



Hartlepool
Borough Council

Housing, Growth and Communities Committee Agenda

17 June 2026

Time: 5.00 pm

Location: Council Chamber

Members: Housing, Growth and Communities Committee
Councillors Bailey-Fleet, Bruce, Cook, Darby (C), Dodds, Male and Roy (VC)

Parish Council Co-Opted Member:

Colin Grylls (Dalton Piercy Parish Council)

Liz Hurst (Wynyard Parish Council)

Sam Lee (Headland Parish Council)

Stephen Smith (Greatham Parish Council)

Hayley Tubb (Elwick Parish Council)

1. Apologies for absence

2. To receive any declarations by members

3. Minutes

3.1. To receive the minutes and decision record in respect of the meeting held on 11th March 2026 (previously published and circulated)

4. Budget and policy framework

No items

CIVIC CENTRE EVACUATION AND ASSEMBLY PROCEDURE

In the event of a fire alarm or a bomb alarm, please leave by the nearest emergency exit as directed by Council Officers. A Fire Alarm is a continuous ringing. A Bomb Alarm is a continuous tone. The Assembly Point for everyone is Victory Square by the Cenotaph. If the meeting has to be evacuated, please proceed to the Assembly Point so that you can be safely accounted for.

<https://www.hartlepool.gov.uk/democraticservices>



5. Key Decisions

5.1 Crisis Resilience Fund Plan - *Assistant Director – Housing and Communities*

6. Other items requiring decision

No items

7. Items for information

7.1. Pride in Place Programme – *Director of Housing, Growth and Communities*

7.2. Pride in Place Impact Fund Update – *Director of Housing, Growth and Communities*

8. Any other business which the chair considers urgent

For information

Date of next meeting – Wednesday 15 July at 5pm

CIVIC CENTRE EVACUATION AND ASSEMBLY PROCEDURE

In the event of a fire alarm or a bomb alarm, please leave by the nearest emergency exit as directed by Council Officers. A Fire Alarm is a continuous ringing. A Bomb Alarm is a continuous tone. The Assembly Point for everyone is Victory Square by the Cenotaph. If the meeting has to be evacuated, please proceed to the Assembly Point so that you can be safely accounted for.

<https://www.hartlepool.gov.uk/democraticservices>





Hartlepool
Borough Council

Housing, Growth and Communities Committee

17 June 2026

Report of: Assistant Director – Housing and Communities

Subject: Crisis Resilience Fund Delivery Plan

Decision Type: Key – Forward Plan Reference No. HG&C 116/26

1. Council Plan Priority

Hartlepool will be a place:
where people live healthier, safe and independent lives. (People)
that is welcoming with an inclusive and growing economy providing opportunities for all. (Potential)

2. Purpose of Report

2.1. For committee to approve proposed delivery plan for Crisis Resilience Fund (CRF) in preparation for submission to government 1st July 2026.

3. Background

3.1. The Crisis Resilience Fund (CRF) is a new national funding programme for local authorities in England, launching on 1 April 2026 and running to 31 March 2029. It was announced as part of the June 2025 Spending Review and formally confirmed in Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) guidance published in January 2026. The CRF provides £1 billion per year to councils on a multi-year, ringfenced basis.

3.2. The government have issued a three year award from 2026/27 to 2028/29.

- 3.3. The allocation to Hartlepool Borough Council is £2,357,132 in 2026/27, including £233,796 specifically ringfenced for housing payments. Future years are provisionally expected to be the same or a similar amount, except the housing payment allocation, which will drop to £180,929 for financial year 2028/29. Local Authorities can use their discretion in spending the funds, subject to the government issued guidance.
- 3.4. The CRF replaces the Household Support Fund (HSF) and incorporates elements of what was Discretionary Housing Payments, with the explicit intention of moving from short-term crisis mitigation towards prevention, financial resilience, and reduced reliance on emergency support such as food banks. This is an approach the Council and local stakeholders including the community and voluntary sector strongly support.
- 3.5. National guidance identifies three main outcomes that all local schemes are expected to address:
- i) Provision of crisis support. Rapid, dignified assistance for households facing a financial shock (for example sudden loss of income, unexpected essential costs, or housing pressures). Crises include (but are not limited to) disasters such as fires and floods, accident or health emergencies leading to unplanned or increased expenditure, those fleeing domestic abuse, breakage of an essential item, such as boiler or fridge, money stolen or lost when living expenses are required, short term gaps, such as starting or finishing work. The cause or preventability of the crisis is not considered a relevant factor. Examples of allowable expenditure include, but are not limited to, food, water (including supply), housing costs, period and personal hygiene products, energy, clothing, essential furniture, essential transport costs, digital and connectivity issues.
 - ii) Improving individual's financial resilience. Activity that helps people stabilise their finances and better withstand future shocks, including advice, income maximisation, and debt support.
 - iii) Bolstering the local level support landscape. Strengthening the wider local support landscape, including partnership working with voluntary and community organisations, to provide joined-up and preventative responses.
- 3.6. In providing this funding, the MHCLG expects councils to:
- Deliver a Crisis Payment scheme continuously
 - Adopt a “cash-first” approach, prioritising direct financial assistance over vouchers or in kind support wherever appropriate.
 - Develop a local support landscape which ensures that people accessing crisis support are linked to resilience services and that links between these services are more joined up.
 - Design schemes that balance immediate crisis response with preventative and resilience building activity.

