

Northumberland Local Plan  
Publication Draft Plan (Regulation 19)

Duty to Cooperate Statement of  
Common Ground

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## 1. Introduction

- 1.1. This Statement of Common Ground has been prepared to accompany the Publication Draft (Regulation 19) Northumberland Local Plan consultation and forms part of the evidence base for the Plan. The statement demonstrates how the Council has and continues to comply with the requirements of the Duty to Cooperate. It sets out the strategic issues relevant to Northumberland and details the ongoing engagement that has, and continues, to take place between Northumberland County Council (NCC), neighbouring authorities and prescribed bodies.
- 1.2. **This statement is a live document reflecting the progress of discussions that have taken place up to December 2018. It will be updated in time for the submission of the Northumberland Local Plan in May 2019. The update will involve some redrafting and seeking partners to sign an updated agreement in line with the requirement for NPPF SoCG.**
- 1.3. This statement provides an update to the July 2018 Regulation 18 Duty to Cooperate statement and the March 2017 Duty to Cooperate statement (which was prepared to accompany the, now withdrawn, Northumberland Local Plan Core Strategy (NLPCS)). The new Northumberland Local Plan rolls forward significant aspects of the evidence and joint working that was undertaken for the NLPCS and therefore the joint cross boundary strategic work recorded in the March 2017 statement is still relevant. The new Northumberland Local Plan has been influenced by previous work undertaken and agreements made between neighbouring authorities and key stakeholders.
- 1.4. The Council has sought in its Publication Draft (Regulation 19) Northumberland Local Plan to address the concerns raised in representations relating to the Regulation 18 consultation.
- 1.5. It should be noted that none of the representations received from partners on the Regulation 18 version of the draft Northumberland Local Plan raised any key issues in respect of the Duty to Cooperate.

## 2. The legislative and procedural requirements of the Duty to Cooperate

### Localism Act

- 2.1. The Duty to Cooperate was introduced through the Localism Act 2011<sup>1</sup> and is set out in section 33A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. It places a legal duty on local planning authorities and county councils in England, and prescribed public bodies to engage constructively, actively and on an ongoing basis

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/section/110/enacted>

to maximise the effectiveness of local plan and marine plan preparation in the context of strategic cross boundary matters.

- 2.2. In February 2017, the Government introduced the proposition that all Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) be required to prepare a 'Statement of Common Ground' (SCG) to help manage strategic planning matters across local authority areas and strengthen the Duty to Cooperate. Further details of this proposal were set out in the consultation document, published in September 2017<sup>2</sup> and are now formally included in the revised National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and National Planning Policy Guidance (PPG).

### **National Planning Policy Framework**

- 2.3. As required by the National Planning Policy Framework "*In order to demonstrate effective and ongoing joint working, strategic policy making authorities should prepare and maintain one or more statements of common ground, documenting the cross-boundary matters being addressed and progress in cooperating to address these*"<sup>3</sup>.

### **National Planning Policy Guidance**

- 2.4. Strategic policy-making authorities are required to cooperate with each other, and other bodies, when preparing, or supporting the preparation of policies which address strategic matters. This includes those policies contained in local plans (including minerals and waste plans), spatial development strategies, and marine plans<sup>4</sup>.
- 2.5. A statement of common ground is "*a written record of the progress made by strategic policy-making authorities during the process of planning for strategic cross-boundary matters. It documents where effective co-operation is and is not happening throughout the plan-making process, and is a way of demonstrating at examination that plans are deliverable over the plan period, and based on effective joint working across local authority boundaries. In the case of local planning authorities, it also forms part of the evidence required to demonstrate that they have complied with the duty to cooperate*"<sup>5</sup>.

### **What does the Duty to Cooperate mean in practice?**

- 2.6. The duty requires LPA officers and members to engage in proactive and sustained joint working to address strategic issues that cut across administrative boundaries from the outset of Local Plan preparation and come to agreements on solutions where possible. Consultation alone is unlikely to satisfy the requirements of the

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<sup>2</sup> Planning for the right homes in the right places: consultation proposals. Published 14 September 2017

<sup>3</sup> National Planning Policy Framework July 2018, paragraph 27

<sup>4</sup> National Planning Policy Guidance, Paragraph: 001 Reference ID: 61-001-20180913

<sup>5</sup> National Planning Policy Guidance, Paragraph: 002 Reference ID: 61-002-20180913

duty. It also requires LPAs to consider joint approaches to plan making, evidence gathering and infrastructure planning. There is no definitive list of actions that constitute effective cooperation under the duty. Nevertheless, parties must attempt to resolve strategic issues.

- 2.7. The Duty to Cooperate is both a legal and a soundness test, and LPAs are required to submit details at Local Plan examination of how they have complied with the duty.
- 2.8. The requirement for statement of common ground operate in tandem with the 'tests of soundness'. These are used at local plan examinations to ensure that there is not only a proactive and positive approach to strategic planning matters across housing market areas, but that there is a clear (and agreed) approach to how these will be delivered in all relevant local plans. The most specific test requires plans to be:
- **Effective** – *deliverable over the plan period, and based on effective joint working on cross-boundary strategic matters that have been dealt with rather than deferred, as evidenced by the statement of common ground.*
- 2.9. The prescribed bodies which LPAs must cooperate with are set out in the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012<sup>6</sup>. LPAs must cooperate with these bodies on issues of common concern in order to develop sound local plans;
- the Environment Agency;
  - Historic England;
  - Natural England;
  - the Civil Aviation Authority;
  - Homes England;
  - Clinical Commissioning Groups
  - the Office of Rail and Road;
  - Integrated Transport Authority;
  - Highways Authority;
  - the Marine Management Organisation.
- 2.10. Local Enterprise Partnerships and Local Nature Partnerships are not subject to the requirements of the duty, but local planning authorities and county councils in England, and prescribed public bodies must cooperate with them. Private sector utility providers are not covered by the Duty to Cooperate.

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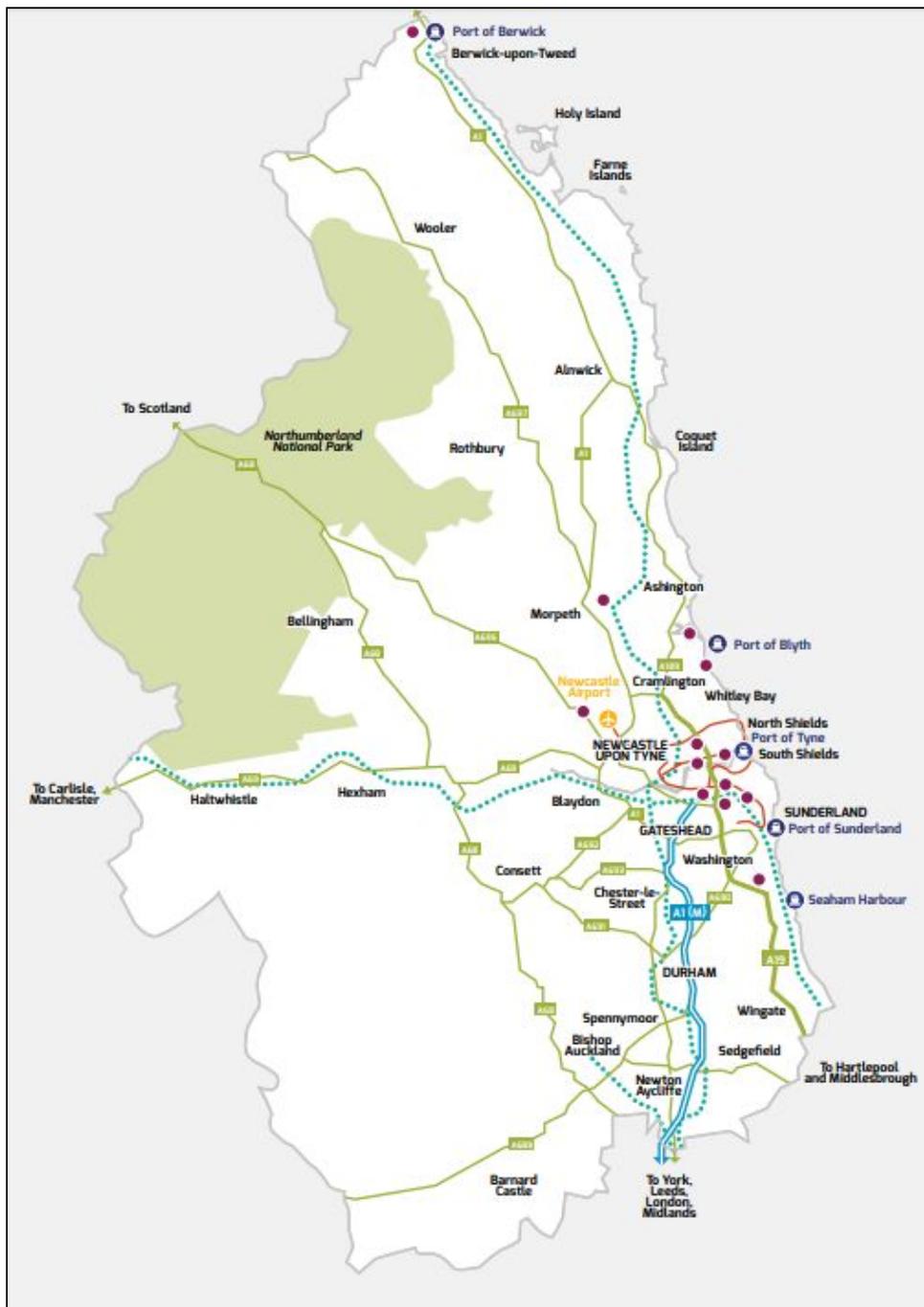
<sup>6</sup> <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2012/767/regulation/4/made>

### **3. Strategic context of North East**

- 3.1. The North East LEP covers the seven local authority areas of Northumberland, Newcastle, Gateshead, North Tyneside, Durham, South Tyneside and Sunderland. A strategic vehicle led by the private sector, it is responsible for promoting economic growth in the North East.
- 3.2. The North East LEP area has a population of almost 2 million residents (Mid-2017 Population Estimates), with 1.24 million / 63% of residents being of working age (aged between 16-64). Around 950,000 residents in the region are economically active, and the region accommodates around 880,000 jobs. Population and jobs are spread across the region, with a higher density of development within the five Tyne and Wear Local Authority areas (Gateshead Council, Newcastle City Council, North Tyneside Council, South Tyneside Council and Sunderland City Council), Durham City, and south east Northumberland.
- 3.3. The LEP covers an area of around 7,900 km<sup>2</sup>, and as such several discrete housing market areas can be identified, often reflecting the administrative boundaries of the constituent local authorities. Nonetheless, there are several instances of housing market areas which cross administrative boundaries. Emerging and adopted Local Plans have responded to evidence of housing market areas, either by preparing joint planning documents, or through cross- boundary cooperation on identifying and planning to meet housing needs.
- 3.4. It should be recognised that functional economic market areas vary according to economic sectors, due to the heterogeneous nature of local economies. For the purposes of planning for strategic economic growth objectives and investment into the region it may be appropriate to consider the North East LEP area, comprising the seven north east local authorities. The influence of the local labour market may be best represented through consideration of travel to work areas. However, when considering the supply of commercial sites and premises (particularly in terms of meeting the needs of smaller and locally-based operators) it can be appropriate to consider smaller geographical scales.
- 3.5. In 2014 the North East LEP published a Strategic Economic Plan that seeks to deliver 100,000 more and better jobs by 2024. The adopted and emerging Local Plans of the seven north east local authorities aim to support the SEP's objectives and set out ambitious plans for growth. The allocation of employment sites in Local Plan documents complements the North East Enterprise Zones, which comprise of a collection of 21 sites across the region that offer opportunities for a wide range of development, and benefit from arrangements that help with up-front investment and the timely development of facilities.

- 3.6. The North East LEP area is a well-defined region with a transport network which consists of strategic road and rail links, plus an extensive network of local roads, bus and local rail/Metro services. There are two north-south corridors, one along the coast and the other further inland. The inland corridor includes the A1 and the East Coast Main Line, providing the link between Scotland and the south. The coastal corridor includes the A19 and Durham Coast rail line. Effective transport networks are a key to economic growth and opportunity for all, providing access to jobs and facilities for all sections of society and in promoting sustainable patterns of activity, development and movement within the Region and beyond.
- 3.7. The built and natural environment together are recognised as one of the Region's key assets. Protecting, creating, restoring and maintaining high quality and attractive environments should be integral considerations in decisions on development. The North East is rich in biodiversity and geodiversity.

Figure 1: North East LEP Area: transport links

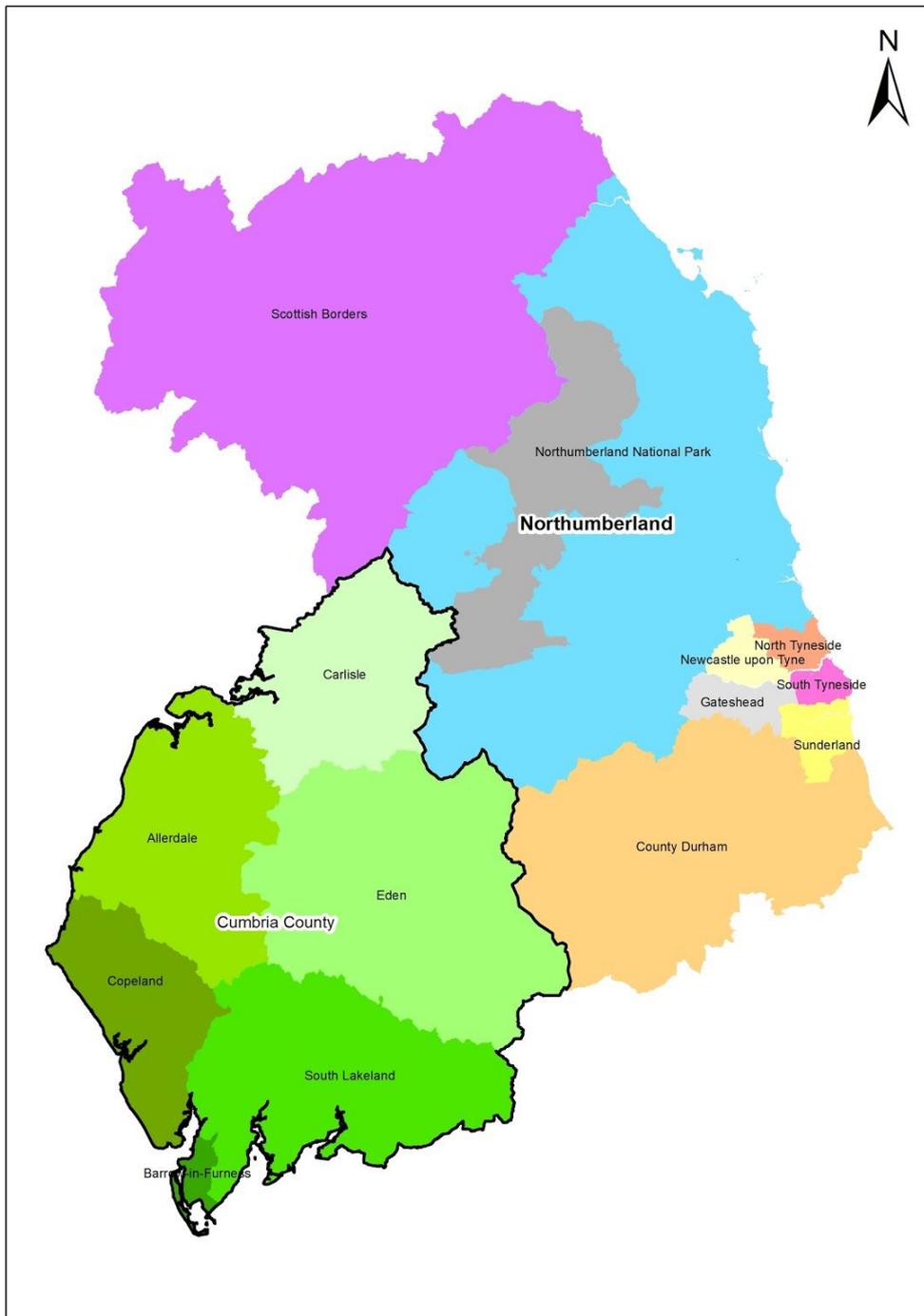


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#### **4. Profile of Northumberland**

