This will allow the Tees Valley	The Tees Valley Combined Authority will have the power to make decisions about some European funding rather than those decisions being made in Whitehall. That will mean better decision-making based on local knowledge.

to integrate and align investments with other aspects of the devolution deal, to select projects for investment, to improve performance and maximise economic impact.	
<b>Planning and housing</b>	
<p>15. Government will give the Mayor of Tees Valley and the Tees Valley Combined Authority the power to create democratically controlled Mayoral Development Corporations as envisaged by the Cities and Local Government Devolution Bill. This new corporation will seek to prioritise economic development and housing on under-developed land within the Tees Valley. Government and Tees Valley will establish a land commission to examine what publicly owned land and other key strategic sites should be vested in the development corporation. HM Government will work with Tees Valley local authorities to explore what additional planning powers and responsibilities would support their development ambitions. Increases in the value of the land as a result of the work of the development corporation will be reinvested in the corporation to deliver new schemes.</p>	<p>We will set up a Tees Valley Development Corporation which can make local decisions to speed up the development of problematic land sites. Unlike the previous Teesside Development Corporation this will be under the control of the Tees Valley Combined Authority.</p>
<p>16. Government will continue to explore the devolution of housing financial transaction funding with Tees Valley.</p>	<p>We hope to reach a deal for Government to devolve housing funding. This will enable the Combined Authority to prioritise building affordable and aspirational homes in key areas.</p>
<b>Transport</b>	
<p>17. The Government recognises that Tees Valley have identified a number of key strategic transport schemes seen as essential to facilitate growth in the Tees Valley. Transport for the North (TfN) was established to enable the region to collectively identify the key strategic transport interventions that could help to forge a single Northern economic area and support economic growth. Government welcomes Tees Valley's participation in Transport for the North. As one of the new members of TfN, the Tees Valley has only recently started to participate in the workstreams established by TfN to identify strategic transport interventions. Working with Transport for the North and Rail North, the government has committed to facilitate the Tees Valley partners as they further develop proposals in conjunction with Highways England and Network Rail to ensure their key strategic infrastructure projects will be considered as part of the development of the Northern Transport Strategy. These priorities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhancements to the A19 corridor and the requirement for an additional Tees River crossing,</li> <li>• Darlington station to be HS2 ready and improve the rail</li> </ul>	<p>Tees Valley is now a full member of the Transport for the North but we have ground to catch up. This is the first time some of our key infrastructure projects have been named in a Government document and this puts us in a much stronger position to make them happen.</p>



<p>gateway into and across the Tees Valley</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delivery of improved east west road connectivity from the A1 to the international gateway at Teesport</li> <li>• Electrification of the Northallerton to Teesport rail line to improve connectivity for business and passengers.</li> </ul>	
<p>18. The Tees Valley clearly has ambitions to continue to strengthen the bus network and indeed the relationship and influence it has with local bus operators. The Government is currently developing a number of policies that will form part of the buses bill to be shortly laid before Parliament and this will set out a range of new mechanisms and opportunities for local areas to influence bus services. The Government looks forward to discussing a franchising model or other appropriate mechanism(s) with Tees Valley as they are finalised in the coming months.</p>	<p>Tees Valley will be at the forefront on new powers on buses to make sure that people can get to work and travel around the area.</p>
<p>19. The Government will pool and devolve relevant central funding for local transport to Tees Valley and provide a multi-year transport settlement at the next Spending Review, as part of the single capital pot to be devolved to the directly elected Mayor of the Tees Valley Combined Authority. This settlement will be on the same basis as capital and resource settlements given to Government departments at that time.</p>	<p>Tees Valley will have more power over spending on transport and can make local decisions rather than having to follow priorities set in Whitehall.</p>
<p><b>Business support</b></p>	
<p>20. Working within the scope of existing contracts (2015/16 and 2016/17), Government will work with Tees Valley to align the Business Growth Service and other national services with local business support through its Growth Hub, to give businesses a joined-up, simplified service that meets their needs. Government will work with Tees Valley to develop a devolved approach to the delivery of business support from 2017 onwards. What is ultimately devolved will reflect the decisions taken in the next spending review on the shape of – and level of spending on – business support schemes.</p>	<p>Businesses in the Tees Valley will benefit from support which is more focused on their needs rather than a “one size fits all” approach</p>
<p>21. An export plan will be agreed between Tees Valley and London UKTI HQ which will allow Tees Valley flexibility (such as a specific local sectoral focus for Passport to Export and mid-sized business schemes or a different mix of products). UKTI will also work with Tees Valley to ensure UKTI services are integrated into overall business support within Tees Valley with sharing of customer data and common marketing.</p>	<p>Businesses will have better access to the resources of UK Trade and Investment.</p>

