



national network
for neighbourhood
improvement

CONNECTING COMMUNITIES

The North East Social Capital Summit

22 October 2025
The Glasshouse, Gateshead

WELCOME

On behalf of the event organisers and partners we're delighted to welcome you to a day of connection and reflection, centred around social capital, and how we can work together to build stronger, more resilient communities.

Through our own research at 3ni, and learnings and insight from the Big Local programme, we know how important social capital is at the neighbourhood level to improving outcomes and opportunities for local residents. It's about building the trust, networks and relationships that bring communities together, developing the community capacity and 'collective efficacy' to achieve meaningful, tangible change in places that for too long have been overlooked, or stripped of their assets and connections.

We believe that at a time where trust in institutions is particularly low and inequalities are widening, we need to rebuild our communities, not with a top-down approach, but by enabling local people to create the sort of change they want to see in the places that they call home.

We are excited to bring so many of you, from all walks of life, together to reflect on how working in partnership and collaboration we can create more social capital to build the sort of society we all want to see. And what better place than the North East to be holding this discussion, where so many community-based and led initiatives are already taking place. We look forward to what this day will bring, and what we can achieve together in the months and years ahead.



Dan Crowe
Director, 3ni



CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITY CHALLENGE

This conference is about connecting communities. In this spirit we would love our delegates to make a concerted effort to do just this. We've put together a list of activities to help our delegates connect and invite you to get through as many of them as you can.

HOW MANY CAN YOU CHECK OFF?

Talk to someone new

Visit at least two exhibitors

Chat with a delegate who attended a different workshop

Exchange contact information with someone to continue a conversation on one of today's topics

Write down three key takeaways

Bring back one learning to your organisation

Think about how you can take what you learned today and put it into action

PROGRAMME

10:30AM

Arrival and Registration

CONCOURSE & FOYER 1

11:00AM

Welcome: Connecting Communities

Dan Crowe, Director, 3ni

SAGE 2

11:15AM

Keynote by Baroness Hilary Armstrong

Chair of the Independent Commission on Neighbourhoods (ICON)

SAGE 2

11:45AM

Social Capital in Our Society

What is social capital and why does it matter?

Chair:

- **Dr Henry Kippin**, Chief Executive, North East Combined Authority

In conversation with :

- **Rachel Rowney**, Chief Executive, Local Trust
- **Alison Mckenzie-Folan OBE**, Chief Executive, Wigan Council
- **Anna Francis**, Founder, Portland Inn Project, and Professor of Art and Society at Staffordshire University
- **John Tomaney**, Pro-Provost (Regional Communities), University College London

SAGE 2

12:45PM

Lunch and Community Group Exhibition

FOYER 1 & 2

2:00PM

Breakout Sessions

- **Neighbourhoods Matter**, with 3ni
SAGE 2
- **Getting the Foundation Right**, with RORE (Reclaiming Our Regional Economies)

BARBOUR WEST

PROGRAMME

2:00PM

- **Power of Creativity**, with Insights North East
BARBOUR EAST
- **Our Youth Futures**, with North East Combined Authority
Level 3 Foyer

3:30PM

Refreshments

FOYER 1 & 2

3:45PM

Towards a Social Capital Action Plan and What Happens Next

How do we build social capital in the region?

Chair:

- **Michelle Cooper**, Chief Executive, Point North

In conversation with:

- **Martin Brookes**, Chief Executive, VONNE
- **Michael Cunliffe**, Creative Health Strategic Manager, Northumberland County Council
- **Mandi Creswell**, Policy and Economy Advisor, North East Combined Authority
- **Beth Farhat**, Independent Chair, North East Child Poverty Commission

SAGE 2

4:15PM

A Message from North East Mayor Kim McGuinness

SAGE 2

4:25PM

Summit Wrap-up

Dan Crowe, Director, 3ni

SAGE 2

4:35PM

Drinks Reception

FOYER 1

5:45PM

Event Close

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Neighbourhoods Matter in collaboration with 3ni

This workshop will focus on why building social capital in neighbourhoods is essential for improving outcomes for local residents and explore practical ways to strengthen it.

