

# Market Position Statement Addendum 2026

## Purpose of the Addendum

As we reach the midpoint of our 2024–2029 Market Position Statement cycle, this addendum ensures our evidence base and market direction remain up to date and refreshes the Council’s Market Shaping priorities and opportunities within the local care market, incorporating new intelligence and setting out our commissioning intentions for the next 3 years. It provides clarity to providers and partners on how we will respond to changing needs, financial pressures and market expectations.

## Co-Production

This addendum has been shaped through engagement at strategic, operational and individual levels.

Between 2024 and 2026, the Council strengthened its commitment to co-production as a core principle of Adult Social Care delivery, commissioning and market shaping. This deliberate shift from consultation led engagement has led to a more structured, transparent and accountable approach to working with people who draw on services, carers, providers and practitioners as equal partners.

Our approach is underpinned by the Council’s Adult Social Care Co-production Framework, adopted in 2026, which establishes clear governance, shared principles, defined decision-making routes and consistent expectations across all co-production activity. Through the establishment of the Co-production Steering Group, Redcar & Cleveland Voices for Real Change, and supporting task-focused subgroups, the Council has embedded coproduction as a routine and visible part of setting commissioning priorities and how services are planned, reviewed and improved. This ensures lived experience meaningfully influences strategy, commissioning intentions, service design and quality assurance.

Providers contributed through the Autumn 2025 Market Shaping Community of Practice event, themed sector forums and ongoing commissioning and contract management discussions. Collaboration with social care practitioners has enabled pathway redesign work and development activity across community opportunities, loneliness, carers services, supported living procurement and transition planning. People with lived experience have

directly influenced commissioning intentions through co-production activity, unpaid carer engagement, Healthwatch insight, operational intelligence, quality assurance visits and formal procurement processes.

Across these conversations, several consistent themes have emerged:

- Person centred and strengths-based approaches remain a priority. People and providers emphasised the importance of flexible, individualised support, and care planning that reflects personal goals, strengths and interests. There is a clear expectation that services support independence, connection and wellbeing.
- Unpaid carer stress is a contributory factor in instability and breakdown, reinforcing the importance of preventative support. Earlier support for unpaid carers is a key priority which will be supported by consistent assessments, clear communication and timely, flexible replacement care options for the cared for adult.
- Proactive approaches to transitions, mental health provision and age-appropriate community opportunities are key to ensuring adults with complex needs and those experiencing multiple disadvantage, continue to have a range of supported housing options and access to purposeful daytime activity and community participation.
- Supported housing capacity is increasing, and demand continues for single occupancy or small cluster provision for people with complex needs, alongside modern, age friendly housing options that support independence for older adults. The development of housing and technology enabled care is a key priority to promote independence.

### People at the heart of commissioning

The Council recognises that co-production is a continuous journey and we are committed to building trust, sharing power appropriately and being transparent about how lived experience shapes decisions. This includes being clear where constraints exist, feeding back on what has changed because of engagement, and embedding learning into future commissioning and service development.

We are committed to amplifying the voices of people with lived experience through co-production by:

- ensuring coproduction is an integral part of commissioning, contract management and service review activity.
- having a workforce with confidence and skills in facilitating meaningful co-production.
- ensuring consistent feedback loops so people and providers can see the impact of their contribution.
- using coproduction intelligence to shape future housing, support models and market development priorities.

Through this approach, co-production will continue to act as a key driver in shaping a more responsive, inclusive and sustainable care and support system for Redcar and Cleveland.

## **Legislative, Policy and Strategic Updates**

Since 2024, several national policy developments have influenced the Council's commissioning intentions and approach to market shaping. The emerging NHS 10-Year Plan places increasing emphasis on prevention, early intervention, community-based support and reducing reliance on hospital-based care. This direction aligns closely with the Council's strategic focus on reablement, early support and a continued "home first" approach wherever possible.

Recent national budget announcements have prioritised hospital discharge, housing transformation and targeted workforce investment, while maintaining expectations around public sector efficiency. This reinforces the importance of value for money commissioning and proactive partnership working with health, housing and voluntary sector partners to maximise impact and system sustainability.

