



Forward Plan of Decisions

9 November 2023

The Forward Plan for the North East Combined Authority (NECA) is prepared and published by the Monitoring Officer for the purpose of:

- A. Giving 28 days' notice of key decisions that are planned to be taken by the NECA, its Boards, Committees or Chief Officers
- B. Complete transparency about decisions – the Plan also includes an overview of non-key decisions to be taken by the Combined Authority or its Chief Officers

Included within the Forward Plan are decisions that are to be made by:

- [NECA Committees](#)
- [North East Joint Transport Committees](#)
- [Officers under delegation \(Delegated Decisions\)](#)

Unless otherwise indicated, if you require any further information or wish to make representations about any of the matters contained in the Forward Plan please contact the appropriate officer as detailed against each entry at least 7 days before the meeting.

***The most recent entries are referred to as “NEW”. Updated entries are referred to as “Updated”. Items withdrawn since the last publication are referred to as “Withdrawn” and following that will be removed altogether.**

Further information about the Forward Plan and NECA Decision Making can be found in 'The Combined Authorities (Overview and Scrutiny Committees, Access to Information and Audit Committees) Order 2017' and the NECA Overview and Scrutiny Committee's Decision Making Protocol which can be found at <http://northeastca.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/NECA-Decision-Making-Protocol.pdf>

NECA Committees

Reference Number and Thematic Area	Decision expected to be made on or within 60 days of	Decision Type: Key or Non- Key	Decision Maker	Details of Decision to be taken	Additional Documents for consideration	Contact Officer	Decision to be made in Public or Private (and relevant category of exemption)
Leadership Board							
LB 3 (a) Economic Development and Digital (Standing Item)	28 November 2023	Non-key	Leadership Board	Economic Development and Digital Thematic Update To note and provide any comments on the update report on the Economic Development and Digital Thematic Lead Portfolio		Rory Sherwood-Parkin Senior Economic Policy Manager – South Tyneside Council rory.sherwood-parkin@southtyneside.gov.uk	Public
LB 3 (b) Chairman's Portfolio (Standing Item)	28 November 2023	Non-key	Leadership Board	Thematic Lead Portfolio Update Report from the Chair To provide an update on the Chair's Thematic Lead Portfolio – for information and comment		Beverley Poulter Lead Policy Advisor to Leader and Chief Executive – Sunderland City Council Beverley.poulter@sunderland.gov.uk	Public
LB 3 (c) Finance, Skills and Employment (Standing Item)	28 November 2023	Non-key	Leadership Board	Finance and Skills and Employment Thematic Lead Portfolio Update Report To provide an update on the Finance and Skills and Employment Thematic Lead Portfolio		Graham Wood Economic Development Manager – Durham County Council graham.wood@durham.gov.uk John Tindale Employability Manager – Durham County Council john.tindale@durham.gov.uk	Public

Reference Number and Thematic Area	Decision expected to be made on or within 60 days of	Decision Type: Key or Non- Key	Decision Maker	Details of Decision to be taken	Additional Documents for consideration	Contact Officer	Decision to be made in Public or Private (and relevant category of exemption)
LB 3 (d) Transport (Standing Item)	28 November 2023	Non-key	Leadership Board	Transport Thematic Lead Portfolio Update Report To provide an update on the Transport Thematic Lead Portfolio		Stuart Corker Transport Planning Team Leader - Gateshead Council stuartcorker@gateshead.gov.uk	Public
LB 3 (e) Corporate Issue	28 November 2023	Non-key	Leadership Board	Treasury Management Mid-Year Update To note	Treasury Management Policy and Strategy 2023/24 – report to Leadership Board January 2023 - https://northeastca.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Leadership-Board-Agenda-Pack-FINAL-24-January-2023.pdf	Eleanor Goodman Finance Manager - NECA Eleanor.goodman@northeastca.gov.uk	Public
LB 3 (f) Corporate Issue	28 November 2023	Key	Leadership Board	Budget 2024/25 For consideration; to note the updated forecast of outturn for 2023/24; to agree the proposals set out in the report as the basis of consultation for the 2024/25 budget which will be presented to the Leadership Board for approval in January 2024.	Budget 2023/24 – report to Leadership Board January 2023 - https://northeastca.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Leadership-Board-Agenda-Pack-FINAL-24-January-2023.pdf	Eleanor Goodman Finance Manager - NECA Eleanor.goodman@northeastca.gov.uk	Public