- Work in partnership with the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) sector, and advice providers.
- Develop and submit a formal Delivery Plan to DWP (required by 1 July 2026). Collect and submit management information and outcomes data across crisis, housing, resilience, and community coordination activity.

3.7. Many factors contribute to, or impact, financial resilience. This includes income, savings and debt, housing insecurity, disabilities, caring responsibilities, financial and digital literacy and exclusion, community and social networks, access to affordable credit and insurance. Financial resilience is a complex and multi-faceted issue which requires a holistic and person centred approach. Building financial resilience enables individuals, families, and communities to be better insulated and resistant to future financial shocks and reduce the need for crisis support. The proposals that follow reflect the above guidance set out by Government, and our aspirations to increase both financial resilience and mitigate the downstream impacts of limited resilience.

4. Proposals

4.1. The detailed proposal for the CRF Plan is set out in **Appendix 1**, structured under the following areas as required by DWP.

- **Crisis Payments:** Providing support to those in crisis.
- **Building Resilience Investments:** Funding for services delivered by Authorities or external providers to improve financial resilience.
- **Community Coordination:** Investment in activities that connect and enhance the local support landscape.
- **Housing Costs**
- **Administrative Costs**

4.2. The Plan is based around the following principles;

- A response that is reflective of and responds to the varying needs and circumstances of individuals
- A response that uses data to target interventions, seeks to proactively identify where the root causes of vulnerability lie, and where resilience can be best developed (including through increased benefit take up¹) in order to mitigate the human impact and costs of crisis (to both the individual, families, communities, and the council)
- A response that treats our VCSE partners as integral to design and delivery, drawing on existing and effective relationships in delivery, and improves the resilience and expertise of the local support landscape at both individual organisational levels and the system level
- A response that draws on existing good practice locally and nationally, but that innovates practice and pilots new approaches

¹ Including for example pension credit, carers allowance, support to get those back into work who are living in supported housing, those who are benefit capped to get back into work through warm referral into employability services, free school meal take up

- A response that tests, evaluates, learns, and develops – supported by improving the skills and knowledge of internal and external colleagues to ensure they are better able to proactively work with residents on first contact and provide effective advice and signposting
- 4.3. As the Fund should provide the means to support residents in relation to preparedness for disaster and emergencies, this means some funding will be ringfenced in case of a major incident in-year. As funds cannot be carried forward therefore this ringfenced amount will be monitored towards the end of each financial year and allocated to existing projects to ensure funding is not lost .
- 4.4. We anticipate retaining local discretion and a scheme management level to monitor, evaluate and adjust funding levels to different parts of the local scheme within Year 1 and particularly between years. This will be important to continually assess and respond to changing need and learning from our interventions and delivery partners.

5. Other Considerations/Implications

<p>Risk Implications</p>	<p>Funding cannot be carried over between financial years therefore proactive monitoring of spend and allocations will prevent any monies being returned to government and maximise the positive impact for Hartlepool residents.</p> <p>Council Officers will ensure that the fund is fully utilised within the year by being flexible between the grant themes within the delivery plan, this is supported by government as an approach.</p> <p>Demand may exceed available funding, however the capacity that will be developed and the interface with wider services and opportunities hopes to mitigate against this risk. Ensuring residents have access to meaningful support and focus on long term resilience.</p> <p>CRF requires a change in some of the approach to services including a back office system. Work has already started, working with colleagues in procurement and other corporate functions to ensure timelines are met.</p>
<p>Financial Considerations</p>	<p>CRF is fully grant funded and there is no cost to the Council in relation to any of the proposals.</p> <p>Proactive benefit take up campaigns will be putting more money in the pockets of residents to be spent</p>

