

North Tyneside Council

Report to Cabinet

Date: 26 November 2018

ITEM 6(c)

Title: An ambition for North Tyneside

Portfolio: Regeneration

Cabinet Member:

Cllr Bruce Pickard

Responsible Officer: Paul Hanson, Acting Chief Executive

Tel: 0191 643 7000

Wards affected: All

PART 1

1.1 Executive Summary:

The people and places of North Tyneside have always been about ambition. The aim of this report is to articulate the Elected Mayor and Cabinet's ambition for North Tyneside.

On 20th July 2017 North Tyneside Council agreed its Local Plan. The first spatial strategy for 15 years, it sets a vision for the Borough for the next 15 years. Listening carefully to residents and business the Local Plan balances the needs of a growing population while trying to ensure we retain the things that make North Tyneside special; the river, the green space, the coast; the great travel links, brilliant businesses and inspirational education system. This plan looks forward across the same timescales; matching ambition to the plan for the place.

First we looked back; it was important to understand what has been achieved by and for the people of North Tyneside and how the Borough has changed. That transformation gives a sense of what is possible and what works.

Then we looked forward; taking each portion of the Borough and thinking about its needs. What do the population of Wallsend need in the next 15 years? What do the businesses of Killingworth, Dudley, Longbenton and Forest Hall need in the next 15 years? How should we try to shape North Shields and how do we build on the success along the coast? What do we care about in the coming years and how do we demonstrate we have listened and have deep ambition for North Tyneside?

The Elected Mayor, Cabinet and the Officer team have then spent time working through the following: What do we know about the needs of each area of the Borough? What, therefore, are we trying to achieve with those communities? What has been delivered over the last 15 years? What are we doing now? What will we do next? And what will we do if we can when we can?

The plan spells out the scope of ambition and what the Authority will try and achieve with our partners for our communities.

1.2 Recommendation(s):

It is recommended that Cabinet:

- (1) Agree the overall plan;
- (2) Agree the proposals to engage on the overall plan and specific projects;
- (3) Agree the Priority Projects for external funding consideration; and
- (4) Agree that the overall plan will be monitored by the Investment Programme Board and progress reported regularly to Cabinet.

1.3 Forward Plan:

Twenty eight days notice of this report has been given and it first appeared on the Forward Plan that was published on 19th October 2018.

1.4 Council Plan and Policy Framework

This report is directly concerned with the delivery of the entire Our North Tyneside Plan with direct benefits expected for Our People, Our Place and Our Economy.

1.5 Information:

1.5.1 Background

Ambition and Innovation

The people and places of North Tyneside have always been about ambition. The Romans saw the boundary of an empire with opportunity for trade. The Friars and then Ralph Gardner saw the potential of the river at its mouth. The Stephenson's were ambitious for the future of transport. John Buddle wanted miners to be safer. John Foster Spence believed more lives could be saved at sea. Robert Richardson Dees wanted the people of Wallsend to have somewhere to relax: While Norah Balls' desire for votes for woman saw her arrested outside Downing Street as part of a winning cause.

The people and place have an enduring impact.

And they still do; crafting history back to life on The Bluebird Project, building parts for the main US battle tank, bringing technology to the world and games to fingertips, North Tyneside and its people continue to shape the world around them.

They influence the world of work and the world of leisure. Two North Tynesiders topped the charts in the last year. One made his debut for Newcastle United.

As their local authority we want to support that ambition and innovation and we want to demonstrate ambition of our own. This document explains how we hope to help shape North Tyneside and make sure it is fit for the future.

On the 4th and 5th May 2017 Norma Redfearn was re-elected as Mayor of North Tyneside. Having listened to the people of the Borough, The Our North Tyneside Plan 2017-2021 sets out her and the Cabinet's promises to the Borough for the next 4 years

across people, place and economy. It is explicit in what it aims for, for North Tyneside. Making sure our people are ready for school, ready for work and life. Making sure that everyone is cared for, healthy and safeguarded and making sure North Tyneside and its businesses are part of a great place to live, work and visit.

