



**North East
Derbyshire**
District Council

Council Plan
2019 - 2023

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Foreword

North East Derbyshire is brimming with history, culture and heritage that we need to protect and embrace.

It is our responsibility to work with partners, towards a shared aspiration for North East Derbyshire to be the best area and the best Council.

We value our heritage and all of the District's key features such as areas of natural beauty and historical interest. That's why we have put protecting our Green Belt, promoting our tourism assets, encouraging Neighbourhood Plans and reducing our carbon footprint at the heart of our Plan.

It's vitally important we do all this whilst listening to what our local residents want and responding to their needs.



*Cllr Martin Thacker MBE
Council Leader*

Our core business is to provide good quality services, fit for the 21st century. We will do this by transforming our services and reviewing our property portfolio, whilst maintaining a balanced budget and making sure you receive value for money through the Council Tax you pay.

None of what we are trying to achieve can be delivered in isolation. We recognise the combined expertise and knowledge that our partners, our communities and our employees bring when delivering improved outcomes across the District. This is integral to the planning and delivery of local services.

With the clear strategic direction set out in this plan, we will create a successful and sustainable district and will support people and communities to fully realise their ambitions.

**Cllr Martin Thacker MBE,
Council Leader**

About North East Derbyshire

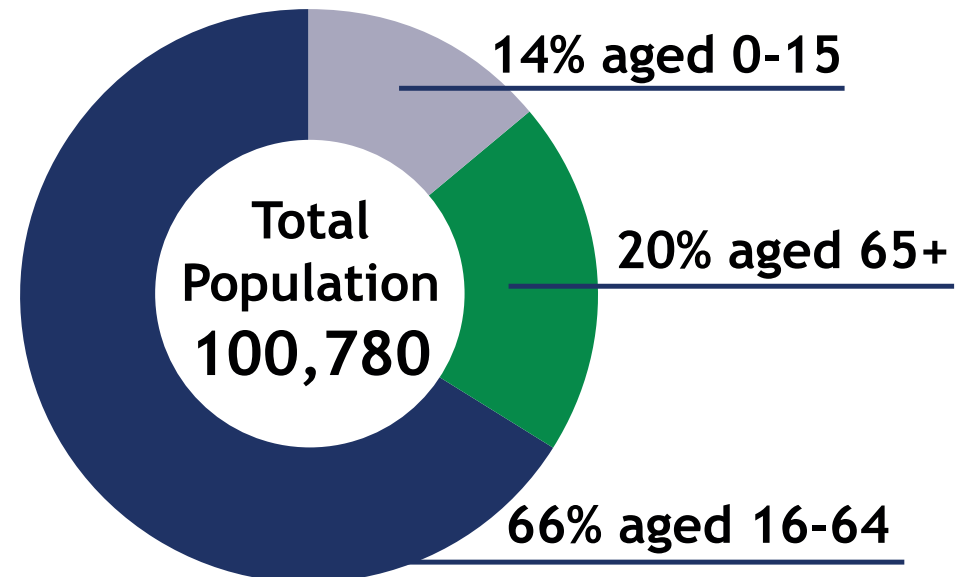
North East Derbyshire is a largely rural area, set within one of the most picturesque counties in England, and forms part of the border of the historic Peak District.

A district of contrasts, from thriving urban settlements to beautiful rural villages and countryside. It covers almost 258 sq 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 4,000 businesses with micro enterprises (under 10 employees) forming the majority. The District is also home to some large nationally recognised businesses.



About the Council

Empties **1,630** litter and dog waste bins each week (84,760 annually).



Recycles **18,890** tonnes of waste each year (2018/19) = 47%.

Cleanse **702** miles of streets each year on varying daily, weekly, monthly and quarterly frequencies.



Undertake collection of **3,349,897** household, black, burgundy, green wheeled bins each year.

Maintain **3,873,592m²** (387Ha) of green open space, parks, playing fields and housing areas each year.



Processes over **740** Housing Benefit and **1,650** Council Tax Support applications each year.



Revenues and Benefits answers over **58,500** telephone calls and deals with over **3,500** face-to-face customers each year.

Customer Services answers **59,000** calls and around **10,000** visitors each year.



Own **7,793** Council housing units.

Over **1,000** businesses effectively supported by the Council by giving advice and networking events.



Runs **3** Leisure Centres which together receive over **740,000** visits per year.

Our Vision

*North East
Derbyshire is:*

- *Clean and attractive*
- *A place where people are proud to live and work*
- *A place where people will prosper*
- *A place where people will feel safe, happy and healthy*

Our Values

- Honest, open and accountable
- Treat everyone fairly and with respect
- Listen, involve and respond
- Embrace change and innovation



Our Aims

- Enhancing our residents' quality of life
- Protecting and promoting the Character of our District
- Delivering high quality cost effective services by engaging with our residents, our partners and our staff
- Growing our local economy and being a business friendly District

Providing value for money for our residents, businesses and visitors

Managing our finances

We are committed to providing excellent well-managed services that are efficient and meet residents' needs.

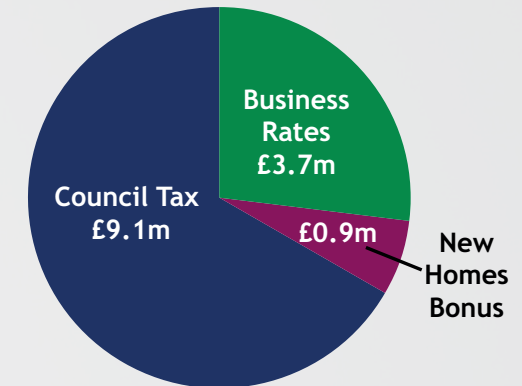
To do this we will spend every penny we receive wisely and fairly, while ensuring value for money.

