

Leadership Board

Tuesday 3 March 2020 at 2.00pm

Meeting to be held at: South Shields Town Hall, Westoe Road, South Shields, NE33 2RL

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AGENDA

	Page No
1. Apologies for Absence (Members)	
2. Declarations of Interest	
Please remember to declare any personal interest where appropriate both verbally and by recording it on the relevant form (to be handed to the Democratic Services Officer). Please also remember to leave the meeting where any personal interest requires this.	
3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting held on 04 February 2020	1-8
For approval as a correct record	
4. Announcements from the Chair	
5. Chair's Thematic Lead Portfolio Update	9-14
6. Economic Development and Digital Thematic Portfolio Update	15-18
7. Transport Thematic Portfolio Update	19-26
8. Finance and Skills and Employment Thematic Portfolio Update	27-38

9. **Amendment to the Economic Development and Digital Advisory Board's Terms of Reference** 39-42
10. **In accordance with NECA Procedure Rule Part 4.1 (11) to consider the following Notice of Motion:** 43-44

Motion

The North East Combined Authority recognises:

- 1.1 The leadership already shown by the NECA constituent authorities in addressing anti-Semitism within their areas and their previous acknowledgement of the seriousness of religious or cultural intolerance.
- 1.2 The NECA constituent authorities have already acknowledged the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) definition of anti-Semitism which is supported by the major representative bodies of the Jewish Community including the Board of Deputies of British Jews, the Jewish Leadership Council and the European Jewish Congress.
- 1.3 That a vast amount of work is taking place across the NECA area to support and celebrate the cultural and religious differences within our communities.

In recognition of the seriousness of anti-Semitism, the North East Combined Authority resolves to:

- i. To adopt the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) definition of anti-Semitism which reads:

"Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed towards Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, towards Jewish community institutions and religious facilities";
- ii. Continue to support and celebrate the cultural and religious differences within our communities;
- iii. Working with other partners and stakeholders to take a zero-tolerance approach to religious and cultural discrimination within our communities.

Proposer: Councillor I Malcolm

11. Exclusion of Press and Public

Under section 100A and Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972 because exempt information is likely to be disclosed and the public interest test against disclosure is satisfied

12. Confidential Minutes of the Previous Meeting held on 04 February 2020 **45**

13. Date and Time of Next Meeting: 9 June 2020 at 2.00pm

Contact Officer: Jonathan Lunness Tel: 0191 4247536
Email: jonathan.lunness@northeastca.gov.uk

North East Combined Authority, Leadership Board

Agenda Item 3

4 February 2020

(2.00pm - 2.20pm)

Meeting held at Sunderland Civic Centre, Burdon Road, Sunderland, SR2 7DN

Present:

Councillors: I Malcolm (Chair), M Gannon, G Miller, S Henig

Officers: Martin Swales (Chief Executive, South Tyneside), Sheena Ramsey (Chief Executive, Gateshead), Terry Collins (Chief Executive, Durham), Nicola Robason (Deputy Monitoring Officer, NECA), John Hewitt (Chief Finance Officer, NECA), Vince Taylor (Assistant Director of Economic Policy, Sunderland), Gavin Armstrong (Policy and Scrutiny Officer, NECA), Jonathan Lunness (Strategy and Democratic Services Assistant, NECA)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (MEMBERS)

Apologies for absence were received from Patrick Melia.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 10 DECEMBER 2019

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 10 December 2019 were approved as a correct record.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

There were no announcements from the Chair.

5. CHAIR THEMATIC PORTFOLIO UPDATE

Submitted: Report of the Chair of the NECA Leadership Board (previously circulated and copy attached to the official minutes).

Members considered the report which provided an update on activities within the Chair's portfolio. The core activities of NECA are driven forward by the three strategic themes, the Chair's portfolio ensures that the Combined Authority is well

positioned inter-regionally, nationally and internationally to influence policy, lever external investment and create jobs for local people.

The Chair noted that since the previous Leadership Board meeting, there had been a General Election and as a result a clearer picture was emerging regarding government priorities. It was also noted that since the previous Leadership Board meeting, that whilst the UK has left the EU, it remains in a transition period.

It was noted that the Government has made reference to 'levelling up' the country and tackling regional imbalances as a priority, and further clarity on how it may achieve this may be provided at the upcoming Spending Review. The Chair noted NECA's hope that individual local authorities and Combined Authorities are provided with more tools to enable them to create economic growth.

The Chair provided an update to the Committee regarding events and meetings which have taken place recently. These included discussions with a Government Minister and the North East Development Conference hosted by Built Environment Networking. The Chair was a keynote speaker at the North East Development Conference and was able to highlight NECA's ambitions.

The Chair also noted the ongoing work in regards NECA's Economic Strategy, as well as the Strategic Economic Plan and the Local Industrial Strategy.

RESOLVED That:

- i. the report be noted.

6. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND DIGITAL THEMATIC PORTFOLIO UPDATE

Submitted: Report of the Thematic Lead of Economic Development and Digital (previously circulated and copy attached to the official minutes).

Members considered the report which provided an update on activities within the Economic Development and Digital theme. Members noted the ongoing success of Invest North East England (INEE), including securing key inward investment in the NECA area. It was noted that the preliminary figures for Q2 of 2019/20 showed 14 FDI creating 339 new jobs and 6 UK inward investment projects creating 306 new jobs in the NECA area.

Member's noted that Ocado has been announced as the first tenants in The BEAM in Sunderland, which highlights that the North East is a venue for 21st century businesses and reflects the view that the North East work force is well-regarded and dependable.

It was noted that at the EDDAB meeting held 28 January, the possibility of providing a further breakdown of the new jobs from inward investment successes had been discussed, including the type of job in order to measure in comparison to the NELEP 70% target of new and better jobs.

It was noted that the Government will be looking at the Local Industrial Strategy with a response hoped for by Spring 2020. It was highlighted that now the UK has left the EU and is in the transition period, it is hoped that the Government will secure a good

trade deal with the EU and that the NECA area will be able to lead the way and make the most of any opportunities.

Members noted the update on the Economic Development and Digital Advisory Board Review. This included ensuring a strategy which worked with the business sector and complemented the LIS and SEP, working towards the same aims. It was noted that at the 28 January EDDAB meeting, the Board had received updates on digital initiatives in Sunderland, including the deployment of 5G.

It was noted that it would be helpful to understand what other constituent authorities in the NECA area are doing in regards the digital agenda and digital initiatives, as an advanced digital offer will be central to the NECA strategy in the future, and so EDDAB will drive this forward.

RESOLVED That:

- i. the report be noted.

7. TRANSPORT THEMATIC PORTFOLIO UPDATE

Submitted: Report of the Thematic Lead for Transport (previously circulated and copy attached to the official minutes).

