

Richmondshire District Council

COUNCIL

PLAN 2015-19

Revised - October 2018



Foreword

Welcome to our 2015-19 Council Plan - we trust you are able to identify our ambitions for the district over the next four years.

Central to our vision is the need to provide a strong focus towards enabling growth to support the sub-regional and regional economies.

In recent years the Council has faced unprecedented reductions in funding from Central Government and this seems set to continue through the life of this plan. We will continue to plan to make further reductions in our operating costs and generate additional income to ensure there is no loss of current services.

We will all work together to deliver the actions needed to achieve the Council's ambitions, even though it will be challenging.

The plan will be reviewed and updated every year to take into account changing circumstances and issues.



Cllr Yvonne Peacock
Council Leader



Tony Clark
Chief Executive

Our Vision

To provide value for money services to the Richmondshire communities and to the people who live in, work in and visit the district.



Our Values

- **Delivering high quality, affordable services** – we manage our services to deliver the best quality that is affordable to us and our council taxpayers and to establish a culture of openness and transparency in everything the Council does.
- **Providing excellent and effective services to our customers** – we work hard to deliver best value customer-focused services by understanding the customer's needs and expectations and going out of our way to meet them.
- **Looking after our staff** – we recognise the value of our workforce.
- **Mitigating risks by effective Corporate Governance** – we maintain an environment where risk management is an integral part of the planning and performance management process and ingrained in the general culture of the Council.
- **Putting equalities and diversity first** – this is at the centre of all service delivery and employment practise to ensure compliance with the General Equality Duty (GED) by January 31 each year.



Our Priorities

Enabling Growth



Helping Vulnerable People



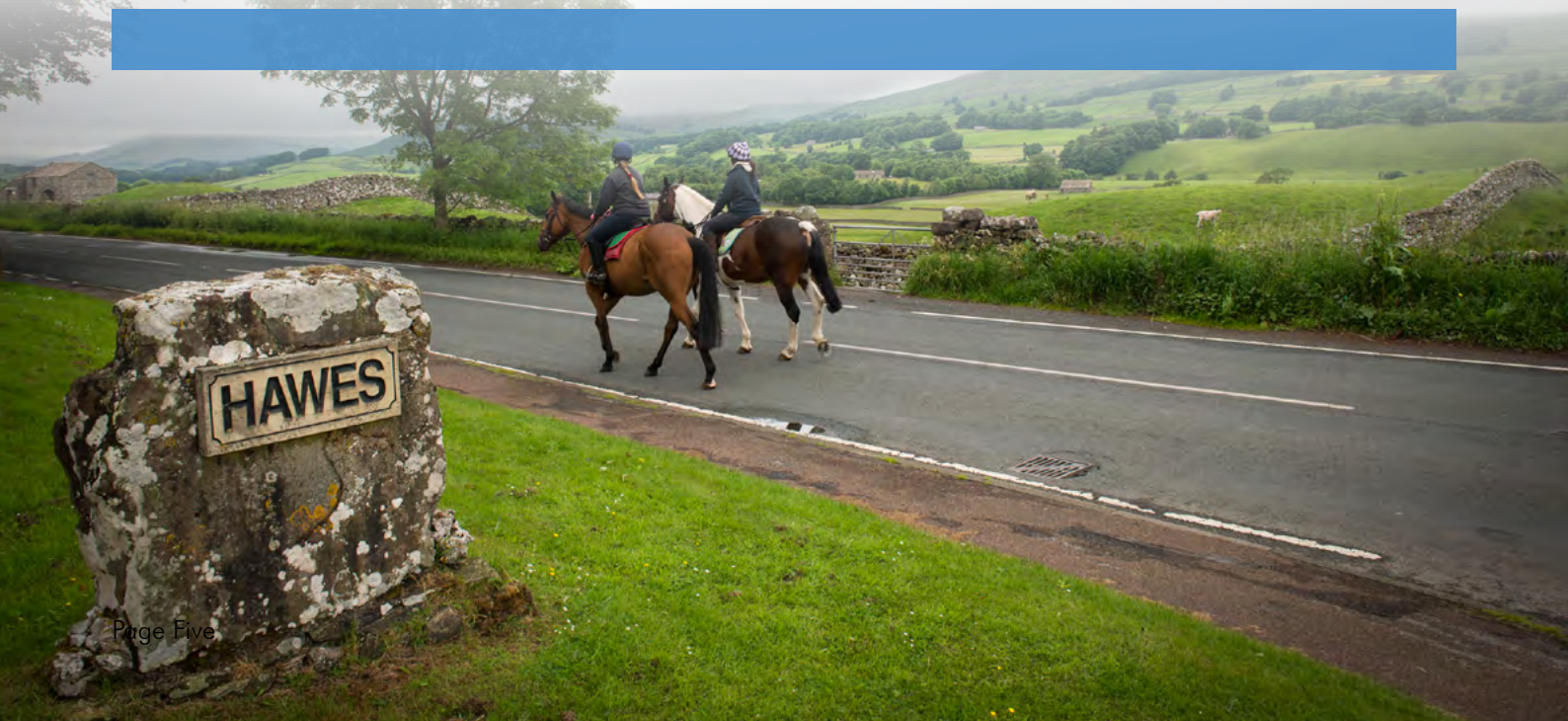
Providing a Healthy Environment



Working with our Communities



Providing a Fit for Purpose Council



Our Priorities

Enabling Growth

Growth brings increased housing choice and economic potential, but respects our local heritage and landscape.

