



**North East
Derbyshire**
District Council

Council Plan

2023 - 2027

Contents

Welcome from the Council Leader	3	A community with a diverse range of commutable employment that match the skills of residents	14
Foreword from the Managing Director	4		
About North East Derbyshire	5	Continually improve council services to deliver excellence and value for money	15-16
North East Derbyshire District in numbers	6	Assist and influence other public partners to improve their services in the District	17
Council Plan 2023 - 2027	7	Increase biodiversity across the District	18
A community with lifelong good health	8-9	Reduce pollution across the District	19
A place to live that people value	10-11	Have your say	20
A place where people enjoy spending time	12		
A community with growing commutable employment opportunities	13		

Welcome

from the Council Leader

Our vision for North East Derbyshire District is simple: Putting strong community leadership at the heart of everything we do, we will create a Great Place...

A place where people can earn a decent living and have a comfortable home. A place where people can live a long, happy, and healthy life. A place where people feel safe within communities that are full of pride and a place that is conscious of and cares for its environment.

We are committed to achieving this by building and acquiring more affordable houses to rent and will be working closely with our housing delivery partner Rykneld Homes Ltd. (RHL) to do this. We will also be adding more resources to tackle ant-social behaviour and reviewing the way we look after our streets and public spaces in our district... and much, much more.

These are the things that our communities told us are most important to them...we listened and we pledged to deliver this. We are proud to have been tasked by the people of our District to translate these pledges into meaningful action.



*Cllr Nigel Barker
Council Leader*

Throughout this plan we will demonstrate our commitment to the residents of our District and give examples of some of the work we will be doing to meet our pledges. This plan is intended to be a dynamic plan however, one that will continue to grow throughout the next four-year term.

We will deliver this evolving and ambitious Council Plan in an inclusive and transparent way, with a spirit of effective collaboration for the benefit of our residents.

We also recognise that many of the challenges that we face cannot be delivered by the Council alone and as such we are proud to work in collaboration with our local partners, other public sector organisations, businesses, the voluntary sector and our communities.

We hope you enjoy reading about our plans for the future. We aim to demonstrate through words and deeds our commitment to you and what we are doing to deliver and will keep you updated and informed regularly with the progress that is being made.

North East Derbyshire is our home, and together we will continue building a positive place that we can all share and enjoy...
A Great Place!

Nigel Barker
Leader of the Council

Foreword

from the Managing Director

The Council Planning process is always an interesting and exciting time for officers of the Council. A time when the ambitions of the organisation are mapped out for the next term, a time of new beginnings and new energy.

In delivering the Council Plan, the relationship between elected Members or Councillors and officers is an important one. The approach here at North East Derbyshire District Council is very much aligned to one of 'collaborative leadership' and whilst recognising that the roles of elected Members and officers are different, we are in essence all here to improve the outcomes for our District and help improve the lives of the people within.

From an officer perspective, our level of success relies heavily upon the organisations' capacity and ability to lead, manage,



*Lee Hickin
Managing Director*

and develop its single most important resource - its people. Our Council has a strong people-centric culture providing the sub-structure upon which everything else is built.

As an organisation we embrace innovation, creativity, new ideas and new ways of working to ensure our Council succeeds. We challenge functional barriers, encourage, coach, and empower our colleagues to engage, develop talent from within, create an environment where people want to be successful and take ownership and most importantly - be ONE TEAM.

As Managing Director, I truly believe that the adoption and development of our ONE TEAM ethos, coupled with our 'collaborative leadership' approach, sets the organisation up to succeed in 'collectively' delivering this exciting new Council Plan and in helping to shape the future of the communities that we serve.

