

**Decision Title:**

UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) Digital Adoption Contract Award

**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

**Confidential decision:**

Approve and authorise the appointment of a provider via contract for services, valued at £480,000 UKSPF, to deliver a programme of activity supporting an increase in Digital Adoption in the North East's SME base.

Further details regarding this decision as set out in a report to the Chief Executive is confidential and not for publication by virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 - Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any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).

**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.

North East CA Constitution: Scheme of Delegations\_B: Delegations to the Head of Paid Service: HPS13 To authorise the award of a contract for goods, works and/or services up to a value of £500,000.

**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:**

Lisa Harwood  
Programme Manager  
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**Signature (Decision-Maker)**A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Lisa Harwood', is written over a faint, light blue grid background.

**Date of signing** 26/08/2025