Members considered the report which provided an update on activity and progress under the Transport theme of the Combined Authority. This included updates on the Transforming Cities Fund, the North East Transport Plan, as well as road, rail and metro updates for the area.

It was also noted that Cllr Gannon, the Thematic Portfolio Lead for Transport will be presenting transport plans and a vision for the region, along with the Director General of Nexus, to new MPs following the December 2019 General Election, seeking support for the transport agenda. An update regarding this will be brought back at a future meeting.

RESOLVED That:

- i. the report be noted.

8. FINANCE AND SKILLS AND EMPLOYMENT THEMATIC PORTFOLIO UPDATE

Submitted: Report of the Corporate Director (previously circulated and copy attached to the official minutes).

Members considered the report which provided an update on activities within the Finance and Skills and Employability theme together with the baseline position for a future 'Skills and Employment' ask for the North East Combined Authority.

It is anticipated that further information will be provided regarding the National Skills Fund at the upcoming Spending Review following the Queen's Speech and manifesto commitments.

It was also highlighted that there has been no further information on the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. Members noted the scale of funding in the North East from EU funding sources and it is hoped that this funding will at least be matched in the future as the UK leaves the EU.

RESOLVED That:

- i. the report be noted.

9. BUDGET 2020/21 AND MEDIUM-TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY

Submitted: Report of the Chief Finance Officer of NECA (previously circulated and copy attached to the official minutes).

John Hewitt, Chief Finance Officer of NECA presented the report which presented the NECA revenue budget for 2020/21 and indicative estimates for 2021/22 and 2022/23 for consideration and approval. The report also presented the decisions made by the North East Joint Transport Committee (JTC) about the transport revenue budget and the Transport Levies for 2020/21.

Members noted that the level of contributions from constituent authorities for NECA Corporate Costs are proposed to be maintained at the same level after the current year.

It was noted that the updated forecast of outturn in relation to the North East LEP is a net deficit of £25,819, which will be funded by reserves. This is an improved position from the original budget which envisaged a net deficit budget of £397,000. Members also noted that in the 2020/21 budget the deficit of £0.326m will be met by contributions from the Enterprise Zone account (as previously agreed by the North East LEP Board).

RESOLVED That:

- i. the updated position in terms of forecast of outturn for 2019/20 be noted;
- ii. the report for consideration and approval of the 2020/21 budget proposals be received;
- iii. unanimously agreed a net budget (after interest income) for the corporate costs of NECA of £91,428, paid for by an equal contribution of £22,857 from each of the constituent authorities in NECA, as set out in section 2.14;
- iv. unanimously agreed to continue the budget contribution to the North East LEP of £250,000 which is required as match funding to secure £500,000 government grant, paid for by an equal contribution of £35,714.29 from each of the seven councils in the North East LEP area as part of the funding of an estimated budget of £4.908m, summarised in section 2.17 to 2.22;
- v. unanimously agreed to continue the budget contribution of £140,000 towards inward investment activity carried out by the Invest North East England team (INEE) which is paid for by an equal contribution of £20,000 from each of the seven councils in NECA and contributions from the North East LEP to a total budget for this activity of £460,000, as set out in section 2.23-2.24;

- vi. unanimously agreed to continue a net budget in respect of the accountable body role for the JTC in 2020/21 of £70,000, with the costs being met by equal contributions of £10,000 from the seven local authorities in the JTC area, as set out in section 2.14;
- vii. unanimously agreed to continue a net budget in respect of the accountable body role for the North East LEP in 2020/21 of £70,000, with the costs being met by equal contributions of £10,000 from the seven local authorities in the North East LEP area, as set out in section 2.14;
- viii. the decisions taken on 21 January by the JTC about the Transport Budget and Levies for 2020/21 as set out in section 2.25-2.26 and Appendix 4 be noted, and to issue the following levies in accordance with that decision:
Durham County Council £15,466,000
Gateshead Council £10,888,379
South Tyneside Council £8,079,396
Sunderland City Council £14,916,061
- ix. arrangements be made to administer payment of a transport revenue grant of £15,456,000 to Durham County Council for the delivery of transport services in the Durham area and to Nexus for the delivery of transport services in Tyne and Wear of £59,000,000;
- x. it be noted that the North of Tyne Combined Authority will issue the Transport Levies to Newcastle City Council (£16,140,834), North Tyneside Council (£11,075,330) and Northumberland County Council (£6,234,000) that have been agreed by the JTC and will pass the levy income from Newcastle City Council and North Tyneside Council to NECA in order to meet costs relating to the Tyne and Wear area;
- xi. it be noted that the North of Tyne Combined Authority will issue the Transport Grant to Northumberland County Council (£6,224,000) agreed by the JTC and make a £10,000 contribution to NECA in respect of Northumberland County Council's contribution to the costs of the JTC;
- xii. authorise the Chief Finance Officer and the Monitoring Officer to take such other steps as are necessary to give effect to the proposals in this report;
- xiii. the section on the level of reserves set out in section 2.27 to 2.30 be noted; and;
- xiv. the Pay Policy Statement at Appendix 5 be approved.

10. BUDGET 20/21 AND MEDIUM-TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY – UPDATE OF SUPPORT ARRANGEMENTS TO THE NORTH EAST LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP, INVEST NORTH EAST ENGLAND AND THE JOINT TRANSPORT COMMITTEE (SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA)

Submitted: Report of the Chief Finance Officer of NECA (previously circulated and copy attached to the official minutes).

The report was presented by Nicola Robason, Deputy Monitoring Officer of NECA. The report sought authority to finalise the arrangements between NECA, North of Tyne Combined Authority (NTCA) and the seven local authorities of Durham,

Gateshead, Newcastle upon Tyne, Northumberland, North Tyneside South Tyneside and Sunderland regarding the support provided to the North East Local Enterprise Partnership (NELEP), Invest North East England (INEE) and the Joint Transport Committee (JTC).

Members noted that the Deed of Cooperation, dated 4 July 2018, set out the framework for collaborative working between NECA and NTCA regarding the cooperative arrangements for the NELEP, INEE and JTC. It was highlighted that the Deed of Cooperation set out parties' intentions for NECA to be the Accountable Body for the JTC and for NTCA to be the Accountable Body for the NELEP and INEE.

It was noted that work is ongoing regarding these arrangements and is nearing completion. The new cooperative arrangements for the Accountable Body status' of the Combined Authorities will be implemented from 1 April 2020.

RESOLVED That:

- i. the Head of Paid Service be authorised, in consultation with the Chair, to finalise the arrangements between both combined authorities and the seven local authorities regarding the support arrangements to the NELEP, INEE and JTC, as described in this report.
- ii. the Deputy Monitoring Officer be authorised to complete an updated Deed of Cooperation and a new Accountable Body Agreement, as described in this report that reflects the final arrangements; and
- iii. the Head of Paid Service, Chief Finance Officer and Deputy Monitoring Officer be authorised to take such other steps as are necessary to give effect to the proposals in this report.

11. CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2020/21

Submitted: Report of the Chief Finance Officer of NECA (previously circulated and copy attached to the official minutes).

John Hewitt, Chief Finance Officer of NECA presented the report which provided the Leadership Board with an updated forecast capital outturn for 2019/20 and presents the initial 2020/21 capital programme, totalling £134.446m for consideration and approval.

It was highlighted that the total costs for the initial 2020/21 capital programme could significantly increase, depending on the outcome of the Transforming Cities 2 bids.

RESOLVED That:

- i. the report be noted;
- ii. the forecast outturn position for 2019/20 set out in section 2.1 to 2.3 of the report be noted;
- iii. the proposed capital programme for 2020/21 which amounts to £134.446m, as set out in section 2.5 be unanimously approved, noting that the programme will need to be amended upon receipt of Government announcements on funding bids and in light of the transfer of the Accountable Body role for the North East LEP on 1 April 2020;

- iv. the Prudential Indicators and Limits for 2020/21-22/23 contained within Appendix 3 of the report, including the Authorised Limit be agreed;
- v. the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Statement contained within Appendix 3 which sets out the Authority's policy on MRP be agreed;
- vi. the Treasury Management Strategy and the Treasury Prudential Indicators contained within Appendix 3 be agreed; and;
- vii. the Cash Investment Strategy 2020/21 contained in the Treasury Management Strategy within Appendix 3 be agreed;

12. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 3 March 2020 at 2.00pm.

13. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Under section 100A and Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972, the press and public were excluded from the remainder of the meeting for consideration of Agenda Item 12 (Confidential Minutes of Previous Meeting held 10 December 2019) and Item 13 (Local Enterprise Partnership – Project Approval Report), because exempt information was likely to be disclosed and the public interest test against disclosure was satisfied.

Leadership Board

Date: 3 March 2020

Agenda Item 5

Subject: Thematic Lead Portfolio Update

Report of: Chair of Leadership Board

Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to up-date the Leadership Board on the activities within the Chair's Portfolio.

The Leadership Board last met only 4 weeks ago on 4 February 2020. Much of the focus of the Chair's Portfolio has been the ongoing activity to develop and finalise the NECA Strategic Economic Plan and the pre-budget submission efforts NECA have made with central government in order to make government aware of NECA's ambitious plans and the key investment opportunities to raise productivity and growth in the NECA area.

The report will cover briefing other activities of the Chair since the last meeting of the Leadership Board to build robust partnerships across the region and to ensure that the strategic priorities of NECA and the North East region are effectively communicated to the widest possible stakeholders and potential investors.

The report will also provide a brief update on the ongoing activity to develop a proposal to government on those additional resources, powers and legislation needed to support the four NECA Constituent Authorities in their endeavours to meet their respective carbon reduction commitments. This follows the resolution by NECA in November 2019 to declare a Climate Emergency.

Recommendations

The NECA Leadership Board is asked:

1. To note that this report provides an update on activities across the Chair's Portfolio. It is provided for information and Leadership Board members are requested to note and provide any comments on the report.
2. To agree for a letter of support to be sent to the appropriate Ministers and Department Officials to confirm NECA's support for the recommendations made in the National Infrastructure Assessment.

Leadership Board

1. Climate Emergency

- 1.1 The Leadership Board will recall that it resolved unanimously to declare a Climate Change Emergency at its meeting on 5 November 2019. A key component of that declaration was to establish a Task and Finish Group drawn from the relevant lead officers in the four Constituent Authorities. This Group continues to meet, and its primary activity is to identify key areas of collaboration and develop a draft proposition for presentation to a future Leadership Board that will identify what additional resources are required from Government and determine the necessary legislation that would be required to support the activities of the NECA and its Constituent Authorities as they progressively move towards their carbon reduction targets.
- 1.2 The intention is to present a full baseline and collaboration report on NECA's activities associated with the Climate Change Emergency declaration when the Leadership Board meets on 9th June. This remains on track.

2. Stakeholder Engagement – National Infrastructure Commission

- 2.1 A letter has been received from Sir John Armit, Chair of the National Infrastructure Commission, seeking support from NECA to the various proposals that the Commission presented to Government through the National Infrastructure Assessment (NIA).
- 2.2 This relates more specifically to the intention of Government to publish a National Infrastructure Strategy alongside the Budget on 11 March 2020.
- 2.3 The National Infrastructure Commission was established by Government to provide independent expert advice on infrastructure investment priorities and policy. The Commission produced its first NIA in July 2018 and sought the views of regional bodies across the Country on its key recommendations, which included:
 - Nationwide full fibre broadband by 2033
 - Half of the UK's power provided by renewables by 2030
 - Three-quarters of plastic packaging recycled by 2030
 - £43 billion of stable long-term transport funding for regional cities
 - Preparing for 100% electric vehicle sales by 2030
 - Ensuring resilience to extreme drought through additional supply and demand reduction
 - A national standard of flood resilience for all communities by 2050.

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- 2.4 NECA contributed to the development of a very detailed response to the NIA in late 2018, working alongside the North of Tyne Combined Authority, the North East Local Enterprise Partnership and the Environment Agency.
- 2.5 In that response document, a number of key priorities and issues for the North East were set out and these remain relevant now in the context of this emerging national strategy. In particular, the North East highlighted the challenges the region faces when competing for capital investment. The adherence to HM Treasury “Green Book” principles and factors, such as land value uplift from investment, place the region at a distinct disadvantage given the impact historic land uses have had on values. The Region’s response proposed an investment prioritisation model based on the principles of inclusive growth and the rebalancing of the UK economy.
- 2.6 The response to the NIA also highlighted the importance of the NIA’s ambitions to build a digital society and in particular the need for investment in full fibre broadband. In the North East, this fibre broadband investment needs to be open access in order to allow for the deployment of smart places, 5G and greater opportunities for local businesses to share information and work with the national Innovation Centre for Data.
- 2.7 There are clearly synergies between NECA’s aim to decarbonise the regional economy and the NIAs drive towards investment in renewable energy. The Region as a whole, and the NECA area in particular, has developed some clear expertise in this field. There is also a clear link to economic priorities associated with off-shore energy and marine.
- 2.8 A key component of the NIA was the recognition of the importance of major strategic investment in transport infrastructure particularly in regions such as the North East. In particular, the North East’s response to the NIA highlighted opportunities for collaboration between local government and the Commission to create a new policy, regulatory and fiscal environment to deliver this enabling infrastructure.
- 2.9 The NIA also set out a range of investment priorities and principles related to reducing the risks of flooding and drought and the need to develop a more strategic long-term approach to funding infrastructure. Both these principles are important to the NECA area, particularly those that provide a more reliable and consistent foundation for long-term financial planning.
- 2.10 The NECA Leadership Board is recommended to contact appropriate Ministers and Department Officials, including Nick Smallwood, Chief Executive, Infrastructure and

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Projects Authority, to confirm NECA's support for the recommendations made in the NIA and advise that NECA would like to see those proposals implemented by government.

