

North Tyneside Council

Report to Cabinet

Date: 26 June 2023

Title: An Ambition for North Tyneside – Update

Portfolio(s):	Regeneration	Cabinet Member(s):	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:	All		

PART 1

1.1 Executive Summary:

The purpose of this report is to provide the Cabinet with an update on the delivery of the Authority's 'Ambition for North Tyneside' which was agreed by Cabinet on the 26 November 2018 as a framework for the regeneration of the borough in line with the then 'Our North Tyneside Plan'.

An update was last provided to the Cabinet in February 2022. Since then, the Deputy Mayor and officers have been working closely with a range of partners to unlock potential and opportunity and progress key projects and activity.

1.2 Recommendation(s):

It is recommended that Cabinet:

- (1) Note the progress made in delivering the overall plan since 2018;
- (2) Note the projects to be delivered in 2023 and beyond ; and

(3) Agree that 'An Ambition for North Tyneside' will continue to be monitored by the Investment Programme Board and progress reported regularly to Cabinet.

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 30 March 2023.

1.4 Council Plan and Policy Framework

This report relates directly to the delivery of the entire Our North Tyneside Plan with outcomes expected to support a thriving, family friendly, caring, secure and green North Tyneside.

1.5 Information:

1.5.1 Background

An Ambition for North Tyneside considers the borough as four areas namely;

- The South West area around Wallsend, including the communities who live in Howdon, Willington Quay, Hadrian Park, High Farm and Battle Hill
- The North West including Benton and Longbenton, Forest Hall and Killingworth, Dudley, Weetslade, Burradon, Camperdown and Fordley
- The North East area around Whitley Bay, including Monkseaton and Earsdon, Shiremoor, Backworth and West Allotment; and
- The South East area around North Shields, including Cullercoats and Tynemouth, Chirton and Percy Main

1.5.2 Borough-wide ambition

The Elected Mayor and Cabinet's ambitions for the Borough are set out in the 'Our North Tyneside Plan'. Specific commitments have been made and are being met in terms of a thriving, family-friendly, caring, secure and green Borough.

To deliver the ambition and pay for delivery, the Authority has allocated £2m per year for five years (2021-26) through its budget setting process. This has enabled the Authority to use this as 'match funding' and attract external funding

from the North of the Tyne Combined Authority (NTCA), the North East Local Enterprise Partnership, Government and the private sector.

The report explains in more detail progress that has been made on the Elected Mayor and Cabinet's ambitions for each part of the Borough. It sets out what has been achieved over the last 12 months, what is currently planned and what will happen next (subject to funding) and what the Authority will do if it can and when it can.

1.5.3 For the South West

The South West has some fantastic assets, it includes the World Heritage site at Segedunum marking the terminus for the Hadrian's Wall route which celebrated its 1900 anniversary last year. It is at the heart of the industrial North bank of the Tyne – together the Tyne's businesses are powering offshore and energy innovation under the brand Tyne Powered, with world leading business including Smulders and Swans. Hadrian Leisure Centre provides a great leisure offer, the Customer First Centre is well used and home to VODA and other partners, Richardson Dees Park attracts circa 100,000 visitors per month, and, for some parts of the community, strong transport links.

The Authority continues to support business and residents to create more and better jobs. As well as continuing to work with public transport providers and funders to help improve the connections of those parts of the area that lack strong transport links. The Authority also wants to improve the housing offer and improve the sense of place and community and in doing so closing the gap in life chances. These priorities are reflected in the Wallsend Masterplan.

Completed Work:

Hadrian Health Centre: Work is complete on the new Centre, which has transformed healthcare services in the area by bringing together local clinicians and a range of community health services in the heart of Wallsend.

Wallsend Masterplan: on 22 May 2023, Cabinet approved masterplan for Wallsend, providing a framework for targeted interventions, when funding permits, within the town centre to deliver on the Authority's policy objectives. The plan comprises fourteen priority projects that propose improvements to the town centre public realm as well as improvements to the residential offer. It also identifies opportunities for ensuring that residents are able to access high quality jobs and can benefit from inclusive economic growth. The Masterplan

also provides a clear narrative and strong platform from which to launch future funding bids such as Levelling Up Round three.

