



## Forward Plan of Decisions

**20 March 2023**

The Forward Plan for the North East Combined Authority (NECA) is prepared and published by the Monitoring Officer for the purpose of:

- A. Giving 28 days' notice of key decisions that are planned to be taken by the NECA, its Boards, Committees or Chief Officers
- B. Complete transparency about decisions – the Plan also includes an overview of non-key decisions to be taken by the Combined Authority or its Chief Officers

Included within the Forward Plan are decisions that are to be made by:

- [NECA Committees](#)
- [North East Joint Transport Committees](#)
- [Officers under delegation \(Delegated Decisions\)](#)

Unless otherwise indicated, if you require any further information or wish to make representations about any of the matters contained in the Forward Plan please contact the appropriate officer as detailed against each entry at least 7 days before the meeting.

**\*The most recent entries are referred to as “NEW”. Updated entries are referred to as “Updated”. Items withdrawn since the last publication are referred to as “Withdrawn” and following that will be removed altogether.**

Further information about the Forward Plan and NECA Decision Making can be found in 'The Combined Authorities (Overview and Scrutiny Committees, Access to Information and Audit Committees) Order 2017' and the NECA Overview and Scrutiny Committee's Decision Making Protocol which can be found at <http://northeastca.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/NECA-Decision-Making-Protocol.pdf>

### NECA Committees

Reference Number and Thematic Area	Decision expected to be made on or within 60 days of	Decision Type: Key or Non-Key	Decision Maker	Details of Decision to be taken	Additional Documents for consideration	Contact Officer	Decision to be made in Public or Private (and relevant category of exemption)
<b>Leadership Board</b>							
LB 6 (a) Economic Development and Digital (Standing Item)	4 April 2023	Non-key	Leadership Board	<b>Economic Development and Digital Thematic Update</b> To note and provide any comments on the update report on the Economic Development and Digital Thematic Lead Portfolio		Rory Sherwood-Parkin Senior Economic Policy Manager – South Tyneside Council <a href="mailto:rory.sherwood-parkin@southtyneside.gov.uk">rory.sherwood-parkin@southtyneside.gov.uk</a>	Public
LB 6 (b) Chairman's Portfolio (Standing Item)	4 April 2023	Non-key	Leadership Board	<b>Thematic Lead Portfolio Update Report from the Chair</b> To provide an update on the Chair's Thematic Lead Portfolio – for information and comment		Beverley Poulter Lead Policy Advisor to Leader and Chief Executive – Sunderland City Council <a href="mailto:Beverley.poulter@sunderland.gov.uk">Beverley.poulter@sunderland.gov.uk</a>	Public
LB 6 (c) Finance and Skills and Employment (Standing Item)	4 April 2023	Non-key	Leadership Board	<b>Finance and Skills and Employment Thematic Lead Portfolio Update Report</b> To provide an update on the Finance and Skills and Employment Thematic Lead Portfolio		Graham Wood Economic Development Manager – Durham County Council <a href="mailto:graham.wood@durham.gov.uk">graham.wood@durham.gov.uk</a> John Tindale Employability Manager – Durham County Council <a href="mailto:john.tindale@durham.gov.uk">john.tindale@durham.gov.uk</a>	Public

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LB 6 (d) Transport (Standing Item)	4 April 2023	Non-key	Leadership Board	<b>Transport Thematic Lead Portfolio Update Report</b>  To provide an update on the Transport Thematic Lead Portfolio		Stuart Corker  Transport Planning Team Leader - Gateshead Council  <a href="mailto:stuartcorker@gateshead.gov.uk">stuartcorker@gateshead.gov.uk</a>	Public
LB 6 (e) Corporate Issue	4 April 2023	Key	Leadership Board	<b>Statement of Accounts 2021/2022</b>  To authorise the Chief Finance Officer to sign the Letter of Representation on behalf of the Authority; approve the Statement of Accounts for 2021/22; authorise the Chair of the Leadership Board and the Chief Finance Officer to make any further adjustments required to the Statement of Accounts as a result of the conclusion of the external audit and to sign the Statement of Accounts for 2021/22; approve the Annual Governance Statement; and authorise the Chair of the Leadership Board and the Head of Paid Service to sign the Annual Governance Statement.		Eleanor Goodman  Finance Manager – NECA  <a href="mailto:Eleanor.goodman@northeastca.gov.uk">Eleanor.goodman@northeastca.gov.uk</a>	Public

