

Cabinet

Tuesday, 7 June 2022 at 2.00 pm

Meeting to be held: Committee Room, North Tyneside Council, Quadrant, The Silverlink North, Cobalt Business Park, North Tyneside, NE27 0BY

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SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA

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Under section 100A and Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972 because exempt information is likely to be disclosed and the public interest test against disclosure is satisfied.	
14. Investment Fund Update and Funding Approvals - Appendix	21 - 24

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Subject: Cabinet membership, appointments to committees and other bodies and programme of meetings
Report of: Monitoring Officer
Portfolio: All

Report Summary

This report sets out the membership of Cabinet and the proposed appointments to the committees of NTCA and other bodies.

Recommendations

Cabinet is recommended to:

1. note the Cabinet membership set out at Appendix 1(a) and that the Mayor is to appoint a Cabinet member as Deputy Mayor;
 2. agree the allocation of Cabinet portfolios set out at Appendix 1(b) and the schedule of meetings for the municipal year 2022/23 set out at Appendix 2;
 3. agree the membership of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Audit and Standards Committee, the Housing and Land Board and the Inclusive Economy Board as set out in Appendix 3;
 4. agree to delegate the appointment of Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee;
 5. agree the appointment of members and substitute members to the Joint Transport Committee and the Tyne and Wear Sub-committee as set out in paragraphs 1.5.1 and 1.5.2;
 6. agree the appointment of members and substitute members to the board of Transport for the North (TfN) and TfN's Overview and Scrutiny Committee as set out in paragraphs 1.6.1 and 1.6.2; and
 7. agree the appointment of members to the North East Local Enterprise Partnership Boards and Panels as set out in in paragraph 1.7.1.
 8. appoint Robin Fry as Mayoral Ambassador for the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) sector for 2022/23 as set out in paragraph 1.8.
 9. agree to the creation of the NTCA Strategic Partnership Group and delegate to the Managing Director, in consultation with the Mayor, the final agreement of its terms of reference and membership as set out in paragraph 1.9.
1. **Background Information, Proposals and Timetable for Implementation**
 - 1.1 **Cabinet**

- 1.1.1 The table at Appendix 1(a) sets out the members and substitute members which each constituent council and the North East Local Enterprise Partnership (North East LEP) have appointed to NTCA's Cabinet.
- 1.1.2 The Mayor of NTCA is the chair of Cabinet. The Mayor must appoint one of the members of Cabinet as his deputy who will be able to exercise his functions and decision-making powers in his absence.
- 1.1.3 The table at Appendix 1(b) sets out the proposed allocation of Cabinet portfolios to the Cabinet members for Cabinet to consider. A proposed schedule of meetings of Cabinet and other committees for the year ahead is attached as Appendix 2.

1.2 Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC)

1.2.1 The OSC comprises three members from each constituent authority. The composition of the OSC must, so far as reasonably practicable, reflect political balance across the authority as a whole. Taking account of recent local election results, the distribution of seats is unchanged and as follows:

- Newcastle - 2 Labour; 1 Liberal Democrat
- North Tyneside - 3 Labour
- Northumberland - 2 Conservative; 1 Labour

Substitute members must be appointed on the same basis.

1.2.2 The proposed membership of the OSC is set out at Appendix 3(a). The Chair of the OSC must be an 'appropriate person', which means an elected member from a group other than the Mayor's group. NTCA's Constitution states that Cabinet shall appoint the Chair of the OSC at its Annual Meeting, although Cabinet has previously delegated this decision to the OSC itself.

1.3 Audit and Standards Committee (ASC)

1.3.1 This Committee comprises three members from each constituent authority and one independent co-opted member who chairs the committee. The current independent chair is Doug Ross, who was appointed by Cabinet in February 2019. The membership of the ASC must, so far as reasonably practicable, also reflect political balance across the Authority, which results in the same allocation of seats as set out in paragraph 1.2.1.

1.3.2 The proposed membership of the ASC is set out at Appendix 3(b).

1.4 Housing and Land Board (HLB) and Inclusive Economy Board (IEB)

1.4.1 The Housing and Land and Inclusive Economy Boards are both advisory boards. The proposed membership of the HLB is set out in appendix 3(c) and the membership of the IEB is set out in Appendix 3(d).