Lee Hickin
Managing Director

About North East Derbyshire

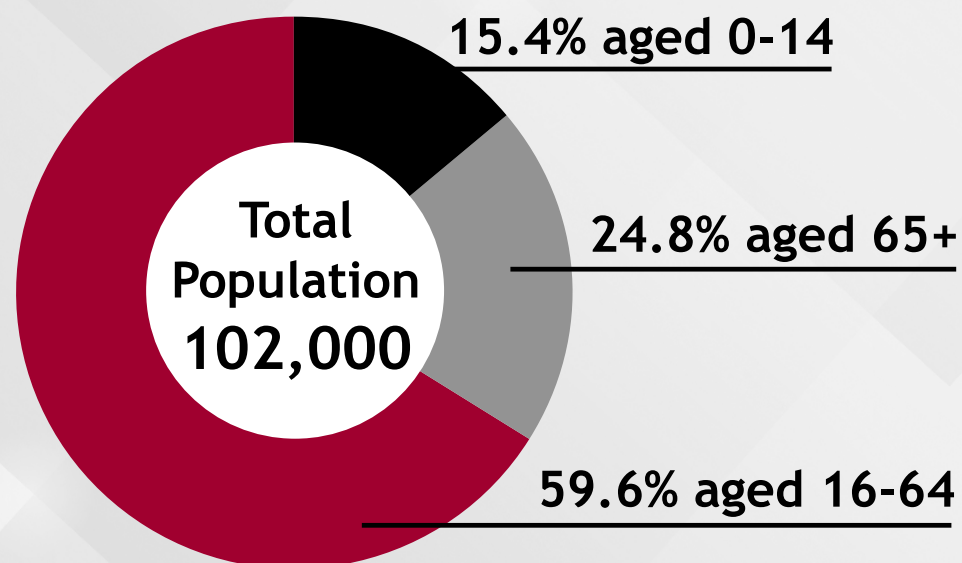
North East Derbyshire is a largely rural area, set within one of the most picturesque counties in England, and forms part of the border of the historic Peak District.

A district of contrasts, from thriving urban settlements to beautiful rural villages and countryside. It covers almost 106sq kilometres with the main centres being Clay Cross, Dronfield, Eckington and Killamarsh.

It has excellent national rail and road links, with close proximity to other regional towns and cities providing local residents with employment and leisure opportunities, and attracting day visitors.

The District has a rich rural leisure infrastructure and includes a country park in Grassmoor, Linacre Reservoirs nature area, greenways, and four local nature reserves.

It has a business base of over 4,700 businesses with micro enterprises (under 10 employees) forming the majority. The District is also home to some large nationally recognised businesses.



3% population growth since 2011

North East Derbyshire District in numbers



Population of
102,100



106
square miles



46,000
households



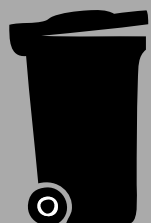
4,700
businesses



£286,500
average house
price



Average salary
£27,500



3.4 million
bins emptied
each year



Own
7,500
Council houses



75%
of working aged
residents in paid
employment



25%
of the population
aged 65 and over



Runs four leisure centres which
receive over
860,000
visits a year



Over
2,500
planning applications
received annually

Council Plan 2023 - 2027

Our Vision

Putting strong community leadership at the heart of everything we do we will create *A Great Place...*

Our Values

Our Values are:

- Be honest and accountable.
- Treat everyone fairly and with respect.
- Listen, involve and respond.
- Embrace change and innovation.
- Be collaborative, open and transparent.



A community with lifelong good health

- Maximise opportunities for residents of all ages and abilities to participate in physical and social activity.
- Directly or in partnership, reduce health inequality, supporting Public Health, DCC and other partners to deliver targeted programmes in the district.
- Assist residents in ensuring their homes are suitable and meet their health needs.
- Protect the public from ill health caused by environmental factors and business operations.



We will work to achieve this through our assets:

- Invest in modern and accessible leisure facilities.
- Provide and facilitate good quality outdoor spaces for activity and socialising.
- Provide a diverse range of inclusive and well-maintained play provision.
- Ensure council housing is well maintained and meeting the health needs of residents in partnership with RHL.

And through our communications:

- Engage with landlords to improve the standard of private sector housing.
- Promote public footpath walking routes and district wide outdoor events.
- Promoting healthy lifestyles, helping to reduce risk of ill health and early death from major diseases like cancer, heart disease, stroke, respiratory illness and diabetes.
- Promotion of successful and high-profile enforcement activity to act as a deterrent to others.