22. HMRC, as the UK customs authority, is committed to supporting economic growth through the provision of efficient, simply and transparent customs facilitations and procedures to existing and new customers. HMRC is happy to support Tees Valley Combined Authority to identify the best options for local businesses, discuss application criteria and processes, and provide guidance on where to find detailed information.	The work with HMRC will include looking at the benefits of a Free Trade Area around the port and airport.
23. The Government will work with Tees Valley Combined Authority to mitigate the impact of significant industrial closures on the local economy, particularly in SSI's suspension of production. This will be the subject of future work to develop an appropriate economic recovery plan.	The Government have already announced an £80m support package which is in addition to this Deal.
24. The Government will prioritise Tees Valley for Smart Specialisation Advisory Hub and/or Innovate UK innovation workshops. These will help Tees Valley identify their existing and potential innovation strengths in response to identified needs. Such activity is also likely to support any future application to participate in a Science and Innovation Audit.	This is the mechanism to confirm Tees Valley as a leader in innovation in the UK.
25. The Government will support an annual inward investment event to be held in Tees Valley. UKTI Investment Group will support Tees Valley's 2016 annual business summit by helping to promote the event via its network, providing a speaker from a relevant Investment Organisation to offer sector focus and work on follow up of leads.	The Government recognises Tees Valley's unique strengths in some industries and will support us in an investment fair to attract new investors from home and abroad.
<b>Education, Skills and employment</b>	
26. The Government will enable local commissioning of outcomes to be achieved from the 19+ adult skills budget starting in academic year 2016/17; and will fully devolve budgets to Tees Valley combined authority from academic year 2018/19 (subject to readiness conditions). Employers will have control of apprenticeship funding via the levy.	This section gives the Tees Valley Combined Authority devolved powers to improve our adult skills provision so that it is better for students as well as being better linked into employers
27. Devolution will proceed in three stages, across the next three academic years: a. Starting now, the Tees Valley combined authority will begin to prepare for local commissioning. It will develop a series of outcome agreements with providers about what should be delivered in return for allocations in the 2016/17 academic year. This will replace the current system of funding by qualifications as providers will receive their total 19+ skills funding as a single block allocation. This new	The devolution will take place over 3 years with full control of funding in the Tees Valley by 2018-19.

<p>arrangement will allow the Tees Valley combined authority to agree with providers the mix and balance of provision that will be delivered in return for the block funding, and to define how success will be assessed.</p> <p>b. For the 2017/18 academic year, and following the area review, Government will work with the Tees Valley combined authority to vary the block grant allocations made to providers, within an agreed framework</p> <p>c. From 2018/19, there will be full devolution of funding. The Tees Valley combined authority will be responsible for allocations to providers and the outcomes to be achieved, consistently with statutory entitlements. Government will not seek to second guess these decisions, but it will set proportionate requirements about outcome information to be collected in order to allow students to make informed choices. A funding formula for calculating the size of the grant to local / combined authorities will need to take into account a range of demographic, educational and labour market factors.</p>	
<p>28. The readiness conditions for full devolution are that:</p> <p>a. Parliament has legislated to enable transfer to local authorities of the current statutory duties on the Secretary of State to secure appropriate facilities for further education for adults from this budget and for provision to be free in certain circumstances</p> <p>b. Completion of the Area Review process leading to a sustainable provider base</p> <p>c. Learner protection and minimum standards arrangements are agreed</p> <p>d. Funding and provider management arrangements, including securing financial assurance, are agreed in a way that minimises costs and maximises consistency and transparency.</p>	
<p>29. Government, including the DFE, DWP and BIS will work with the Tees Valley Education, Skills and Employability Board to transform standards in education and skills through the delivery of City Region and national responsibilities and priorities.</p>	<p>We will set up a Tees Valley Board to improve education and skills across the area and Government will work as partners with us.</p>
<p>30. Government will support Tees Valley in their work to secure more apprenticeship places with employers, particularly among SMEs and also from individuals looking for apprentice jobs.</p>	<p>We will be able to place more apprentices in the area to make sure our young people have the skills they need. Small and Medium Enterprises will get help through the bureaucracy which will be better for them and for our young people.</p>
<p>31. To help tackle long-term unemployment in Tees Valley, the Government will ensure that current work programme and employment programme activities are aligned with local provision, and will work with Tees Valley to design future provision of the Work Programme</p>	<p>We will be able to make the DWP's Work Programme more effective by focusing the support where we know it is most needed.</p>

