



# Corporate Plan

2024 - 2027





## Welcome

Redcar & Cleveland, as a borough, has a bit of everything, at the one end being the welcome to North Yorkshire and the moors, at the other being at the economic centre of Tees Valley, with beautiful coastline sandwiched in between.

What makes the area what it is though, is the 136,500 people who live here and make it their home. It is the council's job, alongside partners to provide vital public services which make a difference to these people.

The council wants the best for the area and the people who live here. The best chance of ensuring that is by having a structured plan, with clear priorities. This document sets out the council's priorities for Redcar and Cleveland.



# The borough in numbers

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**Population** an increase at the **2021** Census from **135,200** in **2011** to **136,500** in **2021**. In this period there was a **21.1%** increase in the number of people over 65 years of age.



**Geography** – **93** square miles covering over **20** towns and villages. Largest borough in Tees Valley, northern entrance to North York Moors National Park.



**Economy** - An average wage for full-time workers of **£568** a week compared to **£642** nationally.



**Economy** - **8.1%** of **18-24** year olds are in receipt of out of work benefits compared to **6%** nationally.



**Economy** - **4%** of working age population are in receipt of out of work benefits compared to **3.7%** nationally.



**Skills** – At the **2021** Census **24.9%** of population were qualified at level 4 or above, nationally **33.8%**.



**Health** – in **2021** Census **44%** indicated that they were in very good health, **47.5%** nationally.



**Health** - Healthy life expectancy in borough for men **60.2** years, for women **60.3** years compared to **63.2** years and **63.5** years nationally.



**Deprivation** - **35.4%** of children living in a household below average wage in **2021/22** compared to **29%** nationally.



**Environment** - A Household recycling rate of **38%** in **2021/22** compared to a national rate of **41.9%**.



**Environment** - **8617** recorded incidents of fly-tipping in **2021/22**. A rate of **63** incidents per **1000** population compared to **19** nationally.



**Transport** – At the **2021** Census **24.8%** of households had no van or car, **23.3%** nationally.





# The council in numbers



**Political –**  
59 elected members  
across 24 wards



**History -**  
Unitary Local  
Authority established  
in 1996.



**Political –**  
23 Labour,  
11 Liberal Democrats,  
12 Conservative,  
8 Independent Group,  
5 Independent.



**Elections –**  
last local elections  
held in May 2023



**Political –**  
Strong Leader  
model, with Leader  
supported by Cabinet



**Workforce –**  
Approximately 2100,  
65% women,  
35% men.



**Finance –**  
Net revenue budget  
of £126 million for  
2023/24.



**Workforce –**  
ageing with 58%  
over the age of  
45 years.



**Finance –**  
capital programme  
through to 2027/28  
of £163 million



## Opportunity

Redcar & Cleveland is on the verge of an economic renaissance, with some of the most significant industrial regeneration activity in the country taking place within the borough. This is forecast to bring thousands of good and well-paid jobs. Whilst the full benefits of this are still some way off, when they do come to fruition it will be transformational for the area, bringing prosperity which will help to address some of the most significant challenges facing the area, which include higher than national unemployment levels, a lower than average weekly wage, as well as higher rates of child poverty.

## Challenge

In the here and now the council is working within a particularly challenging financial position, with the impact of inflation, combined with increasing demand and cost for delivering statutory services, especially children’s social care putting real pressure on the organisation’s resources. Mitigating the impact of this is absolutely fundamental to the future sustainability of the council. This means we need to strike a balance between having clear plan with priorities to fully seize the opportunities when they arise, whilst at the same time taking the necessary decisions now to safeguard vital public services for that longer term.



## Our priorities

If we look forward to where the council wants the borough to be in several years, it is somewhere where a child can achieve all that they dream, regardless of their background. It is somewhere where they can grow up and develop skills which lead to getting a good job on their doorstep. It somewhere where people can enjoy natural beauty as well as vibrant towns and villages. It is somewhere where people can grow old safely and independently. The council believes this can be achieved by delivering on the following, interdependent, priorities.