- 4.1. Northumberland is England's northernmost County, stretching from the Scottish Borders in the north and west, to Tyneside and County Durham in the south (Figure 2) Northumberland is the largest unitary authority in England by geographic coverage and is also the most sparsely populated with only 63 people per square kilometre. Northumberland remains largely rural with the largest settlements having no more than 40,000 residents. Northumberland has the largest area of Green Belt of any Local Planning Authority in England.
- 4.2. The Spatial Portrait of Northumberland is set out in Chapter 2 of the Publication Draft (Regulation 19) Northumberland Local Plan. One of the most significant challenges is that the population of Northumberland is ageing and the significance of this demographic change makes it a major policy issue for the County. Northumberland's relationship to the Tyne and Wear conurbation, and to a lesser extent the north and west of the County, means that a number of these opportunities and challenges are shared. Consequently, joint working under the Duty is a central element of ensuring a "sound" plan.
- 4.3. Northumberland County Council shares administrative boundaries with ten LPA's with whom it cooperates under the requirements of the Duty. These are:
  - Newcastle City Council;
  - North Tyneside Council;
  - Northumberland National Park Authority;
  - Gateshead Council;
  - Durham County Council;
  - Carlisle City Council;
  - Eden District Council;
  - Cumbria County Council;
  - Scottish Borders Council; and
  - South East Scotland Development Planning Authority (SESplan).
- 4.4. Northumberland County Council is a partner authority in the Newcastle, North Tyneside and Northumberland Mayoral Combined Authority (referred to as the North of Tyne Combined Authority).

**Figure 2: Northumberland's neighbouring authorities**

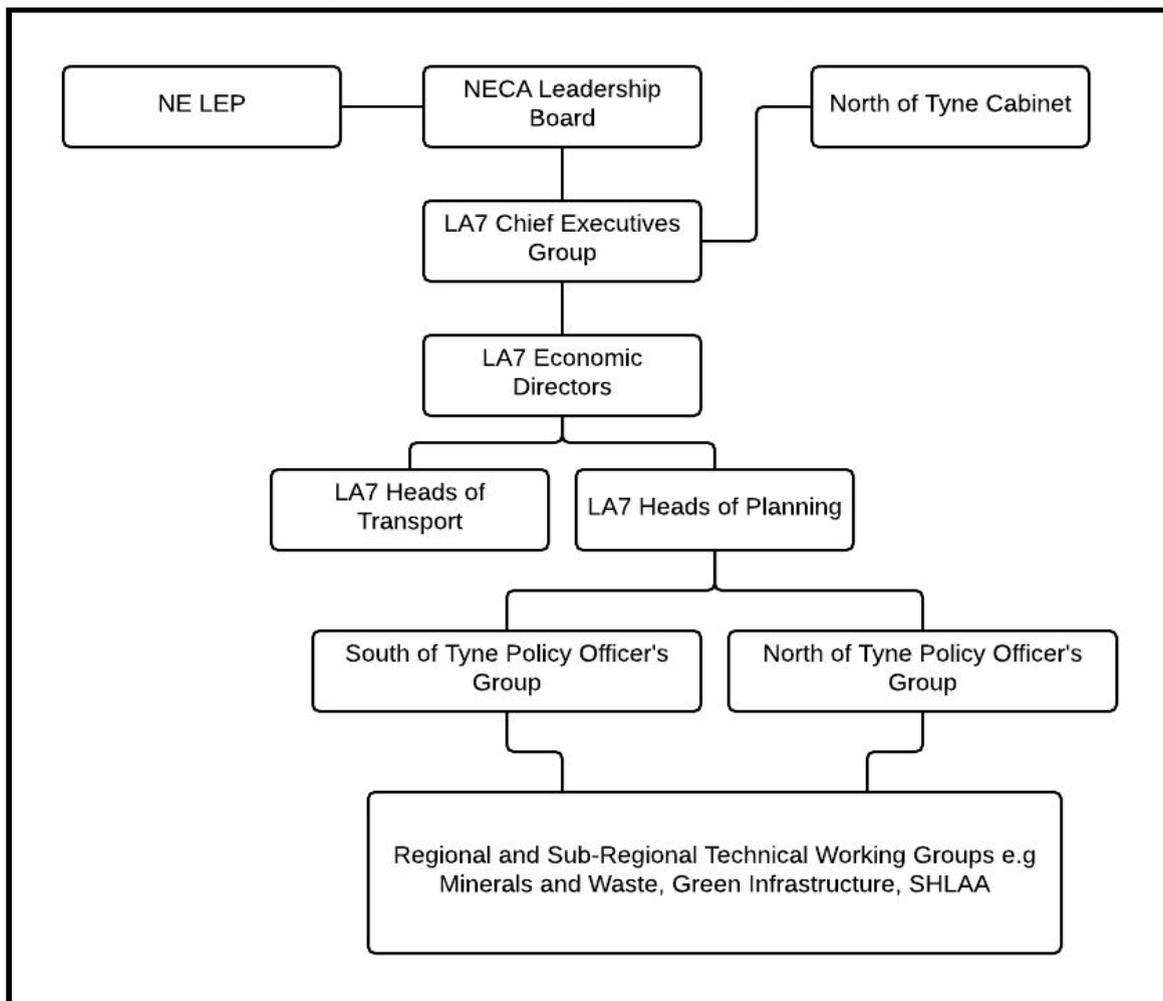


- 4.5. Northumberland County Council is part of the North East Local Economic Partnership (NELEP), which embraces the seven North East Local Authority Areas of Northumberland, North Tyneside, Newcastle, Gateshead, Sunderland and South Tyneside.

## 5. Governance arrangements

- 5.1. Cross-boundary meetings on planning issues have taken place for many years in the North East. The creation of the North East Local Enterprise Partnership (NELEP) in 2011 and the North East Combined Authority (NECA) in 2014 formalised these working relationships.
- 5.2. Since 2016 Newcastle, North Tyneside and Northumberland councils have been working to form a new mayoral combined authority (MCA). A draft devolution deal was agreed with government in November 2017 and the new North of Tyne MCA formally came into being in November 2018. Whilst this simultaneously saw the three Councils withdraw from the North East Combined Authority the “LA7” councils continue to work together to deliver the transport, infrastructure and economic growth priorities of the region. Whilst the governance arrangements for sub regional working change over time, the relationships and collaboration persist.

### Governance Arrangements for Strategic Planning in the Northeast Region



### **North of Tyne Mayoral Combined Authority/ North East Combined Authority (NECA)**

- 5.3. The North East Combined Authority<sup>8</sup> was established in April 2014 and brought together the seven councils which serve County Durham, Gateshead, Newcastle, North Tyneside, Northumberland, South Tyneside and Sunderland to support the work of the NELEP with powers over transport, economic development and regeneration.
- 5.4. By the Newcastle upon Tyne, North Tyneside and Northumberland Combined Authority (Establishment and Functions) Order 2018 the boundaries of NECA were changed on the 2 November 2018 and the North of Tyne Combined Authority (NTCA) came into being. As a result of these governance changes the boundaries of NECA now covers the Local Authorities of County Durham, Gateshead, South Tyneside and Sunderland.
- 5.5. NECA and the NTCA will work together on a number of matters to support the region, including Transport, Planning and Economic Development. All seven local Authorities will remain members of the North East Local Enterprise Partnership, the North East Joint Transport Committee, and support Invest North East England. An interim Mayor has been appointed to oversee the North of Tyne Combined Authority until a Mayor is elected in May 2019.
- 5.6. The initial focus of the North of Tyne Combined Authority was set out in the Deal agreed with government in November 2017. This identifies six priority “portfolios”:
- Economic Growth
  - Business Competitiveness
  - Place & Productivity
  - Education & Improvement
  - Employability and Inclusion
  - Housing and Land
- 5.7. Northumberland County Council participates fully in each of these portfolios and has lead responsibility for the Place & Productivity and Education & Improvement Portfolios. Northumberland is also the lead on rural housing provision, with the Combined Authority recently adopting Northumberland’s rural housing priorities:
- Sustainability – recognising the role of housing in supporting the broader sustainability of villages and smaller settlements.
  - Housing affordability – key challenge for people living in Northumberland’s rural communities.
  - Increase in second and holiday homes – bring financial benefits to rural areas but non-permanent occupancy means that some settlements can lose

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<sup>8</sup> <https://northeastca.gov.uk/>

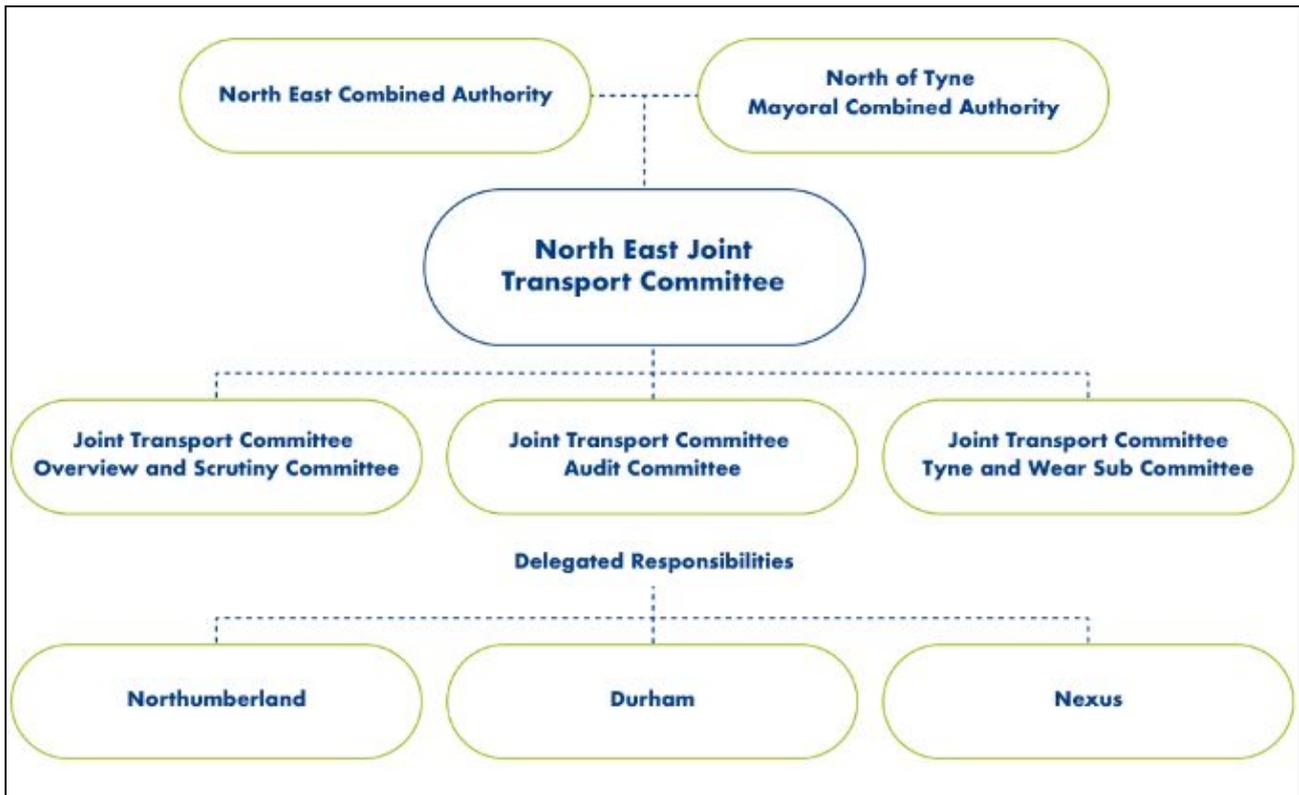
a sense of community and loss of critical services due to homes being empty when not in use.

- Digital access and exclusion – older demographics and lack of high speed broadband and mobile phone networks was leading to increase in digital gap between urban and rural areas.
- Ageing population – increasing more quickly in rural areas than in urban communities.
- Employment – rural areas generally lower paid and often seasonal.
- Building in rural areas – higher than normal costs for land and main services, labour, specialist materials to meet planning requirements and transporting materials.
- Pursuing funding opportunities to build upon the Communities Can, establishing a North of Tyne hub and using the allocation received through the community housing fund to facilitate community led housing.

5.8. Withdrawal from the North East Combined Authority has not meant the end of cooperation with the four authorities to the south of the River Tyne; the “LA7” regional partnership, facilitated by NELEP, brings officers from all seven of the region’s councils together to collaborate over economic, transport, infrastructure and planning priorities. Northumberland County Council is active in each of these networks.

#### **North East Joint Transport Committee**

- 5.9. The North East Joint Transport Committee brings together a total of seven members from each of the Constituent Authorities of the region; four Members from the North East Combined Authority and three Members from the North of Tyne Combined Authority in accordance with the Order that was created on the 2 November 2018.
- 5.10. Transport is of strategic importance to the North East, and the collaborative working of both Combined Authorities allows effective decision making across the region, which ensures that the local needs and priorities are delivered.
- 5.11. The way the Joint Transport Committee, and its subsequent committees are structured is detailed in the following diagram:



### **North East Local Enterprise Partnership (NELEP)**

- 5.12. The NELEP covers the seven local authority areas of Northumberland, Newcastle, Gateshead, North Tyneside, Durham, South Tyneside and Sunderland. A strategic vehicle led by the private sector, it is responsible for promoting economic growth in the North East.
- 5.13. One of the main areas of work since the establishment of the NELEP has been the preparation of the Strategic Economic Plan (SEP)<sup>9</sup> for the North East which has involved partnership working between the private, public and voluntary sectors. The SEP sets out a vision and investment programme for the area to 2024 with the aim of strengthening the area’s economy and providing more opportunities for businesses and communities. It’s overarching vision is to deliver 60,000 private sector jobs and provide over one million jobs in total across the NELEP area. In March 2014, the NELEP published its SEP. The SEP is being refreshed in 2018/19 focused on providing updated data and considering new policy drivers rather than a completely new strategy.
- 5.14. NELEP is also leading on the development of a local industrial strategy (LIS) for the region which is being informed by the economic priorities of the seven councils and two combined authorities. The LEP is collating evidence from each council and commissioning a productivity study to articulate the region’s sectoral strategy and response to the government’s “Grand Challenges”.