Reference Number and Thematic Area	Decision expected to be made on or within 60 days of	Decision Type: Key or Non-Key	Decision Maker	Details of Decision to be taken	Additional Documents for consideration	Contact Officer	Decision to be made in Public or Private (and relevant category of exemption)
LB 6 (f) Corporate Issue	4 April 2023	Non-Key	Leadership Board	<b>Audit Completion Report 2021/22</b> For information only	<b>Audit Strategy Memorandum – NECA Audit and Standards 27 Sept 2022 – Item 4</b>	Jim Dafter Senior Manager – Mazars <a href="mailto:jim.dafter@mazars.co.uk">jim.dafter@mazars.co.uk</a>	Public
<b>Audit and Standards Sub-Committee</b>							
There are no meetings currently scheduled.							
<b>Audit and Standards Committee</b>							
AS 4 (a) Corporate Issue	11 April 2023	Non-Key	Audit and Standards Committee	<b>North East Combined Authority Internal Audit Plan 2023/24</b> For comment and consideration.		Tracy Davis Senior Manager, Assurance - Sunderland City Council <a href="mailto:tracy.davis@sunderland.gov.uk">tracy.davis@sunderland.gov.uk</a> 07342 704254	Public
AS 4 (b) Corporate Issue	11 April 2023	Non-Key	Audit and Standards Committee	<b>Agreement of Accounting Policies for Application in the 2022/23 Financial Statements</b> To review the accounting policies outlined in Appendix 1; approve their use in the preparation of the 2022/23 financial statements; authorise the Chief Finance Officer to review the accounting policies as		Eleanor Goodman Finance Manager – NECA <a href="mailto:Eleanor.goodman@northeastca.gov.uk">Eleanor.goodman@northeastca.gov.uk</a>	Public

Reference Number and Thematic Area	Decision expected to be made on or within 60 days of	Decision Type: Key or Non-Key	Decision Maker	Details of Decision to be taken	Additional Documents for consideration	Contact Officer	Decision to be made in Public or Private (and relevant category of exemption)
				necessary and report any changes to the Audit and Standards Committee.			
AS 4 (c) Corporate Issue	11 April 2023	Non-Key	Audit and Standards Committee	<b>Audit Completion Report</b> For information only.		Eleanor Goodman Finance Manager – NECA <a href="mailto:Eleanor.goodman@northeastca.gov.uk">Eleanor.goodman@northeastca.gov.uk</a>	Public
AS 4 (d) Corporate Issue	11 April 2023	Non-Key	Audit and Standards Committee	<b>Changes to the Code of Practice for Local Authority Accounting in the UK</b> To note.		Eleanor Goodman Finance Manager – NECA <a href="mailto:Eleanor.goodman@northeastca.gov.uk">Eleanor.goodman@northeastca.gov.uk</a>	Public
AS 4 (e) Corporate Issue	11 April 2023	Non-Key	Audit and Standards Committee	<b>Statement of Accounts</b> For review in advance of presentation to the NECA Leadership Board for formal approval.		Eleanor Goodman Finance Manager – NECA <a href="mailto:Eleanor.goodman@northeastca.gov.uk">Eleanor.goodman@northeastca.gov.uk</a>	Public
<b>Overview and Scrutiny Committee</b>							
OS 4 (a) Corporate Issue (Standing Item)	16 March 2023	Non-Key	Overview and Scrutiny Committee	<b>Forward Plan and Work Programme Update</b> For information and agreement.		Gavin Armstrong Policy & Scrutiny Officer – NECA <a href="mailto:Gavin.armstrong@northeastca.gov.uk">Gavin.armstrong@northeastca.gov.uk</a>  07825 658575	Public

Reference Number and Thematic Area	Decision expected to be made on or within 60 days of	Decision Type: Key or Non-Key	Decision Maker	Details of Decision to be taken	Additional Documents for consideration	Contact Officer	Decision to be made in Public or Private (and relevant category of exemption)
OS 4 (b) Corporate Issue	16 March 2023	Non-Key	Overview and Scrutiny Committee	<b>Working Group Update</b> To provide an update on the minded to Devolution Deal for the North East.		Gavin Armstrong Policy & Scrutiny Officer – NECA <a href="mailto:Gavin.armstrong@northeastca.gov.uk">Gavin.armstrong@northeastca.gov.uk</a> 07825 658575	Public
OS 4 (c) Corporate Issue	16 March 2023	Non-key	Overview and Scrutiny Committee	<b>Devolution Update</b> To provide an update on the minded to Devolution Deal for the North East.		Gavin Armstrong Policy & Scrutiny Officer – NECA <a href="mailto:Gavin.armstrong@northeastca.gov.uk">Gavin.armstrong@northeastca.gov.uk</a> 07825 658575	Public
<b>Economic Development and Digital Advisory Board (EDDAB)</b>							
ED (3) Corporate Issue	7 March 2023	Non-Key	EDDAB	<b>Economic Recovery Update</b> For information only.		George Mansbridge Corporate Director - South Tyneside Council <a href="mailto:George.mansbridge@southtyneside.gov.uk">George.mansbridge@southtyneside.gov.uk</a> Rory Sherwood-Parkin Corporate Lead - South Tyneside Council <a href="mailto:rory.sherwood-parkin@southtyneside.gov.uk">rory.sherwood-parkin@southtyneside.gov.uk</a>	Public

