

**DECISIONS TAKEN BY CABINET SINCE LAST OSC MEETING AND FORTHCOMING  
CABINET DECISIONS  
MAY TO SEPTEMBER 2023**

DECISION	CABINET DATE/DECISION
<b>Cabinet Papers – 9 May</b>	<a href="https://northumberland.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=140&amp;Mid=2016">https://northumberland.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=140&amp;Mid=2016</a>
<b>Corporate Plan</b>	<p>9 May 2023:</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> that Cabinet:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) recommend to Full Council the new Corporate Plan 2023-26 for adoption at its meeting of 17th May.</li> <li>(2) note the proposal to Full Council to receive and consider an annual Corporate Plan Achievements Report at Full Council in March each year.</li> <li>(3) note the proposal to Full Council to receive and consider an annual Corporate Plan Performance Report at Full Council at the conclusion of Quarter four of the performance cycle.</li> </ol>
<b>North East Bus Service Improvement Plan</b>	<p>9 May 2023:</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> that Cabinet:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) note the decision of the North East Combined Authority and the North of Tyne Combined Authority, acting together through the <b>North East</b> Joint Transport Committee to make an Enhanced Bus Partnership for the region;</li> <li>(2) delegate authority to the Executive Director for Regeneration, in consultation with the Executive Director of Finance (Section 151 officer), to accept the funding for bus service improvements, once confirmed, from Transport North East; and</li> <li>(3) authorise the creation of a Northumberland Local Bus Board as set out in Appendix 2.</li> </ol>
<b>Financial Performance 2022-23 – Position at the end of February 2023 (Provisional Outturn 2022-23)</b>	<p>9 May 2023:</p> <p>To be considered by the Corporate Services and Economic Growth OSC on 26 June 2023.</p>
<b>Outcomes of the Consultation on Proposals for the Berwick Partnership</b>	<p>9 May 2023:</p> <p>To see the full decision follow this link:</p>

	<a href="https://northumberland.moderngov.co.uk/mgAi.aspx?ID=7550">https://northumberland.moderngov.co.uk/mgAi.aspx?ID=7550</a>
<b>Public Report from the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman (LGSCO)</b>	<p><b>9 May 2023:</b></p> <p>To see the full decision follow this link:</p> <p><a href="https://northumberland.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=140&amp;MId=2016">https://northumberland.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=140&amp;MId=2016</a></p>
<b>Energising Blyth Programme: Culture Hub and Market Place Outline Business Case</b>	<p><b>9 May 2023:</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> that Cabinet</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) approve the Outline Business Case (OBC) summarised in this report for the Culture Hub and Market Place project to enable progression to Full Business Case</li> <li>(2) approve a total revised budget in the Capital Programme of £14,705,732. There is a current budget in the Capital Programme of £12,536,685 this report requests approval of £2,169,047 drawn from existing Council funds allocated to the Energising Blyth Programme. The project was funded by HM government Future High Streets Fund and the Council as set out in Financial Tables 3-5</li> <li>(3) note that Jam Jar Cinema Community Interest Company (CIC) will be formally appointed as the main operator of the Culture Hub and that an operator for the Creative Play concession within the facility will be appointed in due course subject to Cabinet approval of the recommendations in this report</li> <li>(4) delegate authority, in accordance with the Energising Blyth Local Assurance Framework, to the Council's s151 Officer following consideration by the Energising Blyth Programme Board to approve the Full Business Case and report any subsequent capital implications to Cabinet (via the Capital Strategy Group) for inclusion in the Capital Programme</li> <li>(5) delegate approvals to the Executive Director for Place and Regeneration to enter into any contracts relating to the project subject to confirmation of associated funding being in place and the appropriate procurement processes being followed.</li> </ol>
<b>The Future of the Berwick Museum and Art Collections</b>	<p><b>9 May 2023:</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> that Cabinet approve the retention of the Berwick Museum and art collections as part of The Living Barracks initiative, subject to further discussions with relevant partners on the issues set out at paragraph 47 of the report.</p>
<b>The Market Sustainability and Improvement Fund</b>	<p><b>9 May 2023:</b></p>