1.5 Joint Transport Committee (JTC)

1.5.1 NTCA must appoint three of its members to the JTC, one of whom shall be the Elected Mayor unless he agrees otherwise. NTCA must also appoint three substitute members. The following appointments are proposed:

JTC Member	Substitute
Councillor Nick Kemp	Councillor Karen Kilgour
Councillor Carl Johnson	Mayor Norma Redfearn
Councillor Glen Sanderson	Councillor Richard Wearmouth

1.5.2 NTCA must appoint two members and two substitute members to the Tyne and Wear Sub-committee of the JTC. The following appointments are proposed:

Tyne and Wear Sub-Committee Member	Substitute
Councillor Jane Byrne	Councillor Alex Hay
Councillor Carl Johnson	Councillor Sandra Graham

1.5.3 The JTC also has an Audit Committee and an Overview and Scrutiny Committee; appointments to those committees are made by each of the NTCA constituent authorities.

1.6 Transport for the North (TfN)

1.6.1 NTCA appoints one member and one substitute member to TfN's Board. The following appointments are proposed:

Board Member	Substitute
Mayor Jamie Driscoll	Councillor Nick Kemp

1.6.2 NTCA appoints one member and one substitute member to TfN's Scrutiny Committee. The following appointments are proposed:

Overview and Scrutiny Committee Member	Substitute
Councillor Carl Johnson	Councillor Richard Wearmouth

1.6.3 There are also two further Boards at Transport for the North; the General Purposes Committee and Rail North. Appointments to those two bodies are made by the Joint Transport Committee.

1.7 North East LEP

1.7.1 NTCA appoints three members (one of whom is to be vice chair) and one observer to the North East LEP Board and one member to the North East LEP Advisory Boards/Panels. The following appointments as NTCA representatives are proposed:

Board/Panel	NTCA Representative
North East LEP Board	Councillor Nick Kemp Mayor Norma Redfearn (Vice Chair) Mayor Jamie Driscoll Councillor Richard Wearmouth (Observer)
Innovation Delivery Advisory Board	Councillor Nick Kemp
Business and Sector Growth Advisory Board	Councillor Richard Wearmouth
Skills Advisory Panel	Councillor Karen Kilgour [tbc]
Investment Board	Councillor Carl Johnson

1.8 Mayoral Ambassadors

- 1.8.1 The process for appointing Mayoral Ambassadors was agreed by Cabinet in March 2021. At that meeting it was agreed that Robin Fry, Chief Executive at VODA, would continue as Mayoral Ambassador for the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) sector until the 2022 annual meeting.
- 1.8.2 NTCA's VCSE Stakeholder Engagement Group have, in consultation with the Mayor as co-chair, nominated Robin Fry to continue in his role as Mayoral Ambassador for the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) sector for 2022/23.

1.9 NTCA Strategic Partnership Group

- 1.9.1 The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) is a Government allocated fund which is intended to reduce inequalities between communities, as part of the Government's wider levelling up agenda. NTCA, as a local lead authority, has responsibility for developing an investment plan for approval by the UK government and for delivery of the Fund thereafter. The deadline for submission of this Plan is 1 August 2022.
- 1.9.2 The UKSPF prospectus was published on 13 April 2022 and provides guidance on the Fund, its delivery and who should be involved in the Plan's development, amongst other matters. A key component of the preparation of the Plan and its implementation is the involvement of a local partnership group through which NTCA can work with a 'diverse range of local and regional stakeholder, civil society organisations, employer bodies responsible for identifying local skills plans, and businesses or business representative groups to achieve Fund outcomes in their areas.' The local partnership group is advisory and has no decision-making powers (and will therefore be similar to NTCA's existing advisory boards, ie the Housing and Land Board and the Inclusive Economy Board). The precise composition of the group is for each place to determine.
- 1.9.3 NTCA has begun to consult with a wide range of organisations and partners to develop the terms of reference and membership of its local partnership group which will be named the NTCA Strategic Partnership Group (SPG). An event has been arranged for 10 June 2022 which will consist of a plenary session covering the principles of the partnership and share thinking on investment planning and how to complement existing resources. All of the area's MPs have been invited as have Cabinet Members and stakeholders from business, communities, the voluntary sector and education.
- 1.9.4 It is expected that the event on 10 June will inform the terms of reference and clarify the membership of the SPG and it is anticipated that a meeting of the SPG will be held on 1 July 2022.
- 1.9.5 Therefore, as NTCA's Annual Meeting will take place before the event on 10 June, Cabinet is requested to approve the creation of the Strategic Partnership Group and delegate to the Managing Director, in consultation with the Mayor, the agreement of the terms of reference and membership.

2. Potential Impact on Objectives

The appointments are in line with the Authority's Constitution and decision-making arrangements and will enable the Authority to properly discharge its functions and assist in delivering the Authority's vision, policies and priorities.

3. Key Risks

None.

