

# Regional and Local Transport: Policy and Delivery

Joint Overview and Scrutiny 5th May 2023



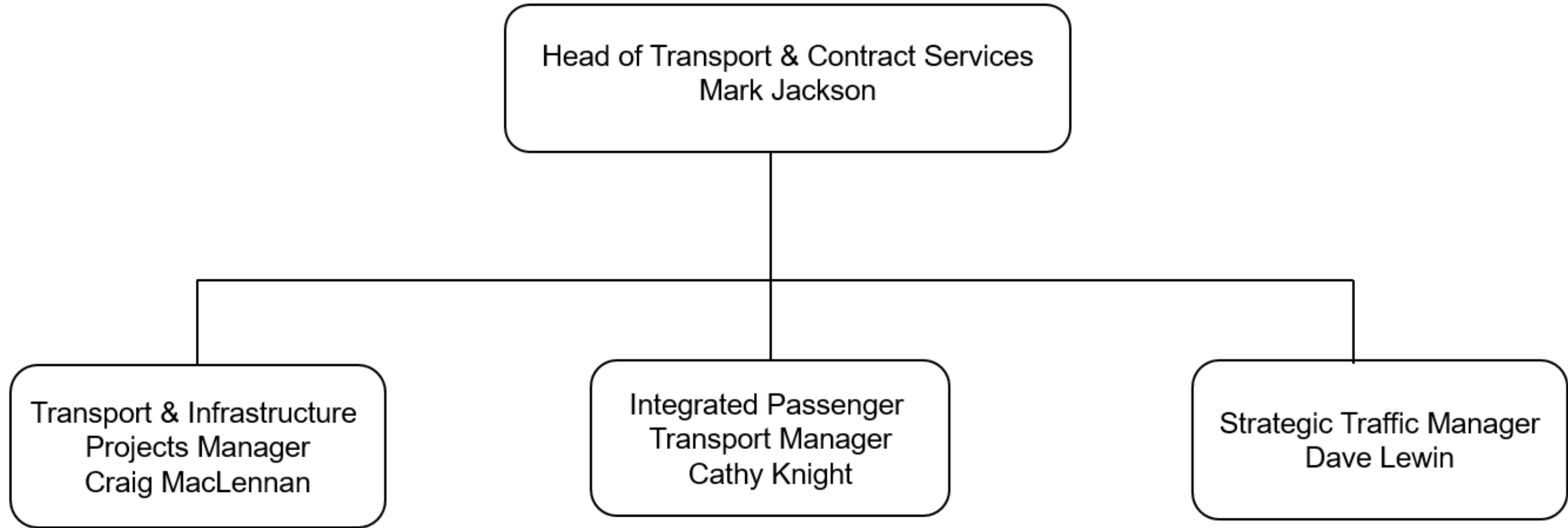
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# DCC Transport, Policy and Devolution



# Transport Team – Structure



# Transport Policy

## National

- Transport Decarbonisation Plan (2021)
- Bus Back Better

## Sub- Regional

- TfN – Strategic Transport Plan

## Regional

- North East Transport Plan

## Local

- County Durham Plan
- Climate Change
- Inclusive Economic Strategy



### North East Transport Plan 2021-2035

Moving to a green, healthy, dynamic and thriving North East



Tell us your ideas to make life in County Durham better for you and your community  
10 January - 31 March

# Devolution Deal - Transport

Key principles and powers:

- New NE Transport Plan
- City Regional Sustainable Transport Fund
- Bus Service Improvement Plan
- Access to Bus Franchising powers
- Key Route Network powers
- Road Investment Strategy 2 & 3
- Institute of Future Mobility
- Nexus to remain
- New Rail Partnership with Great British Railways Transition Team
- Integrated ticketing

# Members Questions on DCC Transport, Policy and Devolution

# Active Travel

*Half of all journeys in towns and cities will be walked  
by 2030...*





# Active Travel – Changing up a Gear

Active Travel continues to be an area of huge growth and investment. It delivers on key agendas such as climate and health.