	<p>locally. Additionally, it will provide specific support for those going into work, thus increasing the likelihood of those sustaining employment and contributing to the local economy.</p> <p>Dependent on eligibility, increased benefit take-up could result in an increase in Local Council Tax Support claimants, with a corresponding reduction in council tax income for the council. Should this occur, the position will be reflected in the council tax base agreed by council annually.</p> <p>There will be further capacity for staffing to deliver the requirements of the grant. It is anticipated that roles will include three Welfare Support Officers, a part time Partnerships and Performance Officer and a part time Benefits Training Officer. This will be fully covered within the grant.</p>
Subsidy Control	<p>The grant will be managed within appropriate subsidy control requirements.</p>
Legal Considerations	<p>The grant will be delivered in line with the requirements of government.</p> <p>All monies provided to third parties for the delivery of the CRF Plan will be subject to appropriate process and contractual arrangements.</p>
Single Impact Assessment	<p>Consultation and engagement will be conducted throughout the lifetime of the plan. This will ensure lived experience is built into the design and monitoring of the plan, enabling inclusivity and managing any risk of negative impact on residents and communities.</p>
Staff Considerations	<p>The funding will support the growth in staffing capacity to ensure a greater focus on prevention and resilience and less in relation to transactional payments.</p> <p>All staff will be subject to Hartlepool’s Safer Recruitment arrangements.</p> <p>There are existing staff as part of the HSF and DHP programme and these staff will be retained as part of the delivery of CRF. Duties may change in accordance with the new grant requirements however this will be managed in line with policy and</p>

	processes, engagement of employees and trade union representatives as relevant.
Asset Management Considerations	None
Environment, Sustainability and Climate Change Considerations	Opportunities will be utilised to issue charity shop vouchers allowing the purchase of preloved furniture in conjunction with the charitable sector, thus reducing land fill.
Consultation	<p>To develop our proposals for the development of the CRF Plan, significant stakeholder engagement has taken place and will continue throughout the programme.</p> <p>This included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> VCSE Adult Social Care Children’s Services Revenue and Benefits Housing and Communities (Community Hubs) Lived experience residents/groups <p>Tell us once principles will be incorporated into the back office development that will support administer the scheme including digital, adult social care, customer service, revenue and benefit representatives.</p>

6. Recommendations

- 6.1. To approve the delivery plan as set out in **Appendix 1**. Acknowledging delegated discretion in year or between years to ensure we fully utilise the grant in year. Any significant variances will be communicated with the Committee Chair.

7. Reasons for Recommendations

- 7.1. This will allow the Council to submit their delivery plans within the deadline of the 1st July 2026 as set out by central government.
- 7.2. It will allow a more resilience, preventative led approach, particularly through data led proactive benefit take up which will significantly increase the income of residents in the borough.

- 7.3. It will encourage individuals to have savings and access to affordable credit, thus reducing the potential for income shock.
- 7.4. It will increase financial education and providing pragmatic support to those entering work so that they sustain employment by managing the income gap
- 7.5. It will allow greater financial dignity and choice for residents through cash-first approaches and greater resilience.
- 7.6. It will Improve strategic alignment across welfare support, care, housing advice, employments/skills, community hubs and third support sectors and between internal departments.
- 7.7. It will ensure the VCSE plays an active partnership role in conjunction with the Council. Together we can achieve more.
- 7.8. It will contribute to wider strategic priorities including Anti Poverty and Health and Well Being.

8. Background Papers

- 8.1. [Crisis and Resilience Fund](#)

9. Contact Officers

Gemma Ptak
 Director Housing, Growth and Communities
Gemma.ptak@hartlepool.gov.uk
 01429 523441

Suzanne Halliwell
 Assistant Director – Housing and Communities
Suzanne.halliwell@hartlepool.gov.uk
 01429 401831

Sign Off:-

Chief Executive	Date: 02/06/2026
Director of Finance, IT and Digital	Date: 02/06/2026
Director of Legal, Governance and HR	Date: 03/06/2026

Appendix 1 – Hartlepool Borough Council’s CRF Delivery Framework

Figures are indicative, can be subject to adjustment in year where spend is not achieved to ensure full utilisation of the grant by year end.

Although this information is presented in five categories, there is significant cross over, for example some crisis payments may also have a resilience function.

Summary of Funding Expenditure Year One

Note these headers are defined by the DWP.

Total Fund Year One	£2,537,132.19
Crisis Payments	£1,220,159.23
Building Resilience	£408,723.39
Community Co-ordination	£333,087.39
Housing Costs	£233,796
Administrative Costs	£161,366.18

1. Crisis Payments

- Expected Expenditure year one £1,220,159.23
- This is 52% of the total CRF Fund, which shows a positive move towards building financial resilience and community co-ordination
- This will be predominantly cash first spend in line with government guidance
- Spending will be dependent on demand and will be monitored throughout Year 1; this is a maximum spend

Outline Proposals

- Deliver Crisis Payments allowing a multi-channel approach.

