



Department for Levelling Up,  
Housing & Communities

**Rt Hon Michael Gove MP**

*Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing &  
Communities*

*Minister for Intergovernmental Relations*

2 Marsham Street

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29 January 2024

Dear Angie, Richard, and Quentin,

Thank you for your report, received on 23 January, which provided a comprehensive analysis of the Tees Valley Combined Authority's oversight of the South Tees Development Corporation and Teesworks Joint Venture. I would like to thank you for your rigor and dedication in undertaking this work.

I am pleased that you found no evidence of unlawfulness or corruption. You have, of course, raised some important points on governance and oversight of the joint venture which I take seriously. I have asked the Mayor to consider these carefully and provide me an initial response on how he intends to address these points by 8 March. I also note the recommendations you have made to the Government, which we will carefully consider and respond in due course.

The regeneration in this area represents a unique and transformative opportunity, which your report notes, and has had a real effect already on jobs and aspiration locally. The importance of this opportunity only further emphasises the need to get the processes that deliver it right.

I wish to thank you again for your time and efforts, which will have contributed to the realisation of this great opportunity for the residents of Tees.

With every good wish,

**RT HON MICHAEL GOVE MP**

Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities

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