Chair: **Martin Brookes**, Chief Executive, VONNE

In conversation with:

- **Patrick Melia**, Chief Executive, Sunderland City Council
- **Andrew O'Brien**, Head of Secretariat, Independent Commission on Neighbourhoods
- **Sarah Pearson**, Professor of Social Policy Research, Centre for Regional Economic Research and Dean of Research, Innovation and Knowledge Exchange
- **Barbara Slasor**, Community Development Lead, Gaunless Gateway Big Local
- **Dan Crowe**, Director, 3ni

Our Youth Futures in collaboration with the North East Combined Authority (NECA)

This workshop and panel discussion will explore the role of social capital and community cohesion in addressing barriers to opportunity faced by children, young people and families.

Chair: **Beth Farhat**, Independent Chair, North East Child Poverty Commission

In conversation with:

- **Adrian Dougherty**, Assistant Director of Inclusive Futures, North East Combined Authority
- **Ramanathas Kumareswaradas**, Executive Manager, Young Asian Voices
- **Rylie Sweeney**, National Strategic Advisor of Youth and Education Policy
- **Liz Todd**, Professor of Educational Inclusion, Newcastle University

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Getting the Foundations Right in collaboration with Reclaiming Our Regional Economies (RORE)

This workshop will explore the role of the 'foundational economy' - those place-based sectors and industries providing us with the essential services we all rely on. We will be exploring food, care, housing and the social economy, hearing from innovative practitioners and workshoping ways to make these sectors - and the communities they serve - thrive in the North East.

Chair: **Mandi Cresswell**, Policy & Economic Adviser, North East Combined Authority

In conversation with:

- **Mark Dawson**, Head of Communications & Engagement, Back on the Map
- **Nikki Dravers**, Food Programme Lead, Gateshead Council
- **Leah Millthorne**, Leah Millthorne, Associate Director (Chief Economist), Centre for Local Economic Strategies

Power of Creativity in collaboration with Insights North East

This workshop will explore how the creative sector forge connections, spark belonging, and build trust through collaborative projects and shared experiences. Discover how creative initiatives challenge norms, bridge divides, and transform communities.

Chair: **Michael Cunliffe**, Creative Health Strategic Manager, Northumberland County Council

In conversation with:

- **Kiz Crosbie**, Artistic Director & Chief Executive, Mortal Fools
- **Katy Milne**, Senior Manager, Northern Heartlands
- **Sarah Najm**, NUAct Fellow, Economics of Creative Industries Newcastle University Business School
- **Katy Shaw**, Director of AHRC Creative Communities Northumbria University

EXHIBITION



Whitley Bay Big Local engages with community members and partners to enable people to work together to unlock resources and strengthen our collective belief and pride in Whitley Bay.

whitleybaybiglocal.org



At Investing in Children we know that children and young people possess the same human rights as the rest of humanity. They will experience a better quality of life if society in general, and the services used by them in particular, recognise and respect these rights.

investinginchildren.net



Tyne & Wear Building Preservation Trust was established in 1979 to preserve the architectural heritage of Tyne and Wear through the repair, conservation and regeneration of our historic buildings and structures.

twbpt.org.uk



Bridge Creative was founded to improve employment opportunities for adults with learning disabilities and autistic adults across County Durham. Through real work experience, skill-building, and exciting opportunities, we raise the aspirations of people we support to lead the best life possible.

bridgecreative.org



At Full Circle Food Project we are committed to making a lasting difference in the fight against food poverty and insecurity. Every meal we provide, every person we support, and every community we empower is a step closer to a future where no one goes hungry.

fcfp.org.uk



At Ways to Wellness, our vision is a health system that reduces health inequalities; where people are more active participants in their own health and wellbeing, and the strengths of all sectors are maximised.

