NORTH EAST COMBINED AUTHORITY AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS – NOTICE OF PUBLIC RIGHTS

The Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 (as amended by the Accounts and Audit (Amendment) Regulations 2021) Local Audit (Public Access to Documents) Act 2017

Rights to inspect the Statement of Accounts and accounting records

Notice is given that the unaudited statement of accounts of North East Combined Authority and its Group for the year ended 31 March 2023 will be available for inspection as determined below. The statement of accounts is unaudited and may be subject to change.

Notice is given that, during the periods and times specified below:

Thursday 1 June to Wednesday 12 July 2023 between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday to Friday

any person interested or any journalist may inspect and make copies of unaudited accounts of North East Combined Authority and its Group for the year ended 31 March 2023 and all books, deeds, contracts, bills, vouchers and receipts relating to them. The unaudited accounts will be available for inspection on the authority's website at <u>www.northeastca.gov.uk</u> and all other documents will be made available upon request to the email address: <u>finance@northeastca.gov.uk</u>.

Rights to question the auditor and to make objections at audit

Notice is given that, under section 26 of the Local Accountability and Audit Act 2014, a local government elector may question the auditor about the accounting records for the financial year ended 31 March 2023 and, under section 27 of the Act, a local government elector may make an objection to the auditor which:

- concerns a matter in respect of which the auditor could make a public interest report under section 24 of the Act; or
- concerns an item of account in respect of which the auditor could apply for a declaration that the item is unlawful under Section 28 of the Act.

These rights may be exercised between Thursday 1 June 2023 to Wednesday 12 July 2023, between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday to Friday.

Any requests to question the auditor and any objections must be made either in writing to the auditor at the following address:

Mr Gavin Barker, Mazars LLP, The Corner, Bank Chambers, 26 Mosley Street, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 1DF

Or via email to <u>Durham.Admin@mazars.co.uk</u>

A copy of any objection must also be sent to NECA at the address below:

Paul Darby, Chief Finance Officer, North East Combined Authority, c/o Durham County Council, County Hall, Durham, DH1 5UE.