On 20th July 2017 North Tyneside Council agreed its Local Plan. The first spatial strategy for 15 years, it sets a vision for the Borough for the next 15 years. Listening carefully to residents and business the Local Plan balances the needs of a growing population while trying to ensure we retain the things that make North Tyneside special; the river, the green space, the coast; the great travel links, brilliant businesses and inspirational education system. This plan looks forward across the same timescales; matching ambition to the plan for the place.

1.5.2 **Scope and approach**

While this document considers carefully the work done in partnership with residents, communities, business, visitors and the community and voluntary sector it focuses mostly on the work that can be led by the Authority.

In considering the Borough, the planning and policy work has considered the issues that touch the entire Borough and then each part of the Borough. The geographic scope is described by Council Ward in the specific sections but in broad terms North Tyneside has been considered as

- The South West area around Wallsend, including the communities who live in Howdon, Willington Quay, Hadrian Park, High Farm and Battle Hill
- The North West including Benton and Longbenton, Forest Hall and Killingworth, Dudley, Weetslade, Burradon, Camperdown and Fordley
- The North East area around Whitley Bay, including Monkseaton and Earsdon, Shiremoor, Backworth and West Allotment; and
- The South East area around North Shields, including Cullercoats and Tynemouth, Chirton and Percy Main

But first we looked back; it was important to understand what has been achieved by and for the people of North Tyneside and how the Borough has changed. That transformation gives a sense of what is possible and what works.

Then we looked forward; taking each portion of the Borough and thinking about its needs. What do the population of Wallsend need in the next 15 years? What do the businesses of Killingworth, Dudley, Longbenton and Forest Hall need in the next 15 years? How should we try to shape North Shields and how do we build on the success along the coast? What do we care about in the coming years and how do we demonstrate we have listened and have deep ambition for North Tyneside?

The questions we asked were

- What do we know about the needs of each area of the Borough?
- What, therefore, are we trying to achieve with those communities?
- What has been delivered over the last 15 years?

- What are we doing now?
- What will we do next? And
- What will we do if we can when we can?

1.5.3 North Tyneside today

North Tyneside has changed and is changing. The Borough has a population of just over 203 000 which is expected to grow to include more young people and older people living longer.

Today we have 97 600 homes – 3 000 more than 6 years ago. Of those, around 66% are owner-occupied, 22% are affordable and 13% are privately rented. The median house price has risen from £142 000 to just under £160 000 since 2010.

Over 80 000 of our residents are in work and the biggest proportion work in North Tyneside (47%) with 30% working in Newcastle upon Tyne and 8% working in Northumberland. The Borough is home to around 5 000 businesses ranging from world-renown names to large numbers of creative and dynamic small and medium-sized enterprises.

The Borough sees around 5.7m visitors supporting almost 4 000 jobs. And the numbers are growing.

1.5.4 Borough-wide ambition

The Elected Mayor and Cabinet's ambitions for the Borough have been well described in two iterations of the Our North Tyneside Plan. Specific commitments have been made and are being met in terms of Our People, Our Place and Our Economy.

Looking toward the next 15 years the current commitments are as follows.

Our People

Will be listened to. Will be ready for school. Will be ready for work and life. Will be healthy and well. Will be cared for, protected and supported. Will be encouraged to be more independent, volunteer and do more for themselves and local communities.

Cabinet has already considered and are delivering detailed plans in all of these areas but in the coming years this will also specifically mean

- Delivery of a programme to ensure the Authority works better for residents making sure they know we listen and we care
- Continued support to early years and education to get our children and young people the best possible start in life
- Continued work to make sure as many people as possible have good physical and mental health
- Building on work to make sure the people of North Tyneside continue to have the right skills to take advantage of a growing economy; and
- Continuing work to tackle the impact of deprivation

Our Place

Will be a great place to live. Will offer a good choice of quality housing. Benefit from the completion of the North Tyneside Living Project. Provide a clean, green, healthy, attractive, safe and sustainable environment. Have effective transport and physical infrastructure. Continue to regenerate Wallsend and Whitley Bay and deliver new schemes in Killingworth and Forest Hall. Be a thriving place of choice for visitors.