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.nelep.co.uk/the-plan/>

- 5.15. LEP partners have recently collaborated to produce the region's response to the government's National Infrastructure Assessment and the priorities for building a digital society, low cost and low carbon energy, revolutionising road transport, transport and housing for thriving city regions, reducing the risks of drought and flooding, and choosing and designing infrastructure - all priorities for Northumberland that are reflected in the draft Local Plan.
- 5.16. NELEP facilitates the LA7 Economic Directors, Transport Officers and Planning Leads networks, supporting the work of the seven LAs with expert capacity and resources, coordinating collaborative funding bids for Enterprise Zones, Transforming Cities Fund, Local Growth Funding, European Funding and other strategic infrastructure projects of shared regional benefit.

#### **LA7 North East Heads of Planning Group**

- 5.17. The North East Heads of Planning Group consists of the Heads of Planning from Northumberland, Newcastle, Gateshead, North Tyneside, Durham, South Tyneside and Sunderland authorities. The group was formally established on 19 January 2012, meeting at least quarterly to discuss high-level, cross-boundary planning issues and share strategic and procedural best practice.
- 5.18. The Heads of Planning Group reports through to the LA7 Economic Directors Group and then onwards to the Chief Executives and Leadership Board (comprising the seven leaders and Elected Mayors).
- 5.19. The first key product of this group was the creation of a formal Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) which set out jointly agreed approaches to strategic planning matters across the NELEP/NECA area. The MoU was endorsed by Northumberland County Council on 12 November 2013 and signed off by Chief Executives and Leaders of the seven Local Authorities in June 2014. A signed copy of the MoU is attached at Appendix 1.
- 5.20. A Joint Position Statement, Spring 2013 (Appendix 2) was also prepared and appended to the MoU that sets out the strategic planning issues of agreement amongst the seven Local Authorities in respect of the Duty. The position statement recognises that each authority's Local Plan is at a different stage of preparation. However, the seven authorities are all seeking to promote sustainable economic growth, meet objectively assessed needs, retain their working age population and address population ageing. The statement acknowledges that it may be necessary for some authorities to seek a claw back of economically active households from adjoining areas.
- 5.21. The LA7 Planning Officers group has aspirations for a collaborative spatial planning framework for the region which, whilst delayed during the development of the North of Tyne Combined Authority, remains a shared priority of the LA7.

### **North of Tyne Working Group**

- 5.22. As adjoining urban authorities, Northumberland County Council has an active working relationship with North Tyneside Council and Newcastle City Council outside of high-level meetings. This is cemented through a formal North of Tyne Working Group which sits below the Heads of Planning Group and runs parallel to a South of Tyne Policy Officers Working Group (comprising of the remaining four North East authorities).
- 5.23. As part of the North of Tyne working group the Authorities of Northumberland, Newcastle and North Tyneside have engaged regularly throughout preparation of the Northumberland Local Plan. This engagement has sought to consider the strategic cross boundary implications of proposed growth and subsequent infrastructure requirements.

### **North East Minerals and Waste Planning Policy Officers Group**

- 5.24. The North East Minerals and Waste Planning Policy Officers Group meet bi-annually. The group includes all North East authorities, Cumbria County Council, North Yorkshire County Council and relevant stakeholders such as the Environment Agency and the Marine Management Organisation. The group discusses issues of mutual interest in relation to planning for minerals and waste, collaborates on evidence preparation where relevant, and updates on progress with policy development.
- 5.25. The group started in 2015 and incorporates and supersedes the Northern Counties Planning for Minerals and Waste Group and the North East Waste Planning Group which met prior to this.
- 5.26. The group has supported joint working on the evidence-base relating to waste arisings, capacity and cross boundary movements which has led to the production of the following evidence base studies: 'Model of Waste Arisings and Waste Management Capacity (July 2012)', 'Production and disposal of low level radioactive waste (August 2013)' and 'Waste Capacity Update Note (January 2016)'.

### **North East Aggregates Working Party**

- 5.27. The North East Aggregates Working Party (AWP) meets at least once a year. The North East AWP covers a cluster of thirteen Mineral Planning Authorities in North East England over the sub-regional areas of County Durham, Northumberland, Tees Valley, and Tyne and Wear. It is one of a number of similar groups throughout England and Wales. Its membership is made up of the thirteen Mineral Planning Authorities, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) and the aggregates industry.

- 5.28. The AWP has a role in helping to plan for a steady and adequate supply of aggregate minerals through providing data on sales, reserves and planning permissions for aggregate minerals and providing technical advice on the supply and demand for aggregates from their areas. The AWP publishes an annual monitoring report as well as scrutinising and providing advice on the Local Aggregates Assessments produced by the Mineral Planning Authorities.
- 5.29. Northumberland County Council currently provides the secretariat to the North East AWP on behalf of MHCLG.

#### **Cumbrian Development Plan Officers Group (DPOG)**

- 5.30. Quarterly meetings take place between all the Cumbrian district authorities, the Lake District National Park Authority, Lancaster City, Lancashire, Yorkshire, Northumberland County Council and south west Scotland, under the banner of Development Plan Officers' Group (DPOG). The aim of DPOG is to provide LPAs with a forum to discuss and advise on implications of planning policy and guidance, help to raise awareness of cross boundary issues, and share best practice on local planning issues. It provides a valuable forum for early consideration of emerging issues.
- 5.31. DPOG invites organisations such as the Environment Agency or Natural England to attend and speakers have also attended to discuss a variety of other issues such as Gypsies and Travellers which also enables common understanding of shared concerns. An officer from the Minerals and Waste Planning Policy Team at Cumbria County Council also attends.
- 5.32. Depending on the agenda, Northumberland County Council either attend the meetings in person or keep in touch via email updates.

#### **Borderlands Partnership / Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal**

- 5.33. Borderlands Inclusive Growth<sup>10</sup> Partnership brings together the five cross-border local authorities of Northumberland County Council, Carlisle City Council, Cumbria County Council, Dumfries & Galloway Council and Scottish Borders Council to promote economic growth and competitiveness of the area that straddles the Scotland-England border.
- 5.34. The partners are working on a collective ambition to unlock the potential for sustainable and inclusive economic growth across the south of Scotland and north of England.

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<sup>10</sup> <http://www.borderlandsgrowth.com/>

- 5.35. The themed topics that the Borderlands Partnership has been working on are: Energy; Digital; Transport Connections; Business; Destination Borderlands; Quality of Place; Rural Productivity; and Skills and Innovation.
- 5.36. Following the submission of a Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal proposal to the UK and Scottish Governments at the end of September 2018, progress continues to be made with a view to reaching a ‘Heads of Terms’ agreement. Positive meetings have taken place with key government ministers following submission of the proposal by the Borderlands Partnership.
- 5.37. The draft Northumberland Local Plan fully reflects the economic and housing needs associated with the Deal. Among the Deals main goals is to look at the feasibility of extending the Borders Railway beyond Tweedbank to Carlisle. It also involves four specific place-based projects, which are:
- Carlisle Station Gateway
  - Chapelcross Energy Park near Annan
  - Berwick Theatre and Conference Centre
  - The Mountain Bike Innovation Centre in the Scottish Borders

## 6. Duty to Cooperate with Northumberland’s ten neighbouring authorities

### 6.1. Status of each Local Planning Authority's Local Plan

LPA	Local Plan document	Status
Newcastle City Council	Core Strategy and Urban Core Plan	Adopted 2015
	Development and Allocations DPD	Pre submission consultation ended November 2018
Gateshead Council	Core Strategy and Urban Core Plan	Adopted 2015
	Making Spaces for Growing Places (MSGP) Local Plan Document (LPD)	Submission draft consultation ended December 2018
North Tyneside Council	North Tyneside Local Plan	Adopted July 2017
	Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) charging schedule	Approved October 2018
Northumberland National Park Authority (NNPA)	NNPA Core Strategy and Development Policies	Adopted March 2009
	NNPA Local Plan Review	Preferred Options ended July 2018

Durham County Council	County Durham Plan	Regulation 19 planned for Jan/Feb 2019
Carlisle City Council	Carlisle District Local Plan	Adopted November 2016
Eden District Council	Eden District Local Plan	Adopted October 2018
Cumbria County Council	Cumbria Minerals and Waste Local Plan (CMWLP)	Adopted September 2017
Scottish Borders Council	Scottish Borders Council Local Development Plan (LDP)	Adopted May 2016
	Local Development Plan (LDP2)	Main Issues Report Consultation late 2018
South East Scotland Development Plan Authority	Second Proposed Strategic Development Plan	Decision on approval of the Plan is expected.

### **Cross boundary strategic matters for the Local Plan**

6.2. A number of issues of strategic importance that require cooperation with our neighbours have been identified<sup>11</sup>, these include issues where further work is required and those where no matters of concern have been identified (denoted by an \*);

- Population and Housing - Setting Future Housing Requirements
- Economic Growth and Planning for Jobs
- Transport and Infrastructure
- Minerals and Waste
- Community Infrastructure Levy
- Wastewater Treatment
- Green Infrastructure
- Shopping, Leisure and Tourism\*
- Renewable Energy\*
- Healthcare\*
- Education\*
- Utilities\*

<sup>11</sup> The issues were identified through the Regional Position Statement (Spring 2013) produced as an Appendix to the Memorandum of Understanding (June 2014) between the seven Local Authorities in the Northeast region.

<https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/NorthumberlandCountyCouncil/media/Planning-and-Building/planning%20policy/Local%20Plan/NCC-Duty-to-Cooperate-March-2017.pdf>

- 6.3. To support North Tyneside's Examination in Public in 2016, a position statement was produced (Appendix 3) which sought to summarise and bring together the latest information regarding joint working and the cross boundary cooperation between North Tyneside, Northumberland and Newcastle. It covered the following strategic issues; Population & Employment Growth, Economic Spatial Strategy, Transport, Education, Water Infrastructure, Coastal Management & Green Infrastructure & Biodiversity.

### **Population and Housing - Setting Future Housing Requirements**

- 6.4. The Spring 2013 position statement set out the estimates of future housing requirements of each of the 7 Local Authorities. Northumberland's proposed housing numbers (net) over a 20 year period were identified to be in the range of 14,440–24,090 dwellings.
- 6.5. It was agreed in the 2013 position statement that all 7 authorities are seeking to retain or encourage growth to support sustainable economic growth, maintain a proportion of economically active population, accommodate the trend of ageing population profiles and to meet their objectively assessed needs. In some instances it was acknowledged that it may be necessary to claw back economically active households from adjoining authorities.
- 6.6. At the time the 2013 position statement was written there was no prescriptive method to calculate growth requirements. The Government has since introduced a standardised approach for robustly establishing each local authority's 'Local Housing Need' over an initial 10-year period, based upon the latest official population and household projections (which are both updated every two years) which take account of trend-based and predicted natural change in birth and death rates as well as UK internal and international migration patterns. The methodology also factors in an adjustment for affordability to reflect 'market signals' based on the ratio of workplace-based median house prices to median earnings (updated annually). National guidance indicates that there may be circumstances where it is justifiable to identify housing need above the figure identified by the standard methodology. Recognising the Council's economic ambitions, identified through Northumberland's contribution to delivering the objectives of the North East SEP, the North of Tyne Devolution Deal and the Borderlands initiative, together with recently completed, committed and proposed infrastructure improvements, it is considered appropriate to consider a housing need figure in excess of that presented by the standard methodology.
- 6.7. The current Northumberland Local Plan proposes a minimum of 17,700 net additional dwellings at an average 885 per annum required over the plan period.

- 6.8. The specific housing requirements for each authority will remain under review as new evidence emerges and development plans are progressed. Working closely with neighbouring authorities through the Duty to Cooperate, the Council will continue to ensure that planned housing growth across the wider region is complementary and strategically co-ordinated. Durham County Council, in June 2018, asked if Northumberland County Council would be able to accommodate some of Durham County Council's objectively assessed housing need and the County responded informing Durham that it would not be in a position to accommodate any of its objectively assessed housing need. Northumberland County Council has not considered it necessary to seek any of its neighbouring authorities help to provide for any of Northumberland's identified needs.

### **Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople**

- 6.9. The needs and provision in Northumberland with respect to Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople are contained within the County. Whilst there are cross boundary movements of travellers, none of our neighbours have identified any cross boundary issues with respect to provision for these groups.
- 6.10. The Northumberland Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (2018 update) suggests that there is no immediate need for additional permanent pitches however there is likely to be a need to provide for up to eight additional gypsy and traveller caravan pitches in Northumberland over the period 2023-36; seven in the south east, and one in the north. The likely need for transit provision for 4-8 pitches is also identified to address the remaining unauthorised encampment issue. These needs call for a solution in the medium term in the south east of the County, and it is considered that some of the need for transit pitches could be addressed by the provision of permanent pitches.
- 6.11. To address the identified needs Northumberland County Council are currently trialling a model suggested by representatives of the travelling communities, that involves informal arrangements with landowners whereby limited facilities are provided and agreement is granted for stopping. The Council awaits the results of the full trial of this model prior to seeking a permanent transit site since this negotiated stopping model may be the most appropriate solution to transit need.

### **6.12. Economic Growth and Planning for Jobs**

- 6.13. As set out in the Spring 2013 position statement the A1 and A19 corridors along with the urban cores of the Tyne & Wear conurbation and Durham City remain the key employment foci for the region. Although it is also acknowledged that there are other key locations away from the Tyne and Wear urban cores. Current planning and economic growth policies and proposals protect and expand on these locations and opportunities. Additionally the new Enterprise Zone sites along the A19, North

Bank of the River Tyne and at the Port of Blyth along with potential accelerated development zones, offer opportunities to boost regional growth. The NELEP has set out the vision for the area to become 'Europe's premier location for low carbon, sustainable, knowledge-based private sector-led growth and jobs.' Local Authorities across the NELEP area are committed to supporting growth and acknowledge how the labour market and supply chains are linked across the wider area, including cross-NELEP links with Tees Valley.

- 6.14. All 7 local authorities have used economic growth modelling in their employment land studies to forecast how many jobs they would potentially need to provide job growth and how much land would be required to accommodate these jobs. They have also considered the quantity and quality of their portfolios of sites and premises to meet future demand. To ensure job forecasts are aspirational but realistic, a number of methods are utilised such as: Econometric growth scenarios; employment targets, linking in with population projections and migration rates; Historic take-up rates; and consultation with businesses and the commercial development industry.
- 6.15. Numerous discussions took place during the preparation of the (now withdrawn) Core Strategy regarding methodology and results of respective authorities employment land reviews. Most of this work has been rolled forward for the Northumberland Local Plan. In February 2018 Durham County Council hosted an Employment Land Review workshop where it was agreed that the Council's approaches were likely to be similar and the approaches to deallocation, new allocation of land and protection of land also seemed to be generally in tune with other stakeholders attending (mainly other councils from across the region). In addition, a population, housing and economic growth workshop hosted by Northumberland's consultants PBA in January 2018 touched on the issue of employment land in where stakeholders such as ARCH and the Port of Blyth emphasised the importance of the strategic sites as well as flagging up the key importance of the Blyth Estuary and Port of Blyth to the region. Advance Northumberland<sup>12</sup> saw key roles for sites such as Ashwood Business Park and sites in Cramlington to the overall strategy for employment land supply for the region as well as the County. Employment land is not therefore considered to be an issue of contention at the sub regional level.
- 6.16. Transport and Infrastructure**
- 6.17. Northumberland will continue to work effectively with its neighbouring Local Highway Authorities, Newcastle International Airport and Highways England in order to overcome shared concerns relating to the Strategic Road Network and linkages to the adjoining local networks, particularly key routes into the regional capital and

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<sup>12</sup> <https://www.advancenorthumberland.co.uk/about/key-documents>

to Newcastle International Airport. The sub regional governance structures noted in section 5 in particular the North East Joint Transport Committee is key to this engagement. In addition to this, discussions related to the scale of development and understanding potential market impacts linked to the scale of proposed development whilst ensuring the delivery of strategic sites across the North of Tyne area will continue to take place as preparation of the Local Plan for Northumberland evolves.