Current Activity:

Swan Hunter Site: The sale of the site was completed in December 2020 to Shepherd Offshore Ltd (SOL) in line with the Council's objectives for the site. Since the sale, SOL have been working with the Authority and funders to bring the site back into full use. SOL is making excellent progress in constructing a new quay wall employing North Tyneside based contractor, Southbay. Demolition of the former office block has been completed and strengthening of the quay will be completed later this year. Designs are also being developed to infill the 'wet dock' to maximise the development site area. The Authority continues to work with SOL to identify opportunities for inward investment and create new employment opportunities.

Centre for Innovation: The Authority completed the second phase of the Centre for Innovation which opened in the summer of 2020. The building provides 1200m² of high-quality office space and the Authority currently has nine tenants largely working in the offshore energy and subsea sector.

Segedunum: The Authority secured £499k of Museum Estate and Development (MEND) funding from Arts Council England for urgent repair work to the Museum, so far new emergency lighting has been installed. A further Development Phase application has been submitted to the National Lottery Heritage Fund to undertake a programme of transformational works to bring the museum into the 21st century. The Authority will be advised if invited to the next stage in June 2023, it is hoped the Authority will be invited to progress a detailed submission to secure a multi-million-pound investment in the Museum with its Partners, Tyne and Wear Museums. It is hoped that the Authority will be advised of the outcome of this bid by June 2023.

Wallsend Town and High Street Innovation Programme: The Authority secured £1.94m funding to deliver 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.

Next Steps 2023-2025:

Swan Hunter Site: The Authority will continue to work with Shepherd Offshore Limited and funding partners to bring forward new employment opportunities. Work will also be progressed to ensure there is integration between the Authorities objectives for Swan Hunters and the proposals for investment in Segedunum to ensure they complement each other and maximise the benefits for Wallsend Town Centre and the surrounding area. The Authority will also work with partners within the wider context of Tyne Powered, established by NTCA and four riparian local authorities to promote the river on national / international platforms as a destination for investment.

Segedunum: It is proposed that further investment is brought forward at Segedunum to deliver the Authority's ambition for the site and to grow it as a visitor destination helping to drive footfall into the town centre. Using the work from Hemingway Design, a transformational plan and supporting investment programme the Authority will continue to apply for funds to take forward the agreed programme of works.

Investment will initially be targeted towards the repair and refurbishment of the existing fabric of the buildings and site with a focus on the Bath House which has been closed for some time. Estimated cost of his project is circa £1m with match funding to be sought to maximise the impact of the scheme.

Wallsend Town and High Street Innovation Programme: A revised business case has been submitted to NTCA, seeking a further £500k to extend the project for an additional 12 months, the additional funding will deliver capital public realm improvements on Buddle Street, extend the shop front grant scheme and provide additional business support to support Wallsend businesses to thrive.

Levelling Up Fund: Building on feedback from the unsuccessful Levelling Up Round two Wallsend application, officers will develop a robust and deliverable round three application that is closely aligned to the approved Masterplan priorities. The application window is likely to open in summer 2023.

When funding and timing allows:

Plans for housing renewal will be developed and delivered, as will a long-term plan to redesign traffic and transport flows around the town centre, as well as other plans and projects emanating from the Masterplan work.

1.5.4 For the North West

The North West has many great attributes. It is a great place to live and includes many historic mining settlements as well as Killingworth new town. This popular area has a broad range of housing choice for residents and enjoys strong demand from families who want to live there. It has access to national infrastructure assets at the A1 and Newcastle Airport and includes a significant portion of the Borough's open land, including Weetslade Country Park, which contributes to its leisure offer.

For the North West, the Authority is working to develop a plan that will address some of the challenges that settlements in the North West face such as transport connectivity. The first part of this work will be to agree policy priorities for the North West.

The area also includes Killingworth Moor strategic housing site which has been identified for 2000 new family homes in the 2017 Local Plan and which is subject to planning applications which are pending consideration by the Authority.

