

## North of Tyne Combined Authority, Cabinet

Tuesday 26 September 2023 at 2.00 pm

Meeting to be held: Committee Room, Civic Centre, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 8QH

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## SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA

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**Title:** Investment Fund and Funding Approvals Update  
**Report of:** Rob Hamilton, Head of Strategy and Innovation  
**Portfolio:** Investment and Resources

### Report Summary

The purpose of this report is to update Cabinet on progress with the North of Tyne Investment and UKSPF programmes. This includes £5.7m of new UKSPF funding approvals and £3.9m of further NTCA Investment Fund resources – delivering on previously agreed strategic priorities through the following projects:

- **£1.263m** to enable NTCA businesses to access 5G testing facilities, reducing barriers to accessing, developing and piloting 5G technology solutions for businesses in the offshore renewable energy, manufacturing, retail and creative sectors.
- **£0.249m** to support innovation in rural SMEs and community organisations – with the Rural Catalyst partnership also developing a business case for their next phase of operations.
- **£0.383m** for an inward investment project set to create 124 jobs.
- **£0.275m** of funding into digital skills, through a new initiative developed by Sunderland Software City, which will create opportunities for early-career tech workers lacking industry experience.
- **£0.149m** towards the detailed design and development of the Energy Central Institute proposal at Blyth – which is set to become a new higher-level skills and innovation facility.
- **£0.081m** to help people using secondary care mental health services into employment, through a pilot project to be delivered by the Cumbria, Northumberland, and Tyne & Wear Health Trust.
- **£3.870m** of UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) investment into a range of projects including support for the offshore wind sector, a business growth and innovation programme, investment into social enterprises and a VCSE-led community grants programme which will support residents facing additional barriers to employment.
- **£3.510m** of investment to support a variety of place-based environmental stewardship and rural growth priorities, using resources from the Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF), UKSPF and NTCA's Investment Fund.

These projects build on previous Investment Fund commitments of £124m, which are expected to create 5,235 jobs – with the first 2,032 jobs people now in post. Good progress is also being made with the NTCA's UK Shared Prosperity Fund programme, with total commitments increasing to almost £36m, two-thirds of the available funding. This report also provides an update on the devolved Brownfield Housing Funding and Capital Regeneration Funding which were agreed through the new North East Mayoral Combined Authority (NEMCA) Devolution Deal.

### Recommendations

Cabinet is recommended to:

1. Note progress to date on the Investment Fund and UKSPF, achievement of key milestones and ongoing project development work, particularly in respect of the creation of new jobs for residents as a direct result of NTCA investments.
2. Authorise the Chief Executive to make final approvals and associated decisions relating to implementation, in accordance with existing delegations, for the £9.6m of projects described in this report, using Investment Fund, UKSPF and REPF resources.

3. Agree that the Benwell Dene and North Tyneside Council Social Housing Sites projects are accepted onto the North of Tyne Brownfield Housing Fund Pipeline and invited to prepare full business cases.
4. Delegate responsibility to mobilise and take funding decisions, including the management of contractual and delivery risks, in relation to the NEMCA Devolved Brownfield Housing Funding and Capital Regeneration Funding (NE Devolution) programmes to the Chief Executive in consultation with Investment Panel. And to authorise the Monitoring Officer and Chief Finance Officer to take all steps necessary to progress these programmes to meet the funding timetables agreed with Government.
5. Extend the financial end date of NTCA's Inward Investment Fund to May 2024, allowing new commitments to potential investors to be made from the existing budget envelope agreed by Cabinet.

