

# **North Tyneside Council**

## **Report to Cabinet**

### **Date: 21 September 2020**

#### **Title: An Ambition for North Tyneside - Update**

<b>Portfolio:</b> Regeneration	<b>Cabinet Member:</b> Councillor Bruce Pickard
<b>Responsible Officer:</b> John Sparkes, Head of Regeneration and Economic Development	<b>Tel:</b> 0191 643 6091
<b>Wards affected:</b> 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 Council's 'Ambition for North Tyneside' which was agreed by Cabinet on the 26<sup>th</sup> November 2018 as a framework for the regeneration of the borough in line with the Our North Tyneside Plan and the themes of 'our people', 'our place' and 'our economy'.

Since the annual update to Cabinet in November 2019, the Council has been undertaking a broad range of activities across the whole borough that impact positively upon "Our People, Our Places and Our Economy" and which will make a real difference. The Deputy Mayor and officers have been working closely with a range of partners that include the North of Tyne Combined Authority, the Local Enterprise Partnership, the National Heritage Lottery Fund, Historic England, businesses and landowners to deliver meaningful change and to unlock potential and opportunity. The progress set out in the report is the outcome of this detailed work that has been undertaken by the Deputy Mayor and officers over recent months.

This report explains what has been achieved to date as well as setting out the planned activities across the borough over the next 12 months and beyond. To support the ongoing delivery of those schemes are identified in 'Our Ambition for North Tyneside', through the Authority's budget setting process there is an allocation of £2m p.a. for the next five years. In addition to delivering schemes, this budget commitment will also act as match funding when seeking external funding through the North of Tyne Combined Authority, the North East Local Enterprise Partnership as well as from Central Government and the private sector.

##### **1.2 Recommendation(s):**

It is recommended that Cabinet:

- (1) note the progress made in delivering the overall plan since November 2018;

- (2) note the projects to be delivered in 2020/21 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 1st July 2020.

### **1.4 Council Plan and Policy Framework**

This report is directly concerned with the delivery of the entire Our North Tyneside Plan with direct benefits expected for Our People, Our Place and Our Economy.

### **1.5 Information:**

#### **1.5.1 Background**

##### **Scope and approach**

By way of 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 Our People, Our Place and Our Economy.

#### **1.5.3 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 18 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.**

#### **1.5.4 For the South West**

The South West has some fantastic assets; a World Heritage site at Segedunum, the industrial north bank of the Tyne, with world leading business (including the Swans site), a great leisure offer with Hadrian Leisure Centre, well used libraries and the refurbished Richardson Dees Parks and, for some parts of the community, some strong transport links.

The Authority continues to support business and residents to create more and better jobs. The Authority also continues to work with public transport providers and funders to help improve the connections of those parts of the area that do not have 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.

### **Current Activity:**

Swan Hunter Site: Following the Cabinet's decision in May 2018 to approach the market with a view to the sale or long leasehold of the former Swan Hunter site, the Authority is now nearing completion of the sale following the receipt of offers in October 2019. The proposals currently being considered will see the site brought back into beneficial economic use which meets the Authority's (and funders) objectives around job creation and economic growth. It is anticipated that the sale will be completed in the autumn of 2020. This will mark a major milestone in the renaissance of the river and will see further investment creating more and better jobs for our residents as well as valuable potential for business growth.

Centre for Innovation: The Authority has completed the second phase of the Centre for Innovation which opened in the summer of 2020 having experienced three months delay arising from the national shutdown in response to Covid-19. This has brought forward some 10,000 sq. ft of commercial floorspace for businesses and will build on the success of the first phase of the scheme which is occupied by a range of companies related to the offshore / energy sectors. There has been some market interest in the new office provision and marketing is underway to attract new tenants. The existing phase 1 offices are now over 80% occupied.

Segedunum: Work has been completed in articulating a new vision for Segedunum with Tyne and Wear Archives and Museums. Working with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor to develop a policy steer, specialist advice was procured from the nationally renowned Hemmingway Design which has given the Authority intelligence on the market and has identified potential opportunities to grow the visitor offer.