## **Social Care Reform and Housing Policy**

The National Social Care Reform Package (2025) introduces a range of changes relevant to commissioning and provision, including increased Disabled Facilities Grant funding, the introduction of national care technology standards, enhanced integration of digital care records and strengthened clinical competencies for care workers. In parallel, the National Plan to End Homelessness (2025) places renewed emphasis on supported housing pathways and improved responses for people experiencing multiple disadvantage, further highlighting the role of housing related support in prevention and recovery.

The Supported Housing (Regulatory Oversight) Act introduces strengthened requirements for licensing, quality assurance and regulation of supported housing providers, including increased scrutiny of exempt accommodation. The Act also places a statutory duty on local authorities to publish a Supported Housing Strategy by March 2027, shaping future commissioning, engagement and market development activity.

At a regional level, the North East and North Cumbria Market Position Statement sets shared priorities across local authorities and the Integrated Care Board. For older adults, there is a clear regional ambition to expand extra care type housing to reduce pressure on residential care and provide suitable alternatives for people with dementia or higher acuity needs.

Across all housing-based support, the regional Market Position Statement emphasises co-production, earlier transition planning, increased use of digital and assistive technology, stronger integration with community health services, and accommodation that supports independence, choice and positive outcomes. These principles underpin the Council's commissioning intentions across supported living, extra care, mental health accommodation and community-based provision.

## **Mental Health Legislative Reform**

Reform of the Mental Health Act, enacted through the Mental Health Act 2025, introduces significant changes aimed at strengthening people's rights and ensuring care is therapeutic, proportionate and least restrictive. Reforms include clearer statutory principles, higher thresholds for detention, enhanced protections for autistic people and people with learning disabilities, expanded access to advocacy and tribunals, and strengthened care and treatment planning requirements.

While compulsory powers remain, the reforms signal a clear shift toward human rights-based practice, increased accountability and a greater emphasis on community-based alternatives. Implementation will be phased from early 2026 and will have implications for service models, workforce skills and partnership working across health, social care and housing.

## **Current Market Overview & Intentions**

This section provides a view of the changing landscape in Redcar & Cleveland, drawing on local data analysis, provider and practitioner intelligence and sets out our commissioning intentions aim to balance rising demand, financial pressures and the need for modern, person-centred services. The following areas outline how we will shape the local market over the next few years.

### **Residential Care**

Since 2024, care home occupancy across all care domains has remained relatively static, fluctuating between 84-86% of all available beds being occupied across the market at any one time.

### **Other market factors**

There is an increasing number of adults within 18–64-year-old accommodation whose needs are evolving as they age, with frailty and age-related conditions becoming an additional layer of need. Much of the existing housing stock within these schemes was not designed to support ageing in place, with limitations around accessibility, space, and adaptability for mobility equipment and increased care input.

Local authority funded beds continue to contribute the majority of care home occupancy in the borough. Hospital discharge placements such as those on a D2A pathway also continue to be a core source of activity for residential care providers. The majority of current vacancies within the older persons residential care sector are aligned with newly acquired or refurbished care homes which have struggled with quality issues from legacy ownership, or older care home stock with limited scope to adapt units to meet the emerging needs of more complex dementia or nursing care.

There has been a positive increase in the number of nursing beds available in the borough following the acquisition and development of two existing care homes by nursing care providers, increasing nursing capacity by 21 beds. Nursing care placements remain a priority area of need due to the increased prevalence of older adults with complex and co-occurring health conditions. Some of this has been attributed to the success of preventative support delaying the onset of care needs and supporting more people to live independently in their own homes for longer.

## **Home Care**

The number of home care packages remains stable at around 1,000 with a consistently low waiting list since the introduction of the geographically sourced framework was introduced. Approximately one third of these packages support adults aged 18–64, with the remainder supporting those aged 65 and over and the average time for a package to be sourced is less than a day.