From an economic standpoint, the North West includes the Indigo Park Strategic Employment Site which provides the opportunity for significant inward investment. The site is suited to Storage and Distribution / General Industrial type uses (as opposed to office type uses) which will provide more and better jobs and improved transport connections to the local area. The site continues to be promoted by the Council and we are currently working with other landowners to identify development solutions. In addition, the area also includes Quorum Park, a significant business park currently 90% occupied employing c10,000 people. It has a strong make up with Greggs, Verisure, GE Power, AA, Tesco Bank and British Engines as occupiers.

Completed Work:

Moor Farm Roundabout feasibility funding: Funding was secured for feasibility work to assess transport flow and future works required at the A19 Moor Farm Roundabout. This work supports the development of a major regional highway intervention at the A19 Moor Farm and Seaton Burn Junctions. These junctions represent the only remaining non grade-separated junctions along the A19 corridor and have become a constraint to housing and economic growth in the region. Development work is being continued by National Highways as part of the Road Investment Strategy (RIS) to secure funding for these significant junction upgrades.

Current Activity:

Killingworth Lake: Plans are being progressed to broaden the offer of the park. This will include proposals to improve the footpaths, car parks and gateways into the lake area. A Multi Use Sports Area is being considered as well as options for a café and toilet building.

Killingworth Moor Housing Site: Work continues to deliver on the Authority's plans for new housing in the Borough and officers continue to work with developers and landowners as well as National Highways. Three planning applications for the development of part of the site have been submitted to the Council as Planning Authority which are in line with the policy objectives around affordable housing, and these are currently being considered.

Indigo Park: The Authority continues to work with land agents and partners to market the Indigo Park Strategic Employment Site which provides the opportunity for significant inward investment.

Borough-wide Wagonway Project; the Wagonways are a much-valued resource for the entire Borough. Spreading out from the former mines from Seaton Burn towards Earsdon, the original routes south to the river have been successfully developed into popular walking and cycling routes. Moreover, the network was a particularly valuable asset for residents enabling them to undertake exercise safely during the recent restrictions caused by COVID 19.

It is proposed to develop the network over the next 5 years in three ways namely:

- **Navigation and connectivity.** The creation of the network happened over time and incrementally through various projects and funding bids. There is now a job to be done to bring this all together and ensure the network is easily navigated and connected. Approaching this in the same way as the highways network, the Authority will work with users and communities to ensure there is comprehensive signage that allows the use of the network for leisure and travel to work.

That work will translate into supporting maps available digitally to support residents and visitors to explore and use the network. In some places, the connections through built up areas or across the highways network need improvement to make travel and navigation easier.

- **Surfacing and treatment.** The Authority needs to ensure that the surfacing allows for participation by a wide variety of users and is accessible to everyone. A consistent approach to surfacing and treatment is being agreed to ensure greater consistency across the network and to ensure standards are in place whenever a new project is being delivered. Again, working with users and communities, the Authority will refine a set of common standards.
- **Animating and Enriching the Experience.** The Wagonways are a legacy of the industrial revolution and have a rich history. Work is planned to tell the story of the network and find ways to bring that to life for users thereby enriching the visitor experience. The Authority will work with users and communities to help interpret the heritage of the network. However, the network is also a living resource and there are opportunities to increase engagement and awareness of the flora and fauna that surround the network as well as encouraging greater diversity. There is also an opportunity to provide business opportunities throughout the network serving users and working with the materials that grow along its length. This project is particularly appropriate for external funding, and the National Lottery Heritage Fund has been identified as a potential source. The Authority will continue dialogue with funders to ensure project deliverables and outcomes are in line with funder requirements.

Next Steps 2023–2025:

A vision for the North West: Planning for the settlements in the North West is also a key priority for the Mayor and Cabinet. Looking ahead, this will involve developing a vision and key priorities aligned to the Authority's ambition and policy priorities. Officers will then develop a suite of proposed projects aimed at enhancing the quality of place and improving the settlements in the area. A set of policy priorities will be presented to Cabinet in June 2023.

Killingworth Lake: Officers will continue to develop plans which will be subject to engagement with residents as part of the adoption of the Vision for the North West later this year.

Borough-wide Wagonway Project: Officers undertook some initial engagement work on the draft plans last summer, and the Authority continues to revise plans that will focus on the initial stretch from Wideopen to Camperdown. Delivery is planned for 2023/24 subject to successful funding bids.

