

# North Tyneside Council

## Report to Cabinet

Date: 22 May 2023

Title: An Ambition for Wallsend

Portfolio:	Deputy Mayor	Cabinet Member:	Councillor Carl Johnson
Report from Service Area:	Regeneration and Economic Development		
Responsible Officer:	John Sparkes, Director of Regeneration and Economic Development	Tel: (0191) 643 6091	
Wards affected:	Battle Hill, Howdon, Northumberland and Wallsend		

### PART 1

#### 1.1 Executive Summary:

On 28 March 2022, the Cabinet received a report that set out a set of policy priorities for Wallsend Town Centre. These priorities were developed with the Deputy Mayor following engagement with the councillors for Battle Hill, Howdon, Northumberland and Wallsend wards to inform a Masterplan for Wallsend which is identified as a priority in Our North Tyneside Plan 2021-2025.

The three policy priorities approved by Cabinet were:

- **Improve the quality of the housing offer in Wallsend;** in particular making the area a focus of the Mayor and Cabinet's plans for 5000 affordable homes and tackling some of the poor quality privately rented housing in the masterplan area;

- **Make the town centre and the nearby neighbourhoods great places to visit and live;** improving the street scene, public spaces and working with partners to make sure people feel safe; and
- **Make sure Wallsend residents are connected to good jobs;** using the full range of tools, including adult education, apprenticeships and the capabilities plus the transport infrastructure around the town to make sure people in the community, who need it, are supported to improve their life chances.

Officers then prepared a draft Masterplan which reflects the Authority's ambition for Wallsend, delivers on the three policy priorities and includes a series of projects to deliver them. The draft Wallsend Masterplan is appended to the report at Appendix 1. This draft Masterplan was approved by Cabinet on 28 November 2022 followed by engagement with residents, businesses and other stakeholders on the plan from 19 January until 3 March.

The purpose of this report is therefore to inform Cabinet of the responses to the draft Wallsend Masterplan and to seek authority for the Chief Executive, Director of Resources and the Director of Regeneration and Economic Development in consultation with the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources to approve the final Masterplan and progress individual projects within it.

## 1.2 Recommendation(s):

It is recommended that Cabinet:

- (1) Notes the progress made in delivering the Wallsend Town Centre Masterplan since November 2022, and;
- (2) Agrees to the proposed amendments to Project 6: of the draft Wallsend Masterplan 'Housing Streetscape Improvements' set out in section 1.5.5.5 of this report and;
- (3) Subject to recommendation (2) being agreed, authorises the Chief Executive, the Director of Resources and the Director of Regeneration and Economic Development in consultation with the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources to approve the final version of the Wallsend Town Centre Masterplan and to progress the delivery of the Masterplan.

### 1.3 Forward Plan:

Twenty-eight days' notice of this report has been given and it first appeared on the Forward Plan that was published on 13 February 2023.

### 1.4 Council Plan and Policy Framework

This report relates to the following themes in the 2021-25 Our North Tyneside Plan:

- A thriving North Tyneside
- A secure North Tyneside
- A green North Tyneside

The Wallsend Masterplan also uses the Local Plan 2017 as a Framework, which sets the planning policies to guide the development and regeneration of Wallsend Town Centre and the adjoining areas.

### 1.5 Information:

#### 1.5.1 Background

As reported to Cabinet in May 2022, Wallsend has a long and proud history and has played a significant role in shaping the regional and national economy. Its history (and name) dates back to the Roman conquest where it served as the eastern end for Hadrian's Wall.

However, Wallsend is perhaps best known for being an industrial powerhouse in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century through its worldwide reputation for ship building.

The economic fortunes of Wallsend have since ebbed and flowed. However, there has been a renaissance in advanced manufacturing driven by offshore energy opportunities. The Authority has taken a long-term view around securing sustainable economic growth and sought to ensure that strategic sites, such as Swan Hunter, were retained for employment purposes. The sale of the site to Shepherd Offshore is a significant step in seeing the site brought forward in due course for manufacturing purposes in line with the Authority's objectives.

More recently, the Mayor through the Authority's 'Our North Tyneside Plan' gave a commitment to bring forward a Masterplan for Wallsend Town Centre and, at its meeting on 21 February 2022, Cabinet agreed an update to its regeneration strategy "An Ambition for North Tyneside." That updated strategy made clear that Wallsend Town Centre and its environs were a specific priority.