4. Financial and Other Resources Implications

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

5. Legal Implications

The Monitoring Officer is the author of this report and the proposals reflect the requirements of the provisions of NTCA's Constitution.

6. Equalities Implications

There are no direct equalities implications arising from this report.

7. Inclusive Economy Implications

There are no direct inclusive economy implications arising from this report.

8. Climate Change Implications

There are no direct climate change implications arising from this report.

9. Consultation and Engagement

The appointments to the Cabinet have been authorised by the constituent councils and Cabinet members have been consulted on the proposals in this report.

10. Appendices

Appendix 1(a)	Cabinet and substitute members
Appendix 1(b)	Cabinet portfolios
Appendix 2	Schedule of meetings for 2022/23
Appendix 3(a)	Membership of Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Appendix 3(b)	Membership of Audit and Standards Committee
Appendix 3(c)	Membership of Housing and Land Board
Appendix 3(d)	Membership of Inclusive Economy Board

11. Background Papers

NTCA Constitution
UK Shared Prosperity Fund: prospectus
Mayoral Ambassadors Review report, Cabinet 23 March 2021

12. Contact Officer

John Softly, Monitoring Officer
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Appendix 1

(a) Cabinet Membership and substitute members

Cabinet Member	Substitute Member	Appointing Authority
Mayor Jamie Driscoll		Elected Mayor of NTCA
Councillor Nick Kemp	Councillor Alex Hay	Newcastle City Council
Councillor Karen Kilgour	Councillor Irim Ali	Newcastle City Council
Councillor Carl Johnson	Councillor Sandra Graham	North Tyneside Council
Mayor Norma Redfearn (and NTCA Deputy Mayor)	Councillor Carole Burdis	North Tyneside Council
Councillor Glen Sanderson	Councillor John Riddle	Northumberland County Council
Councillor Richard Wearmouth	Councillor Guy Renner-Thompson	Northumberland County Council
Lucy Winskell OBE	Mark Thompson	North East LEP
Observer		
Robin Fry		VCSE Ambassador

(b) Cabinet portfolios

Portfolio Holder	Portfolio
NTCA Mayor Jamie Driscoll	Social economy and communities
Councillor Nick Kemp	Jobs, innovation and growth
Councillor Carl Johnson	Investment and resources
Councillor Karen Kilgour	Education, inclusion and skills
Mayor Norma Redfearn	Housing, land and development
Councillor Glen Sanderson	Culture, creative and rural
Councillor Richard Wearmouth	Clean energy and connectivity

Appendix 2

NTCA Programme of Committee Meetings – 2022 to 2023

Committee	Day/ time	2022							2023					
		Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Cabinet	Tue at 2pm	7* Ann.	19		20		22		31		28			6* Ann.
Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Tue at 1pm		5			11			17		14			
Audit and Standards Committee	Tue at 10am		5				15		24			25		

*exceptions

Location of meetings: Meetings will take place at various publicly accessible venues within the Combined Authority's area.

Appendix 3

(a) Membership of Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Members	Substitute Members	Appointing Authority
Councillor Linda Wright Councillor Steve Fairlie Councillor Greg Stone	Councillor Rebecca Shatwell Councillor Dan Greenhough Councillor Thom Campion	Newcastle City Council
Councillor John Harrison Councillor Jane Shaw Councillor Joe Kirwin	Councillor Matthew Thirlaway Councillor Sarah Day Councillor Margaret Hall	North Tyneside Council
Councillor John Beynon Councillor Catherine Seymour Councillor Les Bowman	Councillor Barry Flux Councillor Gordon Stewart Councillor Mary Murphy	Northumberland County Council

(b) Membership of Audit and Standards Committee

Members	Substitute Members	Appointing Authority
[Newcastle representative to be confirmed] Councillor Stephen Sheraton Councillor Colin Ferguson	Councillor Charlie Gray Councillor Rob Higgins Councillor Greg Stone	Newcastle City Council
Councillor Anthony McMullen Councillor Jane Shaw Councillor Tommy Mulvenna	Councillor Willie Samuel Councillor Janet Hunter Councillor Brian Burdis	North Tyneside Council
Councillor Gordon Castle Councillor Colin Hardy Councillor Mark Purvis	Councillor John Beynon Councillor Catherine Seymour Councillor Les Bowman	Northumberland County Council