This is now being developed into a comprehensive 15 Year Master Plan and investment programme for the site which will underpin future business planning and will help grow the visitor offer making it a more sustainable entity. It will also integrate the site into the wider Wallsend offer and will capture benefits arising from the sale and redevelopment of the Swan Hunter site.

Charlotte Street Housing: In 2019 the Authority acquired 11 residential properties in Charlotte Street, Wallsend. The properties were in the ownership of a single landlord and were in a poor condition and poorly managed which was having a major impact on the residential amenity of the street and the quality of life for residents. Having secured the vacant possession of the properties and secured them, the Authority is currently refining plans for their refurbishment and conversion from flats to family housing.

Healthcare Facilities: The Authority continues to work with town centre land-owners (New River Retail) and healthcare providers to deliver new healthcare facilities in the heart of Wallsend Town Centre as part of the regeneration of the town centre. Discussions continue between the providers and landowners to refine a financially viable scheme which can be delivered. It is anticipated that legal agreements for the delivery of the scheme will be in place by the end of the year.

GM Memorial Hospital: Work continues with the current operator of the Civic hall to explore future opportunities for the wider site. A key element of this work is to ensure that

any proposals are aligned with the Authority's wider objectives for the site and to maximise the potential for securing external funding opportunities.

#### **The Buddle:**

Pre-renovation enabling works have now been completed to the building which represents the first phase of activity to bring the building back into beneficial economic use. This has included site set up and security, completion of condition and asbestos surveys, removal of dangerous roof timbers and partial roof repairs to prevent further ingress of water in advance of a full re-roof of the building. The transfer of the property to a private sector developer/operator is currently being progressed to facilitate the main phase of renovation work to bring the building back into use as serviced office accommodation and conferencing/events space.

#### **Next Steps 2020-2025:**

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.

Using the work from Hemingway Design, a Master Plan and supporting investment programme will now be produced and agreed. Investment will be targeted towards the repair and refurbishment of existing fabric of the buildings and site with a focus on the Bath House which has been closed for some time. Estimated cost of this project is circa £1m with match funding to be sought to maximise the impact of the scheme.

Swan Hunter Site: Following the sale of the site the Authority will work with the new owners to bring forward new employment opportunities. This will include working with regional and national funding partners to secure investment. Work will also be done to ensure there is integration between the Authority's 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.

GB Memorial Hospital: Demolition work will begin on the later extensions to the GB Hunter Memorial Hospital in 2020/21 with planning approval having been granted subject to conditions

Centurion Park: A revised planning application is expected. The Authority will continue to work with the private sector over the development of Centurion Park.

#### **When funding and timing allows:**

New Housing Opportunities: Plans for housing renewal will be developed and delivered improving the quality of place and providing a greater housing choice and opportunity for residents.

Town Centre Traffic Flows: as will a long-term plan to redesign traffic and transport flows around the town centre. The purpose of these will be to improve the pedestrian, cycle and vehicular movements within the town centre environment and create a better visitor experience and provide opportunity and support to local business. Valuable intelligence is being drawn from the temporary arrangements implemented earlier in the summer to support safe opening as part of the National Recovery Strategy.

#### **1.5.5 For the North West**

The North West is a great place to live and includes many of our historic mining settlements as well as Killingworth new town. The area has a broad range of housing and sees strong demand from families who want to live there. It has access to national infrastructure assets at the A1 and Newcastle Airport with a good leisure offer and a

significant portion of the Borough's open land and major development sites including Killingworth Moor which is identified in the 2017 Local Plan for 1500 new homes.

For the North West the Authority is trying to develop sustainable communities, supporting retail and bringing local centres to life while meeting housing need (particularly in and around the former mining communities). The Authority aims to grow the economy, seeing more and better jobs to which people are better connected. As well as delivering the Killingworth Master Plan in a way that promotes a richer living environment on human scale.