waystowellness.org.uk



NEPTUG campaigns for an integrated, sustainable, publicly-accountable transport system connecting Tyne and Wear, Northumberland and County Durham. We also support walking, wheeling and cycling.

neptug.org.uk



We work to build a thriving community in Newcastle's West End, where people create new enterprises, businesses, employment, and training opportunities that benefit everyone.

rhwe.org



NetWORK NotWORK CIC exists to remove barriers and open doors. We create inclusive, intergenerational learning and enterprise opportunities that help children, young people and adults to develop skills, improve wellbeing, and build sustainable futures.

info@networknotwork.co.uk



Dingy Butterflies CIC is a community focused arts organisation that provides opportunities for communities to work with and co-create projects with artists, experts and academics. We believe that creativity brings people together and can help combat the social issues communities face, and support people in making a change.

dingybutterflies.org

EXHIBITION



Building Self-Belief is focused on improving the wellbeing of young people in need and supporting them to build their self-belief. We deliver programmes that are all designed to improve the self-confidence and self-belief of young people.

buildingselfbelief.org



International Community Organisation of Sunderland's Eastern European women's group supports women to become community leaders and create a peer-to-peer support network through volunteering and taking part in various empowering activities.

icos.org.uk



Our mission is to support children and families before crisis point by providing practical strategies to navigate life's ups and downs, reducing the pressure on mental health services and creating lasting impact.

mightybrains.uk



Into the Light is a county-wide place-based collaboration designed to drive long-lasting growth in County Durham. It aims to cultivate talent, widen access to creative education, enhance the skills of the cultural workforce, and break down barriers to working in the creative industries..

culturedurham.org.uk/into-the-light/



At Search Newcastle our purpose is promoting and protecting the health, wealth and wellbeing of older people. Our vision is for as many older people as possible to stay healthy, secure and actively involved in their communities.

searchnewcastle.org.uk



The communities and artists we work with are at the heart of what we do. We know that people are the real experts in where they live, the issues they face and what needs to change, so we always start by listening and trusting in the skills and knowledge of creative practitioners.

northernheartlands.org



At Mortal Fools our purpose is to support people to have better quality interpersonal relationships with one another, and to use theatre and drama-based activities as a methodology to achieve this; helping people connect, have fun, learn, and grow together.

mortalfools.org.uk



Bullion Community Resource Centre is a registered charity located in the heart of Chester le Street. We provide activities and services that have a positive impact on the health and wellbeing of local people, increasing opportunity, promoting social inclusion and community cohesion.

bullionhall.com



Jack Drum Arts is a community organisation situated in the heart of Crook, County Durham. We are a vibrant hub, uniting diverse communities, including adults, young people, and families. Our approach centres on community collaboration, empowering individuals, supporting positive mental health and improved wellbeing using arts and cultural activities as our tool.

jackdrum.co.uk

SPEAKERS



Martin Brookes, Chief Executive, VONNE

During my career, Martin has worked in major organisations in all three sectors - public, private and charitable sectors; initially as a professional economist, then as an analyst and chief executive in charities. During 20 years working in and with charities, he has played a leading role in articulating the importance of strategy and impact. Martin built the market-leading New Philanthropy Capital and co-founded the influential Pro Bono Economics. In these and other roles, he has helped change thinking and practice across the charitable sector, drawing on his understanding of markets and finance.



Michelle Cooper, Chief Executive, Point North

Michelle Cooper is CEO of Point North, a place-based charity and accredited community foundation serving County Durham, Tees Valley and the wider North East. Michelle holds a PhD in Biochemistry and has built a diverse career spanning life sciences, product development for Pedigree and Whiskas, and investment in early-stage tech and film. Formerly an Investment Director at Northstar Ventures, Michelle has worked across a range of investment funds that delivered both social impact and capital return across the North East. Over its 30-year history, Point North has awarded over £74.5 million in grants to hundreds of local charities and community groups, fighting poverty and enriching lives.