**Start life well**

**Live and age well**

**Prosper and flourish**

**Clean and tidy**



## Start life well

**Why is this so important to us?** The environment which we grow up in and the education which we receive sets the tone for our whole life, including our health and future career. The safety and future prospects of local children is and always will be a priority for the Council. To that end:

**We will strive to reduce child poverty in the borough.**

**We will support children to thrive and fulfil their potential.**



## Live and age well

**Why is this so important to us?** Our health and wellbeing are the most important thing. A strong local community where there is access to leisure, culture and healthy pastimes, alongside providing support when required, all play a significant role in influencing quality of life. This is a key part of the council's role, helping people throughout their life, to that end:

**We will work hard to improve health and wellbeing.**

**We will encourage community participation and volunteering.**

**We will empower people to live independently.**



## Prosper and flourish

**Why is this so important to us?** In simple terms, it is jobs and prosperity which will transform the prospects of local people. More money in peoples pockets, means more money for them to spend in the local area, it means business will prosper and people will come to live here. The council has a vital role as an enabler, to that end:

**We will support the creation of good and well-paid jobs.**

**We will help local people get the skills and training they need for quality jobs.**

**We will spend money with local businesses.**

**We will invest money to improve our towns and villages and lobby for better transport connectivity between them.**



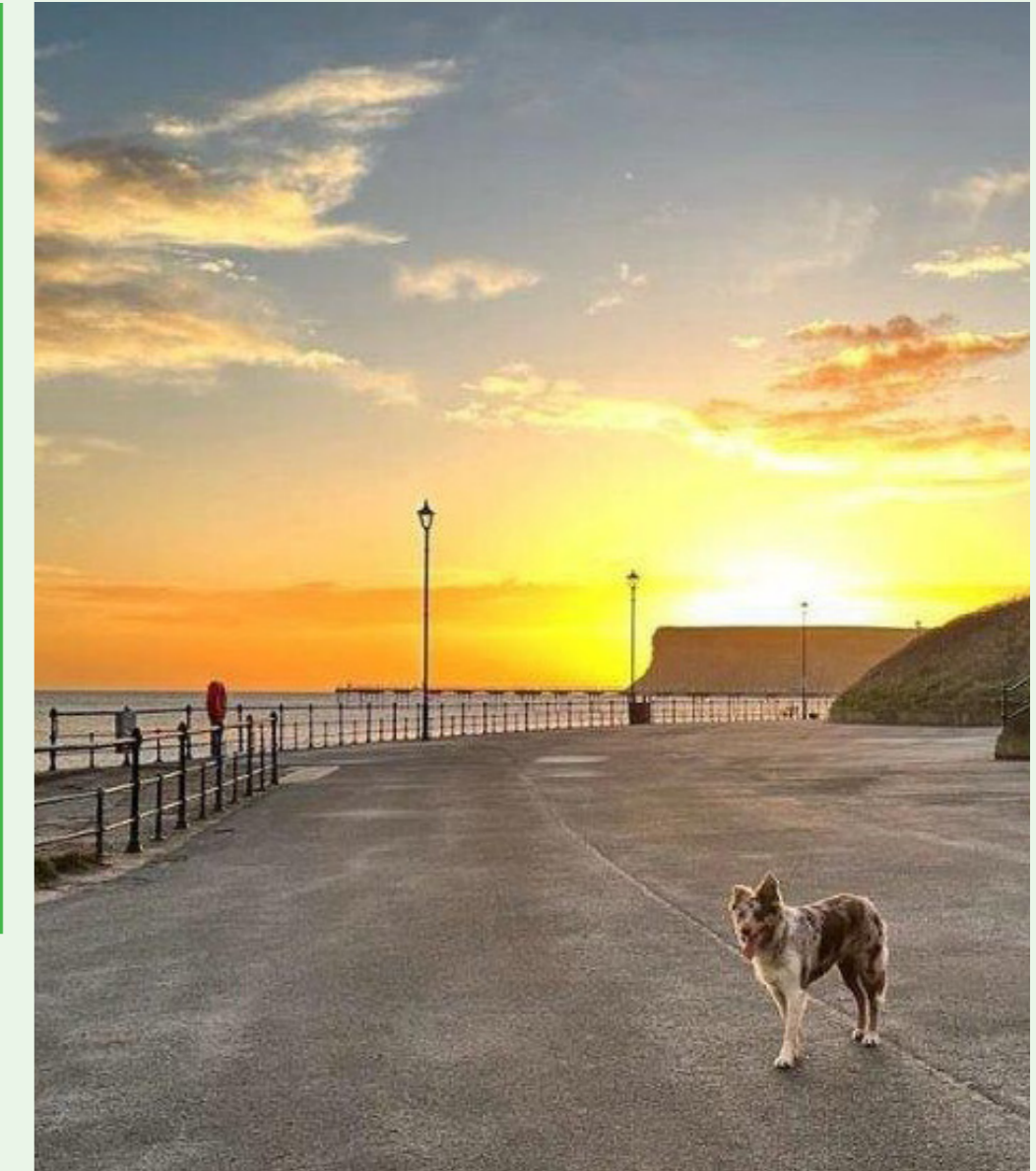