Home care providers continue to deliver care that supports people to remain in their own homes, in line with individual preference and outcomes-based practice. Home care remains a critical enabler of independence and prevention, allowing people to stay in familiar environments for as long as possible. In support of this, the local authority, following a pilot of overnight short calls, has now embedded this provision within the current home care contract. This development provides people with eligible overnight care needs a viable alternative to residential provision, further strengthening support people to remain at home safely.

The current 4-year contract is closed to new providers and due to end on 31 October 2028. Re-procurement activity is planned to start in October 2026.

## **Supported Housing**

Since the publication of the original Market Position Statement, Redcar & Cleveland has strengthened its supported housing offer through targeted development and strategic commissioning:

- Occupancy has increased in commissioned Supported Living Services by 7%; from 90% to 97%, supported by growth in available capacity by 4% to 177 units.
- A 6-bed scheme has been decommissioned due to the building no longer being fit for purpose.
- A new scheme in East Cleveland has opened, providing 9 additional units for adults with a learning disability.
- A pilot for adults with complex mental-health and forensic needs has commenced.
- Three additional dispersed housing units have been brought online, expanding flexible, community-based options.

These developments reflect ongoing progress in strengthening local supply and improving access to appropriate accommodation, supporting people to stay independent in their own homes rather than moving into residential care.

Overview of Demand: Demand for supported housing for adults with Care Act eligible needs continues to increase, with rising levels of complexity across the cohort. Key drivers include:

- Autistic adults
- Adults with significant mental-health needs
- People with a forensic history
- Increasing reliance on 2:1 and 3:1 staffing
- Greater demand for trauma-informed approaches
- More complex pathways from inpatient mental-health settings
- Limited availability of move-on housing, contributing to delays

This combination of factors is leading to greater use of bespoke, high-cost arrangements and reinforces the need to expand specialist supported housing capacity.

Forecasted Demand: regional modelling indicates that around 11 additional specialist supported-housing units will be required in Redcar & Cleveland by 2028/29, particularly to support adults with complex needs at risk of hospital admission or delayed discharge.

Commissioning and Contracting Arrangements: Supported living services and specialist care-at-home support are commissioned primarily through the following frameworks:

#### Redcar & Cleveland Supported Living Framework

- Closed to new providers
- Procurement is planned, with the new framework expected to be tendered in January 2027.

#### Tees Valley Complex Care and Support Framework

- Commenced April 2023 for a 4-year term
- The framework maybe re-opened at the discretion of the Commissioning Authorities to expand the marketplace, or where there is increased demand and unmet need.

Implications for Providers and Housing Partners: Future supported-housing development in Redcar & Cleveland should be:

- Small-scale and community-based
- Self-contained or small-cluster models, avoiding large group living settings
- Fully accessible, promoting independence, inclusion and long-term stability
- Well located, with good access to amenities, transport and local services

Providers wishing to develop supported-housing capacity should collaborate with support providers already appointed to the relevant frameworks, engage early with commissioners to assess strategic alignment, scheme viability and whether proposals fit within existing frameworks or are suitable for pilot arrangements.

Early engagement is essential to ensure schemes are deliverable, sustainable and aligned with local priorities.

Future Commissioning Intentions: Over the next 3 years, Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council will:

- Conduct a Supported Housing Needs Assessment and publish a Supported Housing Strategy
- Recommission the Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council Supported Living Framework
- Strengthen supported-living pathways and explore the improvement of move-on options
- Work with Tees Valley local authorities and the Integrated Care Board to increase specialist supported-living capacity, contributing to the establishment of 11 additional units by 2028/29

## **Extra Care Housing**

The regional Market Position Statement estimate suggested Redcar & Cleveland would require 95 additional extra care units by 2028/29, the development of Aldaniti Court in Guisborough, which opened in October 2025, has already met this requirement.

Key changes and developments within Extra Care Housing in Redcar & Cleveland during 2025/26 are outlined below.

**Profile of Residents:** The profile of residents living in Extra Care Housing has continued to evolve. The average age of residents has decreased to 75.5 years, reflecting a broader range of adults being supported through extra care as an alternative to more intensive services. The average tenancy length is now recorded at 4 years, demonstrating both stability and the role of extra care housing in enabling people to live independently for longer.