## **Context**

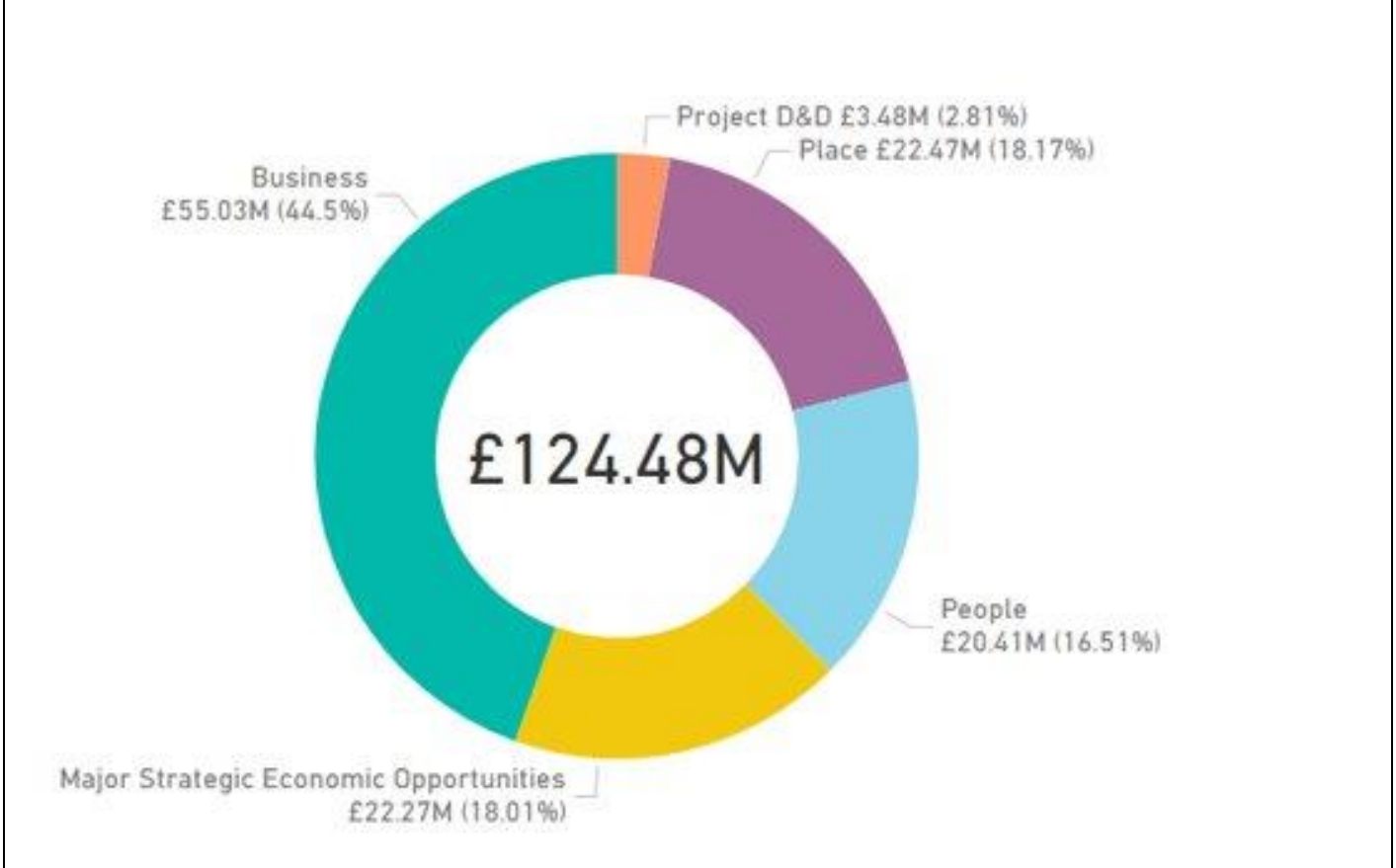
### **1. Background and Economic Context**

- 1.1. The UK economy contracted by 0.5% in July, with the subdued economy partly reflecting one-off factors including poor weather. At 6.7%, the UK inflation rate remains high and well above the 2% target. Rising food prices are the most commonly reported reason stated by adults for their cost-of-living rise – with food price inflation currently about 14%.
- 1.2. High energy costs are also having an impact on household finances. Since the last Cabinet meeting, the OFGEM price cap has been lowered so that the typical household will pay £1,923 a year from 1st October, down from £2,074. But for most households, energy bills are expected to stay at a similar level to last year due to an end in Government's Energy Bills Support Scheme. The leading energy consultancy firm, Cornwall Insight, predicts that energy bills could stay elevated for the remainder of the decade.
- 1.3. The latest data from the Office for National Statistics show an increase in unemployment in the North East, with the rate rising to 5.2%. The data are volatile on a month-by-month basis, but if this pattern is confirmed the North East would have the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest rate of unemployment in the country after the North West.
- 1.4. Against this backdrop, the Combined Authority continues to invest to support inclusive economic growth, and this report provides updates on:
  - delivery of the Investment Fund, including substantial progress towards our 10,000 new jobs target;
  - good progress with our UK Shared Prosperity Fund programme, including £5.6m of new project approvals, taking the total to £36m – two-thirds of the NTCA's 3-year allocation.

