



GOVERNMENT OFFICE
FOR THE NORTH EAST

Annual Report 2003-2004

Government Office for the North East

Front Cover:

Citygate is the new office of the Government Office for the North East. The photograph has images of the North East reflected in its windows.

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The Government Office for the North East was set up in 1994 as one of nine regional Government Offices. We now represent the interests of the following ten government departments:

- Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM)
- Cabinet Office
- Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS)
- Department for Education and Skills (DfES)
- Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra)
- Department of Health (DH)
- Home Office (HO)
- Department of Trade and Industry (DTI)
- Department for Transport (DfT)
- Department for Work and Pensions (DWP).



Seaham Harbour

Introduction

Welcome to our Annual Report for 2003–2004. I hope you find it an interesting account of what the Government Office has been doing.

This was our tenth year of operation as the Government Office. From representing three departments in 1994, by March 2004 we represented ten. We have changed a good deal in the last ten years and we continue to change. We have achieved a good deal since 1994 and I hope that our achievements by 2014 will be as impressive as those of the last ten years and we can look back on them with pride and satisfaction.

Regional policy is one of our core areas of work and we spent a lot of time in 2003–2004 on work associated with the regional activities and programmes of our sponsor departments and the wider agenda of improving regional governance. We continued to work with the North East Assembly and One NorthEast, and with other government departments in the North East to join up strategies and activities. We also worked with the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister on plans for a referendum on an Elected Regional Assembly, which was announced for November 2004.

Neighbourhood Renewal continued to be another important area of our work. Delivering the range of initiatives in the Neighbourhood Renewal Programme required our staff to work closely with local authorities and other partners in the Local Strategic Partnerships.

The year saw us begin important work on rolling out the new arrangements for delivering rural programmes following the Haskins Review of modernising delivery, promoting the changes to the planning system and new regional housing arrangements.

Our work for the Department of Trade and Industry was re-focused, and we continued our role as the local sponsor for One NorthEast, the regional development agency.

As 2003–2004 ended, we were looking forward to some significant areas of new activity that would have a profound impact on the region. These included:

- Regional Spatial Strategy
- Northern Way
- Local Area Agreements
- Rural Delivery.

All of them challenging and all presenting the region with new opportunities. And of course, we were engaged in preparing for the move to our new building.



Jonathan Blackie
Regional Director

Communities

Neighbourhood Renewal

The Neighbourhood Renewal Team was formed this year from the teams dealing with Neighbourhood Management (NM), New Deal for Communities (NDC) and Local Strategic Partnerships (LSPs). This provides a more cohesive and strategic focus to tackling the problems in a particular geographic area.

New Deal for Communities and Neighbourhood Management

Our four New Deal in the Community areas have over £50 million each to spend over ten years and NM partnerships have a total of £9 million over seven years.

Case Study

West Central Hartlepool NDC

With over 80 projects underway, the West Central Hartlepool NDC is recognised as a very strong, well-managed and resident-led partnership making excellent progress. Positive factors include: the Belle Vue Sports and Community Centre providing excellent sports, education and training opportunities for all age groups; a social inclusion project, which has seen unauthorised absences drop from 677 to 16; Sure Start Central services available to the whole NDC area; a community housing plan to stabilise the housing market and transform the NDC; the appointment of 12 Community Wardens; and 1,133 children benefiting from citizenship initiatives.

Local Strategic Partnerships

During the year, we issued guidance to LSPs to help drive up performance and we have continued the regional LSP network. This year, we allocated more than £50 million to meet targets on crime, health, education, housing/environment and worklessness. Derwentside, Easington, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, South Tyneside, Wansbeck and Wear Valley were awarded extra money in recognition of their greater challenges. These awards total £6.474 million for 2004–2005 and £16.185 million for 2005–2006.

Community Development

We supported the community and voluntary sector to equip itself with the skills, knowledge and infrastructure to enable it to participate meaningfully in partnerships and have a stronger voice in the region.

We produced an updated version of *Ethnicity in the North East*, a regional compendium for Black and Minority Ethnic Communities.

Community Champions Awards

Awards of up to £2,000 were made either to individuals or groups to help them drive forward ideas for renewing their neighbourhoods, improving their community and inspiring others to get involved. We supported a wide range of projects, ranging from a 16 year old who used the money to fund a youth focus group, to an older person who was involved in setting up a sensory garden for her village.

