

## Record of Delegated Executive Decision(s)

### 1. Subject of decision

North East Devolution – Adult Education Functions – North East Mayoral Combined Authority

### 2. Name and Title of Decision Maker

Jacqueline Laughton – Interim Chief Executive

### 3. Details of any Conflict of Interest and any Dispensation granted in respect of such Interest

Not applicable

### 4. Executive summary

The Secretary of State, subject to parliamentary approval to the making of the necessary secondary legislation, and with the consent of NECA and its constituent councils, which includes this Authority, is minded to amend the North East Mayoral Combined Authority (Establishment and Functions) Order 2024 so that NECA has shared responsibility with the Secretary of State for a further Adult Education Function. The additional function is that set out in section 100(1B) of the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 which enables the Secretary of State for Education to secure the provision of financial resources in connection with approved technical education qualifications or approved steps towards occupational competence. It is proposed that the North East Mayoral Combined Authority (NECA) would also have the powers set out in section 100(1B) to exercise concurrently with the Secretary of State. Without such a power, NECA would be unable to fund newly reformed Technical Qualifications, which means that it would be unable to use its Adult Skills Fund for these qualifications for the 2025/26 academic year. The Authority's consent in principle to the making of the Order is required to be with the Department for Education by 31 January 2025 at the latest to enable the parliamentary deadline for laying of the Order to be met and for work to be undertaken on the final draft Order.

## **5. Alternative Options considered**

Not to agree to consent in principle to the making of the Order.

## **6. Decision(s)**

To give consent in principle on behalf of the Authority to the making of the Order that will give additional Adult Educations to NECA that it will exercise concurrently with the Secretary of State for Education.

## **7. Reasons for the Decision(s)**

Giving consent in principle to the making of the Order will enable the next stage in the legislative process to be taken in relation to NECA. If the Order is made it will give adult learners in the NECA area access to new Technical Qualifications and ensure that they have access to the same high-quality qualifications that will become available in other devolved areas.

## **8. Date Decision Made**

29 January 2025

## **9. Is this decision subject to call-in and if so expiry date of call-in**

This decision is not subject to call-in because if the decision was to be called-in the deadline of 31 January 2025 could not be met and the draft Order could not include NECA.

## **10. Date of Publication**

29 January 2025

## **11. Implementation Date (if decision not called in)**

29 January 2025

\*Note – The decision is not subject to Call-In, as agreed by the Section 151 Officer, Monitoring Officer and Chair of Council, due to the following reasons(s): If the decision was to be called-in the deadline of 31 January 2025 could not be met and the draft Order could not include NECA.