### **2. Investment Fund Progress**

- 2.1. Delivery of the Investment Fund Programme continues, with 153 projects approved since the launch of the Combined Authority, providing direct support to residents, promoting business growth and investing in our communities. These projects are expected to create 5235 jobs, more than half of our thirty-year target. The first 2,032 new jobs have been created and verified, with North East residents employed as a direct result of NTCA investment. In addition, 1833 roles have been confirmed as safeguarded. Job creation has been from new businesses to the region – including Verisure and Xplor – as well as existing businesses, supported through a spectrum of NTCA's interventions, ranging from our Innovation Grants to Sector Growth Programmes.
- 2.2. Excluding the projects discussed in this report, the Combined Authority has in place contracted Investment Fund spend of almost £125m (Figure 2), including commitments and expenditure to 2029-30. Over £50m of this funding has now been paid by the NTCA.

**Figure 2: NTCA Investment Fund, project approvals to date**



2.3. The Combined Authority has also achieved a range of other outcomes including:

- More than 110 businesses have signed up to the NTCA's Good Work Pledge, while 60 Schools have signed up to the Mental Health Award;
- 33,413 Adult Education Budget learning opportunities being delivered this year;
- NTCA has supported a programme of events over the Summer, while "New Adventures", (a Tourism Product) received a silver award at the National Tourism Awards (Visit England Awards for Excellence).
- NTCA is working with over 200 schools across the area
- Over 1700 residents have been supported through the NTCA's Skills Bootcamps, with the NTCA recently securing an additional £9.2m of funding for a further phase of Bootcamps.
- Eleven brownfield housing schemes have been supported so far, with a total NTCA contribution of £24m. The NTCA is making good progress on its Brownfield Housing Fund (BHF), with another 3 projects currently being appraised and collectively valued at over £6.7m. The approved BHF projects are forecasting the creation of 1948 housing units.

### **3. Brownfield Housing Fund - North of Tyne Pipeline**

3.1. The NTCA was awarded £31.831m of Brownfield Housing Funding in 2021/2022. So far, 11 schemes have been approved, which are expected to deliver 1,948 homes and draw on £24.008m of the total BHF allocation. A number of other schemes are in the final stages of development and the current overall pipeline amounts to £31.277m.

3.2. There are a risks associated with the delivery of the BHF programme, including from the weakening housing market, construction price inflation, challenges around scheme finalisation and the

complexities associated with developing brownfield sites. To offset these risks, it is proposed that two additional schemes – which meet the criteria of the Brownfield Housing Fund and were considered by Investment Panel – are added onto the pipeline for the North of Tyne Brownfield Housing Fund Programme. The two schemes in total amount to £2.639m and would deliver 213 additional units (table 1):

**Table 1: Proposed additional projects to be added to the NTCA Brownfield Housing Pipeline**

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Scheme Name</b>	<b>BHF Ask</b>	<b>Units of housing to be delivered</b>
Places First	Benwell Dene	£1,819,122	146
North Tyneside Council	Social Housing Sites	£820,000	67

3.3. With the addition of these two schemes the North of Tyne Brownfield Housing Programme would be extended to £33.916m, a slight overprogramming of 6%. As with all of the Brownfield Housing schemes, those added to the pipeline will be required to complete a compliant business case, that is subject to an external appraisal prior to any award of funding which will be reported to Investment Panel and recommended for approval in accordance with the scheme of delegation.

#### **4. 5G and Future Connectivity Programme**

4.1. NTCA Cabinet previously approved an allocation of £7m for a *5G and Future Connectivity Programme*, with the overall ambition to drive advanced connectivity adoption in key sectors where there is local capability and opportunities to unlock economic benefits, new markets and improve competitiveness. The programme recognises that coordinated investment to support commercialisation of new technologies is required – increasing the opportunities for the area to benefit from the exploitation of future connectivity developments.