Community Empowerment Fund

Funds assisted with the formation of community networks and enabled training for those members of the community who will

Government Office for the North East

have a representative role within the LSP. The funding is being delivered in each area through community and voluntary organisations.

Community Chest Grants

We awarded grants of between £50 and £5,000 for projects that will improve the quality of life in the 14 Neighbourhood Renewal Areas. In March 2004, those voluntary groups and organisations who had benefited from Community Chest grants came together to share information and experience.

Community Cohesion

Middlesbrough Council is the North East Community Cohesion Pathfinder. The programme provides resources to both the local authority and the community and voluntary sector to create local solutions to local problems. Gateshead Council has shadow pathfinder status. It is able to access programme support and attend action learning groups to share good practice, but does not receive direct funding.

Queen's Award for Voluntary Service

The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service recognises the hard work and effort of local community volunteer groups across the UK. In this, the second year of the award, the North East region had four winners. The winning organisations were:

- Barnados SECOS Project
- Pennywell Community Association
- Stockton Blind People's Voice
- Weardale Open Air Swimming Pool Association

Case Study

Stockton Blind People's Voice

Stockton Blind People's Voice works to achieve equality for blind and visually impaired people in the borough. In partnership with Stockton Library, the group has established a technology suite for blind computer users, which also provides access to braille embossers. There is also a free blind greeting card service, and almost the entire stock of talking books throughout Stockton's libraries have been brailled. In partnership with Stockton Adult Education Service, the group is running pioneering training courses to teach sighted people to read and write braille.

Crime Reduction

We led information sharing between agencies under the Government Agencies Intelligence Network. Since work began, key agencies have seconded officers to a regional unit to improve information sharing to drive efforts to reduce crime.

Drugs

We developed a forum of senior officers from our three police forces, prison and probation services to work collaboratively to disrupt drug supply routes and markets. An early success from this forum was achieved in March 2004 when a major operation, conducted by all three police forces, resulted in a number of arrests and drug seizures in the region.

Children's Fund

At the end of March 2004, a total of 274 Children's Fund programmes had provided a service to children and their families, with 58,000 children having an initial contact and 21,000 having regular support from one or more Children's Fund services.

Case Study

Linking School and Home Project, Byker Primary School

This project aims to reduce the number of exclusions by addressing children's behaviour and offering training and support to school staff. Work with children takes the form of one-to-one and group work sessions.

The sessions use drama and art to raise children's awareness in relation to behaviour, consequences of actions and self-esteem. The project staff work holistically with children, their families and ancillary staff to foster a greater understanding of why a child might display disruptive behaviour. This has resulted in a considerable reduction in both the number of exclusions and the level of disruptive behaviour.

Education

We are increasing the desire of young people to take part and succeed in learning through supporting and participating in initiatives such as ASPIRE, the employer-led campaign to raise aspirations of young people.

www.educationnortheast.com

Our new website aims to promote a culture of celebrating educational success to drive up standards and reflect our regional priorities of aspiration, achievement and transition. It will help us to share our knowledge with others and encourage others in the educational world to share their knowledge with us.

Sure Start

Nationally, Sure Start is backed by funding of £500 million and around 11% of this is allocated to the 62 programmes in the North East. During 2003, Sure Start merged into the Children, Young People and Families Directorate preparing the way for addressing the reforms outlined in the White Paper *Every Child Matters*.

Connexions

We monitored and supported the ongoing development of our four partnerships. The main emphasis for partnerships was to reduce the number of 16 to 19 year olds who were not in employment, education or training. By March 2004, the percentage of 16 to 19 year olds who were not in employment, education or training fell to 10.5%, a reduction of 34.8% over the year. We also took on responsibility for contract managing regional Millennium Volunteer projects.

Business

European Structural Funds

The current programmes began in 2000 and have already made a significant difference to the North East. The European Programmes in the North East have, after a slow start, celebrated a very successful year.

Objective 2 Programme

This programme supports economic development, business, employment and local communities. Over the course of 2003, figures for the Objective 2 programme rose dramatically. With the help of partners, end of year target figures rose from £95 million committed at April 2003 to £155 million at March 2004. The region's good performance resulted in an additional £20m for the programme.

Case Study

National Rail Museum, Shildon

We approved £2.5 million of funding for the extension of the National Rail Museum into Shildon. This will bring rail enthusiasts to the area while also bringing 18 new jobs.