(c) Membership of Housing and Land Board

Name	Representing	Title/Organisation
Mayor Norma Redfearn	Chair of the Housing and Land Board; Deputy Mayor of the North of Tyne Combined Authority and Lead for Housing for North of Tyne CA	North Tyneside Council
Stephen Bell	Representative from voluntary sector/ homelessness issues	Chief Executive – Changing Lives
Prof Glenda Cook	Representative from health sector	Professor of Nursing, Northumbria University
Mayor Jamie Driscoll	Elected Mayor of the North of Tyne Combined Authority	North of Tyne Combined Authority
Paul Fiddaman	Representative from the National Housing Federation	Chief Executive – Karbon Homes
John Godfrey	Representative from Intuitional Investors	Director of Corporate Affairs – Legal & General
Will Gardner	Representative from the National Housing Federation	Development Director – Home Group
Dominic Smith	Representative from the Home Builders Federation	Strategic Land Manager – Barrat Homes
Councillor Peter Jackson	Representative for rural interests	Northumberland County Council
[Newcastle representative to be confirmed]	NTCA Constituent Authority	Newcastle City Council
Chris Norris	Representative from private landlords	Director of Policy of National Residential Landlords Association
Councillor Colin Hardcastle	NTCA Constituent Authority	Northumberland County Council
Pam Smith	Lead Chief Executive for Housing for North of Tyne CA	North of Tyne Combined Authority
Mike Keaveney	Representative from institutional private landlords	Director of Land & Development Grainger plc
Duncan Sutherland	Homes England	Board Member, Homes England

(d) Membership of Inclusive Economy Board

Name	Representing	Title/Organisation
Baroness Tanni Grey-Thompson	Chair	
Carol Botten	North East LEP	VONNE and North East LEP
Katherine Cowell	Education Representative	Regional Schools Commissioner
Lynn Cramman	Business Representative	Cobalt Business Park
Councillor Wayne Daley	NTCA Constituent Authority	Northumberland County Council
Jamie Driscoll	North of Tyne Mayor	
Councillor Carl Johnson	NTCA Constituent Authority	North Tyneside Council
Liz Blackshaw	Trade Union Representative	TUC
Alan Ferguson	Business Representative	Fergusons Transport
Sarah Glendinning	Business Representative	Confederation of British Industry
Katie Schmuecker	Civil Society Representative	Joseph Rowntree Foundation
Jessica Hodgson	Government Representative	Department for Work and Pensions
Alex Jarvis	Government Representative	Cities & Local Growth Unit, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy
Councillor Karen Kilgour	NTCA Portfolio Lead Education, Inclusion and Skills (and Vice Chair)	NTCA
Rhona Knox	Business Representative	Proctor & Gamble
Audrey Kingham	NTCA Constituent Authorities Officer Representative	Interim Director of Children's Services and Director of Education and Skills for Northumberland County Council
Lisa Goodwin MBE	Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise Sector (VCSE) Representative	Connected Voice
Prof. Mark Shucksmith OBE	Education Representative	Newcastle University and Carnegie UK
Ross Smith	Business Representative	Northumbria Water
Rhiannon Bearne	Business Representative	North East of England Chamber of Commerce
Marianne Whitfield	Digital/Technology Sector Representative	MSP
Lord Victor Adebawale CBE	Health Representative	NHS Confederation



Subject: Investment Fund Update
Report of: Chief Economist
Portfolio: Economic Growth

Report Summary

The purpose of this report is to update Cabinet on progress with the North of Tyne Investment Fund. This includes £5.8m of new projects, aligned to our strategic ambitions:

- **£2.8m** of new skills funding aligned to growth sectors. These flagship projects will provide employer-led skills investment for the cultural and creative, low carbon, and digital sectors. Together, they will support creative content development; diversity of access to the screen sector; skills for the music, performing and creative arts; and meet the increasing demand for green growth and digital skills.
- **£2.85m** to grow the North East screen sector, the North of Tyne contribution to a new £11m investment from the whole region. This will provide 5-year funding for a NE Screen Agency and a production fund to support the creation of new content, alongside funding for skills development and infrastructure. The project will ensure that our businesses and residents benefit from the BBC's £25m investment in programme making, whilst also catalysing further private sector investment.
- **£147K** of business case development funding to develop proposals to rejuvenate the Discovery Museum – which celebrates the region's culture, heritage and spirit of innovation – supporting it to attract more visitors.

In addition, Cabinet is recommended to approve a confidential project set out separately in an appendix. While Cabinet is asked to provide an indicative allocation of **£0.9m** from the Investment Fund to fund the delivery of Employment Partnerships. These will be a bespoke partnership with DWP to get people into work, enabled by the collaborative ways of working agreed in our devolution deal.

