

DECISIONS TAKEN BY CABINET SINCE LAST OSC MEETING AND FORTHCOMING CABINET DECISIONS - NOVEMBER 2024 TO MARCH 2025

DECISION	CABINET DATE/DECISION
Cabinet Papers - 11 February 2025	https://northumberland.moderngov.co.uk/ie/ListDocuments.aspx?CId=140&MId=2900
Budget 2025-26 and Medium-Term Financial Plan 2025-2029	The full Cabinet decision is available via the above link.
Revenues & Benefits Policies 2025-26	RESOLVED that Cabinet recommend County Council to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approve the Revenues and Benefits Policies attached as Appendix 1 to Appendix 6 and the associated amendments; and • Approve removing the 100% class D discount in respect of uninhabitable properties for Council Tax.
Corporate Fraud Policies for 2025-26	RESOLVED that Cabinet approve the Anti-Money Laundering Policy and Anti-Fraud, Bribery and Corruption Policy, attached as Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 to the report.
<p>Summary of New Capital Proposals considered by Officer Capital Strategy Group</p> <p>Cramlington Youth Zone</p> <p>Coronation Park Dementia Garden</p> <p>Northumberland Line Update</p>	<p>Cabinet approve the spend of £0.498 million (£0.144 million in 2024-25 and £0.354 million in 2025-26) to build a purpose-built youth facility in Cramlington. This spend will be funded from the existing Cramlington budget in the capital programme. Note that this project will be delivered by Cramlington Town Council via a grant funding agreement with the Council.</p> <p>Cabinet approve the amendment to the capital programme to reallocate £0.498 million (£0.144 million in 2024-25 and £0.354 million in 2025-26) from the Cramlington project to the Cramlington Youth Zone project.</p> <p>Cabinet approve the spend of £0.255 million (£0.046 million in 2024-25 and £0.209 million in 2025-26) to deliver the Coronation Park Dementia Garden. This spend will be funded from the existing Cramlington budget in the capital programme. Note that this project will be delivered by Cramlington Town Council via a grant funding agreement with the Council.</p> <p>Cabinet approve the amendment to the capital programme to reallocate £0.255 million (£0.046 million in 2024-25 and £0.209 million in 2025-26) from the Cramlington project to the Coronation Park Dementia Garden project.</p> <p>Cabinet approve the following capital spend and amendments to the capital programme in line with cost increases and increased funding from the Department for Transport (DfT):</p>

<p>Whitton View, Rothbury</p>	<p>Reallocate £4.500 million of Council funding from the Northumberland Line project to the Newsham Road Bridge project in 2024-25.</p> <p>Add an additional £67.801 million (£63.040 million in 2024-25 and £4.761 million in 2025-26) of external funding to the Northumberland Line project. This funding is from the Department for Transport to support the delivery of the Northumberland Line Programme.</p> <p>Reallocate £4.982 million of Council funding from the Capital Contract Inflation budget to the Northumberland Line project in 2024-25.</p> <p>Add an additional £3.120 million to the Newsham Road Bridge project in 2024-25. This spend will be funded from the Strategic Management Reserve.</p> <p>Cabinet approve the spend of £0.272 million (£0.027 million in 2024-25 and £0.245 million in 2025-26) for the purchase of two 3-bed houses on the Cussins development site – Land East of Whitton View, Rothbury. The spend will be funded by £0.136 million HRA capital receipts and £0.136 million retained treasury receipts.</p> <p>Cabinet approve the amendment to the capital programme to add the Whitton View, Rothbury project of £0.272 million (£0.027 million in 2024-25 and £0.245 million in 2025-26).</p>
<p>Richard Stannard House Conversion</p>	<p>Cabinet approve the spend of £3.374 million (£0.371 million in 2024-25 and £3.003 million in 2025-26) to convert Richard Stannard House, a three-storey commercial building of 1164m² on Bridge Street in Blyth, into 16 apartments. This spend will be funded from the existing Levelling Up Deep Dive Housing Renewal and Town Centre Living project in the capital programme. Note this project will be delivered by Advance Commercial Limited via a grant funding agreement with the Council.</p> <p>Cabinet approve the amendment to the capital programme to reallocate £3.374 million (£0.371 million in 2024-25 and £3.003 million in 2025-26) from the Levelling Up Deep Dive Housing Renewal and Town Centre Living project to the Richard Stannard House Conversion.</p> <p>Cabinet approve the spend of £0.371 million in advance of the business case approval in order to develop the project.</p> <p>Cabinet approve the award of a grant to Advance Commercial Limited of £3.374 million (£0.371 million in 2024-25 and £3.003 million in 2025-26) and grant delegated authority to the Executive Director of Place and Regeneration to enter into the grant funding agreement totalling £3.374 million.</p>