- 6.18. Existing commitments through the first Road Investment Strategy (RIS1) will result in dualling of the A1 in Northumberland from Morpeth to Felton and from Alnwick to Ellingham as well as complementary improvements north of Ellingham. Although not fundamental to the delivery of the plan, completing the dualling of the A1 north of Ellingham to the Scottish Border remains a priority and is required to reflect the strategic nature of the link connecting the major city regions of Newcastle and Edinburgh.
- 6.19. Northumberland County Council welcomes continued investment in the strategic road network in Northumberland including the current commitment to capacity improvements on the A69 at Bridge End, Hexham and at Styford near Corbridge planned to start in early 2019. However, there is also a need for further investment along the A69 specifically the B6531 Hexham West junction, further localised widening along the A69 and to ensure that local communities along the Tyne Valley corridor can access the A69 safely.
- 6.20. Northumberland County Council would also welcome future investment towards the A19 within the county in particular Moor Farm Roundabout, Dudley Lane interchange and Seaton Burn roundabout and will support any investment and required mitigation.
- 6.21. The promotion of the reopening of the existing freight only line between Ashington and Newcastle for passenger services (“The Northumberland Line”) is a shared regional and sub-regional priority with Northumberland County Council as lead partner and with support from Newcastle City Council, North Tyneside Council, Nexus<sup>13</sup> and Transport for the North. It is included in the NTCA plans/ aspirations<sup>14</sup> and in the Transforming Cities Funding Bid being submitted through NELEP. Northumberland County Council is currently working through the GRIP process with GRIP2 (Feasibility) recently completed. Anticipated entry on to the Department for Transport’s Rail Network Enhancements Pipeline in Spring 2019 and a subsequent bid for Transforming Cities Funds in the Summer of 2019.

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<sup>13</sup><https://northeastca.gov.uk/what-we-do/transport/>

<sup>14</sup>[https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5bbf08bdc2ff616708156a58/t/5be323872b6a2815fe9ab467/1541612442072/North+of+Tyne\\_Economic+Vision\\_web+final.pdf](https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5bbf08bdc2ff616708156a58/t/5be323872b6a2815fe9ab467/1541612442072/North+of+Tyne_Economic+Vision_web+final.pdf)

6.22. The LEP acknowledges that ‘In order to achieve the vision set out in our Strategic Economic Plan, it will be necessary for people to travel and for goods to be transported within, into and out of the area. Without this, the economy cannot function effectively and commercial competitiveness and social inclusion both suffer’<sup>15</sup>. The Northumberland Line scheme will improve local, regional and national connectivity. In addition, by linking into the Tyne & Wear Metro system at Northumberland Park the scheme will also be compatible with the ambitions of Nexus in its emerging ‘Metro and Local Rail Strategy’ which articulates a vision of existing and disused local rail corridors combining with the Metro network to create a single Metro and local rail network.

### **6.23. Minerals and Waste**

6.24. There are no major issues of contention in the respect to minerals and waste matters between Northumberland County Council and the other relevant authorities. The nature of the minerals resources that occur in Northumberland means that there is demand for these resources to supply other areas, including Tyne and Wear in particular in respect to construction aggregates where suitable resources are less readily available but demand is high. An Energy from Waste facility on Teesside has an important role in managing local authority collected waste from Northumberland that is not suitable for reuse, recycling and composting and is included in the Council’s current waste management contract that runs until 2035. Some other wastes are also exported from Northumberland for management where more specialist facilities for these materials operate over large catchment areas that are sometimes at a national scale as well as current waste management contracts that operate beyond the borders of Northumberland. Facilities in Northumberland also import waste for management for similar reasons and there has historically been pressure to manage waste from Tyne and Wear. Further work may be required to demonstrate an agreed approach to cross border waste management to areas outwith the region and update work based on the latest data regarding movements (released annually through the Environment Agency’s Waste Data Interrogator).

### **6.25. Waste water treatment**

6.26. Some wastewater, from parts of the County close to its boundary with Tyne and Wear, is treated at the Howdon Wastewater Treatment Works in North Tyneside, along with wastewater from neighbouring authorities. There are potential future capacity issues relating to these treatment works. A large part of the Howdon catchment is served by combined sewers and there is often no option but to accept both foul and surface water from development, leading to unnecessary treatment of surface water. To ensure wastewater from future new development can be

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<sup>15</sup><https://www.nelep.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/North-East-Strategic-Economic-Plan-More-and-Better-Jobs.pdf>

accommodated at the treatment works, there is currently ongoing joint work between the Council, other local authorities, Northumbrian Water and the Environment Agency on the development of a strategic policy to reduce the amount of surface water run-off from new developments, and separate it from the sewerage system.

6.27. The Statement of Commonality for the Howdon Treatment Works could benefit from a refresh. All 7 LPAs agreed to work in partnership with NWL to manage and deliver appropriate projects to provide additional capacity/ headroom and incorporate appropriate management policies into Local Plans.

**6.28. Joint working authority tables**

6.29. Joint working to date on the strategic issues identified above is set out below in separate tables for each neighbouring local planning authority.

**Northumberland County Council and Newcastle City Council**

<b>Governance and working arrangements</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● LA7 Chief Executives</li> <li>● LA7 Economic Directors</li> <li>● LA7 Heads of Planning Meetings</li> <li>● North of Tyne Working Group Meetings</li> </ul>
<b>Engagement on Cross Boundary Matters - meetings</b>
See Appendix 4
<b>Key Issue and Outcome</b>
<p>Throughout the preparation of Newcastle and Northumberland’s Local Plans and in exercising the duty to cooperate, both authorities have met regularly to discuss strategic planning issues and shared emerging evidence. During these discussions and Newcastle’s previous submissions to the withdrawn Draft Core Strategy for Northumberland both authorities have maintained dialogue regarding the possible impact of Northumberland’s planned housing growth on Newcastle and to the delivery of Gateshead and Newcastle Core Strategy and Urban Core Plan (CSUCP) (adopted March 2015).</p> <p><b>Population &amp; Employment Growth/ Transport</b></p> <p>Issue: The draft Local Plan replaces the Northumberland Local Plan Core Strategy that was withdrawn from examination in July 2017. Newcastle City Council was concerned by the traffic impacts of development proposed in that plan in the Green Belt. The minimum</p>

targets for residential development in the Regulation 19 Local Plan are now much lower than the previous version, and the Plan now makes clear that housing need does not provide justification for any revisions to Green Belt boundaries in Northumberland.

Outcome: Newcastle City Council supports the overall approach of the Plan towards the promotion of sustainable connections and there has been continued dialogue between officers and sharing of data regarding traffic impacts of proposals. When finalised the Transport Assessment and mitigation strategy for the Local Plan will be shared and work to assist Newcastle in understanding the impacts will be undertaken.

Working together in the future: The Councils will continue to work together to understand the impacts of growth and in particular the impact on infrastructure and the city's public transport and road network and develop joint solutions as necessary through the relevant governance level for cross boundary agreements.

### **Water Infrastructure**

Issue: Some wastewater, from parts of the County close to its boundary with Tyne and Wear, is treated at the Howdon Wastewater Treatment Works in North Tyneside, along with wastewater from neighbouring authorities. There are potential future capacity issues relating to these treatment works. A large part of the Howdon catchment is served by combined sewers and there is often no option but to accept both foul and surface water from development, leading to unnecessary treatment of surface water.

Outcome: An established Position Statement between North Tyneside, Newcastle and Northumberland authorities and Northumbrian Water Ltd (NWL), outlines potential issues regarding capacity and headroom to accommodate future development. The agreed position statement outlines the importance of managing and separating discharge of surface water to the foul water system enable to accommodate future growth.

Working together in the future: To ensure wastewater from future new development can be accommodated at the treatment works, there is currently ongoing joint work between the Council, other local authorities, Northumbrian Water and the Environment Agency on the development of a strategic policy to reduce the amount of surface water run-off from new developments, and separate it from the sewerage system.

### **Green Infrastructure & Biodiversity**

Issue: Northumberland, North Tyneside and Newcastle share a number of green infrastructure assets and designated sites of biodiversity value that cross or lie close to Authority boundaries. The Northumbria Coast Special Protection Area is an international cross border designation where specific joint working has been undertaken.

Outcome: For wider green infrastructure and biodiversity, discussion between the three Authorities to ensure an appropriate and co-ordinated response a specific Green Infrastructure North of Tyne officer working group met during preparation of each areas Plan. The wildlife corridors and areas of biodiversity protection identified within the three Plans respect key sites of biodiversity value. The Northumberland Coalfield Nature Improvement Area (NIA) extends into Newcastle and North Tyneside, in order to include key environmental assets in these areas and to help to protect the links between these and open countryside in Northumberland. Gosforth Park SSSI in Newcastle is of particular importance in this respect.

Working together in the future: Continue to ensure the provisions of the three Local Plans seek to protect and enhance biodiversity value.

## **Waste**

Issue: Cross boundary movements of waste and resulting facility capacity requirements.

Outcome: The North East authorities, Cumbria County Council, North Yorkshire County Council and other relevant stakeholders such as the Environment Agency participate in the North East Minerals and Waste Planning Policy Officers Group to discuss strategic, cross boundary issues and support joint working on evidence-base relating to waste arisings, cross boundary movements and waste management capacity. Work has involved identifying significant movements and whether these have implications in terms of strategic planning and the following evidence-base studies: 'Model of Waste Arisings and Waste Management Capacity (July 2012)'; 'Production and disposal of low level radioactive waste (August 2013); and 'Waste Management Capacity Update Note (January 2016)'.

Working together in the future: The Council will continue to work with other North East authorities regarding the cross boundary movements of waste and will continue to participate in the North East Minerals and Waste Planning Policy Officers Group.

## **Minerals**

Issue: Ensuring a steady and adequate supply of minerals to meet local and wider needs.

Outcome: The eight Mineral Planning Authorities in County Durham, Northumberland and Tyne and Wear (Durham County Council, Gateshead Council, Newcastle City Council, North Tyneside Council, Northumberland County Council, Northumberland National Park Authority, South Tyneside Council and Sunderland City Council) work collaboratively on aggregate minerals planning matters and work jointly to prepare an annual Local Aggregates Assessment. All of the aforementioned authorities also actively participate in the North East Aggregates Working Party alongside the five Tees Valley

authorities and representative of the industry. The Aggregates Working Party meet regularly (at least on an annual basis) to discuss strategic aggregates minerals planning issues and publishes an Annual Aggregates Monitoring Report.

The mineral planning authorities in North East England also participate in the North East Minerals and Waste Planning Policy Officers Group meetings to discuss a range of strategic, cross boundary issues relating to minerals and the management of wastes.

Working together in the future: The Council will continue to work with the other North East authorities and participate in the operation of the North East Aggregates Working Party and the North East Minerals and Waste Planning Policy Officers Group.

## Northumberland County Council and North Tyneside Council

<b>Governance and working arrangements</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● LA7 Chief Executives</li><li>● LA7 Economic Directors</li><li>● LA7 Heads of Planning Meetings</li><li>● North of Tyne Working Group Meetings</li></ul>
<b>Engagement on Cross Boundary Matters - meetings</b>
See Appendix 4
<b>Key Issue and Outcome</b>
<p>North Tyneside Council considers the approach set out within the Northumberland Local Plan is reflective of the strategy established through North Tyneside's Local Plan and the growth aims of each area can be viewed as complementary.</p> <p><b>Population &amp; Employment Growth</b></p> <p>Issue: Ensuring an overall approach is achieved that balances growth in residents and commuters with growth in employment in Northumberland and the wider region is welcomed. The significance of Tyneside's economy to Northumberland is reflected in the number of people who live in Northumberland and commute to adjoining areas for employment. It is noted that the Plan recognises the importance of Tyneside in delivering employment opportunities for Northumberland.</p> <p>Outcome: The Northumberland Draft Local Plan recognises that SE Northumberland has particular challenges such as unemployment. Sites are proposed for new employment opportunities identified as attractive alternatives to Tyneside as part of an overall strategy for growth. North Tyneside Council recognises that Northumberland's overall aim is to seek to reduce total net out-commuting from Northumberland.</p> <p>Working together in the future: Ensure continuous dialogue to ensure that maximum benefits are delivered for any existing or new employment opportunities.</p> <p><b>Housing</b></p> <p>Issue: The draft Northumberland Local Plan recognises that housing completions have significantly increased in SE Northumberland in recent years and the majority of planned development in the area already benefits from planning permission or is otherwise committed.</p>

Outcome: Whilst the County's housing requirements are already met by existing completions the Draft Plan includes minor additional allocations. In the SE Delivery Area most homes on allocated sites are in Newbiggin-by-the-sea with two smaller schemes proposed at Seghill and Seaton Delaval. These are closer to the boundary with North Tyneside but no specific impacts are anticipated as a result of those proposals. Beyond the SE Delivery Area overall housing growth across Northumberland has potential indirect implications for North Tyneside.

Working together in the future: Northumberland County Council and North Tyneside Council commit to early cooperation regarding the consideration of any housing schemes that come forward that may have cross boundary implications.

### **Transport**

Issue: The importance of the A189/A19 corridor for Northumberland but also the relationship it has with North Tyneside.

Outcome: The A19 (T) Economic Corridor is a strategic policy area in the North Tyneside Local Plan reflecting its importance as an area for current employment and future growth. North Tyneside Council recognise that a significant number of employees in this corridor commute from Northumberland along the A19 and A189 corridor. Northumberland Draft Local Plan recognises junctions on the A19 where improvements are supported and where the impacts of growth can be mitigated. The A189/A19 corridor provides important sub-regional road links to Tyneside for jobs, learning, shopping and leisure.

Additional policy specifically safeguarding the Northumberland Line, a proposed new passenger rail service from SE Northumberland to Newcastle, is welcomed; including its reference to a potential station at Northumberland Park in North Tyneside.

Working together in the future: Continued joint working is a commitment between Northumberland, North Tyneside, Highways England and other partners on approaches to delivering improvements to the A19 and wider cross boundary road and public transport improvements.

### **Green Belt**

Issue: The Green Belt creates a boundary between North Tyneside and Northumberland which prevents coalescence with nearby towns such as Cramlington.