## Clean and tidy

**Why is this so important to us?** We know that for many people the number one priority for the council is to look after the local area, to keep it clean and tidy, now, as well as to look after the environment for future generations. The council, alongside local people, will do its best, to that end:

**We will work with the local community to improve recycling levels.**

**We will do our best to look after the environment.**

**We will reduce the council's carbon footprint.**



# A strong and sustainable council

We must ensure that the organisation is strong and sustainable. To provide the services which residents value and deliver the priorities set out within this plan, the council must provide value for money and ensure that it has a balanced budget each year, as well as having the necessary blend of skills and expertise within its workforce. The sister document to this document, our Organisational Plan, sets out how the organisation will deliver its priorities as well as ensuring the health of the organisation.

Within the Organisational Plan document we include a list of key strategies, each of which has their own action plan, which will support the delivery of the council's priorities. In addition to this are a number of council-wide improvement projects and activities to help to ensure that the organisation is strong and resilient. The document also includes a range of measures which will give assurance of organisational health.

## Taking action

This Council Plan and its sister document – our Organisational Plan – is further supported by directorate plans, each of which contains a range of actions which will support the delivery of the council's priorities, in addition to a range of performance measures relating to the relevant section of the organisation.





# Our culture

At the council we are one big team, with a wide team of staff and elected members who work in a variety of teams and disciplines, each serving the residents of the borough. Whilst staff may have very different jobs, ranging from the very frontline, working across communities to help people and look after the area, to office-based

staff working in a variety of professions, we all have shared purpose in delivering the council's priorities. It is for this reason that we have adopted the following pledge to communities, which we will all take into our work:

## Our pledge to communities

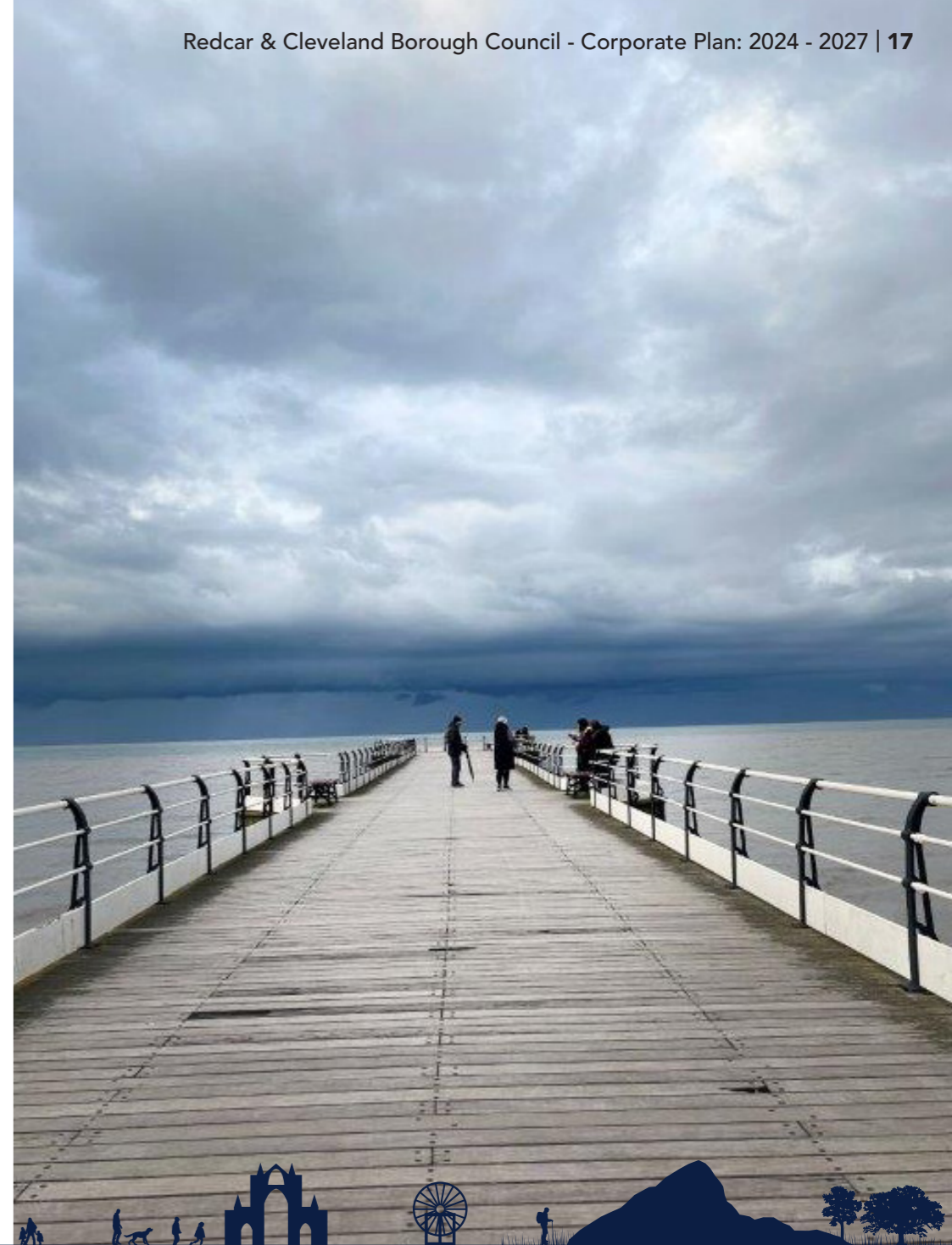
- To aim to provide clear, honest and helpful information.
- To do our best to provide excellent customer service.
- To be respectful and expect respect for all.
- To look at innovative ways to provide value for money.
- To reduce our carbon footprint.
- To bring people and organisations together to improve the area.
- To talk up the local area.



## Our ask of communities

- Let us know if you are worried about a vulnerable child or adult.
- Recycle as much as you can.
- Keep the area tidy by putting your litter in a bin or taking it home.
- Get involved in the community and have your say.
- Support our local businesses.
- Talk up the local area.

There is no getting away from the fact that by working together as one team, with elected members, council staff, residents, businesses and visitors pulling in the same direction the borough will be a better place. Alongside our pledge to communities, we ask that communities reciprocate by helping as follows:





## The state of the borough

The council's priorities are to be evidence based and make a difference to the lives of the people who live in the borough. To make sure policy is evidence based there needs to be good, accurate data. It is for this reason that we will monitor and report annually on several key indicators collectively called "the state of the borough" which assess Redcar and Cleveland against other areas in the country. The

council's comparative performance against these indicators will help to inform future strategy development.

It is however important to be clear, it is not the council's sole responsibility, nor within its gift to deliver against many of the indicators alone. This requires a collective effort from the council, public and private sector partners as well as residents. The list of indicators includes:



Unemployment rate



Average weekly wage



Educational attainment



Recycling Rate



Carbon emissions



Number of new homes



Healthy life expectancy



External inspection results  
- CQC, Ofsted



Crime statistics





**this is Redcar & Cleveland**