### **Current Activity**

Killingworth Lake: A major flood alleviation project has been delivered by the Authority and the Environment Agency by recontouring parts of the site and introducing new planting. This will help improve the visitor experience and make the drainage in the area more sustainable. The new surface water management arrangements have provided opportunities to further invest and broaden the offer of the park.

Forest Hall Shopping Centre: This well used local centre has been improved with investment into the public realm which was completed in April 2019. Working with the community and businesses, this scheme has transformed the appearance of the centre and has acted as a catalyst for further private sector investment into commercial properties.

Killingworth Young People's Club (the KYPC): A new 3G pitch has been developed which has improved the facility for its users. The KYPC is well used community asset and is home to some 20 teams ranging from toddlers to young adults. This has further supported our health and well being objectives and helps residents to lead healthy lives.

### Burradon 3G Pitch

Approved works to make improvements to the bowling green, grass pitches and artificial grass mini soccer pitch at Burradon Welfare are planned to begin soon.

Cycle and Bus Infrastructure: Work has also been completed to add a new bus lane and improve access for cyclists and pedestrians along Salters' Lane between Haddrick's Mill and West Moor. This was completed in October 2019 and is part of the wider Salters Lane A189 Improvement Works which was funded through a successful bid to the National Productivity Investment Fund.

Killingworth Moor Housing Site: Work continues to deliver on the Authority's plans for new housing in the borough. Officers continue to work with developers and land-owners to develop appropriate plans for the delivery of new housing and infrastructure at the Killingworth Moor site which will be in line with the approved Master Plan.

### **Next Steps 2020-2025:**

Killingworth Lake: Further investment is planned in Killingworth Lake. This will build on the investment in Flood Defences and will broaden and expand the visitor offer by further developing facilities and unlocking additional opportunities and activities. This should lead to increased use while preserving the ecology of the site and its landscape. Proposed investment will include a Multi-Use Games Area, a new café opportunity and a health and fitness trail. The estimated cost for investment into facilities at Killingworth Lake is £750K.

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, their original routes south to the river have been successfully developed into popular walking and cycling routes. The network was particularly valuable for safe exercise during the recent restrictions caused by COVID 19. It is proposed to develop the network over the next 5 years in three ways.

The first is navigation and connectivity. The creation of the network happened through a number of projects and funding bids. There is now a job to be done to 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 easier.

The second is surfacing and treatment. The Authority needs to ensure that the surfacing allows for participation by a wide variety of users, and in particular is accessible to people with disabilities.

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 project is being delivered. Again, working with users and communities, the Authority will agree those standards.

The third is animation. Clearly the Wagonways are a legacy of a rich history and work is planned to tell the story of the network and find ways to bring that to life for users. The Authority will work with users and communities to help interpretation of the heritage of the network. But the network is also a living resource. There are opportunities to increase engagement and awareness of the flora and fauna that surround the network as well as encouraging greater diversity. And there is 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. It is therefore planned to set aside £0.500m to begin the development work and to act as matched funding during the period.

#### **When funding and timing allows:**

Transport Infrastructure: The Authority will also seek to develop the transport network including continued lobbying for a Metro extension between North Tyneside and Newcastle Airport. The Authority will also work with partners for the delivery of the Northumberland / Tyne heavy rail link.

Indigo Park: The site remains a strategic employment site and is identified in the 2017 Local Plan for employment purposes. The site has its challenges in terms of securing a high voltage electricity supply and refining a scheme which meets market demand and is economically viable. The Authority will continue to work with partners to review funding opportunities to secure investment and refine proposals that are fundable and deliverable.

#### **1.5.6 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. For the North East and the surrounding communities, the Authority is investing in the environment and infrastructure to

encourage visitors to support the local economy. The Authority aims to build upon the success of the Spanish City regeneration and to create first-class coastal visitor offer for all of North Tyneside and the Region. This includes continued investment in our coastal infrastructure following our investment in the Central Lower Promenade and the southern portion of the Northern Promenade and Watts Slope WC's. The Authority aims to meet housing and transport demand in a sustainable way.