The Wallsend Masterplan will provide a framework for targeted interventions, when funding permits, within the town centre to deliver on the Authority's policy objectives. The Masterplan will also provide a clear narrative and strong platform from which to launch future funding bids.

### 1.5.2 What the Authority has achieved so far

#### **Right now:**

1. Segedunum: Following approval of £0.499m Museum Estate and Development (MEND) funding from Arts Council England the Authority has completed the first phase of works (new emergency lighting) to the main Segedunum museum building.

In February 2023 the Authority also submitted a Development Phase application for further external funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund to assist with the delivery of transformational changes to the Segedunum Museum offer.

2. Healthcare Facilities: The Authority worked with partners to support the delivery of the Hadrian Health Centre next to the Forum Shopping Centre, this opened in December 2022.
3. Business Support: Aligning with the Authority's policy priority ensuring that residents are connected to good jobs, the Business Factory has moved to the Town Hall and is continuing to deliver business advice and support.

The Authority also, with funding from the North of Tyne Combined Authority's (NTCA) Towns and High Streets Innovation Programme, appointed a business liaison officer who is working with town centre businesses to develop bespoke business support packages to help businesses start up and grow in Wallsend.

This work is complemented by shopfront improvement grants and business incubator programmes targeting the Market Hall in the Forum shopping centre which has low cost, easy in, easy out flexible space for start-up businesses.

4. Wallsend Hall: The Authority has completed a building condition survey with a view to carrying out some initial works to protect the fabric of the listed building.

The Authority has also published sales particulars (for a 125-year lease) seeking bids from operators who are able to invest in and bring the building back into commercial use. This could be as a wedding/conference/events venue or, subject to planning permission, related uses such as a hotel which contribute to the Authority's policy objectives for Wallsend. The submissions are due back in early June and a preferred operator is due to be selected in late summer.

5. Healthy Happy Places: The Authority supported the work of the Academic Health Science Network (AHSN) who are exploring how design and the built environment can better support mental health and wellbeing. They applied this approach in Wallsend looking at the theme of '*Places of Sanctuary: – how can our towns create and nurture positive mental health and wellbeing for all?*'

The AHSN appointed creative practitioners to work with members of mental health charity, Anxious Minds, to address this question. The outputs were poetry, prose, artwork and animation which can be seen here:

[https://ahsn-nenc.org.uk/what-we-do/improving-population-health/mental-health/healthy-happy-places/happy-healthy-places-projects/wallsend-north-tyneside-places-of-sanctuary/Wallsend, North Tyneside – Places of Sanctuary - AHSN NENC \(ahsn-nenc.org.uk\)](https://ahsn-nenc.org.uk/what-we-do/improving-population-health/mental-health/healthy-happy-places/happy-healthy-places-projects/wallsend-north-tyneside-places-of-sanctuary/Wallsend, North Tyneside – Places of Sanctuary - AHSN NENC (ahsn-nenc.org.uk))

6. The Buddle: The Buddle was transferred by the Authority to Adavo Workspace in 2021. The original intention was to provide office accommodation in a similar way to Wallsend Town Hall. The work was delayed because of the pandemic and Adavo has decided to move away from a solely office-based business centre to also cater for businesses in the health and wellbeing sector where demand continues to be strong.

Adavo has submitted applications for planning permission and listed building consent, and they are continuing to develop their business plan. The Authority will continue to support them in developing their proposals.

7. Former Swan Hunter Shipyard: Shepherd Offshore is making excellent progress in constructing a new quay wall employing North Tyneside based

contractor, Southbay. The Authority is working with Shepherd Offshore under the Tyne Powered initiative to promote the site to potential occupiers.

8. Funding Activity: The Authority has secured £1.94m funding for delivery of activity that contributes to the aims and objectives of the Masterplan through the NTCA Towns and High Streets Innovation Programme. Funding will support events and festivals, business support, shop front grants and capital works to improve walking and cycle routes between the town centre and Segedunum. The Authority has also established a High Street Board with representatives from local businesses, VODA, Wallsend ward councillors, residents and the North Tyneside Business Forum to develop and oversee initiatives and improvements.

The Authority has submitted a bid for £19 million of grant from the Government's Levelling Up Fund to improve public realm around the town centre to create better connectivity between key retail, leisure and cultural sites. Unfortunately, the Authority was informed in January 2023 that it was not successful, and it is understood that Government will invite a third round of bids later in 2023.

