



NewcastleGateshead Initiative



“Living up to Newcastle’s designation in 2018 as the No. 1 place in the world to visit by Rough Guides, this year’s highlight has been the planning and delivery of the Great Exhibition of the North.”

John Marshall, Chair, NewcastleGateshead Initiative



Welcome to our review of NewcastleGateshead Initiative’s year, and what a year it’s been!

With the vital support of so many of you, we have enjoyed 80 days in the balmy summer showcasing the best of art, culture, innovation and design from across the North. We have also welcomed the Cabinet, the Governor of the Bank of England and HRH The Duke of Cambridge to NewcastleGateshead. Our next focus is on the legacy of this for Newcastle, Gateshead and the whole of the North.

Our wider activity has continued apace throughout 2018 with the team busy planning for next year’s World Transplant Games and the European Club Rugby Finals. 2019 will be a bumper year of sport, and another chance to showcase our unique area to a wider and potentially different audience.

We are also delighted to have been working closely with Newcastle International Airport and VisitBritain over the past year, on projects to bring more international visitors to the region. Tourism is a crucial part of our local economy and expanding inbound tourism is a key priority. Our Invest Newcastle team also led another impressive delegation to MIPIM Cannes to secure more inward investment.

We could not achieve any of this without your support, collaboration and encouragement so once again many thanks.

John Marshall
Chair



What are your highlights of the year?

It's impossible not to start with the Great Exhibition of the North, which I'd say is less a highlight of 2018, and more a defining point of NewcastleGateshead Initiative's entire history as an organisation. With over 80 days of amazing achievements it's so hard to pick individual moments, but if I had to choose...



Meeting and speaking to so many of the individuals, volunteers and partners who helped make the Great Exhibition of the North a reality - the level of enthusiasm and engagement has been simply staggering.

Newcastle being named Rough Guides' number one place to visit in 2018 - in a worldwide ranking. This really exemplified how the Exhibition elevated our region's profile to a global stage.



The opening event in June - seeing our preparations become reality in such a vibrant way, and the crowds of people on the Quayside who turned out to celebrate and give their support.



Welcoming so many influential visitors to the region - Secretary of State Karen Bradley, Theresa May and Prince William amongst them. Seeing Mark Carney meeting our Little Inventors was a particular favourite of mine!

What are you most proud of in the last 12 months?

The thing I'm most proud of is not just that we were able to turn the Great Exhibition of the North into such a pivotal moment for our region, but that at the same time we made such great strides forward in other areas in 2018.

NGI has progressed in so many ways as a business over the past year, and this is testament to the dedication and commitment of the wider team who were able to successfully manage so many simultaneous priority areas, and capitalise so effectively on the many opportunities this year has brought us.

Over the past year, NewcastleGateshead has become ever more visible on a national and global stage. We were delighted to host the VisitBritain Explore GB event in March, where 700 delegates from right around the world visited the region, in the face of the Beast from the East, to meet British suppliers from up and down the country. All of these opportunities deliver immense benefits to our partners and the wider region.

I'm also thrilled that this year's North East England Tourism Awards received the largest ever number of entries, which demonstrates just how successful tourism businesses in the region have been this year.

Why does the partnership working behind NGI make such a big difference?

Projects of the scale and scope of the ones we've delivered this year would be unthinkable without our partners - it simply would not have been possible to achieve what we did without their support.

This support is far more than lip service and even more valuable than financial contributions - it's the active collaboration and sheer hard work of our local authority and private sector partners that is so critical to our success, and we are immensely grateful for their amazing support.

Working alongside so many people who share our ambition and vision for the region allows us to achieve things that would be impossible otherwise, and I'm delighted that over the past year we've been able to share so many memorable achievements with so many amazing supporters and organisations.

What are the big opportunities in the year ahead?

2019 is set to be a very exciting year, not least because of the prestigious events that are coming to the region. The World Transplant Games and the European Club Rugby Finals will further raise the profile of NewcastleGateshead as a leading host of major sporting events, and we're looking forward to providing our usual warm welcome to visiting fans.