4.2. The two proposals introduced in this report reflect the first phase of investment from this programme. Both are being brought forward following an open ‘expression of interest’ process which attracted 13 submissions. Investment Panel considered these projects at its September meeting, recommending both for approval.

##### *Proposal 1: Port of Blyth, 5G Innovation Lab*

4.3. This proposal will create a private 5G “Living Lab” within the Energy Central Learning Hub located at the South Harbour area of Port of Blyth. It will enable businesses based in and around the port and wider value chain to work on 5G technologies. The project is primarily focused on removing barriers to accessing, testing, and piloting 5G solutions and is targeted at the Offshore Renewable Energy sector eco-system of manufacturing and services companies, located within the Port of Blyth, other regional ports, and the wider NTCA area.

4.4. The project will engage with 25 businesses. It is expected that the project will both allow ideas to be tested quickly and reduce the time to commercialization of 5G technology for the Offshore Renewable Energy Sector. It will therefore add weight to the existing assets and innovation offer for the sector in the region, including that provided by the ORE Catapult. In total, the project will involve £0.548m of NTCA resources.

##### *Proposal 2: 5G / Immersive Innovation Lab (5Gi-LAB) (Digital Catapult)*

4.5. This project involves the set up and running of a 5G/Immersive Innovation Lab located in Newcastle’s Eldon Square. This will provide physical co-working space for SMEs to collaborate and explore the opportunities of 5G and access to subject matter experts in 5G and other leading-edge technologies. The project will be delivered through a collaboration between Digital Catapult UK, Vodafone, Digital

Catapult NETV (Sunderland Software City), Dynamo North East, and Floe (co-working space provider). In total, the NTCA investment into the project is £0.715m.

- 4.6. The objectives of the project are to support acceleration, growth and transformational new opportunities for businesses. The focus is on areas of technology innovation potential, including manufacturing, retail and creative. In addition, it will add value and provide facilities for prototyping and testing of new technologies by businesses engaged in the wider NTCA digital growth programme including health-tech programmes led by the AHSN and activity led by the National Innovation Centre for Ageing. It is expected that over 200 businesses will be supported through this project.

## **5. Rural Catalyst**

- 5.1. The 'Rural Catalyst' is a partnership between Newcastle University (the accountable body), the National Innovation Centre for Rural Enterprise and the Rural Design Centre. The ambition is to support places, businesses and people to identify and respond to opportunities and challenges, investing in improving the lives and prospects of rural businesses and rural communities by:
- Delivering interventions that support local businesses to thrive, innovate and grow;
  - Creating suitable and sustainable foundations for local economic development; and
  - Supporting the development of community spaces and relationships.
- 5.2. The Rural Catalyst forms part of the NTCA's broader programme to support rural growth – with Cabinet having previously allocated a total of £6.0m UK Shared Prosperity Fund and Rural England Prosperity Fund together with a further indicative £3.0m of North of Tyne Investment Fund for 2025 to 2028 to support the Stewardship and Rural Growth Plan. Further investment in the Rural economy is discussed below.
- 5.3. At its September meeting, Investment Panel considered a request for £0.249m of investment into the Rural Catalyst. Over the next year, this will enable the Catalyst to work with more than 150 representatives from businesses, community organisations and their partners from the public sector. In addition to maintaining delivery, the Rural Catalyst will also develop a business case for its next phase of operations.

## **6. Inward investment**

- 6.1. NTCA's Cabinet approved an Inward Investment Fund in February 2019, subsequently agreeing to increase its value to £10m in December 2019 with a programme closure date of September 2022. To date, 9 applications with a combined value of £7.833m have been approved. Of this, £7.833m is legally committed which will create 1,669 jobs; £2.166m of the Inward Investment Fund allocation is remaining.
- 6.2. Demand remains strong for the scheme, with interest from a number of companies looking to invest in the North of Tyne. In September, Investment Panel considered and recommended for approval a proposal for investment of £0.383m into a project seeking to establish its first UK operations in North Tyneside, with the creation of 62 jobs. The project is subject to finalisation of commercial terms and due diligence; until this point, further details remain confidential.
- 6.3. To ensure resources can be fully committed and meet the new interest from potential inward investors serviced, Investment Panel has recommended an extension of the Fund, using previously agreed resources, to May 2024, the point at which the new Combined Authority will be created.