### 1.5.3 The Draft Masterplan

The draft Masterplan proposes fourteen interventions that will deliver the three policy priorities for Wallsend, as identified by Cabinet.

The scope of the Masterplan area was agreed at Cabinet in March 2022. It covers High Street East and West, the Forum shopping centre and Station Road, with their surrounding catchment area of housing. It also includes the Segedunum Roman Fort & Museum and Wallsend riverside as far as Davy Bank. To the north it includes the Parks, Wallsend Hall, and the former Buddle School and arts centre.

In addition, since March 2022 the Authority has been working to better understand the issues, challenges and opportunities in Wallsend focussing in particular on the three policy priorities of housing, place and employment. This work has included:

- A review of recent reports such as the surveys of town centre businesses and customers in 2021 (the "Understanding the Heart of our Town" report)

- An assessment of the town centre's buildings, roads, streets, footpaths and public spaces and development of ideas for improving them
- A review of the local property market to better understand the supply of and demand for homes, shops and offices
- Review of opportunities to support residents in securing employment and improving their skills e.g., adult education and a "Working Well" hub
- Creation of the Tyne Task Force with the NTCA, Port of Tyne, businesses and other local authorities marketing the offshore energy opportunities under the 'Tyne Powered' brand and providing a collective voice to talk to Government.
- A review of traffic flows, transport usage and car parking.
- Working with the Academic Health Science Network who ran an arts project examining how towns can nurture positive mental health and wellbeing

The 14 projects (see pen picture at Appendix 2) are mostly based on a place or building, those covering Business Support, Employment Support and Events & Animation apply throughout the masterplan area:

Project 1 – Wallsend Town Square

Project 2 – High Street West, High Street East and Station Road

Project 3 – Segedunum World Heritage Site Gateway

Project 4 – The Forum

Project 5 – Bus & Metro Station

Project 6 – Housing Streetscape Improvements

Project 7 – Housing Development (New Build & Refurbishment)

Project 8 – Cycle Corridors

Project 9 – Segedunum Transformation

Project 10 – Segedunum Linkages

Project 11 – Historic Buildings & Conservation

Project 12 – Business Support

Project 13 – Employment Support

Project 14 – Events & Animation

#### 1.5.4 Engagement – what the Authority did

As a listening Authority the views of residents, businesses and other interested parties on the draft masterplan have been sought and taken into consideration to help the Authority shape its thinking prior to producing a final version of the plan.

Consultation on the masterplan took place between 19 January and 3 March 2023. Opportunities to view the masterplan and comment were available both digitally and face to face. Before this, officers spoke with some key stakeholders including NewRiver (owners of the Forum), Nexus in relation to the bus/metro station and Tyne & Wear Archives and Museums as operators of Segedunum.

##### 1. Face to face

Eight drop-in sessions were held at Wallsend Customer First Centre, including two Saturdays and one evening session. These sessions provided an opportunity for residents to view display boards and talk to officers.

Paper surveys were available for people to complete and return. The display, copies of the masterplan and surveys, were in place until 3 March. Officers also walked around the town centre and the Battle Hill local centre (Coastway) during the drop-in sessions to encourage shoppers to go to the drop-in sessions or look at the webpages, over 1300 people were spoken to.

Officers also held a face-to-face engagement session with the user participation group from Learning Disability: NorthEast (LDNE) who are based in Park Road, Wallsend. This was arranged following a request from LDNE. The request was made after emails were sent to over 50 voluntary groups active in Wallsend. These emails included a Google drive link to images to share on social media, social media template post, link to surveys and an offer of printed posters.



## 2. Digital

The regeneration pages on the Authority's website linked to the Ambition for Wallsend page where the draft Masterplan was published. Residents and businesses were able to make comments on-line through a link to the PlaceChangers digital engagement tool.

The Ambition for Wallsend page also included a more detailed Microsoft Forms survey, an opportunity to comment and ask questions via the [AmbitionW@northtyneside.gov.uk](mailto:AmbitionW@northtyneside.gov.uk) email address and a 0191-phone number.

Posters and flyers were produced with a QR code enabling people to connect directly to the webpage, these posters were offered to businesses in the town centre along with local schools and community groups.

Engagement was also promoted via 13 posts on the Authority's Facebook and Twitter pages as well as an Ambition for Wallsend Facebook page which amassed 767 followers. The posts amounted to a reach total of 165,617 and an engagement total of 8860. A sponsored social media post targeted those living in and around Wallsend and reached 11,695 people.

