

North East Combined Authority - Integrated Settlement Outcomes Framework 2026/27 to 2028/29

- This document sets out the Outcomes Framework for North East Combined Authority's Integrated Settlement for FY26/27 to FY28/29. It includes:
 - a) **Strategic priorities** across the whole integrated settlement, including key local and national priorities which have shaped the development of the outcomes.
 - b) **Outcomes, indicators, and targets**, including the baselines and trajectories that will be used to assess progress.
- The Outcomes Framework reflects pragmatic considerations that have emerged in this phase of Integrated Settlement rollout. The government and MSAs will renegotiate all outcomes and targets at the next Spending Review, to ensure that the framework continues to evolve and fully represent the ambition of the I/S policy document.

Strategic priorities for the North East MSA Integrated Settlement

The Integrated Settlement will be key to implementing the North East Mayoral Strategic Authority's five Missions and making the North East:

- The home of real opportunity.
- A place we are proud to call home.
- Home to a growing and vibrant economy for all.
- The home of the green energy revolution.
- A welcoming home for global trade.

We will use the full breadth of funds in scope of the Integrated Settlement to deliver these, bringing this funding together with our Investment Fund (Gainshare) and making the most of the Mayor's wider convening powers to realise our ambitions.

In particular, we will use devolved funding in the Integrated Settlement to implement the priorities in our Local Growth Plan. The North East Mayor has singled out the importance of providing affordable and high quality transport to unlock and connect people to opportunity; creating green jobs in the energy, automotive and advanced manufacturing sectors; and investing in the creative and cultural sectors to drive growth.

This will address our key barriers to growth, and is in line with the Plan for Change's emphasis on people.

The North East is a great place to live and work. It has vast natural resources, featuring the largest forest and largest reservoir in England. Not only do we already benefit from large areas of woodland and peatland - crucial for carbon capture and ecosystem services - but we have room to expand these even further. Approximately 30% of our area is designated for nature, with internationally important habitats and species populations in our region, attracting 30 million visitors to experience our natural beauty each year.

But we know that to truly make it home to a growing and vibrant economy for all, we need to ensure residents of all ages and from all backgrounds and communities are encouraged and supported to develop their skills and aspirations. We will use our funding, including through the Integrated Settlement, to ensure that people across our region can make progress towards and into work; find good quality, fairly paid jobs, and a career with good prospects; and lead healthy, working lives.

In doing so, we will also ensure our people have the skills to continue delivering the Government's national Industrial Strategy. Our Investment Zone is already landing major inward investors, and we will use the other funding in the Integrated Settlement to do more, including to address our Local Growth Plan priority on innovation.

Success here means maximising the benefits of the £30 billion of investment unlocked through our AI Growth Zone and making them accessible to people across the region. It means ensuring that we have the skills we need in the region to deliver our natural advantages in the offshore wind industry. And it means helping our creative industries flourish, building on a cultural offer including Beamish and the Glasshouse.

We will also use our Integrated Settlement to deliver a green, integrated transport network, in line with the Mayor's Local Transport Plan. We will extend Metro to Washington and identify opportunities to further increase rail and Metro coverage, make improvements to our sustainable travel network, and unlock housing and commercial developments by addressing transport connectivity issues.

Further, by delivering key transport-enabled projects, such as the nationally significant Leamside Line Investment Corridor, we will play a crucial role in supporting the national Growth Mission. Taking inspiration from the success of the Northumberland Line, the Leamside Line will stimulate the economy, connect local people to jobs and grow housing by unlocking the potential for new towns, building on the delivery of Metro to Washington on the northern part of the corridor. It will provide a significant capacity and resilience uplift to the East Coast Main Line, and enhance connections and support for businesses at key sites including Nissan, IAMP, Follingsby, and Integra61; all Investment Zone sites; and the Airport. It will unlock over 10,000 new homes, generate more than 1,000 jobs, and provide a major boost to the region's connections to the rest of the country.

We will also use our Integrated Settlement to address the supply and suitability of housing in our region. The North East faces a critical shortage of affordable housing, with over 76,000 people on social housing waiting lists. The North East Mayoral Strategic Authority is committed to addressing this, and want to improve and increase the supply, diversity and quality of housing choices for our residents, providing affordable housing in the right locations.