A community with lifelong good health



• And through enforcement:

- Take action where private sector housing standards are not being met.
- Investigate and take necessary action on domestic pollution control.
- Enforce tenancy conditions through tenancy management.
- Investigate and take action where necessary on public health matters.
- Impose and enforce planning conditions.

And through delivery:

- Provide accessible and inclusive programme of activities for residents.
- Provision of advice and assistance to businesses, the general public and other public services.
- Inspections regime for food safety, workplace health and safety and animal welfare.



And through our partners:

- Promote and facilitate non traditional and emerging activities.
- Develop and deliver targeted national initiatives such as 'This Girl Can' and 'We are Undefeatable.'
- Support, empower and enable community-led litter picks.

And through our people:

- Fully trained and experienced staff to deliver rehabilitation, recovery and health intervention (e.g. Dementia, Parkinson's Disease, Cancer Rehabilitation).
- Education and information sharing for tenants and residents to support their lifestyles such as energy efficiency.

And through our policies:

- Liaise with public partners to secure Section 106 contributions for services that require additional resources.



- Protect and improve the Green Infrastructure Network and other linear recreation routes, cycle routes and greenways.
- Ensure high quality design and place-making which encourage active lifestyles.

A place to live that people value

- Develop and continually improve the quality and range of housing, providing comfortable homes for residents that meet their needs.
- Well maintained public spaces that connects our communities.
- Directly and with partners, improve where people live to ensure they are safe, clean, functional and attractive.



We will work to achieve this through our assets:

- Explore housing development and regeneration opportunities.
- Asset rationalisation programmes.

And through our communications:

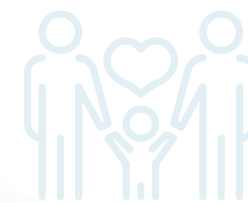
- Marketing and promotion of Council and partner services.
- Public consultation events and customer surveys.

And through enforcement:

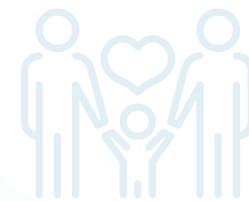
- Act to reduce empty homes.
- Targeted and proactive improvements to the appearance and maintenance land and buildings through the use of Section 215 action.
- Act to manage and sustain tenancies of council owned homes.
- Enforcement of fly tipping, litter and stray dogs.
- Take appropriate action against landlords not observing their duties.
- Serving community protection orders.

And through delivery:

- In partnership with RHL, delivery of housing services that meet Consumer Standards for social housing.
- Build, acquire and facilitate delivery of sustainable and affordable homes across the district.



A place to live that people value



And through delivery, continued:

- Ongoing delivery programme improving the energy efficiency and appearance of our council houses in partnership with RHL.
- Remove fly tipping deposits in line with targets.
- Provide and promote an effective and efficient waste collection service.
- Undertake regular safety inspection in our parks and open spaces.

And through improvement:

- Reduce the use of Bed and Breakfast accommodation as homeless provision.
- Invest in the Community Safety provision to increase positive impact in local communities.
- Future use of Local Design Codes to improve the quality of our neighbourhoods.
- Review “Welcome to North East Derbyshire” gateway signage.
- Increase the number of sustainable and affordable homes across the district.

And through our partners:

- Enable housing growth across tenures to meet the housing need.
- Work with housing providers to facilitate supported housing to meet all needs.
- Consult on planning applications for new developments.
- Engage with partners across the County on community safety delivery.

And through our policies:

- Local Plan policies to ensure the housing delivered meets the needs of communities.
- Use of Local Design Codes to improve the quality of neighbourhoods.
- Produce a robust Green Infrastructure Strategy to connect settlements with their surrounding area and nature.



A place where people enjoy spending time

- Improve and promote places and attractions to spend leisure time.
- Develop and promote the local 'offer' to ensure a diverse range of high quality activities and places to spend time.



