

Decision Title:

Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF) Transitional Year 2025-2026 Update

Is this decision Key or Non-key?

Non-Key

If the decision is Key, has the decision been published on the Forward Plan?

Not applicable

Is this decision subject to Call-in?

No

Decision:**Option 1: Non-confidential decision:**

Approve the following funding awards and authorise entry into required agreements to facilitate approvals as set out in this report:

- Award of £1,053,436 of REPF to Durham County Council via a funding agreement in line with the approach agreed in the delegated decision taken on 31 March 2025 for UKSPF and REPF.
- Award of £300,000 REPF Capital to Northumberland County Council for the continued delivery of the U0011 Northumberland Small Business Service (NSMS) Rural and Animating Ashington Phase 2 project. This is in addition to the £475K UKSPF approved on 31 March 2025.
- Award of £612,848 REPF Capital to Northumberland County Council for the continued delivery of the U0031 Rural Asset Multiplier Pilot project in addition to the £200K UKSPF approved on 31 March 2025.

Delegation:

Decision No. 65/01/25(15) of the Cabinet meeting held on 28 January 2025, Cabinet resolved that:

Authorise the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Director of Finance and Investment, Monitoring Officer and relevant Cabinet Member to approve project applications and contracts brought forward through the approved Made Smarter, UK SPF and Economic Inactivity Trailblazer Delivery Plans, in line with the North East Single Assurance Framework.

Consultation:

Cabinet Member:	Yes
Monitoring Officer:	Yes
Director of Finance and Investment:	Yes

Name and Title of the Decision-Maker:

Dr Henry Kippin, Chief Executive, North East Combined Authority

Contact Officer:

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Director of Finance and Investment

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Signature (Decision-Maker)

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'H Kippin', is written over a faint, light blue circular watermark.

Date of signing 10/06/2025