Mandi Cresswell, Policy & Economic Adviser, North East Combined Authority

Mandi is a Policy & Economy Adviser at North East CA with a particular interest in how the social economy can provide solutions to challenges in communities. In the years prior to joining the CA she was CEO of Meadow Well Connected, a community hub and garden in North Shields and prior to this worked for charities and social enterprises for 14 years. She is keen to promote equitable, community-led solutions to deliver change to the region and is passionate about the North East. Her current post is part funded by Power to Change who have a strategic partnership with North East CA to promote community businesses and social enterprises.



Dan Crowe, Director, 3ni

Dan is director of 3ni, a new social value partnership, recently spun-out from Local Trust. He incubated 3ni at Local Trust, where he previously led the policy team, in particular on the work and research programme for the All-Party Parliamentary Group for 'left behind' neighbourhoods, advocating for a Community Wealth Fund, and making the case for C4, the ESRC-funded Centre for Collaboration in Community Connectedness.

Dan has a background in local and regional government, working for the elected Mayors of London and in the north east of England, in regeneration policy at the Homes and Communities Agency, and for the think tanks Localis, New Europe, The Young Foundation, and Collaborate. He has been an elected leader in the British co-operative movement, serving as Vice-President of the Co-operative Group where he led on the creation of its community strategy and as a trustee of the Co-operative Foundation. He is a Fellow of the RSA.

SPEAKERS



Kiz Crosbie, Artistic Director & Chief Executive, Mortal Fools

Kiz Crosbie is a creative leader, currently the Artistic Director & CEO of Mortal Fools, an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation specialising in the applied use of creativity to support children, young people and communities to thrive. Mortal Fools, based in Ashington, Northumberland, work in locations of low creative provision, supporting community development and boosting people's creative health through programmes of live events / performances and a thriving digital creative programme.



Michael Cunliffe, Creative Health Strategic Manager, Northumberland County Council

Michael Cunliffe is an experienced visual artist, facilitator and speaker on the subject of Creative Health. He is currently the Creative Health Strategic Manager for Northumberland, a post created to explore how Creativity can meet the objectives of Northumberland County Council and the NHS North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board in tackling health inequalities.



Mark Dawson, Head of Communications & Engagement, Back on the Map

Mark is an award-winning communications professional with over 15 years of experience in creative marketing, journalism and brand strategy. He is Head of Communication and Engagement at the economic regeneration charity Back on the Map, who are working to make Hendon in Sunderland a place of opportunity to live, work and thrive. Prior to joining Back on the Map Mark ran a creative marketing agency for over 10 years which specialised in working with a range of high profile clients in the charity, education and arts & culture sectors who were driven to make a difference in the world.

Outside of Back on the Map Mark is a musician who performs regularly and releases music under the moniker Factory Fortnight, a project inspired by Sunderland's history and heritage.



Adrian Dougherty, Assistant Director of Inclusive Futures, North East Combined Authority

Adrian works for the North East Combined Authority as Assistant Director of Inclusive Futures. His role takes in economic inclusion, child poverty reduction, education improvement, schools and careers.

North East Mayor Kim McGuinness has made tackling child poverty her number one priority, establishing the Child Poverty Reduction Unit (CPRU) in her first year. The CPRU has developed a comprehensive five-year Child Poverty Action Plan (2025-2030) endorsed by Cabinet earlier this year. The plan has been designed in partnership with local authorities, the voluntary and community sector, businesses, public services and, significantly, families and young people. It sets out a bold vision of a region where every baby, child and young person is supported to thrive and achieve their potential - regardless of their background or where they live.