These projects build on previous Investment Fund commitments of **£96.87m**, which are expected to create **4586 jobs**, almost half the NTCA's 30-year target. Over 819 of these jobs have already been established, while 59 organisations have signed up to the NTCA's Good Work Pledge. The Fund is also supporting longer-term growth through infrastructure, innovation and skills investments.

Recommendations

Cabinet is recommended to:

1. Note progress to date on the Investment Fund, 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 our investments.
2. Note progress on the NTCA's Skills For Growth Programme, the North East Screen Industries Partnership and the Discovery Museum Business Case Development projects.
3. Agree an allocation of £0.9m from the North of Tyne Investment Fund to enable the delivery of three Employment Partnerships and authorise the Managing Director, in consultation with Investment Panel, the Mayor and the appropriate Cabinet Member, to consider and approve the business case and finalise delivery arrangements.
4. Approve the recommendation and funding award set out in the confidential Appendix 1 to this paper.
5. Delegate authority to the Managing Director, in consultation with the Mayor and Cabinet Members, to submit the Shared Prosperity Fund and Multiply Investment Plans to Government.

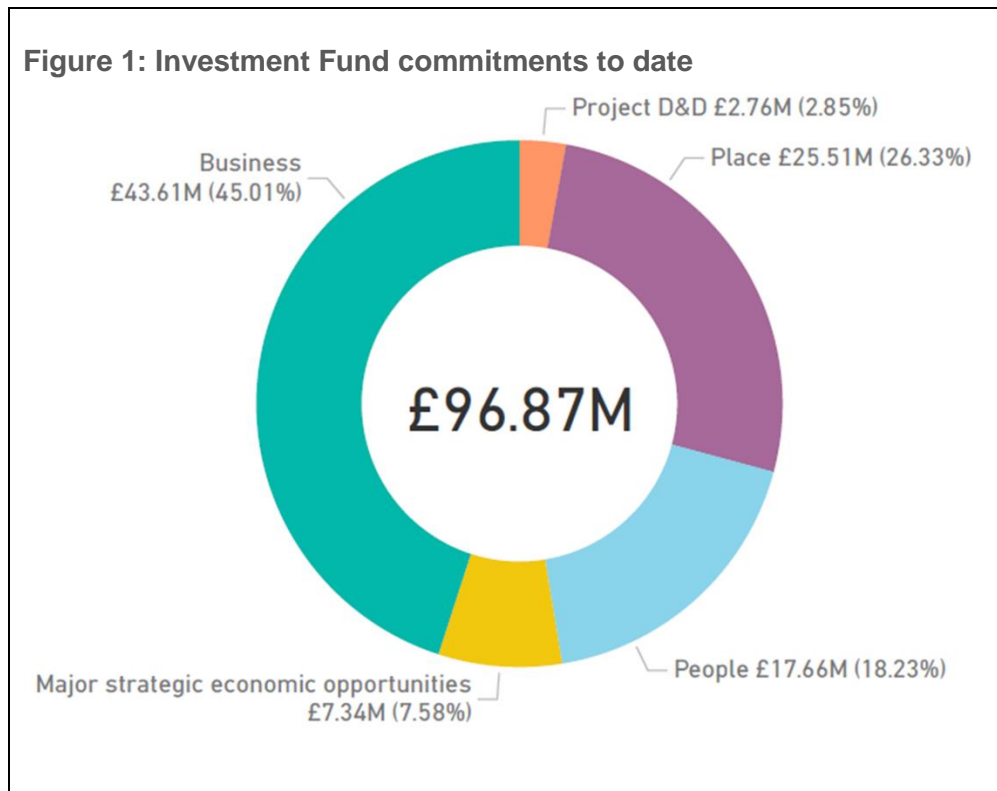
1. Background Information, Proposals and Timetable for Implementation