3. Reasons for the Proposals

3.1 This report provides an update on those activities within the Chair's portfolio since the last meeting of the Leadership Board.

4. Alternative Options Available

4.1 There are no alternative options associated with this report, which is largely presented for information. The Leadership Board could decide not to support the recommendations of the Nation Infrastructure Assessment.

5. Next Steps and Timetable for Implementation

5.1 A further update will be provided to the Leadership Board at subsequent meetings.

6. Potential Impact on Objectives

6.1 The activities set out in this report will support NECA in its aims to promote economic growth and regeneration in the area.

7. Financial and Other Resources Implications

7.1 There are no direct financial or other resource implications associated with this report.

8. Legal Implications

8.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

9. Key Risks

9.1 There are no specific risk management issues arising from this report.

10. Equality and Diversity

10.1 There are no specific equality and diversity issues arising from this report.

11. Crime and Disorder

11.1 There are no specific crime and disorder issues arising from this report.

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12. Consultation/Engagement

12.1 There are no specific consultation and engagement issues arising from this report.

13. Other Impact of the Proposals

13.1 There are no further impacts arising from the proposals.

14. Appendices

14.1 None

15. Background Papers

15.1 None

16. Contact Officers

16.1 George Mansbridge, Corporate Director Regeneration and Environment, South Tyneside Council George.mansbridge@southtyneside.gov.uk

17. Sign off

- 17.1
- Head of Paid Service: ✓
 - Monitoring Officer: ✓
 - Chief Finance Officer: ✓

18. Glossary

18.1 None

Leadership Board

Date: 3 March 2020

Agenda Item 6

Subject: Economic Development and Digital Theme Update

Report of: Economic Development and Digital Thematic Lead

Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on activity and progress under the Economic Development and Digital theme of the Combined Authority.

The report provides an update on inward investment data for the first three quarters of 2019/20, as well as an overview of the latest position with regards our withdrawal from the EU and the associated trade deal negotiations with the EU.

Recommendations

The Leadership Board is recommended to note the contents of the report.

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1.0 Background Information

1.1 This report provides an update on activity and progress under the Economic Development and Digital theme of the Combined Authority, specifically:

- Inward Investment data up to and including quarter 3 of 2019/20
- Withdrawal from the EU.

2.0 Invest North East England (INEE)

2.1 *Inward Investment Data 2019/20*

2.2 In the first three quarters of 2019/20 in the NECA area there have been 24 inward investment projects leading to 801 new jobs. These comprised of:

- 17 FDI projects creating 494 jobs
- 7 UK projects creating 307 jobs.

Across the wider region (NECA and NTCA) there have been 53 successes generating 1,860 jobs.

3.0 Withdrawal from EU

3.1 The UK formally left the EU at 11pm on 31st January 2020, having signed a Withdrawal Agreement with the EU. The Government has said that it will negotiate a trade deal with the EU and agree it on or before 31st December 2020.

3.2 The timetable has been described as challenging by many and there is the possibility that the main aspects could be agreed while others are subject to further negotiation.

3.3 If no trade deal is negotiated, then the trading relationship between the UK and the EU would default to World Trade Organisation terms which include some compulsory tariffs as well as customs checks. Trade between the UK and the EU would no longer be “frictionless” and some of the immediate threats of disruption at UK ports identified in a “no deal” Brexit situation would resurface.

4.0 Reasons for the Proposals

4.1 This report provides an update on Economic Development and Digital theme.

5.0 Alternative Options Available

5.1 There are no alternative options associated with this report.

6.0 Next Steps and Timetable for Implementation

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6.1 A further update will be provided to the Board at subsequent meetings.

7.0 Potential Impact on Objectives

7.1 The activities under the Economic Development and Digital theme will support NECA in its aims to promote economic growth and regeneration in the area.

8.0 Financial and Other Resources Implications

8.1 There are no financial or other resource implications directly associated with this report as it is for information only.

9.0 Legal Implications

9.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

10.0 Key Risks

10.1 There are no specific risk management issues arising from this report.

11.0 Equality and Diversity

11.1 There are no specific equality and diversity issues arising from this report.

12.0 Crime and Disorder

12.1 There are no specific crime and disorder issues arising from this report.

13.0 Consultation/Engagement

13.1 There are no specific consultation and engagement issues arising from this report.

14.0 Other Impact of the Proposals

14.1 There are no further impacts arising from the proposals.

15.0 Appendices

15.1 None.

16.0 Background Papers

16.1 None.

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17.0 Contact Officers

17.1 Vince Taylor, Assistant Director of Economic Policy, Sunderland City Council,
vince.taylor@sunderland.gov.uk

18.0 Sign off

- 18.1
- Head of Paid Service: ✓
 - Monitoring Officer: ✓
 - Chief Finance Officer: ✓

19.0 Glossary

19.1 None.

Leadership Board

Date: 3rd March 2020

Agenda Item 7

Subject: Transport Thematic Lead Portfolio Update Report

Report of: Thematic Lead for transport

Executive Summary

The report provides an update on various transport matters of relevance to the NECA area.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Leadership Board notes the contents of this report.

1. **National bus strategy**

1.1 There have been two recent announcements on buses.

1.2 Firstly, on 6 February the Transport Secretary announced a package of measures to support bus services worth £220m – split over 4 areas:

- **Funding for Supported Bus Services** as direct grant
- **Electric Bus Town, Superbus** and **Rural Mobility** as bidding opportunities

1.3 Secondly, on 11 February the Prime Minister announced £5bn of funding to transform local transport. The £5bn is a future promise with details to be provided following the chancellor’s budget in March. It is anticipated that this will be a mix of direct grant and bidding competitions

The investment in bus services includes:

- Providing higher frequency services, including evenings and weekends, to make it easier and less restrictive for people to get around at any time of day;
- More ‘turn up and go’ routes where, thanks to higher frequency, people won’t have to rely on timetables to plan journeys;
- New priority schemes will make routes more efficient, so that buses avoid congested routes and can speed passengers through traffic
- More affordable, simpler fares;
- At least 4,000 new Zero Emission Buses to make greener travel the convenient option, driving forward the UK’s progress on its net zero ambitions.