We will plan for strategic growth by:

- Delivering our Economic Action Plan 2016-2020
- Strengthening and clarifying the growth enabling policies contained in the Local Plan Core Strategy through the Local Plan Review
- Working with the Ministry of Defence, North Yorkshire County Council and partners to develop, deliver a Catterick Garrison Master Plan as part of the Local Plan Review.

We will support local economic growth by:

- Stimulating the creation of new - and the growth of existing - businesses by continuing our small business grant scheme and exploring the introduction of financial loans for businesses wishing to invest in new or existing assets - 2018/19
- Assisting businesses to access new areas of funding - such as Leader and Local Enterprise Partnership money and proactively supporting access to Discretionary Rate Relief
- Assisting Superfast North Yorkshire in the delivery of superfast broadband throughout the district - including the 'hard to reach' locations
- Promoting the district as a business and tourism destination with 'Welcome to Yorkshire'



We will establish effective new ways of working with partners to stimulate local growth by:

- Taking part in discussions about devolved regional governance to ensure Richmondshire is fully and fairly represented
- Working with partners to host a start in the 2019 UCI World Cycling Championships.

Our Priorities

Helping Vulnerable People

Local people at risk must have access to essential services

We will tackle financial vulnerability by:

- Ensuring residents get the benefits they are entitled to
- Offering household budgeting advice
- Supporting access to key advice agencies - including the Citizens Advice Bureau - through annual funding
- Helping residents get back to work by providing a liaison point for Universal Credit

We will help to tackle fuel poverty by:

- Improving energy efficiency in Council local housing stock - 500 homes will get new windows and doors by April 2019
- Promoting the 'Winter Warm' scheme

We will tackle housing need by:

- Increasing the supply and affordability of housing across all types and tenures
- Maximising equitable access to affordable housing through North Yorkshire Home Choice
- Preventing homelessness - 80 homeless preventions annually
- Increasing access to good quality private sector housing - at least 30 households will be helped to find private rented housing annually
- Utilising Government disabled facilities grant funding to adapt properties to ensure they meet the need of private sector householders who have a disability
- Utilising Government funding to promote and deliver community led housing throughout the district by enabling local communities and giving them access to funding and good advice.



Our Priorities

Helping Vulnerable People

We will tackle social isolation by:

- Encouraging the use of technology - 150 new Lifeline customers by April 2019
- Using extra care and sheltered housing schemes as social hubs for older people

We will influence key policies affecting vulnerable people by:

- Engaging with partners in the preparation, implementation and review of the:
 - North Yorkshire Extra Care Policy
 - North Yorkshire, York and East Riding Housing Strategy
 - Better Care Fund

We will protect vulnerable adults and children by:

- Operating effective and sensitive safeguarding systems and adopting multi - agency policies and procedures
- Training staff to respond appropriately when they suspect – or witness - abuse



Our Priorities

Providing a Healthy Environment

Making sure Richmondshire is a safe and clean place to live and work

We will reduce waste and improve recycling by:

- Working with the York and North Yorkshire Waste Partnership to achieve the partnership recycling target of 50% - while maintaining our recycling rates as at April 2015 as a minimum
- Increasing the take up of our green waste collection service from 42% to 50% - 2019

We will tackle climate change and make Richmondshire more environmentally sustainable by:

- Exploring the feasibility of installing income generating energy efficient and renewable technologies at Council owned buildings - May 2019
- Installing 10 energy efficient street lights – April 2019

We will promote community safety, to retain our position as a safe place to live and work, by:

- Supporting local objectives to reduce domestic violence, drugs and alcohol misuse, and anti-social behaviour

We will reduce health inequalities and promote health and wellbeing by:

- Working with our local Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) to explore joint working and investment opportunities to reduce admissions into hospital and/ or reduce patient stays in hospital - 2018
- Improving the living conditions of eligible vulnerable people enabling them to stay at home for as long as practicable - by providing up to 30 Disabled Facilities Grants annually
- Supporting a joint NHS / MOD project to improve primary medical facilities on Catterick Garrison – 2018/2019
- Promoting sport, leisure and cultural activities in the district
- Delivering the key themes of the Public Health and Wellbeing Strategy