**Care Delivery:** During 2025/26, approximately 80,500 care hours were delivered across all five Extra Care schemes, reflecting sustained demand for care and support, alongside increasing complexity of need.

**Capacity and Occupancy:** The development of Aldaniti Court in the east of the borough increased overall provision to 288 units across Redcar & Cleveland. As at March 2026, occupancy across all schemes stood at 93%, continuing to demonstrate strong demand for this form of accommodation while supporting planned void management.

**Innovation and Partnership Working:** Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council continues to work in close partnership with housing providers across the borough. In 2025/26, this has

included the development of a pilot short-stay accommodation model within two Extra Care schemes. The pilot is intended to support and promote:

- Assessment, recovery and independence
- Support during periods of ill health, reduced stability or increased frailty
- Improved outcomes that enable individuals to return home safely

This approach supports prevention priorities and reinforces Extra Care Housing as a flexible, community-based alternative to prevent, reduce and delay the need for residential care.

## **Prevention**

The council provides the following in-house services to help adults regain or maintain their independence.

### **Housing adaptations and handyperson service**

Our in-house Housing Adaptations Team places a strong emphasis on same-day activity to support hospital discharge and help adults and unpaid carers remain safe and independent in their own homes. The service continues to receive positive feedback and compliments, reflecting the difference it makes to how people choose to live.

There is strong evidence that handyperson interventions improve wellbeing, support independent living and make services easier to access. Small repairs that reduce the risk of falls can also deliver savings by helping to avoid hospital admissions and reduce ongoing care needs.

In 2025/26, a total of 3,109 minor housing adaptations and 175 major housing adaptations (DFGs) were completed; 84% of these were for adults aged 65+. Additionally, 97 handyperson jobs were completed.

### **Intermediate care – community reablement**

Our Community Reablement Team provides short-term reablement and a rapid response service across the borough, helping people regain the skills they need to continue living at home following illness or a hospital stay. In 2025/26, the team supported more than 580 adults to rebuild skills, confidence and independence after a serious illness or hospital admission.

This integrated service is jointly funded by the council and the NHS through the Better Care Fund.

The service has seen an increase in the complexity of need and frailty of adults being discharged from hospital. Despite this, the team continues to achieve strong outcomes. Most adults leaving the service were able to return home independently, with some family support, or with home care at the same or a reduced level.

As at the end of 2025/26 the proportion of people aged 65 and over who were discharged from hospital into reablement who remained in the community in the 12 weeks following discharge was 87%.

### **Intermediate care – residential reablement**

The Meadowgate Intermediate Care Centre provides therapy-led residential reablement for up to 40 adults. This integrated service is jointly funded by the council and the NHS through the Better Care Fund. Through a multi-disciplinary team, it delivers active reablement for adults following a hospital stay, or for those recovering from a serious illness who need support to prevent admission, maximise recovery and regain independence so they can return home.

In 2025/26, Meadowgate supported 318 adults. The service provided high-quality care and reablement support and delivered excellent outcomes. As at the end of 2025/26, the proportion of people aged 65 and over who were discharged from hospital and received reablement support at Meadowgate and were still in the community after 12 weeks was 75%.

### **Activity and wellbeing services (in-house day opportunities)**

Our in-house day opportunities provide support for older adults and adults with a learning disability. Across three sites in Redcar, Saltburn and Guisborough, we offer a range of therapy-led support.

### **Telecare & Technology Enabled Care**

The local authority recognises the growing role that assistive technology, or Tech Enabled Care (TEC), can play in delivering more efficient and outcome-focused social care support.

Our aim is to broaden our scope and align our approaches to local and national guidance on assistive technology, in particular the Proactive & Preventative Blueprint, which was co-developed by the TEC industry regulator the TSA and the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS) in 2025 to assist local authorities in unlocking the potential of proactive & preventative care solutions.

Demand for assistive tech continues to be popular and has an increasing role in supporting hospital discharge, unpaid carers and in preventative care strategies. TEC development forms a key part of our Adult Social Care and Commissioning Strategies moving forward and aligns with our over-arching vision of enabling residents to live healthier, more independent lives, with the least restrictive care solutions.