1.4 The Government had already announced details of a number of new funding streams to support buses:

- *All electric bus town.* A £50M stream aimed at creating 1 or more towns where all the buses are electric. The fund will pay up to 75% of the extra cost of a zero-emission electric vehicle over a diesel vehicle. It will also pay for 75% of the cost of supporting infrastructure;
- *Superbus.* A £70M stream to increase bus patronage in an area through bus priority, reduced fares (via a daily fare cap) and increased service frequency. The Government is looking to fund up to 3 areas, with at least £10M per area, and initial expressions of interest are required by the end of April;
- *Funding for Supported Bus Services in 2020-21.* This is a 1-year funding stream to enhance (more frequent, longer hours etc) or re-

instate secured bus service. It can also be used to support some new services. £1.454 million has been earmarked for the NE Joint Transport Committee. To receive the money, authorities have to submit a statement showing how the authority will use the funding.

- 1.5 It is anticipated bids for the North East will be co-ordinated via the Joint Transport Committee. A Rural Mobility Fund has also been also announced, but authorities in the Joint Transport Committee area are not eligible to bid to this. The guidance states that transport authorities receiving Transforming Cities Fund are ineligible to bid for Rural Mobility Fund. We are challenging this with DfT.

2. Tyne and Wear Metro

- 2.1 Nexus have announced Stadler as the preferred bidder for the £362m contract to build new trains for Metro. This announcement follows a detailed competitive tender process in line with required legal requirements. This will provide:

Overview

- 42 new trains, carrying 600 passengers each

Passenger benefits

- Single train - walk right through
- Air-conditioning - plus heated floors in winter
- Mobile phone charging points throughout the train
- External destination screens
- Four wheelchair spaces per train plus bike/buggy/luggage areas
- Retractable step at every door - 16 in total
- Information screens throughout the train
- 15 times more reliable than current fleet
- Digital CCTV cameras in each train
- Wifi

Wider benefits

- 30% more energy efficient - saving enough high voltage power for every home in Tynemouth
- £70m new train depot featuring sedum roofing, rainwater recycling, daylight capture and other environmental features

3. Transforming Cities Fund (TCF)

- 3.1 The final TCF bid was submitted to the Department for Transport (DfT) late last year. The preferred bid is for £394m of improvements backed up with £70m of local match funding. A decision on the bid is expected by the end of this financial year.

4. Local Pinch Point Fund

- 4.1 Expressions of Interest were submitted by NECA authorities to the Government's Local Pinch Point Fund at the end of January. Proposals include:
- Improvements to the A693 in Stanley, Co Durham;
 - Construction of the Farrington By-pass in Sunderland;
 - Metro level crossing closure in South Tyneside;
 - Construction of the Baltic Quarter north/south road in Gateshead Quays.

5. Cycling and walking

- 5.1 On 12th February the Government announced significant additional funding for walking and cycling as part of its general announcement relating to buses. Details of this remain unclear, but initial indications are that about 1/3 of the £5 billion funding over 5 years is likely to be for walking and cycling projects.
- 5.2 Work is about to begin on developing a new Cycling and Walking Strategy for Sunderland, along with the associated Investment Strategy. The last cycling strategy was adopted in 2002 and is substantially out of date. The adoption of the Local Plan in January 2020 has provided the impetus to develop an updated strategy that is developed around the objectives of the City Plan.
- 5.3 Work on developing proposals associated with Gateshead's Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans (LCWIP), focused on the areas of Birtley and Deckham/Felling is continuing. Durham adopted a 'Strategic Cycling and Walking Delivery Plan' in 2019, which sets out the direction of travel for developing cycling and walking infrastructure over the next ten years. They are also developing detailed LCWIPs for their major towns.

Work on developing proposals associated with South Tyneside's Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) is progressing. A draft document and consultation are being undertaken now, which focuses on developing the required strategic cycling links across the Borough that will be required over the next 15 years.

6. Transport Plan for the North East

- 6.1 In November 2019 the North East Joint Transport Committee approved the vision, principles and objectives for the Plan:

Vision

“Moving to a green, healthy, dynamic and thriving North East”

Principles

- One total network
- Look to the future
- A great experience
- North East pride and passion; and
- Sound evidence and commitment to deliver for the region

Objectives

- Carbon- neutral transport
- Overcome inequality and grow our economy
- Healthier North East
- Appealing sustainable transport choices; and
- Safe, secure network

- 6.2 It is intended that a draft Plan will be available for consideration by the Joint Transport Committee towards the middle of this year.

7. Rail issues

- 7.1 The Government has made the following announcement in relation rail services:

- Setting up of a £500 million fund to develop a proposal for re-opening disused rail lines. Some of this funding has already been allocated to the proposed re-opening of the Ashington, Blyth and Tyne line in Northumberland. Other possible bids to this fund will be considered by the Joint Transport Committee;
- From 1st March it will be taking over the running of Northern Rail services. An early review of operations will prepare a new plan for Northern Rail within the first 100 days of the Government taking over the franchise;
- A commitment to the construction of the HS2 High Speed Rail Line.

This includes the development of the ‘High Speed North’ concept which would see the northern sections of the high-speed route integrated with the ‘Northern Powerhouse Rail’ concept. The details of this are yet to be clarified, but it is anticipated improvements to the East Coast Main Line (including possible reopening of the Leamside Line) will be an element in this work.

7.2 Trans Pennine Express services were subject to severe disruption towards the end of 2019 and in early 2020. This related to the introduction of a new timetable and trains from Liverpool to Newcastle services to extend up to Edinburgh.

7.3 Work on introducing a new station on the Durham Coast Line at Horden (Peterlee) is progressing well, with completion targeted for April 2020.

7.4 WSP have recently completed an initial feasibility study into improving capacity of Sunderland Station. Central to this was a timetable modelling exercise which looked at the capacity of the wider network and to determine the point at which capacity issues at Sunderland became critical. The main conclusions emerging from the study are that the current planned service enhancements – 2tph along Durham Coast line, 6th Metro path per hour and sixth Grand Central train per day – are possible with the station in its present form but flexibility and resilience are very limited. However, significant investment will be required to achieve further improvements that the City Council and industry partners aspire to in the future. This includes:

- Reinstatement of the western platform at the station (platform 5);
- Creation of a turnback facility between St Peters and Stadium of Light stations to facilitate terminating trains from the south not occupying a platform;
- Wider network improvements elsewhere along the Durham Coast route.

8. Proposals

8.1 This report is for information purposes only. Therefore, no decisions contained in this report.

9. Reasons for the Proposals

9.1 This report is for information purposes only.

10. Alternative Options Available

10.1 Not applicable to this report.

11. Next Steps and Timetable for Implementation

11.1 Timetables are set out as appropriate in relation to the individual items in the sections above.

12. Potential Impact on Objectives

12.1 Successful delivery of the various transport schemes and investment proposals will assist NECA in delivering its objective to maximise the area's opportunities and potential.