We will work to achieve this through our assets:

- The new Clay Cross Active facility.
- Provide accessible facilities with an inclusive programme for residents.

And through our communications:

- Promote local attractions, accommodation and assets.
- Promote green social prescribing for mental health and wellbeing.
- Promote the local leisure offer and local events.

And through delivery:

- Develop a skate park in Killamarsh to encourage more users.

- Develop programmes and activities that target residents who are less able and least likely to engage.
- Maintain good outdoor spaces for residents and visitors to enjoy.

And through improvement:

- Prepare a district wide heritage strategy to ensure the historic environment contributes to quality places.
- Create a local list of heritage buildings.

And through our partners:

- Support community focussed cultural activity such as "Live and Local" and community touring schemes.
- Promote the expansion of Chesterfield Canal.

- Develop collaborative initiatives through the Healthy North East Derbyshire Partnership.

And through our policies:

- Deliver beautiful, enduring and successful places in line with national design guidance developments.



A community with growing commutable employment opportunities

- Support existing businesses (including the Council) to maintain and grow the workforce.
- Support new businesses to start creating employment.
- Attract new businesses to the area which bring new jobs.



We will work to achieve this through our assets:

- Offer flexible terms and incentives for council rentals to encourage and support growth.
- Provide business accommodation to meet local needs.
- Unlock potential development sites.

And through our communications:

- Signpost to appropriate business support through a variety of media channels.
- Produce information to promote the District.

- Engage with and listen to businesses to understand their requirements.

And through delivery:

- Access and utilise external funding to develop local initiatives to support growth across the District.
- Support business networks and events.

And through our people:

- Support the talent pipeline through volunteering, work placements and planned workforce development.

And through our policies:

- Protect employment through the local plan.
- Through the Local Plan identify quality employment land in accessible locations and a high-quality housing offer.



A community with a diverse range of commutable employment that match the skills of residents

- Work with partners to match and develop local skills with local business employment needs.



We will work to achieve this through our communications:

- Signpost to appropriate workforce upskilling support through a variety of media channels.

And through our partners:

- Influence local skills provision by identifying gaps through business engagement.
- Promote the Tourism Hospitality Charter.

- Through Conservation and Heritage, work with local craftspeople to promote local building traditions and materials.
- Work collaboratively to understand skills needs and implement succession planning.

And through our people:

- Support workforce development through the Council's Talent Pipeline plan.
- Encourage adoption of the talent pipeline within the local business community.

Continually improve council services to deliver excellence and value for money

- Financially responsible and efficient.
- Ensure good governance and transparency in all we do.
- Listen to customers to improve services.
- Modernise and innovate services to continually improve.
- Maintain a motivated and skilled workforce.



We will work to achieve this through our assets:

- Effective management of our commercial property portfolio.
- Ensure all council assets are well maintained, efficient and fit for purpose, utilising external funding where available.
- Ensure the data we hold on our assets is up to date and used effectively.

And through our communications:

- Ensure financial information is clear timely and meaningful to aid effective decision making at all levels.

- Advocate transparency by publishing information of interest to customers.
- Regular customer satisfaction surveys across all services.
- Embed scrutiny and consultation.

And through delivery:

- Maintain sustainable and well managed budgets.
- Demonstrate financial resilience through reporting and policy.
- Comply with internal and external audits and inspections.

- Customers dealt with at first point of contact.
- Continuous review of customer accessibility to our services.
- 24 hour access to council services through digital platforms.



Continually improve council services to deliver excellence and value for money



And through improvement:

- Continually review the impact of cyber security, disaster recovery and business continuity.
- Improve our use of customer data to provide actionable insight and feedback.
- Develop and deliver the Talent Pipeline.

And through our people:

- Develop and embed the Talent Pipeline.
- Provide relevant and effective training for all staff.
- Invest in the physical and mental wellbeing of our employees.
- Regular engagement opportunities for all staff.

And through our policies:

- Apply the Council's Constitution to provide strong governance.
- Maintain strong financial governance policies.
- Effective scrutiny to ensure the objectives within the Council plan are being delivered.
- Adherence with key policies such as Information and ICT security policies and Transparency Code.