Objective 3

This focuses on improving the education, training and work experience of local people. In December 2003, we were the top-spending region in England. The programme has allocated £187 million from the programme so far and has surpassed the Commission targets. Thanks to this programme, more than 15,000 people have found work and 57,000 people have accessed training. We have now channelled more resource to co-financing organisations, the four Learning and Skills Councils and Jobcentre Plus, to make it easier for applicants to access 100% funding.

Culture and Enterprise

Significant progress has been made in working with One NorthEast (ONE) to join up more effectively DCMS responsibilities for tourism and the creative industries with ONE's wider enterprise agenda.

The cultural developments in the North East have had a profound effect on perceptions of the region. Newsweek International's assessment put NewcastleGateshead in the world's top eight cultural and creative centres. And the number of new hi-tech companies starting up in the North East was only exceeded by London.



National Rail Museum, Shildon,
County Durham

By raising the profile of the region and attracting new visitors, the North East benefited from an injection of £328 million and 6,500 jobs. The North East enjoyed the highest levels of visitor numbers ever experienced in the region in 2003–2004 and the value of conference business has doubled. NewcastleGateshead is the fastest growing short break destination in the UK, and hotel occupancy was among the best in the country.

Business Performance

We were involved in a variety of activities in support of the business agenda. This included helping to influence the development of DTI policy by bringing together sectoral groups in the region to meet and discuss developing issues with DTI policy leads. We have worked in close partnership with regional players and government departments, linking across boundaries to help make businesses more competitive and business support more effective.

Skills

The Government published *21st Century Skills*, the National Skills Strategy in July 2003. The strategy aims to ensure that employers have the right skills to support the success of their businesses and individuals have the skills they need to be employable and personally fulfilled. The team has been closely involved with stakeholders from the public and private sectors through the Skills for Life Task Force to develop a regional approach to deliver the Skills for Life strategy. Towards the end of the year the team worked with partners to identify suitable candidates for Test Bed Learning Communities and our proposals for four areas in the North East were subsequently approved by DfES.

Regional Development Agency Sponsorship

We oversaw ONE's board appointments process, including the new Chair. In continuing our work towards diversity targets we have worked on an awareness raising strategy to increase female and ethnic board candidates. We have also been involved in approving the establishment of companies by ONE to deliver key aspects of its strategy.

Alongside these more strategic activities, the team also made monthly grant-in-aid payments to ONE allowing it to meet its own costs and to deliver activities in the region. The team also has regulatory oversight and monitors adherence by ONE to core financial and regulatory requirements.

Residential Training Unit

The Residential Training Unit delivers the Residential Training Programme for the whole country on behalf of the Department for Work and Pensions. The programme aims to help unemployed adults with disabilities to secure and sustain employment, self-employment or enter into further education.

In total, 829 disabled people completed a residential training programme during 2003–2004. Of these, 491 achieved an NVQ and 365 achieved employment, self-employment or further education.

A new Skills for Life Centre opened at Portland College, Mansfield. We facilitated a visit for the Business Performance and Skills Team to learn from the Portland experience and hopefully apply this in the region.

Environment

Transport

We worked with DfT and supported local authorities to develop a shared delivery plan for their Local Transport Plans (LTP). We also worked closely with DfT on the appraisal of LTPs and major schemes, and in its third year of the five year LTP programme, we secured a total allocation for the North East of over £101 million.

We continued to work closely with partners in the delivery of road safety improvements and campaigns and have set up a Regional Road Safety Forum. The region secured £4.4 million through the 2003 Rural and Urban Bus Challenge competitions to provide innovative solutions to the problems of public passenger transport provision.

We are working on two strategic transport studies: the Tees Valley Gateway Study on the A66 around Darlington, and the Tees Valley 2010 Study, which is looking at the prospect of a new Tees crossing and the potential of some form of light rapid transit system.



Linda Arkley, Mayor of North Tyneside, Muriel Green, Passenger Transport Authority and Tony McNulty, Transport Minister at Four Lane Ends

Case Study

Four Lane Ends Interchange

Working with DfT and the Tyne and Wear LTP partners, in particular Nexus, the major scheme redevelopment at Four Lane Ends was fully approved on 29 November 2002 at a cost of £7.625 million. The scheme, which was substantially completed on 31 March 2004, will improve and increase the capacity of the bus, Metro and park and ride facilities.