Upcoming industry developments have also opened the door for more digital thinking within local authorities. Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council has worked with commissioned providers to ensure our existing telecare output is fully digitally optimised in preparation for the national digital telephony 'Switch' which is due for completion by April 2027. Digital optimisation of our telecare footprint gives greater scope for inter-operability with other digital care solutions across social care.

We commenced a 4-year contract with a new assistive tech provider, Medequip Connect, for the delivery of a Telecare Service in October 2025, and we are working with Medequip and other commissioned services to develop a digital roadmap for 2026 -2031. The local authority currently has some 1,700 active telecare users who are supported under the current Telecare contract.

We plan to invest in 'proof of concept' pilot schemes, where new TEC devices/approaches are adopted to improve the existing care and support of a select cohort of our residents. If successful, this will provide the authority with a sound evidence base to drive forward our assistive technology strategy and embed Tech-first approaches into everyday social care practice.

In addition to support in community, our tech development strategy must include opportunities to drive efficiencies and improved outcomes within our supported housing, extra care and residential care markets.

### **Voluntary, community and social enterprise sector (VCSE)**

The VCSE sector continues to play a vital role in supporting health, wellbeing and independence across Redcar & Cleveland. Organisations provide a wide range of prevention-focused support that reduces, delays or avoids the need for statutory services, including:

- Information, advice and early-help services
- Targeted support for groups such as unpaid carers, people living with dementia, adults on hospital-discharge pathways and those requiring low-level mental-health support
- Community-based befriending, advocacy, wellbeing and employment initiatives
- Peer-led and community-anchored support that builds resilience and social connections

Local organisations remain central to strengthening inclusion, independence and community resilience.

Progress: Over the past two years, progress has been made in strengthening the infrastructure that underpins the VCSE sector:

- A three-year VCSE Infrastructure Contract has been awarded to Enhance Redcar & Cleveland, providing dedicated support for sector development, sustainability and partnership working.
- A VCSE Forum has been established enabling collective problem-solving, improved coordination and a stronger voice for the sector in shaping commissioning.
- Our partnership with the VCSE focuses on building organisational capability, supporting market diversity and strengthening financial resilience across the sector.

Next Steps and Ongoing Priorities: Looking ahead, the Council remains committed to enabling a vibrant, sustainable and innovative VCSE sector. Key areas of focus include:

- Regular conversations with VCSE partners to share upcoming opportunities and areas for development to encourage co-created solutions, support sector growth and capacity-building
- Continuing to explore new community-based and small-scale models of support
- Strengthening engagement with seldom-heard groups, diverse communities and rural populations
- Enhancing public and practitioner information to improve awareness of available community services
- Supporting innovation that reduces social isolation, builds community connections, strengthens local support networks and enables better outcomes.

Working closely with Enhance and the VCSE Forum, the Council aims to ensure commissioning aligns with community strengths, supports innovation and promotes long-term sustainability.

Expected Outcomes: Through this strengthened infrastructure and collaborative approach, we expect to see:

- A stronger, more capable local VCSE sector, supported through tailored advice, training and development
- Improved collaboration and shared problem-solving, with VCSE organisations better represented in system discussions
- A more inclusive and culturally competent adult social care system, informed by lived experience and community insight
- Enhanced prevention and early-help pathways, with VCSE organisations delivering support that reduces demand on statutory services
- Greater alignment of community services, offering residents clearer pathways, fewer gaps and more consistent access to information and support

Together, these developments create an opportunity for a more integrated, community-anchored and partnership-driven approach strengthening outcomes for residents and supporting a resilient, diverse and flourishing VCSE sector.

