

# North Tyneside Council

## Report to Cabinet

### Date: 1 August 2022

#### Title: Cabinet Response to Economic Prosperity Sub-Committee Report on Green Skills for Retrofit Jobs

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<b>Portfolio(s):</b> Deputy Mayor Cabinet Member responsible for Inclusion, Employment and Skills Cabinet Member responsible for Environment	<b>Cabinet Member(s):</b> Councillor Carl Johnson Councillor Hannah Johnson Councillor Sandra Graham
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**Report from Service**

**Area:** Regeneration, Economic Development

**Responsible Officer:** John Sparkes, Director of Regeneration and Economic Development    **Tel:** (0191)643 6091

**Wards affected:** All

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## **PART 1**

### **1.1 Executive Summary:**

This report sets out a proposed Cabinet response to the recommendations identified in the Green Skills for Retrofit Jobs report, produced by the Green Skills Sub-Group which was appointed by the Economic Prosperity Sub-Committee of the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee and presented to Cabinet on 23 May 2022.

The details of the proposed responses are set out in the Appendix to this report.

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

It is recommended that Cabinet agrees the proposed response to the recommendations of the Economic Prosperity Sub-Committee's Green Skills Sub-Group report on Green Skills for Retrofit Jobs, as set out in the Appendix to this report.

### **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 29 April 2022.

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

The report relates to the following priorities contained in the 2021/2025 Our North Tyneside Plan:

### A thriving North Tyneside

- We will bring more good quality jobs to North Tyneside – by helping local businesses to grow and making it attractive for new businesses to set up or relocate in the Borough
- We will invest in adult education and support apprenticeships to make sure people have the right skills for the job

### A green North Tyneside

- We will secure funding to help low-income households to install low-carbon heating
- We will publish an action plan of the steps we will take and the national investment we will seek to make North Tyneside Carbon Net-Zero by 2030

## **1.5 Information:**

- 1.5.1 In determining its work programme for 2021/22 the Economic Prosperity Sub-Committee agreed to appoint a Sub-Group to examine the Authority's approach to adapting to a green industrial revolution and ensuring people have the right skills for the future green jobs.
- 1.5.2 The Sub-Committee subsequently appointed the Green Skills Sub-Group, drawn from members of the Economic Prosperity Sub-Committee, Environment Sub-Committee and Children, Education and Skills Sub-Committee, to:
- a) consider the steps required to ensure residential, public, commercial and industrial buildings in the Borough have the lowest possible carbon emissions to support the Authority's 2030 Carbon Net-Zero ambition;
  - b) analyse the skills, qualifications, and accreditations that will need to be gained by the local workforce so that:
    - i. they are equipped to deliver energy efficient buildings;
    - ii. the need for imported skills is avoided; and
    - iii. the Borough benefits from the low carbon economic growth;
  - c) identify sources of funding that could be accessed for skills and training from a variety of sources to support the local economy; and
  - d) make recommendations to the Elected Mayor and Cabinet on how the Authority and its partners might stimulate the local training market so that the required skills, qualifications and accreditations can be taught to our residents by North Tyneside based providers.
- 1.5.3 The Green Skills Sub-Group held a series of evidence gathering meetings with officers and key stakeholders during January and February 2022 and also had regard to a wealth of policy documents and research papers which have been published in relation to decarbonising the built environment and the skills and jobs that will be required to deliver it.
- 1.5.4 Cabinet received the report of the Economic Prosperity Sub-Committee's Green Skills Sub-Group on Green Skills for Retrofit Jobs on 23 May 2022 which set out a series of recommendations for Cabinet to consider.

- 1.5.5 The 10 recommendations in the report are extensive and complex. At its meeting on 27 June 2022, Cabinet agreed to receive a further report and to provide a response to the recommendations on 1 August 2022 thus allowing additional time for the recommendations to be fully considered by Cabinet and appropriate officers.
- 1.5.6 A copy of the recommendations and the proposed response to each is set out in the Appendix to this report.

## **1.6 Decision options:**

The following decision options are available for consideration by Cabinet:

### Option 1

Cabinet agrees the response to the recommendations as set out in paragraph 1.2 of this report.

### Option 2

Cabinet does not agree the response to the recommendations set out in paragraph 1.2 of this report and provides an alternative response to the report at the meeting.

## **1.7 Reasons for recommended option:**

Option 1 is recommended for the following reasons:

The proposed response is a proportionate and considered response to the recommendations made in the Economic Prosperity Sub-Committee's Green Skills Sub-Group report.

## **1.8 Appendices:**

Appendix 1 – Cabinet response to the recommendations of the Economic Prosperity Sub-Committee's Green Skills Sub-Group report.

## **1.9 Contact officers:**

Paul Nelson, Head of Environmental Sustainability, Tel: 643 6467  
Paul Dowling, Head of Regeneration & Transport Service Manager, Tel: 643 6428  
Sean Collier, Senior Manager, Business & Enterprise, Tel: 643 6091  
Mark Barrett, Senior Manager, Employment & Skills, Tel: 643 6061  
David Dunford, Senior Business Partner, Strategic Finance, Tel: 643 7027

## **1.10 Background information:**

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

- 1) [Green Skills for Retrofit Jobs Report](#)

## **PART 2 – COMPLIANCE WITH PRINCIPLES OF DECISION MAKING**

### **2.1 Finance and other resources**

The financing of recommendations within the Economic Prosperity Sub-Committee's Green Skills Sub-Group report can be met within existing budgets and through the work ongoing with North of Tyne Combined Authority as set out in the proposed response to the recommendations. Any investment required in addition to existing budgets will be reported to Cabinet / Council.

### **2.2 Legal**

Cabinet is required to respond to the recommendations made by the Economic Prosperity Sub-Committee on behalf of the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 2000.

### **2.3 Consultation/community engagement**

#### **2.3.1 Internal Consultation**

The Green Skills Sub-Group met with those officers listed in the Green Skills for Retrofit Jobs report.

Officers have consulted with the Deputy Mayor, Cabinet Member for Inclusion, Employment and Skills, and Cabinet Member for Environment in developing the proposed response to the recommendations.

#### **2.3.2 External Consultation/Engagement**

The Green Skills Sub-Group met with a range of key stakeholders from outside of the Council, listed in the Green Skills for Retrofit Jobs report.

### **2.4 Human rights**

There are no direct human rights implications arising from this report.

### **2.5 Equalities and diversity**

There are no direct equality and diversity implications arising from this report.

### **2.6 Risk management**

There are no direct risk management implications arising from this report.

### **2.7 Crime and disorder**

There are no direct crime and disorder implications arising from this report.

### **2.8 Environment and sustainability**

The report is directly related to full Council's decision to declare a Climate Emergency and to publish an action plan of the steps it will take and the national investment it will

seek to make North Tyneside Carbon Net-Zero by 2030. The recommendations will support delivery of a range of energy and carbon reduction projects.

### **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