Beyond this, there's a huge opportunity for us to build on the successful work of Invest Newcastle, which plays a leading role in attracting companies both large and small to base themselves here. This vital work creates huge opportunities, particularly important in the current political climate, and helps to secure the region's future.

Finally, NGI Solutions' continued growth and success creates ever-more opportunities for NGI. By channelling our team's knowledge and expertise into a commercial enterprise, NGI Solutions provides a vital funding stream that allows us to pursue our wider work to the full, and helps make it possible for us to deliver ever-greater benefits to the region.



“Great Exhibition of the North was a resounding success – we achieved more than we ever imagined could be possible. We’re delighted to see the impact that the Great Exhibition has had on NewcastleGateshead and the wider North.”

Carol Bell, Executive Director, Great Exhibition of the North (Jan '17 - Dec '18)



Over half a million hotel rooms occupied across the summer. 19 million people A reach of over 19 million people via digital platforms.

55% increase An average 55% increase in visitors at key venues over the course of the Exhibition. Millions of visitors More than four million people visited NewcastleGateshead this summer, and 75% of visitors surveyed engaged with the Great Exhibition during their stay. 3,218 pieces of print, online, broadcast and media pieces published about the Great Exhibition of the North.

Over 10,000 contributors provided exhibition content from across the North. 1,175 registered volunteers 20,836 hours The Great Exhibition’s volunteer team contributed 20,836 hours of their time, welcoming visitors, leading school groups and providing event support.

Great Exhibition of the North: A lasting legacy

The Great Exhibition of the North’s overwhelming success has created a lasting legacy for the region.

As England’s largest event of the year, the Great Exhibition showcased the North’s strengths and achievements to millions of visitors. With record footfall to key venues, the landmark event achieved unprecedented success over the course of its 80-day programme. Key venues saw a significant increase in visitors, with hundreds of thousands of visitors flocking to see exhibits such as Stephenson’s Rocket, as well as a broad range of exhibitions, performances, installations and activities.

The Great Exhibition has forged new partnerships and strengthened old ones.

The event united contributors from across the North, creating partnerships which are set to endure long after the Exhibition’s close. Through our volunteers, school visits and the Get North Family Expo at St James’ Park, NewcastleGateshead has gained a valuable resource of engaged community members keen to help make the region a better place. The Great Exhibition has also helped create valuable ties with hundreds of businesses who engaged through events such as the Northern Powerhouse Business Summit.

19,500 children attended the Get North Family Expo at St James’ Park. 20,000 Over 20,000 school children visited the Great Exhibition.





“We promote NewcastleGateshead’s cultural offering, deliver cross-river festivals and work with partners in bidding for major events. This activity builds the region’s profile, attracts visitors, benefits the economy, and builds local skills and pride.”

Carol Bell, Culture & Major Events Director



Fan experience - the key to NewcastleGateshead’s “sporting city” success

While 2018 was the year of Great Exhibition of the North, 2019 brings a sporting theme.

This year, preparations have been in full swing for the World Transplant Games, which will welcome 3,000 participants from over 70 countries to the region in 2019. Profiling the importance of organ donation, the Games perfectly combines NewcastleGateshead’s sporting and medical heritage. Newcastle will also welcome European Club Rugby’s biggest weekend, hosting both the Heineken Champions Cup and European Challenge Cup finals as well as supporting events in the official Rugby Village to welcome visiting fans.

Building even further on these high-profile events, NGI is also a key partner in an ambitious bid for 2021’s Rugby League World Cup, working with Newcastle City Council, Newcastle Rugby Ltd and Newcastle United Football Club to sell the region as a perfect location for the Rugby League calendar’s pinnacle event. The city is shortlisted from 28 English cities who applied to become a host and will look to focus on the men’s and wheelchair fixtures of the tournament.

NewcastleGateshead’s offering as a sporting city extends far outside its stadiums.

The region’s growing reputation for hosting world-class sporting events is helped by our compact city centre, with sporting venues close to central areas, as well as its rich cultural programme, exciting nightlife, famously friendly welcome and fantastic volunteer networks which were reinvigorated by Great Exhibition of the North. All of these factors are integral to the region’s ability to provide an exceptional fan experience.