<p><b>2023/24</b></p>	<p><b>RESOLVED</b> that Cabinet:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) approve the proposed uses of the Market Sustainability and Improvement Fund (MSIF) in 2023/24 set out in this report, and the resulting commitments in subsequent years, which it is anticipated can be funded through the increased MSIF grant in 2024/25 and will be covered in later years either by continuation of this grant or by consolidation of the funding into the general local government financial settlement;</li> <li>(2) authorise the Executive Director – Adults, Ageing and Well-Being, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Adult Well-being, to make detailed decisions about the allocation of this grant, within the broad framework set out in this report, taking account of further consultations with care providers and any other relevant information which becomes available.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Cabinet Papers – 13 June</b></p>	<p><a href="https://northumberland.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=140&amp;MId=2247">https://northumberland.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=140&amp;MId=2247</a></p>
<p><b>Ashington Regeneration Programme Establishment – Strategic Sites Acquisition</b></p> <p>To update Cabinet regarding the establishment, development and delivery of the £30m Ashington Regeneration Programme, which will have a catalytic impact on the town’s economy and drive forward the implementation of the Ashington Town Investment Plan.</p> <p>W. Ploszaj/J. Rose - 07500 097568/ K. Donaldson -07966 324034</p>	<p>13 June 2023:</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Cabinet endorse the Ashington Investment Plan as the overarching strategy that will provide the context, vision and aspirations for delivery of the phased Ashington Regeneration Programme; and</li> <li>(b) Cabinet agree the establishment of the Ashington Regeneration Programme with two initial phases associated with the Ashington High Street Innovation Programme (HSIP) and Town Centre Renewal of Strategic Sites Programme;</li> <li>(c) Cabinet approve the associated financial profiles as set out in Appendix 1 whilst: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• endorsing the bid submitted to extend the HSIP Programme with a funding ask of £576,898 and acceptance of this additional funding into the Medium Term Financial Plan, if successful</li> <li>• approving an initial allocation of £1,000,000 in the Medium Term Financial Plan to be fully funded by the Government to develop plans for Wansbeck Square Strategic Site</li> <li>• approving an initial grant allocation of £600,000 in the Medium Term Financial Plan to be fully funded by the Government to develop plans for Portland Park Strategic Site</li> <li>• authorising the Executive Director for Place and Regeneration to enter into contracts up to the value of £1.6m for the development of the strategic sites and delivery of public realm capital works, subject to confirmation of associated funding being in place and the</li> </ul> </li> </ol>

	<p>appropriate procurement processes being followed;</p> <p>(d) authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Place and Regeneration, in consultation with the s151 Officer, to purchase the Woodhorn Road site, at a value up to a maximum of £210,000 from funding already allocated in the Medium Term Financial Plan;</p> <p>(e) Cabinet approve the acquisition of the Wansbeck Square site, and delegate authority to the Executive Director for Place and Regeneration, in consultation with the S151 Officer, to acquire the Wansbeck Square site at a value up to a maximum of £1,365,000 with funding from the Strategic Regeneration Projects budget within the Capital Programme; and</p> <p>(f) Cabinet agree the associated programme management and assurance arrangements to support the programme's delivery as set out in the report.</p>
<p><b>Enhanced Pothole Repair Pilot</b></p> <p>Improving the condition of the highway network is a key corporate priority for the Council. This report outlines the current arrangements associated with fixing individual potholes and sets out the basis for a 3-month pilot scheme to trial the use of a different maintenance approach using a 'first-time' patch repair in two areas of the county for a proportion of actionable carriageway pothole defects, in order to quantify the costs and benefits associated with this alternative approach to one of the main revenue funded highway maintenance activities undertaken by the Council.</p> <p>J. Riddle/P. Jones - 0771 771 4523</p>	<p>13 June 2023:</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> that:</p> <p>(a) Cabinet approve the commencement of a 3-month 'invest to save' trial of first time patch repair of a proportion of actionable carriageway pothole defects in the North and Tynedale Local Area Committee areas of the County, and</p> <p>(b) Cabinet approve the allocation of £492,600 in revenue funds from the severe weather reserve to fund the pilot scheme.</p>
<p><b>Potential Loan to Northumberland Community Bank</b></p> <p>The Report requests members to approve the potential loan facility to Northumberland Community Bank of up to £50,000 towards its capital</p>	<p>13 June 2023:</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> that Cabinet approve a loan facility of £50,000 to Northumberland Community Bank subject to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NCB agreeing to the proposed terms and conditions;</li> <li>• NCC's Legal Team completing a legal agreement with NCB in advance of any loan drawdown by NCB, containing the terms and conditions set out within this report; and</li> </ul>

<p>reserve to maintain its Capital:Asset ratio in line with FCA Regulations.</p> <p>R. Wearmouth/J. Willis - 01670 623424</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Subsidy Control implications being investigated and satisfied.</li> </ul>
<p><b>UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) Update and Northumberland Delivery</b></p> <p>To provide an update on the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) programme and the UKSPF funded projects secured by Northumberland County Council to support levelling-up activity across the County.</p> <p>W. Ploszaj/S. McMillan – 07814298052</p>	<p>13 June 2023:</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Cabinet endorse the progress and content of the UKSPF Investment and Delivery Plans for the North of Tyne Area;</li> <li>(b) Cabinet welcome and endorse the Northumberland County Council-led UKSPF funded projects, described in this report and summarised in table 1, which secures over £7.085m to deliver a range of levelling-up activities and support for Northumberland’s businesses and residents over 2022 – 2025; and</li> <li>(c) Cabinet endorse the Inclusive Economy Community Partnership project, which, working with the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS), will build capacity and deliver activities in support of the inclusive economy, focused in our most deprived communities and, if successful, accept £0.4m capital and 1.15m revenue funding into the Medium-Term Financial Plan.</li> </ul>