Indigo Park: The site remains a strategic employment site and is identified in the adopted Local Plan for employment purposes. The site has been subject of recent interest, and the Authority will continue to work with partners including developers and other landowners to review funding opportunities to secure investment and refine proposals that will see more, and better jobs delivered in the Borough.

When funding and timing allows:

Subject to the agreement by the Mayor and Cabinet of the proposed plans referred to above, the Authority will seek funding to deliver those elements of the plans identified as priorities.

Transport Infrastructure: The Authority will also seek to develop the transport network including continued lobbying for a direct Metro link between North Tyneside and Newcastle Airport negating the need for changing at South Gosforth. The Authority will also continue to work with Northumberland County Council / NTCA for the delivery of the Northumberland Line heavy rail link.

1.5.5 For the North East

This part of North Tyneside has seen significant investment at the coast to create an asset for the Borough and the region, with Whitley Bay recently named in the national press as the best place to live in the North East of England in 2023. The coast continues to see an increase in visitor numbers and remains a popular destination for residents and visitors alike. Furthermore, in addition to providing a first-class food and beverage offer, the coast provides opportunities for exercise and informal leisure helping to support the physical and mental wellbeing of residents. For the North East and the surrounding communities, the Authority has also invested in the environment and infrastructure to encourage visitors to support the local economy.

The Authority continues to build upon the ongoing success of the Spanish City regeneration and to sustain a first-class coastal visitor offer and destination for all North Tyneside, the region and beyond. This includes continued investment in coastal infrastructure following investment in the Northern Promenade.

In addition, the Authority aims to continue to meet housing and transport demand in the North East in a sustainable way that meets the needs of residents and businesses.

Completed Work:

Whitley Bay Northern Promenade: The final section (Stage 3) of regeneration works to the Northern Promenade were completed in August further enhancing the quality of the built environment along the Coast. These works included a widened segregated ramp section that will form part of the Sea Front Sustainable Route between St Mary's and Tynemouth which will connect and enhance all the regeneration interventions along the Coast.

Northumberland Line Economic Corridor: NTCA have approved £135k of funding to develop proposals for Northumberland Park to become an exemplar "Future Mobility Hub" with enhanced interchange options and connectivity across all transport modes. These works include a new underpass link to the Killingworth Moor Strategic Housing Site, and a potential Cobalt rail extension in the future.

Current Activity:

St Mary's Island and Lighthouse: The Authority carried out remedial works to St. Mary's Island Causeway in 2019 as part of initial steps to secure further investment into the island as part of the visitor offer. The Authority is in the process of drafting an expression of interest to submit to the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) later this year for a revised scheme to repair and consolidate the lighthouse and provide a small educational building on the headland. The funding programme is spread across three stages, and this is likely to take approx. 18-24 months to conclude, resulting in delivery potentially in 2025 should an award of funding be made to the Council.

Murton Housing Site: Identified in the adopted Local Plan as a strategic housing site, the Authority continues to work with the development consortia to deliver the Murton Masterplan which was adopted by the Authority as a framework for the delivery of this major scheme. In addition to bringing forward three thousand new homes the development will include investment in new transport infrastructure including a new link road, Metro Station as well as new schools. Works in the southeast part of the site are underway by Story Homes and this phase will see the delivery of 300 units. Persimmon Homes have submitted a planning application for the remainder of the site. This is a hybrid application for 2,700 homes. The hybrid application will consider a full application for the delivery of 508 residential units and the primary link road and an outline application for 2,192 residential units, a 2-form entry primary school, up to 1000sqm of retail floorspace, new metro station and associated highways, drainage, site wide servicing, landscaping infrastructure and demolition works.

Seafront Sustainable Route: In line with the commitment in Our North Tyneside Plan to provide a permanent coastal cycleway, work is scheduled to provide a permanent, segregated cycleway whilst retaining two-way traffic along the seafront between the North Shields Fish Quay and St Mary's Lighthouse in Whitley Bay. This will build upon the success of the temporary scheme benefitting those residents and visitors using sustainable and active forms of travel.

