

The Inclusive Economy Board's **Wellbeing Framework for the North of Tyne** *Executive Summary*

Report by the Roundtable for Wellbeing in the North of Tyne
January 2022



Why consider a wellbeing framework in the North of Tyne?

- Since the Stiglitz-Sen-Fitoussi Report (2009), there has been a shift in understanding about social progress: more than just 'health and wealth', it includes our homes & relationships, our ability to participate & to make choices about our lives, our access to local services & green space, and more...
- A wellbeing framework enables governments to understand what matters to people and to track progress towards a set of wellbeing goals.
- A wellbeing framework also encourages policy development that recognises and seeks to address interconnected issues (poverty, mental health, loneliness, climate change & participation) rather than treating them in isolation.
- Building a wellbeing approach to pandemic recovery aligns with NTCA's vision and its ambitions to achieve 'zero carbon zero poverty'.
- By developing and adopting a wellbeing framework, North of Tyne would become one of the first Combined Authority's in England to commit to embedding wellbeing in decision-making processes.



Our vision for the North of Tyne 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 our region's future.

**North of Tyne Combined Authority
Corporate Plan 2021-22**

Building a Roundtable for Wellbeing in the North of Tyne

- After a successful event in December 2020, the NTCA began working with Carnegie UK to explore a wellbeing approach in the North of Tyne.
- They adopted the 'Roundtable methodology' recommended by Stiglitz-Sen-Fitoussi and used previously by Carnegie UK in supporting governments in Scotland and Northern Ireland to build wellbeing frameworks.
- The NTCA & Carnegie UK brought together 12 specialists from across sectors and areas to support this work: co-chaired by **Professor Mark Shucksmith OBE (Newcastle University & Carnegie UK trustee)** and **Sarah McMillan (Assistant Director of Policy, Northumberland County Council)**.
- The Roundtable met four times between May and October 2021. They gathered and considered a wide range of evidence on what matters to people living and working in the North of Tyne. They used this evidence to develop ten wellbeing outcomes. And they worked with the Centre for Thriving Places to build a set of indicators to measure progress towards these outcomes.
- The NTCA's Inclusive Economy Board provided governance and oversight throughout the process; it is proposed that the Board is responsible for implementation of the framework, pending Cabinet approval.



Carnegie UK believe that **collective wellbeing** happens when **social**, **economic**, **environmental** and **democratic** wellbeing outcomes are seen as being equally important and are given equal weight. This model was used by the Roundtable to inform their approach.

Gathering evidence on what matters to people in the North of Tyne

- The Roundtable recognised the importance of understanding what matters for wellbeing locally and developed a structured approach to gathering and considering evidence, consisting of the following components:
 - **Policy & literature review** – covering international evidence on wellbeing thinking and practice and the NTCA's own strategic documents
 - **Call for evidence** – open for eight weeks and promoted widely by the NTCA and partners
 - **Community-led consultations** – working through a small number of established VCSE organisations to engage communities in the discussion (with a focus on voices that are often less heard in decision making)
 - **You Gov survey** – to fill gaps in evidence gained through the three preceding stages and help to prioritise wellbeing outcomes
- From this evidence, the Roundtable developed a set of ten wellbeing outcomes, which together provided a route map for enhancing **social**, **economic**, **environmental** and **democratic** wellbeing for people living in the North of Tyne.
- After selecting outcomes, the Roundtable worked with the Centre for Thriving Places to develop a set of indicators to measure progress towards each area of wellbeing.



The Inclusive Economy Board's Wellbeing Framework for the North of Tyne

Our vision

The North of Tyne is a place with 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 our region's **future**.

Our wellbeing outcomes

We are all able to access education so that we achieve our potential	We all have access to good quality jobs and fair work
We are all able to access health, care and other services so that we live long and healthy lives	We all have enough money to meet our needs, like heating, eating and housing
We all have good quality homes in safe, welcoming communities	We have the infrastructure and support that we need to succeed
All our communities, businesses and governments take responsibility for tackling the climate crisis	We are all valued and treated with respect by each other and our human rights are upheld
We all have access to a good quality local environment and live in neighbourhoods free from pollution and other environmental problems	We all have a voice in decisions that affect our communities and in the public services we use

Recommendations: implementing the Wellbeing Framework

The Roundtable has used the evidence to build a Wellbeing Framework for the North of Tyne. It now recommends that NTCA:

- **adopts** this wellbeing framework and commits to work towards delivering the wellbeing priorities of people who live and work in North of Tyne, as described in the wellbeing outcomes.
- **communicates** this wellbeing framework to people who live and work in North of Tyne, through ongoing involvement and engagement.
- **embeds** a wellbeing approach to decision making across the region, through engaging local governments, agencies and stakeholders in delivering its wellbeing outcomes.
- **reports** on progress and **reviews** its approach at regular intervals, according to its understanding about wellbeing generated from the indicator set and public engagement.

By adopting these recommendations in their entirety the Roundtable believes that the NTCA can embed a wellbeing approach to the pandemic recovery that will improve the lives of people throughout the region.

The Roundtable for Wellbeing in the North of Tyne

Prof Mark Shucksmith OBE (Co-chair)	Newcastle University / Carnegie UK Trustee and NTCA Inclusive Economy Board member
Sarah McMillan (Co-chair)	Assistant Director of Policy, Northumberland County Council
Andrea Malcolm	Executive Director of People, Homes & Communities, Bernicia
Behnam Khazaeli	Senior Public Health Manager, North Tyneside Council
Emma Ward	Research, Evidence & Analysis Programme Manager, North East Local Enterprise Partnership
Jennifer Wallace	Director, Carnegie UK
Laura Seebohm	Executive Director of External Affairs, Changing Lives
Leigh Mills	Head of Inclusive Growth, North of Tyne Combined Authority
Liz Robinson	Public Health Manager, Northumberland County Council
Lorna Smith	Assistant Director of Public Health (Acting), Newcastle City Council
Miatta Fahnbulleh	Chief Executive, New Economics Foundation
Robin Fry	Chief Executive, VODA

