

SHAPING INNOVATION FOR CITY FUTURES



NEWCASTLE
CITY FUTURES





OVERVIEW

Newcastle City Futures is the RCUK/Innovate UK Urban Living Partnership pilot led by Newcastle University, creating shared opportunities to shape the future of the city. We work with the local authorities, public sector, businesses, communities and universities to generate new visible, exciting and meaningful projects across the city.

WHAT IS IT?

Our vision is to ensure the economic growth of Newcastle and Gateshead where all people in the city equally enjoy positive wellbeing and good health irrespective of age. Newcastle is a post-industrial city at the heart of region of 2m people. It has a long and illustrious history of scientific and technological innovation that we are using to address 21st century challenges: how to support the city's population harnessing digital platforms, broad civic engagement, and business development; leading to improvements in quality of life and new models of governance.

WHO'S INVOLVED?

Led by Newcastle University and partnered by Northumbria University, Newcastle City Futures comprises over 40 partner organisations covering public, private and third sectors in the city. Our core partners and supporters comprise government (Newcastle City Council, Gateshead Council, North East LEP), business (IBM, Arjuna, NE1, Intu, Newcastle Airport, Nexus, AECOM, Arup, BuroHapold, Zero Carbon Futures, Northumbrian Water, Northern Gas Networks, Northern Power Grid, Federation of Small Businesses, TechCity), and public and voluntary sectors (NHS, Newcastle Schools Forum, Newcastle Council for Voluntary Service, Quality of Life Partnership, and the Royal Society of Arts).

But any organisation, community group or individual can become involved with Newcastle City Futures. If you are interested in the city, have good ideas, can work with others, and want to contribute to how the city is shaped now and in the future, come along to our events.

DEVELOPING PROJECTS

At the heart of Newcastle City Futures is a desire to make ideas and projects meaningful, fun and visible. Project ideas are shaped by groups of organisations, relate to the city's challenges and opportunities, worked through in partnership, to be delivered back into the city. We focus on issues to do with sustainability, ageing, and social inclusion, but can cover any subject where's there an ambition to make a real difference. We use the latest engagement methods, digital and technological tools, and lots of film and photography to enable anyone to participate.

OUR MOST RECENT PROJECTS INCLUDE:

Future Homes, designing digitally enabled houses suitable for changing lives, by building some demonstrator houses that show our design and technological talents and offer different housing options for our citizens.

City Futures at the Big Draw, encouraging children to draw their ideas for future cities using everything from crayons, to Lego and the latest techy wizardry.

Metro Futures, encouraging residents and businesses to help design the next fleet of Metro trains to ensure they are as inclusive as possible, as part of a big conversation about the transformation of the region's transport.

Transforming Northumberland Street, creating opportunities to redesign and green the high street and using digital retailing that links customers to businesses.





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WHO WILL BENEFIT?

Citizens and Communities - At the core of this pilot phase is the need to significantly contribute to the life, wellbeing and development of the citizens of Newcastle and Gateshead, by identifying key challenges currently faced by the area.

Local Government - The local authorities will benefit from our work in terms of preparing future core strategies and the identification of new ways of delivering services and responding to local needs. The North East LEP will also benefit, in relation to the development of its Economic Strategy and investment proposals for growth.

Business - We will work with these partners to align their own project developments and investment strategies alongside the work of NCF, to achieve more effective outputs through enhanced citizen engagement, academic research evidence and cross-sectoral collaboration.

Public Services - As well as with industry partners, there will be significant impact from the work of NCF with regards to public sector organisations such as the NHS, Newcastle Schools Network, Newcastle Council for Voluntary Service and the Quality of Life Partnership.

Find out more at www.newcastlecityfutures.org