Next Steps 2023–2025:

Seafront Sustainable Route: Following the public consultation in Autumn 2021, feedback has been assessed and a final draft of the scheme shared with members. It is proposed that further engagement on the final scheme proposals will be carried out in phases, with the Tynemouth section being shared first in May. All scheme funding (£11m) has now been secured from Active Travel England and Sustrans and works are planned to commence on site from Autumn 2023.

Whitley Bay Masterplan: In line with Our North Tyneside Plan, it is proposed to undertake some planning activity in Whitley Bay town centre in 2023. The purpose of the plan will be to improve the pedestrian, cycle, and vehicular movements within the town centre environment. Together with improvements to the public realm, this will help create a better visitor experience and provide opportunities for new investment as well as supporting existing local business. This will form a sound basis to move forward later this year.

Northumberland Line Economic Corridor: Using the funding secured from NTCA the Authority will undertake feasibility work exploring the options to further develop the transport network including for a Metro extension to Cobalt Business Park and the potential for a rail extension from Northumberland Park.

When funding and timing allows:

St Mary's Island: Progression of a revised scheme and funding bid to the NLHF over the next 2 years.

1.5.6 For the South East

The South East has received a wealth of investment in recent years, benefitting North Shields Town Centre, Fish Quay and the assets in surrounding communities, contributing to the overall offer of the Borough. The Fish Quay is

England and Wales largest prawn landing port. The South East is also home to longstanding fishing activity based at Cullercoats Harbour.

The area includes Cobalt Business Park with significant employers such as Accenture, EE, Sage and Newcastle Building Society. As well as the major Port of Tyne site, the North side of the Tyne Tunnels and a major site for Northumbrian Water. The two retail outlets at Silverlink and Royal Quays and the attractions of Tynemouth Village. Northumberland Park, Tynemouth Pool and The Parks are at the core of a significant leisure offer.

The South East also contains some of the highest deprivation in the Borough and the Authority therefore is committed, through its Inclusive Economy Strategy and Equally Well, to tackling working poverty, improve the life chances of residents and address issues of poor quality private rented housing as part of the work to close the gap.

For the South East and its surrounding area, the Authority is working towards raising the quality of the built environment, through the North Shields Town Centre and Fish Quay Masterplan adopted in January 2021. It is making good headway, working in partnership with existing landowners and other stakeholders, in delivering the Masterplan.

For reference, the schemes being delivered as detailed in the Masterplan include:

1. Town Centre Gateway Improvements (underway)
2. Transport Hub and Bus Interchange (underway)
3. New Town Square (underway)
4. Bedford Street / Saville Street Public Realm Improvements (Funding bid submitted)
5. Northumberland Square Improvements (completed)
6. Howard Street Cultural Quarter (underway)
7. Riverside Embankment Walkway (underway)
8. Housing Sites (funding secured)
 - Tyne Brand (remediation underway)
 - Unicorn House (working with developer)
9. Relocation of North Shields Ferry (work to identify funding underway)

Completed Works:

Co-op Building and Transport interchange: We demolished the former Co-op building and work on the new Transport Interchange and Civic Square is well underway and have commenced work on the Embankment Walkway linking the town centre with the Fish Quay.

Howard Street and Northumberland Square: Significant public realm works were completed last summer breathing new life into the historic conservation area.

Fish Quay: The consolidation of the Protection Jetty at the Fish Quay is now complete, having been funded through the North of Tyne Combined Authority (NTCA) and Marine Management Organisation (MMO.)

The Exchange: Building Improvement works are complete, and Stonebanks Investments have been appointed as a result of an open tender process and have re-branded the café/ bar area, staff are in post and are beginning to develop a programme of events. This supports the Authority's ambition to develop the North Shields Cultural Quarter.