## **7. The Bench: proposal to pilot paid work experience entry routes into digital sector employment across the North of Tyne**

- 7.1. NTCA has invested significantly in the growth of the digital sector, improved digital connectivity and tech innovation, including through a £10m Digital Growth and Innovation Programme. The sector remains one of the strongest areas of the economy and ensuring talent supply across all levels - from

entry/graduate level to senior hires - is proving to be a constraint on growth. As in the rest of the UK, this has created an increase in vacancies, which are not being filled at the required rate. Recruitment challenges are particularly acute for businesses seeking to scale up rapidly, including inward investors.

- 7.2. Delivered by Sunderland Software City, this project will help address this challenge by piloting an initiative which would enable businesses to access 'a bench of talent'. The project will provide a new and innovative pilot to overcome the challenge facing early career tech sector workers lacking industry experience.
- 7.3. The project involves the provision of paid work experience placements, underpinned by industry led training courses and employment pathways into the tech sector. Candidates will be graduates or non-graduates resident in the NTCA area – who have a strong desire and potential to work in the sector. They will be looking to gain industry experience and as a result, permanent employment.
- 7.4. This phase of the project will support 30 NTCA residents into the sector, whilst also acting as a pilot to test if a sustainable model, which would be funded by a higher proportion of private sector contributions, is viable. At its September meeting, Investment Panel considered a request for £0.275m of funding, just under half of the overall project costs, recommending it for approval.

## **8. Energy Central Campus Phase 2**

- 8.1. The vision of the Energy Central Campus is to provide access to transformational business led skills, education and innovation development supporting growth in the clean energy sector in Blyth and the wider North East. Work began earlier this year on the first phase, the Energy Central Learning Hub, which will deliver STEM education and sector-related vocational and work-based learning in high-quality specialist training facilities. The second phase, which is the subject of this funding application, will be the Energy Central Institute (ECI) which will be a new higher-level skills and innovation facility, developing energy sector expertise at degree and PhD levels. The Institute will be developed on a site identified within Blyth Town Centre on the area between Bridge Street, Union Street and King Street.
- 8.2. This application – which was endorsed by Investment Panel in September – is seeking £0.149m of funding towards the detailed design and development of the Energy Central Institute proposal. This will support the project through to the development of the full business case and ultimately to the physical development of the Institute, including by:
  - Developing the Energy Central Institute design and build objectives, including quality objectives and sustainability design aspirations for the facility;
  - Enabling the final design concept (RIBA Stage 2) for the building, costs and commercial arrangements to deliver the proposed facility;
  - Delivering the technical report detailing the constraints and opportunities evolving from site location, planning, highways, infrastructure and physical characteristics.
  - And delivering a suite of technical studies which will inform the final design to RIBA Stage 3 and the Completion of site purchase.

## **9. Supporting users of mental health services into work**

- 9.1. This pilot project will provide employment support provision for people with a serious mental health problem who are under the care of their GP in a primary care setting. It will therefore support residents to find suitable employment and enjoy the benefits (including to mental health) that a good job brings. This is an important part of NTCA's public service reform innovation programme: we know that there is a two-way relationship between mental health problems and the chances of a person



experiencing long-term worklessness, while the number of people reporting mental health problems has been going up in recent years.<sup>1</sup>

- 9.2. The purpose of this project is to test how this approach works in a primary care context in an urban and a rural location within NTCA area. The intention is to determine how the model may best operate and then utilise learning from this scoping exercise to implement changes across the North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (NENC ICB) to improve access to evidence-based employment support for a wider population. Funding will support two NHS employment specialists to be embedded into Primary Care Networks in Newcastle and Northumberland and to explore how this approach (sometimes called Individual Placement Support) functions in a primary care setting.
- 9.3. The project will be led by CNTW, with Investment Panel recommending it for approval by Written Procedure in August. In total, the Combined Authority will contribute £0.081m of the Business Case Development Fund to a £0.139m project, with match funding being provided by NHS Improvement alongside the Integrated Care Board Commissioners for Newcastle and Northumberland.