The engagement exercise was also promoted by writing to all schools and all businesses on the rating list in the four South West wards as well as the 30 members on the residents' panel in the NE28 Wallsend post code.

### 1.5.5 **Engagement – responses received**

A slidedeck at Appendix 3 provides visual analysis of the feedback. This includes a summary of comments received on the individual projects. The main findings are summarised below:

1. PlaceChangers, Microsoft Forms Survey, Paper surveys and email

A total of 176 people responded and supplied feedback as shown here:

	No. of people commenting
PlaceChangers digital tool	144
Microsoft forms	15
Paper surveys	12
Email	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>176</b>

PlaceChangers included a catch all question inviting people to say if they agreed with all 14 projects, 88 people responded to this with 55 (62%) saying they **agreed with all the projects**, 22 (25%) saying they **did not agree with all the projects** and 11 (12.5%) saying they were **unsure/do not want to say**.

2. Levels of support

The Authority sought responses on a project-by-project basis with a question asking people to indicate whether they were **Supportive** or **Not supportive**.

Four of the projects received **100% levels of support**:

Project 9 – Segedunum Transformation (34 responses)

Project 10 – Segedunum Routes to Town Centre (31 responses)

Project 13 – Employment Support (19 responses)

Project 14 – Events and Animation (20 responses)

Nine projects received between **55% and 95% levels of support**:

Project 1 – Town Square (73 responses, 79% supportive)

Project 2 – High Street West, East & Station Road (59 responses, 58 % supportive)

Project 3 – Segedunum WHS Gateway (44 responses, 60% supportive)

Project 4 – The Forum (50 responses, 64% supportive)

Project 5 – Bus & Metro Station (40 responses, 80% supportive)

Project 7 – Housing Development [New Build & Refurbishment] (31 responses, 74% supportive)

Project 8 – Cycle corridor (38 responses, 55 % supportive)

Project 11 – Historic Buildings & Conservation (43 responses, 95% supportive)

Project 12 – Business Support (23 responses, 87% supportive)

There was only one project that received **less than a 50% level of support**:

Project 6 – Housing Streetscape Improvements (49 responses, 29% supportive)

### 3. Sentiment

The Authority also asked a question that gave people the opportunity to indicate if individual projects were a **Good idea** or **Needed improving**. As might be expected these yielded similar results to the first question albeit without the opportunity to express wholly negative views e.g., state that it was a bad idea.

There was only one project, 9 – Segedunum Transformation, where all responses (34) were that it was a good idea with **none saying the proposal needed improving**.

The full set of responses to this question is in the attachment at Appendix 4 of this report.

### 4. Commentary and analysis

It is clear there were very high levels of support for heritage projects such as bringing historic buildings back into use and the transformation of Segedunum. There were also very high levels of support for the three projects covering Business Support, Employment Support and Events & Animation.

There were high levels of support (at least 55%) for all the other projects apart from Project 6: Housing Streetscape Improvements where only 29% were supportive and 74% said it needed improving.

The visualisation for Project 6 showed how some road space in the streets south of High Street West (using Vine Street as an example) could be

repurposed as pedestrian friendly space with seating, tree and shrub planting. While there was some support for this there was a greater level of concern for various reasons including the loss of on street parking, that seating would attract anti-social behaviour (ASB) and that the focus should be on the back lanes and deprivation in this area.

For all the other 'public realm' projects proposing improvements to cycle routes, footpaths, roadways and open spaces there was general support. Concerns were raised however about issues such as vehicle access, location of cycle routes and impact on vehicle road space, maintenance, ASB, litter and dog fouling. Specific concern was raised that the tree planting on the paved area north of Buddle Street next to (and part of) Segedunum Roman Fort would not be possible given it forms part of the Scheduled Monument and such planting would damage the underlying archaeology. As such the detailed design will need to respect the archaeology and will be developed in consultation with Historic England.

Housing is one of the three policy priorities in the Masterplan and there were high levels of support for both housing refurbishment and new build housing. Particular comments were made about the importance of redeveloping and refurbishing run-down properties and enforcement where there is empty or dilapidated housing.

Two projects, The Forum and the Bus & Metro Station are owned and controlled by Nexus and NewRiver (a property investment company specialising in retail) respectively. While a majority supported the proposed alterations to The Forum there were suggestions that parking controls be altered to encourage extended visits and a desire for a wider variety of shops. Engagement on the Masterplan coincided with NewRiver's planning application to demolish the Elton Street car park, reconfigure the retail units and create new public realm and surface level parking. This planning application was approved in late February.

