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Coastal celebration marks opening of £4.5m Northumberland retail & leisure hub

A new retail and leisure development that is helping to transform a Northumberland town has officially opened with a VIP celebration.

The team behind The Links at South Beach in Blyth welcomed a 30-strong delivery team back on site on Friday (June 30) to mark the milestone, along with the fifth Viscount Ridley, Matt Ridley representing Blagdon Estates, which created the £4.5m scheme with partner Kingsmead Developments, and local Conservative MP for Blyth Valley, Ian Levy.

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Newcastle International Airport marks “major milestone” with new site opening

Newcastle International Airport’s Solar Farm has been officially opened by the Minister for Energy Efficiency and Green Finance, Lord Callanan.

The project, which was 50 per cent funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and 50 per cent funded by the Airport, marks a “major milestone” in its “ambitious” strategy to become Net Zero Carbon by the year 2035.

Located on Airport owned land to the south eastern end of the runway, on a sunny day between mid-morning and late afternoon phase 1 of the scheme is able to supply all of the Airport’s electricity requirements.

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North East Chamber visits Downing Street to pitch for local economic growth

Measures to unleash the potential for North East economic growth were at the top of the agenda when the region's Chamber of Commerce chief executive met with Chancellor Jeremy Hunt in Downing Street on July 4.

The roundtable, organised in collaboration with the British Chambers of Commerce (BCC), focused on local economic growth and will enable government policy to be informed by business perspectives at the highest level.

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New multi-million pound Sunderland industrial park to create up to 150 new jobs

Plans to transform an area of disused land in Sunderland into a “vibrant” new industrial park have been released.

Proposals for an “attractive” new development at Commercial Road in Hendon have been submitted to Sunderland City Council’s planning authority. Visuals depict a cluster of 19 industrial units of varying sizes, along with a drive-through coffee shop and major improvements to the streetscape surrounding the site.

The £10m development, led by Promenade Park Properties and designed by Sunderland architect and engineering practice BDN, could create up to 150 jobs if it is given the green light by the planning committee. Units will range from 3,500 to 20,000 sq ft. and will deliver much-needed shed space in an area that is well-established as an industrial hub.

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“Massive” Newcastle city centre development celebrates latest milestone

Progress on a major city centre development was recognised on Friday by a Steel Beam Signing Ceremony, some 12 months on from the on-site ground-breaking ceremony at Pilgrim’s Quarter, Newcastle, back in June 2022.

HMRC announced in November 2021 that Newcastle’s Pilgrim’s Quarter, part of the Pilgrim Street development, would become a Government Hub for HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) in the North East.

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NE1 announces Newcastle Restaurant Week dates in August

NE1's Newcastle Restaurant Week is back between August 7 and 13 with over 110 restaurants signed up to take part in what is one of the busiest and most popular weeks in the city's hospitality calendar. Diners will be able to enjoy meals at participating restaurants all week for only £10, £15 or £20 per person.

NE1's hugely-popular and much-emulated event injects a special vibrancy into the city twice a year, in January and August, filling restaurants with diners and having a positive knock-on effect for other hospitality venues and public transport providers in the city who all enjoy a boost to business thanks to the event.

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CityFibre gets to work on 'future-proofing' South Tyneside with £42m investment

Work to upgrade South Tyneside's digital foundations with fast, reliable and future-proof full fibre network connectivity is now underway after CityFibre, the UK's largest independent full fibre platform, started construction works in the Laygate area of the town.

CityFibre is investing £42m in bringing this new technology to homes and businesses in South Tyneside, ensuring it's able to serve residents' data needs for decades to come. Locally, the rollout is being completed by GCU UK Ltd, who will work closely with CityFibre and the South Tyneside Council to ensure any disruption is managed safely and efficiently.

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“Ambitious” restoration of ‘iconic’ Tyne Bridge announces finalised project plans

Final plans are being made for the start of an “ambitious” restoration of the “iconic” Tyne Bridge from this September. Engineers have now finalised project plans which will see work begin under the bridge after the Kittiwakes leave the bridge.

Those initial works will have minimal impact on the transport network ahead of work next year that will see lane closures on the bridge to ensure the iconic structure can be safely restored. With inspection work revealing more extensive repairs than first anticipated, it is estimated that the major refurbishment programme could last up to four years.

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Port of Tyne secures “ground-breaking” £100m finance package to fuel green growth

The Port of Tyne, which owns and operates one of the UK’s major trust ports, has secured a £100m refinancing package with the UK Infrastructure Bank, Pricoa Private Capital and Lloyds Bank.

This 10-year financing arrangement is a national first for a British major trust port and builds upon the Port of Tyne’s strategic focus on green energy and smart logistics. The deal demonstrates the underlying confidence investors have in the Port’s business strategy and “market-leading” position in established and emerging markets including offshore renewables and the automotive transition.

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