

Officer Delegated Decision Record

Decision Title:

Local Nature Recovery Programme

Is this decision Key or Non-key?

Non-Key

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

Not applicable

Is this decision subject to Call-in?

No

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

To approve:

1. Allocation of £4.75m Investment Fund for the Local Nature Recovery Programme
2. Appointment of a local authority to act as lead Delivery Partner for the programme including
 - management of grants made through the Local Nature Catalyst Fund
 - management of the Biodiversity Net Gain Accelerator Fund including regional market research
3. Procurement of an independent evaluation across the programme

Delegation:

The delegation for the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Mayor and Portfolio Holder, to make this decision was granted by the North East CA Cabinet at its meeting on 30 July 2024 as part of the delegated authority to progress investment decisions associated with activities included in the Strategic Portfolio Plans.

The proposed Local Nature Recovery programme was reviewed by the Technical Officers Group on 15 June 2026 and by the Finance and Investment Board on 6 July 2026 in accordance with Minute No C44/11/24 paras 2 and 3 of the North East MSA Cabinet meeting held on 26 November 2024 namely 2. To agree an indicative budget allocation of £15.75m from the Investment Fund for the period 2025-29 to facilitate the delivery of the Investment Plan, focussed on the following two priority areas: a. £7.25m for the Environment and Nature investment priority b. £8.5m for the Rural and Coastal Growth investment priority. 3. That subsequent approvals of financial commitments against point 2 above be subject to completion of full business cases, progressed in accordance with the Single Assurance Framework.

North East MSA Constitution: Part 2.7 Scheme of Delegations, B. Delegations to the Head of Paid Service:

HPS13 To authorise all stages of the procurement process for a contract for: a. goods and/or services up to a value of £5m; b. works up to a value of £5m.

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

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 Mayoral Strategic Authority

Contact Officer:

Karen Daglish
Programme Manager
Karen.daglish@northeast-ca.gov.uk

Signature (Decision-Maker) 

Date of signing 24/07/2026