Outcome: In North Tyneside the corresponding Green Belt area was retained in the North Tyneside Local Plan adopted in July 2017. The draft Northumberland Local Plan

does not amend the Green Belt between the south east of the County and North Tyneside.

Working together in the future: North Tyneside supports this approach and Policy STP8 to prevent the merging of these urban areas. It is not expected that further joint working on this matter will be required in the near future.

### **Water Infrastructure**

Issue: Some wastewater, from parts of the County close to its boundary with Tyne and Wear, is treated at the Howdon Wastewater Treatment Works in North Tyneside, along with wastewater from neighbouring authorities. There are potential future capacity issues relating to these treatment works. A large part of the Howdon catchment is served by combined sewers and there is often no option but to accept both foul and surface water from development, leading to unnecessary treatment of surface water.

Outcome: An established Position Statement between North Tyneside, Newcastle and Northumberland authorities and Northumbrian Water Ltd (NWL), outlines potential issues regarding capacity and headroom to accommodate future development. The agreed position statement outlines the importance of managing and separating discharge of surface water to the foul water system enable to accommodate future growth.

Working together in the future: To ensure wastewater from future new development can be accommodated at the treatment works, there is currently ongoing joint work between the Council, other local authorities, Northumbrian Water and the Environment Agency on the development of a strategic policy to reduce the amount of surface water run-off from new developments, and separate it from the sewerage system.

### **Coastal Management**

Issue: North Tyneside and Northumberland share a boundary on the North Sea coast and the Northumberland Coast SSSI and Northumbria Coast Special Protection Area include the intertidal zone in both Northumberland and North Tyneside. The interest features of these designated sites comprise nationally and internationally important populations of migratory and wintering wading birds, and so are vulnerable to disturbance arising from recreational activities such as dog-walking taking place on the coast.

Outcome: Northumberland County Council has developed a strategic, developer-funded approach to the management of recreational disturbance within coastal designated sites; the Northumberland Coastal Mitigation Service. This will employ wardens to identify disturbance hotspots; identify and implement the most appropriate solutions to these and work with recreational users to reduce disturbance to important bird populations. North

Tyneside Council has expressed an interest in working with the County Council on this, and it would make sense ecologically and in planning terms to have a single scheme covering both Local Authority areas. Discussions are ongoing about this.

Working together in the future: It is agreed that the approach to management between each authority is coordinated and effectively addresses shared management of the Coast.

### **Green Infrastructure & Biodiversity**

Issue: Northumberland, North Tyneside and Newcastle share a number of green infrastructure assets and designated sites of biodiversity value that cross or lie close to Authority boundaries. As already noted the Northumbria Coast Special Protection Area is an international cross border designation where specific joint working has been undertaken.

Outcome: For wider green infrastructure and biodiversity, discussion between the three Authorities to ensure an appropriate and co-ordinated response a specific Green Infrastructure North of Tyne officer working group met during preparation of each areas Plan. The wildlife corridors and areas of biodiversity protection identified within the three Plans respect key sites of biodiversity value. The Northumberland Coalfield Nature Improvement Area (NIA) extends into Newcastle and North Tyneside, in order to include key environmental assets in these areas and to help to protect the links between these and open countryside in Northumberland. This includes important green spaces in North Tyneside such as Rising Sun Country Park and Backworth Pond Local Wildlife Site.

Working together in the future: Continue to ensure the provisions of the three Local Plans seek to protect and enhance biodiversity value.

### **Waste**

Issue: Cross boundary movements of waste and resulting facility capacity requirements.

Outcome: The North East authorities, Cumbria County Council, North Yorkshire County Council and other relevant stakeholders such as the Environment Agency participate in the North East Minerals and Waste Planning Policy Officers Group to discuss strategic, cross boundary issues and support joint working on evidence-base relating to waste arisings, cross boundary movements and waste management capacity. Work has involved identifying significant movements and whether these have implications in terms of strategic planning and the following evidence-base studies: 'Model of Waste Arisings and Waste Management Capacity (July 2012)'; 'Production and disposal of low level radioactive waste (August 2013); and 'Waste Management Capacity Update Note (January 2016)'.

Working together in the future: The Council will continue to work with other North East authorities regarding the cross boundary movements of waste and will continue to participate in the North East Minerals and Waste Planning Policy Officers Group.

## **Minerals**

Issue: Ensuring a steady and adequate supply of minerals to meet local and wider needs.

Outcome: The eight Mineral Planning Authorities in County Durham, Northumberland and Tyne and Wear (Durham County Council, Gateshead Council, Newcastle City Council, North Tyneside Council, Northumberland County Council, Northumberland National Park Authority, South Tyneside Council and Sunderland City Council) work collaboratively on aggregate minerals planning matters and work jointly to prepare an annual Local Aggregates Assessment. All of the aforementioned authorities also actively participate in the North East Aggregates Working Party alongside the five Tees Valley authorities and representative of the industry. The Aggregates Working Party meet regularly (at least on an annual basis) to discuss strategic aggregates minerals planning issues and publishes an Annual Aggregates Monitoring Report.

The mineral planning authorities in North East England also participate in the North East Minerals and Waste Planning Policy Officers Group meetings to discuss a range of strategic, cross boundary issues relating to minerals and the management of wastes.

Working together in the future: The Council will continue to work with the other North East authorities and participate in the operation of the North East Aggregates Working Party and the North East Minerals and Waste Planning Policy Officers Group.

## Northumberland County Council and Gateshead Council

<b>Governance and working arrangements</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● LA7 Chief Executives</li><li>● LA7 Economic Directors</li><li>● LA7 Heads of Planning Meetings</li><li>● North of Tyne Working Group Meetings</li><li>● Northumberland and Gateshead Duty to Cooperate Meetings</li></ul>
<b>Engagement on Cross Boundary Matters - meetings</b>
See Appendix 4
<b>Key Issue and Outcome</b>
<p>Northumberland County works with Gateshead Council in respect of a number of cross boundary matters and both are content with the way in which cross-boundary working has developed and continues considering that working together can only further strengthen the policies of the two councils.</p> <p><b>Transport</b></p> <p>Issue: The overall approach of the Northumberland Local Plan towards transport, promotion of sustainable connections and support other more sustainable modes of travel (TRA 1) is supported and considered sound by Gateshead Council. The detailed work on traffic impacts of development proposals is of particular interest.</p> <p>Outcome: Northumberland County will be sharing the final results of transport assessments of the Local Plan with Gateshead Council in respect of development proposals and engage with them in respect of any concerns and mitigating measures.</p> <p>Working together in the future: Information will be updated and shared to gauge the impact of proposals on Gateshead.</p> <p><b>Green Belt</b></p> <p>Issue: The overall approach to Green Belt is supported.</p> <p>Outcome: It involves only minor changes to either the general extent or the detailed boundaries, including in those locations where significant change could have an effect on Gateshead.</p> <p>Working together in the future: Continue ongoing dialogue as necessary.</p>

## **Water Infrastructure**

**Issue:** Some wastewater, from parts of the County close to its boundary with Tyne and Wear, is treated at the Howdon Wastewater Treatment Works in North Tyneside, along with wastewater from neighbouring authorities. There are potential future capacity issues relating to these treatment works. A large part of the Howdon catchment is served by combined sewers and there is often no option but to accept both foul and surface water from development, leading to unnecessary treatment of surface water.

**Outcome:** An established Position Statement between North Tyneside, Newcastle and Northumberland authorities and Northumbrian Water Ltd (NWL), outlines potential issues regarding capacity and headroom to accommodate future development. The agreed position statement outlines the importance of managing and separating discharge of surface water to the foul water system enable to accommodate future growth.

**Working together in the future:** To ensure wastewater from future new development can be accommodated at the treatment works, there is currently ongoing joint work between the Council, other local authorities, Northumbrian Water and the Environment Agency on the development of a strategic policy to reduce the amount of surface water run-off from new developments, and separate it from the sewerage system.

## **Waste**

**Issue:** Cross boundary movements of waste and resulting facility capacity requirements.

**Outcome:** The North East authorities, Cumbria County Council, North Yorkshire County Council and other relevant stakeholders such as the Environment Agency participate in the North East Minerals and Waste Planning Policy Officers Group to discuss strategic, cross boundary issues and support joint working on evidence-base relating to waste arisings, cross boundary movements and waste management capacity. Work has involved identifying significant movements and whether these have implications in terms of strategic planning and the following evidence-base studies: 'Model of Waste Arisings and Waste Management Capacity (July 2012)'; 'Production and disposal of low level radioactive waste (August 2013); and 'Waste Management Capacity Update Note (January 2016)'.

**Working together in the future:** The Council will continue to work with other North East authorities regarding the cross boundary movements of waste and will continue to participate in the North East Minerals and Waste Planning Policy Officers Group.

## **Minerals**

Issue: Ensuring a steady and adequate supply of minerals to meet local and wider needs.

Outcome: The eight Mineral Planning Authorities in County Durham, Northumberland and Tyne and Wear (Durham County Council, Gateshead Council, Newcastle City Council, North Tyneside Council, Northumberland County Council, Northumberland National Park Authority, South Tyneside Council and Sunderland City Council) work collaboratively on aggregate minerals planning matters and work jointly to prepare an annual Local Aggregates Assessment. All of the aforementioned authorities also actively participate in the North East Aggregates Working Party alongside the five Tees Valley authorities and representative of the industry. The Aggregates Working Party meet regularly (at least on an annual basis) to discuss strategic aggregates minerals planning issues and publishes an Annual Aggregates Monitoring Report.

The mineral planning authorities in North East England also participate in the North East Minerals and Waste Planning Policy Officers Group meetings to discuss a range of strategic, cross boundary issues relating to minerals and the management of wastes.

Working together in the future: The Council will continue to work with the other North East authorities and participate in the operation of the North East Aggregates Working Party and the North East Minerals and Waste Planning Policy Officers Group.

## Northumberland County Council and Durham County Council

<b>Governance and working arrangements</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● LA7 Chief Executives</li><li>● LA7 Economic Directors</li><li>● LA7 Heads of Planning Meetings</li><li>● Northumberland and Durham Duty to Cooperate Meetings</li></ul>
<b>Engagement on Cross Boundary Matters - meetings</b>
See Appendix 4
<b>Key Issue and Outcome</b>
<p>Northumberland and Durham County Council have met regularly throughout the production of both authorities Local Plans.</p> <p>Durham County Council confirmed in their response to the Regulation 18 consultation on the Northumberland Local Plan, that they do not consider that the provisions of the Northumberland Local Plan will give rise to an unacceptable adverse impact upon County Durham's environment or the amenity of its local communities.</p> <p><b>Waste</b></p> <p>Issue: Cross boundary movements of waste and resulting facility capacity requirements.</p> <p>Outcome: The North East authorities, Cumbria County Council, North Yorkshire County Council and other relevant stakeholders such as the Environment Agency participate in the North East Minerals and Waste Planning Policy Officers Group to discuss strategic, cross boundary issues and support joint working on evidence-base relating to waste arisings, cross boundary movements and waste management capacity. Work has involved identifying significant movements and whether these have implications in terms of strategic planning and the following evidence-base studies: 'Model of Waste Arisings and Waste Management Capacity (July 2012)'; 'Production and disposal of low level radioactive waste (August 2013); and 'Waste Management Capacity Update Note (January 2016)'. </p> <p>Comments from Durham County Council on the Regulation 18 Draft Local Plan identified that future discussions may be needed in relation to inert waste movements and requirements.</p>

Working together in the future: The Council will continue to work with other North East authorities regarding the cross boundary movements of waste and will continue to participate in the North East Minerals and Waste Planning Policy Officers Group.

### **Minerals**

Issue: Ensuring a steady and adequate supply of minerals to meet local and wider needs.

Outcome: The eight Mineral Planning Authorities in County Durham, Northumberland and Tyne and Wear (Durham County Council, Gateshead Council, Newcastle City Council, North Tyneside Council, Northumberland County Council, Northumberland National Park Authority, South Tyneside Council and Sunderland City Council) work collaboratively on aggregate minerals planning matters and work jointly to prepare an annual Local Aggregates Assessment. All of the aforementioned authorities also actively participate in the North East Aggregates Working Party alongside the five Tees Valley authorities and representative of the industry. The Aggregates Working Party meet regularly (at least on an annual basis) to discuss strategic aggregates minerals planning issues and publishes an Annual Aggregates Monitoring Report.

The mineral planning authorities in North East England also participate in the North East Minerals and Waste Planning Policy Officers Group meetings to discuss a range of strategic, cross boundary issues relating to minerals and the management of wastes.

The approach which has been taken to both aggregates (Policy MIN 6) and surface mined coal (Policy MIN 7) is welcomed and it is considered acceptable and is broadly consistent with the approach of Durham County Council through its own emerging Local Plan.

Working together in the future: The Council will continue to work with the other North East authorities and participate in the operation of the North East Aggregates Working Party and the North East Minerals and Waste Planning Policy Officers Group.

## Northumberland County Council and Northumberland National Park (NNPA)

<b>Governance and working arrangements</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• North of Tyne Working Group Meetings</li><li>• Northumberland and NNPA Duty to Cooperate Meetings</li></ul>
<b>Engagement on Cross Boundary Matters - meetings</b>
See Appendix 4
<b>Key Issue and Outcome</b>
<b>Housing/ Gateway settlements</b>  Issue: The role that the gateway settlements of Rothbury, Wooler, Bellingham and Haltwhistle play.  Outcome: In response to the Regulation 18 Plan the NNPA welcomes the aspiration to deliver sustainable development across the County and particularly supported the identification of Haltwhistle; Bellingham; Rothbury and Wooler as preferred locations for this. The aspiration to promote sustainable rural economic growth in suitable locations is also supported. The gateway settlements of Rothbury, Wooler, Bellingham and Haltwhistle can help meet some of the identified housing needs of the National Park whilst also providing essential community facilities and services for current and future residents.  Working together in the future: Continuing to work together on planning matters of joint interest under the Duty to Cooperate.  <b>Environment</b>  Issue: The significance of Northumberland's distinct and unique landscape as a significant natural and cultural asset. Ensuring that the policies of the County Council do not undermine the aspirations and obligations of the NNPA.  Outcome: NNPA strongly supports Northumberland Local Plan policy approach to the Environment and Water Environment as set out in the policies in Chapter 8 and 9 of the Regulation 18 plan respectively.  Working together in the future: continuing to work together on planning matters of joint interest under the Duty to Cooperate.  <b>Waste</b>

Issue: Cross boundary movements of waste and resulting facility capacity requirements.

Outcome: The North East authorities, Cumbria County Council, North Yorkshire County Council and other relevant stakeholders such as the Environment Agency participate in the North East Minerals and Waste Planning Policy Officers Group to discuss strategic, cross boundary issues and support joint working on evidence-base relating to waste arisings, cross boundary movements and waste management capacity. Work has involved identifying significant movements and whether these have implications in terms of strategic planning and the following evidence-base studies: 'Model of Waste Arisings and Waste Management Capacity (July 2012)'; 'Production and disposal of low level radioactive waste (August 2013); and 'Waste Management Capacity Update Note (January 2016)'.

Working together in the future: The Council will continue to work with other North East authorities regarding the cross boundary movements of waste and will continue to participate in the North East Minerals and Waste Planning Policy Officers Group.