## **Community Opportunities**

Engagement has highlighted a growing demand for diverse, flexible and community-based support for autistic and neurodivergent people, people with mental health needs and complex disabilities, and young people who are transitioning to adult services (18 – 25 years). This includes support with confidence building, development of life skills including budgeting, managing tenancies and developing routines. The Council is working in partnership with people with lived experience and providers to support the sector to diversify and meet this growing area of need so we can continue to respond to people's needs in a timely way at the same time as supporting a buoyant and sustainable care

market. This includes support that is available on evenings and weekends, including options linked to employment, skills and volunteering, and the Council has commissioned Skills for People to deliver a Supported Employment scheme

The predicted growth in dementia and social isolation in older people means there will be a projected 36% increase in over-65s by 2032. Data from POPPI indicates that within a 15-year period it is predicted that there will be a 41% increase in the number of over 65s with dementia. We will be working with providers to explore opportunities for more diverse solutions to support people with dementia in local communities.

Our vision is for a more personalised, community-focused model of meaningful activities, including greater evening and weekend provision. This includes more opportunities for autistic and neurodivergent adults and increased mental-health and dementia services. We will continue to support the VCSE sector to grow through our targeted partnership programme and strengthen links to skills, volunteering and employment.

## **Support for Unpaid Carers**

Unpaid carers are facing increasing demand, rising complexity, and growing pressure on their own health, wellbeing and financial security. This is driven by demographic change, an ageing population, and higher prevalence of disability and long-term conditions. Local modelling indicates that the carer population is expected to increase by 25–30% by 2040, with the most significant growth predicted in medium-intensity caring roles (20–49 hours per week).

Key priorities identified by local unpaid carers include more opportunities for short breaks, and flexible opportunities for replacement care that provides a more personalised and quality service to the adult with care and support needs. In response to unpaid carers expressed needs, the new model will include:

- More opportunities for breaks for unpaid carers and young carers
- Options for replacement care that reflect the voice of the cared for adult, which are fair, flexible, person-centred, and maintain the adult's safety and wellbeing in compliance with our statutory duties.
- Expansion of community based and volunteer-supported models

Progress: Over the past two years, significant work has taken place to strengthen the Health and Social Care system offer for unpaid carers and prepare for future commissioning:

- A South Tees Carers Needs Assessment has been developed, providing a shared evidence base on carer demographics, needs, pressures and inequalities across South Tees.
- Extensive engagement has been undertaken with unpaid carers across both boroughs, including surveys, workshops, one-to-one conversations and targeted engagement with underrepresented groups.

- The South Tees Carers Forum model is being reviewed with unpaid carers, to co-design a more sustainable, carer-led and inclusive arrangement for ongoing involvement.
- A new South Tees All-Age Carers Strategy (from April 2027) is being co-produced with unpaid carers and key partners and will be shaped directly by the findings from the needs assessment and lived experience engagement.

This work represents a significant strengthening of the strategic foundations for future commissioning.

Commissioning Intentions: Our commissioning intentions for unpaid carers focus on delivering a simplified, integrated all-age support model that strengthens prevention, improves early identification, and ensures timely access to personalised support.

To support this, the South Tees All-Age Carers Service will be re-procured, with the tender scheduled for September 2026 and a new contract commencing April 2027. This will mark a transition to a more coordinated, prevention-focused model that better reflects the needs identified through recent engagement and the South Tees Carers Needs Assessment.

## **Young people transitioning to adulthood**

In Redcar and Cleveland, Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP) grew by 11% between 2020/21 and 2024/25 and almost 50% of the plans in 2024/25 were for young people aged between 11 and 16 years and a proportion of these young people would be expected to transition with needs that would be met by adult social care.

It is nationally recognised that young people in transition, specifically age 18–25, experience a critical pressure point, particularly for those with complex neurodivergent needs, hidden disabilities, and co-occurring mental health needs.

There are an increasing number of young people with multiple, complex health and care needs in the borough who will reach adulthood in the next 5-10 years. These young people are likely to need tailored support including personal care, administration of medication and access to varied sensory spaces within one service. The Council is encouraging conversations with new and existing providers about opportunities for specific support for young people, including physical assistance spaces equipped with specialised hoisting and changing facilities.