NGI’s festivals and events team has a planned programme of work to identify and attract major events likely to be a perfect fit for the region. By actively researching and targeting events which complement the region’s existing cultural offering - like the World Transplant Games - we continue to raise the profile of NewcastleGateshead and play to its strengths.



The House of Lost and Found

Susan Mulholland returned as writer for the latest Enchanted Parks event. Each December Enchanted Parks brings around 25,000 visitors to Gateshead’s Saltwell Park to follow a route of just over 1 mile, filled with exciting visual arts, performance, installations and interactive works. 2018’s event was a brand-new story ‘The House of Lost and Found’ which followed the previous year’s highly popular narrative ‘The Inventor’s Ball’.

“Saltwell Park is already a magical place to me. The opportunity to create a world for artists to respond to and for our audiences to explore after dark, is an exciting challenge and one of my favourite projects to work on. The House of Lost and Found this year brought together a group of bizarre and benevolent characters, determined to reunite owners with their lost items, ranging from teaspoons to lost loves and everything in between.”

Susan Mulholland, Writer for Enchanted Parks 2018

"Its vibrant arts scene and gritty industrial heritage have seen the city emerge amid global competition as the place to visit in 2018... to call it a 'party city' criminally undersells this Northern beacon, because it is brimming with culture, arts, adventures, cuisine and creativity that just begs to be explored."

Joe Zadeh, ABTA magazine
- 1 September 2018



"We market NewcastleGateshead on a national and international stage, promoting it as a leading city break destination to boost overnight visitor numbers, support the growth of the visitor economy and change outdated perceptions."

Paul Szomoru, Director of Tourism & Business Events

Over 19,500

people work in the tourism sector in NewcastleGateshead.

£1.62bn

total annual visitor expenditure.

18.03m

annual visitors to NewcastleGateshead.

Visitors spent

a total of 5.19m nights in the destination, contributing £568m to local economy.

City Highlights

The Newcastle City Guides delivered 125 City Highlights tours in 2018, welcoming people from 35 different countries. 32% of guests on the tours were international visitors.

1.5 million

users visited NewcastleGateshead.com in 2018.

Social following

Our leisure tourism activity has built a growing audience of 32.8k Twitter followers, 25.7k Facebook page likes and 5k Instagram followers.

Capitalising on increased attention to showcase city breaks in NewcastleGateshead

The Great Exhibition of the North put the region in the spotlight like never before.

Our marketing and communications team pulled out all the stops to ensure that the Great Exhibition of the North drove increased interest in NewcastleGateshead and North East England. A key priority was to ensure that the region benefited not just while the Exhibition took place, but that it provided a lasting legacy that would raise NewcastleGateshead's profile as an exciting city break destination.

The Great Exhibition brought with it a huge opportunity to showcase NewcastleGateshead, both before and during the event. Our marketing and communications team rose to the challenge, promoting all NewcastleGateshead has to offer alongside the Great Exhibition, using a mix of PR, email campaigns, advertorials, online advertising and curated content.

Our extensive PR efforts resulted in the highest accolade from Rough Guides for Newcastle.



For many months we were building awareness of the Great Exhibition with target journalists and platforms, without being able to share the actual content details with them and it was this tenacious 'behind the scenes' work which led to us securing the Rough Guides accolade. Rough Guides – with whom we'd established a strong working relationship and shared confidential briefings – named Newcastle as the number one place to visit in the world in 2018, citing Great Exhibition as a key reason to plan a trip.

The Rough Guides team praised the region's restaurant scene, museums and architecture, as well as its famous nightlife and "Geordie geniality". Raising the area's profile in this way is just one of a raft of longer-term benefits of the Great Exhibition, helping NewcastleGateshead earn a well-deserved place on travellers' bucket lists for years to come.

2018 has been an exceptionally busy year for NewcastleGateshead Initiative but here are a few of our highlights.

01. New tourism imagery

Working with VisitBritain we created some fantastic new content to help promote NewcastleGateshead to national and international audiences, profiling some of the amazing things to see and do in the region.