- Government's Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy 2017
- Response to Coronavirus pandemic (still relevant)
- Climate Emergency and DCC commitment to net zero
- Active Travel England – Inspectorate for walking and cycling links
- Government and Devolved authority's funding regards capital/revenue funding

# Policy

- Gear Change: A bold vision for cycling and walking' set out by the Department for Transport's
- LTN 1/20 standards expected for cycling infrastructure
- North East Transport Plan
- (Drafted) North East Active Travel Strategy
- Durham Strategic Walking & Cycling Delivery Plan - Vision & Aims
- LCWIP embedding in Planning Policy framework
- 10 years Rights of Way Improvement Plan out for consultation

# Durham Strategic Walking & Cycling Delivery Plan - Vision & Aims

## **Vision:**

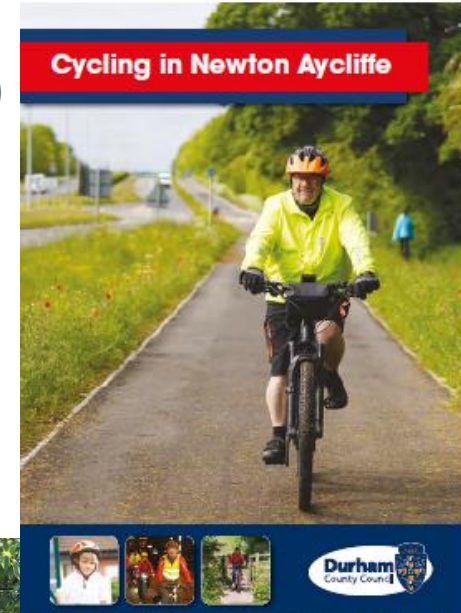
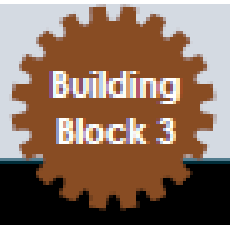
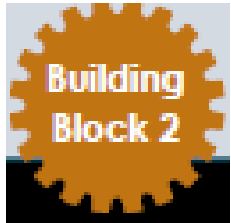
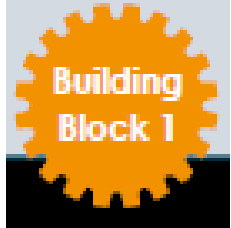
To make cycling and walking part of Durham's culture and to make them safe, affordable, enjoyable, everyday modes of transport for everyone.

## **Aims:**

1. Plan and provide high quality cycling and walking networks that are safe and usable for more people.
2. Manage and protect cycling and walking networks to ensure quality of experience for users.
3. Encourage and enable greater participation in cycling and walking across all demographic groups.

# Progress so far - Highlights

- Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans
- *LCWIP Lite* and *Routes Within 5 Miles of Durham City* projects being developed
- Great North Cycleway (NCN725) – new Active Travel Corridor Newton Aycliffe (£800,000)
- NCN1 improvements (£1.5M investment to date through Sustrans , plus T&V, due for completion 2025)
- Planning & Development
- Counters & Monitoring
- Ongoing work to protect the network
- Maintenance
- Improvement Programmes - LTP (£500k)
- Training sessions for staff on LTN 1/20
- Cycle Parking/Storage
- Town Cycling Maps:
- Borrow a Bike Schemes
- Love to Ride platform
- Groups
- DCC Staff Schemes
- Publicity and Information
- Cycling Instructor Training



# Other Projects and Opportunities

- Active Travel Fund T1 (£393K), T2 (£800K)
- Transforming Cities Fund - Durham City W&C improvements (TBC)
- Levelling Up Funding
- Capability Fund T1 (£280K), T2 (£177K)
- Towns and Villages (£3.75M)
- Developer funding and using Section 106 (i.e. Mount Oswald)
- Climate Emergency funding (Borrow a Bike £55k)
- AAP (i.e. contributions towards leaflets)
- Working in partnership with other services such as Road Safety, Public Health (SHATCP), Culture and Sport, Highways to add value
- Member funds can add value or cover small scheme costs



# Next Steps 2023 and beyond

## Spring/Summer 2023

- Launch of NCN 1
- 11 town LCWIP's adopted
- Roll out of Borrow a Bike schemes
- Love to Ride campaigns
- 12 Town Maps re/launched
- 3 LCWIP Priority routes
- LCWIP Lite and Routes within 5 Miles of Durham City reports
- Designs for Park Road North, NCN14, NCN1 crossing