## **Minerals**

Issue: Ensuring a steady and adequate supply of minerals to meet local and wider needs and concerns regarding shale gas extraction that could affect the Northumberland National Park.

Outcome: The eight Mineral Planning Authorities in County Durham, Northumberland and Tyne and Wear (Durham County Council, Gateshead Council, Newcastle City Council, North Tyneside Council, Northumberland County Council, Northumberland National Park Authority, South Tyneside Council and Sunderland City Council) work collaboratively on aggregate minerals planning matters and work jointly to prepare an annual Local Aggregates Assessment. All of the aforementioned authorities also actively participate in the North East Aggregates Working Party alongside the five Tees Valley authorities and representative of the industry. The Aggregates Working Party meet regularly (at least on an annual basis) to discuss strategic aggregates minerals planning issues and publishes an Annual Aggregates Monitoring Report.

The mineral planning authorities in North East England also participate in the North East Minerals and Waste Planning Policy Officers Group meetings to discuss a range of strategic, cross boundary issues relating to minerals and the management of wastes.

In relation to the policy approach for oil and gas, the Northumberland National Park Authority has raised concerns regarding Policy MIN 10 in the Regulation 18 Draft Local Plan and the potential for oil and gas extraction that could affect the National Park. A buffer zone is requested to preclude development in close proximity to the National Park.

Working together in the future: The Council will continue to work with the other North East authorities and participate in the operation of the North East Aggregates Working Party and the North East Minerals and Waste Planning Policy Officers Group. The Council will ensure policies in Local Plan provide an appropriate level of protection to the Northumberland National Park, recognising its special qualities and the statutory purposes of this designation. The Council will seek to maintain land banks of aggregate minerals for the Northumberland sub-region outside of the National Park.

**Northumberland County Council and Carlisle City Council**  
**Northumberland County Council and Eden District Council**

<b>Governance and working arrangements</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cumbria Development Plan Officers Group</li> <li>• Northumberland, Eden, Carlisle and Cumbria Duty to Cooperate Meetings</li> </ul>
<b>Engagement on Cross Boundary Matters - meetings</b>
See Appendix 4
<b>Key Issue and Outcome</b>
<p>Following several Duty to Cooperate meetings to consider possible cross border issues, it was concluded that there are no significant cross border issues to be addressed at present. Partnership working is already well established through the North Pennines AONB partnership.</p> <p><b>Hadrian’s Wall World Heritage Site</b></p> <p>Issue: A notable cross boundary strategic issue is the Hadrian’s Wall World Heritage Site (WHS) which traverses the local planning authority areas of Northumberland, Carlisle and Allerdale.</p> <p>Outcome: The respective policies within the Carlisle, Northumberland and Allerdale Local Plans which relate to the WHS all have the common aim of preserving the outstanding universal value of the site. These policies were derived in part from cross boundary cooperation, and in part from the provisions of the Hadrian’s Wall WHS Management Plan, the aims and objectives of which seek the conservation, preservation and management of the outstanding universal value of the WHS, and to protect this value through local plan policies. The adjoining authorities (Allerdale, Eden and Northumberland) and Cumbria County Council have worked together to ensure complementary protective policies for these assets are included within their respective local plans.</p> <p>Working together in the future: It is clear that there are no strategic cross boundary issues that need to be resolved. There has been positive and constructive engagement with surrounding authorities.</p>

## Northumberland County Council and Cumbria County Council

<b>Governance and working arrangements</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Borderlands Initiative</li><li>• Cumbria Development Plan Officers Group</li><li>• Northumberland, Eden, Carlisle and Cumbria Duty to Cooperate Meetings</li></ul>
<b>Engagement on Cross Boundary Matters - meetings</b>
See Appendix 4
<b>Key Issue and Outcome</b>
<p>As an adjoining Minerals and Waste Planning Authority, meetings and consultation at key stages in Plan preparation and on strategic waste movements have taken place.</p> <p>Cumbria Council confirmed in their representation at Regulation 18 that they are not aware of any strategic minerals or waste planning issue between the two authorities for which provision needs to be made in the Northumberland Local Plan.</p> <p><b>Waste</b></p> <p>Issue: Cross boundary movements of waste and resulting facility capacity requirements.</p> <p>Outcome: The North East authorities, Cumbria County Council, North Yorkshire County Council and other relevant stakeholders such as the Environment Agency participate in the North East Minerals and Waste Planning Policy Officers Group to discuss strategic, cross boundary issues and support joint working on evidence-base relating to waste arisings, cross boundary movements and waste management capacity. Work has involved identifying significant movements and whether these have implications in terms of strategic planning. This includes movements of low level radioactive wastes to Cumbria for management. Movements are not considered to have significant cross boundary implications.</p> <p>Working together in the future: The Council will continue to work with Cumbria County Council regarding the cross boundary movements of waste and will continue to participate in the North East Minerals and Waste Planning Policy Officers Group.</p> <p><b>Minerals</b></p> <p>Issue: Ensuring a steady and adequate supply of minerals to meet local and wider needs.</p> <p>Outcome: The North East authorities, Cumbria County Council and North Yorkshire County Council participate in the North East Minerals and Waste Planning Policy</p>

Officers Group to discuss strategic, cross boundary issues relating to minerals. Cross boundary movements of aggregates minerals between Cumbria and Northumberland between Northumberland and Cumbria have been identified and discussed. These were not considered to raise any strategic issues that need to be taken into account.

Working together in the future: The Council will continue to work with Cumbria County Council on strategic minerals planning matters and participate in the operation of the North East Aggregates Working Party and the North East Minerals and Waste Planning Policy Officers Group.

**Borderlands Inclusive Growth Partnership**

See paragraphs 5.33 - 5.37.

**Northumberland County Council and Scottish Borders Council**

<b>Governance and working arrangements</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Borderlands Initiative</li> <li>• Northumberland, Scottish Borders and SES Plan Duty to Cooperate Meetings</li> </ul>
<b>Duty to Cooperate meetings</b>
See Appendix 4
<b>Key Issue and Outcome</b>
<p>Scottish Borders Council supports cross border linkages through improvements to the East Coast mainline and A1.</p> <p><b>Borderlands Inclusive Growth Partnership</b></p> <p>See paragraphs 5.33 - 5.37.</p>

**Northumberland County Council and South East Scotland Development Plan Authority**

<b>Governance and working arrangements</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Borderlands Growth</li> <li>• Northumberland, Scottish Borders and SES Plan Duty to Cooperate Meetings</li> </ul>
<b>Engagement on Cross Boundary Matters - meetings</b>
See Appendix 4
<b>Key Issue and Outcome</b>
<p>Berwick is the main cross border area in relation to housing. However, SBC nor SESplan see any significant demand arising from developers in the Berwick area and its catchment.</p> <p><b>Borderlands Inclusive Growth Partnership</b></p> <p>See paragraphs 5.33 - 5.37.</p>

**6.30. Joint working with prescribed bodies tables**

6.31. Joint working to date on the strategic issues identified above is set out below in separate tables for each prescribed body.

**The Environment Agency**

<b>Joint working</b>
<p>Liaison meetings have been held since 2015 including representation from Northumbrian Water Ltd (NWL) and neighbouring authorities.</p> <p>The Environment Agency have advised on the policy approach to coastal change management as well as inputting into evidence base studies such as the Water Cycle Study, Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Level 2 and the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment.</p> <p>The Northumberland Strategic Flood Risk Management Partnership meets on a quarterly basis to ensure close partnership working to address all aspects of flood and coastal risk management. The Partnership comprises Northumberland County Council (Flood and Coastal Erosion Officers, Planners and Highways), the Environment Agency and Northumbrian Water Ltd. Regular updates on the emerging Local Plan are provided at the quarterly meetings, as well as the ability to input to policy formulation.</p>

<b>Key Issue(s) and Outcome(s)</b>
It was agreed that the Statement of Commonality for the Howdon Treatment Works could benefit from a refresh. All LPAs agreed to work in partnership with NWL to manage and deliver appropriate projects to provide additional headroom and incorporate appropriate management policies into Local Plans.
<b>Statement of Common Ground</b>
Statement of Common Ground covering Howdon Sewage Treatment Works, and the Local Plan as a whole. This is being drawn up in partnership with NWL and Northumberland County Council.

## Historic England

<b>Joint working</b>
Historic England appreciate the proactive approach taken by the Council in engaging with them and have commented on all stages of the draft Northumberland Local Plan.
<b>Key Issue(s) and Outcome(s)</b>
Historic England consider that the Plan is effectively contributing to the conservation and enhancement of the historic environment and have taken the opportunity to comment at each stage of the Plan's preparation and consider that their comments have been incorporated into the draft Plan.
The very positive approach to the historic environment which is evident throughout the Plan is welcomed.
In respect of the Regulation 18 Local Plan it was recommended that the Council clearly demonstrates how the affect on heritage assets has been considered in the site selection process used to identify site allocations. Northumberland County Council has clarified this in its evidence relating to the Regulation 19 Plan.
<b>Statement of Common Ground</b>
Statement of Common Ground to be prepared.

## Natural England

<b>Joint working</b>
Natural England have been involved in all stages of the preparation of the Habitats Regulations Assessment and have commented on all stages of the Plan.
<b>Key Issue(s) and Outcome(s)</b>

<p>Natural England support the Plan’s vision and environmental objective, which includes the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity and landscapes.</p> <p>Natural England welcomes the development of the coastal mitigation service to mitigate the impacts from the Local Plan. However, in order for the competent authority to ascertain that the plan will not have adverse effects on the integrity of European sites, further detail was requested in response to the Regulation 18 Plan. Northumberland County Council has identified further detail in the evidence base for the Regulation 19 Plan and is confident that this will be to the satisfaction of Natural England.</p> <p>Natural England considers that the Sustainability Appraisal provides a good framework for assessing the impacts resulting from the Local Plan.</p>
<p><b>Statement of Common Ground</b></p>
<p>Statement of Common Ground to be prepared.</p>

**Civil Aviation Authority/ Newcastle International Airport**

<p><b>Joint working</b></p>
<p>Regular meetings with Newcastle International Airport have taken place throughout the production of the draft Northumberland Local Plan.</p>
<p><b>Key Issue(s) and Outcome(s)</b></p>
<p>The Council recognises Newcastle international Airport (NIA) as a key gateway for the County’s economy and is a shareholder in the Airport. The NIA Authority have been preparing a replacement Master Plan in parallel with the preparation of the Northumberland Local Plan and it has been in the interests of both parties to coordinate these processes. In seeking to do this, discussions have centred around the continued expansion of the Airport, which includes land allocated for that purpose within Northumberland. Additional issues surround various safeguarding zones relating to flight paths into and out of the Airport.</p> <p>The Local Plan preparation process has raised some issues of concern to the Airport planners - most notably the proposed allocation of employment land close to the Airport entrance. Discussions are taking place to reach a solution that will enable adequate employment land to be allocated in this part of Northumberland, while ensuring that Airport interests are protected.</p>
<p><b>Statement of Common Ground</b></p>
<p>Statement of Common Ground to be prepared.</p>

## Homes England

<b>Joint working</b>
<p>Northumberland County Council has regular meetings with Homes England as an Investment Partner in relation to current funded programmes and more broadly as part of the North of Tyne Combined Authority (NTCA), through its Housing and Land Board, which along with other portfolio Committees will act in an advisory role to the Combined Authority Cabinet.</p> <p>The Board, which is chaired by Sir Ed Lister and contains representation from Homes England, will support delivery of the NTCA housing growth ambitions; and align public sector resources to maximise land supply, investment and impact on the delivery of housing through land supply, funding and statutory powers.</p> <p>The Housing and Land Board is supported by a North of Tyne Working Group, comprising senior housing, planning and officers from Homes England. The work is intended to provide a more strategic approach to support the delivery of more and better homes across the area – providing improved range of tenures and type of new home, including market, affordable and specialist housing.</p>
<b>Key Issue(s) and Outcome(s)</b>
<p>In respect of the Local Plan Homes England has been supportive with the exception of objections to the West Hartford Strategic employment site being allocated for this use. Homes England considers this more suitable for housing uses. This is currently an unresolved matter in relation to a single site.</p> <p>The aim of the NTCA Housing and Land Board is to provide strategic direction to increase the current delivery trajectory of approximately 1800 homes per annum to 3,000 homes over the next 15 years. This will required funding support from Homes England with a view to delivering a total of 45,000 net new homes by 2032.</p> <p>The Housing and Land Board will seek the support of NTCA to secure government intervention to overcome barriers to facilitate accelerated growth as required.</p>
<b>Statement of Common Ground</b>
Statement of Common Ground to be prepared

## North East Combined Authority (NECA) / North of Tyne Combined Authority (NoT)

<b>Joint working</b>
<p>The seven constituent authorities (LA7) which make up NECA and NoT report up to a single joint transport committee. This includes Northumberland County Council and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides leadership and a united voice on key strategic transport issues</li> <li>• Links strategic transport planning with economic priorities</li> <li>• Provides strong representation on transport issues of national significance including rail, air travel, strategic road network and our ports</li> <li>• Provides more effective coordination and enables improvement to the area's public transport network.</li> </ul> <p>The LA7 is supported by a Heads of Transport Officers Group and a range of sub-groups including Strategic Highways, Sustainable Transport, and Technical Analysis. The Heads of Transport group meets on a monthly basis and ensure a strategic approach to the development of transport policy for the seven authorities taking cognisance of current and emerging land use priorities.</p>
<b>Key Issue(s) and Outcome(s)</b>
<p>In 2019, the LA7 will prepare a joint transport plan for the next 20 years which will aim to provide affordable, attractive, reliable, safe, healthy transport choices for businesses, residents and visitors while enhancing the environment.</p>
<b>Statement of Common Ground</b>
<p>N/A since Northumberland County Council is a member.</p>

## Highways England

<b>Joint working</b>
<p>In addition to the sub regional work undertaken with Highways England through the North East Joint Transport Committee (see paragraph 5.9) Northumberland County Council has regular liaison meetings with Highways England in respect of their interests in several trunk roads within Northumberland, both as part of the Development Management and Local Plan process.</p>
<b>Key Issue(s) and Outcome(s)</b>
<p>Northumberland County Council are producing a transport assessment (TA), using an agreed methodology with Highways England. Northumberland will continue to engage with Highways England and share the outcomes of the TA.</p>
<b>Statement of Common Ground</b>
<p>Statement of Common Ground to be prepared.</p>

## Clinical Commissioning Groups

<b>Joint working</b>
The Clinic Commissioning Group have been engaged in devising the Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) in support of the Local Plan and were previously engaged in the Infrastructure Delivery Plan in support of the Core Strategy.
<b>Key Issue(s) and Outcome(s)</b>
<p>The last meeting between Planning Services and the CCG was held on the 17 August 2018. The purpose of the meeting was to help the Council understand the services provided by the CCG and the existing and likely future pressures as result of the Local Plan and wider demographic changes. The CCG provided various information to inform the Plan including relevant Estates Strategy. The IDP is a live document. Accordingly the CCG will continue to be engaged in ensuring the Plan reflects health infrastructure requirements.</p> <p>The Council has also worked with the CCG to understand its requirements via Section 106 Planning Obligation Agreements. The CCG is currently consulted on applications for 30 dwellings and more. In the context of pressures across services, where development increases the need for health infrastructure capacity, the CCG operates a formula based approach ,which looks at the number of patients from new development and attributes a proportion of cost of additional GP services.</p>
<b>Statement of Common Ground</b>
The potential to be explored.