The Bus & Metro Station proposal included options from upgrading the existing facility such as tree and shrub planting, provision of a cycle hub to reducing its size and accommodating new build housing. There was support for modernising the bus station as well as concern about ASB and suggestions for improved lighting, shelter and toilets.

## 5. Proposed amendments to Masterplan

Overall, the responses received across all platforms were broadly positive and generally gave support to the proposals contained in the Masterplan.

The exception was Project 6: Housing Streetscape Improvements where the main concern was the loss of on street parking, as such there may be little appetite for and buy in from residents if the Authority is to pursue proposals that did not cater for current levels of on street parking. As with any schemes that include changes to road space, footways and active travel routes meaningful engagement with residents and businesses will be required before being introduced. It is suggested that Project 6: Housing Streetscape Improvements is amended therefore in the final masterplan so that on street parking continues to be accommodated.

The amendments to the Masterplan in this regard will be consulted on with the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources before any amendment in this regard is finalised.

## 6. Future engagement

Given the overall support for the proposals should Cabinet be minded to delegate approval of the final version of the Masterplan to officers then it is not proposed to undertake any further consultation or engagement on the Masterplan as a whole. However, for public realm projects then further engagement will take place as detailed design progresses, this applies to the following projects:

Project 1 – Wallsend Town Square

Project 2 – High Street West, High Street East and Station Road

Project 3 – Segedunum World Heritage Site Gateway

Project 5 – Bus & Metro Station

Project 6 – Housing Streetscape Improvements

Project 7 – Housing Development (New Build & Refurbishment)

Project 8 – Cycle Corridors

Project 9 – Segedunum Transformation

Project 10 – Segedunum Linkages

## Project 11 – Historic Buildings & Conservation

Further, where individual projects require planning permission, these will be subject to individual consultation where residents, businesses and others will have the opportunity to comment on the planning application.

### 1.5.6 Next Steps

Subject to Cabinet agreeing to grant authority to officers to produce the final version of the Wallsend Masterplan in consultation with the Elected Mayor and members the proposed next steps include:

- Refining a Delivery Plan for the Masterplan which will set out the timings, delivery partners and potential sources of funding for the projects contained in the Masterplan.
- Progress and support the delivery of those schemes contained in the Masterplan for which funding has been secured.
- Securing external funding for those elements of the Masterplan for which funding is not currently in place.

### 1.6 Decision options:

The following decision options are available for consideration by Cabinet:

#### Option 1

To approve the recommendation set out in paragraph 1.2 above.

#### Option 2

To approve and/or reject some or all of the recommendations set out in paragraph 1.2 above.

Option 1 is the recommended option.

### 1.7 Reasons for recommended option:

Option 1 is recommended for the following reasons:

The recommended option will enable the Authority to progress the regeneration of Wallsend Town Centre and the individual projects within it.

## 1.8 Appendices:

Appendix 1: Draft Wallsend Masterplan

Appendix 2: Summary schedule of projects in draft Masterplan

Appendix 3: Consultation feedback analysis

Appendix 4: Sentiment responses

Appendix 5: Masterplan Boundary

## 1.9 Contact officers:

John Sparkes, Director of Regeneration & Economic Development, 0191 643 1441

Paul Graves, Regeneration Project Manager, 07976 957875

Julie Dodds, Head of Inclusive Economy & Business Development, 07583 042186

Claire Emmerson, Head of Finance, 0191 643 8109

## 1.10 Background information:

The following background papers/information have been used in the compilation of this report:

- (1) Our North Tyneside Plan 2021-25  
<https://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/category/1241/our-north-tyneside-plan>
- (2) Levelling Up Fund Prospectus  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/levelling-up-fund-prospectus>
- (3) Accelerated Development Fund Grant Offer – Wallsend Masterplan and A19 Corridor Improvements, Report of the Head of Regeneration and Transport, 31 January 2022:  
<https://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/sites/default/files/web-page-related-files/Report%20Accelerated%20Devpt%20Fund%20Grant%20Offer%E2%80%9393Wallsend%20Masterplan-A19%20Corridor.pdf>
- (4) An Ambition for North Tyneside – Update Report of the Director of Regeneration and Economic Development, 21 February 2022:  
<https://democracy.northtyneside.gov.uk/documents/s7901/An%20Ambition%20for%20North%20Tyneside%20-%20Update.pdf>