Current Activity:

North Shields Masterplan: Work continues to progress in implementing the adopted Masterplan as set out below:

- The Authority secured funding through the Transforming Cities Fund to deliver a new integrated transport facility within North Shields Town Centre, linking bus and Metro services and providing a better customer experience. Work is well underway and an opening event is planned for September 2023.
- Officers secured an additional £1.85m of capital funding to complete the work on the new town square, work is scheduled for completion by March 2024.
- A bid for £3.6m capital funding has been submitted to NTCA to complete the programmed public realm and pedestrianisation works on Bedford and Saville Street.
- Work commenced on the new Riverside Embankment Walkway in November 2022 with phase 1 of the slope stabilisation works completed in February 2023. Phase 2 of the slope stabilisation work is due to commence from June along with some of the bulk excavation. The completed walkway will provide

a step-free route between the town centre and the Fish Quay and works are due to complete by Winter 2024.

- Both 131 Bedford Street and the former Globe Gallery will be brought back into use for cultural purposes in the coming year by the new occupiers, further adding to the vitality of the growing cultural offer.
- 11-12 Northumberland Square: The Authority acquired (11-12 Northumberland Square) which were in private ownership and very poor condition. Work to refurbish and convert these building into residential apartments by Aurora Properties is underway.
- Unicorn House: The building was demolished in 2021 and received planning permission for 29 new family housing units, which will shortly commence on site being delivered through Aurora Properties. The development has been successful in attracting Brownfield Housing Funding from the North of Tyne Combined Authority to help support the scheme. The Authority has also started to acquire third party property interests at the Tyne Brand Site on the Fish Quay which is identified for new housing.
- The Authority also continues to work with the new owners of the Tyne Brand site on the Fish Quay to identify development solutions that will see this prominent site brought forward for residential purposes. A Brownfield Housing grant of £4.5m+ has been awarded by the North of Tyne Combined Authority as part of a suite of sites in North Shields which also includes Smiths Dock and Unicorn House. The redevelopment of the site will address the longstanding issues of dereliction that blight the site and its surrounds. Moreover, it will create new opportunities on Tanners Bank and Brew House Bank which will further improve the quality of place.
- Work is ongoing with Nexus to refine a scheme for the relocation of the Ferry Landing to Western Quay. It is also proposed that the new landing will link in with the proposed Riverside Embankment Walkway, having the ferry link in the heart of the Fish Quay will improve accessibility and drive footfall. Nexus is currently refining its plans and is seeking funding to deliver this proposal. The scheme will also see an extension to the Fish Quay Protection Jetty, enabling more fishing boats to berth in 'The Gut' whilst also providing mooring facilities for tenders servicing cruise ships too large to enter the river.
- The Authority secured £60k from the Local Enterprise Partnership to enhance plans for the Fish Quay through the production of a 'service plan' for the area which built and expanded upon the proposals contained in the adopted Masterplan.

North Shields Heritage Action Zone: The Authority secured £1.4m of Heritage Action Zone (HAZ) funding for improvements to Howard Street Conservation

Area. This significant investment into the fabric of the Conservation Area including both buildings and public realm. This work has improved the character and appearance of the Conservation Area and builds upon the investment in Northumberland Square.

It also provides new commercial opportunities for some of the buildings on Howard Street which could be repurposed towards high quality food and beverage, leisure and cultural use which would take advantage of this unique location. Property grants have been awarded and properties on Howard Street and Northumberland Square have been improved. Several other grant awards have been made to private property owners and work is nearing completion.

HAZ Funding was allocated to undertake an extensive scheme of external repairs to the Exchange building to address the buildings condition issues. This investment in the Exchange was matched with £300k of NTCA Cultural and Creative Zones funding to undertake internal remediation and repair works to bring the building back into full use. Together with other complementary investment at 97 Howard Street this activity helps underpin the development of the North Shields Cultural Quarter identified in the Masterplan.

North Shields Cultural Quarter: A further £1.4m of funding from the NTCA Cultural and Creative Zone fund has been approved to support the development of North Shields Cultural Quarter, located in and around Howard Street and Saville Street, in the heart of North Shields, creating a 'cultural corridor' and stronger connections between the town centre and the Fish Quay.

The heart of the Cultural Quarter is the cluster of buildings at the crossroads of Howard Street and Saville Street including The Exchange, the Globe Gallery, the Business Centre, and the North Shields Customer First Centre. This investment provides the opportunity to stimulate the economy in North Shields town centre and this 'cultural corridor' will play a pivotal role in reinvigorating the place and creating social and economic benefits for the people who live, work and visit there - building social inclusion and helping to create a sense of pride.