## Office of Rail and Road

<b>Joint working</b>
The Office of Rail and Road (ORR) is the independent economic and safety regulator for Britain's railways, and monitor of performance and efficiency for England's Strategic Road Network.
<b>Key Issue(s) and Outcome(s)</b>
Proposals to reintroduce passenger services on the rail line between Ashington and Newcastle will have a direct impact on a range of level crossings along the line. As the project develops through the various design phases, the Council will engage directly with the ORR to ensure that any impact at level crossings is appropriately mitigated to create a safe environment for all users of the crossings.
<b>Statement of Common Ground</b>
The potential to be explored.

## Marine Management Organisation

<b>Joint working</b>
<p>Northumberland have engaged with the MMO at a number of sessions on the MMO's marine plans over the last three years where overlaps (physical and topic-based) between the marine plans and the Northumberland Local Plan have been discussed extensively.</p>
<b>Key Issue(s) and Outcome(s)</b>
<p>Northumberland have sought to influence the content of the NE inshore Marine Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● physical overlaps include; sand extraction from beaches between high and low water mark and cables coming ashore and requiring built infrastructure inland of the seashore.</li> <li>● topic overlaps include; fishing, sea-based recreational activity and the well-being of coastal communities.</li> </ul> <p>Northumberland have sought that the MMO should also involve coastal parish and town councils in the marine planning process, particularly where neighbourhood plans are being prepared.</p> <p>The MMO have made no representations to the draft Northumberland Local Plan at any stage.</p>
<b>Statement of Common Ground</b>
<p>The potential to be explored.</p>

### 6.32. Joint working with other bodies tables

6.33. Joint working to date on the strategic issues identified above is set out below in separate tables for each other body.

## North East England Nature Partnership (NEENP)

<b>Joint working</b>
<p>North East England Nature Partnership (NEENP) was formed by a merger of the Northumberland Lowlands and Coast LNP, the Three Rivers LNP and the Northern Upland Chain LNP.</p> <p>Within Northumberland there are currently two Nature Partnerships: the Northern Upland Chain LNP and the North East England Nature Partnership (NEENP). The County is represented on both as a partner either on the partnership board, as is the case for the NEENP, or as part of the North Pennines AONB partnership as is the case for the Northern Upland Chain LNP.</p>

<b>Key Issue(s) and Outcome(s)</b>
<p>The role of the Nature Partnerships is to help communities in their local areas to manage the natural environment as a system and embed its value in local decisions, for the benefit of nature, people and the economy. A key initiative being led by the LNPs is Nature Improvement Areas (NIAs). There are currently two NIAs in Northumberland.</p> <p>The Northumberland Coalfield NIA, which straddles the boundaries between Northumberland, Newcastle and North Tyneside, aims to tackle the lack of connectivity between wildlife areas over a 41,000 hectare area.</p> <p>The Border Uplands NIA covers an area of approximately 100,000 hectares in west Northumberland with just over half in the Northumberland National Park Area, straddling the two current Nature Partnership areas.</p> <p>The Northumberland Local Plan Regulation 19 version includes policies that seek to support the work of the Nature Partnerships in terms of green infrastructure and networks for biodiversity. If considered valuable the County will seek to agree a SoCG for future working.</p>
<b>Statement of Common Ground</b>
<p>The potential to be explored.</p>

### **Northumberland Coast and North Pennines AONB Partnerships**

<b>Joint working</b>
<p>Northumberland Coast AONB Partnership meet three times per year. The Council's Ecologist takes a lead role on the group and a representative from the Council's Planning Service also attends.</p> <p>The North Pennines AONB Partnership includes the County Archaeologist.</p>
<b>Key Issue(s) and Outcome(s)</b>
<p>The group has input into the preparation of the Local Plan, specifically in the preparation of AONB policies and as a result the Local Plan includes specific policies on both the North Pennines AONB and the Northumberland Coast AONB that are supportive of the objectives of the AONB.</p> <p>The Council inputs into, and endorses, both AONB management plans.</p>
<b>Statement of Common Ground</b>
<p>The potential to be explored.</p>

## Home Builders Federation (HBF)

<b>Joint working</b>
Meetings with the HBF have taken place since 2012 and they have been invited to comment on all stages of the draft Northumberland Local Plan.
<b>Key Issue(s) and Outcome(s)</b>
<p>The HBF have provided valuable input into various stages of the Plan including the Northumberland Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) and viability assessment. In its responses to the Regulation 18 Local Plan a number of issues were raised.</p> <p>Policy HOU 2: Provision of new Residential Development: The MHCLG methodology identifies an indicative housing figure of 707 dwellings each year as the minimum starting point for Northumberland. The HBF are supportive of Northumberland's decision to utilise a figure over and above this level to support sustainable development, to boost housing supply and to support economic growth aspirations for the area.</p> <p>Policy HOU 5: Affordable housing provision: The HBF questioned whether a 20% requirement is justified. The approach to affordable housing requirements has been reviewed and clarified in the updated Regulation 19 policy and supporting text, bringing it more in line with the SHMA and viability evidence.</p> <p>Policy HOU 7: Homes for older and vulnerable people: The HBF do not consider that the evidence provided within the SHMA 2018 is sufficient to support the policy of all homes being built to M4(2) standards or the requirement for 25% of affordable homes to be built to M4(3) standards. The adaptability and accessibility standards impact has been reviewed and updated in Regulation 19 Plan to bring it more in line with the SHMA and additional viability evidence.</p> <p>The County has sought to clarify matters to address some of HBFs concerns and will continue to work constructively with the HBF.</p>
<b>Statement of Common Ground</b>
N/A

## Sport England

<b>Joint working</b>
Ongoing discussions have taken place with Sport England and Sport England is a

member of the steering groups set up to oversee work to update the Playing Pitch Strategy and Indoor Facilities Strategy.
<b>Key Issue(s) and Outcome(s)</b>
Active Northumberland are currently progressing work to update these strategies in partnership with Northumberland County Council, Sport England and the relevant sports governing bodies.
<b>Statement of Common Ground</b>
To be pursued.

### Northumbrian Water Limited

<b>Joint working</b>
<p>Liaison meetings have been held since 2015 including representation from Northumbrian Water Ltd (NWL) and neighbouring authorities.</p> <p>Northumbrian Water Ltd have input into evidence base studies such as the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment, Water Cycle Study and the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Level 2.</p> <p>The Northumberland Strategic Flood Risk Management Partnership meets on a quarterly basis to ensure close partnership working to address all aspects of flood and coastal risk management. The Partnership comprises Northumberland County Council (Flood and Coastal Erosion Officers, Planners and Highways), the Environment Agency and Northumbrian Water Ltd. Regular updates on the emerging Local Plan are provided at the quarterly meetings as well as the ability to input to policy formulation.</p>
<b>Key Issue(s) and Outcome(s)</b>
It was agreed that the Statement of Commonality for the Howden Treatment Works could benefit from a refresh. All LPAs agreed to work in partnership with NWL to manage and deliver appropriate projects to provide additional headroom and incorporate appropriate management policies into Local Plans.
<b>Statement of Common Ground</b>
Statement of Common Ground covering Howdon Sewage Treatment Works, and the Local Plan as a whole. This is being drawn up in partnership with NWL and Northumberland County Council.

## **7. Working together going forward**

- 7.1. The Duty to Cooperate requires Local Planning Authorities to constructively and actively engage with relevant bodies as part of an ongoing process, which does not stop at the point Northumberland's Local Plan is adopted.
- 7.2. The Council looks forward to continued engagement with partners to continue to manage strategic cross boundary matters and to develop effective planning policies and delivery strategies.
- 7.3. This statement will be updated as part of an iterative process at each stage of Northumberland Local Plan.

## **8. Appendices**

### **Appendix 1 - Memorandum of Understanding (June 2014)**

<https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/NorthumberlandCountyCouncil/media/Planning-and-Building/planning%20policy/Local%20Plan/NCC-Duty-to-Cooperate-March-2017.pdf>

### **Appendix 2 - Regional Position Statement (Spring 2013)**

<https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/NorthumberlandCountyCouncil/media/Planning-and-Building/planning%20policy/Local%20Plan/NCC-Duty-to-Cooperate-March-2017.pdf>

### **Appendix 3 - North of Tyne Position Statement (November 2016)**

<https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/NorthumberlandCountyCouncil/media/Planning-and-Building/planning%20policy/Local%20Plan/NCC-Duty-to-Cooperate-March-2017.pdf>

### **Appendix 4 - Table of Duty to Cooperate meetings including outcomes that pertain to the production of the Regulation 19 Local Plan**

**Appendix 4 - Table of Duty to Cooperate meetings including outcomes that pertain to the production of the Regulation 19 Local Plan**

<b>Meeting Title or Brief Description</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Meeting Purpose</b>	<b>Outcomes</b>
Duty to Cooperate Meeting with NNPA	13/12/2018	Meeting scheduled	TBC
North of Tyne Duty to Cooperate meeting inc. Gateshead	13/12/2018	Meeting scheduled	TBC
Meeting with Highways England on Local Plan	12/12/2018	Meeting scheduled	TBC
Northumberland Indoor Facilities Strategy Steering Group meeting	06/12/2018	To discuss the Northumberland Indoor Facilities Strategy including evidence base work and land use planning implications.	The Indoor Facilities Strategy was agreed subject to final amendments. No issues were raised.
Meeting with Newcastle International Airport	27/11/2018	Meeting to discuss outstanding issues that the Airport has with the Local Plan policies and allocations.	A better understanding of NIA's concerns about the land allocation for employment at Prestwick Pit. This would enable proper consideration of what action to take as a result of the objection.
Meeting with Highways England on Trunk Road issues in Northumberland	26/10/2018	Discussion on Trunk Road issues in Northumberland including A69, grade separation at Corbridge and Hexham and Moor Farm Roundabout (DM related) and the planned maintenance on the A1.	Updated position on trunk road highways issue.
Northumberland Coast AONB Partnership Meeting	24/10/2018	General Partnership Meeting including a Local Plan update, (by the County Ecologist on behalf of the team), which explained progress towards the Reg.19 version of the Northumberland Local Plan.	Apart from normal Partnership Business, this was a chance for the Partners to be made aware of the imminent Local plan consultation.
North East Coastal Partnership scoping meeting	18/10/2018	This scoping meeting, hosted by the MMO looked at whether a North East Coastal Partnership could be a useful body for coordinating measures associated with development, planning and conservation along the NE coast. Many smaller partnerships exist within the area. These were explained; in addition, reps from coastal partnerships from across the Border and the NW spoke about	Useful exchange of views, although the need for such a Partnership requires further scoping, as to its purposes and make-up.

		how their partnerships work.	
Meeting with Agents for Defence Infrastructure Organisation	16/10/2018	The agents (G.L.Hearn) represent the Defence Infrastructure Organisation. The discussion centred on Albemarle Barracks and some other military sites in the County and the need for policy coverage in the Local Plan.	There was seen to be a need to add references to military establishments and their contribution to the economy within Local Plan policies.
Meeting with North Pennines AONB Partnership	02/10/2018	To discuss AONB Partnership officer issues with the Reg 18 Local Plan policies, as drafted.	Useful feedback allowing necessary amendments to the wording of the Plan prior to the Reg.19 stage.
Homes England Catch-up Meeting with County Council	30/07/2018	To discuss matters of mutual interest - i.e. planning, housing delivery etc.	Updated understanding of planning issues of mutual concern.
Durham Duty to Cooperate Local Plan Briefing	20/07/2018	To make the neighbouring authorities aware of the Local Plan consultation and discuss issues of mutual / cross-boundary interest	The opportunity to discuss key strategic cross border issues emerging through the Reg 18 County Durham Local Plan and an update on neighbouring authorities plan progress and their individual policy approaches to key strategic planning issues.
Durham Preferred Options Approach to Aggregates and LAA	18/07/2018	To discuss Durham County County's approach to aggregate minerals in both the Local Plan Preferred Options and Local Aggregates Assessment.	Updated understanding of the planning matters relating to aggregate minerals of mutual concern. Feedback provided in respect to policy wording that will inform Regulation 19 version of both County Durham and Northumberland local plans.
Highways England - Northumberland County Council Liaison	16/07/2018	Update on methodology for TA, agreeing similar approach to previous TA and how DGV will be included as a committed development.	Methodology for TA agreed and agreement on how the DGV will be included as a committed development.
Northumberland Duty to Cooperate meeting	10/07/2018	To make the neighbouring authorities aware of the Local Plan consultation and discuss issues of mutual / cross-boundary interest	The opportunity to discuss key strategic cross border issues emerging through the Reg 18 Northumberland Local Plan and an update on neighbouring authorities plan progress and their individual policy approaches to key strategic planning issues.
Newcastle International Airport - Masterplan briefing	05/07/2018	To discuss issues of mutual interest including the drafts of the NCC Local Plan and the NIA Master Plan	A useful briefing on the aspirations of the NIA Masterplan up to 2035 and an opportunity to discuss the emerging proposals in the Reg 18 Northumberland Local Plan in the context of NIAs growth ambitions.

Northumberland Coast AONB Partnership Meeting	27/06/2018	General Partnership Meeting including a Local Plan update	Reg 18 Northumberland Plan drop in events publicised.
Newcastle-Gateshead Viability Breakfast Meeting	18/06/2018	To help inform the revised draft of site allocations plans in Newcastle and Gateshead (Newcastle's 'Development and Allocations Plan' (DAP) and Gateshead's 'Making Spaces for Growing Places (MSGP) that were the subject of consultation in autumn 2017.	As with NCC, CP Viability Ltd have been commissioned to undertake their assessment work, and it was evident that a similar approach is therefore being applied, thereby helping to ensure consistency wherever possible. Several of those development industry stakeholders present had also attended NCC's viability workshops on 23 May, and therefore referred to the NCC work too in seeking to ensure a consistent approach in the baseline assumptions being applied for the viability calculations.
NCC Whole Plan Viability Workshop	23/05/2018	Workshop sessions for invited key stakeholders in the development industry as well as other interest groups - including housing developers and registered providers, planning consultants, neighbouring authorities and environmental organisations	CP Viability Ltd, presented the approach and assumptions being applied in the viability calculations, together with the provisional findings of the emerging whole plan viability study, also incorporating assessment of the potential scope for and recommended charging levels for a possible Community Infrastructure Levy. Attendees, particularly developers and consultants, engaged in open questioning throughout the presentation. The feedback gained helped to refine the approach and baseline assumptions that fed into the draft whole plan viability study.
NE England Nature Partnership: 2018 2nd executive meeting	10/05/2018	This executive meeting discussed governance / transition arrangements, the Elected members' guide of 2018 of the North East England Nature Partnership. A local authority sub-group was proposed to get over a gap in communication regarding the work of the Partnership across authorities - not just on spatial planning but finance for projects etc.	Progress on matters such as the elected members' guide and the setting up of a local authority sub-group to coordinate the understanding of the Partnership's aims across authorities.