To achieve this objective, and to support the Government's objective to build 1.5 million homes over this Parliament, we need to make best use of brownfield land and remove barriers to the development of sites that support housing growth. This requires targeted investment that tackles viability challenges, removes barriers to stalled sites, enables land remediation and infrastructure investment. A flexible approach to regeneration and aligned funding streams is therefore paramount, enabling sustainable development that supports the longer-term regeneration needs of our communities. We also look forward to discussing how future funding for housing retrofit can be devolved through the Integrated Settlement, given the region's significant challenges with the quality of our existing housing stock, and its impact on health outcomes.

Overall, our proposed outcomes reflect those of the region, align clearly with the North East Mayoral Strategic Authority's Missions, and will support the Government's Plan for Change.

Outcome 1: Reliable, sustainable and accessible infrastructure that connects people to opportunity affordably. (A North East we are proud to call home)

Outcome indicators	Baseline	Target March 2029	Trajectory		Data source
			March '27	March '28	
1.1 % mode share of trips made by public transport	7.6%	8.9%	8.1%	8.5%	National Travel Survey
1.2 Bus patronage (millions of boardings per year)	115.8m	119.2m ¹	116.8	117.8	DfT annual bus statistics

¹ HMG and the North East MSA recognise this is an ambitious target in the context of evidence which has informed the MSA's Bus Franchising Scheme Assessment.

1.3 Bus punctuality and reliability: (a) % of buses departing from stops no more than one minute early and no more than five minutes fifty-nine seconds late across all routes (b) % of bus journey km cancelled	(a) 81.67% (b) 2.3%	(a) 90% (b) 1.3%	(a) 84% (b) 2%	(a) 88% (b) 1.7%	DfT Bus Open Data Service (BODS)
1.4 Bus passenger satisfaction (inc. on personal security and accessibility): (a) % total of all bus passengers very and fairly satisfied with bus journey (b) % satisfaction of passengers with personal security on the bus (c) % total of disabled passengers very and fairly satisfied with bus journey	(a) 84% (b) 84% (c) 83%	(a) 87% (b) 87% (c) 86%	(a) 84% (b) 84% (c) 83%	(a) 86% (b) 86% (c) 85%	Transport Focus – Your Bus Journey (YBJ)
1.5 Tram / Light rail patronage (millions of passenger journeys)	32.2	33.2	31.2	32.2	DfT Light Rail and Tram Statistics
1.6 Average number of walking, wheeling and cycling journey stages per year	To be agreed following the publication of the third cycling and walking investment strategy (CWIS3)				DfT National Travel Survey
1.7 Local authority managed roads where maintenance should be considered (categorised as red):	(a) N/A (b) N/A (c)	A and B - To be agreed following the publication of PAS2161 (due in Autumn 2027).			A and B – DfT Road Conditions Statistics (PAS2161)

(a) A roads and Motorways (b) B + C roads (c) Unclassified roads	County Durham - 21.7% Gateshead - 21.7% Newcastle - 29% North Tyneside - 8.5% Northumberland - 18.0% South Tyneside - 19.3% Sunderland - 18.3%	C: County Durham - 21.7% Gateshead - 21.7% Newcastle - 29% North Tyneside - 8.5% Northumberland - 18.0% South Tyneside - 19.3% Sunderland - 18.3%	C - DfT Road Condition Statistics
1.8 Miles of compliant new / improved active travel network delivered	To be agreed following the publication of the third cycling and walking investment strategy (CWIS3)		LTA Reporting through Active Travel Update Your Capital Scheme (UYCS)
1.9 Delivery of transport capital programme: a. The number of schemes in development / delivery / completed b. The percentage of capital spend in development / delivery / completed	Reporting only		MSA reporting

1.10 Public transport, walking and cycling connectivity score to key destinations (education, leisure and community, health, shopping, residential and workplaces)	65.72	Increase	-	-	DfT Connectivity Tool
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Outcome 2: Safer, Greener transport helping people to travel more sustainably, improve safety and reduce health and gender inequalities. (A North East we are proud to call home.)