## 10. UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) Update

10.1. As previously discussed by Cabinet, the NTCA was allocated funding of £47.1m for 'core-UKSPF', £4.1m for the 'Multiply' adult numeracy programme and £3.0m of Rural England Prosperity Funding. UKSPF will enable investment in communities and places, support for businesses, investment in employment support, numeracy and broader skills and investment in the rural economy. The overall objectives set by Government include to:

- boost productivity, pay, jobs and living standards.
- spread opportunities and improve public services.
- restore a sense of community, local pride and belonging.
- empower local leaders and communities.

10.2. Good progress is being made with the NTCA's UKSPF programme. Including the projects highlighted below, a total of almost £36m of project funding for the core-UKSPF, Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF) and Multiply Programmes has now been approved (table 2) – two thirds of the total allocation received from Government.

**Table 2: UKSPF approvals**

UKSPF Investment Priority	Total approvals (£m)
Communities & Place	11.3
Supporting Local Business	14.9
People & Skills	3.7
Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF)	3.0
Multiply Programme	2.7
<b>TOTAL (UKSPF + REPF + Multiply)</b>	<b>35.6</b>
Note: allocation = £54.2m	

10.3. Recent UKSPF project approvals include:

- £0.300m to support the **Offshore Wind Sector**, through a programme being delivered by Energi Coast. This will enable the regional cluster group to capitalise on the supply chain opportunities in the region arising through offshore wind from existing and new technologies. The project involves the development and delivery of a comprehensive programme of

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/types-of-mental-health-problems/statistics-and-facts-about-mental-health/how-common-are-mental-health-problems/#References>

activities, including events, marketing and the promotion of regional capabilities both overseas and in the UK. This will include continuing to support the region's offshore wind conference which typically attracts 900 delegates from across the UK and overseas.

- £2.500m of investment into **supporting business growth and innovation**, through a business support and grants programme. Following the outcome of a competitive process, this will be delivered by Umi Commercial Ltd and UNW accountants. The project will create at least 156 new jobs and stimulate £6.7m of business investment.
- £0.400m to **support Social Enterprises**. The project will be delivered by North East Enterprise Agencies Ltd (NEEAL) who will provide 90 businesses with the skills, specialist advice and networks needed to survive and grow. 32 Socially Trading Organisations (STOs) will benefit from the receipt of a grant to assist incorporation costs and 100 individuals will attend specialist training sessions.
- Investment of £3.510m into **rural growth**, including £1.544m from the REPF and £0.500m from the UKSPF – alongside £1.467m from the NTCA's Investment Fund. This will support capital and rural grants, investing in local projects delivering key interventions addressing a variety of environmental stewardship and rural growth issues. These include helping to manage the challenges and opportunities of the seasonal influx of visitors to the Northumberland Coast and sensitively promoting access for educational, health and well-being purposes to the South West part of the National Park bounded by Bellingham and Haltwhistle.
- Additional funding of £0.500m has been allocated to support People and Skills, with the addition of a small grants programme which will **support VCSE led community-based activities** that will engage and support all residents who face additional barriers to accessing mainstream employability services. The small grant programme will enhance capacity within local VCSE led community-based activity to engage and support residents into mainstream services and provide added value community-based support. Eligible activities within the small grants programme are likely to include:
  - Community engagement, reaching out and engaging with those residents across North of Tyne who are economically inactive
  - Providing wrap-around support to enable residents to move closer to mainstream provision
  - Promoting to all residents the importance of work to help people to live healthier and more independent lives
  - Enhanced activity to support residents with poor mental health and well-being challenges
  - Providing referral pathways for residents into current employment support provision

## **11. Devolved Brownfield Housing Funding and Capital Regeneration Funding (NE Devolution)**

- 11.1. The North East Mayoral Combined Authority (NEMCA) Devolution Deal includes an allocation of £17.4m capital, and £0.475m revenue, of Brownfield Housing Funding to be spent by March 2025. The outputs for this fund is the delivery of an additional 1,134 -1,451 homes. The Devolution Deal also includes £20m of capital funding for regeneration schemes which must be spent by March 2025.
- 11.2. Until NEMCA is formally established, DLUHC will grant the capital and Brownfield funding to the North of Tyne Combined Authority (NTCA), who will act as the accountable body and administer the funding in line with NTCA's assurance framework. This funding will be transferred to NTCA once the Statutory Instrument to create NEMCA is laid, which Government expects to occur in December or January 2024. However significant mobilisation activity is required prior to this point to enable the projects to defray funds within the allotted timeframe – as such decisions are sought now to enable this to happen.