Next Steps 2023-2025:

North Shields Town Centre and Fish Quay: Work continues at pace to deliver several schemes within the adopted Masterplan and by 2025 many of these will be completed. Officers are progressing plans to bid for circa £20m through the Levelling Up Fund, round three application process to further enhance the

public realm, accessibility and visitor offer in and around the Fish Quay. As well as looking to secure funding through the early release of devolved Investment Fund through the North East Combined Authority (NEMCA.)

When funding and timing allows:

Port of Tyne Enterprise Zone: The Authority will continue to work with the Port of Tyne and the North East LEP to identify solutions for the Royal Quays Enterprise Zone. The site is currently in a poor condition and requires extensive enabling works to bring it forward for beneficial economic use. The Port's plans for the site have been delayed due to the current economic climate, although they have undertaken soft market testing to see if there is appetite in the development community to work collaboratively to bring the site forward.

Collingwood Monument and Tynemouth Priory: Given the significance and visibility to these iconic structures and their place within the heritage of the North East, it is proposed to celebrate these with new lighting schemes that will redefine their presence and create a striking impression on visitors, especially those arriving via the River Tyne.

1.5.7 The People of North Tyneside

This plan contains a broad range of physical projects which develop North Tyneside as a place. However, North Tyneside is nothing without its people. It's the businesses and shoppers that make the town centres, the visitors, residents, and businesses that bring to life the attractions at the coast and residents and visitors that fill the parks and wagonways with activity.

Just as this programme is designed to be for all of North Tyneside, it is designed for all the people of North Tyneside wherever they live. Many of the projects that have been delivered and will be delivered are shaped with that in mind, and is consistent with the Inclusive Economic Growth Strategy which seeks to ensure that those most marginalised from the mainstream economy have the opportunity to benefit from growth and fulfil their potential.

This plan is ambitious in scope and complex in nature, however, it means nothing without the people served by North Tyneside Council.

1.5.8 Funding breakdown

An initial breakdown of the proposed funding allocation is set out below.

In line with the Authority's priorities, further work will continue be undertaken to refine a delivery programme and to profile the spend for each project across the five-year period.

Progress on the Our Ambition Plan shall be monitored by the Deputy Mayor, who has responsibility for regeneration, and regular reports on progress will be reported to Cabinet. Property related projects will be dealt with via the Strategic Property Group chaired by the Elected Mayor.

Area	Scheme	Authority Funding from Our Ambition / Budget (2021-2025) £m	External Funding (Match) £m
South West	Segedunum	£1.000 (approved)	£0.499 MEND
North West	Killingworth Lake	£0.755 (allocated)	TBC
	Waggonways	£0.515 (allocated)	TBC
North East	Northern Promenade	£1.150 (approved)	No Match
South East	North Shields Heritage Action Zone	£1.133 (approved)	£1.494 HAZ
	North Shields Cultural Quarter	£0.120 (approved)	£1.600 NTCA Cultural and Creative Zones
	Howard Street/Bedford Street	£0.127 (approved)	TBC
	Transport Interchange and Town Square	£2.500 (approved)	£19.125 TCF £1.850 NTCA Capital
Total		£7.300	£24.568

1.5.9 Next Steps

Subject to agreement by Cabinet, the next steps will include:

- Project development including refining delivery plans and funding mix;
- Options on the major projects moving through appropriate governance;
- Finalise the Investment Programme based on a £10m budget over 5 years, developing proposals and priorities for post 2025; and
- Develop an Investment Programme Board (IPB) request for feasibility funding for activities referenced within this report that require some initial investment before works or funding applications can be developed.

In the next 12 months activity will focus on delivering already approved projects and identifying additional funding to deliver the following:

- Secure funding to upgrade the visitor offer at Segedunum

- Work with delivery partners and stakeholders to take forward projects adopted within the Wallsend Masterplan
- Commence the active travel works as part of the Wallsend Town and High Street Programme
- Agree policy priorities and a plan for the North West
- Submit Levelling Up round three bids for North Shields and Wallsend
- Agree policy priorities and a plan for Whitley Bay
- Draft a funding bid for St Marys
- Commence work on the Seafront Sustainable Route

1.6 Decision options:

There is no decision to be made by Cabinet regarding the report which is for information purposes only. All projects identified for delivery within the report will be subject to the Authority's project governance arrangements.

