

**Subject:** Business Case Development Fund – Communities CAN – Community-led Housing across the North of Tyne  
**Report of:** Housing and Infrastructure Project Manager  
**Portfolio:** Cross Cutting: Housing, Land and Development; and Social Economy and Communities.

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## Report Summary

The purpose of this report is to approve a funding award of £136,780 to Communities CAN (North East) from the Business Case Development Fund (BCDF) to develop an approach to Community-led Housing (CLH) across the North of Tyne

## Recommendations

The Chief Executive is recommended to approve:

- i. £136,780 business case development funding to Communities CAN (North East) to develop an approach for community-led-housing across the North of Tyne subject to the funding conditions set out in paragraph 1.4.

## 1. Background Information, Proposals and Timetable for Implementation

1.1 The Investment Plan agreed by NTCA's Cabinet in April 2019 allocated £4.5m to support business case development work. In March 2020, NTCA Cabinet approved delegation to the then Interim Head of Paid Service (now Chief Executive), in consultation with Investment Panel, to approve Business Case Development Fund (BCDF) investment decisions up to the value of £150,000 of NTCA Investment.

1.2 The Business Case Development Funding for communities CAN will support the development of an approach to Community-led Housing across the North of Tyne. This aligns with the NTCA's Housing and Land Portfolio by accelerating the delivery of new homes and the Social Economy and Communities Portfolio through keeping more wealth in the local economy.

1.3 The project has four specific objectives which are to develop an active pipeline of potential CLH projects, develop new models of delivery, develop a communities CAN organisational and business strategy, and unlock funding to deliver projects (3 per annum).

1.4 An internal appraisal was carried out on the project which demonstrated the project aligns well with the themes in the NTCA's corporate plan including the Inclusive Economy theme and specifically the Housing, land and development, and social economy and communities' themes. It was recommended the project be approved with the following funding conditions:

1. Applicant to produce evidence of the active pipeline; organisational and business strategy, and the BCDF contribution towards the project delivery of 6 schemes (3 schemes per annum).
2. Evidence of the match funding confirmation from the local authorities to be provided as a condition in the grant funding agreement.

1.5 Investment panel considered the proposal by written procedure and it has been recommended by Investment Panel to the Chief Executive that £136,780 of funding should be approved.

## 1.6 Proposal

<b>Proposal Name</b>	Business Case Development Fund – Communities CAN – Community-led Housing across the North of Tyne
<b>Lead Organisation</b>	Communities CAN (North East)
<b>Delivery Areas</b>	North of Tyne
<b>Timescales</b>	April 2023 – March 2025
<b>Project Value</b>	£169,780
<b>Grant / Loan amount requested</b>	£136,780
<b>NTCA Budget Implications:</b>	This project will be funded from the £4.5m Business Case Development Fund workstream of the NTCA Investment Plan of which £1,021,684 remains against approved projects.

## 2. Potential Impact on Objectives

2.1 This proposal supports several strategic priorities and themes set out in NTCA's Corporate Plan.

## 3. Key Risks

3.1 Due to value the project is not deemed high-risk. However, two key project risks are securing additional funding to bring projects forward and identifying appropriate schemes for support. These have been addressed in the funding conditions and will be mitigated by the delivery organisation.

## 4. Financial and Other Resources Implications

4.1 £136,780 has been allocated to this proposal for spend through 2024/25, funded from the £4.5m Business Case Development Fund workstream of the NTCA Investment Plan of which £1,021,684 remains against approved projects.

## 5. Legal Implications

5.1 The Monitoring Officer has been consulted. Suitable subsidy position has been confirmed and the GFA will include relevant provisions that will be sufficient.

## 6. Equalities Implications

6.1 As required by section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the combined Authority has considered its obligations regarding the Public Sector Equality Duty and there will be no anticipated negative impact on groups with protected characteristics from these proposals.

6.2 The organisation will be required by law to meet all relevant requirements in the workplace in respect of equalities. In addition, we encourage wherever possible, all organisations we work with to be mindful of our commitment to equalities and direct them to guidance provided by the Equalities and Human Rights Commission. [Guidance for businesses | Equality and Human Rights Commission \(equalityhumanrights.com\)](https://equalityhumanrights.com)

## 7. Inclusive Economy Implications

7.1 All business case development fund applications are required to set out an approach which contributes towards NTCA's ambitions for an Inclusive economy, this has been assessed through the appraisal process and considered acceptable.

## 8. Climate Change Implications

8.1 The application does not reference climate change directly. However, Communities CAN will work with organisations to deliver energy efficient housing. Furthermore, the project will look to take

advantage of any opportunities identified through the BCDF project developing an approach to retrofitting houses across the region.

## 9. Consultation and Engagement

9.1 Throughout the process consultation has taken place this has included discussion at Technical Officer Group meeting, Investment Panel (By written procedure), at officer level in NTCA and with Communities CAN (North East)

## 10. Appendices

10.1 None

## 11. Background Papers

11.1 None

## 12. Contact Officers

12.1 Andrew Nicholson, Project Manager (Housing and Infrastructure) [Andrew.nicholson@northoftyne-ca.gov.uk](mailto:Andrew.nicholson@northoftyne-ca.gov.uk)

## 13. Glossary

NTCA	North of Tyne Combines Authority
CLH	Community Led Housing
BCDF	Business Case Development Fund

## 14. Sign-off

1) Portfolio holder: consulted	2) Chief Executive Officer Yes	3) Director of Finance: Yes	4) Monitoring Officer: Yes
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