SPEAKERS



Nikki Dravers, Food Programme Lead, Gateshead Council

Nikki Dravers coordinates Gateshead Food Partnership: a collaboration of organisations looking at a joined up, whole system approach towards equitable access to nutritious, culturally appropriate, and environmentally sustainable food. With a partnership of over 80 public, voluntary and private sector organisations across Gateshead, they are working towards a Sustainable Food Places award, to co-create and deliver a Sustainable Food Strategy for Gateshead. Nikki is also the founder and managing director of REfUSE: a social enterprise based out of a busy 'pay as you feel' community café on the high street in Chester le Street.



Beth Farhat, Independent Chair, North East Child Poverty Commission

Beth grew up and lives in the region, having spent her entire working life in the North East. She began her career as an apprentice through a programme managed by the North East Chamber of Commerce. Beth took on the role of independent Chair of the North East Child Poverty Commission in June 2024. She is committed to tackling the unacceptably high levels of poverty and hardship that are not only limiting the life chances and opportunities of tens of thousands of children and families throughout the North East, but also holding the whole of our region back.

Beth is also the regional secretary of the National Education Union (NEU), having previously held the roles of regional secretary of the Northern TUC and regional co-ordinator of Unionlearn, which provides learning and skills opportunities to trade union members.



Founder and Co-Director of the Portland Inn Project, and Professor of Art and Society at Staffordshire University

Anna Francis is an artist and researcher whose work aims to create space to discuss and reframe city resources, through participatory art interventions. She creates situations for herself, the public and other artists to explore places differently. In recent years the interventions which Anna has worked on focus on the city of Stoke-on-Trent, and use an action research process to recognise untapped resources, and co-create solutions with communities. This has included transforming an abandoned garden into a pocket park, and retrofitting a derelict pub to become a creative community hub. Anna is Professor of Art and Society at Staffordshire University, and a Director at The Portland Inn Project, an Arts Council National Portfolio Organisation.



Henry Kippin, Chief Executive, North East Combined Authority

Dr Henry Kippin is the Chief Executive of the North East CA, responsible for its delivery programme spanning inclusive economic growth, transport, skills, housing, culture, public service innovation, net zero and devolution. He previously served as Chief Executive of the North of Tyne Combined Authority, and as an Executive Director at the West Midlands Combined Authority. Prior to this he held a number of roles in UK and international public policy, including as CEO of Collaborate and managing the cross-party RSA Public Services Commission. He is a trustee of the Young Foundation, a visiting professor at Newcastle University and was a visiting fellow of the UNDP Global Centre for Public Service Excellence from 2013 – 2018. In 2024 he was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Civil Law by Northumbria University.

SPEAKERS



Ramanathas Kumareswaradas, Executive Manager Young Asian Voices

Ram is Executive Manager at Young Asian Voices, a national award-winning charity based at the heart of Sunderland. Ram has been involved in providing youth and community services for over 25 years. Since Young Asian Voices was established, it has supported hundreds of young people with training, education, outreach, community integration and anti-racism work, health and social activities, youth sessions and volunteering. Young Asian Voices also runs a domestic violence and forced marriage programme for young women.



Patrick Melia, Chief Executive, Sunderland County Council

Focused on ensuring that opportunities are created for all in a connected, international, rapidly transforming city, Patrick is driven to deliver high-quality services and world-class infrastructure enabling residents to live healthy, happy and financially independent lives, alongside creating the conditions for business to thrive. Patrick's current priorities include the major regeneration of the city centre, securing significant private sector investment to deliver ambitious plans at pace, including the Riverside Sunderland development.

Patrick has also led on the successful development of a Trailblazer Devolution Deal for the North East, and forged ground-breaking strategic partnerships to establish Sunderland as one of the UK's Smartest Cities. Patrick was awarded an OBE for services to local government in the 2024 King's Birthday Honours list and is a member and chair of a number of national and regional boards that share his commitment to support people and communities to achieve their ambitions and fulfil their potential.