Again, Cabinet has already considered and are delivering detailed plans in all of these areas but in the coming years this will also specifically mean

- Delivery of a programme to encourage a greater sense of place, particularly in our areas of greatest deprivation
- Plans to tackle anti-social behaviour and promote community safety
- Delivery of the affordable homes programme and the Master Plans at Killingworth and Murton; and
- Development and delivery of a programme of public art to celebrate our communities and what makes them special.

Our economy

Will grow by supporting new businesses and building on our strengths. Will be business friendly, ensuring the right skills and conditions are in place to support investment. Will continue to support investment in our business parks, units and town centres.

Cabinet has already worked to deliver detailed plans in all of these areas but in the coming years this will also specifically mean

- Work with Newcastle City Council and Northumberland County Council to make sure the Devolution Deal and the Combined Authority deliver inclusive growth; and
- Target infrastructure investment at improving the economy, particularly examining and adjusting the design of our town centres to improve access and traffic flow

1.5.5 The rest of this report explains in more detail the Elected Mayor and Cabinet's ambitions for the each part of the Borough. The Appendices provide detail on what has been achieved in the last 15 years or so. What is currently planned, what will happen next and what we will do, if we can and when we can.

1.5.6 For the South West

What it has

The South West has some fantastic assets; a World Heritage site at Segedunum, the industrial north bank of the Tyne, with world leading business (including the Swans site), a great leisure offer with Hadrian Leisure Centre, well used libraries and the refurbished Richardson Dees Parks. And, for some parts of the community, some strong transport links.

It also has some sharp contrasts between deprivation and affluence. It is the area of the Borough with the most students. It has more people who need help with mental health needs. It has concentrations of people suffering from deprivation who also work and concentrations of poor quality private rented housing.

What we are trying to achieve

Based on those strengths and those needs we are trying to support business and residents to create more and better jobs. To connect those parts of the area that do not have strong transport links.

We want to improve the housing offer and improve the sense of place and community: In doing so we want to close the gap in life chances.

How we will achieve that

Right now: The investment and plans for Swans continue with further development of the Centre for Innovation and additional demolition work; Affordable homes work continues in Battle Hill and Howdon.

Next: Later this year Cabinet will consider its options for Swans now that the site has been secured and prepared for development. A working group with Tyne and Wear Archives and Museums is considering a long term plan for Segedunum and plans are being considered for the GB Hunter Memorial Hospital Building and The Buddle. Further work is being done to develop Wallsend as a pilot for our approach to community hubs.

When funding and timing allows: the agreed long term plan for Segedunum will be delivered, plans for housing renewal will be developed and delivered; as will a long term plan to redesign traffic and transport flows around the town centre.

1.5.7 For the North West

What it has

The North West is a great place to live across a range of historic communities with a mining past and a new town; the area has a broad range of housing and sees strong demand from families who want to live there. It has access to national infrastructure assets at the A1 and Newcastle Airport with a good leisure offer. And, a significant portion of the Borough's open land and major development sites.

It also has small pockets of deprivation with a gap in life chances. And, particularly towards Dudley, Fordley, Annitsford, Seaton Burn and Wideopen, a public transport deficit.

What we are trying to achieve

For the North West we are trying to develop sustainable communities, supporting retail and bringing local centres to life while meeting housing need (particularly in and around the former mining communities). We aim to grow the economy, seeing more and better jobs to which people are better connected. And deliver the Killingworth Master Plan in a way that promotes a richer living environment on human scale.