1.7 Reasons for recommended option:

Not applicable as report is for information purposes only.

1.8 Appendices:

None

1.9 Contact officers:

John Sparkes, Director of Regeneration and Economic Development, tel. (0191) 643 6091

Claire Emmerson, Senior Manager Financial Strategy and Planning, tel. (0191) 643 8109

1.10 Background information:

The following background papers/information have been used in the compilation of this report and are available at the office of the author:

1. Our North Tyneside Plan 2021-25
2. Cabinet report 22 May 2023 'An Ambition for Wallsend'
3. Cabinet report 21 February 2022 'An Ambition for North Tyneside - Update
4. Cabinet report 1st April 2019 'An Ambition for North Shields'
5. Cabinet Report November 2019 'An Ambition for North Tyneside' mid-year update
6. Cabinet report 26th November 2018 'An Ambition for North Tyneside'

PART 2 – COMPLIANCE WITH PRINCIPLES OF DECISION MAKING

2.1 Finance and other resources

The capital and revenue implications relating to those projects currently underway are included within the Authority's current Investment Plan and Financial Plan respectively. Any future proposals will be considered as part of the investment plan gateway process in line with the Authority's Capital Investment Strategy.

The Authority's 5-year Investment Plan budget for 2020/21 identified a £10m investment pot to deliver the projects contained in Our Ambition for North Tyneside to the financial year 2024/25.

A total of £3.447m of the Authority's contribution had been spent by 31 March 2023. The Investment Plan identifies the residual Authority contribution of £6.553m to 2024/25, with indicative commitments already having been made for £3.583m of this allocation as summarised in paragraph 1.5.8.

The Authority's planned contribution will continue to support the delivery of the priority schemes identified in this report but is also available to use as match funding to support applications for emerging external funding opportunities, helping to secure additional investment in the Borough.

As projects are further developed and refined, the Authority will continue to identify sources of match funding from national and regional funding bodies to deliver on the Authority's priorities and to maximise the impact of its schemes and to provide value for money. Since 2020 officers have secured over £40m in external match funding to deliver the projects set out within this report.

2.2 Legal

There are no direct legal implications arising from this report. As projects and plans come forward individual consideration of the legal implications of the plans and projects referred to in the report will be required.

2.3 Consultation/community engagement

2.3.1 Internal Consultation

The report is based on discussions with the Elected Mayor and Cabinet Members as well as detailed technical discussions across the Senior Leadership Team.

2.3.2 External Consultation/Engagement

As the Authority has begun to mobilise on many of the key projects contained in Our Ambition for North Tyneside, the Authority has undertaken numerous consultation events and have engaged with businesses and stakeholders to seek their views. This has included meeting with businesses at specific engagement events as well as meetings with the Chambers of Trade.

As proposals contained in Our Ambition for North Tyneside move towards delivery and where statutory processes are involved, for example Planning Applications, formal consultation will take place.

Future engagement will also build upon earlier consultation that has been undertaken which includes the Big Community Conversation; Budget Engagement and the engagement which supported the production of the North Tyneside Local Plan, Masterplans and Community Infrastructure Levy.

2.4 Human rights

There are no human rights implications arising from this report.

2.5 Equalities and diversity

Equality Impact Assessments (EIAs) will be carried out for each project where appropriate. This has seen the inclusion of a changing places facility within the transport hub, and the design of the walkway on the embankment has been designed to ensure easier access. EIAs are a key part of project planning as they assess the potential impact a project may have on people with protected characteristics and help to ensure the Authority's engagement activities are promoted appropriately and are accessible.

2.6 Risk management

Specific projects will have their own risk management arrangements in line with the agreed corporate approach.

2.7 Crime and disorder

Any crime and disorder implications and mitigation measures will be considered as part of the proposals for the individual schemes and projects set out in this report.

2.8 Environment and sustainability

The contents of the plan aim to support sustainable development and contribute to reducing carbon emissions and responding to the climate change emergency.

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