### **Current Activity:**

High Point Hotel: The development of the former High Point Hotel to create 14 high quality sea front town houses has been completed and has transformed the site which was previously occupied in part by a semi-derelict hotel. The scheme has had a major impact in improving the appearance of this part of the seafront and in improving perceptions of the area through its high-quality contemporary design. It has also brought new, high quality housing opportunities to the area for people seeking to live on the coast. The scheme is currently being marketed with some of the properties now occupied.

Empress Point Housing: The redevelopment of the former Avenue Pub has been completed transforming this prominent seafront location and building on the success of the Spanish City regeneration. The scheme, which has been delivered by the Authority's Trading Company, Aurora, has provided 12 high quality family homes. The scheme is currently being marketed with some of the properties now occupied.

St Mary's Island Causeway: The Authority has carried out remedial works to St. Mary's Island Causeway as part of initial steps to secure further investment into the island as part of the visitor offer.

Southern Promenade: A scheme has been refined to repair and strengthen the lower sea wall at Southern Promenade to maintain an effective sea defence. The work involves infilling a set of steps which are causing a weak spot in the structure along with other localised repairs to the wall. A construction contract has been agreed and is in place with works scheduled to commence over the summer.

### **Next Steps 2020-2025:**

Northern Promenade: Significant investment in the Central Lower Promenade and the first southern portion of the Northern Promenade have been a successful part of the regeneration of Whitley Bay. The public spaces have provided room for events and exercise for residents, visitors and businesses from across the Borough. It is proposed to complete the work on the Northern Promenade in three phases over the next five years.

Phase 1 – The Rendezvous Café. This phase constitutes an investment of just over £1m to renovate the building, including the associated toilets, car park and promenade space. It is planned to begin this work in the Autumn of 2020 and complete it in the Spring of 2021. The work aims to preserve the character of the café while improving the fabric of the building and the public toilets.

Phase 2 – Northern Promenade final surfacing work. This phase will complete the refurbishment of the promenade dealing with the original surface treatment and the remains of the former beach huts. Due to be delivered in 2021/22 and expected to costs £0.8m.

Phase 3 – Linking the path at Briar Dene to the St Mary’s Island Promenade upgrading the current informal path on the sea side of the Mini Golf Course. Due to be delivered in 2022/23 and expected to cost £0.2m.

#### **When funding and timing allows:**

Churchill Playing Fields: It is also proposed to further develop plans for sporting facilities at Churchill Playing fields. Building on recent investment in the surface of the running track, a long-term investment strategy for the site is being refined which will see it developed as a regional centre for sporting activities which further broadens the boroughs offer and attractiveness as a place to live, work and visit. Considerations include redesigning access to the site and a new pavilion to serve both the athletics and cricket area.

Murton Housing Site: Identified in the 2017 Local Plan as a strategic housing site, the Authority will continue to work with the development consortia to deliver the Murton Master Plan which was adopted by the Authority as a framework for the delivery of this major scheme. In addition to bringing forward 3000 new homes the development will include investment in new transport infrastructure including a new link road, Metro Station as well as new schools.

Metro Extension to Cobalt Business Park: The Authority will also seek to further develop the transport network including continued lobbying for a Metro extension in the Cobalt corridor and the potential for a rail station at Northumberland Park as part of Northumberland / Tyne Railway proposals.

St Mary’s Island: Options and funding are being sought to manage and appropriately develop St Mary’s Island. This will see investment into the fabric of the lighthouse and the associated buildings and structures as well as the potential for private sector investment on the landward side to provide a higher quality visitor food and beverage offer with associated WCs. This approach will preserve and enhance the historic lighthouse and will also seek to protect the ecology of the island and the area surrounding the car park to the north.

Whitley Bay Town Centre Traffic Flows: In line with the National Recovery Strategy, proposals have been implemented in Whitley Bay as part of the Emergency Active Travel Fund. In the longer terms there are plans to redesign traffic and transport flows in and around Whitley Bay town centre. The purpose of these will be to improve the pedestrian, cycle and vehicular movements within the town centre environment and create a better visitor experience and provide opportunity and support to local business.