How we will achieve that

Right now: A major flood alleviation project is being delivered at Killingworth Lake to improve the leisure offer and to help make the drainage in the area more sustainable. Forest Hall shopping centre is being improved. A new 3G pitch is planned for Killingworth Young People's Club and the Authority has begun the redevelopment of its

depot site. Work is underway to add a bus lane and improve access for cyclists and pedestrians along Salters' Lane between Haddrick's Mill and West Moor.

Next: Additional infrastructure works at the A189/A1056 'Weetslade' roundabout as part of Bellway scheme. Work to celebrate further the area's mining heritage including development of the Waggonways.

When funding and timing allows: The delivery of the Killingworth Master Plan to include the right transport infrastructure and school capacity. Development of the transport network including continued lobbying for a Metro extension and a Coast to the Airport through train. Further development at Killingworth Lake.

1.5.8 For the North East

What it has

This part of North Tyneside contains some great places to live, work and visit. It has seen significant investment at the coast to create an asset for the Borough and the Region.

It contains some of our more affluent communities and significant migration out each day for work but also pockets of significant deprivation in Valley Ward, Collingwood Ward and parts of Whitley Bay. Its quality of life can create house price hotspots and concerns about volume of house building and volumes of traffic. The area has high levels of owner-occupied housing and an ageing population.

What we are trying to achieve

For the North East and the surrounding communities we are investing in a fabulous environment to encourage visitors to support the local economy. We aim to create at the coast a first class facility for all of North Tyneside and the Region. We aim to meet housing and transport demand in a sustainable way.

How we will achieve that

Right now: The High Point site is at market, The Avenue site is being developed and new homes are being delivered at Wallington Court. Students and the teaching team are settling in to the new school at Backworth Park.

Next: We will redevelop the St Mary's Island causeway and extend the refurbishment work to the rest of the Northern Promenade and the area around the Rendezvous Cafe. Environment Agency funding is also being sought for improvements to the Southern Promenade sea wall.

When funding and timing allows: The delivery of the Murton Master Plan including appropriate transport infrastructure and education capacity. Development of the transport network including continued lobbying for a Metro extension in the Cobalt corridor and the potential for a rail station at Northumberland Park as part of Northumberland and Newcastle Railway proposals. Work up options to manage and appropriately develop St Mary's Island. Complete a long term plan to improve Churchill Playing Fields.

1.5.9 For the South East

What it has

The South East and the surrounding communities contain some significant assets, England and Wales' largest prawn landing port as part of an active Fish Quay as well as longstanding fishing activity from Cullercoats Harbour. It contains the major Port of Tyne

site, the north side of the Tyne Tunnels and a major site for Northumbrian Water as well as the two busiest retail outlets at Silverlink and Royal Quays as well as the attractions of Tynemouth Village. Northumberland Park, Tynemouth Pool and The Parks are at the core of a significant leisure offer.

But it also contains the Wards with greatest levels of deprivation next to two of the more affluent. The town centre is well used but not as well connected as it might be to the rest of the area and nor to the river bank where an emerging food and drink offer is increasing its attraction as a destination.

What we are trying to achieve

For the South East and its surrounding area we are working out how to raise the quality of the built environment, connecting a vibrant town centre and quayside. We want to tackle working poverty and poor quality private rented housing as part of the Authority's work to close the gap. We want to work in partnership to develop a master plan for the town centre and the riverside.

How we will achieve that

Right now: New homes are being built at Smiths Dock and in Northumberland Square. Major road improvements are being delivered along the North Bank of the Tyne. Work has begun at Cullercoats Primary.

Next: Subject to Government funding decisions, transport improvements are planned at Tanners Bank and into North Shields town centre. NEXUS plan to replace their bridges at the Tynemouth end of Beach Road and at Burnside Road on the Cullercoats-Whitley Bay boundary. The area around Fiddlers Green will be made more accessible and public toilet facilities will be developed for North Shields town centre. The site of the former Cedars will become affordable homes.