## FORTHCOMING CABINET DECISIONS

<p><b>Asset Management Framework</b> The report presents for information and approval the new Asset Management Framework which includes a new Asset Management Policy and Asset Management Strategy for 2023/2026.</p> <p>R. Wearmouth/S. Neilson - 01670 620292</p>	11 July 2023
<p><b>District Heating Update and Partnership Procurement</b> The report provides an update on the progress made regarding the District Heating studies completed across eight towns in the county, namely: Alnwick, Ashington, Berwick, Blyth, Cramlington, Hexham, Morpeth and Prudhoe. It also summarises the feedback received on proposed options for delivery models for the schemes, identifies the preferred model for delivery and seeks approval from Cabinet to proceed with the next phase of activity, which involves a series of procurement exercises to firstly secure specialist legal and commercial advisors and then to progress the procurement of a Heat Provider.</p> <p>Leader/P. Jones -0771 771 4523</p>	11 July 2023
<p><b>Energising Blyth: Levelling Up Deep Dive</b> This report seeks Cabinet’s formal agreement to accept the Levelling Up Deep Dive funding award from UK Government to support the delivery of new projects as part of the Energising Blyth programme.</p> <p>W. Ploszaj/R. Strettle – 07770642773</p>	11 July 2023
<p><b>Environmental Enforcement Fixed Penalty Notice &amp; Penalty Notice Policy 2023</b> To consider, agree and adopt the reviewed and updated FPN policy including new offences and new fine levels for existing offences.</p> <p>G. Stewart/J. Robertson 07833237082</p>	11 July 2023
<p><b>Financial Performance 2022-23 – Final Outturn (subject to audit)</b> The report will provide Cabinet with the revenue and capital final outturn position against budget for 2022-23 (subject to audit).</p> <p>R. Wearmouth/ K. Harvey 01670 624783</p>	11 July 2023
<p><b>Integrated Drug and Alcohol Service Contract</b> To seek permission from Cabinet to award the contract of Integrated Drug and Alcohol Service in Northumberland. This service will be commissioned using the public health ring fenced grant. The grant conditions state that Local Authorities must provide drug and alcohol services for its population. The contract is for four years</p> <p>W. Pattison/J. Liddell - 07929 775559</p>	11 July 2023
<p><b>Northumberland Stewardship and Rural Growth Investment Programme – Nature Recovery Response</b></p>	11 July 2023

<p>As well as being a statutory requirement, the development of an ambitious North of Tyne Local Nature Recovery Strategy will support important elements of the Stewardship and Rural Growth Investment Plan, specifically Strategic Investment Programme 1: Decarbonisation, Biodiversity and Resilience, and will also support the Local Investment in Natural Capital Programme that Northumberland and four other local authorities are piloting for DEFRA. This report will propose governance arrangements for the North of Tyne Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS). It will also propose that Northumberland County Council joins other local authorities in declaring an ecological emergency to coincide with the commencement of work on the LNRS. This will create a framework for the Council's work on nature recovery and will also be a public statement of intent, acknowledging the widespread and growing concern about the state of nature in the UK.</p> <p>C. Horncastle/D. Feige - 0777 429 5253</p>	
<p><b>Outcomes of Statutory Consultation regarding School Reorganisation in the Berwick Partnership</b></p> <p>This report sets out an analysis of the representations and responses received from interested parties and stakeholders during the four-week statutory consultation, which commenced on 11 May and closed on 8 June 2023, in relation to proposals for schools in the Berwick Partnership. Cabinet is asked to make a final decision on whether or not to approve the proposals, including school closures, set out in the statutory proposal. At the same time, Cabinet is requested to make a final decision on whether or not to approve the non-statutory proposals relating to the voluntary schools within the Berwick Partnership as set out in the Report of the Executive Director of Adult Social Care and Children's Services, Berwick Partnership Organisation – 9th May 2023. In making its final decision, Cabinet are advised to consider the decision of the DfE's Regional Director of Education for the North East with respect to proposed changes to St Cuthbert's Catholic First School and Berwick Academy.</p> <p>G. Renner Thompson/S. Aviston - (01670) 622281</p>	<p>20 July 2023 FACS 18 July 2023</p>
<p><b>Leisure Programme Update</b> To update Cabinet with progress on the Leisure programme</p> <p>J. Watson/M. Donnelly 07517 553463</p>	<p>12 December 2023</p>
<p><b>Leisure Programme Update</b> To update Cabinet with progress on the Leisure programme</p> <p>J. Watson/M. Donnelly 07517 553463</p>	<p>9 April 2024</p>