



NTCA Constitution

Part 1.1 Overview of the NTCA

Part 1.1 Overview of the North of Tyne Combined Authority

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This is the constitution of the North of Tyne Combined Authority (referred to in the constitution as “the Authority” or “NTCA”).
- 1.2 A combined authority is a legal body set up under national legislation which enables a group of councils to collaborate and take collective decisions across council boundaries.
- 1.3 The North of Tyne Combined Authority was created on 2 November 2018 by a legal order¹ made by the Secretary of State following a period of public consultation. The area of the Authority includes the areas of the councils of Newcastle upon Tyne, North Tyneside and Northumberland. Those three councils are the “constituent councils” of NTCA and their combined area is referred to in this constitution as the “Combined Area” or the “North of Tyne Area”.

2. The Devolution Deal

- 2.1 NTCA was established to give effect to a “minded to” devolution deal which was agreed between the three councils, the North East Local Enterprise Partnership (“LEP”) and central government in November 2017. That deal was confirmed when the legal order mentioned above was made.
- 2.2 The devolution deal represents a significant shift of powers, funding and responsibility from central government to the local level. The deal enables the three councils to pursue through NTCA a shared ambition for an inclusive economy.
- 2.3 NTCA will have a £600m investment fund, worth £20m a year over 30 years, which is expected to generate £1.1 billion for the local economy, create 10,000 new jobs and leverage £2.1 billion in private sector investment.
- 2.4 As well as this £600m of extra money to invest in the North of Tyne area, the deal includes:
 - a new, directly elected Mayor for North of Tyne to give a strong and powerful voice to the area;
 - projects to improve education, skills and help people get into work;
 - local control of the £23 million per year budget for adult education;
 - powers to develop land for economic growth and regeneration;
 - projects that increase the growth and productivity of rural communities;
 - better working with Government to boost trade and investment;
 - projects to grow the digital sector and low-carbon economy;
 - a joint committee to manage public transport across the North East; and

¹ The Newcastle Upon Tyne, North Tyneside and Northumberland Combined Authority (Establishment and Functions) Order 2018

- a commitment to explore new opportunities for the North of Tyne in future.
- 2.5 The deal will enable NTCA to develop a truly integrated approach to promoting inclusive growth, taking a longer-term approach that transforms the physical fabric of deprived communities, raises aspirations, builds an effective labour force to meet business demand and skills needs, and connects communities with employment and learning opportunities.
- 2.6 The future focus for NTCA is on positive change – to quickly and decisively make a real and positive impact on people’s lives, businesses and communities. The vision is of a dynamic and more inclusive economy, one that brings together people and opportunities to create vibrant communities and a high quality of life, narrowing inequalities and ensuring that all residents have a stake in the region’s future. In May 2019, local residents across the North of Tyne area will have the opportunity to elect a Mayor for the Authority who, together with a Cabinet drawn from the constituent councils and the LEP, will be responsible for delivering this vision.

3. Relationships with other bodies

- 3.1 NTCA’s functions primarily relate to economic development, skills, housing and regeneration. NTCA does not replace the three constituent councils, nor does it take away any of their statutory powers.
- 3.2 Whilst NTCA has certain transport functions, these are dealt with through a joint transport committee made up of members from both NTCA and the North East Combined Authority (“NECA”) which comprises the areas of Durham, Gateshead, South Tyneside and Sunderland Councils. This ensures that the integrated transport arrangements across the North East region are maintained. The joint transport committee will continue the work to improve strategic transport connectivity across the region and to international markets.
- 3.3 NTCA is committed to working with neighbouring local authorities, combined authorities and our Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) in support of common objectives. The LEP covers the areas of both combined authorities, ie NTCA and NECA, and therefore it encompasses the area of the seven local authorities in the North East region. As the North East moves forward, the seven local authorities will maintain their shared commitment to creating the conditions for economic growth and working collaboratively across the wider North East geography where it makes sense to do so on areas of common interest.
- 3.4 Effective engagement between NTCA, the LEP and the wider business community is critical to delivering our ambitions for the area. The LEP arrangements have delivered a significant number of development and growth projects which have begun to transform the North East area and provide an effective framework to manage and commission the multi-million-pound investment programmes designed to improve and support the North East’s economy. The seven authorities will continue to work closely with and through the LEP in delivery of the Strategic Economic Plan.