The scheme delivers advantages for local residents living close to Four Lane Ends by providing sensible, less disruptive routing of buses and improved traffic flows around the perimeter road that minimises disruption to other vehicles. The additional park and ride facility helps to eliminate the current parking problem on nearby streets.

Planning

A top priority has been taking forward the Government's proposals for the reform of the planning system to simplify and speed up the preparation of development plans.

Our major development control caseload has increased by 9% from last year, reflecting national and regional trends. We have advised the Secretary of State to intervene in 11 out of 85 planning applications, and 66 listed building consent applications. We have also granted consent to local authorities for works to 44 public buildings that are of national historic or architectural importance.

Casework

We have national responsibility for handling cases for the Secretary of State for Transport relating to Bridge/Tunnel Schemes, Motorway Schemes, Side Roads Orders and Compulsory Purchase Orders for local highway authority road schemes. During the year, 71 schemes or orders were determined for 49 highway proposals; an increase of more than 100% over the number of cases handled the previous year.

Other orders dealt with are those at a local level without which regional development, infrastructure and regeneration schemes could not take place. These included:

- compulsory purchase orders for planning (five orders determined)
- housing (five orders determined)
- stopping up of highways associated with planned development (35 orders made)
- tree preservation order appeals (ten cases determined)
- Rights of Way appeals (three cases determined).

Sustainable Communities

We have developed an action plan based on the *Sustainable Communities Plan: Building for the Future* and are monitoring the actions we are taking across the region. We also launched *Making it Happen The Northern Way*. We co-ordinated the implementation of the Liveability Fund pilots in the region, overseeing the bids appraisal process and liaising with ODPM and local authorities to produce three regional pilots. The pilots are now under way and will provide £8.2 million to three local authorities: Castle Morpeth (£2.66 million); North Tyneside (£2.38 million); and Easington (£3.15 million).

Housing

The team established the North East Housing Board (NEHB) and devised and implemented the first round of the new Single Housing Investment Pot (SHIP).

Work on Option Appraisal, the review of the manner in which local authority housing is managed, continued through the year. The team has been working with all 23 local authorities in the region to ensure that their Housing Strategies and Business Plans are fit for purpose. Work to assist failing local authorities continues with support ranging from advice on best practice through to formal intervention.

Work to develop and implement the proposals for housing market renewal in the NewcastleGateshead Pathfinder continued throughout the year. Similar efforts to improve co-ordination and delivery have taken place in other non-pathfinder areas, with particular success in the Tees Valley area.

North East Housing Board

We recruited board members and set up a programme of meetings to develop and implement a Regional Housing Strategy. We also established an executive group to support the NEHB in its work. A major project for the NEHB was developing the Regional Housing Strategy which was approved by ministers in September. The NEHB is responsible for allocating SHIP. For 2004–2006 this will amount to £170 million in this region. Of the total pot, 50% was allocated to market renewal, with 33% on improving existing housing, just over 10% on community housing needs and under 10% on new build.

Government Office for the North East

Environment and Rural

The second review of the Rural Action Plan began and this highlighted the effective action taken to address rural issues within the region over the year and set out revised priorities for the coming year. This plan, which is owned by the North East Rural Affairs Forum, is a focus for work by us and that of regional partners and contributes to the delivery of the Defra4 Public Service Agreement target.

We have also worked with the Countryside Agency to develop an effective online information service, Rural Links North East, to facilitate access to up-to-date information and debate for all parties within the region with an interest in rural issues.

Sustainable Food and Farming Strategy (SFFS)

An example of current activity includes the formation of the Northern Organics Producers Group which will act as the lead body for the delivery of the organic foods work stream within the SFFS. A project is currently under development by the group in association with the Soil Association to support producers and look at related issues such as procurement, promotion and the supply chain and to help develop links to other regions.

Energy

The DTI's Energy White Paper was launched regionally by the Minister for Energy, Stephen Timms in October. The region was challenged to set out a regional strategic approach to energy. We are at the forefront of energy policy with our own Energy and Renewables Strategies, with the North East Renewable Energy Group, which we chair, initiating the progress of these strategies.