#### **1.5.7 For the South East**

The South East area contains North Shields Town Centre and Fish Quay and together with the surrounding communities contain some significant assets that contribute 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 the longstanding fishing activity which is based at Cullercoats Harbour. It contains the major Port of Tyne site, the north side of the Tyne Tunnels and a major site for Northumbrian Water as well as 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.

For the South East and its surrounding area the Authority is working towards raising the quality of the built environment. It is also working towards regenerating North Shields

Town Centre and connecting it to a vibrant quayside that is home to the fishing industry as well as numerous pubs and restaurants. The Authority wants to tackle working poverty, improve the life chances of our residents and address issues of poor quality private rented housing as part of the work to close the gap. The Authority wants to work in partnership to deliver the proposals contained in the emerging North Shields and Fish Quay Master Plan.

### **Current Activity:**

Cullercoats Bay Works have recently been completed to the toilet facilities within Cullercoats Bay. Funded through the 19/20 and 20/21 Asset Planned Maintenance Programmes this has allowed for essential structural works, internal refurbishment and external redecoration works. The project was fully completed on 19 August 2020 and arrangements will now be put in place to work with the Service to re-open that facilities to the general public.

13-16 Northumberland Square: The Authority is investing in the heart of the town centre with the restoration of the historic Grade 2 listed Georgian terrace at Northumberland Square further enhancing the character of the Conservation Area. This scheme will see 28 new family homes developed which will create a new residential quarter in the town centre which, in addition to providing a unique housing offer, will also drive footfall into the town centre helping to support local shops and services as part of the Authority's plans to diversify and broaden the town centre offer. The scheme will be completed by Autumn 2020 with works to the recently acquired adjacent building continuing into 2021 (see below).

11-12 Northumberland Square: In addition, the Authority has recently acquired the adjacent properties (11-12 Northumberland Square) which were in private ownership and very poor condition. These listed properties will now be refurbished and converted into residential apartments to complement the rest of the scheme.

Wallington Court Housing: In addition to the schemes at Empress Point and the former High Point Hotel, a further 12 new homes have also been delivered by the Authority's Trading Company on the site of the former care home at Wallington Court located within the Marden Estate. These well designed and attractive bungalows have provided a first-class housing offer and greater choice for people wishing to live in the area.

Unicorn House: Unicorn House was purchased by the Council in May 2020. Given the design of the building and the limited contribution it makes to the townscape of North Shields, it was considered that the best outcome would be for the public sector to intervene and redevelop the site to a high standard. Options are currently being prepared to bring forward a scheme and IDP architects have been commissioned to produce options for an innovative development which reflects the Authority's policy objectives around placemaking and design quality. Tenders have also been received for the demolition of the site which includes the removal of asbestos.

North Shields Heritage Action Zone: The Authority has also been successful in attracting Heritage Action Zone funding for improvements to Howard Street Conservation Area. This will see significant investment into the fabric of the Conservation Area including both buildings and public realm. This will improve the character and appearance of the Conservation Area and will build upon the investment at Northumberland Square. It will also provide new commercial opportunities for some of the buildings on Howard Street which could be repurposed toward high quality food and beverage / leisure uses and which would take advantage of this unique location. The first meeting of the Heritage

Action Zone Steering Group was held in July 2020 and applications have been prepared for funding support in relation to 11/12 Northumberland Square

North Shields Master Plan: Following the award of £200k Funding from the North of Tyne Combined Authority, work has been progressed over 2019/20 to develop a Master Plan for North Shields Town Centre and Fish Quay. Like many town centres, North Shields has suffered from the decline of town centre retailing which is a consequence of structural changes at a national level in the retailing and leisure industries. The purpose of the Master Plan is to set out a vision for the town centre which reflects the Authority's policy objectives to broaden and diversify the visitor offer and to create a sustainable future for the town centre with improved links to the Fish Quay.