## By Dec 2023

- Review of Strategic Walking and Cycling and Delivery Plan
- AT Facilities at new DCC site
- Develop LCWIP Lite plans
- Design priority schemes for Routes within 5 Miles of Durham City
- New Inn signals in Durham City (A177-Stockton Road) – commencing July 2023

## By March 2024

- Park and Pedal Feasibility Study
- Deliver capital funded infrastructure schemes
- Complete Capability & Ambition Fund programme

## By Dec 2024

- Launch new SCWDP Action Plan 2024 -29

## Other/Ongoing/Longer Term

- Towns and Villages Walking and Cycling Programme
- Cycle Parking and Storage
- Partnership working
- School Streets
- Increasing input into major schemes – funding bids, planning and development



# Members Questions on Active Travel

# Buses

*“Time to Talk Up Buses?”*





# Local Bus Services

- Commercially operated services – Over 90% services operate without financial support
- Covid19 and rising costs significantly impacted services:
  - Difficulties recruiting and subsequent retention of driving staff
  - The foreseeable end of central government pandemic related financial support for the sector
  - Passenger numbers are not recovering to pre pandemic levels and are not forecast to do so for some time
  - Increased costs for bus operators
- Bus passenger numbers circa 80% prepandemic levels. ENCTS passenger journeys 65-75% prepandemic levels.
- Operators reviewing networks to ensure sustainable and reliable going forward. Increased supported services but not on like for like basis.

# BSIP and EP - Background

- National Bus Strategy, Bus Back Better, published 15 March 2021
- Set out what LTAs and bus operators must do to continue accessing Covid recovery funding and to access future transformational funding:
  - End of June 2021: Commit to establishing an Enhanced Partnership
  - End of October 2021: Publish a Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP)
  - From April 2022: Have an Enhanced Partnership in place
- Stated *“We are clear that successful partnerships should work for both parties, with incentives and benefits for both”*
- National Bus Strategy also set out expectations that BSIPs should be ambitious and transformational with increased levels of bus priority and drive improvements for passengers
- Time to talk up buses?

# Transport North East EP Scheme – Regionwide

- A package of fares offers
- Enhancements to regional bus network
- Regionwide central website and app for transport information, ticket sales and journey planning,
- Additional transport staff at major interchanges;
- Improved multi-modal information provision at interchanges;
- Opportunities to have a community bus champions within the local areas;
- Dedicated marketing budget for BSIP/EP interventions
- Focus on Low Emission Buses

# Transport North East EP Scheme – Regionwide

- BSIP set out the following aspirational products noting that final prices may be higher, based on affordability and the need for prices to be sustainable once funding ends.

Zone	Fare Cap
County Durham	£4
Northumberland	£5
Tyne & Wear	£5
All zone	£6.80

# Transport North East EP Scheme – Regionwide

- New services (including in rural areas, employment/economic sites and to tourist destinations);
- Increases in frequencies, and;
- Increases to operating hours (early morning, late evening, weekend and night time).

To deliver the ‘wishlist’ of changes developed, the following indicative investment is suggested for each part of the region over three years:

Durham	£12.1m
Tyne & Wear	£16.3m
Northumberland	£6.8m

# Transport North East EP Scheme – County Durham

Capital	Revenue
Measures to improve bus journey time and reliability on the A167 corridor	Service Improvements put forward by Durham CC officers including rural routes, full list to be confirmed
Route to developing Pocket Park and Ride site(s) and interchange hubs for demand responsive transport.	A Demand Responsive Transport (DRT) pilot to provide links in rural areas to the main network.
Spot interventions at key points across the network to improve bus speeds and punctuality by providing bus priority measures.	
Proposed accessibility and safety upgrades to selected bus stations and stops, the potential route to upgrading identified bus stations.	