## **Tender Opportunities and Developments**

We plan to carry out the following procurement activity during 2026 to 2029. The Council reserves the right to not tender for such services or change the tender start date if required.

| <b>Current Service</b>                         | <b>Anticipated Contract End Date (including optional extensions)</b> | <b>Anticipated Tender Date (where known)</b> |
|------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| South Tees All Age Carers Services             | 31.03.2027                                                           | September 2026                               |
| Community Opportunities Framework              | 30.06.2027                                                           | -                                            |
| Supported Living Framework                     | 14.08.2027                                                           | January 2027                                 |
| Community MH & Well Being Service              | 31.03.2028                                                           | -                                            |
| Independent complaints advocacy (NHS)          | 30.06.2028                                                           | -                                            |
| Home Care Support Framework                    | 31.10.2028                                                           | -                                            |
| Tees Valley Complex Care and Support Framework | 31.03.2029                                                           | -                                            |
| Residential and Nursing Care Accommodation     | 31.03.2029                                                           | -                                            |
| Befriending                                    | 31.03.2029                                                           | -                                            |

We are actively developing a suite of strategic documents that will shape service delivery over the coming years. We are committed to publishing the following:

- **April 2027 – South Tees All-Age Carers Strategy:**  
A co-produced strategy setting out a shared vision, priorities and delivery framework for supporting carers across Middlesbrough and Redcar & Cleveland.
- **April 2027 – Supported Housing Needs Assessment and Supported Housing Strategy:**  
A comprehensive assessment of current and future housing-based support needs, accompanied by a strategy outlining the commissioning approach and development priorities.
- **April 2027 – Adult Social Care Strategy:**  
A refreshed strategic plan providing a clear direction for adult social care across Redcar & Cleveland, aligning prevention, community support and system transformation.
- **April 2027 – South Tees Autism Strategy**  
A coproduced Autism Strategy setting out a South Tees approach to supporting Autistic and Neurodiverse adults.
- **January 2030 – Market Position Statement 2030–2036:**  
The next full Market Position Statement, setting out long-term commissioning priorities, market expectations and opportunities for the period 2030–2036.

These publications will ensure transparency, strengthen strategic alignment across the system, and support providers and partners to plan ahead with confidence.

## **Other Areas of Development**

The Council will continue to develop and promote a range of delivery models that support choice, flexibility and long-term sustainability within the local care market. This includes further investment in Shared Lives arrangements and further growth of Direct Payments, which can play a key role in promoting personalised outcomes, independence and value for money. Providers are encouraged to consider how these approaches can be incorporated into their service offers in response to changing demand, workforce pressures and national policy direction.

Alongside this, sensory support development is a priority area. The Council is reviewing current and future demand for support for people with sensory loss and sensory processing needs and exploring a range of delivery approaches to improve access, consistency and outcomes. This includes early intervention and preventative models, community based and non-statutory provision, greater use of digital and assistive technology, and stronger pathways between health, social care, specialist services and the voluntary and community sector. The focus of this work is to ensure support is proportionate, person centred and aligned to wider prevention and independence objectives.

The Council will also continue to strengthen replacement care as a key component of support for unpaid carers. This includes exploring a more flexible range of planned, short term and unplanned options, alongside opportunities to diversify support and improve responsiveness. Consideration will be given to delivery models, workforce capacity and how replacement care is commissioned and accessed, with the aim of improving choice, consistency and outcomes for adults and unpaid carers while supporting the sustainability of the local market.

## **Conclusion**

This addendum supplements our original 2024–2029 Market Position Statement by incorporating new evidence, updated regional priorities and recent national policy developments. It provides further detail on our commissioning intentions and outlines how we will respond to emerging needs, strengthen prevention, and work in partnership with people and providers to shape a more resilient and sustainable care market.

We would like to thank all providers for their contributions through the Autumn 2025 Market Shaping Community of Practice event and the constructive conversations that followed. Your insight and collaboration have been invaluable in shaping this addendum.

We hope this addendum supports us to continue working together in strong partnership with care providers, the VCSE sector, housing partners and wider system colleagues as we collectively develop a modern, responsive and co-produced care market.

## Contact Us

If you would like to contact us about market opportunities or have any queries about the planned procurement, Redcar and Cleveland Adult Social Care Commissioning can be contacted as below:

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