



**North East  
Derbyshire**  
District Council

# Council Plan 2023 - 2027

**A summary of progress for a great place to live well  
for the period January to March 2026 (Q4)**



Progress against our objective:



# A great place to live well

This quarter, the following progress has been made on ***a community with lifelong good health***

Maximise opportunities for residents of all ages and abilities to participate in physical and social activity



- Leisure participation reached record levels this quarter with the highest quarterly attendance ever recorded across the district's four leisure centres (350,141 visits). Over one million visits were achieved across the year reflecting strong demand and responsiveness to customer feedback.

- In response to the conclusion of UKSPF in March 2026, the Healthy North East Derbyshire (HNED) partnership agreed new funding arrangements, including the launch of a £90k Financial Inclusion Grants Fund and confirmation of extended Social Connectedness funding through to November 2026, ensuring continuity of preventative health and wellbeing activity.

Directly or in partnership, reducing health inequality supporting Public Health, DCC and other partners to deliver targeted programmes in the district

- The Communities Scrutiny Committee considered proposals during this quarter to pilot additional support measures in partnership with the Integrated Care Board, aimed at helping relieve pressure on GP services.
- Officer's at DCC and the Council have agreed to a Derbyshire County Council led pilot for a digital and interactive library service within Killamarsh Active, expanding access to library services without additional staffing requirements and providing a model for potential roll out to other sites.
- Targeted community support continued through Healthy NED, Community Action Grants and voluntary sector infrastructure funding, supporting older residents, social inclusion initiatives and Armed Forces communities across the district.



This quarter, the following progress has been made on ***a community with lifelong good health***

**Assist residents in ensuring their homes are suitable and meet their health needs**

- Adaptations and access works continued to support residents with additional mobility and accessibility needs.
- The in house Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) Design Service completed its first full year of operation, improving control over delivery, reducing delays and receiving positive feedback from residents, with further efficiencies under development to enhance service responsiveness.
- New legal processes were developed and applied to address complex environmental health and hoarding cases where access to properties had previously been restricted.

• Energy efficiency and damp and mould interventions accelerated during this quarter, contributing to improvements in over 90 homes across the year and supporting progress towards Energy Performance Certificate targets across the Council's housing stock.

**Protect the public from ill health caused by environmental factors and business operations**

- Environmental Health maintained effective delivery throughout this quarter, managing infectious disease notifications, undertaking planned food safety inspections and responding to regulatory service requests to protect public health.





This quarter, the following progress has been made on *a place to live that people value*

**Develop and continually improve the quality and range of housing providing a nice home and area for all residents to meet all needs**

- Housing Strategy activity in this quarter focused on progressing supported housing provision and improving the quality and sustainability of homes. Work continued with P3 to finalise lease and service arrangements, alongside completion and handover of additional supported accommodation for residents with complex needs.
- Empty Homes activity increasingly focused on more complex, non engaged cases, with legal options now being considered where appropriate to bring properties back into use.
- Affordable home delivery through the planning process yields the largest results. This data is confirmed at the end of Q4. The final 4 homes at Oaks Farm, Calow were completed in March 2026, along with the 5 affordable Bungalows at Byron Court, Stonebroom.
- The community hall in Stonebroom is now complete and occupied, and five new bungalows at the Byron Grove garage site are completed and occupied. Demolition works on the main site commenced in March 2026. All sixty nine new bungalows across the main site are scheduled for completion by Autumn 2028, supported by secured Homes England funding.
- Planning activity during this quarter supported the progression of new supported living accommodation at Grassmoor, contributing to the delivery of housing options for residents with additional support needs.



**Directly and with partners, improve where people live to ensure they are safe, clean, functional, and attractive**

- **The UKSPF funded Shopfronts Scheme concluded during this quarter, with all 22 grants awarded and the full £210k allocation committed to improving the appearance and vibrancy of local shopping areas.**
- Targeted engineering improvements were delivered to address accessibility and safety concerns raised by residents.
- Work continued to strengthen supported accommodation pathways, including finalising lease agreements, service level arrangements and partnership working to support move on and tenancy sustainment.
- Partnership working between Legal and Revenues and Benefits progressed to support stronger enforcement action on long term vacant properties linked to council tax debt.



This quarter, the following progress has been made on ***a place where people enjoy spending time***

**Improve and promote places and attractions to spend leisure time**

- The Food and Drink Trail continued to grow during this quarter, reaching 46 participating businesses.

**• A bid for Clay Cross to become the UK Town of Culture was submitted following community engagement, with a decision expected in spring 2026.**

- During the quarter, Engineers worked with partner organisations in relation to Wingerworth Lido to support planned leisure and recreation improvements and enable future use of the site.
- Leisure performance remained strong throughout this quarter, with increased membership sales and attendance exceeding quarterly targets. A refreshed leisure marketing plan is being developed to support sustained growth during 2026/27.



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

- UKSPF funded promotional activity continued to enhance the district's visitor offer, including marketing campaigns, walking guides and digital content supporting place making and events activity.

**• New pilot activity was introduced at leisure facilities during the quarter, including targeted sessions aimed at engaging under represented groups and supporting more inclusive access to sport and physical activity.**



## A great place to live well

Metric	Target	Quarter 4 Value	RAG
Increase participation in leisure activities at leisure centres by 5000 visits per year.	194,750	350,141	Green
Achieve 1600 monthly attendance through community-based activity.	4800	5118	Green
Bring 6 long term empty properties back into use per year.	6	Q4- 1 To date - 3	Red
Number of active cases open (Supplementary KPI to empty properties)	For information	15	Grey New KPI 1st time reporting
Number of positive outcomes (Supplementary KPI to empty properties)	For information	4	Grey New KPI 1st time reporting
Number of targeted proactive littering/dog fouling patrols carried out	36	52	Green
Number of proactive community patrols or events focussing on litter, waste, and dog fouling	3	7	Green

Bring 6 long term empty properties back into use per year.

The Empty Homes Officer has successfully progressed a significant number of “quick win” cases, resulting in properties being correctly re-classified and becoming liable for Council Tax, generating additional income for the Council.

The remaining cases are increasingly complex. Many involve property owners who are not engaging or responding to correspondence, requiring consideration of formal enforcement or legal routes. This type of work is significantly more time-intensive, carries cost implications, and progress is inherently slower and less predictable.

Experience to date has improved understanding of the complexity, time and cost associated with pursuing non-engaged owners through legal routes. As a result, the annual target of six properties returning to use is recognised as ambitious both for the current year and future years.

To provide a more complete and realistic picture of activity and progress, two supporting key performance indicators have been introduced. These measure:

- the number of empty properties actively being worked on at any one time; and
- softer but positive outcomes, such as minor improvements, correct re-classification, garden clearances and other steps that reduce blight.

