

Cabinet

3 April 2019

Discharge of Transport Functions by Durham County Council 2019

Ordinary Decision



Report of Corporate Management Team

Report of Ian Thompson, Corporate Director of Regeneration and Local Services

Councillor Carl Marshall, Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Economic Regeneration

Electoral divisions affected:

Countywide

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To update Cabinet on the transport activity carried out by the Council under delegation originally from the North East Combined Authority (NECA) which has continued under the North East Joint Transport Committee.

Executive summary

- 2 The Council is required to report to the North East Transport Committee annually on the discharge of the functions delegated to the Council. Appendix 2 to this report contains the information which will be reported in respect of the last year.

Recommendations

- 3 Cabinet is recommended to note the contents of this report.

Background

- 4 When NECA approved its constitution in April 2014, it delegated to Durham County Council transport functions contained in Parts 4 and 5 of the Transport Act 1985 and Part 2 of the Transport Act 2000. These primarily relate to concessionary travel and ticketing on local passenger transport services. Durham's Cabinet approved the delegation of these functions at its meeting of 16 April 2014 to the Corporate Director of Regeneration and Local Services in consultation with the Cabinet Portfolio Holder, Economic Regeneration.
- 5 During 2018 responsibility for transport functions became vested in a statutory Joint Committee comprising of representatives of the new North of Tyne Combined Authority and the North East Combined Authority. It was agreed in a Deed of Cooperation entered by the seven constituent Councils of NECA, that the transport functions delegated to the two counties would remain the same pending any decision by the new Joint Committee. No changes to the delegations have been proposed.
- 6 Notwithstanding the above changes, the County Council continues to work closely with all of the north east authorities on matters relating to transport, both through the Joint Transport Committee and the wider network.
- 7 Attached in Appendix 2 is an account of the discharge of transport functions for 2018 agreed by the Corporate Director for Regeneration and Local Services and Transport Portfolio Holder, Economic Regeneration. Appendix 2 is also scheduled to be reported for information to the North East Joint Transport Committee meeting on 18 June 2019.

Background papers

- The North East Combined Authority Constitution
- The North East Combined Authority Deed of Operation dated 29 April 2014
- The North East Combined Authority Deed of Cooperation dated 4 July 2018

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Appendix 1: Implications

Legal Implications

It has been agreed that the Council would provide an annual report on the exercise of its delegated functions to the North East Joint Transport Committee.

Finance

Transport functions carried out by or on behalf of the Combined Authority are funded by a levy raised by the Combined Authority. The funding for transport functions in Durham is transferred into the Combined Authority, and the Combined Authority in turn transfers the funding back to the Council to cover the discharge of its transport functions.

Consultation

None specific in this report.

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

None specific in this report.

Human Rights

None specific in this report.

Crime and Disorder

None specific in this report.

Staffing

None specific in this report.

Accommodation

None specific in this report.

Risk

None specific in this report.

Procurement

None specific in this report.