Leah Millthorne, Associate Director (Chief Economist) Centre for Local Economic Strategies

Leah Millthorne is Chief Economist at the Centre for Local Economic Strategies (CLES), where she leads work on local economic analysis and progressive commissioning. She has particular expertise in the care sector, recently undertaking a deep dive into local authority care commissioning to explore the barriers and opportunities for building a higher-quality, less extractive care system in the UK. Leah also co-authored Public Money, Public Purpose, examining how procurement can be harnessed to restore public value in goods and services. At CLES, she brings an understanding of local economies to decision-makers, showing how local economic policy – and the flow and ownership of wealth – can better serve places and the people who live in them.



Katy Milne, Senior Manager, Northern Heartlands

Katy Milne is Senior Manager at Northern Heartlands and is passionate about arts, culture, creativity and the capacity enquiry can bring to encourage people to explore ideas, express themselves and make informed choices. Bringing 24 years of experience in community arts and creative development roles for charities, local authorities and international foundations, Katy has enabled and led creative programmes locally, nationally and worldwide. In a recent role at Creativity, Culture and Education, Katy empowered young people, leaders, artists and educators across North East England.

SPEAKERS



Alison McKenzie-Folan, Chief Executive, Wigan Council

Alison is Chief Executive at Wigan Council having worked in Local Government for the last 15 years and previously in the Civil Service for twenty years. Alison is also the place lead for health and care integration and NHS GM Integrated Care Board. Alison is the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) lead Chief Executive for Health and Care, Culture and the GM Resilience Forum. Alison is passionate about public services and determined to make a difference for residents and communities. She is dedicated to inspiring the next female generation and committed to collaboration, innovation and technology.



Sarah Najm, NUAct Fellow, Economics of Creative Industries Newcastle University Business School

Sarah is part of the research team at the Creative PEC. She is a NUAct Fellow in Economics of Creative Industries at Newcastle University Business School, where she explores the social value of the arts and wellbeing in lower-income households.



Andrew O'Brien, Head Secretariat, Independent Commission on Neighbourhoods (ICON)

Andrew O'Brien is Head of Secretariat at the Independent Commission on Neighbourhoods (ICON). Before joining ICON, he was Director of Policy and Impact at Demos. Andrew has worked in Westminster and Whitehall on policy for over a decade and a half. Andrew has written extensively on neighbourhoods, social capital, economic and public service reform. Before joining Demos, Andrew worked in policy development in the VCSE sector including at Social Enterprise UK, Charity Finance Group and the National Council for Voluntary Organisations.



Sarah Pearson, Professor of Social Policy Research, Centre for Regional Economic Research and Dean of Research, Innovation and Knowledge Exchange

Sarah Pearson is Professor of Social Policy Research at the Centre for Regional Economic Research and Dean of Research, Innovation and Knowledge Exchange at Sheffield Hallam University. Her research is on neighbourhood renewal and community engagement. She is Co-Director of the Centre for Collaboration in Community Connectedness, a recent UKRI investment under its Creating Opportunities, Improving Outcomes priority. Between 2001 and 2010, she was Deputy Director of the ten-year evaluation of the New Deal for Communities Programme.



Rachel Rowney, Chief Executive, Local Trust

Rachel oversees the operations of Local Trust, leading the staff team and working closely with the board on strategy and governance. Rachel joined Local Trust in 2012, originally as a programme manager, and joined the senior leadership team in 2016. Previously, Rachel worked as a consultant and researcher at Shared Intelligence, where she worked on neighbourhood renewal, community engagement, and social housing projects. At the same time, she was also a programme manager for the National Association for Neighbourhood Management. Before this, Rachel worked for Croydon Council.

SPEAKERS



Katy Shaw, Director of AHRC Creative Communities Northumbria University

Prof Katy Shaw is Director of the AHRC Creative Communities and Professor of Contemporary Writing and Director of Cultural Partnerships at Northumbria University.

