

The North East Improvement and Efficiency Partnership: RIEPs in a Nutshell.

What are RIEPs?

RIEPs are politically led partnerships of local authorities working together at a regional and sub-regional level on shared improvement and efficiency priorities. Formed in April 2008, they use local connections and local knowledge to help councils, fire and rescue services and their partners to improve services and become more efficient. There is a RIEP in each English region.

Who leads the RIEPs?

In the North East the RIEP is led by the elected members of the Association of North East Councils (ANEC). It is managed by the North East Improvement & Efficiency Steering Group (IESG). IESG is chaired by George Garlick, Chief Executive of Durham County Council and it is made up of Local Authority Chief Executives, representatives from ANEC, Audit Commission, IDeA, NE Regional Employers Organisation and the Trades Union Congress.

Who are the NE RIEP team?

The team is hosted by ANEC in the Guildhall on Newcastle's Quayside and is led by Programme Director, Martin Ryan. There are 5 Programme Managers and a number of project staff covering 12 programme workstreams, supported by a team of 4 programme support staff.

And what do they do?

The RIEP acts as a hub for councils and their local partners to drive improvement, deliver excellent LAA outcomes, increase capacity for economic development, support community empowerment and encourage innovation.

How?

In consultation with local authorities a Regional Improvement and Efficiency Strategy was drawn up and a Delivery Plan developed around 10 priority workstreams. The strategy and plan were approved by CLG in 2008 and around £16m funding was allocated to the North East region to support activity for the period 2008 to 2011.

What are the NE priority workstreams?

- 21st Century Services
- Adult Social Care
- Children's Services
- Construction & Asset Management
- Collaborative Procurement
- Community Empowerment & Engagement
- Regional Leadership
- Organisation Development & Workforce Planning
- Partnerships
- Waste & Environment
- Institute for Local Governance
- Recruitment & Retention

What do they do?

A wide range of collaborative projects are being funded within each workstream, developed and managed by local authority officers and partners to address specific local issues.

The leadership for each workstream is provided by a dedicated Programme Board, chaired by a local authority Chief Executive/Director sponsor and made up of senior professionals within the workstream field.

How can I get involved?

Find out about our projects, events and other activities by [signing up for our fortnightly e-bulletin](#), visiting our [website](#) or contacting our enquiries line (0191 2613923

Where can I find out more?

Visit: www.northeastiep.gov.uk; Call: 0191 261 3923; Email: riep@northeastcouncils.gov.uk

