



Forward Plan of Decisions

18 December 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 Items withdrawn since the last publication are referred to as “Withdrawn” and following that will be removed altogether.**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 4 (a) Chairman's Portfolio (Standing Item)	23 January 2024	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 4 (b) Finance, Skills and Employment (Standing Item)	23 January 2024	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
LB 4 (c) Transport (Standing Item)	23 January 2024	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
Audit and Standards Sub-Committee							
There are no meetings currently scheduled.							

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Audit and Standards Committee							
There are no meetings currently scheduled.							
Overview and Scrutiny Committee							
There are no meetings currently scheduled.							
Economic Development and Digital Advisory Board (EDDAB)							
The next scheduled meeting of the Economic Development and Digital Advisory Board is to be held on 27 February 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 6 (i)	19 December 2023	Key	JTC	<p>Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) Capital Programme- Development Funding Approval</p> <p>A recommendation will be made to the Joint Transport Committee for Members to note the emerging BSIP Tranche 2 Capital Programme and to agree to the release of development funding to advance schemes through the business case approval process.</p>	<p>Joint Transport Committee report (item 6), Tuesday 18th July 2023</p> <p>(Public Pack)Agenda Document for North East Joint Transport Committee, 18/07/2023 14:30 (northeastca.gov.uk)</p>	<p>Heather Jones Heather.jones@transportnortheast.gov.uk</p>	Public
JTC 6 (ii)	19 December 2023	Key	JTC	<p>Variation of the Enhanced Partnership Scheme</p> <p>To approve the variations of the enhanced partnership scheme.</p>	<p>North East Bus Service Improvement Plan TNE-BSIP-Refresh-Sept-23-WEB.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-</p>	<p>Philip Meikle Philip.meikle@transportnortheast.gov.uk</p> <p>Heather Jones Heather.jones@transportnortheast.gov.uk</p>	Public

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					<p>content/uploads/2021/07/2021.07.13-JTC-Public-Agenda-Pack-v2.pdf</p> <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/buses-services-act-2017-enhanced-partnerships-guidance.pdf</p>		
JTC 6 (iii)	19 December 2023	Non-key	JTC	<p>North East Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Strategy – Approval to Publish</p> <p>This report seeks approval to adopt the North East Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Strategy following a period of consultation. The strategy sets out our aim to deliver reliable public zero emission vehicle charging infrastructure across the North East, wherever people need it.</p>	None	<p>Rachelle Forsyth-Ward Rachelle.forsythward@transportnortheast.gov.uk</p>	Public

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JTC 6 (iv)	19 December 2023	Non-key	JTC	<p>Transport Plan Progress Report</p> <p>The Joint Transport Committee is recommended to note the contents of this report.</p>	None	Tobyn Hughes Tobyn.hughes@transportnortheast.gov.uk	Public
JTC 7 (i)	16 January 2024	Key	JTC	<p>Transport Budget and Levies 2024/25</p> <p>The North East Joint Transport Committee is recommended to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Note the position of the Transport budget in 2023/24 and approve the revised estimates for the year; ii. Agree a Transport net revenue budget for 2024/25 as set out in the report; iii. Agree the Transport levies for 2024/25 for Durham, Northumberland and Tyne and Wear as set out in the report; iv. Agree the transport revenue grant to Durham, Northumberland and Nexus as set out in the report; v. Approve the budgets for Transport North as set out in the report; <p>Note and agree the forecast level and use of reserves as set out in the report.</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>Draft Transport Revenue Budget Proposals (Public Pack)Agenda Document for North East Joint Transport Committee, 21/11/2023 14:30 (northeastca.gov.uk)</p>	Eleanor Goodman Eleanor.goodman@northeastca.gov.uk	Public
JTC 7 (ii)	16 January 2024	Key	JTC	<p>Transport Capital Programme 2024/25</p> <p>The North East Joint Transport Committee is recommended to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i) Note the latest position in respect of the 2023/24 capital programme, set out in the report; 	Transport Capital Programme 2023/24 (Public Pack)Agenda Document for North East Joint Transport Committee,	Eleanor Goodman Eleanor.goodman@northeastca.gov.uk	Public