02. A new Convention Bureau guide

Our guide to business events got a makeover this year, featuring the faces of some of our partners from the industry, and featuring more information about how delegates can spend their spare time in NewcastleGateshead.



03. Gamevy comes to Newcastle

The Invest Newcastle team worked closely with Gamevy, an award-winning lottery and bingo games provider, to bring their new development studio to Newcastle.

04. World Transplant Games - Golf Fun Day

Local businesses and Games supporters from across the North East, including Alan Shearer, joined us for a Golf Fun Day in October which saw 18 teams from 14 businesses tee off on the Lee Westwood Filly Course at Close House Golf Resort to support the fundraising efforts for the World Transplant Games 2019.



05. Get North Family Expo

We welcomed 19,500 children and their families to St James' Park to take part in a week of inventing, playing and tinkering with ideas that could shape their future.



06. A royal visit

We were proud to welcome HRH The Duke of Cambridge to NewcastleGateshead this summer to experience the Great Exhibition of the North.



07. North East England Tourism Awards 2018

This year's tourism awards received their largest ever number of entries from across the region, and we were proud to celebrate the best of the best at Newcastle Civic Centre in November.



“We promote NewcastleGateshead as a leading UK conference destination, to bring high-spending, influential business visitors to the region, and showcase both the place and our expertise in key sectors.”

Paul Szomoru, Director of Tourism & Business Events

Medical events take centre stage in conference boom

NewcastleGateshead’s medical pedigree makes it the perfect location for medical sciences conferences.

As one of six designated UK Science Cities, home to world-leading academics and cutting-edge facilities, it’s perhaps no surprise that NewcastleGateshead has become something of a hotspot for medical conferences, attracting a raft of high-profile events in 2018.

Organisations including the Royal College of Nursing, Association for the Study of Medical Education, the European Thyroid Association and the Association for the Study of Obesity hosted conferences, exhibitions and workshops at venues across the region.

September’s record-breaking performance was the highlight of an exceptional year.

Medical conferences were just part of a hugely successful year for NewcastleGateshead Convention Bureau, which has confirmed business for NewcastleGateshead and the wider region worth over £9m in the course of 2018.

September saw NewcastleGateshead Convention Bureau’s busiest month ever for conferences, with over 3,500 delegates from 43 different countries arriving in the region for 51 events.

This was the culmination of several years’ work by the convention bureau to proactively research and bid to host national and international associations which align to the sector strengths of the region. Once secured, the convention bureau team is there to support conference organisers every step of the way from venue finding and booking accommodation to helping with social events and setting up the popular NewcastleGateshead ‘meet and greet’ stand to welcome arriving delegates at Newcastle International Airport, Newcastle Central Station and conference venues.

Over £9m

NewcastleGateshead Convention Bureau confirmed business for NewcastleGateshead and the wider region worth £9m.



Silver award

Best convention bureau in England

Our team’s hard work earned them national recognition, taking home a silver award (beaten only by Glasgow) for the title of Best UK Convention Bureau, closely followed by other respected UK bureaux, including Liverpool, Edinburgh, Bristol and London.

“The NewcastleGateshead Convention Bureau were most helpful – they know all there is to know about the city! They were able to offer help and information on a range of issues such as advertising the conference, accommodation for delegates, transport to and within the city and activities that delegates could get involved in. They also had a ‘meet and greet’ stand in Central Station to welcome the delegates when they arrived.”

The Association for the Study of Obesity’s 5th annual UK Congress on Obesity



Thank you and farewell to Catherine Walker who has shaped and led our successful inward investment team and service since 2012.

Welcome to Jen Hartley! Jen worked for NGI previously, before a role as Deputy Head for Tech North and most recently as Newcastle City Council's Head of Tech Strategy.



"Invest Newcastle attracts and secures new investment and jobs for the city. We deliver a range of highly targeted activities and bespoke services to attract and support potential and existing investors."

Jen Hartley, Director, Invest Newcastle

20

project wins

We had 20 project wins in 2018. That's businesses attracted to the area or expansions that we helped secure.

