



Northumberland
County Council

Regeneration Update

Corporate Services & Economic Growth
Overview and Scrutiny Committee
25 September 2023

www.northumberland.gov.uk

Broad Role

- Support the delivery of the Corporate Plan's three key priorities, by
- Making the case for external funding investment in the county that meets the economic growth and regeneration needs and opportunities of communities and businesses across the county; influencing regional policy, programmes and investment plans
- Managing the progressive development and implementation of the subsequent and extensive pipeline of secured regeneration, culture and growth projects and programmes
- Providing the Council's accountable body role for externally funded projects and programmes to manage performance and ensure compliance

Areas of investment & activity

- Town & community regeneration
- Cultural investment
- Rural stewardship and growth
- Economic growth
- Strategic sites

Town & Community Regeneration

- Energising Blyth Programme
 - Capital investment in 11 significant projects funded by Towns Fund and Future High Street Fund:
 - Phase 1 projects successfully underway
- Ashington Investment Plan
 - High Street Innovation Programme funded by North of Tyne Combined Authority and DLUHC Regeneration funding
- Borderlands Place Programme
 - Development of Town Investment Plans – Alnwick, Bedlington, Newbiggin, Bellingham, Haltwhistle,, Prudhoe, and Rothbury
- Hexham High Street Heritage Action Zone
 - Heritage-led regeneration initiative sponsored by Historic England

Town & Community Regeneration

- Maintain strategic relationship with Town and Parish Councils
- Community Chest
 - Annual call by Local Area Councils for community-based projects
- Community Assets
 - Right to Bid
 - Community Asset Transfer
- External Funding Advisory Service
 - Access to funding advice tools and information

Culture led-regeneration & investment

- Development of new cultural attractions
 - The Maltings and the Barracks complex in Berwick
 - Ad Gefrin Distillery and Visitor Centre
 - Lilidorei at Alnwick Garden
 - Blyth Cultural Hub
- Hadrian's Wall Investment Programme
 - Unlocking the economic potential of this iconic World Heritage Site
- Destination Tweed
 - Creating a new long-distance recreational route along the Tweed
- Independent Review of Cultural Investment Portfolio
- Culture and Creative Zone - Berwick

Rural Stewardship and Growth

- Rural Stewardship and Investment Plan
- Northumberland Small Business Service (NSBS)
 - Supporting small and micro businesses with growth potential and / or growth ambition to implement business growth plans in rural areas
 - Enterprise support offer for all eligible businesses / individuals in the County.
- Rural Asset Multiplier Pilot (RAMP) - Rural local-led regeneration programme, focused on maximising the assets in the National Park and the coastal AONB
- Integrated land management of the countryside
 - Great Northumberland Forest
 - Local Nature Recovery Strategies
- Rural & Environment Portfolio – transition to North East Combined Authority

Economic Growth

- Employment Partnerships with the voluntary and community sector to help those residents furthest from work back into employment
- Tailoring DWP and regional employability support programmes to the needs of Northumberland residents
- Inclusive Growth Community Partnership
- Work and Health Strategy
- Visitor Economy – Local Visitor Economy Partner (LVEP); Destination Development Partnership (DDP) national pilot
- Development of new North East Combined Authority to support Northumberland priorities
- Key partnerships – e.g. Energy Central

Strategic Sites

- Working with Advance Northumberland to attract businesses on to the county's Enterprise Zones
 - Northumberland Energy Park
 - Blyth Riverside
 - Ashwood Business Park, Ashington
- Working with the North of Tyne Combined Authority to unlock the economic potential of the Northumberland Line
 - Defining the next sites for future employment and housing development
 - Unlocking the cultural and tourism offer
 - Strengthening the digital connectivity
 - Build the skills base of the local workforce

Questions and Comments