DTC Meeting with NE Local Nature Partnership	18/04/2018	The meeting allowed the LNP to explain the role and genesis of the Partnership and the related 'Capability NE' a charitable body and the 'Capability 100' Forum (bringing together NE businesses and organisations to try and reach a common approach on how the environment can benefit from joint working and initiatives). The meeting discussed some key principles which led to some adjustments to the text at the start of the Environment Chapter of the draft Local Plan - particularly to emphasise the concept of the Natural Capital.	A very useful exchange of information with a view to further cooperation. Some input from the NE-LNP into the draft Local Plan prior to its consideration by the NCC Member Working Group.
Heads of Planning (NELEP Area)	18/04/2018	Heads of planning meeting including discussions on latest position with local plans	Discussions and actions on cross boundary issues concerning progress of Local Plans (among other matters).
NE Nature Partnership and Capability North East Project	27/03/2018	To discuss the NE Nature Partnership and Capability North East Project	This meeting set targets for the NEENP and the opportunities for cross-area collaboration offered by the setting up of Capability North-East. It was clear that policies in local plans will help facilitate progress towards these targets.
Duty to Cooperate Meeting covering NELEP area	26/03/2018	To discuss region-wide planning issues	Updated matters of mutual interest between authorities in the NELEP area
Marine Planning North East: Plan Development Workshop	21/03/2018	The meeting consisted of a series of workshops to take the issues and options work in the two Marine Plans for the NE to the next stage with delegates from across the region. There was a need to ensure no conflict between the marine plan and the emerging Local Plan	Helped MMO understand land-based issues affecting their plan and for NCC to appreciate the matters of responsibility for which the MMO has to plan.
Local Nature partnership Meeting with NCC Members	14/03/2018	To allow the NE Local Nature Partnership to brief Council Members on the role of the NE-LNP.	Members made aware of the role of the NE-LNP

Transport for the North Corridor Briefing	26/02/2018	This meeting revolved around TFN's draft Strategic Transport Plan Seven strategic development corridors across the region had been identified linking important economic centres that were currently in need of improved connectivity. The briefing saw a presentation of the evidence gathered and sought feedback from stakeholders on this and the objectives and outcomes that had been agreed for each corridor.	Information about the TFN consultation and additional dissemination of information on the corridor-focused work.
Durham Employment Land Review (ELR) Workshop	22/02/2018	Durham County Council had commissioned Lichfields to produce an updated Employment Land Review (ELR) to underpin the Local Plan, informing decisions regarding future employment land allocations / deallocations. The session started with a presentation including a summary of key findings emerging from the work undertaken to date and how this might shape future prospects of County Durham in economic and commercial market terms. The session also considered the extent to which supply and demand for employment land are currently in alignment. Views were sought from Durham's neighbouring authorities including Northumberland.	A good understanding of the methodology used in Durham to assess employment land needs and how this may relate to the approach in Northumberland. Views of economic planners from around the region on the degree to which it is relevant to de-allocate, overallocate etc. were interesting to hear.
NE England Nature Partnership: 1st executive group meeting 2018	20/02/2018	Standard partnership meeting in which, as well as governance matters, the discussions included the Natural Capital Investment Plan, joint procurement arrangements to deliver natural environment improvements efficiently, and a MOU between the LNP and Natural England.	Progress on a number of matters that should benefit the environment and should influence policy making and practical measures across local authorities.

Meeting with Newcastle International Airport	15/02/2018	Meeting to discuss Airport Master Plan and Local Plan progress and matters of mutual interest. Discussions included the emerging results of the Growth Options Study being undertaken by PBA consultants. In particular, the issue of jobs generated close to / relating to the Airport were discussed in relation to sites coming forward for the accommodation of offices and other airport related activities outwith the County. It was queried whether the likely allocation of Prestwick Pit in the Northumberland Local Plan was appropriate in this context. The other issues discussed were possible safeguarding issues associated with the masterplan proposal for a runway extension and other changes in noise standards. It was agreed that implications for the Northumberland policies map would need to be considered carefully.	The meeting resulted in a better understanding of issues arising from the master plan draft and what the implications may be for the Local Plan. By the same token, the airport planner was made aware of proposals likely to be included in the Local Plan that could affect the airport. It was agreed to seek to resolve outstanding issues as early as possible in the two processes.
Meeting with LLFA regarding Local Plan and Coastal Change	08/02/2018	A meeting with a rep. from the NCC Lead Local Flood Authority to discuss how the Local Plan policy on Coastal Change may need to be added to, particularly in terms of defining Coastal Change Management Areas on the future Policies Map and the addition of criteria to the existing policy.	An initial understanding of how the evidence and policy will need to be taken forward in the Local Plan policy, with the LLFA rep. to provide background on, and shape files of CCMA's etc.
Northumberland Coast AONB Partnership Meeting	07/02/2018	General Partnership Meeting including a Local Plan update	Partnership kept up to date with planning issues.

Meeting with Port of Blyth and ARCH to Discuss new Local Plan	01/02/2018	The meeting was intended as an exploratory one to consider how best to reflect the future needs and requirements of the Port and port-related industries in the new Local Plan. The discussion included the latest upgrades to the port, the wider Blyth Estuary (e.g. energy related industries) and the land requirements of both. It also touched on wider multipliers and more generally on the networks of sites and related businesses across SE Northumberland.	A very useful exchange of information which will help the Council in allocating land for employment purposes around Blyth Estuary and more widely and in wider economic policy making.
Meeting with EA and NWL to discuss Water Environment Issues and Local Plan	31/01/2018	A meeting with EA and NWL to discuss Water Environment Evidence, Issues and Local Plan Chapter drafting. Included NCC Local Plan Update, Strategy and Programme, a discussion on the relevance of the water evidence base from the withdrawn Core Strategy, a discussion on where policies could need strengthening; and agreement on any work required.	A good exchange of information and knowledge, including how the evidence base position has changed, what updates if any are required, an understanding as to how and where policies may need strengthening and some actions re provision of info. etc.
Workshop on Local Plan Economic Growth Options	17/01/2018	This Workshop was chaired by consultants Peter Brett Associates (PBA) and hosted by NCC. The purpose was to gather a group of people who are key to economic development in the County of Northumberland and the wider sub-region, with a view to informing PBA's work - particularly looking at which sectors of industry are the most likely to see growth in Northumberland in the next 20 years.	The event explored growth options for the future and informed the work of PBA in developing these options, as well as providing useful information, contacts etc. for NCC officers preparing the Plan.
North of Tyne Duty to Cooperate Meeting	20/12/2017	To discuss matters of mutual interest between the authorities making up the North of Tyne area, including latest position with the emerging NCC Local Plan.	Updated understanding of emerging plans including the future LDS for Northumberland and the detailed Newcastle DM policies document.
North Pennines AONB Partnership - Full	13/12/2017	Full Partnership Meeting, including update on	Feedback on new Local Plan and AONB issues

Partnership Meeting		Northumberland Planning	
NE England Nature Partnership 4th executive group meeting 2017	07/12/2017	The meeting included Governance arrangements. Also discussion on NWL's concerns that the potential for SuDS schemes to contribute to biodiversity was not being realised in numerous schemes across the area. It as proposed to have a threeway engagement between NEENP, NWLs and local authorities on this. There was also discussion on the forthcoming Elected Members' Guide. The Biodiversity Strategy was discussed. This would take on board, as its evidence base, the existing Durham and Northumberland Biodiversity Action Plans.	Progress in establishing the governance of the NEENP and coordinating tackling biodiversity issues across the partnership area
Workshop re Minewater and Development on the Durham and Northumberland Coalfield	07/12/2017	The Coal Authority (CA) and the Environment Agency (EA) are working together to develop a management tool, in the form of a GIS based risk map, to help protect and manage the groundwater resource, reduce pollution risk and empower the competent planning and flood risk authorities. The workshop would raise awareness and understanding of this and how it may affect what planning policies may be necessary (SuDS, minewater etc.)	Better understanding of how minewater issues may need to be tackled through amended policy approaches, including on SuDS.
North Pennines AONB Partnership Exec Group Meeting	06/12/2017	Regular meeting of North Pennines AONB Partnership Exec Group, with exchange of info., including about latest Local Plan position.	Awareness raising and exchange of views.
Duty to Cooperate Meeting with Durham County Council	30/11/2017	To exchange views and information regarding the two emerging Local Plans, including the interim position following the withdrawal of the NCC Core Strategy.	Better understanding of latest positions of respective authorities in moving towards relaunched local plans. Shared views and potential policy approaches on high level strategic issues.
Gateshead Local Plan Making Spaces for Growing Places Dtc meeting	27/11/2017	MSGP overview and discussion on cross boundary issues	Discussion of cross boundary issues, key issues MSGP.

Northumberland Strategic Flood Risk management Plan (SFRMP)	20/11/2017	Discussion on the Northumberland SFRMP	Understanding: Update on SFRMP and relationship with emerging Local Plan.
North East Local Nature Partnership Natural Environment Group Meeting	16/11/2017	The meeting dealt with ensuring NEENP are effective champions for biodiversity issues.	Some principles were established for NEENP engagement in the Local Plan process.
MSGP Consultation Developer Breakfast Meeting	08/11/2017	The consultation is the latest phase of the Gateshead Local Plan.	Briefing on Gateshead's allocations document.
Housing Round table (Northern Consortium)	30/10/2017	A round table discussion regarding the DCLG Paper 'Planning for the right homes in the right places' and the proposed new housing methodology	Informed the consortium's response, and the Council's response to the consultation document.
North of Tyne Catch-up Meeting	27/10/2017	A 'catch-up' meeting with the N of Tyne authorities and HCA	Discussion with the North of Tyne authorities and the HCA to identify a housing baseline, and confirm housing delivery forecasts. Informed the draft North of Tyne Housing Paper
Meeting on the Housing Infrastructure Fund with the N of Tyne authorities and HCA	25/10/2017	A sub-regional meeting with the N of Tyne authorities and HCA regarding the Housing Infrastructure Fund	This was a series of meetings that led to bids being put forward by a number of local authorities for HIF funding in respect of the North of Tyne Housing deal.
Northumberland Coast AONB Partnership Meeting	18/10/2017	General Partnership Meeting including a Local Plan update	Reported that a new Local Development Scheme being produced, setting out the process and timescale for development of the new Local Plan.
Heads of Planning	18/10/2017	An update on and exchange of views on planning matters of mutual interest	An update on and exchange of views on planning matters of mutual interest
North of Tyne Housing Deal meeting	16/10/2017	TBC	This was a series of meetings that led to bids being put forward by a number of local authorities for HIF funding in respect of the North of Tyne Housing deal.
North of Tyne DTC meeting	11/10/2017	To update specifically on Newcastle's Draft Allocations Plan 1st stage and Plan progress in general at NtC and NCC	An update and exchange of respective plan progress - Newcastle's allocations document 1st draft, North Tyneside CIL and Northumberland new Local Plan. Newcastle welcomed input on their IDP re: cross boundary infrastructure

Meeting with Newcastle International Airport	05/10/2017	A 'catch-up' with the planner from Newcastle Airport, with information exchanged on respective positions with plans.	A useful information exchange on respective positions with plans.
North of Tyne HIF Bid Progress Meeting	19/09/2017	A sub-regional meeting with the N of Tyne authorities and HCA regarding the Housing Infrastructure Fund	This was a series of meetings that led to bids being put forward by a number of local authorities for HIF funding in respect of the North of Tyne Housing deal.
DTC meeting with NNPA on Local Plan issues	12/09/2017	To update on respective Local Plan progress and discuss possible opportunities for joint evidence base working	Discussed potential opportunities for collaboration on joint evidence base studies
Meeting on the Housing Infrastructure Fund with the N of Tyne authorities and HCA	07/09/2017	A sub-regional meeting with the N of Tyne authorities and HCA regarding the Housing Infrastructure Fund	This was a series of meetings that led to bids being put forward by a number of local authorities for HIF funding in respect of the North of Tyne Housing deal.
NE England Nature Partnership Extra executive group meeting 2017	06/09/2017	The meeting dealt with procedural matters including financial and governance arrangements for the new Capability North East company. There were updates from Natural England, including on the Northumbria Plan - areas for focus etc. Prof. Alister Scott talked about how ecological and spatial planning connect to environmental and social justice and the idea of the Bioeconomy. (NB a Council Planning Officer attended a seminar on the Bioeconomy subsequently held by Prof Scott).	The Nature Partnership and its associated limited company should reap considerable gains for the area in terms of progress on Nature Conservation. The Bioeconomy issue is informing the content of the emerging Local Plan.
Meeting on the Housing Infrastructure Fund with the N of Tyne authorities and HCA	05/09/2017	A sub-regional meeting with the N of Tyne authorities and HCA regarding the Housing Infrastructure Fund	This was a series of meetings that led to bids being put forward by a number of local authorities for HIF funding in respect of the North of Tyne Housing deal.
Meeting on the Housing Infrastructure Fund with the N of Tyne authorities and HCA	29/08/2017	A sub-regional meeting with the N of Tyne authorities and HCA regarding the Housing Infrastructure Fund	This was a series of meetings that led to bids being put forward by a number of local authorities for HIF funding in respect of the North of Tyne Housing deal.
Meeting on the Housing Infrastructure Fund with the N of Tyne authorities and HCA	22/08/2017	A sub-regional meeting with the N of Tyne authorities and HCA regarding the Housing Infrastructure Fund	This was a series of meetings that led to bids being put forward by a number of local authorities for HIF funding in respect of the North of Tyne Housing deal.

Northumberland Strategic Flood Risk management Plan (SFRMP)	21/08/2017	Discussion on the Northumberland SFRMP	Understanding: Update on SFRMP and relationship with emerging Local Plan.
Meeting on the Housing Infrastructure Fund with the N of Tyne authorities and HCA	16/08/2017	A sub-regional meeting with the N of Tyne authorities and HCA regarding the Housing Infrastructure Fund	This was a series of meetings that led to bids being put forward by a number of local authorities for HIF funding in respect of the North of Tyne Housing deal.
Marine Plan Summer Engagement Workshop	10/08/2017	An update and discussion on the progress with the Marine Plans for the NE	Useful feedback and discussion on issues raised during the issues stage of the Marine Plans that would be of particular interest to the parties present.
Meeting on the Housing Infrastructure Fund with the HCA	08/08/2017	A sub-regional meeting with the HCA regarding the Housing Infrastructure Fund	This was a series of meetings that led to bids being put forward by a number of local authorities for HIF funding in respect of the North of Tyne Housing deal.
DTC with Newcastle City Council - Housing (HIF)	07/08/2017	Update on cross boundary housing strategy issues of common interest and meeting to discuss the Housing Infrastructure Fund	This led to the to bids being put forward by a number of local authorities for HIF funding in respect of the North of Tyne Housing deal.
DTC with Newcastle City Council - Highway and Transport	25/07/2017	Update on cross boundary transport issues of common interest	Discussed progress on cross border transport corridor study.
DTC meeting with Gateshead on Transport issues	14/07/2017	Discussion on cross boundary transport issues	Discussed potential opportunities for collaboration on cross border transport corridor study.
NE Nature Partnership 3rd executive group meeting	13/07/2017	Executive group of Nature Partnership	Progress in establishing the governance of the NEENP and coordinating tackling biodiversity issues across the partnership area



**Planning Policy**

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