An initial draft of the Master Plan was presented to Cabinet on 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2020. This sets out a vision for the town centre and comprises a series of projects which, collectively, will transform the town centre and create opportunities for new commercial and residential developments as well as investment in the public transport infrastructure and public realm.

In addition to the heritage based projects referred to above, the Master Plan proposes improvements to key gateways into the town centre, a proposed new bus station integrated with the existing Metro Station as well as other improvements to the highway network and public realm to improve the appearance of the town centre and enhance the visitor experience. Other interventions will see new housing identified for the former Tyne Brand Site and Unicorn House which was acquired by the Authority in 2020.

For reference, the schemes contained in the Master Plan include:

1. Town Centre Gateway Improvements
2. Transport Hub and Bus Interchange
3. New Town Square
4. Bedford Street / Saville Street Public Realm Improvements
5. Northumberland Square Improvements
6. Howard Street Cultural Quarter
7. Riverside Embankment Walkway
8. Housing Sites
  - Tyne Brand
  - Unicorn House
9. Relocation of North Shields Ferry

The Master Plan is subject to ongoing public engagement and consultation which will provide the Authority with an insight to views of residents and businesses alike and which will inform the final draft version of the document. Once finalised, it is proposed to formally adopt the plan as Supplementary Planning Guidance

The Authority has also been successful in securing funding through the Transforming Cities Fund which is for major transport infrastructure projects. The Authority's proposals are for a new integrated transport facility within North Shields Town Centre which will link bus and Metro services and provide a better customer experience. The Authority's bid also includes highway improvements within North Shields Town Centre as well as proposals for a walkway from the town centre to the Fish Quay to improve pedestrian connectivity.

The Tyne Brand Site: 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. In broadening the housing offer at this stunning and unique location, the redevelopment of the site will address the issues of dereliction that blight the site and its surrounds. Moreover, it will open up new opportunities on Tanners Bank and Brew House Bank which will further improve the quality of place.

Tanners Bank Bridge: The Authority have also received confirmation of £3.6m funding for Tanners Bank Bridge in June 2020 and work is currently underway to refine a delivery strategy for this scheme. This includes a contribution of £300K from Nexus as well as match from the Authority of £103K from the Local Transport Plan.

North Shields Ferry Landing: Identified in the emerging Master Plan, 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 which is included in the Master Plan. Having a link into the heart of the Fish Quay will improve accessibility and drive footfall. The proposals will include bus turning facilities to ensure there is public transport connectivity with the town centre and beyond. Nexus are currently refining their plans and are seeking funding to deliver this from the Getting Building Again Fund.

Wooden Dolly: The statue was removed from Northumberland Square earlier in the year and is currently being restored by Robert Thomson and Sons in Yorkshire who were the original sculptors. These works were completed in August (having been delayed due to Covid-19) and the statue was returned to the Square for a final 'shift' with a view to retiring it in due course to an indoor location in the longer terms. Options for a replacement to be located in Northumberland Square will be considered as part of the wider renovation works to the Square.

### **Next Steps 2020-2025:**

North Shields Town Centre and Fish Quay: It is proposed that North Shields Town Centre is identified as a priority for investment. As projects contained within the Master Plan are refined, it is proposed that Authority funding is targeted towards the delivery of schemes identified in the Master Plan and is used as match funding in order to attract significant additional funding from Central Government, the North East LEP and the North of Tyne Combined Authority. Existing commitments for the funding include the Council's contribution towards the Heritage Action Zone which is circa £1m.

Subject to the Master Plan being agreed by Cabinet following public consultation over the Summer, we will then be able to refine delivery strategies for the projects contained in the Master Plan.

### **When funding and timing allows:**

North Shields Town Centre: The Authority will further develop plans to implement the projects contained in the emerging North Shields and Fish Quay Master Plan. The Authority will also continue to support both the working quay and the Fish Quay as a food and drink destination. In addition to the projects listed, the Authority will also seek to tackle poor quality private rented accommodation and improve the choice of housing in terms of type and tenure.

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 Coronavirus pandemic 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.