1.1 Background Information

- 1.1.1 At the time of writing this report, the economic outlook is dominated by higher energy and goods prices. Inflation has risen to 9%, with the latest forecast from the Bank of England predicting that it will rise yet further. High inflation is severely reducing consumer spending power and the accompanying cost-of-living crisis will create challenges for many residents. The April energy price cap increase raised bills for the average customer by £693 to £1971, whilst external commentators are predicting further significant increases in October, when the price cap is next reviewed. These increases will be partly offset by measures announced by the Chancellor on 26 May.
- 1.1.2 The rise in inflation has also led to higher interest rates, while weaker consumer spending (after adjusting for inflation) means that the economy is expected to slow significantly in the second half of 2022.
- 1.1.3 More positively, we have not seen any indication that the challenging economic conditions are translating into increased unemployment. Indeed, the latest figures for the North of Tyne show the number of people claiming benefits fell by 1,600 between March 2022 and April 2022. At 4.0%, the benefit claimant rate is now at the level it was prior to the first COVID-19 lockdown.
- 1.1.4 Energy price inflation is a global challenge, but the Combined Authority is supporting local job opportunities associated with the offshore wind sector and seeing strong demand for its Green New Deal Fund. This Fund will support projects that reduce carbon emissions and create economic growth, with a strong pipeline including projects seeking loan, grant and equity funding. The first investment announcements are expected to be made later in the summer.
- 1.1.5 Against this backdrop, the Combined Authority continues to invest to support the economic economy, alongside the wider opportunities articulated in the Devolution Deal and the Corporate Plan. Investments by the NTCA so far are forecast to create over 4586 jobs, with 819 jobs already secured. This report:
- brings forward proposals for supporting skills across the cultural & creative, low carbon and digital sectors;
 - confirms further investment in the cultural & creative sector, including in the NE Screen Sector and in developing a new vision for the Discovery Museum;
 - and asks Cabinet for approval to develop Employment Partnerships, in collaboration with DWP.

1.2 Investment Fund progress to date

- 1.2.1 Delivery of the Investment Fund Programme continues, with 117 projects now approved. To date, the Combined Authority has achieved:
- A contracted spend of £96.87m (figure 1) – including commitments and expenditure into the next programme period, to support ongoing progress with our strategic priorities.
 - In addition, 6 brownfield housing schemes have been supported, with a total NTCA contribution of £12.51m. These will unlock 1298 housing units and remediate 25 hectares of Brownfield Land.
 - Together, these projects have secured £292m of private sector leverage and are forecast to deliver 4586 new jobs and safeguard a further 2679.
 - Of these, the first 819 new job opportunities have been created with North East residents employed as a direct result of NTCA investment; 1773 have been confirmed as safeguarded.



1.3 Skills for Growth: supporting investment in the cultural and creative, low carbon, and digital sectors

1.3.1 The NTCA's £5m 'Skills for Growth' programme uses the flexibilities provided by devolved funding to enable investment in innovation and sector growth to be complemented by targeted investment in skills and talent pipeline development. This flexible approach will respond directly to employer need, addressing skills pinch-points and creating high-quality opportunities for residents.

1.3.2 Following approval of the first two skills for growth projects at its last meeting, Cabinet is now asked to approve a further six projects, with a total funding request of £2,818,050.

1.3.3 The individual projects put forward in this report represent a diverse mix of skills provision which will form part of a cohesive Skills for Growth Programme, providing innovation in both the supply and demand for skills and building an active and employer-led response to the talent requirements of our inward investing companies. Together, they will support 2825 participants, including over 300 who were previously unemployed or classified as economically inactive and not looking for work. The projects were endorsed at the 28th April 2022 Investment Panel meeting and recommended to the Managing Director for approval and implementation.

a. Creative People: Skills for the Culture and Creative Sector

1.3.4 This includes proposals from:

- New Writing North, to deliver a programme of activities encompassing careers advice and guidance, learning and training, youth leadership, innovation and professional development support and volunteering for young people, adults and aspiring and professional writers and

developers of content. The activities will be developed in conjunction with industry partners, employers and in consultation and partnership with educational partners.

- Signpost Productions, whose project will dovetail with investment by the NTCA in the NE Screen sector [see below], by actively diversifying the talent pool of screen professionals in North of Tyne, with a particular focus on inclusion. The programme will be aimed at disabled people and other under-represented groups who find themselves largely excluded from the film and TV industry.
- Generator North East, to run full-time training courses at Level 3 and Level 4 – as well as a suite of accredited and non-accredited modular delivery channels – to address the skills, training, education and employer needs in the music and performing arts industry in the North of Tyne area.
- The NewBridge Project, who will provide a pathway for freelancers to develop high-level skills in creative arts practice. It builds on three initiatives developed by The NewBridge Project and seeks to redevelop, consolidate and scale these up to prove an accessible skills pathway for people from all backgrounds and at all stages of career.