Reference Number and Thematic Area	Decision expected to be made on or within 60 days of	Decision Type: Key or Non- Key	Decision Maker	Details of Decision to be taken	Additional Documents for consideration	Contact Officer	Decision to be made in Public or Private (and relevant category of exemption)
LB 3 (g)	28 November 2023	Non-key	Leadership Board	Audit Completion Report 2021/22 For review	Statement of Accounts 2021/22 – report to Leadership Board November 2022 https://northeastca.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/FINAL-Leadership-Board-29-November-2022.pdf	Jim Dafter Senior Manager – Mazars jim.dafter@mazars.co.uk	Public
LB 3 (h)	28 November 2023	Key	Leadership Board	Statement of Accounts 2021/22 Authorise the Chief Finance Officer to sign the Letter of Representation on behalf of the Authority; Approve the Statement of Accounts for 2021/22, taking into account any views from the Audit and Standards Committee meeting on 21 November; Authorise the Chair of the Leadership Board and the Chief Finance Officer to make any further adjustments required to the Statement of Accounts as a result of the conclusion of the external audit and to sign the Statement of Accounts for 2021/22’;	Statement of Accounts 2021/22 – report to Leadership Board November 2022 https://northeastca.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/FINAL-Leadership-Board-29-November-2022.pdf	Eleanor Goodman Finance Manager - NECA Eleanor.goodman@northeastca.gov.uk	Public

Reference Number and Thematic Area	Decision expected to be made on or within 60 days of	Decision Type: Key or Non- Key	Decision Maker	Details of Decision to be taken	Additional Documents for consideration	Contact Officer	Decision to be made in Public or Private (and relevant category of exemption)
				Approve the Annual Governance Statement; and; Authorise the Chair of the Leadership Board and the Head of Paid Service to sign the Annual Governance Statement			
Audit and Standards Sub-Committee							
There are no meetings currently scheduled.							
Audit and Standards Committee							
AS 2 (a) Corporate Issue	21 November 2023	Non-key	Audit and Standards Committee	North East Combined Authority Internal Audit Progress Report 2023/24 For comment and consideration		Tracy Davis Senior Manager – Assurance, Sunderland City Council 07342704254 tracy.davis@sunderland.gov.uk	Public
AS 2 (b) Corporate Issue	21 November 2023	Non-key	Audit and Standards Committee	Audit Completion Report and Follow Up Letters 2021/22 For information only	Audit Completion Report 2021/22 – report to Audit and Standards Committee November 2022 https://northeastca.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/FINAL-Audit-and-Standards-Committee-22-November-2022.pdf	Jim Dafter Senior Manager – Mazars jim.dafter@mazars.co.uk	Public

Reference Number and Thematic Area	Decision expected to be made on or within 60 days of	Decision Type: Key or Non- Key	Decision Maker	Details of Decision to be taken	Additional Documents for consideration	Contact Officer	Decision to be made in Public or Private (and relevant category of exemption)
AS 2 (c) Corporate Issue	21 November 2023	Non-key	Audit and Standards Committee	Statement of Accounts 2021/22 For review in advance of the Leadership Board meeting scheduled to be held on 28 November 2023	Statement of Accounts 2021/22 – report to Audit and Standards Committee November 2022 https://northeastca.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/FINAL-Audit-and-Standards-Committee-22-November-2022.pdf	Eleanor Goodman Finance Manager - NECA Eleanor.goodman@northeastca.gov.uk	Public
AS 2 (d) Corporate Issue	21 November 2023	Non-key	Audit and Standards Committee	Audit Strategy Memorandum 2022/23 To note	2022/23 Draft Statement of Accounts – Report to Audit and Standards Committee June 2023 https://northeastca.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/Audit-and-Standards-Committee-27-June-2023.pdf	Jim Dafter Senior Manager – Mazars jim.dafter@mazars.co.uk	Public
Overview and Scrutiny Committee							
OS 2 (a) Corporate Issue	14 December 2023	Non-key	Overview and Scrutiny Committee	NECA Budget 2024/25 For information	NECA Budget 2023/24 – report to Leadership Board 24 January 2023 https://northeastca.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Leadership-Board-	Eleanor Goodman Finance Manager - NECA Eleanor.goodman@northeastca.gov.uk	Public