- 11.3. Project pipelines have been developed through a 'call for projects' for both funds. This pipeline reflects initial priorities which are expedient to be delivered within the constraints and the terms of the funding available; work is ongoing to develop medium- and longer-term priorities for future funding. Following a decision taken by the Chief Executive on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2023, 8 Brownfield Housing Projects with a value of £17.6m and 7 early capital projects have been added to the pipeline.
- 11.4. The maximum level of funding for the early Capital Project pipeline identified is £33.97m. However, it is anticipated that the final level of funding following the full appraisal and due diligence process will be less than this. As this is still likely to exceed the initial capital allocation of £20m in the NE devolution deal, discussions have been held with the Leaders and Chief Executive Officers of the Local Authorities to allocate up to £14m of capital from the Year 1 2024/2025 NEMCA investment funding allocation, to enable these schemes to come forward. This minimises the risk of NEMCA underachieving capital spend targets in Year 1, due to the complexity and scale of some of the capital schemes.
- 11.5. Resources are available and agreed to mobilise this funding, including a £0.475m revenue grant from Government and up to 5% of Capital Funding budget set out being used for operation and mobilisation costs.
- 11.6. Contractual risks will be managed through the phasing of legal agreements, which when taking into account ongoing project development and appraisal activities, is expected to occur, in most cases, around or after the time that the funding will be released by Government to NTCA. If projects must defray funds or make contractual commitments earlier than the point that the Statutory Instrument to create the NEMCA is laid, the point at which funding is guaranteed by Government, then case by case agreements will be sought between NTCA and the applicant as to how this risk is managed.
- 11.7. In order to maintain the rapid progress needed to hit these timescales, NTCA Cabinet is asked to delegate responsibility to mobilise and take funding and programme management decisions to the Chief Executive in consultation with Investment Panel, and to authorise the Monitoring Officer and Chief Finance Officer to take all steps necessary to progress the programmes.

## **B. Impact on NTCA Objectives**

Programme delivery as described in the report is consistent with the priorities set out in NTCA's corporate plan and UKSPF delivery plan.

## **C. Key risks**

Programme risks are managed in line with agreed processes and individual project risks have been considered as part of the application and appraisal process.

## **D. Financial and other resources implications**

All the proposed project approvals set out in this report have been identified to be funded from the Investment fund, Brownfield Housing Fund or UK Shared Prosperity Funds.

## **E. Legal implications**

The Monitoring Officer's comments have been included in this report, and the Monitoring Officer will continue to oversee subsidy control compliance.

## **F. Equalities implications**

The NTCA seeks to actively narrow inequality under the terms of the Equality Act 2010 and we will undertake an equality impact assessment for funding requests, in accordance with the agreed process.

**G. Inclusive Economy and Wellbeing implications**

The inclusive economy case is assessed on an individual project basis as part of the assessment process and is embedded within the Investment Fund criteria. The activity described within this report is considered to positively support the Inclusive economy priorities of the Combined Authority, particularly by supporting the development new jobs and through an intensification of community engagement.

**H. Climate Change implications**

Climate change implications are assessed on an individual project basis as part of the assessment process. The activity described within this report is considered to positively support the climate change priorities of the Combined Authority, including by supporting businesses to reduce their emissions as part of the business support programmes and by encouraging growth of the offshore wind sector.

**I. Consultation and engagement**

Stakeholders are engaged in the development of project proposals and, as far as possible, wider engagement has been sought in the development of the programme – particularly the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, where consultation included VCSE organisations, businesses, other stakeholders and MPs

**J. Appendices**

None

**K. Background papers**

None

**L. Contact officer(s)**

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**M. Glossary**

NTCA	North of Tyne Combined Authority
NEMCA	North East Mayoral Combined Authority
SME	Small to Medium Enterprise
UKSPF	UK Shared Prosperity Fund
BHF	Brownfield Housing Fund
DLUHC	Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities
REPF	Rural England Prosperity Fund
SOTs	Socially-Trading Organisations