

**Decision Title:**

North East Economic Inactivity Trailblazer (EIT) Delivery Plan – Additional Projects

**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:**

The delegated decision report is not for publication by virtue of paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any person (including the authority holding that information).

Approve the additional activities within the scope of the EIT delivery plan, and as set out at Appendix 1 of the confidential report:

1. Approval of £150,000 funding along with £45,481 to cover staffing overhead costs from the unallocated spend (£195,481 in total)
2. Approval of re-purposing £294,800 of the £350,000 childcare grant allocation
3. To enter into Contract for Services with six organisations through Direct Awards.

**Delegation:**

Minute No. C65/01/25 2025- 26 of the Cabinet meeting held on 28 January 2025, when Cabinet resolved to:

14. Authorise the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Director of Finance and Investment and relevant Cabinet Member, to approve commencement of the associated procurement activity with respect to Made Smarter, UK SPF and the Economic Inactivity Trailblazer programmes and subsequent award of contracts.

15. 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
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:**

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**Signature (Decision-Maker)**



**Date of signing** 24/02/2026