North East Step Up to Social Work Cohort 5 – application form

1. Full name of local authority/Trust acting as lead for Regional Partnership	North Tyneside Council
Point of contact within your local authority for this programme	Name: Louise Robson Address: Quadrant Silverlink North Cobalt Business Park North Tyneside Postcode: NE27 0BY Phone: (0191) 643 5043 Email: Louise.Robson@northtyneside.gov.uk

2. Do you have letters of commitment from all of the local authorities in your proposed partnership (<i>please scan and submit</i>)?	Yes
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3. Which HEI(s) have you cor about offering <i>Step Up to Soc</i>		Manchester Metropolitan Ur	niversity
Can you indicate at what phas contact is at with the HEI(s)?	se this	Selected HEI (letter of comr Attached to bid.	nitment).
4. List of local authorities in your regional partnershipDarlington	contact in LA candidat		

Durham	Glynis.Barron@durham.gov.uk	8
Gateshead	CatherineHardman@Gateshead.gov.uk	3
Hartlepool	Peter.Rigg@hartlepool.gov.uk	2
Middlesbrough	Jackie_Simms@Middlesbrough.gov.uk	4
Newcastle	Becky.Dunn@newcastle.gov.uk	3
Northumberland	<u>Tracey.Horseman@northumbria-</u> healthcare.nhs.uk	2
North Tyneside	Louise.Robson@northtyneside.gov.uk	2
Redcar and Cleveland	Angela.Wright@redcar- cleveland.gov.uk	4
South Tyneside	Claire.Morris@southtyneside.gov.uk	4
Sunderland	Catherine.Witt@sunderland.gov.uk	4
Stockton	Janet.Haves@stockton.gov.uk	4
Total number of candidates your RP wishes to train:		43

6. Name / contact for HEI(s):	Samantha Baron – <u>s.baron@mmu.ac.uk</u> Marie Le Bacq- <u>m.lebacq@mmu.ac.uk</u>
Are you at a stage where the HEI has confirmed they are willing to train the number of candidates desired by the RP?	Yes

 7. Please provide an outline of Step Up including: How the programme differs from a traditional route into social work? How it will embed the Chief Social Worker's Knowledge and Skills in both academic and practice delivery? 	The Step Up to Social Work Programme within the North East Region will include a 14 month fast track course where participants are hosted within local authority social work for the entire period. This gives participants the chance to learn in-depth about the nature of statutory social work in a single local authority increasing their job-readiness.
(max 800 words)	The course will be delivered via a mix of online, and face to face academic sessions supported by direct practice in a local authority.
	In partnership with our chosen HEI, the practice curriculum will be written to meet the requirements of the Professional Capabilities Framework (PCF) and the

Knowledge and Skills for Social Work as published by the Chief Social Worker and assessment of candidates' practice will be undertaken by the Practice Assessment Panel (PAP). The PAP will comprise of Practice Educators from each local authority and staff from the HEI. This panel will assess the placement portfolios which provide evidence from the student and practice educator that the student has met the PCF and Knowledge and Skills requirements of the placement.
It is expected that students will engage in a formal review of their progress with their personal tutors. These reviews should look at how well the student is meeting the PCF and the Knowledge and Skills. These meetings will be pivotal in providing opportunities for the students to holistically reflect on all dimensions of their learning on the programme.
All the local authorities in the Regional Partnership are involved in training and assessing their Practice Educators to meet the Practice Educator standards.
At the beginning of each placement, Practice Educators will be encouraged to attend briefings, led by the chosen HEI, which informs them about the distinctive nature of the Step up programme. This covers the aim of helping students to link theory and practice and where there are tasks for the student to help them to do this. This will also cover the need for students to be assessed against the Knowledge and Skills as well as the PCF embedding both of these crucial elements with practitioners as well as students.

8. Please provide details of proposed placement arrangements for <i>Step Up to Social Work</i> participants. As a minimum you need to offer at least one statutory	The regional partnership is keen that practice and theory are integrated and support each other.
placement.	It is suggested that placements and
(max 250 words)	teaching are intertwined and that teaching tasks support direct practice with children and families.

Experience from other Regional Partnerships suggest there are benefits to the 70-day placement running for 3- days a week with supported learning on 2-days a week. We intend to offer the longer 100-day placement on a 4-day a week basis in front line children's social work teams. Local authorities are keen that they recruit students that would go on to complete the ASYE within their local authorities and stay with them for some time after qualification. They are committed to finding placements of the highest quality for students and supporting their learning in the best possible manner.
Students would be encouraged to use their Developing Skills for Practice Days in a range of settings including Adult Services.

9. Please describe how the design, delivery and governance of Step Up will be employer led.	The North East Cohort 5 bid seeks to merge two existing regional partnerships that operated during Cohort 4 – led by Darlington Borough Council and North Tyneside Council.
(max 600 words)	Both of these partnerships have been driven by steering groups that are chaired by a local authority representative and each LA has a representative on their committee.
	During Cohort 5 it is planned that these committees come together as a single over-arching North East Committee chaired by a single LA rep.
	The steering committee is responsible for all decisions around the Step Up to Social Work Programme within the North East. It is strongly supported by the North East Directors of Children and Adult Services and reports will be fed into the appropriate Directors Group on a regular basis. The group will also link to the North East Workforce Development

	Group so it is shaped by the demands of local authorities as well as initiatives coming out of central government such as the assessment and accreditation process for child and family practitioners.
10. Please provide a statement of the resources LAs and HEIs have available	All local authorities in the Regional Partnership have the approval of their senior managers.
to process applications in the period May - September 2017and conduct checks in the period July - December 2017. This might include people, rooms, requirements for the support contractor, etc.	Local authorities have committed the time required by the Regional Partnership to support the programme and each local authority has a named lead on the Partnership Steering Group.
(max 250 words)	Senior Managers have agreed to the active participation in the Partnership Steering Group by the Leads in the knowledge of the scale of the task ahead.
	Commitment from both the Directors of Children's Services, Assistant Directors as well as Workforce Leads and Principal Social Workers is clear. The Partnership has identified the time required by Local Authority staff to support the programme and senior managers have agreed to participation in the knowledge of the staff time required to support the programme.
	Local authorities are committed to the Partnership to allocate and provide rooms and resources for assessment centres. Once dates and times are arranged each local authority is committed to seeking Practitioners, Managers and Service Users to attend these days.
	Named Leads as well as Practitioners and Managers are committed to working with the Regional Partnership on a no cost basis as part of their agreement to taking part in the Step up programme.
	Representatives from our chosen HEI will be expected to attend the dates of the Regional Partnership Steering Group and play a pro-active role in the sifting of applications as well as the interviewing and assessment of

	applicants.
11. Where your regional partnership is also involved in a teaching partnership, do you have separate accounting procedures in place to differentiate funding streams?	Yes – funds are held in separate local authorities ensuring complete transparency of accounting.
12. Does your regional partnership commit to the timescales laid out in Annex D of this letter?	Yes