

**NORTH EAST JOINT TRANSPORT COMMITTEE**  
**RECORD OF DELEGATED DECISION BY OFFICER**

---

*Please ensure that all sections have been completed and remove the guidance notes in blue italics and any track changes before finalising this template.*

**1. Subject of Decision**

Zero Emission Bus Regional Areas –Business Case Approval .

**2. Delegation Reference (Refer to Meeting Minute Number or Delegation Scheme in the Constitution or Decision Notice)**

Item 7 of the Joint Transport Committee decision notice of the meeting held on 18-01-2022

This decision has been delegated to one or more officer(s) under:

(a) A specific express authorisation was given to the managing Director, Transport North East by the Joint Transport Committee on 18.01.2022 to make and enter into appropriate contracts in relation to each project after specified consultation.

(b) a general authorisation to take such decisions **and**, the effect of the decision is to:

(i) grant a permission or licence;

(ii) affect the rights of an individual; or

(iii) award a contract or incur expenditure which, in either case, materially affects the Authority's financial position.

**3. Name and Title of Decision Maker**

Tobyn Hughes, Managing Director Transport North East

**4. Details of any Conflict of Interest and any Dispensation granted in respect of such Interest**

**NORTH EAST JOINT TRANSPORT COMMITTEE**  
**RECORD OF DELEGATED DECISION BY OFFICER**

---

None

**5. Executive Summary**

The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the submission of a Business Case to the Department for Transport for the delivery of 73 battery electric buses in the North East. The Business Case represents a total £40.1m investment, with £18.3m sought from the Department for Transport through the Zero Emission Bus Regional Areas fund and the remaining £21.8m provided in match funding from Go North East, Durham County Council and Northumberland County Council.

The package of investment aligns with our Bus Service Improvement Plan and was developed in consultation with all bus operators, Nexus and our Local Authorities. The Business Case has been developed to ensure a positive Benefit Cost Ratio, represents good value for money, addresses air quality challenges, looks to overcome inequalities and supports improved skills. The Business Case demonstrates that the proposed package of investment can be delivered in line with the proposed timescales from the Department for Transport (2 years from funding award).

Please note since the report was made to Joint Transport Committee, further cost refinement has been undertaken which has resulted in a reduction of costs for the same scope, driven by updated quotations for infrastructure works. The result is a total £35m investment, with £13.9m sought from the Department for Transport through the Zero Emission Bus Regional Areas fund and the remaining £21.1m provided in match funding from Go North East, Durham County Council and Northumberland County Council. All parties have provided updated approval letters for the amounts sought and Go North East and Durham County Council are committed to covering battery replacement costs in year 8 of this programme.

**6. Decision(s)**

**6a)** Managing Director Transport North East to endorse minor modifications of the business case and agree to submit it to the Department for Transport ahead of the 31st January 2022 deadline.

**NORTH EAST JOINT TRANSPORT COMMITTEE**  
**RECORD OF DELEGATED DECISION BY OFFICER**

---

**6(b) If Exempt or Confidential, please provide a reason:**

N/A

**7. Alternative options considered**

None – Due to timescales associated with the submission to the Department for Transport, a delegation was sought and was granted by the Joint Transport Committee to the Managing Director - Transport North East.

**8. Reasons for the Decision(s)**

The decision allows a business case to be submitted to the Department for Transport to secure funding from the Zero Emission Bus Regional Areas scheme.

**9. Contact Officer**

Andrew Dorrian  
Senior Planner – Transport North East  
[Andrew.Dorrian@transportnortheast.gov.uk](mailto:Andrew.Dorrian@transportnortheast.gov.uk)

**10. Date of Publication**

*1 February 2022*

**11. Date of Call-In Deadline**

*N/A – Not a key decision*

**NORTH EAST JOINT TRANSPORT COMMITTEE**  
**RECORD OF DELEGATED DECISION BY OFFICER**

---

**12. Implementation Date**

*1 February 2022*

**Signature of the Decision-Maker**



.....

Please return the following to Emma Reynard in Democratic Services  
([emmareynard@gateshead.gov.uk](mailto:emmareynard@gateshead.gov.uk)) **within 2 working days of the decision having been taken.**

- A Word version of the completed Delegated Decision report
- A Word version of the completed Delegated Decision Record
- A scanned PDF version of the completed and signed Delegated Decision Record

The Delegated Decision will be published by Democratic Services within three working days of it being taken, and it will then be open to call-in for a further five working days.

**Decisions must not be implemented until the call-in process is completed.**  
Democratic Services officers will advise report authors and decision makers of the relevant deadlines for call-in.