The North East Energy Policy Group was

formed by us, in conjunction with ONE and the North East Assembly to act as a focus for this activity. This private and public sector partnership, chaired by Jon Bird (Director of External Affairs, CE Electric) has been working to identify areas of new or increased activity and set priorities and a delivery structure for moving the agenda forward.



Fulwell Windmill, Wearside

Regional Forest Strategy

The first Regional Forest Strategy for the North East was published in draft at the beginning of March 2004 for a three-month consultation period. It set out the role our trees, woodlands and forests will have over the next ten years in making the region a better place for us all to live, work and do business. The strategy includes an indicative action plan for 2004–2008 to show how it could be delivered, and this touches on many areas of our life together in the region, including sustainable communities, better health and quality of life, economic growth, tourism and improving the environment.

Public Health

Tobacco Control

Work on both the Regional Tobacco Control Strategy and the establishment of the Tobacco Control Office has progressed in tandem, overseen by a multi-disciplinary steering group. A draft strategy has been prepared, based on guidelines from the Department of Health and the consultation process is being planned. The proposal is that the Tobacco Control Office will be the vehicle for delivering the strategy.

Between April 2003 and March 2004, more than 18,500 smokers in the region managed to kick the habit; 23% up on the previous year. Our two strategic health authorities recorded the highest rates for the number of people giving up, according to Department of Health figures. In County Durham and Tees Valley, 949 per 100,000 of the population over 16 quit and in Northumberland and Tyne and Wear it was 885. The next best figure was 711, and the North East as a whole had an overall quit rate of 914 per 100,000 compared to the national average of 514.

Healthy Eating

The School Fruit and Vegetable Scheme entitles every 4 to 6 year old in England to receive a free piece of fruit or vegetable every school day and the North East has been awarded £2.4 million to roll it out. The team has achieved a 99% take up of schools. This is the highest figure for all five regions running the scheme with 909 out of 920 schools joining.

A Water Provision Project, which involved over 12,000 pupils in the North East, was one of eight piloted across England under the Department of Health's Food in Schools

Programme. The aim was to improve accessibility and consumption of water. The results of this project will be used to help schools provide healthier food and drinks.

Teenage Pregnancy

Each local authority area in the North East has a teenage pregnancy coordinator and the nine most deprived also have Sure Start Plus pilot programmes working specifically on supporting young parents. The three year rate of teenage conceptions per 1,000 females aged 15 to 17 years has decreased by 8.7% in the North East from the 1998–2000 baseline, compared to a national drop of 5.4%. This is the second biggest regional reduction after East Midlands.

Case Study

Sure Start Plus Adviser

'I am 17 years old and I'm eleven weeks pregnant. I'm in a good relationship with my boyfriend and we love each other very much. I had to leave home because of problems between my Mam and me. I have slept on the streets and have had time in and out of B&Bs. The Sure Start Plus adviser listened and never tried to lecture me. She has helped me in my struggle to find a house. It's not in an ideal place but anywhere is better than the box I'm in now. I don't have any contact or support from my family and that hurts a lot but working with the Sure Start Plus adviser helps with the hurt.'



Campaign to stop smoking during pregnancy

Public Health Projects

We have established the following:

- Regional Antenatal Screening Steering Group with remit for performance management of antenatal screening programmes. The Regional Laboratory reviewed mechanisms for above tests in order to meet minimum standards. Work is ongoing to improve software for Down's Syndrome screening
- a multi-disciplinary first trimester Down's Syndrome screening group to propose strategy for meeting National Screening Committee 2007 programme standards
- a Haemoglobinopathy Implementation Group to oversee implementation of neonatal screening for sickle cell and antenatal screening for thalassaemia and sickle cell
- a fast track training programme to assist roll out of above programme
- completion of regional 'haemoglobinopathy screening services' mapping report
- an annual report on screening for infectious diseases in pregnancy.

Study Days Commissioned

- Intensive Communication study days for ultrasonographers x 2
- HbO (hyperbaric oxygen) awareness study days for multi-disciplinary team x 2
- Intensive HbO study days for screening co-ordinators x 2
- Screening for infectious diseases
- How to cascade training on Down's Syndrome using the UK NSC CD-ROM resource.

Case Study

Online Research

As part of our *Choosing Health?* White Paper consultation we commissioned some online research.

It found that only one in four people in the North East were happy with their weight. Two in three reported they were overweight, although the majority of these said they are only slightly so.