### North East Joint Transport Committees

Reference Number	Decision expected to be made on or within 60 days of	Decision Type: Key or Non-Key	Decision Maker	Details of Decision to be taken	Additional Documents for consideration	Contact Officer	Decision to be made in Public or Private (and relevant category of exemption)
<b>North East Joint Transport Committee</b>							
JTC 8 (a)	18 April 2023	Non-key	JTC	<p><b>Transport Plan Progress Report</b></p> <p>The Joint Transport Committee is recommended to note the contents of this report.</p>	None	<p>Tobyn Hughes</p> <p><a href="mailto:Tobyn.hughes@transportnortheast.gov.uk">Tobyn.hughes@transportnortheast.gov.uk</a></p>	Public
JTC 8 (b)	18 April 2023	Key	JTC	<p><b>Transforming Cities Fund Tranche 2 – Grant Funding Agreements</b></p> <p>This report will seek JTC approval to allocate funding from the Transforming Cities Fund (TCF) Devolved Pot to a number of schemes, subject to successful appraisal in line with the North East Transport Assurance Framework.</p>	None	<p>Jonathan Bailes, Transport Programme Lead</p> <p><a href="mailto:Jonathan.bailes@transportnortheast.gov.uk">Jonathan.bailes@transportnortheast.gov.uk</a></p>	Public
JTC 8 (c)	18 April 2023	Key	JTC	<p><b>Bus Service Improvement Plan – Fares package</b></p> <p>This report asks the JTC to approve the Capped Fares Scheme which will allow for the introduction of BSIP funded fares offers.</p>	<p>North East Bus Service Improvement Plan</p> <p><a href="https://transportnortheast.gov.uk/TNE-BSIP_FINAL.pdf">TNE-BSIP_FINAL.pdf (transportnortheast.gov.uk)</a></p> <p>Enhanced Partnership (Public Pack)Agenda Document for North East Joint Transport Committee, 21/03/2023 14:30 (northeastca.gov.uk)</p> <p>Vision for Buses <a href="https://northeastca.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/2021.07.13-JTC-Public-Agenda-Pack-v2.pdf">https://northeastca.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/2021.07.13-JTC-Public-Agenda-Pack-v2.pdf</a></p> <p>Bus Back Better - The National Bus Strategy <a href="https://assets.publishing.s">https://assets.publishing.s</a></p>	<p>Philip Meikle, Transport Strategy Director, Transport North East</p> <p><a href="mailto:philip.meikle@transportnortheast.gov.uk">philip.meikle@transportnortheast.gov.uk</a></p> <p>Heather Jones Head of Enhanced Partnerships, Transport North East</p> <p><a href="mailto:Heather.jones@transportnortheast.gov.uk">Heather.jones@transportnortheast.gov.uk</a></p>	Public



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<b>Joint Transport Committee Tyne and Wear Sub-Committee (TWSC)</b>							
TWSC 4 (a)	6 April 2023	Non-key	TWSC	<b>Nexus Corporate Performance Update</b> To provide an update on the performance of Nexus against its Corporate Business Plan for 2022/23.	None	Martin Kearney Managing Director, Nexus <a href="mailto:Martin.kearney@nexus.org.uk">Martin.kearney@nexus.org.uk</a>	Public
TWSC 4 (b)	6 April 2023	Non-key	TWSC	<b>Nexus Corporate Risks 2023/24</b> Providing an update on the Nexus Corporate Risk Register for 2023/24 based on the approved Corporate Plan and demonstrates that these risks are being properly managed and controlled.	None	Martin Kearney Managing Director, Nexus <a href="mailto:Martin.kearney@nexus.org.uk">Martin.kearney@nexus.org.uk</a>	Public
TWSC 4 (c)	6 April 2023	Non-key	TWSC	<b>Nexus Corporate Business Plan 2023/24 – 2027/28</b> To present Nexus Corporate Business Plan 2023/24 - 2027/28.	None	Martin Kearney Managing Director, Nexus <a href="mailto:Martin.kearney@nexus.org.uk">Martin.kearney@nexus.org.uk</a>	Public
TWSC 4 (d)	6 April 2023	Key	TWSC	<b>Introduction of £1 21 and under fares on Metro, Shields Ferry and Secured Bus from May 2023</b> This report outlines the proposed introduction of a new offer for young people aged 21 and under on Metro, Shields Ferry and Secured Bus from 7 <sup>th</sup> May 2023	None	Martin Kearney Managing Director, Nexus <a href="mailto:Martin.kearney@nexus.org.uk">Martin.kearney@nexus.org.uk</a>	Public



North East Joint Transport Committee Audit Committee (JTC Audit Committee)							
JTC Audit 3 (a)	5 April 2023	Non-key	JTC Audit	<b>Joint Transport Committee Internal Audit Plan 2023/24</b> To consider and comment on the Internal Audit Plan for the Joint Transport Committee for 2023/24	None	Tracy Davis Senior Manager – Assurance (Sunderland City Council) 07342704254 <a href="mailto:tracy.davis@sunderland.gov.uk">tracy.davis@sunderland.gov.uk</a>	Public
North East Joint Transport Committee Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JTC Overview and Scrutiny Committee)							
2023/24 North East Joint Transport Committee Overview and Scrutiny Committee dates to be confirmed.							