Prof Katy Shaw also works with the British Academy (Economic Strategy Advisory Board (DBT & HMT)); sits on the North East Mayoral Strategic Authority's Strategic Advisory Board; is a Senior Associate Producer with Tedx Soho; sits on the British Council Creative Economy Advisory Board; is a BFI Research Advisory Board Member; and Chairs the Wellcome Trust Humanities ECR fund.



Barbara Slasor, Community Development Lead Gaunless Gateway, Big Local

Barbara has served as Community Development Lead since 2017, where she oversees a resident-led partnership dedicated to identifying priorities, making decisions, and delivering action in response to local community needs. Through her leadership, she has guided the strategic use of £1.15 million in Big Local funding to create meaningful, lasting change. With over 23 years of experience in the voluntary and community sector, Barbara is a trusted advocate for inclusive decision-making and grassroots empowerment.



Rylie Sweeney, National Strategic Advisor of Youth and Education Policy

Rylie is a national strategic advisor of youth and education policy. She is a committed and passionate systems change advocate working to ensure young people are not just consulted, but actively involved in shaping decisions that impact their lives. Rylie's work cuts across policy, strategy, and lived experience. She supports organisations, public bodies, and campaigns to embed youth voice as a driver of meaningful, lasting change.



Liz Todd, Professor of Educational Inclusion, Newcastle University

Liz is Professor of Educational Inclusion at Newcastle University. Her research has a strong social justice agenda and she is known for her work on the interaction between communities and schools, involving young people in decision making, and respectful democratic approaches to change. Liz was awarded the OBE in the 2025 New Years Honours for services to education and young people. Liz is passionate about the role of community organising in getting everyone – particularly children and young people - working together to bring about change for the common good. And she won't stop talking about the importance of paying everyone at or above the Real Living Wage.



John Tomaney, Pro-Provost (Regional Communities), University College London

John Tomaney is Pro-Provost (Regional Communities) and Professor of Urban and Regional Planning at University College London. He is the chair of Trustees at Redhills: the Durham Miners' Hall, and Trustee of Sacriston Youth Project. Recently, he was a co-recipient of the Kurt Rothschild Prize for his work on social infrastructure.

NOTES

NOTES

ABOUT THE HOST



national network
for neighbourhood
improvement

3ni is a new social value partnership between Local Trust and Capacity, bringing together policy and practice to transform neighbourhoods across the country.

By creating a space for collaboration and innovation, we're working with local government, communities and the wider public sector to drive meaningful, lasting change where it's needed most.

Join our free network and become a 3ni member!

Get access to our future events, research and case studies, and meet our network of local government officers working on community-led regeneration.

Not working in the public sector but still want to be kept in the loop? Join us as an associate member to get updates on our work straight to your mailbox.

LEARN MORE AND SIGN-UP TODAY:



EVENT PARTNERS

Local Trust

Local Trust is a place-based funder. Through our delivery of the Big Local programme, we're enabling residents in 150 areas to transform their lives and the places where they live.

LOCALTRUST.ORG.UK



Insights North East (INE) works to make a positive and long-term impact for people in the North East by connecting the region's policymakers to evidence and actionable insights.

INSIGHTSNORTHEAST.CO.UK



We are rigorously examining the role of neighbourhoods in people's lives, quantifying and qualitatively exploring the case for neighbourhood focused regeneration as a contribution to achieving wider social and economic objectives.

NEIGHBOURHOODSCOMMISSION.ORG.UK



The North East Combined Authority was formed on 7 May 2024. We're led by an Elected Mayor and Cabinet and cover the seven local authority areas of County Durham, Gateshead, Newcastle, North Tyneside, Northumberland, South Tyneside and Sunderland.

NORTHEAST-CA.GOV.UK



The New Economics Foundation's mission is to transform the economy so it works for people and the planet. We work with people igniting change from below and combine this with rigorous research to fight for change at the top.

NEWECONOMICS.ORG



The North East Social Capital Summit