



**Making more of our own decisions in
the North-East of England**

Tell us what you think

Please tell us by Thursday 23 March 2023



**EasyRead version of:
North East Devolution Deal Consultation 2023**

What are we asking you about?



The Government is asking people in the North-East of England if they want to make more decisions for themselves in things like transport, education, jobs and support for local business.

This is instead of Government making them and is called **devolution**.



This EasyRead information leaflet gives you some information about the idea and comes with a question leaflet asking you what you think.



We would like you to answer the questions and send them back to us. See how to do this at the end of this leaflet.

A £4.2bn devolution deal for the region has been agreed with government

Make sure your voice is heard on the changes planned as part of the deal

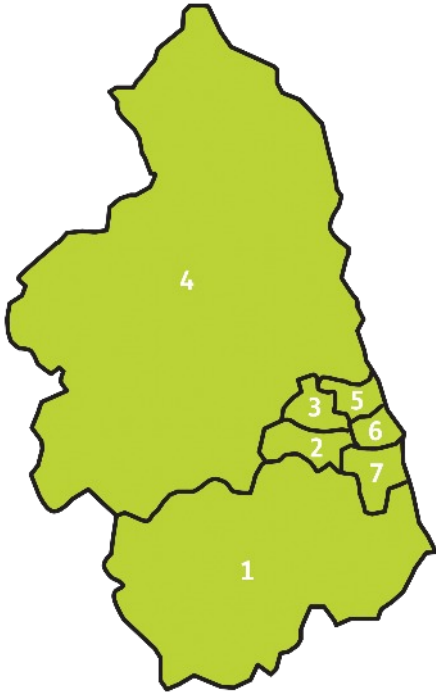


Which council areas are covered?



7 local councils are included:

1. County Durham
2. Gateshead
3. Newcastle
4. Northumberland
5. North Tyneside
6. South Tyneside
7. Sunderland.



These councils will stay the same and do the same work they do now.

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What would stop working?



3 organisations would stop working, these are:

1. the North of Tyne Combined Authority (NTCA)
2. the North-East Combined Authority (NECA)
3. the Joint Transport Committee.



These jobs would be done by the new Authority.

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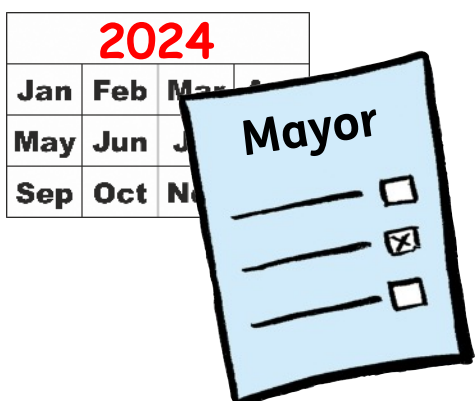


How would it work?



There would be a new Authority called the North-East Mayoral Combined Authority (NEMCA).

This would be run by a new Mayor with the leaders of the councils.



Local people in the North-East could vote for who is the new Mayor in 2024.



There would also be a group that checks the decisions being made and that money is being spent properly.

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What will change, and what does it mean for people?



Devolution would mean there is more money to spend on things like:

- how people get around, walking, cycling, driving, getting the train, bus or Metro



- buying land to build houses on with support services and new organisations to help



- helping people get jobs

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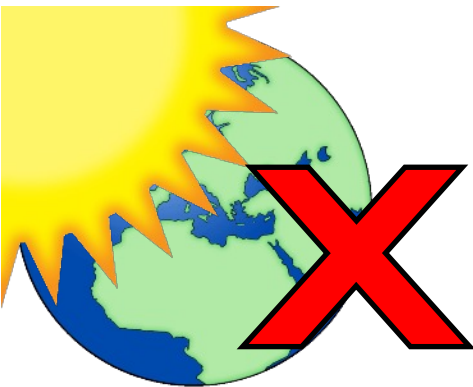




- making life better



- business support



- helping stop climate changes.



