

The North East Combined Authority is committed to open government and encouraging local people to have their say on the decisions that affect them, their families and community as a whole. The Combined Authority recognises that it is therefore important to provide as much information about these decisions as possible. One way in which we do this is by publishing a Forward Plan for decisions. To further assist with openness and transparency, our Cabinet meetings can be attended in person or viewed online [here](#). Cabinet papers can also be found [here](#).

Dates for 2025/26 Cabinet meetings are as follows (all commence at 2pm):

Date	Hosts
10/06/25	The Story, Durham
22/07/25	Gateshead Council
23/09/25	Newcastle City Council
25/11/25	North Tyneside Council
03/02/26	Northumberland County Council
17/03/26	South Tyneside Council
09/06/26	Sunderland City Council

The Forward Plan for the North East Combined Authority is published in accordance with the requirements of the Combined Authorities (Overview and Scrutiny Committees, Access to Information and Audit Committees) Order 2017 (as amended) and the North East CA Constitution and gives 28 clear days' notice* of the decisions that are planned to be taken by the Cabinet or by a Chief Officer under delegation.

Decisions are either key or non-key. A key decision is defined as a decision which is likely to:

- a. Result in the Authority or the Mayor incurring significant expenditure, or the making of significant savings, having regard to the Authority's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates; or
- b. To be significant in terms of its effects on persons living or working in an area comprising two or more electoral wards or divisions in the Authority's area.

In relation to private meetings the reason an item is expected to be considered "in private" will be identified in accordance with the following exempt information categories, which are set out in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended):

1. Information relating to an individual.
2. Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual.
3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including to authority holding that information).
4. Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under the authority.
5. Information in respect of which a claim to legal and professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.
6. Information which reveals that the authority proposes (a) to give under any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or (b) to make an order or direction under any enactment.
7. Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation of prosecution of crime.

A non-key decision is a decision that is legally within the power of the Cabinet to make and can be taken by a Cabinet Member, a subcommittee of Cabinet or an Officer.

Contact Details

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 '**Update**'. Items withdrawn since the last publication are referred to as '**Withdrawn**' and following that will be removed altogether.

Decision Maker	Decision is expected to be made on the following date (or within 60 days of the date)	Public or Private	Details of decision to be taken	Documents/ additional documents for consideration	Contact Officer
Cabinet	22 July 2025	Public	Child Poverty Reduction A report that provides the regional child poverty action plan, co-produced with stakeholders and families, to prevent and reduce child poverty.		Charlotte Carpenter, Director of Skills, Inclusion & Public Service Reform charlotte.carpenter@northeast-ca.gov.uk Adrian Dougherty, Head of Public Service Reform Adrian.dougherty@northeast-ca.gov.uk
Cabinet	22 July 2025	Public	Budget update: 24/25 outturn and 25/26 budget reporting update An update report on the closing position of the 2024/25 financial year and look ahead to reporting against the 2025/26 budget.		Mags Scott Director of Finance and Investment mags.scott@northeast-ca.gov.uk
Cabinet	22 July 2025	Public	Governance Arrangements To consider and approve changes to the Authority's governance arrangements.		John Softly Assistant Director Legal and Governance and Monitoring Officer john.softly@northeast-ca.gov.uk
Cabinet	22 July 2025	Public	New Deal for North East Workers To consider a report that sets out the delivery of an integrated, innovative regional employment and skills system.		Charlotte Carpenter, Director of Skills, Inclusion and Public Service Reform charlotte.carpenter@northeast-ca.gov.uk Leigh Mills, Head of Skills and Inclusion leigh.mills@northeast-ca.gov.uk
Cabinet	22 July 2025	Public	A North East Spatial Development Strategy To consider the approach to develop a Spatial Development Strategy (SDS) for the region.		Phil Witcherley Director of Economic Growth and Regeneration Phil.witcherley@northeast-ca.gov.uk
Cabinet	22 July 2025	Public	Delivering the Mayor's Transport Plan To consider an update on the £1.85bn Transport for City Region funding secured through the 2025 UK Government Spending Review. The paper seeks approval for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investment in various projects as part of the City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement capital programme. North East Key Route Network, a map of the most important local roads in the region. To procure and award two concession contracts to replace and operate electric vehicle charge-points on up to 8 sites across the region whose existing operating contract will shortly expire. Agree the use of £16m of Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) funding to continue to support bus services across the regional and enter into grant funding agreements with Durham County Council, Nexus and Northumberland County Council. 		Tobyn Hughes, Director of Transport, Tobyn.hughes@northeast-ca.gov.uk