Reference Number and Thematic Area	Decision expected to be made on or within 60 days of	Decision Type: Key or Non- Key	Decision Maker	Details of Decision to be taken	Additional Documents for consideration	Contact Officer	Decision to be made in Public or Private (and relevant category of exemption)
					Agenda-Pack-FINAL-24-January-2023.pdf		
Economic Development and Digital Advisory Board (EDDAB)							
The next scheduled meeting of the Economic Development and Digital Advisory Board is to be held on 5 March 2024.							

North East Joint Transport Committees

Reference Number	Decision expected to be made on or within 60 days of	Decision Type: Key or Non-Key	Decision Maker	Details of Decision to be taken	Additional Documents for consideration	Contact Officer	Decision to be made in Public or Private (and relevant category of exemption)
North East Joint Transport Committee							
JTC 5 (i)		Key	JTC	<p>Revenue Budget Proposals 2024/25 and Updated Forecast of Outturn 2023/24</p> <p>The North East Joint Transport Committee is recommended to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Receive the report for information and comment; ii. Note the updated forecast of outturn for the 2023/24 Transport budget as set out in the report; iii. Agree to the budget assumptions/proposals set out in the report forming the basis of consultation on the 2024/25 Transport budget; iv. Note that the budget proposals for transport will be subject to a consultation process including reports to the JTC Overview and Scrutiny Committee, relevant officer groups and the Leadership Board of NECA and the NTCA Cabinet; <p>Note the intention to approve the budget and agree the Transport levies at the meeting of the JTC on 16 January 2024, after considering any comments received on the proposals and decisions reached by the Tyne and Wear Sub Committee in January 2024.</p>	<p>Transport Revenue Budget 2023/24 (Public Pack)Agenda Document for North East Joint Transport Committee, 17/01/2023 14:30 (northeastca.gov.uk)</p>	<p>Eleanor Goodman, Eleanor.goodman@northeastca.gov.uk</p>	Public

Reference Number	Decision expected to be made on or within 60 days of	Decision Type: Key or Non-Key	Decision Maker	Details of Decision to be taken	Additional Documents for consideration	Contact Officer	Decision to be made in Public or Private (and relevant category of exemption)
JTC 5 (ii)		Non-key	JTC	<p>Forecast of Capital Outturn 2023/24 – Period to 30 September 2023</p> <p>The North East Joint Transport Committee is recommended to note the updated forecast of capital outturn for 2023/24</p>	<p>Transport Capital Programme 2023/24 (Public Pack)Agenda Document for North East Joint Transport Committee, 17/01/2023 14:30 (northeastca.gov.uk)</p>	Eleanor Goodman, Eleanor.goodman@northeastca.gov.uk	Public
JTC 5 (iii)		Key	JTC	<p>City Region Sustainable Transport Assessment – Development Funding</p> <p>A recommendation will be made to the Joint Transport Committee to allocate development funding to advance schemes that sit within the draft programme of the City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement</p>	<p>Joint Transport Committee Report (Item 7), Tuesday 21st February 2023 - (Public Pack)Agenda Document for North East Joint Transport Committee, 21/02/2023 14:30 (northeastca.gov.uk)</p> <p>Joint Transport Committee Report (Item 12 - Confidential), Tuesday 20th June 2023 - Joint Transport Committee AGM - 20 June 2023 - North East Combined Authority (northeastca.gov.uk)</p> <p>Jonathan Bailes (Jonathan.Bailes@tra)</p>	Jonathan Bailes Jonathan.Bailes@transportnortheast.gov.uk	Public

