



Northumberland  
County Council

# Energising Blyth Blyth Town Council

14th January 2021

[www.northumberland.gov.uk](http://www.northumberland.gov.uk)

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# Northern Gateway Phase 1

- Financial package secured to develop Bowes Street East and West
  - £750,000 Town Deal 20/21
  - £95,000 LTP
  - £18,741 Blyth Town Council
- Financial package secured to deliver Wanley and Church Street
  - £455,000 NCC
- Commencing mid February



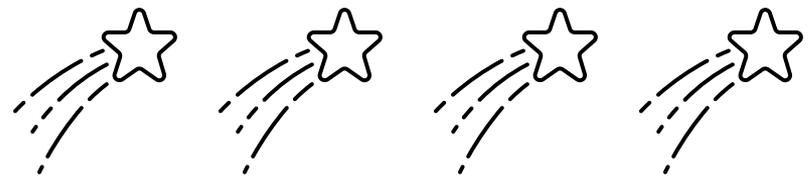
# Future High Street Fund



"I am ... delighted to inform you that you have been **successful** in your Future High Streets Fund application and will be awarded **£11,121,059**. I hope this funding will enable you to transform your high street in a way that improves experience, drives growth and ensures future sustainability for the people of Blyth. You submitted a strong business case to the department, which scored highly against our assessment criteria."

- This funding is the full amount awarded for our four 'preferred options'
- Blyth is one of only 15 towns to receive their full application amount

# Future High Street Fund



## Funding

- £11.121m from the Future High Street Fund
- £20m from NCC

## Projects

- Creative Cultural Space and reconfigured marketplace
- The Laurel Hotel
- The Energy Central Institute
- The Link Pedestrian and Cycleway, Bridge Street

## What's Next?

- All RIBA development stages yet to go through
  - 0 - Strategic definition.
  - 1 - Preparation and briefing.
  - 2 - Concept design.
  - 3 - Spatial coordination.
  - 4 - Technical design.
  - 5 - Manufacturing and construction.
  - 6 - Handover.
  - 7 - Use.

# Town Deal - Vision

‘By 2030 Blyth will be a thriving UK and international centre of renewable energy and advanced manufacturing growth and innovation, providing new jobs, better skills, more homes, and a clean environment for people in the town and the wider North East region. It will be a vibrant and welcoming community, offering a great quality of life on the doorstep of the beautiful Northumbrian coastline and countryside.’



# Town Deal Objectives

**SO1: GROWING TOWN** To grow our economy and productivity by capitalising on our unique strengths in the clean energy sector, investing in business growth, high-quality job creation, and education & skills, for the benefit of our people, communities and businesses.

**SO2: VIBRANT TOWN** To increase vibrancy and activity in Blyth town centre, creating a thriving community of residents, businesses, learners and workers using the centre for leisure and culture, education, employment, and housing, and a destination where everyone feels welcome and safe.

**SO3: CONNECTED TOWN** To make Blyth an accessible and well-connected town, supporting growth and improving quality of life by making it easier for residents, workers, learners, visitors and businesses to arrive at and move around the town.

**SO4: INCLUSIVE TOWN** To enable Blyth's people, communities and businesses to share in the benefits of economic growth, and to be resilient to social challenges including unemployment and economic exclusion, digital exclusion, crime, health and wellbeing, and recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic.

**CLEAN GROWTH TOWN** Cross cutting priority – To establish Blyth as a UK exemplar in clean growth, placing environmental sustainability at the heart of all investments and delivering on Northumberland's commitment to be a net zero carbon county by 2030

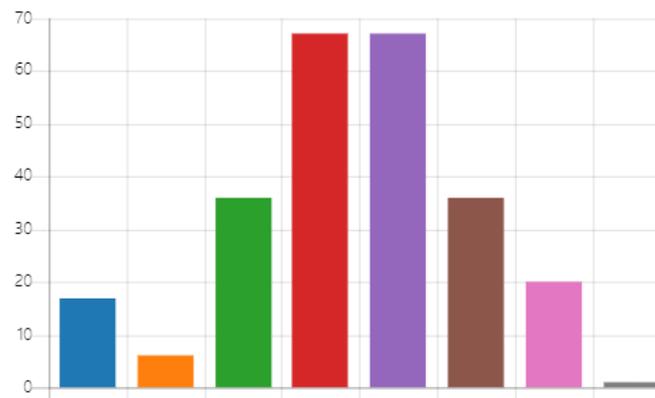
# October 2020 Consultation results

Of 250 Respondents:

●	Male	114	46%
●	Female	136	54%



●	5 and under	17	6.8%
●	16-24	6	2.4%
●	25-34	36	14.4%
●	35-44	67	26.8%
●	45-54	67	26.8%
●	55-64	36	14.4%
●	65-74	20	8%
●	75+	1	0.4%



# October 2020 Consultation results

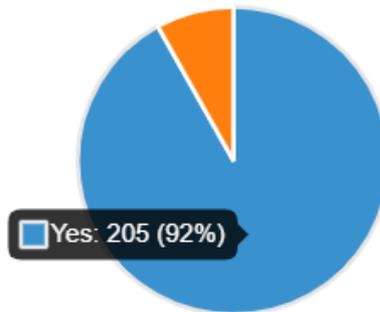
## Of 250 Respondents:

	I am a local resident	233	93.2%
	I work in Blyth	34	13.6%
	I have a business in Blyth	13	5.2%
	I am studying in Blyth	7	2.8%
	Other	13	5.2%



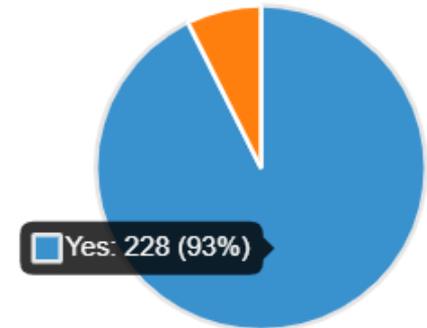
Do you agree with our Vision for Blyth?