### **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 the businesses and shoppers that make the town centres, the visitors, residents and businesses that bring to life the attractions at the coast and our residents and visitors that fill our parks and wagonways with activity.

Just as this programme is designed to be for all of North Tyneside it is designed for all of 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. For example, the development of the hotel and restaurant at The Spanish City was done in partnership to create a Work Academy that allowed residents who had limited experience of work to undergo training and then have a guaranteed interview. The proposals at Swan Hunters have at their heart, the delivery of new jobs on that sight.

Later this year, Cabinet will be asked to consider its strategy for an inclusive economy; making sure that everyone in North Tyneside has access to good education, good jobs, safe spaces and good quality housing. Cabinet will consider how best to deliver the agreed Digital Strategy which seeks to ensure residents have the right digital skills for work and play and that businesses have the right skills and connectivity to take advantage of a changed world.

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

### **Proposed Funding Breakdown**

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

<b>Scheme</b>	<b>Council Funding from Our Ambition / Budget (£2m per year for five years)</b>	<b>External Funding</b>
North West – Killingworth Lake	£0.75m	To be confirmed
North West – Wagonways	£0.50m	To be confirmed
South West – Segedunum	£1.00m	To be confirmed
North East – Northern Promenade	£0.35m	£0.67m
Churchill Playing Fields	TBC	TBC
South East – North Shields Heritage Action Zone	£1.00m	£0.90m Heritage and £0.10m private sector

South East – North Shields Town Centre	£TBC	<p>£19.1m Transforming Cities Fund for investment in new bus infrastructure, gateways and pedestrian routes between the town centre and Fish Quay</p> <p>£3.6m DfT funding for improvements to Tanners bank Bridge with £0.3m contribution from Nexus</p> <p>Bids are also pending for: £3.5m Getting Building Again Fund (MHCLG via LEP) for investment in the town centre public realm, with £1.00m match from Heritage Action Zone and £0.6m for the North East LEP.</p> <p>£5.8m Getting Building Again Fund (MHCLG via LEP) for investment in a new Ferry landing, with £3.1m contribution from Nexus</p>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£3.6m</b>	<b>£39.00m</b>

Subject to Cabinet agreeing the proposed list of Tranche 1 projects, further work will be undertaken to refine a delivery programme and to profile the spend for each project across the five year period.

#### 1.5.8 How the plan will be managed

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. Investment projects are overseen by the Investment Programme Board, which is chaired by the Cabinet Member for Finance and includes the Deputy Mayor. Specific project and working groups will be established to handle more significant projects with appropriate Elected Member and Chief Officer leadership.

#### 1.5.9 Next steps

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

- Further 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.

**1.6 Decision options:**

There is no decision to be made 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 the report is for information purposes only

**Contact officers:**

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

**1.8 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 2018-2021

(2) State of the Area 2018

(3) Cabinet report 26<sup>th</sup> November 2018 'An Ambition for North Tyneside'

(4) Cabinet report 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 'An Ambition for North Shields'

(5) Cabinet Report November 2019 ' An ambition for North Tyneside' mid year update

(6) An Ambition For North Tyneside – Regeneration Strategy: Delivery by Area

**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 budget identifies a 5 year, £10m investment pot to deliver the projects contained in Our Ambition for North Tyneside. This will support the specific projects identified in this report but, crucially, will be available as matched funding to take advantage of emerging public and private finance opportunities.

As projects are further developed and refined, we will continue to identify sources of match funding from national and regional funding bodies in order to deliver on our promises and to maximise the impact of our schemes and to provide value for money.

**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 these plans and projects 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 a 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, Master Plans 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 will be carried out for each project where appropriate. This is a key part of project planning as it assesses the potential impact a project may have on people with protected characteristics.

### **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 our climate change emergency.

## **PART 3 - SIGN OFF**

- Chief Executive
- Head(s) of Service
- Mayor/Cabinet Member(s)
- Chief Finance Officer
- Monitoring Officer
- Head of Corporate Strategy and Customer Service