We think this work could:

- make 24,000 new jobs

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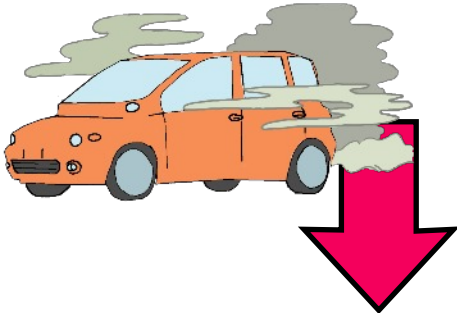
- build 3,100 new homes



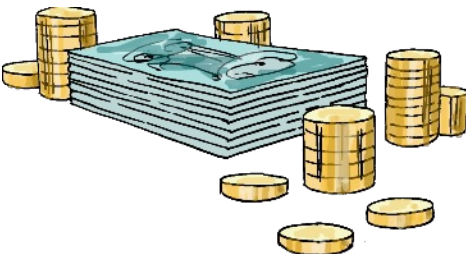
- help 6,000 people a year get ready for work



- have lots of courses that help people get good jobs



- lower the amount of carbon we release and help us to have none by 2030



- get billions of pounds for new investment.

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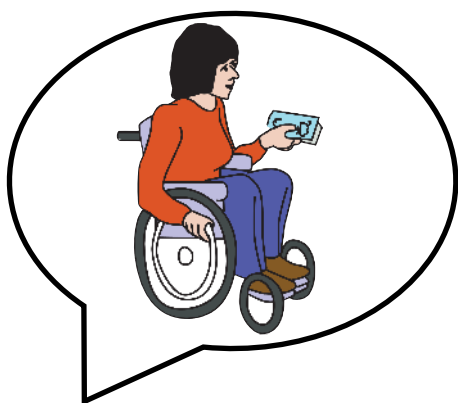
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What will it cost?



The Government would give us some money for setting up the new Authority.



The Mayor will be able to ask people in the North-East to pay extra tax for some things. People can vote on this when the Mayor is being voted for.

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What would happen if devolution did not happen?



If this did not happen there would not be a new Mayor or new Combined Authority.



Everything would stay the same and we would not get the extra money promised or be able to make decisions about things like transport, education and support for local business.

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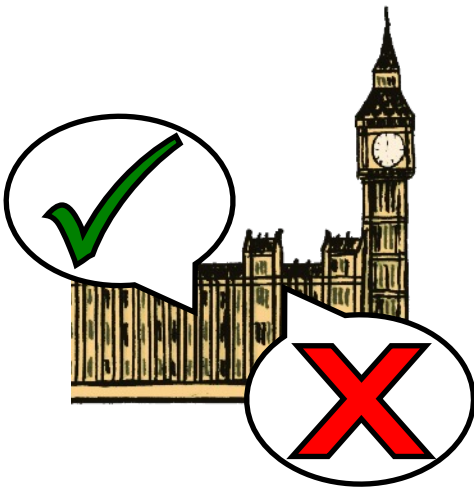
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What happens next?



We will read everything people send us.



The Government will then decide whether to go ahead or not.



Your local council will let people know what is happening.

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How to tell us what you think?



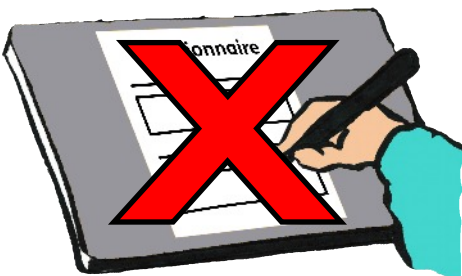
This EasyRead information leaflet comes with a question leaflet asking you what you think.



We would like you to answer the questions and send them back to us.



We will keep people's answers private and only use them to help us understand what people think.



You do not have to answer the questions if you do not want to.

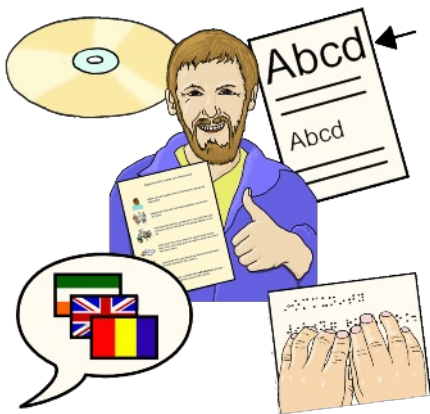
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If you need any help to do this please ask a friend, family or support worker.



If you have questions about this, or you need information in another format:



To send back your answers:



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