Outcome indicators	Baseline	Target March 2029	Trajectory		Data source
			March '27	March '28	
2.1a Number of road casualties Killed or Seriously Injured (KSI) b. Child KSIs	a. 693 b. 74	554 59	647 69	601 64	DfT Road Casualties statistics
2.2 Number of NO2 roadside monitoring sites in exceedance of the statutory concentration limit	1	0	-	-	Local Authority Monitoring Data and DEFRA National Monitoring Network
2.3 % of the bus fleet that is zero tailpipe emission	1%	10%	5%	7.5%	DfT Annual Bus Statistics.

2.4 Provision of Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment and charging devices, including pavement channels, on LA controlled land	N/A	500	100	250	LTA reporting
2.5 Estimated annual transport carbon impacts up to 2050 by (a) user emissions (target), (b) infrastructure carbon emissions (report only)	N/A	≤0	N/A	N/A	LTA reporting

Outcome 3 – More residents from all communities and age groups progress into well-paid work through enhanced support to improve their skills and aspirations. (Home of real opportunity)					
Outcome indicators	Baseline	Target March 2029	Trajectory		Data source
			March '27	March '28	
3.1 Total number of achievements on MSA-funded level 2 courses	19,648	22,691	16,900	20,025	Further Education & Skills Publication
3.2 Number of achievements (in functional level 2) in English	490	577	144	524	
3.3 Number of achievements (in functional level 2) in Maths	290	383	130	348	
3.4 Number of achievements in L2 Digital Skills – regulated and non-regulated provision	310	375	315	341	
3.5 Number of MSA funded residents progressing to Level 2	860	993	N/A	903	Internal DfE/MCA analysis
3.6 Number of MSA-funded residents achieving Level 3+ qualifications in Health, Public Services and Care (Sector Subject Area Tier 2)	860	1041	800	946	Further Education & Skills Publication

3.7 Number of MSA-funded residents achieving Level 3+ qualifications in Child Development and Wellbeing (SSA Tier 2)	150	182	152	165	
3.8 Number of MSA-funded residents achieving Level 3+ qualifications in Information and Communication Technology (SSA Tier 1)	80	97	72	88	
3.9 Share of total supported employment programme starts to achieve first earnings	N/A	42.2% (4,684)	28.9% (1,266)	37.1% (2,960)	HMRC RTE data (PRaP)
3.10 Share of out of work supported employment participant starts to achieve a lower threshold job outcome	N/A	31% (3,445)	17.1% (748)	25.6% (2,041)	HMRC RTE data (PRaP)
3.11 Share of out of work supported employment participant starts to achieve a higher threshold job outcome	N/A	21.2% (2,352)	9.7% (425)	16.6% (1,328)	HMRC RTE data (PRaP)
3.12 Share of in work retention supported employment participants to achieve a higher threshold job outcome	N/A	70.8% (1,387)	52.9% (409)	64.1% (903)	HMRC RTE data (PRaP)
Output indicator	Baseline	Target March 2029	Trajectory		Data source
			March '27	March '28	
3.a Number of enrolments on Level 2 Courses	23,080	27,673	8,000	25,157	Further Education & Skills Publication
Number of enrolments within Sector Subject Areas					

3.b Health, Public Services and Care (SSA Tier 2)	8,220	9,675	8,200	8,795	Further Education & Skills Publication
3.c Child Development and Wellbeing (SSA Tier 2)	1,020	1,201	1,030	1,091	
3.d Information and Communication Technology (SSA Tier 1:6)	2,490	2,931	2,194	2,664	
3.e Supported employment programme starts	N/A	13,073	5,159	9,394	HMRC RTE data (PRaP)
3.f Provision of supported employment	N/A	Annual assessment	Annual assessment	Annual assessment	External