Our Priorities

Working with our Communities

Communities will be helped to meet their local needs

We will assist community groups to achieve their ambitions by:

- Providing advice and support to the Richmondshire Building Preservation Trust in its ambition to provide a voluntary sector hub in the Council owned former Richmond Lower School – 2018/2019
- Supporting the work of the North Yorkshire County Council's Stronger Communities programme

We will continue to support the work of key partner organisations involved in supporting local communities by:

- Financially supporting the Hambleton, Richmondshire and Selby Citizens' Advice Bureau – April 2019
- Providing financial support to the Yorkshire Local Councils' Association for its work with partners across the district - April 2019



Our Priorities

Providing a Fit for Purpose Council

The Council must be effective at providing Local Government functions in line with legislation, resources and best practice, and strive to improve further

We will determine future ways of working by:

- Evaluating the benefits and issues of a range of service delivery options - outsourcing, trading companies and strategic partnerships

We will operate within the resources available in the medium to long term by:

- Ensuring the Council has approved financial plans that are refreshed at least annually and keep Council Tax low
- Investing in new and existing income streams

We will support services by:

- Monitoring annual agreed plans by the Audit, Governance and Standards Committee to:
 - Ensure an effective approach to Health and Safety
 - Deliver a procurement strategy
 - Deliver an effective approach to Equalities and Diversity
 - Manage the Council's exposure to risk
 - Communicate effectively with staff and customers



Our Priorities

Providing a Fit for Purpose Council

We will ensure the governance of the Council, its Committees and services enables effective decision making and operation by:

- Providing effective corporate and information governance arrangements, through regular updates to the Audit, Governance and Standards Committee
- Implement the new District Council electoral boundaries with effect from May 2019

We will ensure the delivery of effective business processes by:

- Reviewing current processes, procedures and the use of ICT and implementing required changes to maximise cost effectiveness and deliver the savings identified in the Council's Savings Plan



What Richmondshire District Council does for you

The Council provides a wide range of services and facilities for its residents, businesses and visitors – costing just £4.07 per week for an average Band D council tax property in 2018/19

For Our Businesses

- Financial support for the growth of over 30 new and existing businesses
- Provide and manage 14 off-street car parks and 1 lorry park at Richmond, Leyburn, Hawes, Langthwaite, Muker and Catterick Garrison
- Provide 15 Public conveniences in Richmond, Grinton, Reeth, Muker, Gunnerside, Keld, Hawes, Leyburn, Bainbridge, Middleham and Catterick Garrison
- Work with partners to increase the contribution of tourism to the local economy
- Issue liquor, entertainment and hackney carriage (taxi) licenses
- Undertake food safety inspections of local restaurants and takeaways
- Work with partners to improve access to higher speed broadband
- Provide pest control services to local businesses - in excess of 275 contracts per year
- Provide almost 2000 businesses with rate relief

Richmondshire Community

Welcome to the Seventeenth edition of the Richmondshire Community Newsletter - updating you on the work currently being carried out by the Business and Community team as well as what is happening across partner organisations and communities in Richmondshire.

News

July 2017



What Richmondshire District Council does for you

For Our Communities

- Work with local communities via our five Area Partnerships.
- Financially support over 150 local voluntary and community groups to deliver initiatives
- Provide grants to local community and voluntary organisations
- Work in partnership to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour
- Process 950 planning proposals and around 875 local land charge applications each year
- Provide bereavement services at Reeth Road Cemetery, Richmond and Grinton Cemetery
- Clean streets and public places to maintain high standards of cleanliness
- Operate 1,500 street lights
- Deal with noise nuisance issues
- Monitor and improve air pollution, contaminated land and flood prevention
- Collect household waste and recycling from 23,000 households, including bulky collections and garden waste from 10,000 homes
- Undertake private water supply sampling
- Undertake public health burials when required



What Richmondshire District Council does for you

For Our Residents

- Collect council tax on behalf of North Yorkshire County Council, North Yorkshire Police Authority, North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service and Parishes to enable delivery of services
- Provide homelessness and housing advice
- Administer grants for 30 disabled adaptations to households each year
- Work in partnership to increase the supply of affordable and community led housing
- Improve private sector housing conditions by offering advice to homeowners, tenants and landlords, and through the licensing of homes in multiple occupation
- Provide a Housing Benefit claims service
- Provide and manage general needs housing and sheltered housing accommodation
- Financially support Richmondshire Leisure Trust to operate Richmond Swimming Pool
- Encourage the development of arts and sport across Richmondshire
- Support the delivery of local festivals and events



For Our Democracy

- Maintain the register of electors
- Undertake election administration for local Parish, District, County, Parliamentary, Police and Crime Commissioner elections and referendums
- Support Councillors and the Council Chairman
- Administer meetings of the Council's committees and Council
- Support the 54 Parish and Town Councils and 25 Parish Meetings



This information is available in alternative formats and languages



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