- (5) An Ambition for Wallsend – Report of the Director of Regeneration and Economic Development, 28 March 2022  
<https://democracy.northtyneside.gov.uk/documents/s8209/An%20Ambition%20for%20Wallsend.pdf>
- (6) An Ambition for Wallsend – Report of the Director of Regeneration and Economic Development, 28 November 2022  
<https://democracy.northtyneside.gov.uk/documents/s10465/An%20Ambition%20for%20Wallsend%20Report%20and%20Appendix%201%20Appendix%202.pdf>
- (7) Agenda and draft minutes of Economic Prosperity Sub-Committee, 21 March 2023  
<https://democracy.northtyneside.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=163&MId=773&Ver=4>

## PART 2 – COMPLIANCE WITH PRINCIPLES OF DECISION MAKING

### 2.1 Finance and other resources

The table below outlines the funding available to the Authority within the Investment Plan and existing approved budgets:

	Funding	Match Funding	Total Project Cost
<b>NTCA Towns and High Streets Innovation Programme</b>	£1.94m	£0	£1.94m
<b>Arts Council England MEND – Segedunum</b>	£0.499m	£0.256m	£0.755m

As projects are developed the direct financial implications will be considered as part of the Investment Plan and the Authority’s budget-setting process which will be the subject of future reports to Cabinet. The Authority will continue to actively pursue external funding opportunities to supplement the use of the Authority’s own resources.



## 2.2 Legal

There are no direct legal implications arising from this report. As specific actions are brought forward under the policy priorities set out above the legal implications (if any) for those actions will be identified and reported.

## 2.3 Consultation/community engagement

### 2.3.1 Internal Consultation

The Ward members for Battle Hill, Howdon, Northumberland and Wallsend and the relevant Lead Cabinet Members have been briefed. There was also a briefing to all members about the draft Masterplan by the Director of Regeneration & Economic Development on 2 February 2023.

The Economic Prosperity Sub-Committee on 21 March 2023 discussed the draft Masterplan and the preliminary findings of the consultation and engagement activities. Members of this Committee expressed support for the ambition for Wallsend and the detailed projects contained within the Masterplan. The sub-committee made specific comments on the following:

- maintenance of improvements (e.g., to public realm) following completion and the need for materials that are easy and affordable to maintain
- scope for improved space for events and parking at Segedunum and a query whether there was the opportunity to cater for campervans and motorhomes
- potential scope for improved commercial bin storage
- whether the plan would benefit from a clear mission or vision statement

A Wallsend Masterplan officer group has been established to manage production and implementation of the Masterplan. In addition, the Engagement and Communications teams have worked closely with the Regeneration service to develop the Communications, Engagement and Marketing Plan.

### 2.3.2 External Consultation/Engagement

Tyne and Wear Archives and Museums, as operators of Segedunum, have

been advised about the Wallsend Masterplan as have the Wallsend Chamber of Trade. The Authority also, as part of the Towns and High Streets Innovation Fund programme, established a Board that includes representatives of local businesses and VODA. In addition, the Authority has engaged with the Government's High Streets Task Force (HSTF), to gain support on further engagement work during the Masterplan consultation period. Discussions have also been held with NewRiver Retail, who operate the Forum Shopping Centre, to get an understanding of their longer-term objectives for the centre which includes some proposals for further investment. More detail about the engagement process is included in the main body of this report and in Appendix 3 of this report.

## **2.4 Human rights**

There are no Human Rights issues directly arising from this report. As projects are developed any potential human rights implications will be considered and kept under review.

## **2.5 Equalities and diversity**

There are no equalities and diversity issues directly arising from this report. The engagement activities within the Communications, Engagement and Marketing Plan reflects differing needs and the means of engagement were subject to an Equalities Impact Assessment. As individual projects within the Masterplan such as highways, active travel and public realm are developed they will be subject to individual Equalities Impact Assessments.

## **2.6 Risk management**

A risk register will be developed for each of the projects and will be reviewed monthly by the project delivery teams.

## **2.7 Crime and disorder**

There are no crime and disorder issues directly arising from this report. As the Masterplan and feasibility work progresses, consideration of crime, fear of crime and anti-social behaviour will be central to the development of the proposals.

