

**Decision Title:**

Centre for Writing and Publishing

**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 £2 million from the North East MSA Investment Fund to facilitate the purchase and refurbishment of the Old Post Office in Newcastle, establishing it as the home of the Centre for Writing and Publishing.

**Option 2: Confidential decision:**

**Delegation:**

Cabinet meeting held on 22 July 2025, Decision No. C24/07/25 Centre for Writing, Cabinet resolved to:

1. Agree to provide New Writing North Ltd with £2m of funding from the North East MSA Investment Fund. This investment will support the acquisition of a city-based property in Newcastle and its redevelopment into the Centre for Writing on the basis set out in this report; and
2. Authorise the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Mayor and the portfolio holder, to finalise the terms on which this grant funding is to be provided.

Cabinet 9 December 2025 Decision No. 50/12/25 Governance Update Cabinet resolved to approve the revised Scheme of Officer Delegations set out at Appendix 1.

North East Mayoral Strategic Authority Constitution: Part 2.7 B: Scheme of Delegations:

Part B: Delegations to the Head of Paid Service

HPS 16 To award and sign a grant offer or agreement up to £5m.

**Consultation:**

Cabinet Member:

Yes  
Yes

Assistant Director Legal and Governance:	Yes
Director of Finance and Investment:	Yes

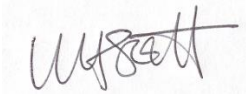
**Name and Title of the Decision-Maker:**

Mags Scott, Director of Finance and Investment  
(on behalf of the Chief Executive under delegated authority)

**Contact Officer:**

Mark Adamson  
Principal Manager – Sector Growth and Delivery  
[mark.adamson@notheast-ca.gov.uk](mailto:mark.adamson@notheast-ca.gov.uk)

**Signature (Decision-Maker)**



**Date of signing: 22 May 2026**

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Delegated Decision will be published within three working days.

**Documents for submission to the Governance Team:**

Please submit the following documents to [Paul Wheeler](#), Democratic Services Officer, as soon as possible and **within 1 working day** of the decision having been signed by the Decision-Maker, to enable publication:

- **Document 1:** The completed and signed version of this document (the Record). The document can be either physically signed by the Decision-Maker or accompanied by an email evidence from the Decision-Maker confirming that they have made the decision.
- **Document 2:** A matching, unsigned Word copy of this document (the Record).
- **Document 3:** The report. A Word version would be preferable.

#### **Timetables:**

Once the documents listed above have been received, the Delegated Decision will be published on the Combined Authority's website **within three working days of receiving the request.**

A delegated decision is considered "made" once it has been published.

#### **A) Key Decision**

Once a Key Delegated Decision has been published, it will then be subject to a call-in period of five clear working days. Once that process has concluded, the Governance Team will issue notification. **Decisions must not be implemented** until the call-in process has been completed and relevant confirmation issued.

#### **B) Non-key Decisions**

Once a Non-key Delegated Decision has been published, it can be implemented immediately. The Governance Team will publish the decision and issue notification.

The Governance Team will advise report authors and decision-makers of relevant deadlines for the call-in.

For Urgent Decisions, please follow the Urgent Decisions process and use Urgent Decisions templates (contact the Governance Team).