	Yes	205	92%
	No	18	8%



Do you agree with our Objectives for Blyth?

	Yes	228	93%
	No	18	7%



# November Business Consultation – Industry Group

25th November 2020 – attended by four industry leaders in the town (as proposed by the Blyth Town Deal Board), not previously directly consulted on regeneration plans. Summary of key discussion points.

## Liked

- Blyth Town Deal Objectives
- Connectivity improvements
- Skills development opportunities for local workforce
- Intention to bring more people into the town centre
- New Hotel – to support business need and to provide jobs

## Wants

- To be able to connect with and employ local people
- Promotion of the town – internally and externally – employment opportunity / live / invest / visit
- To be involved on an ongoing basis

# November Business Consultation – Town Centre Group

26th November 2020 – attended by eight town centre business representatives and two JCP officers (as proposed by the Blyth Town Deal Board), not previously consulted on regeneration plans.

## Liked

- Vision
- Plans to work with young people to develop skills suitable for industry needs
- FHSF Marketplace layout consolidating the market
- Improved signage in Northern Gateway project
- Cultural strand and news of new cultural development officer

## Wants

- More emphasis on culture
- More information on the Town Deal projects
- A more varied, higher quality market
- Smaller retail / mixed use units in the town centre
- Local recruitment on the development and construction of the projects

# Town Deal Projects

- Project 1 - Blyth Bebside to Town Centre Connectivity
- Project 2 - Northern Gateway Phase 2
- Project 3A - Energy Central Campus Phase 1
- Project 3b - Energy Central Campus Phase 2
- Project 4 - Northumberland Energy Park (Phase 1) and Battleship Wharf
- Project 5 - OREC Bearing Technology Centre
- Project 6 – Energising Blyth Culture and Placemaking Programme
- Project 7 - Blyth Town Centre Living



# Blyth Town Deal - December Consultation

Following our consultation in October on the Vision, Objectives and Regeneration Framework for Blyth, we asked the community for their views on the planned projects for submission to the government as a part of Blyth Town Deal Town Investment Plan.

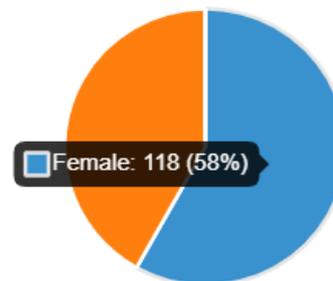
Respondents were asked if they felt that each of the projects supported the vision for the town.



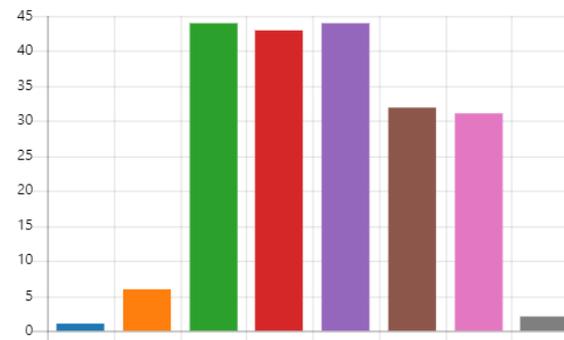
# December 2020 Consultation results

Of 203 Respondents:

●	Male	85	42%
●	Female	118	58%



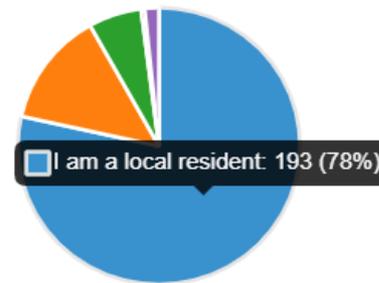
●	16 and under	1	0.5%
●	16-24	6	3%
●	25-34	44	21.6%
●	35-44	43	21.2%
●	45-54	44	21.6%
●	55-64	32	15.8%
●	65-74	31	15.3%
●	75+	2	1%



# December 2020 Consultation results

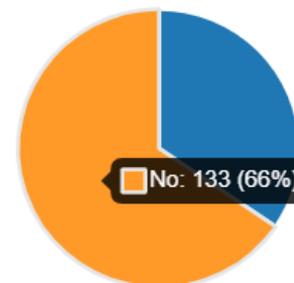
## Of 203 Respondents:

	I am a local resident	193	95.1%
	I work in Blyth	33	16.3%
	I have a business in Blyth	15	7.4%
	I am studying in Blyth	1	0.5%
	Other	4	2%



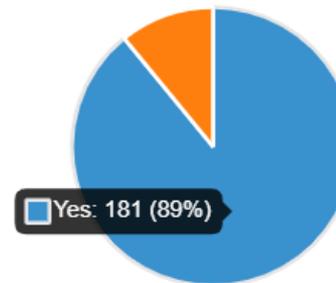
Did you participate in our survey during October and give us feedback on the Vision, Objectives and Regeneration Framework for Blyth?

	Yes	70	34.5%
	No	133	65.5%



Do you support this package of projects that we plan to submit as a part of the Blyth Town Investment Plan?

	Yes	181	89%
	No	22	11%



# Next Steps

## Northern Gateway Project

- Delivery Feb - July 2021

## FHSF

- Implementation plan
- RIBA Stages 1-7
- Delivery by March 2024

## Town Deal

- TIP Submission January 29th 2021
- May 2021 - Agree Heads of Terms
- 2021-22 - Develop business plans
- Delivery 2022 - 2026



Type “Energising Blyth” into Google to see details of projects, consultations and news.