790

jobs created or safeguarded

In 2018 Invest Newcastle's work created 540 new jobs in the region and safeguarded a further 250.

166

new projects identified

In 2018 we identified over 166 potential new investment projects which could lead to more than 4,500 new jobs in the region.

Invest Newcastle supports pioneering £350m Helix project

Work continues as one of Europe's most exciting innovation hubs comes together.

In 2018, Invest Newcastle played an integral role in raising the profile of Newcastle Helix. This £350m flagship project is a partnership between Newcastle University, Newcastle City Council and Legal & General and is the biggest of its kind in the UK, outside of London. All 24 acres is dedicated to helping people live better, healthier lives.

It brings together a community of academics, industry leaders and researchers in the heart of Newcastle's city centre. It is home to the National Innovation Centre for Ageing, the National Innovation Centre for Data and The Core – a commercial building for science, digital and innovation-led businesses. The Biosphere is the latest building on site, providing much-needed commercial and laboratory space for ambitious companies within life sciences.

Our inward investment work is attracting the life science sector to Newcastle Helix.

Invest Newcastle has played a significant role in attracting ambitious life sciences companies to Newcastle Helix by providing marketing and PR support to help showcase the new development and build awareness within the sector.

Invest Newcastle has also carried out, and continues to undertake, extensive lead generation work to build a pipeline of businesses with an interest in joining the Newcastle Helix community, ranging from tech start-ups to large corporates.

Where potential opportunities are identified, Invest Newcastle provides businesses with support to evaluate Newcastle as a potential location, making introductions to local businesses and industry contacts who can share insights into what makes the region unique.

Tech investment

We invited Gamevy, an award-winning lottery and bingo games provider, to get involved in the Great Exhibition of the North's gaming festival – 1UP North. We used this opportunity to give Gamevy an insight into the digital and tech sector in the region, and secured their new development studio in Newcastle. Gamevy plan to create up to 30 jobs in the city over the next two years.

Did you know?

The North East tech sector is growing twice as fast as the rest of the economy and is forecasted to be worth £2.5bn by 2020.

MIPIM 2018

Our biggest ever presence

In 2018 we achieved our biggest ever presence at MIPIM, the premier real estate industry event held in Cannes, with 30 partner organisations attending to promote the region to more than 5,000 investors and more than 26,000 delegates.



“NGI Solutions is our trading company – now a well-established, insight-led research, marketing and PR agency which delivers exciting projects for clients right across the UK. Importantly, all income from this work is then reinvested in our core activities which support economic growth here in the region.”

Kathie Wilcox, Director of NGI Solutions

NGI Solutions generates a significant increase in visitors to sites along Hadrian’s Wall.

Following our work to promote Hadrian’s Cavalry in 2017, evaluation carried out this year shows that visitor numbers grew significantly as a result. The Hadrian’s Cavalry exhibition, explored the role and daily life of the Roman army’s cavalry forces through a range of remarkable exhibits on loan from national and international museums. The exhibition stretched the length of the Hadrian’s Wall World Heritage Site area – from Maryport in the west to South Shields in the east, across 10 museums and venues.

NGI Solutions planned and delivered an integrated marketing campaign to drive awareness and footfall for the exhibition. With a remit to reach regional, national and international audiences, and 10 venues to promote across a six-month period, the focus was on skilful and creative planning to get the maximum results within the budget. The final evaluation completed earlier this year stated that the campaign was hugely successful, resulting in a 12% increase in visitors to the 10 sites along the wall over the course of the exhibition.



“NGI have been our ‘all things digital’ partner for the Hadrian’s Wall Partnership for the past four years now and I have to say that throughout that the team have repeatedly gone above and beyond to make the most of limited resources. They are great at sharing their ideas and bringing a practical viewpoint to an area of work so often cloaked in mystery and jargon. I would always knock on their door first for advice and support, it’s a pleasure to work with people I consider to be great colleagues and friends.”

