

## Delegated Decision

28 March 2024

### North East Screen Industries Partnership – Signing the Inter- Authority Agreement



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## Report of Corporate Management Team

**Amy Harhoff, Corporate Director of Regeneration, Economy and Growth**

**Councillor Elizabeth Scott, Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Economy and Partnerships**

### Electoral division(s) affected:

Countywide

### Purpose of the Report

- 1 To enter into an Inter-Authority Agreement (“IAA”) relating to the North East Screen Industries Partnership (NESIP) in relation to the period 2022/2023 and 2023/2024. The relevant financial contribution was approved by cabinet in April 2022, and authority delegated to the Corporate Director of Regeneration, Economy and Growth to in consultation with the Corporate Director of Resources the Cabinet Member for Economy and Partnerships and Cabinet Member for Finance to agree the associated Business Case and delivery arrangements.

### Executive summary

- 2 In April 2022 Cabinet approved a proposal that the council become a member of the NESIP, with a financial contribution of £158,431 in 2022/23, and noting an ongoing requirement which has now been satisfied and future funding will become the responsibility of the new North East Combined Authority.
- 3 The report delegated to the Corporate Director of Regeneration, Economy and Growth to in consultation with the Corporate Director of Resources, the Cabinet Member for Economy and Partnerships and Cabinet Member for Finance to agree the associated Business Case and delivery arrangements. These arrangements are captured in an IAA which formalises the council as a NESIP partner. The IAA has been

considered by legal teams from all parties and is now ready to be signed.

## **Recommendation(s)**

- 4 For the Corporate Director for Regeneration, Economy and Growth to sign the IAA to formalise the council's role in the NESIP partnership under the delegated authority set out in the April 2022 Cabinet report.

## **Background**

- 5 A MoU was signed between the BBC and the North East authorities in September 2021 in relation to NESIP. This set out a partnership vision and mutual investment targets by BBC and the North East authorities over a five year period to promote the development of region's cultural and creative industries, through the strategic development of the local TV and screen industry and skills. In order to continue to deliver the required step-change in the growth of the screen industries sector across the North East it is essential that investment continues to be committed by all of the North East authorities as a whole and in a collaborative way to deliver a sustainable eco-system.
- 6 It was agreed that Tees Valley Combined Authority ("TVCA") would fulfil the role of Accountable Body for the North East authorities in relation to NESIP. An IAA is now required between the North East authorities to ensure the respective roles and responsibilities (including the mutual funding obligations) of the individual North East authorities involved in the partnership are clearly set out, and the associated governance and financial responsibilities are clear.
- 7 The IAA will initially operate between TVCA, the North of Tyne Combined Authority ("NTCA") and the four authorities within the North East Combined Authority ("NECA Authorities"), including Durham, for the period up to 2023/2024. With effect from 2024/2025 the intention is that the IAA will be novated by the NTCA and the NECA Authorities to the proposed new North East Mayoral Combined Authority ("NEMCA") to then operate for the remainder of its term up to the end of 2026/2027.
- 8 Durham County Council's financial contributions have been discharged, with delegated authority to the Corporate Director for Regeneration, Economy and Growth to enter into the IAA.

## **Conclusion**

- 9 The IAA underpinning the NESIP has now been agreed by all parties, and under the delegation provided by Cabinet the Corporate Director for Regeneration Economy and Growth is now required to sign the IAA to enter into the partnership.

## **Background papers**

- [North East Screen Industries Partnership Cabinet Report, April 2022 \(democracy.durham.gov.uk\)](https://democracy.durham.gov.uk)

## **Other useful documents**

- None

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## **Author(s)**

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## **Appendix 1: Implications**

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### **Legal Implications**

Text.

### **Finance**

Text.

### **Consultation**

Text.

### **Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty**

Text.

### **Climate Change**

Text.

### **Human Rights**

Text.

### **Crime and Disorder**

Text.

### **Staffing**

Text.

### **Accommodation**

Text.

### **Risk**

Text.

### **Procurement**

Text.