We have already pledged to freeze our share of the Council Tax bill for 2020/21, while a line-by-line budget review will ensure our residents get the most for their money.

Our Audit Committee regularly monitors and scrutinises our budgets to ensure any spending decisions are made with value for money in mind.

We've inherited a Council with budget constraints, but despite this, we will ensure we manage the financial legacy

Where does the money come from?



we've been left with, to deliver the best possible services for residents.

A strong and effective culture of financial management across the Council will enable us to deliver a balanced budget, together with measures to reduce the underlining level of expenditure while maintaining standards of service.

We will continue to work to ensure this progress is maintained throughout the life of the Council Plan against the background of a challenging financial environment for local government.



Enhancing our residents' quality of life

Our Residents

Providing a range of leisure facilities for our communities

- Provide high quality services throughout the District
- Work with communities to tackle issues such as childhood obesity and lack of exercise

Engage better with our communities

- Undertake a review of the Council's website and use of social media
- Use technology to connect Communities with our staff

Improving our housing

- Improve housing stock condition
- Promote home ownership
- Review capital investment and rental income
- Actively seek to prevent homelessness

Protecting the most vulnerable within our communities

- Support care leavers, children in care and tackle childhood poverty
- Work with partners to improve well-being and mental health services across the District
- Review and re-launch the Armed Forces Covenant
- Develop an Older People's Strategy
- Adopt the British Sign Language Charter

Help communities address local issues and concerns

- Develop and promote a Community Action Grants Fund
- Enable local action by empowering and supporting local volunteers and organisations
- Work with Parish and Town Councils to maximise local control over local issues



Protecting and promoting the character of our District

Our Environment

Protect the character of our District

- Undertake a review of the Local Plan and the proposed sites within the Green Belt
- Work with our communities to encourage the delivery of Neighbourhood Plans
- Enhance planning enforcement activity to address environmental crime

Tackle climate change

- Develop and deliver a climate change and carbon reduction strategy
- Continuously review our operations and facilities to meet our carbon reduction pledge
- Work with residents and businesses to reduce their carbon footprint
- Embed a culture of 'green thinking' amongst staff, residents and businesses

Ensure a clean, green environment

- Enhance litter enforcement
- Implement litter picks and Love Where You Live initiatives
- Adopt a preventative approach to tackling environmental crime
- Tackle fly-tipping

Enhance the natural Environment

- Enhancing biodiversity
- Supporting new habitats and wildlife corridors
- Carefully managing our open spaces to promote our vital plants and pollinators
- Working with/inspiring our schools and community groups to protect and support our native wildlife

Delivering high quality cost effective services by engaging with residents, partners and Council staff

Our Services

Transforming how our Council works

- Work with staff to redesign services, encourage innovation, involvement and ownership
- Freeze our part of the Council Tax for 2020/21 and improve value for money
- Undertake a line-by-line budget review to ensure that the Council spends every penny wisely

Creating a safe District in which to live and work

- Tackle anti-social behaviour within our communities
- Develop a car parking enforcement strategy, reviewing parking outside schools as a priority
- Working with partners to lead a review of the District's Community Safety Partnership arrangements, including services to tackle domestic abuse

- Review enforcement and maximise the use of tools and powers

Being a listening Council

- Ensure consultations are fair, open and accessible and that the Council engages with residents
- Review the Council's petition scheme and provide other ways for residents to become involved in the work of the Council

Providing high quality street scene

- Ensuring timely and efficient collection of waste and recycling
- Promote recycling
- Ensure effective street cleansing

Providing an effective Planning Service

- Provide a user-friendly planning service
- Ensure effective planning enforcement



**Creating a
business friendly
District that
develops skills
and jobs**

Our Economy

Supporting businesses to maximise their potential

- Creating a business friendly district
- Ensure a supply of high quality business premises
- Support businesses with grant applications and advice

Skills

- Attract and retain skilled jobs within our friendly rural District
- Create university and higher education links
- Facilitate job fairs and develop apprenticeships

Develop and promote a visitor economy across the District

- Develop a tourism strategy
- Promote heritage sites
- Encourage day-trippers and over-night stays

Implementing a revised District Growth Strategy

- Focus on innovation and technology
- Maximise the benefits of current developments
- Develop a commercial investment strategy

Town centre regeneration

- Support the One Public Estate agenda and work with partners for maximum benefit
- Proactively seek out funding opportunities to improve our town centres and high streets

Managing Performance

We will carry out regular monitoring and reporting as we progress with our Council Plan.

We will ensure we are transparent with the key performance measures we put in place and the outcomes are also made available for all to see.

Each year we will undertake an annual review on our delivery of the plan and present a report to full Council for consideration by Elected Members. Information will also be published on our website and in the Council's newspaper the News for our residents and customers.



The plan will be monitored through the Council's performance management framework in a number of ways:

- Cabinet Members will retain an overview of performance through quarterly reports.
- A suite of performance indicators will also be reviewed by Scrutiny committees.
- Sample targets will be audited to ensure data quality.

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 (right).

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**North East
Derbyshire**
District Council

We speak your language

Polish

Mówimy Twoim językiem

French

Nous parlons votre langue

Spanish

Hablamos su idioma

Slovak

Rozprávame Vaším jazykom

Chinese

我们会说你的语言

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