John Scott, Hadrian’s Wall Partnership

New digital panel service generates valuable customer insight for clients

As NGI Solutions’ client base has grown over the years, the team’s ability to deliver insight-led research, marketing and PR projects for its clients has become a key reason why businesses engage with the agency. Clients are often keen to understand how they can make best use of the data they hold to better engage with and understand their customers’ perceptions, motivations and experiences.

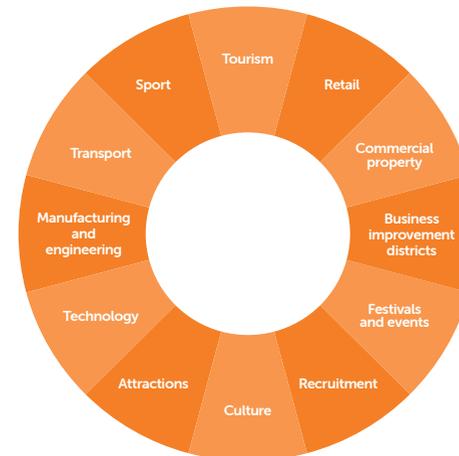
To help businesses address these issues, NGI Solutions has invested in new technology and launched a digital panel service. The platform allows clients to undertake surveys, conduct polls, run online focus groups and develop online forums. By helping businesses to connect with their customers in this way, NGI Solutions can help them gain valuable insights to set the right direction for their marketing or business strategy.

“We commissioned NGI Solutions to conduct qualitative research with members of the North East business community to better understand the culture around corporate training and team building courses, and perceptions of our service. Their professional and expert approach throughout the project greatly impressed us, as did the constructive and useful insight regarding development of our business in Newcastle. I would have no hesitation in recommending NGI Solutions to any company who requires research support.”

Ian Murray, UK Managing Director, ProTraining



Which sectors do we work in?



Our clients in 2018 included:



Meet the Team



We'd like to give a special thanks this year to the whole team behind the Great Exhibition of the North, including the following who have since left NGI:

- Amy Orr
 Arielle Juler
 Becky Madeley
 Bob Allan
 Dave Jeffrey
 David Brookbanks
 Derek Place
 Ellie Roger
 Emma Warden
 Emma-Jayne Booth
 Fiona Morgan
 Ged Matthews
 Jessica Dare
 Jo Thornton
 Kieran Booth
 Laura Hunter
 Laura Partridge
 Lucy Tetley
 Maria Bota
 Melissa Gillespie
 Molly Schofield
 Philippa Crossman
 Shelley Armstrong
 Steve Blanks



Chief Executive

01. Sarah Stewart

Central Services

02. Dianne Coaten
 Director of Finance & Operations

03. Dezra Riley
 Finance Manager

04. Anne Howes
 Senior Office Manager

05. Joy Sanders
 Partnership & Events Executive

06. Sarah Lawrence
 Partnership & Events Executive

07. Josh Allison
 Administration & Events Assistant

08. Rachel Jones
 Administration & Events Apprentice

Culture

09. Carol Bell
 Culture & Major Events Director

10. Vikki Leaney
 Senior Festivals & Events Manager

11. Ryan Watson
 Culture Team Assistant

NGI Solutions

12. Kathie Wilcox
 Director

13. Ian Thomas
 Associate Director

NGI Solutions projects are delivered by our Research and Marketing & Communications teams