and Youth Contract in such a way that allows Tees Valley to be a joint commissioner with DWP for the next phase.	
<b>Energy and climate change</b>	
32. The Government is committed to working with Tees Valley to explore how it can continue to develop its industrial carbon capture and storage (CCS) proposals towards deployment of this infrastructure for its industrial sites in the 2020s.	The Tees Valley will become a UK leader in technology to capture and store the carbon created by our heavy industries
33. HM Government will work with Tees Valley to understand the challenges associated with connecting to the local electricity network.	Transmission charges to access the network are £9 per Kwh here and 25p per Kwh in Kent. We want to press the Government to review this whole system which is unfair to our businesses.
34. Government will continue to make clear that it welcomes new nuclear investment in Hartlepool as one of the potential sites listed in the Nuclear National Policy Statement.	The nuclear power station is a key part of the area's economy. We will discuss options with the Government for future power generation and encourage bids from private consortia for the site.
<b>Culture</b>	
35. Recognising the considerable cultural and historic assets within Tees Valley, Government will work with the Tees Valley and Arts Council England to agree a joint investment strategy and will work with both parties to examine how Arts Council England funding could support Tees Valley's economic growth through culture.	The Tees Valley has a rich cultural history. We need a fair share of funding for the arts and culture in the Tees Valley and will work with the Arts Council and Government to get that as well as how to make best use of the resources we get.
<b>Evaluation and economic assessment</b>	
36. Tees Valley will be required to put in place a programme of evaluation, agreed at the outset with the Cities and Local Growth Unit. This will include gateway assessments for the Tees Valley Investment Fund. Tees Valley and Cities and Local Growth Unit will jointly commission an independent assessment of the economic benefits as well as the social and economic impacts of the investments made under the Investment Fund, including whether the projects have been delivered on time and to budget. This assessment will be funded by Tees Valley, but agreed at the outset with the Cities and Local Growth Unit and HMT, and will take place every five years.	We will agree with Government how the social and economic impact of our investment in Tees Valley is measured.
37. The next five year tranche of funding will be unlocked if Cities and Local Growth Unit and HMT are satisfied that the independent assessment shows the investment to have met the objectives and contributed to national growth; the gateway assessment should be consistent with the HMT Green Book, which sets out the framework for evaluation of all policies and programmes, and where relevant with the more detailed transport cost-benefit analysis guidance issued by the Department for Transport (DfT).	The evaluation process will be carried out according to standard Government appraisal methodology (the "Green Book") which takes account of social as well as economic impacts.

The assessment should also take into account the latest developments in economic evaluation method	
38. The government would expect the assessment to show the activity funded through the Tees Valley Investment Fund represents better value for money than comparable projects, defined in terms of a Benefit to Cost ratio; evaluation of the impact of the devolution agreement, including the new governance arrangements. This could take the form of, for example, Randomised Control Trials for the different policy interventions.	We will be expected to show that we have invested in projects which bring significant improvements in economic growth
39. Tees Valley will agree with HMT and the Cities and Local Growth Unit and confirm with government its plans for this evaluation, with the first review to be completed in 2021-22.	The first evaluation will be after five years of the deal being in place.
<b>Next steps</b>	
40. The Leadership of the five local authorities agree to take the necessary next steps to progress the contents of this Agreement, including the progression of the details through individual councils, and the government undertakes to work jointly with Tees Valley Combined Authority to develop a detailed Implementation Plan.	After the signing of this deal we will work with Government to make sure the actions are planned properly so that it has the impact it should.
41. Government and the Tees Valley signal their willingness to make further agreements on devolution including further devolution of funding in due course.	
42. The Mayor for the Tees Valley City Region will be elected by the local government electors for the areas of Darlington Borough Council, Hartlepool Borough Council, Middlesbrough Borough Council, Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council and Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council. Subject to the necessary legislative changes, it is expected that the new elected Mayor will be in place by May 2017.	
43. Additional funding or budgets that are devolved as a result of this agreement will go to the Tees Valley Combined Authority.	Funding will go to the Combined Authority for use across the area rather than to individual Local Authorities.
<b>Tees Valley Combined Authority commitments</b>	
44. Tees Valley Combined Authority will work with HM Government to develop a full implementation plan, covering each policy agreed in this Deal, to be completed ahead of implementation. This plan will include the timing and proposed approach for monitoring and evaluation of each policy and should be approved	

by the DCLG Accounting Officer.	
45. Tees Valley Combined Authority will continue to set out their proposals to HM Government for how local resources and funding will be pooled across the city region	We will continue to find new ways of working across the Tees Valley to save money but each local authority will stay separate.
46. Tees Valley Combined Authority will agree overall borrowing limits with HM Government and have formal agreement to engage on forecasting. Tees Valley Combined Authority will also provide information, explanation and assistance to the Office for Budget Responsibility where such information would assist in meeting their duty to produce economic and fiscal forecasts for the UK economy.	This section deals with the technical financial responsibilities we will have.
47. Tees Valley Combined Authority will agree a process to manage local financial risk across local public bodies and will jointly develop written agreements with HM Government on every devolved power or fund to agree accountability between local and national bodies on the basis of the principles set out in this document.	This section deals with the technical financial responsibilities we will have.
48. Tees Valley Combined Authority will continue to progress their programme of transformation amongst authorities to streamline back office functions and share more services and data, including on assets and property.	This section deals with the technical financial responsibilities we will have.
49. Tees Valley Combined Authority will continue to adhere to their public sector equality duties, for both existing and newly devolved responsibilities.	We will continue to promote issues of equality in using the new funding.
50. The agreement set out in this document will be subject to future Spending Reviews.	