13. Financial and Other Resources Implications

13.1 The report includes information on funding and financial opportunities.

13.2 There are no specific additional financial implications for NECA arising from this report.

13.3 There are no Human Resource or ICT implications for NECA arising from this report.

14. Legal Implications

14.1 There are no specific legal implications arising from this report.

15. Key Risks

15.1 Risk of work streams not progressing in a timely manner may impact upon the region's ability to achieve its aspirations for improving transport.

16. Equality and Diversity

16.1 There are no specific equalities and diversity implications arising from this report.

17. Crime and Disorder

17.1 There are no specific crime and disorder implications arising from this report.

18. Consultation/Engagement

18.1 Many of the transport programmes outlined in this report have been the subject of consultation, at either a regional or national level.

19. Other Impact of the Proposals

19.1 No specific impacts

20. Appendices

20.1 Not applicable

21. Background Papers

21.1 Not applicable

22. Contact Officers

22.1 Sheena Ramsey

23. Sign off

- Head of Paid Service: ✓
- Monitoring Officer: ✓
- Chief Finance Officer: ✓

24. Glossary

24.1 None

Leadership Board

Date: 3 March 2020

Agenda Item 8

Subject: Finance, Skills & Employability - Thematic Update

Report of: Corporate Director

Executive Summary

This report seeks to provide an update on current Finance, Skills and Employability portfolio activity and the baseline position for a future 'Skills & Employment' ask for the North East Combined Authority.

Local Government financing remains an issue for careful review with the forthcoming Comprehensive Spending Review scheduled to report in the near future.

Skills and Employment considerations builds on the wide-ranging activity already underway and provides an opportunity for the Combined Authority to take a lead of Employment & Skills services in the coming years.

Central to the Skills and Employability agenda are the issues of financing particularly the reliance on external funding as we approach the final stages of the current European Structural Investment Fund programme with little detail as yet as to the operation of the UK Shared Prosperity fund, alongside ensuring the ongoing development of good partnership and inter authority working arrangements that have been developed.

Recommendations

The Leadership Board is recommended to

- i) receive this report for information.
- ii) Delegate the submission of a consultation response relating to sub-contracting to the Portfolio lead.

Leadership Board

1. Background Information

- 1.1 Further to the agreed portfolio leads and the update provided to the Leadership Board in February, activity continues to progress all aspects of the Finance, Skills and Employment needs and opportunities across NECA. Identification of the main issues and progress being made under each element is as follows:

2. Finance Theme

- 2.1 The spending review will set out the resources that are available for local government and it is important that the functions that NECA oversees as accountable body are properly resourced. Work will be undertaken with the Joint Transport Committee to lobby government for fair funding for transport across the north-east and for capital investment that will improve transport infrastructure.
- 2.2 The fair funding review will have a significant impact on the constituent local authorities that constitute NECA and where relevant NECA will lobby for a fair funding outcome from the review that is due to report later this calendar year.
- 2.3 An announcement from Government on the Transforming Cities Fund Tranche 2 (TCF2) bids is anticipated imminently and budgets will be revised once we have confirmation of the level of funding we will receive. The TCF Tranche 2 bid was for a total programme of up to £467.189 million including local contributions and was submitted to the Department for Transport on 28 November.

3. Skills Theme

3.1 Apprenticeships

- 3.2 Following the annual promotion focus associated with the National Apprenticeship week (3-7 February), a group of large employers including RBS, Coca Cola Europe and Kier Group have issued a statement calling on the government to leave the Apprenticeship Levy alone, preserve entry points to apprenticeships and ensure apprenticeships are properly funded amongst their supply chains, particularly non levy paying SMEs.
- 3.3 The employer group make ten key points relating to the current delivery of apprenticeships.

Leadership Board

- Employers are fully supportive of the apprenticeship reforms and do not want significant change.
- Apprenticeships must provide unconstrained entry points into employment which will vary from employer to employer, and job to job. For many level 2 is vital; however for many other employers it could be any other level up to level 7 or a range of levels.
- The apprenticeship reforms were designed to be employer-led and this should continue. Employers must be free to spend their levy in line with their business strategy and workforce planning, and on whom they feel would benefit from additional training through an apprenticeship.
- SMEs have suffered and been held back because of the constraints on the non-levy budget allocation. SMEs provide national coverage, and as a supply chain and a supply of labour to levy payers, are seen as a critical part of the apprenticeship system. Government should commit to a ring-fenced and guaranteed non-levy budget of at least £1.5bn and have separate, segregated funding approaches between levy and non-levy paying employers.
- Education is compulsory up to the age of 18; therefore apprenticeships for 16 to 18 year olds should be funded separately out of the DfE 16-18 budget, regardless of where they work, the vocational area of the level or programme they choose to undertake.
- Degree apprenticeships help widen access, drive progression, improve retention and change employee perceptions. In essence, degree apprenticeships are at the beginning of a journey, with employers likely to have a blended approach with degree apprenticeships complementing alongside rather than replacing traditional graduate recruitment programmes. Degree apprenticeships, particularly but not exclusively in the public sector have allowed individuals including the over 25s to get a degree when they otherwise would not have been able to do so due to falling short of normal degree entry requirements, or due to financial constraints and personal commitments.
- Apprenticeships provide a range of benefits to employers and the economy including improved business productivity. Progression to higher-level apprenticeships is not the only measure of success. Promotion, increased salaries, better staff retention, productivity improvements and career prospects are all equally valued measures by employers and employees.
- Work-based maths and English cannot be successfully delivered while the funding is not equal to other learners. If the government is serious about improving literacy and numeracy, equivalent funding must be made available.

Leadership Board

- Currently there is too much unnecessary and disproportionate bureaucracy within the apprenticeship system. Levy payers are the source of significant financial support for the apprenticeship reforms and there needs to be a higher level of trust between them and the government to deliver effective 20% off the job training. Employers and government have a mutual interest in well trained staff and much of the bureaucracy is both time consuming and unnecessary.
- Employers with their providers want to help government simplify the rules. With excessively detailed funding rules and requirements along with fragmented supporting guidance, an example of which is in the above point on off-the-job training, a more concise and targeted approach is required.

3.4 Devolution of Adult Education Budget

3.5 With devolution of the Adult Education Budget remaining a central strand of skills policy and over 50% of the current Adult Education Budget (AEB) nationally already being delivered through devolution deals, a number of areas are beginning to focus on measuring the impact of delivery under the devolved AEB and other skills training.

3.6 Areas such as Greater London and Liverpool city region are already exploring how impact of Devolved AEB can be assessed and across the skills sector there is a broad understanding that outcome based measures can be used to ensure proper comparison across as wide a range of factors as possible, whilst ensuring that measures are specifically relevant for local areas, taking into account variances in respective labour markets.

