

BIENVENUE TYNE & WEAR

It's not every day of the week that a French delegation heads for the UK to see if they can learn from us.

But that was the aim of a high-level French government delegation on a whistle-stop tour of Tyne & Wear in October 2002.

The visit was co-ordinated by the French Business Council in response to an approach from the French Embassy in London. The three-strong delegation met representatives of regional development agency One NorthEast, Business Link Tyne & Wear and Northern Enterprise Ltd. The only other UK cities visited were London, Glasgow and Edinburgh.

Chairman Andrew Robinson said: "That we were asked to facilitate this visit shows, I think, the respect afforded to the work of the FBC, both in the region and in senior circles in France."