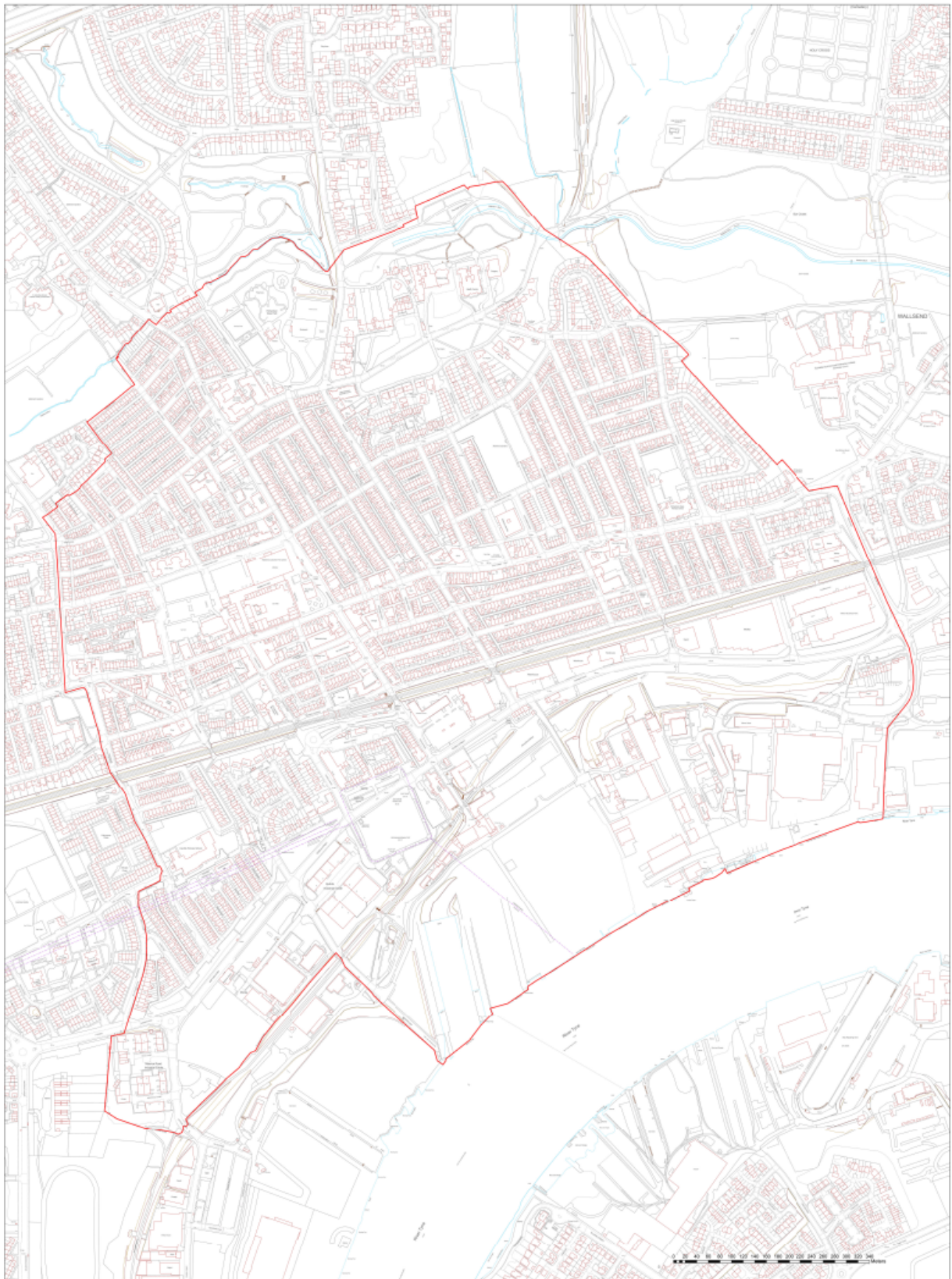
## 2.8 Environment and sustainability

The feasibility work undertaken with this funding is informing the development of robust business cases that include full environmental and sustainability plans.

### PART 3 – SIGN OFF

- Chief Executive  X
- Director(s) of Service  X
- Mayor/Cabinet Member(s)  X
- Chief Finance Officer  X
- Monitoring Officer  X
- Assistant Chief Executive  X

# Masterplan boundary



Red outline: Wallsend Masterplan Boundary

Wallsend Masterplan Area



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