3.7 Some of the core principles being advocated when developing and implementing outcome-based impact assessments for AEB include:

- Outcome measures should take into account the learner's starting point to accurately assess distance travelled, impact on social mobility and real added value.
- Varying socio-economic factors affecting cohorts of learners should be recognised within all outcome-based measures and impact assessment approaches.

Leadership Board

- Minimise the administrative burden and financial costs of data collection to ensure the benefits of the measures are not outweighed and that value for money for learners remains paramount. and
- Ensure fairness across all provider groups through a system that allows providers to invest and plan delivery that maintains value for money throughout.

3.8 **Removal of Qualifications**

3.9 DfE have announced plans to remove funding for thousands of qualifications with low or no student numbers. There are around 5,000 qualifications which are not being taken by anyone or are being studied by less than 100 students each year may lose government funding, under plans announced by the Education Secretary Gavin Williamson.

3.10 This review could see qualifications with low or no enrolments having funding withdrawn in drive to level up skills and opportunities. This move is being driven by a need to ensure funding goes to in-demand qualifications which help students learn the skills they need to go on to have successful careers. It also forms part of the government's ongoing review of qualifications at Level 3 and below so more young people can progress, including introducing new T Level qualifications.

3.11 **March Budget and Education**

3.12 With the Budget imminent, sector body the Association of Employment and Learning Providers (AELP) has called on the Chancellor to use the budget to provide a fresh approach to education to reach forgotten communities and people.

3.13 Reflecting on much of the recent commentary relating to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund and recent government statements concerning regional prosperity, the AELP is calling on the chancellor to revive left-behind towns and communities through education with five key actions:

- HM Treasury should fund the extension of the pupil premium to support 16-to-18-year-olds from September 2020.
- HM Treasury should outline the 2021-2 budgets and remits for the National Skills Fund and college capital programme.
- The new Shared Prosperity Fund should be targeted at left behind areas where economic activity is lower, and unemployment is higher.

Leadership Board

- HM Treasury should support the Department for Education with its further education reform plans so that the Post 18 review recommendations can be implemented.
- DfE should develop a plan for the National Skills Fund which focuses on higher technical education in colleges to ensure that they are used in all parts of the country and for economically valuable skills.

3.14 Education and Skills Funding Agency – Subcontracting changes

3.14

3.15 Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) have announced a consultation about changes to arrangements for post 16 education and training delivered through subcontracting arrangements.

3.15

3.16

The consultation seeks to understand sector views about proposed reforms to eliminate poor subcontracting, better monitor subcontracts and ensure the best possible outcome for learners. and have proposed some quite radical changes and timescales.

3.17

There are nine proposals contained in the consultation. However, three have relevance given the profile of contracts and delivery across the NECA area namely;

- Limiting subcontracting distance – focussing on close proximity of subcontractors within Local Authorities, LEP areas or Combined Authorities, due to implications arising from travel to learn, travel to teach and the oversight and management of subcontractors
- Controlling the volume of subcontracting by a lead – reducing the maximum level of contract that can be subcontracted from 25% in 2021/22 to 10% in 2023/24.
- Restricting whole programme subcontracting – particularly relevant for some local authorities who act as commissioners of their ESFA adult s budget.

3.18

New Policy Advisor

3.19

The Government have announced Baroness Alison Wolf has taken up a role as a part time policy advisor on Adult Skills, working directly to the Prime Minister. Having previously authored the 2011 review of vocational education Baroness Wolf also participated in the 2015 Sainsbury review which introduced the T levels as well as the 2019 Auger review into FE & HE funding.

3.20

Speaking before the election, Baroness Wolf commented on the loss of education infrastructure such as evening classes and her appointment is seen against a

Leadership Board

backdrop of the manifesto commitment of a £600 million National Skills Fund and moves towards a “right to retrain”

4. Employment Theme

4.1 Universal Credit

The government has announced a further delay to the roll out of Universal credit, extending the full roll out from December 2023 to 2024. Information the Department for Work and Pensions has collected shows that natural migration is happening less frequently. Natural migration is when people who are already claiming benefits under the old system have a change in circumstances and are then forced instead to claim Universal Credit. It is anticipated that 900,000 fewer households nationally will naturally migrate between now and December 2023 (the initial forecast for the roll-out).

4.2 Integrated Mental Health & Employment Support

4.3 In 2015, local authorities across the LEP area began a discussion with Government about trialling a model of mental health and employment support. The three year North East Mental Health Trailblazer project was jointly-funded by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) and the European Social Fund (ESF).

4.4 The project tested the Individual Placement and Support (IPS) model, advocated by the Centre for Mental Health. IPS involves intensive, individual support, with rapid job search followed by placement in paid employment, and in-work support for the employee and employer. The Trailblazer placed IPS Employment Coaches into Increasing Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT) teams across the region. IAPT services are commissioned by Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) to provide a range of talking therapies. Central to the model was that Employment Coaches were fully integrated into IAPT teams and worked alongside the therapist to ensure joined-up support which is mutually beneficial to the participant.

4.5 The Trailblazer ran from January 2017 to December 2019. A summary of project performance data identifies:

- 1,462 residents were supported with IPS and mental health therapies.
- 273 people were supported into work, a conversion rate of 19% into work. This is a good return for a hard-to-help cohort. (The real figure is likely to be higher, but this is the verified jobs outcome).
- 1,027 were from jobless households. At 70% of all participants, this is an

Leadership Board

indicator that the cohort generally has a range of barriers to work.

- One quarter of participants were aged 50 and over. This is higher than forecast, but consistent with the claimant count age profile.
- The gender profile was 54% male - 46% female. While showing a male bias, this is lower than the latest claimant count profile of 61% male - 39% female.
- While the project expected a majority of participants to be ESA claimants with diagnosed mental health conditions, under 15% came from this group.
- The majority were Jobseekers Allowance / Universal Credit claimants, indicating demand among this more 'mainstream' jobseeker cohort.
- The programme had good retention rates once people attached to the programme, indicating they were well engaged by both their treatment and job search support.

4.6 DWP commissioned the Behavioural Insights Team (BIT) to evaluate the model across the three areas, and a report is expected in early 2020. While the BIT evaluation has not yet been released, more qualitative evidence indicates that the concurrent delivery of therapy with employment support, consistent with the IPS model, has been effective.

4.7 From the beginning of 2020 there appears to be a gap in local services. As well as Trailblazer, the ESF funded Links to Work programme delivering integrated support through FedCap came to an end in December 2019. The two major LEP wide health and employment programmes are thereby coming to an end at a period of high demand.

4.8 The National Lottery / ESF funded Building Better Opportunities, delivered through VCS partnerships, can join up support for people with health conditions, as can the current Integrated Employment support and Inclusive employment ESF programmes. However, these programmes while collectively well resourced, are not fully integrated with primary care services, and will come to an end in 2021.