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				ii) Approve the proposed initial capital programme for 2024/25 as set out in the report.	17/01/2023 14:30 (northeastca.gov.uk)		
JTC 7 (iii)	16 January 2024	Key	JTC	<p>Bus Service Improvement Plan – Funding for Additional on network staffing</p> <p>Requesting delegated authority to the Managing Director, Transport North East, following consultation with the chair of the JTC, Monitoring Officer and such other persons as the Managing Director considers relevant to enter into contracts with specialist suppliers or grant funding agreements with local authorities and Nexus on the delivery of additional staff to fulfill the roles of Bus Ambassadors and turn around cleaners.</p>	<p>North East Bus Service Improvement Plan TNE-BSIP-Refresh-Sept-23-WEB.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> <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>Philip Meikle philip.meikle@transportnortheast.gov.uk</p> <p>Heather Jones Heather.jones@transportnortheast.gov.uk</p>	

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					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		
JTC 7 (iv)	16 January 2024	Non-key	JTC	Transport Plan Progress Report The Joint Transport Committee is recommended to note the contents of this report.	None	Tobyn Hughes Tobyn.hughes@transportnortheast.gov.uk	Public
JTC 7 (v)	16 January 2024	Non-key	JTC	Discharge of Transport Functions by Northumberland County Council Under the Constitution of the Combined Authority, and in accordance with an Operating Agreement between the Constituent Authorities, certain functions have been delegated to the Executive of the two Constituent County Councils, being Durham and Northumberland. This report provides an update on the discharge of delegated functions by Northumberland County Council for the financial year 2022/23.	Previous discharge of transport function report can be found here: https://northeastca.gov.uk/decision-making/the-north-east-joint-transport-committee/#papers-section	Neil Easton neil.easton@northumberland.gov.uk	Public

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JTC Tyne and Wear Sub-Committee (TWSC)							
TWSC 4 (i)	18 January 2024	Key	TWSC	Revision to Metro, Shields Ferry and Secured Bus Fares April 2024 To seek approval for the 2024 revision of fares for Metro, Shields Ferry and Secured Bus Services	None	Cathy Massarella Catherine.massarella@nexus.org.uk	Public
TWSC 4 (ii)	18 January 2024	Non-key	TWSC	Tyne Tunnels Toll Revision 2024 The report will seek approval from Joint Transport Committee, Tyne and Wear Sub-Committee for a revision of tolls in 2024	None	Michael Dodds michael.dodds@transportnortheast.gov.uk	Public
TWSC 4 (iii)	18 January 2024	Non-key	TWSC	Nexus Corporate Business Plan 2024/25 – 2028/29 To present Nexus Corporate Business Plan 2024/25 - 2028/29.	None	Cathy Massarella Catherine.massarella@nexus.org.uk	Public
TWSC 4 (iv)	18 January 2024	Non-key	TWSC	Nexus Corporate Performance Update To provide an update on the performance of Nexus against its Corporate Business Plan for 2023/24	None	Cathy Massarella Catherine.massarella@nexus.org.uk	Public
TWSC 4 (v)	18 January 2024	Non-key	TWSC	Nexus Corporate Risks 2023/24 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.	None	Cathy Massarella Catherine.massarella@nexus.org.uk	Public
TWSC 4 (vi)	18 January 2024	Non-key	TWSC	Tyne Tunnels Update	None	Michael Dodds	Public

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				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.		michael.dodds@transportnortheast.gov.uk	
TWSC 4 (vii)	18 January 2024	Key	TWSC	<p>Tyne Tunnels Renewable Energy Project</p> <p>The report seeks approval from the Joint Transport Committee, Tyne and Wear Sub-Committee for TT2 Limited to install solar panels within the site of the Tyne Tunnels for the purpose of generating renewable energy for their activities associated with the tunnels, subject to obtaining the necessary consents.</p>	None	<p>Michael Dodds</p> <p>michael.dodds@transportnortheast.gov.uk</p>	Private
JTC Audit Committee							
The next meeting is scheduled to take place on 13 March 2024							
JTC Overview and Scrutiny Committee							
The next meeting is scheduled to take place on 28 March 2024							