Outcome 4 ² : A skilled construction workforce, sufficient to build the housing and support the wider economic growth needed in the region					
Outcome indicators	Baseline	Target March 2029	Trajectory		Data source
4.1 Number of CSP enrolments (L2, L3)	1,144	4,830 (3 years) ³	1,610 (Academic year 26/27)	3,220 (Academic year 27/28)	Further Education and Skills statistics publication
4.2 Number of CSP achievements (L2, L3)	931	3,930 (3 years) ³	1,310 (Academic year 26/27)	2,620 (Academic year 27/28)	Further Education and Skills statistics publication

² Government and North East Mayoral Combined Authority recognise this is an ambitious target in the context of local labour market conditions and, reflecting the pilot status of the Construction Skills Package in the settlement, have agreed to review targets and flexibilities after the first year of delivery. The pilot status and additional monitoring/reporting requirements will also be reviewed at this time.

³ These targets relate to outcomes achieved by the end of the 28/29 academic year. HMG and the MSA will work together to agree what proportion of this should be achieved by March 2029.

Output indicator	Target March 2029	Trajectory		Data source
		March '27	March '28	
4.a Number of CSP Industry Placements	3,792	1,204	1,263	ILR
4.b Number of CSP Industry/Education days (TIE)	400	200	300	NECA data

Outcome 5 – More affordable, energy-efficient, and social housing delivered by unlocking brownfield sites and land remediation, supporting regeneration and economic growth. (A North East We Are Proud to Call Home)				
Output indicators	Target March 2029	Trajectory		Data source
		March '27	March '28	
5.1 Unlocked housing capacity	2,900	700	1350	Internally monitored from outputs/GFAs through funded investment
5.2 Number of starts on site	450	-	150	
5.3 Number of additional housing completions	150	-	-	

Outcome 6 – Invest in local infrastructure to unlock key commercial sites and address barriers to growth. (A North East we are proud to call home)					
Outcome indicators	Baseline	Target March 2029	Trajectory		Data source
			March '27	March '28	
6.1 Additional floorspace unlocked because of MSA interventions (m²).	N/A	70,000 m2	0	0	MSA development tracking; planning approvals

Outcome 7 – Growth in the North East economy driven by increased business productivity. (Home to a growing and vibrant economy for all)					
Outcome indicators	Baseline	Target March 2029	Trajectory		Data source
			March '27	March '28	
7.1 Number of jobs created by MCA interventions in local priority sectors I. Total (target) II. Offshore wind and energy transition III. Advanced manufacturing IV. Creative industries V. Life sciences, pharmaceuticals and process industries VI. Tech, digital and AI VII. Defence, security and space VIII. Foundational economy	N/A	500	100	250	MSAs - programme reporting, potentially using delivery partner returns.
7.2 Number of enterprises supported with improved turnover/workers (FTE): I. Total (target) II. Offshore wind and energy transition III. Advanced manufacturing IV. Creative industries V. Life sciences, pharmaceuticals and process industries VI. Tech, digital and AI VII. Defence, security and space VIII. Foundational economy	N/A	125	0	50	Self-reporting by supported businesses
7.3 No. of supported businesses demonstrating improved practice. I. Total (target)	N/A	125	0	50	Self-reporting by supported businesses

II. Engaged in new markets					
III. Adopting new to firm technologies / processes					
IV. Scaling					
V. With new to market products / services					
VI. Accessing better finance and funding					
Output indicator		Target March 2029	Trajectory		Data source
			March '27	March '28	
7.a Total number of businesses receiving support:					
i. Financial support		1,000	200	500	MSAs – programme reporting
ii. Non-financial support					

Outcome 8 – Improved natural environment through stronger regional collaboration to deliver our Local Nature Recovery Strategies. (Home of the green energy revolution)					
Outcome indicators	Baseline	Target March 2029	Trajectory		Data source
			March '27	March '28	
8.1 Leadership of local nature recovery strategies	n/a	On track	On track	On track	MSA reporting

Outcome 9 – Work with local stakeholders to enable the development of a regional approach to reducing homelessness and rough sleeping. (The home of real opportunity)					
Outcome indicators	Baseline	Target March 2029	Trajectory		Data source
			March '27	March '28	
9.1 More coordinated strategic approaches to tackling homelessness across the region	n/a	On track	On track	On track	MSA reporting