# BSIP and EP - Funding Announcement

- On 4 April DfT announced 31 BSIPs have been selected to receive BSIP funding including the North East BSIP
- Transport North East indicative funding £163,521,172 (total funding from 2022/23 to 2024/25):
  - Capital £73,758,353
  - Revenue £89,762,819
- Funding conditional on submission and implementation of Enhanced Partnership
- Comparator funding awards:
  - West of England and North Somerset £105.5m
  - Greater Manchester £94.8m
  - West Midlands £87.9m

# Members Questions on Buses



# New Transport Infrastructure and Rail

# Transport Infrastructure Delivery 22/23

- Durham Bus Station in delivery, including temporary stops
- Framwellgate Coach Parking delivered
- A167 Newton Aycliffe ATF cycle scheme delivered

# Transport Infrastructure Delivery 23/24

- Currently Delivering over £70 million of transport projects including
- Transforming Cities projects, including Sniperley P&R and New Inn Junction, Northern Active Mode Corridor and Framwellgate Peth to Newton Hall active mode links
- Housing Infrastructure Fund, Newton Aycliffe (Central Avenue, Ricknall Lane and Rushyford junction improvements).
- A19/A182 Junction and Dalton Park capacity enhancements
- Bishop Auckland Bus Station and Car Park
- A19 Seaton Lane (B1404/A1018)
- Stockton and Darlington Railway active mode corridor
- Locomotion car park expansion
- Bishop Auckland A688 junction improvements
- Toft Hill Bypass scheme development



# New Transport Infrastructure Schemes

## Major Highways Investments

- Toft Hill Bypass – money secured by levelling up fund round 1 design needs to approved by land owners but looks positive
- Bowburn Relief Road – safeguarded in CDP, part of Durham constituency LUF bid round 2 unsuccessful
- Bishop Auckland A688 – Series of capacity enhancement across several junctions

## A19 Corridor Schemes

1. A19 Seaton Lane (B1404/A1018), on the ground now
2. Jade Enterprise Zone and A19/A182 Junction

# Rail Opportunities in County Durham

## County Durham - Restoring Your Railways

1. Ferryhill unmanned station/car park and a passenger service reintroduced at Ferryhill on Stillington line. SOBC has been submitted, waiting announcement on funding for OBC
2. Consett to Newcastle – feasibility study (early stages) looking at reintroducing passenger service either via Derwent Valley or Consett Sunderland – unknown announcement dates
3. Weardale railways (Darlington to Easthope) – passenger service on private railways and connect the bishop line to Weardale line.

## Policy Ambitions for Rail Enhancement in County Durham

- Leamside line with Stations at Belmont, Ferryhill, Sedgefield etc
- 2 services per hour at CLS and extra stopping services on stations on the Durham Coast Line at Horden and Seaham

