


# North East




**Our modern Industrial Strategy sets out our long-term plan to boost productivity by backing business to create high quality, well-paid jobs throughout the United Kingdom with investment in skills, industries and infrastructure.**

In the North East area a partnership of business and civic leaders – alongside other local partners – is working with the government to build on existing strengths, help business to flourish, and grow skills and opportunities for workers across the area.

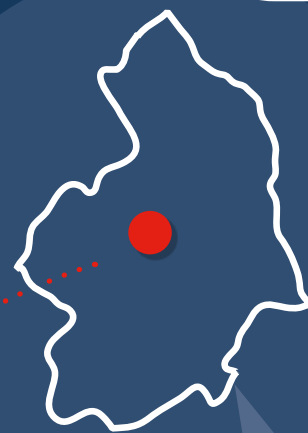
Industrial Strategy highlights include:

 **£8.1m** for the National Centre for Healthcare Photonics, to help companies of all sizes to develop technologies using advanced light technology – such as fibre optics and X rays – for healthcare purposes.

 **£82m** funding for the new Northern Spire Bridge built across the River Wear.

 **£6.8m** to accelerate housebuilding by providing the vital infrastructure needed to access new and existing sites.

 **915,400** people in employment, an increase of **70,300** since 2010. **69,100** workers directly benefiting from the National Living and Minimum Wages. **24,790** apprenticeships starts last year.



**Population: 1,957,200**  
**Businesses: 50,700**

## Case study: The Beacon of Light

The Beacon of Light is a strategic regeneration and skills capital project delivering significant economic benefits for Sunderland and the North East area. £1.7m in funding provided for the facility will create five storeys of sports halls, football pitches, informal learning spaces and state-of-the-art education suites designed to facilitate four interactive zones: Education, Health and Wellbeing, Sport and Play, and World of Work.

For more examples  
go to [bit.ly/IS-map](https://bit.ly/IS-map)

North East Local Enterprise Partnership is now working with the government to develop its Local Industrial Strategy.

**We have committed more than £45bn to Industrial Strategy programmes supporting research, local infrastructure, training and business growth throughout the United Kingdom. This money is already starting to be spent on the ground.**