Energy Central Campus Phase 2: Energy Central Institute	The full Cabinet decision is available via the above link.
Northumberland Food Strategy: Developing Northumberland's Food System	<p>RESOLVED that:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cabinet endorse the Northumberland Food Strategy objectives and high-level delivery priorities as a framework for better integrating and realising the value of the county's food system; 2. Cabinet agree to collaborate with Food and Drink North East to develop a Northumberland food brand and standard to promote Northumberland's food story by summer 2025. This will support growth of the food and drink sector and the visitor economy and enable closer supply chain links; and 3. Cabinet agree to the creation of a task and finish internal officer working group to define, by autumn 2025, the subsequent delivery phases and proposed partnership governance within the context of the emerging regional food infrastructure and local partnership arrangements.
Care Quality Commission Assessment of Adult Social Care	<p>RESOLVED that Cabinet note the report for information, and in particular, it be noted that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) CQC's assessment of the Council's delivery of its adult social care duties is among the most positive assessments that they have so far published. The report makes particularly encouraging comments on the Council's partnership arrangements with other organisations; (b) The report assesses the Council's performance as "good" in seven of the nine domains which it covers. The two domains in which it says that the evidence considered by CQC "shows some shortfalls" were both identified as priorities for improvement in a position statement that was published by the Council earlier this year as the starting point for a broad conversation with service users, carers, staff and partner organisations about priorities for adult social care over the next three years; and (c) Consolidated action plans are being developed to address priorities for improvement identified through the CQC report and through the local conversation which the position statement initiated.
School Admission Arrangements and School Transport Policy	The full Cabinet decision is available via the above link.

CABINET FORWARD PLAN

<p>Newcastle International Airport - Governance Arrangements</p> <p>The report will seek approval in respect of governance arrangements and related matters concerning the Council's role as shareholder in Newcastle International Airport Limited.</p>	<p>11 March 2025</p>
<p>Outcome of the Tender for James Calvert Spence College</p> <p>To give Cabinet an update on the outcomes of the tender process for the construction of a new school building for James Calvert Spence College and seek the delegated approved to award the construction contract.</p>	<p>11 March 2025</p>
<p>Summary of New Capital Proposals considered by Officer Capital Strategy Group</p> <p>This report summarises proposed amendments to the Capital Programme considered by the Capital Strategy Group on 19 December 2024.</p>	<p>11 March 2025</p>
<p>Financial Performance 2024-25 – Position at End of December 2024</p> <p>Financial position as at December 2024 and an updated year end forecast for the council budget for 2024-25.</p>	<p>11 March 2025</p>
<p>Borderlands Place Programme Update</p> <p>This report will provide an update on the Borderlands Place Programme in Northumberland seeking approval of recommendations in relation to the use of NCC capital match funding to develop and deliver the pipeline of project proposals in each of the seven towns in the Programme.</p>	<p>11 March 2025</p>
<p>The North East Mayoral Combined Authority – Adult Education Budget</p> <p>Cabinet/Leader will be requested to consent to the making of the statutory instrument which transfers certain central government functions relating to the Adult Education Budget to the North East Mayoral Combined Authority</p>	<p>11 March 2025</p>
<p>Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2026-36</p> <p>The Northumberland ROWIP is a statutory document setting out how the County Council will identify, prioritise and plan improvements across the PROW network for the next ten years. It sets out nine policies and associated actions that will form our strategy for the next ten years to be delivered through rolling three-year Delivery Plans.</p>	<p>8 April 2025</p>
<p>Richard Stannard House</p> <p>This report updates cabinet and seeks approval of the outline business case and other key decisions outlining the delivery of Richard Stannard House</p>	<p>8 April 2025</p>