# Members Questions on New Transport Infrastructure and Rail



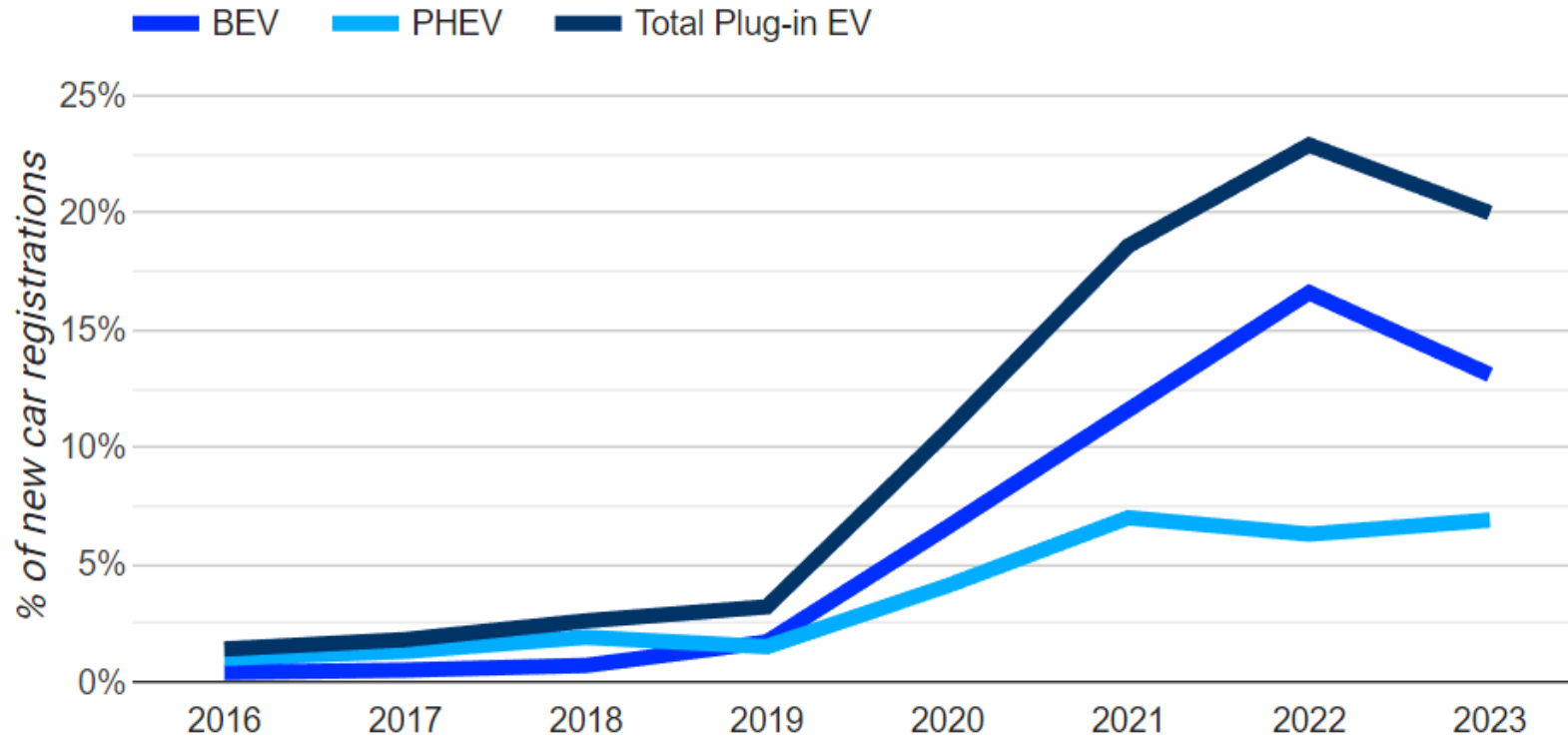
# Electric Vehicle Infrastructure

Sales of new petrol and diesel cars to be banned by 2030.

By 2035, all new sales must be zero emissions!



# Annual market share – plug-in market share of new car registrations (2016 to date)



...

Take-off in EV registrations as market share 2019-2021

- ▶ 2015 – 1.1%
- ▶ 2019 - 3.2%
- ▶ 2021 – 10.7%
- ▶ 2022 – 22.9%

Gov Forecasts

- ▶ 2030 – 60%
- ▶ **Are we ready?**

Source: SMMT, January 2023





# DCC EV Background

- 2018 Set up EV working group with internal services (highways, parking, procurement assets etc.)
- Innovate UK funding in 2019 for SOSCI project, 100 new EVCPs
- Appointed **Tracy** Millmore as an EV officer in 2019 to work on EV infrastructure (stand alone).
- Secured funding for x2 ORCs projects 2020
- 2021 Wrote Strategy and set up EV community group with residents.
- Secured funding for REV-UP research project (Aug 21-Mar 22.)



# DCC Charge Point Delivery Plan (2021)

Sets out 5 key actions to delivering more chargepoints around the County:

1. Leading by example
2. Develop a network of public chargepoints
3. Provide charging infrastructure to the Council's fleet
4. Support appropriate private sector proposals for charging infrastructure
5. Other EV opportunities: pursuing partnerships, funding, and education