Over two in five people (44%) were trying to achieve improvements in weight and wellbeing by being careful or cutting out certain foods and eating others. Just over one third (35%) were doing so by taking more exercise on a casual basis as opposed to a fitness regime.

However, with growing concerns that a healthy lifestyle was being ignored by an increasingly unfit population, there was evidence that young people in Tyne and Wear were bucking the trend and showing more thought, care and attention for their wellbeing.

Regional

Regional Resilience

We carried out an initial capability mapping exercise to provide ministers with baseline data on the current state of resilience. This is being followed up by a more detailed assessment of the impact of various risks. This process will identify gaps in our planning, so that we can develop appropriate work programmes.

We have recruited and trained over 70 staff volunteers within the office to improve our capacity to respond to emergencies; and operational response procedures have been developed as part of the Government Office's Corporate Plan.



Fire Decontamination Unit

Facilities Management

We upgraded our IT system this year, which created more storage space and improved the service. This is important as we move towards electronic document records management. We also piloted Securedial for the Government Office network, which lets staff dial in remotely from home.

Regional & Local Governance Team

In implementing Chapter Two of the White Paper, *Your Region Your Choice*, the team brought together 55 central government organisations and regional partners to help improve delivery. We also worked with Newcastle University to bring together European experts to consider more effective ways of delivery. The Office of the Deputy Prime Minister appointed Directors of Local Government Practice to each Government Office to support and drive improvement in local authorities. In 2003–2004, our new Director, Julia Veall, worked closely with North Tyneside to ensure they continued to improve.

Regional Strategy

We hosted the second meeting of the Regional Forum which made sure that senior policy makers were familiar with the concerns and aspirations of the region. We worked with partners to produce an action plan to improve economic performance and we used a similar approach to provide a Regional Emphasis Document for the Treasury Spending Review. We are working to bring all key strategies together in a Framework for the Future and have participated in the management and operation of SHiNE, Strategic Horizons for the North East.

Human Resources Management

This year saw 105 vacancies arising in the office, with a total of 104 vacancies filled on promotion by members of staff. A total of 2,352 sick absences equates to an average of fewer than six days absence per employee during the year (lower than the national average).

Learning and Development staff enabled us to participate in 1,744 formal training days this year. We enabled a variety of attachments and we hosted 25 inward secondments from organisations including police forces, fire services, local authorities and universities.

We also launched our Leading to Excellence programmes for staff and directors, which will enhance our impact in the region by focusing on what works well.



