

# New core Defra hub announced for Newcastle upon Tyne



PUBLISHED NOV 19, 2021  
BY [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk)

Job opportunities in the North East of England will increase

New hub will provide strong corporate leadership for local staff

Newcastle location forms part of Places for Growth programme, which will move 22,000 Civil Service roles out of London by 2030

Defra has today (Friday 19 November) announced a new core hub office in Newcastle upon Tyne, boosting job opportunities and increasing the department's presence in the North East of England.

Defra already has staff based around the UK, with current hub offices in London, York and Bristol. Today's announcement demonstrates the government's commitment to the region, with more than 1,000 roles at the Treasury, Department for International Trade and others moving to Darlington.

This move will enhance and support the close working and co-location between existing Defra staff in Newcastle, and arms-length body colleagues from the Marine Management Organisation, the Rural Payments Agency, Natural England, the Environment Agency and the Forestry Commission.

Newcastle was selected due to its skilled and vibrant pool of professionals in the local community, as well as its excellent transport links to and from the other hubs. The new hub will be based at the department's existing Lancaster House site.

Defra will also be establishing a presence in Edinburgh and Cardiff from January 2022 and plans for Northern Ireland will

follow. These measures and the Newcastle hub support the government's wider Places for Growth programme, which aims to move 22,000 roles out of London to build a more diverse and inclusive civil service, reflecting local communities across the UK, strengthening the civil service presence in these areas, and improving recruitment and career progression outside of London.

*Press release distributed by Media Pigeon on behalf of GOV.UK, on Nov 19, 2021. For more information subscribe and follow us.*

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