# 2022 - LEVI Pilot (based on STEP model) – 1 of 9

## LEVI Capital Fund: Pilot to test the approach

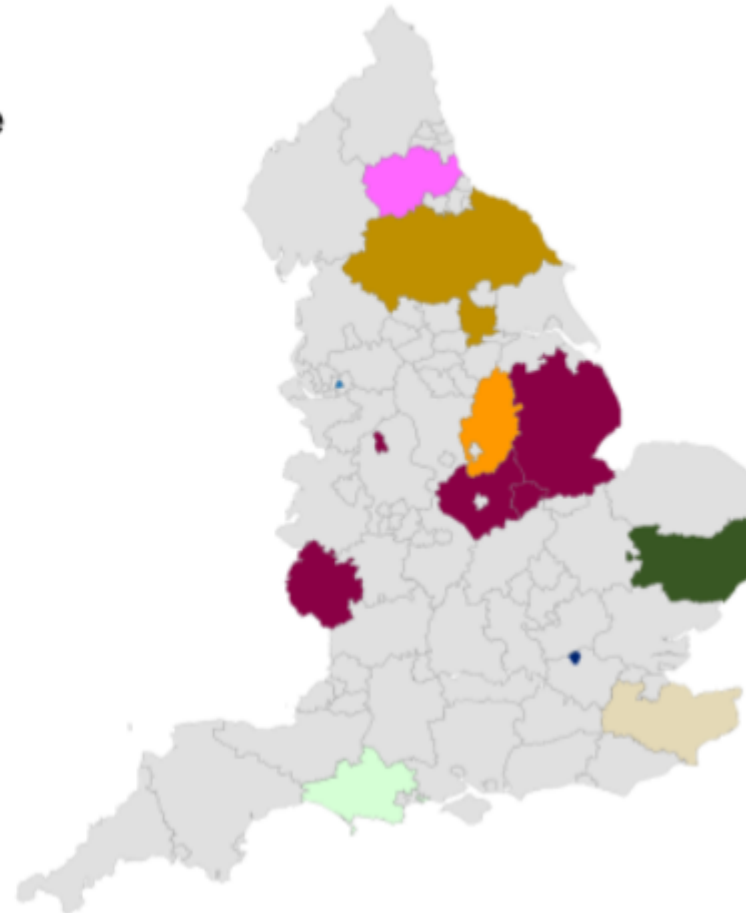


The **£10 million LEVI pilot** will deliver over **1,000 on-street chargepoints** and leverage **£8.6 million in private investment**, across **nine local authorities**.

The winners of the pilot fund are:

	Barnet
	Dorset
	Durham
	Kent
	Midlands Connect*
	North Yorkshire
	Nottinghamshire
	Suffolk
	Warrington

*\*with Lincolnshire as a lead authority*



Durham CC received £1,250,000 to deliver 100 chargepoints (90 Fast, 10 rapid), supported by £350,000 in private investment.

# Durham County Council – EV Progress

- Completed WEVA project in December 2021 ‘National demonstrator project (ORCs)
- Completed SOSCI project in January 2022 ‘Best EV project’ MJ awards 151 EV sockets
- Completed REV Up project in March 2022 – Produced a best practice guide for LA’s and x2 EVCPs.
- DCC has an EV strategy (2021)
- Accessible EV reports for Accessible charging points.
- Installed 187 Sockets / connectors to date
- A further 26 are ready to switch on soon.
  
- In progress, we have LEVI Pilot, Pilot Gul-E, ORCs project focused on communities and money from Level up fund through Transport North East.
- 2022 – Became an EV team.



# Durham's - EV Team

Tracy Millmore  
Senior EV Project officer



Andrew Shiel  
EV Monitoring Officer



Ethan Kerry  
EV Technical officer



- Aim to secure funding for EV infrastructure.
- Monitor EVs usage.
- Provide stats on EVs in Durham.
- Operate the EVs with CPO.
- Provide technical support of EVs
- Plot, plan where to install EVs.
- Ensure new car parks have the EV infrastructure.
- Social Media and communications of EVs inc. stakeholder engagement.
- **Communicate** with internal services in the council to install EVs.



# *2023 and beyond - Remaining Challenges*

## **Internal**

- Have extend LEVI Pilot ! Feb 21<sup>st</sup> Additional funding for the Local EV Infrastructure Fund Pilot
- We now have a grant of £4.3m and have to deliver 250 new EVPs for LEVI Pilot, the largest in the country!
- Choosing a Charge Point Operator invest overground for 7/8 years in LEVI Pilot
- Attracting Private Finance partners to support sustainable long term funding model when grant expires
- Home charging for residents – Gull-e Pilot

## **External**

- How can EVs become cheaper and more plentiful for our resident
- Energy Prices - gone from 33p per KWH to 56p per KWH in the last 18 months (on fast chargers).



# Members Questions on Electric Vehicles Infrastructure

# Transport Policy and Delivery – Summing Up

- New Mayoral Combined Authority will have implications for Policy and Funding
- Active Travel is becoming embedded in the planning system
- Helped the region attract the largest BSIP settlement in the Country
- Successful Round 1 Levelling Up Fund bid with a package of £31 million of mainly transport projects, national exemplar
- Levelling Up 2 – submitted 5 unsuccessful bids although these bids can be recycled as other funding opportunities arise
- Continued commitment to EV charging with an ambition to fit at least 250 charge points across County