4.9 Mental Health support currently provided by Job centres includes the continuation of previous pilot activity in Durham only, which sees a small team of JCP staff working directly from GP practices across the County providing employment support to clients with a wide range of health conditions. More sustainable and cross authority opportunities therefore appear limited at present.

Leadership Board

4.10 Cross-cutting Initiatives/Opportunities

4.11 ESF Programme

4.12 As the Local Programme element of the ESIF programme has concluded and remaining ESF is to be dealt with by means of a National reserve fund, significant progress in securing regional allocations has been made. Since October 2018 the Region (More Developed and Transitional Areas) has generated applications amounting to £110 million of ESF, with almost £70 million of ESF currently in appraisal.

4.13 There is a current open call for ESF Priority Axis 2 Skills for Growth in the more developed area. The deadline for applications for the £10 million ESF is 3 March 2020. A series of roundtable discussions have been ongoing with priority sector based organisations to gauge the appetite for large scale partnerships required to apply for the Fund – Minimum value of £2.5 million ESF applications.

4.14 In January 2020 the DWP established the national ‘Reserve Fund’ and the ESF Thematic Group are currently scoping potential applications across both Priority Axes and Categories of Regions.

5. Reasons for the Proposals

5.1 This report provides members with information about the headline issues being considered across the portfolio.

5.2 In respect of the Skills and Employability issues it provides details of the Skills and Employment working group’s starting point in developing an offer for further consideration by the Employment and Skills Board. Furthermore, the scope of the issues will inform future membership and governance proposals for the Employment & Skills Board.

6. Alternative Options Available

6.1 This report is for information only.

7. Next Steps and Timetable for Implementation

Leadership Board

7.1 Further updates will be provided to the Leadership Board on progress with the Fair Funding Review process as details are released by government.

Employment & Skills issues and opportunities for development remain under development through meetings of the Skills and Employment Working Group.

8. Potential Impact on Objectives

8.1 This report is for information only.

9. Financial and Other Resources Implications

9.1 There are no additional financial implications as this report is for information only.

10. Legal Implications

10.1 There are no specific legal implications arising from this report.

11. Key Risks

11.1 This report is for information.

12. Equality and Diversity

12.1 There are no equality and diversity implications directly arising from this report.

13. Crime and Disorder

13.1 There are no crime and disorder implications directly arising from this report.

14. Consultation/Engagement

14.1 Economic Directors have been fully consulted on the contents of this paper.

15. Other Impact of the Proposals

Leadership Board

15.1 There are no other impacts arising from this report.

16. Appendices

16.1 None.

17. Background Papers

17.1 1. Thematic Portfolio Update 4 February 2020

18. Contact Officers

18.1 Geoff Paul, Interim Corporate Director Regeneration and Local Services

19. Sign Off

- 19.1
- Head of Paid Service: ✓
 - Monitoring Officer: ✓
 - Chief Finance Officer: ✓

20. Glossary

20.1 None.

Leadership Board

Date: 3 March 2020

Agenda Item 9

Subject: Amendment to EDDAB Terms of Reference

Report of: Deputy Monitoring Officer of the North East Combined Authority

Executive Summary

This report proposes a change to the Terms of Reference of the Economic Development and Digital Advisory Board (EDDAB) in the NECA Constitution.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the proposed amendment to EDDAB's Terms of Reference be approved.

Leadership Board

1. Background Information

- 1.1 It was agreed in March 2019 that EDDAB would undertake a review in relation to its role and remit. The outcome of the review and recommendations were presented to Members of EDDAB in November 2019.
- 1.2 It was recommended in the review that co-opted Members of EDDAB be allowed to nominate one substitute each. Members of EDDAB agreed to proceed with this recommendation.
- 1.3 This requires a change to EDDAB's Terms of Reference as set out in the NECA Constitution, which requires formal approval from the NECA Leadership Board.

2. Proposed Change

- 2.1 It is proposed that EDDAB's Terms of Reference be updated to allow co-opted Members of EDDAB to nominate one substitute each.
- 2.2 All substitute co-opted Members of the Board must be approved by the NECA Leadership Board.
- 2.3. In Part 3.2 of the NECA Constitution, in the 'Information' section, point 2 be updated to reflect this change to EDDAB's Terms of Reference.

3. Recommendation

- 3.1 It is recommended that the proposed amendment to EDDAB's Terms of Reference be approved.

4. Proposals

- 4.1 The Leadership Board agrees the recommendation contained in this report.

Leadership Board

5. Reasons for the Proposals

- 5.1 The proposal contained in this report will ensure that the business community and co-opted Members of EDDAB are able to continue to support and contribute effectively to the work of EDDAB and NECA.

6. Alternative Options Available

- 6.1 There are no alternative options submitted for consideration. However, the NECA Leadership Board could decide not to approve the recommendation contained in this report.

7. Financial and Other Resources Implications

- 7.1 There are no direct financial implications associated with this report. No remuneration is payable by NECA to Members of EDDAB.

8. Legal Implications

- 8.1 There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.

9. Key Risks

- 9.1 There are no risks arising as a result of the proposals.

10. Equality and Diversity

- 10.1 There are no specific equality and diversity implications arising from this report.

11. Appendices

- 11.1 None

12. Contact Officers

- 12.1 Nicola Robason, NECA Deputy Monitoring Officer, South Tyneside Council
E-mail: Nicola.robason@southtyneside.gov.uk Tel: 0191 424 7050

Leadership Board

13. Sign off

- Head of Paid Service: ✓
- Monitoring Officer: ✓
- Chief Finance Officer: ✓

14 Glossary

- NECA - North East Combined Authority
- EDDAB – Economic Development and Digital Advisory Board

Leadership Board

Date: 3 March 2020

Agenda Item 10

Subject: Draft Motion on Anti-Semitism Definition

The North East Combined Authority recognises:

- 1.1 The leadership already shown by the NECA constituent authorities in addressing anti-Semitism within their areas and their previous acknowledgement of the seriousness of religious or cultural intolerance.
- 1.2 The NECA constituent authorities have already acknowledged the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) definition of anti-Semitism which is supported by the major representative bodies of the Jewish Community including the Board of Deputies of British Jews, the Jewish Leadership Council and the European Jewish Congress.
- 1.3 That a vast amount of work is taking place across the NECA area to support and celebrate the cultural and religious differences within our communities.

In recognition of the seriousness of anti-Semitism, the North East Combined Authority resolves to:

- i. To adopt the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) definition of anti-Semitism which reads:

“Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed towards Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, towards Jewish community institutions and religious facilities”;

- ii. Continue to support and celebrate the cultural and religious differences within our communities;
- iii. Working with other partners and stakeholders to take a zero-tolerance approach to religious and cultural discrimination within our communities.

Proposer: Councillor I Malcolm

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Agenda Item 12

Document is Restricted