And through our supply chain:

- Follow the Procurement Strategy to achieve value for money, sustainability and economies in scale.
- Require businesses delivering procured contracts to have good employment practices.



Assist and influence other public partners to improve their services in the District

- Actively participate, nurture relationships and maximise benefits for residents in partnerships such as health, economy and resilience.
- Directly assist residents and businesses to access all available public services and support.
- Collate and analyse district wide data to inform improvements.



We will work to achieve this through our assets:

- Co-location of services with partners.

And our communications:

- Marketing and promotion of Council and partner services.
- Public consultation events and customer surveys through a range of platforms.

And through delivery:

- Diverse range of activities and engagement such as smoking cessation, weight management, digital skills, and social isolation.

And through enforcement:

- Encourage and engage in a multi-agency approach to enforcement.

And through improvement:

- Use the data we collect to provide more effective actionable insight and feedback.

And through our partners:

- Build strong partnership relationships, influence policy and create wider stakeholder involvement.
- Support partner initiatives which share our values and objectives.



Increase biodiversity across the District

- Assist and influence other public partners, residents, and businesses to utilise their assets to improve biodiversity.
- Where appropriate utilise council assets to improve biodiversity.



We will work to achieve this through our assets:

- Review council land assets to identify suitable sites for biodiversity mitigation.

And through our communications:

- Lead by example.
- Share our successes with others.

And through delivery:

- Delivery of the Climate Change. Strategy Action Plan.
- Include plants attractive to pollinators in planting schemes.

And through improvement:

- Recruitment a dedicated Sustainability Officer to help deliver the Council's Climate Change Objectives.
- Review management of natural land assets such as re-wilding cut frequency and planting.

And through our partners:

- Develop the co-operation with Derbyshire Wildlife Trust to provide advice and guidance.

And through our policies:

- Develop local policies to embrace legislation such as through the Environment Act and on Biodiversity Net Gain.

- Encourage re-wilding and wildlife corridors for public open spaces and wildflower verges to improve biodiversity.

Reduce pollution across the District

- Assist and influence other public partners, residents and businesses to reduce pollution.
- Develop policies and plans which encourage alternatives to car usage.
- Directly and with partners and residents, reduce litter and pollution from waste.



We will work to achieve this through our communications:

- Share best practice.
- Promote recycling.
- Promote the composting of food waste and garden waste.

And through enforcement:

- Regulate industrial processes.
- Identification and action against fly tipping and littering.

- Monitor and take action where appropriate to reduce dust, air pollution, odour, noise, light, insects and smoke.

And through delivery:

- Access and utilise external funding to develop local initiatives.

And through our policies:

- Deliver sustainable development through the Local Plan.

And through our partners:

- Work with the highways authority to influence the local transport plan and expand greenways network.



Have your say

We would very much welcome your views on our priorities within the Council Plan. If you would like to comment on it or require more information, please contact the Council at the address below.

North East Derbyshire District Council, District Council Offices,
2013 Mill Lane, Wingerworth, Chesterfield, S42 6NG. Tel: 01246 231111
www.ne-derbyshire.gov.uk

Equalities Statement

North East Derbyshire District Council is committed to equalities as an employer and when delivering the services it provides to all sections of the community.

The Council believes that no person should be treated unfairly and is committed to eliminating all forms of discrimination, advancing equality and fostering good relations between all groups in society.

Access for All statement

You can request this document or information in another format such as large print or language or contact us by:

- Phone: [01246 231111](tel:01246231111)
- Email: connectne@ne-derbyshire.gov.uk
- Text: [07800 00 24 25](tel:07800002425)
- BSL Video [Call](#): a FREE, three way video call with us and a BSL interpreter.
- Call with [Relay UK](#) via textphone or app on [0800 500 888](tel:0800500888). FREE phone service for anyone who has difficulty hearing or speaking.
- Visiting our [offices](#) at Wingerworth: 2013 Mill Lane, [S42 6NG](#).