John Lightfoot, Neighbourhood Renewal Team

Case Study

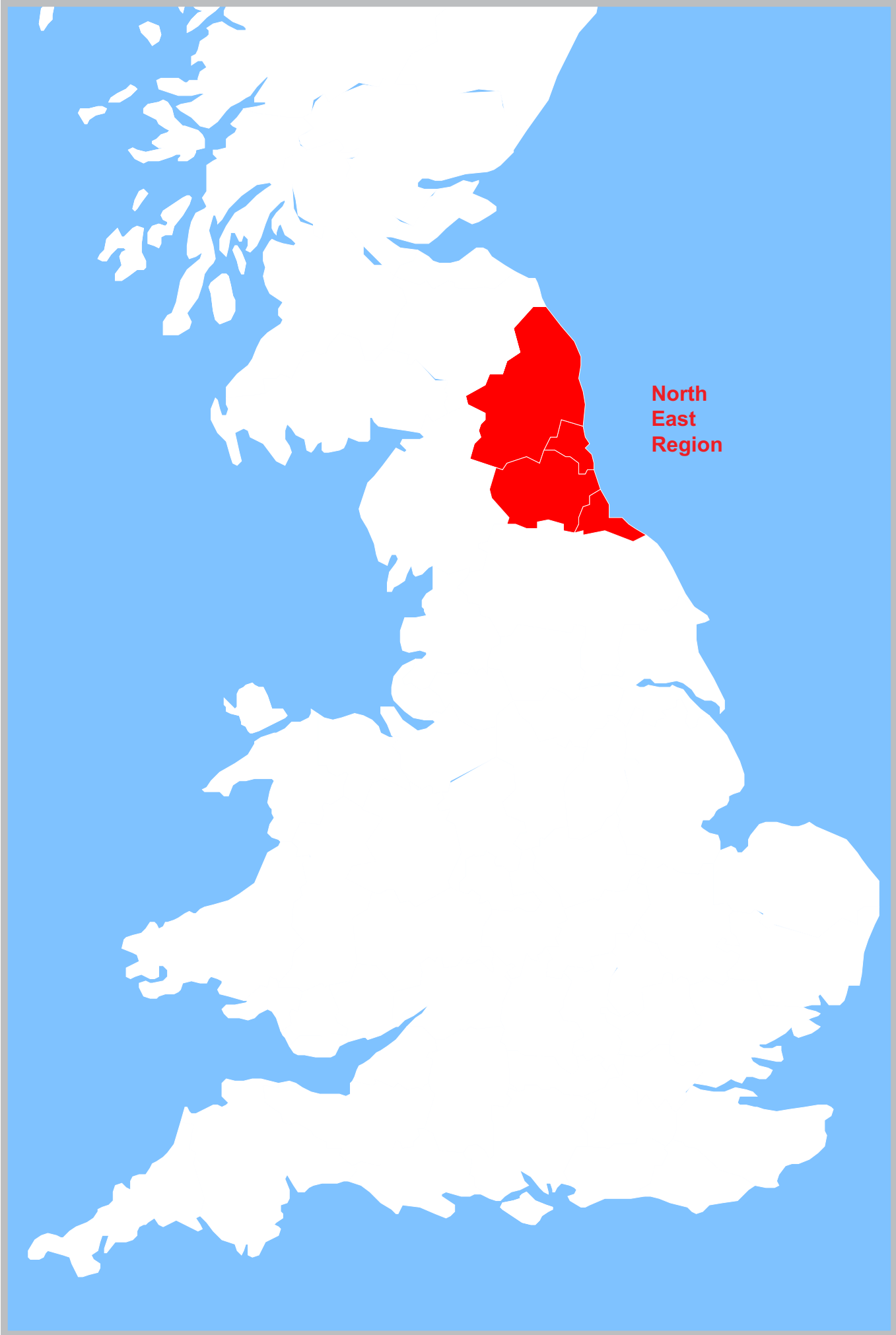
Back on the Map

John Lightfoot, from the Neighbourhood Renewal Team, took a two-month attachment with Back on the Map, the East End and Hendon New Deal for Communities partnership in Sunderland. The partnership was short-staffed and this was having a knock-on effect in delivering its programme (£54 million over ten years).

John said: 'I was asked to offer support (but was a very keen volunteer anyway) and help out during a difficult period. As a result of this close working the future of the programme will be safeguarded. New staff and structures are in place which will deliver economic, social and physical change in the area'.

Programmes by Department	Spend (£M)
ODPM	260.165
Housing Investment Programme	41.000
Housing – Major Repairs Allowance	106.000
Disabled Facilities Grant	4.700
Housing Market Renewal Pathfinder	12.000
New Deal for Communities	26.259
Neighbourhood Management Partnerships	1.893
Community Empowerment Fund	2.264
Neighbourhood Renewal Fund	59.300
Neighbourhood Renewal Community Chests	3.652
Neighbourhood Renewal Community Learning Chests	0.862
Time Limited Development Fund	0.640
Community Cohesion	0.191
North East Assembly	1.404
DTI	223.456
Regional Development Agency Sponsorship	223.456
DfES	29.204
Community Champions Fund	0.232
Pathfinder Young Community Champions Fund	0.035
Connexions	27.157
Connexions Key Workers	0.920
Positive Activities for Young People	0.860
Home Office	0.191
Middlesbrough Pathfinder	0.191
DfT	101.000
Local Transport Plans	101.000
Defra	0.025
Sustainable Farming and Food Strategy	0.013
North East Rural Affairs Forum	0.012
Europe	146.300
Objective 2 – European Regional Development Fund	92.700
Objective 2 – European Social Fund	17.100
Objective 3	34.700
Urban II	1.100
Leader+	0.700
Total	760.341
Government Office for the North East Running Costs	11.981

Government Office for the North East



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Front and Back Cover:

Citygate and reflections of scenes from the region.

- Blackhall Rocks, County Durham
- Sage, Gateshead
- Transporter Bridge, Middlesbrough
- Alnwick Castle, Northumberland

The photographs used in this report have been sourced from our own library.

Thanks to Beach Design for the design of the outer cover.

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The Sage Gateshead



Alnwick Castle



Blackhall Rocks



Transporter Bridge