

Meeting: Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee

Date: 1 June 2015

Title: North East Combined Authority (NECA) Overview & Scrutiny Update

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Service: Law & Governance

Wards affected: All

1. Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to give members of North Tyneside Overview, Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee an update to work that will be undertaken by the NECA Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

2. Recommendations

The Committee is asked to note the information included

3. Details

The North East Leadership Board (NELB) is the strategic decision-making body of the Combined Authority (NECA), responsible for a number of transport functions and economic development and growth. It is comprised of the six Leaders and the elected Mayor, plus the Chair of the North East Local Enterprise Partnership.

The NELB aims to achieve a number of key improvements across the area, including:

- The exercise of statutory functions relating to transport.
- The effectiveness and efficiency of transport infrastructure and public transport.
- The exercise of statutory functions and general powers relating to economic development and growth, and economic conditions.

Effective scrutiny arrangements are an essential part of local democracy, enhancing accountability and transparency of decision-making and enabling local councillors to represent the views of their constituents. These arrangements have been established to enable local councillors, on behalf of their communities, to scrutinise and challenge all matters within the remit of the Combined Authority.

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee also investigates matters of significant importance to residents within the areas covered by the seven councils with a view to influencing decisions made in respect of all matters within the remit of the Combined Authority.

Councillors Sandra Graham & Ray Glindon are the North Tyneside Council members on the NECA Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

During 2015/16 the NECA Overview & Scrutiny Committee will meet 6 times with each meeting taking part in 1 of the constituent authorities of the Combined Authority.

Suggested topics are being sought to be included in the draft work programme, which will be discussed and considered at the first meeting. Topics relating the 3 themes of employment, economic development and transport will be considered.

The Committee already has a policy review topic on the Transport theme: barriers to employment.

Further information and resources is available from the NECA Website <http://www.northeastca.gov.uk/home>.

4. Background Information

The following documents have been used in the compilation of this report and may be inspected at the offices of the author.