

**Decision Title:**

North East Universities Innovation and Commercialisation Programme 2026-2027

**Is this decision Key or Non-key?**

Key

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

Yes – 16 February 2026

**Is this decision subject to Call-in?**

Yes

**Decision:**

**Non-confidential decision:**

1. Approved the allocation of £2.168m of North East CA Integrated Settlement funds for the Programme; and
2. Approved that North East CA enters into a grant funding agreement with Durham University as the accountable body and lead delivery partner to provide £2.168m funding to operate and manage the Programme.

**Delegation:**

Head of Paid Service Delegations pursuant to Part 2.7 of the North East CA Constitution:

- HPS3 To discharge any function of the Authority which has not been specifically delegated to another officer, Committee or reserved to the Cabinet under Part 2.1 of this Constitution, and to direct any officer not to exercise a delegated function in special circumstances unless they are required to do so by law; and
- HPS16 To award and sign a grant offer or agreement up to £5m.

**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:**

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**Signature (Decision-Maker)**



**Date of signing: 7 May 2026**