Research

14. Vicki Grainger
 Research Manager

15. Samantha Chambers
 Research Executive

Marketing & Communications

16. Marc Burns
 Digital Marketing Manager

17. Finlay Magowan
 Media & PR Manager

18. Kelly Gleadow
 PR & Communications Manager

19. Shelley Johnson
 Marketing Manager

20. Deb Bell
 Marketing & Communication Manager

21. Ali Brown
 Marketing Executive

22. Hannah Lambert
 Digital Marketing Executive

23. Chris Watson
 Web Design Executive

Partnership

24. Nathan Shrubbs
 Partnership & Project Manager

25. Anna Moroney
 Partnership Development Executive

Tourism & Business Events

26. Paul Szomoru
 Director of Tourism & Business Events

27. Caroline Reed
 Conference Development Manager

28. Julie Rastelletti
 Business Events Manager

29. Carly Ivers
 Business Events Assistant

30. Jonathan Gilroy
 Destination Manager

31. Margaret Darby
 Destination Executive

Inward Investment

32. Jen Hartley
 Inward Investment Director

33. Ciara Small
 Senior Investment Manager

34. Nicola Reid
 Key Account Manager

35. Matt Bratton
 Senior Investment Manager

36. Sam Cassidy
 Business Support Assistant

World Transplant Games

37. Michele McCallion
 Communications Manager

38. Marian Chapman
 Technical Producer

39. Sophie Hardwick
 Senior Project Manager

GX Project

40. Claire Prospert
 ERDF Funding Manager

Get in touch

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“Everything NGI does is driven towards delivering regional economic benefit; partnerships underpin every aspect of our work to achieve this.”

Nathan Shrubbs, Partnership & Project Manager

Our partners drive our success

NewcastleGateshead Initiative is, and always has been, a public-private partnership, and we owe a lot of our ongoing success to the support of the partner organisations who share our goal of driving economic growth within the region.

Our partner businesses are central to our work, both through their support of our initiatives and as ambassadors for the region, they help us to inspire people to visit, and to live, learn, work and invest in NewcastleGateshead.

We were particularly pleased to have seen so many of our partners at our partner events this year as well as our social events at Mr Mulligan’s Space Golf Newcastle and the Copthorne Hotel. We’d especially like to thank our partners who hosted our 2018 partner events: Wylam Brewery, Jesmond Dene House, Northern Design Centre, Ward Hadaway, Newcastle Helix and University of Northumbria’s Great Hall.

The focus of this year has been on improving and developing the way we deliver partnership, not only to retain the phenomenal support of our current partners but also to positively collaborate with potential partner organisations. Through new marketing materials, a greater online presence, and increased levels of communication, we hope our partners continue to understand how much we value and appreciate their ongoing support.



“Ryder is proud to be a gold partner of NewcastleGateshead Initiative. As well as networking with a range of influential businesses, our partnership provides insight into the regional ambition, strategy and the economic opportunities our people and business can engage with. We were delighted to collaborate with NGI as a host venue on the Great Exhibition of the North’s Innovation Trail with Horse to Hyperloop and enjoyed some fantastic visitor numbers and press coverage during the event.”

Mark Thompson, Managing Partner, Ryder Architecture

We are delighted with the continued support of our two local authority partners.



We’re very pleased to have welcomed the following new partners in 2018:

Silver

Partners

- Ronald James
- Superkrush

Bronze

Partners

- Antler
- Bamburgh Castle
- Boiler Shop
- International House Newcastle
- JM Glendinning Insurance Brokers
- Lord Crewe Arms
- North East Futures UTC
- PROTRAINING
- South Causey Inn
- STACK Newcastle
- Tyne Theatre & Opera House

We’d like to take this opportunity to thank all our partners for their support and contributions in 2018. We look forward to working closely with all of you in the future to drive even greater benefits for our organisations and the region as a whole.

Chair

John Marshall

Board directors

Nicole Atkin, Newcastle United Football Club
Emily Cox, Virgin Money
Helen Dalby, Reach Plc
Abi Kelly, Newcastle University
Judith Doyle, Gateshead College
Colin Hewitt, Ward Hadaway Solicitors
Jennie Collingwood, Northumbrian Water
Tony Lewin, Newcastle College
Bill MacLeod, PwC
Graeme Mason, Newcastle International Airport
Sheena Ramsey, Gateshead Council
Pat Ritchie, Newcastle City Council
Kevin Robertson, Womble Bond Dickinson
Michael Spriggs, Invest Newcastle Advisory Board
Phil Steele, intu Eldon Square
Giselle Stewart OBE, Ubisoft
Mark Thompson, Ryder Architecture Ltd
Professor Andrew Wathey CBE, Northumbria University
Vacancy, Port of Tyne

Observers

Andrew Fox representing North East Hotels Association
Maggie Pavlou representing North East England Chamber of Commerce
Adam Serfontein representing Newcastle NE1 Limited
Jane Tarr representing Arts Council England, North East

Company secretary

Robin Earl



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