

Delegated Decision

November 2024

**North East Devolution – Combined
Authority Borrowing Powers**

Ordinary Decision



Report of Legal & Democratic Services Management Team

James Etherington, Legal Manager & Deputy Monitoring Officer

Electoral division(s) affected:

None.

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To seek approval to provide the required consent to The Combined Authorities (Borrowing) and East Midlands Combined County Authority (Borrowing and Functions) (Amendment) Regulations 2025.

Recommendation(s)

- 2 The Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, is recommended to:
 - (a) Consent to the above regulations being made.

Background

- 3 In December 2022, HM Government announced a minded to devolution deal with the seven local authorities across the North East. To implement the deal, the Councils needed to establish a new mayoral combined authority for the region.
- 4 Following the making of the North East Mayoral Combined Authority (Establishment and Functions) Order 2024 (referred to below as “the 2024 Order”) and the election of the Mayor, the new combined authority – NECA – came into existence on 7 May 2024.
- 5 As part of the devolution deal, it was envisaged that NECA would have borrowing powers to support its functions. This was set out in the scheme which was published by the seven local authorities for consultation as part of the process of making the 2024 Order. Borrowing powers for NECA’s transport functions were included in the 2024 Order. However, central government’s legislative procedures mean that the borrowing powers for other functions must be conferred on NECA by a separate statutory instrument (referred to in this report as “the Regulations”). NECA and the constituent councils must provide their consent before the Regulations can be made.
- 6 Securing borrowing powers will help NECA to properly discharge its functions and assist in delivering the combined authority’s vision, policies and priorities. The provision of borrowing powers to NECA will support the Council to deliver across its key priorities.
- 7 The Council has been provided with a copy of the draft regulations and consent is sought so that they can be laid before Parliament on the 18 November.

Background papers

- None

Other useful documents

- North East Devolution – Combined Authority Borrowing Powers, Cabinet, 4 June 2024

Author(s)

James Etherington

Tel: 03000 269727

Appendix 1: Implications

Legal Implications

As set out in this report.

Finance

N/A

Consultation

N/A

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

N/A

Climate Change

N/A

Human Rights

N/A

Crime and Disorder

N/A

Staffing

N/A

Accommodation

N/A

Risk

N/A

Procurement

N/A