

Cabinet 30 July 2024

Decision Notice

In accordance with the requirements of the Authority's Constitution, notice is given that Cabinet, at its meeting held on 30 July 2024, made the decisions set out below.

These decisions will come into force, and may then be implemented, on the expiry of 5 working days after the publication of this notice ("the call-in period"), unless a valid request for call-in is received during the call-in period.

This decision notice was published on 31 July 2024. The call-in period will expire at 5pm on Wednesday 7 August 2024.

Further information regarding the Cabinet and its decisions can be obtained from the Authority's website www.northeast-ca.gov.uk or from Michael Robson (email: michael.robson@northeast-ca.gov.uk).

Reference and Title	Decision
C23/7/24 North East Combined Authority Senior Structure	Resolved that: (1) the proposed senior management structure as outlined in Section 2 of the Chief Executive's report be agreed; (2) the proposed approach to the appointments to the senior management structure and recruitment to the vacant posts as set out in sections 3 to 5 of the Chief Executive's report be agreed; and (3) delegated authority be granted to the Chief Executive (Head of Paid Service) to progress these arrangements.
C24/7/24 North East Combined Authority Strategic Portfolio Plans	Resolved that: (1) the work to date in the development of the Strategic Portfolio Plans be noted; (2) the Strategic Portfolio Plans as set out in the report of the Chief Executive be endorsed, the priorities identified in those Plans be progressed and subsequent business cases be developed to support investment decisions; (3) delegated authority be granted to the Chief Executive to progress subsequent business cases and make investment decisions associated with the activity described within the Strategic Portfolio Plans, in consultation with the Mayor and relevant Portfolio Holder, subject to the following thresholds which are included within the adopted Single Assurance Framework: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investment approvals up to £500k are to be approved by the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Section 73 Officer and Monitoring Officer, under the Cabinet approved delegated authority. • Investment approvals over £500k and up to £1 million are approved by the Chief Executive, in consultation with the

Technical Officers Group, Section 73 Officer and Monitoring Officer, under the Cabinet approved delegated authority.

- Investment approvals over £1 million and up to and including £5 million are approved by the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Finance and Investment Board, Section 73 Officer and Monitoring Officer, under the Cabinet approved delegated authority.
- (4) the establishment of seven Advisory Boards as set out in section A, paragraph 3 of the Chief Executive's report be agreed, to ensure the functions and activities of the Combined Authority are undertaken in a collaborative way;
- (5) the terms of reference for the seven Advisory Boards, as set out in Appendix B to the Chief Executive's report, be agreed and delegated authority be granted to the to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the relevant Portfolio Holder, to appoint individual members to those Boards;
- (6) the Investment Zone Manufacturing Automation Digitalisation Electrification North East (MADE NE) project be approved subject to the conditions set out a paragraph 4.4.5 of the Chief Executive's report and delegated authority be granted to the Chief Executive, to enter into the relevant agreements as required, in accordance with the Single Assurance Framework:
- (7) progress in relation to Trailblazer funding decisions previously agreed by Cabinet on 11 June 2024 regarding Forth Yards and Riverside Sunderland be noted;
- (8) investments approved previously by the North East Joint Transport Committee as set out below be noted and delegated authority be granted to the Chief Executive to action the relevant agreements as required:
- £4.58 million of Transforming Cities Fund grant for the Shields Ferry Landing scheme to be paid to Nexus through a Grant Funding Agreement,
 - £8 million of North East CA's pre-allocated reserve funding to develop an Outline Business Case for the Washington Metro Loop to be produced by Nexus through a Grant Funding Agreement,
 - £0.6 million to commission a Strategic Outline Case for the southern section of the Leamside Line, of which £0.35 million is a contribution from the Department for Transport, £ 0.071m from North East CA's rail budget and £0.179m is from North East CA's pre-allocated reserves,
- (9) the following investment be approved in principle and delegated authority be granted to the Chief Executive, to enter into the relevant agreements as required, in accordance with the Single Assurance Framework:
- £60.811 million (revenue) and £40.468 million (capital) of Bus Service Improvement Plan funding to deliver a range of improvements to bus services, to be delivered by partners through Grant Funding Agreements
- (10) delegated authority be granted to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Mayor, Portfolio Holder and the seven constituent authority Chief Executives, for the North East CA to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Homes England to establish a North East Strategic Place Partnership (NESPP) and approve the NESPP Partnership Business Plan.

<p>C25/7/24 City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement</p>	<p>Resolved that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) the City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement update and the progress undertaken to develop the North East City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement Programme be noted; (2) the North East City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement Programme be agreed, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) A programme of sustainable transport capital investment totalling £181m inclusive of overprogramming, outlined in section 4 and Appendix 1 of the Director of Transport’s report; and b) The allocation of £346m of City Region Sustainable Transport funding for Highways Maintenance, to be accounted for within the forthcoming regional Transport Asset Management Plan. (3) Delegated authority be granted to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Transport and the Director of Finance and Investment, to finalise the North East City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement Business Case, and submit it to Government on behalf of the North East CA.
<p>C26/7/24 Improving and Reforming North East Buses</p>	<p>Resolved that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) the Bus Reform Options Report be noted; (2) a notice of intent to prepare a Franchising Scheme Assessment be published, as required by the legislation, and the Authority proceed with preparation of a Franchising Scheme Assessment covering the area of the North East CA. (3) a total budget allocation of £8.5 million for a Franchising Scheme Assessment across financial years 2024/25, 2025/26 and 2026/27 be approved, to be funded by a combination of existing transport budgets, reserves previously earmarked for transport, and interest which will be earned on transport balances held during the current financial year; and (4) the updated version of the Bus Service Improvement Plan be approved for publication.