

Decision Title:

North East Coastal and Rural Taskforce - Partnership Agreement and Intelligent Secretariat.

Is this decision Key or Non-key?

Non-key

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

N/A

Is this decision subject to Call-in?

No

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

Approve:

- The signing of a Partnership Agreement with the University of Newcastle upon Tyne to work together to support the activity of the North East Coastal and Rural Taskforce in developing Coastal and Rural Economy Transformation Blueprints for the North East.
- The payment of £300,000 from the North East Combined Authority to the University of Newcastle upon Tyne in quarterly payments to September 2027 for the provision of Intelligent Secretariat services as outlined in the Partnership Agreement.

Delegation:

Cabinet meeting held on 26 November 2024, Minute No C44/11/24 North East Environmental Stewardship, Coast, and Rural Growth Investment Plan: Cabinet resolved to agree a £1.25m Environment, Coast & Rural Enabling Fund, to be managed in accordance with the North East Combined Authority's Scheme of Delegation, and limited to officer resource and expert advisory support in pursuance of the following: a. £300k for resources to oversee the implementation of the Investment Plan and to provide secretariat support for a Rural & Coastal Taskforce.

Consultation:

Cabinet Member:	Yes
Assistant Director Legal and Governance:	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:

Karen Daglish

Programme Manager (Environment, Coast and Rural)

karen.daglish@northeast-ca.gov.uk

Signature (Decision-Maker)

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'H Kippin', is written over a faint, larger blue signature that also appears to read 'H Kippin'.

Date of signing 23/01/2026