



Rt Hon George Osborne MP hosts Newcastle Northern Powerhouse Partnership roundtable

- **Both Chief Executive and Leader of Newcastle City Council will join senior business figures at evidence gathering event**

25th November 2016 The Northern Powerhouse Partnership (NPP), an independent body established to represent the voice of major business and civic leaders across the North, is today holding a roundtable 'evidence gathering' event in Newcastle.

Pat Ritchie, Chief Executive of Newcastle City Council and Councillor Nick Forbes, Leader of Newcastle City Council, will attend the event which is one of a series of roundtables that are taking place across the North and led by the Chair of the Northern Powerhouse Partnership, the Rt Hon George Osborne MP. The roundtables will help to start develop consensus amongst prominent business and public sector organisations on the issues and priorities that will enable the NPP to drive transformational change throughout the Northern economy.

The NPP is an independent not-for-profit partnership which launched in September 2016 with a business-led board, including representatives from key Northern companies including Manchester Airports Group (MAG), Mace, Barclays, Associated British Ports, Siemens, HSBC, EY, Addleshaw Goddard, Arcadis and Bruntwood. These organisations are expected to play an important role in providing insight and evidence to drive the Partnership forward.

The Board companies have all agreed a financial contribution to the NPP and representatives from these businesses will be in attendance at the roundtables occurring in 2016 in Manchester, Newcastle, Leeds, Sheffield and Liverpool, with further engagement planned across the North in 2017.

The Rt Hon George Osborne MP, said: "The North East is a vital part of the Northern Powerhouse. Today I'm here in Newcastle listening to business and civic leaders about how the Northern Powerhouse Partnership can work with them to harness their energy and collective will to drive genuine economic renewal right across the North East and wider North.

"These roundtable events will enable the NPP to develop a consensus across the region about the common ideas which we can work closely with national government on to improve the economy and quality of life for people in the North.

"Long-term collaboration between the private and public sectors across the North, and with Government and national agencies, will be essential if this ambition is to be realised and the NPP will be fundamental in delivering this."

Ends

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Notes to Editors

About the Northern Powerhouse Partnership

The Northern Powerhouse Partnership (NPP) is an independent body that was launched in September 2016 to represent the voice of major business and civic leaders across the North. The NPP is chaired by the Rt Hon George Osborne MP who first outlined the Northern Powerhouse concept in a keynote speech in June 2014 and was a key exponent of the vision.

The NPP will create the evidence base from across the North to develop consensus on the issues and the priorities for action, in addition to supporting the existing objectives identified in the Northern Powerhouse Independent Economic Review.

By producing original research, encouraging innovative thinking and hosting thought-provoking events, the NPP will help promote the North to Central Government and investors and encourage new policy ideas which will improve the regions public services, quality of life and economy.

The NPP has a business-led Board which features influential business figures from across the North of England, representing companies including Manchester Airports Group (MAG), Mace, Barclays, Associated British Ports, Siemens, HSBC, EY, Addleshaw Goddard, Bruntwood and Arcadis. Prominent city leaders across the region are also represented on the Board, in addition to Lord Jim O'Neill, former Commercial Secretary to the Treasury, and John Cridland, Chair of Transport for the North (TfN), so as to ensure that the NPP maintains an all-party approach.