Table 1: Summary of Culture and Creative Sector proposals

Proposal Name	Lead Organisation	Delivery Areas	Timescales	Project Value	Grant Requested
Writing & Publishing Skills Hub	New Writing North	Across North of Tyne	May 2022 – March 2025	£870,980	£591,745
Making Creativity Work	Signpost Productions	Across North of Tyne	May 2022 – May 2025	£434,964	£361,029
Skills for Music and Performing Arts Professionals and Technicians	Generator North East	Across North of Tyne	May 2022 – 30/06/2025	£661,828	£496,371
Collaborate: skills and talent development pathways for creative practitioners	The NewBridge Project	Across North of Tyne	June 2022 – May 2025	£905,472.52	£534,446.77

b. Low Carbon Skills programme

- 1.3.5 This project, by Newcastle College Group, will engage with key industry players to help them understand the specific skills they will require in their workforce to enable the timely delivery of low carbon technology and infrastructure investments. This will enable the synchronous delivery of the right skills at the right time, helping reduce workforce constraints. This research-based evidence will also be used in a programme to engage and enthuse our young people in Green Energy career opportunities through an innovative Schools Engagement programme.

Table 2: Green Growth Skills programme

Proposal Name	Lead Organisation	Delivery Areas	Timescales	Project Value	Grant Requested
Green Growth Foresighting	Newcastle College Group	Across North of Tyne	June 2022 – May 2025	£406,367	£284,457

c. Skills for Digital Innovation and Growth

- 1.3.6 The University of Sunderland will establish a new delivery hub in Alnwick, together with outreach activity across Northumberland. From these facilities, the University will deliver a range of Digital programmes to address identified skills requirements. Training will be delivered through both face to face and online delivery, allowing ease of access for all and an ability to respond flexibly to changes in demand.

Table 3: Skills for Digital Innovation and Growth

Proposal Name	Lead Organisation	Delivery Areas	Timescales	Project Value	Grant Requested
Digital Skills, Innovation and Leadership	University of Sunderland	Northumberland	May 2022 – May 2025	£837,565.08	£549,999.86

1.4 North East Screen Industry Partnership Development Programme

- 1.4.1 Good progress has been made in the development of the North-East Screen Industries Partnership (NESIP) since the project was reported to NTCA Cabinet in January 2022. The Partnership will be publicly launched in June 2022, and this report confirms the findings of external due diligence, which concluded that the proposal will provide strong value for money, with a BCR of almost 4:1. The project has been recommended by Investment Panel to the Managing Director for approval.

Proposal Name	North East Screen Industries Partnership
Lead Organisation	NTCA as part of cross regional approach
Delivery Areas	Region wide
Timescales	2022-2027
Project Value	£11.4m
Grant amount requested	£2.85m

- 1.4.2 The NESIP – which includes the Combined and Local Authorities across the North East – will help ensure that the region secures a much larger share of the UK’s screen industry. Nationally, activity has grown from just over £6bn in 2008 to over £14bn in 2017. To date, the NE has not benefited from this growth – less than 2% of screen content produced in the UK is currently made in North East and just 0.9% of production and post-production industry companies are based here. But there is huge potential to use the BBC’s commitment of £25m of new activity as an ‘anchor investment’ for the sector, while the re-location of Channel 4 to Leeds is opening-up additional markets for North-East-based companies. The growing interaction between Film & TV and areas of

the creative sector which are strong in the NE – like gaming, VR and data – is also leading to new opportunities for the screen sector.

- 1.4.3 The NESIP is focused on the sustainable development of the screen industries in the region, including through developing and supporting existing SMEs, supporting skills development and by attracting inward investment into the region.
- 1.4.4 Programme delivery will be overseen by the North East Screen Office and will include operation of a Production Service to make it easier for companies to get up and running quickly, and a Production Fund to invest to increase the number, quality and diversity of film and TV productions in the region. In addition, NE businesses will receive support, while a skills and education service will assist new entrants to the industry and aid career progression.
- 1.4.5 The NTCA will be represented on the North East Screen Industries Partnership Board by the Managing Director. The NTCA and three constituent authorities will also be represented on the high-level steering group, production fund panel and sub-groups on skills and communications & marketing.

1.5 Discovery Museum

- 1.5.1 The Discovery Museum tells the stories of Newcastle and North East England's inventiveness, industry and communities. It is home to one of the finest collections of scientific and technical material outside of London as well as housing significant collections on maritime, social and regimental history. The Discovery Museum and Tyne & Wear Archives are housed in Newcastle City Council's Blandford House. The museum attracts on average 385,000 visitors in a normal year but displays and interactives are aging and in need of updating to fully utilise the potential of such a visitor attraction in the City and the wider region. The building is in need of significant repair and storage of, and access to, the Archives is problematic and does not reflect the internationally important status of the collections.
- 1.5.2 Tyne & Wear Archives & Museums, in partnership with Newcastle City Council, will undertake feasibility work to consider how the Discovery Museum can innovate, adapt to new audiences and technologies and play a pivotal role as a key visitor attraction for the city and wider area.
- 1.5.3 The Business Case Development Funding proposal submitted by Newcastle Council has the objectives to:
 - develop and test an emerging vision with key stakeholders and audiences
 - ensure that the content of the museum reflects the new vision
 - find a new solution for the storage of and access to archive material
 - set out how the collection and the archive needs evolve both physically and digitally to meet the needs of future audiences
 - determine how this should be accommodated in the city, as part of the wider city's transformation exploring a range of options
 - understand the costs and benefits of each option to identify the best way forward
 - produce a detailed business case for the preferred approach.
- 1.5.4 The total cost of the project is £192,065 with £147,065 requested from NTCA. Following discussion at Investment Panel, the project has now been recommended to the Managing Director for approval and implementation.