When funding and timing allows: We will develop infrastructure and licensing policies to support both the working quay and the Fish Quay as a food and drink destination. That will include exploring the feasibility of moving the Ferry Landing and connecting the Shields Ferry to Royal Quays. We will work with partners to light Collingwood's Monument and The Priory. We will develop a Master Plan for the centre of North Shields aimed at improving housing and bringing more people into the centre to live, connecting the different parts of the town and the town to other places as well as improving the built environment particularly around Saville Street, Bedford Street and Nile Street.

1.5.10 Priority Projects

Cabinet are well aware that there are significant opportunities to secure external funding to support the regeneration of North Tyneside. Those opportunities are usually successful when they relate to clear, evidenced priorities. To that end Cabinet is asked to confirm Appendix 2 represents its current thinking on priority projects.

1.5.11 How the plan will be managed

Progress on the plan will be reported regularly to Cabinet. Property-related projects will be dealt with via the Strategic Property Group chaired by the Elected Mayor and investment projects overseen by the Investment Programme Board chaired by the Cabinet Member for Finance who will also oversee the programme. Specific project and working groups will be established to handle more significant projects with appropriate Elected Member and Chief Officer leadership.

1.5.12 Next steps

The next steps will include

- Agreeing the Authority's Investment Plan to reflect this programme
- Options on the major projects moving through appropriate governance; and
- The establishment of an internal project group to begin to develop the work for North Shields

1.6 Decision options:

The following decision options are available for consideration by Cabinet:

Option 1

Agree the plan, the approach to engagement and the management of delivery.

Option 2

Ask for further work and a revised plan to be submitted to Cabinet in due course.

Option 1 is the recommended option.

1.7 Reasons for recommended option:

Option 1 is recommended for the following reasons:

Following reflection on feedback with the people, businesses and communities of the Borough, it reflects the Elected Mayor and Cabinet's priorities for the delivery of the Our North Tyneside Plan.

1.8 Appendix:

Appendix One: An Ambition For North Tyneside – Regeneration Strategy: Delivery by Area

Appendix Two: Priority Projects

Contact officers:

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1.9 Background information:

The following background papers/information have been used in the compilation of this report and are available at the office of the author:

(1) [Our North Tyneside Plan 2018-2021](#)

(2) [State of the Area 2018](#)

PART 2 – COMPLIANCE WITH PRINCIPLES OF DECISION MAKING

2.1 Finance and other resources

The capital and revenue implications relating to those projects currently underway are included within the Authority's current Investment Plan and Financial Plan respectively. Any future proposals will be considered as part of the investment plan gateway process in line with the Authority's Capital Investment Strategy.

2.2 Legal

There are no direct legal implications arising from this report. As projects and plans come forward individual consideration of the legal implications of these plans and projects will be required.

2.3 Consultation/community engagement

2.3.1 Internal Consultation

The report is based on discussions with the Elected Mayor and Cabinet Members as well as detailed technical discussions across the Senior Leadership Team.

2.3.2 External Consultation/Engagement

The report is based on extensive Borough-wide consultation; The Annual Big Community Conversation; Budget Engagement and the engagement which supported the production of the North Tyneside Local Plan, Master Plans and Community Infrastructure Levy.

Subject to Cabinet agreement, the coming year will see this plan used in a number of formats including the State of the Area Event as well as wider discussions with partners and communities. There will be specific discussions on individual projects with the communities involved. Clearly, where statutory processes are involved, for example Planning Applications, formal consultation will take place.

2.4 Human rights

None

2.5 Equalities and diversity

The contents of the plan are aimed at continuing the Authority's work to tackle inequalities in North Tyneside.

2.6 Risk management

Specific projects will have their own risk management arrangements in line with the agreed corporate approach.

2.7 Crime and disorder

None

2.8 Environment and sustainability

The contents of the plan aim to support sustainable development.

PART 3 - SIGN OFF

- Acting Chief Executive X
- Head(s) of Service X
- Mayor/Cabinet Member(s) X
- Chief Finance Officer X
- Monitoring Officer X
- Head of Corporate Strategy and Customer Service X