Reference Number	Decision expected to be made on or within 60 days of	Decision Type: Key or Non-Key	Decision Maker	Details of Decision to be taken	Additional Documents for consideration	Contact Officer	Decision to be made in Public or Private (and relevant category of exemption)
					nsportnortheast.gov.uk)		
JTC 5 (iv)		Non-key	JTC	<p>Transport Plan Progress Report</p> <p>The Joint Transport Committee is recommended to note the contents of the report.</p>	None	Tobyn Hughes, Tobyn.Hughes@transportnortheast.Gov.UK	Public
JTC 5 (v)		Key	JTC	<p>BSIP Data Analytics Procurement</p> <p>This report asks the JTC to approve the procurement of software to provide bus data analytics to support the Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) monitoring of Key Performance Indicators (KPI's)</p>	<p>North East Bus Service Improvement Plan TNE-BSIP_FINAL.pdf (transportnortheast.gov.uk)</p> <p>Enhanced Partnership (Public Pack)Agenda Document for North East Joint Transport Committee, 21/03/2023 14:30 (northeastca.gov.uk)</p> <p>Vision for Buses https://northeastca.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/2021.07.13-JTC-Public-Agenda-Pack-v2.pdf</p>	Heather Jones Heather.jones@transportnortheast.gov.uk	Public

Reference Number	Decision expected to be made on or within 60 days of	Decision Type: Key or Non-Key	Decision Maker	Details of Decision to be taken	Additional Documents for consideration	Contact Officer	Decision to be made in Public or Private (and relevant category of exemption)
					<p>Bus Back Better - The National Bus Strategy https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/980227/DfT-Bus-Back-Better-national-bus-strategy-for-England.pdf</p> <p>The Bus Services Act 2017 – Enhanced Partnership Guidance https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/959501/bus-services-act-2017-enhanced-partnerships-guidance.pdf</p>		
JTC Tyne and Wear Sub-Committee (TWSC)							
TWSC 3 (i)	9 November 2023	Non-key	TWSC	<p>Tyne Tunnels Update</p> <p>The report provides an update on activities at the Tyne Tunnels relating to the management and operation of the traffic tunnels and Tyne Pedestrian and Cyclist Tunnels.</p>	None	<p>Michael Dodds Michael.dodds@transportnortheast.gov.uk</p>	Public
TWSC 3 (ii)	9 November 2023	Non-key	TWSC	<p>Nexus Corporate Update</p> <p>To provide an update on the performance of Nexus against its Corporate Business Plan for 2023/24</p>	None	<p>Cathy Massarella Catherine.massarella@nexus.org.uk</p>	Public

Reference Number	Decision expected to be made on or within 60 days of	Decision Type: Key or Non-Key	Decision Maker	Details of Decision to be taken	Additional Documents for consideration	Contact Officer	Decision to be made in Public or Private (and relevant category of exemption)
TWSC 3 (iii)	9 November 2023	Non-key	TWSC	<p>Nexus Corporate Risks 2023/24</p> <p>Providing an update on the Nexus Corporate Risk Register for 2023/24 based on the approved Corporate Plan and demonstrates that these risks are being properly managed and controlled.</p>	None	Cathy Massarella Catherine.massarella@nexus.org.uk	Public
JTC Audit Committee							
The next meeting is scheduled to take place on 13 March 2024							
JTC Overview and Scrutiny Committee							
JTC OSC 3 (i)	14 December 2023	Non-key	TWSC	<p>Nexus Corporate Performance Update</p> <p>The purpose of this report as submitted to the TWSC is to provide an update on the performance of Nexus against its Corporate Business Plan for 2023/24. This report covers Periods 5 and 6 which encompasses 23 July 2023 to 16 September 2023.</p>	None	Stuart Clarke, Stuart.Clarke@nexus.org.uk Huw Lewis, Huw.lewis@nexus.org.uk	Public