1.6 Employment Partnerships

- 1.6.1 In September 2020, Cabinet agreed the development of Youth Employment Partnerships to support young people access good job opportunities, build their skills and work experience. The three

constituent local authorities led on the development of these partnerships and DWP funding was secured to provide additional capacity.

- 1.6.2 These Youth Employment Partnerships have provided significant added value – supporting the engagement and coordination of support for all job seekers, engagement with employers and identifying gaps and duplication within provision. Through external evaluation, it has become clear that there is a clear case to invest in further developing these arrangements and to build further on the collaborative ways of working with DWP which were agreed in our devolution deal.
- 1.6.3 Reflecting this, the overarching approach to the new Employment Partnerships will be to build on the successful convening approach of the Youth Employment Partnerships and bring together local authorities, DWP, other public, private and voluntary sector employability and skills providers and the NTCA to support job seekers and employers to help move people into sustained, high-quality employment. This bespoke arrangement with DWP will help bring together, coordinate, and maximise existing capacity, and commission activity to fill gaps.
- 1.6.4 The three local Employment Partnerships will be designed to reflect local needs, but will work jointly and in collaboration with NTCA to deliver the NTCA Employability Plan which will be submitted for Cabinet approval later this year.
- 1.6.5 Cabinet is asked to approve an indicative allocation of £0.9m from the Investment Fund to enable the delivery of these Employment Partnerships. Any subsequent funding award would be subject to the development of a business case and the normal process of scrutiny.

1.7 Shared Prosperity Fund

- 1.7.1 On 13 April, Government launched the Shared Prosperity Fund [SPF], with a vision to “build pride in place and increase life chances across the UK”. The NTCA was allocated funding of £47.1m for ‘core-UKSPF’ and £4.1m for the ‘Multiply’ adult numeracy programme – to cover the areas of Newcastle, North Tyneside and Northumberland.
- 1.7.2 The SPF will fund projects until the end of 2024/25, with opportunities to support investments across themes of Community & Place, Supporting Local Businesses and People & Skills. The NTCA and the three constituent local authorities are working closely together to develop proposals for funding. To support this process, we have run three North of Tyne SPF and Multiply events with stakeholders and led a regional consultation event; together, they have attracted over 500 participants. Further consultation has been planned, including with local MPs.
- 1.7.3 The deadline for submission of the Numeracy Investment Plan to Government is the 30 June and the core-UKSPF by 1 August. Because of these compressed timescales, Cabinet is asked to delegate authority to the Managing Director, in consultation with the Mayor and Cabinet Members, to submit these Plans to Government and to prepare for rapid implementation.

2. Potential Impact on Objectives

- 2.1 Programme delivery as described in the report is consistent with the priorities set out in NTCA’s corporate plan.

3. Key Risks

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

4. Financial and Other Resources Implications

- 4.1 This paper describes project proposals amounting to approximately £5.8m of NTCA funding. The Skills for Growth, North East Screen Industries Partnership and Discovery Museum projects have all been reviewed by Investment Panel and are recommended to the Managing Director for approval; the financial implications will be considered at that point.

5. Legal Implications

- 5.1 The Interim Monitoring Officer's comments have been included in this report.

6. Equalities Implications

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

7. Inclusive Economy Implications

- 7.1 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, including through the development of Employment Partnerships and by creating skills opportunities.

8. Climate Change Implications

- 8.1 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, particularly by supporting the development of local supply chains.

9. Consultation and Engagement

- 9.1 Stakeholders have been fully engaged in the development of project proposals and, as far as possible, wider engagement has been sought in the development of the programme.

10. Appendices

Appendix 1: Confidential report

This appendix is not for publication by virtue of paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

11. Background Papers

None

12. Contact Officers

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13. Glossary

NTCA	North of Tyne Combined Authority
SME	Small to Medium Enterprise
NESIP	North East Screen Industries Partnership
SPF	Shared Prosperity Fund

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By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

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