- Residents can apply initially through the online form or call into any hub and get support to apply.
- As this is person centred and needs led, it will be flexible enough to allow a variety of payment methods, including cash, vouchers and direct delivery of goods where more appropriate (such as white goods).
- Residents can access support in the Community Hubs to apply. Welfare Support Officers will undertake the assessment and processing of the crisis payments, but they will also have a presence in the Community Hubs, providing follow up, face to face support to customers who have applied for crisis payments to deliver holistic financial resilience building support through a thorough check with residents around income maximisation, benefit checking, reducing expenditure, giving financial inclusion advice and through clear and face to face introductions into other services, such as Employability, skills access and third sector disability support groups.
- They can access support through our Third and Voluntary Sector partners to apply who will also deliver benefit checking, income maximisation and warm referrals to other services using the same online platform so support is seamless.
- Training will be provided to key frontline services such as Family Services, Housing Advice, Youth Support Team Hub, so that they can access both the online forms, but also be provided with the more holistic offer of the benefit check, income and expenditure tools and apply once. This allows a presentation for help to move from being a crisis to providing an opportunity to build resilience.
- This will include the delivery by the VCSE for the delivery of energy advice and issuing of energy vouchers.
- It will continue the good work of the third sector in tackling food poverty with an acknowledgement of the continued need for food banks, whilst also moving away from this approach by incentivising membership of low-cost food options through local pantries, thus reducing need for future crisis payments.
- It will continue to support residents trying to get back into work, by providing support at the point they start work to bridge the gap between starting work and the first pay, which can often be a barrier to residents taking up employment in the first place. Whilst this provides an initial crisis prevention approach, it also builds long term financial resilience through supporting to sustain employment for the longer term.
- Where residents are trying to stay on top of current year council tax payments, but struggling financially with a previous year's council tax, we will provide a one off support towards previous year's council tax. This will be for residents receiving any level of council tax support up to the 90%.

2. Resilience Building

- Expected expenditure in Year 1: £408,723.37
- Funding during 26/27 has been awarded based upon existing commissions to minimise disruption and maintain flexibility, but expressions of interest will be submitted going forward and this is highly likely to expand the number of VCSE delivery partners as the income available is more.
- This will bolster the third and voluntary sector offer and be community based, whilst also building capacity to deliver community hub-based services within the Council as part of the grant allocation.
- There is considerable crossover of the activities within building resilience and community co-ordination.

Outline Proposals

- Community hub-based model whereby welfare support officers will deliver a holistic offer of benefit check, income maximisation, income and expenditure and utilise apply once, plus warm referral routes to other internal and external services. Will deliver the benefit cap take up to encourage people to take up work utilising the data produced through the LIFT platform to identify residents currently subject to benefit cap who would be removed from it by taking up work.

Commissioned Third Sector delivery of support to residents

- The amount to be awarded to the Third and Voluntary Sector (under this header only is) £265,177 (though note the total awarded to the third sector is £589,283.05 and represents 25% of the total fund).
- As well as supporting customers to apply for crisis payments, the VCSE will utilise the online platform to deliver holistic benefit check, income maximisation, income and expenditure and utilise apply once, plus clear and face to face introductions to other partners.
- Food partnerships – as well as delivering food bank activities, there will be a move towards pantry style low-cost options, incentivised to encourage membership and a move away from food bank usage.

- Financial education, incentivised savings scheme to encourage increased membership of Credit Unions, plus awareness building of the affordable credit options available to allow income smoothing and reduce financial shock.
- FCA regulated debt advice services.
- Energy Advice and Energy vouchers to be issued. This will include those who have oil heating, who have not been protected by the energy price cap initiatives.
- Digital equipment – such as data, preloved tablets and mobiles utilising and referrals into our digital upskilling officers within the Council.
- Practical advice aimed at unpaid carers – including a modest fund to deal with income shock and crisis, again focussed on income maximisation, income and expenditure, benefit checks, apply once. This will particularly focus on the income cliff edge associated with carers allowance, where if carers earn even a £1 over the carers allowance threshold, they must repay the full award.
- This also covers the cost of the some of the proactive benefit take up campaign functionality – campaign manager – which will automate sending out letters and text to those who may be entitled and integrated benefit calculator tools

3. Community Co-ordination

- Expected expenditure in year 1: £333,087.39
- Funding during 26/27 has been awarded based upon existing commissions to minimise disruption and maintain flexibility, but expressions of interest will be submitted going forward and this is highly likely to expand the number of VCSE delivery partners as the income available is more.
- This will bolster the third and voluntary sector offer and be community based, whilst also building capacity to deliver community hub-based services within the Council as part of the grant allocation.

- There is considerable crossover of the activities within building resilience and community co-ordination.

Third Sector Community Bases

- The amount to be awarded to the Third and Voluntary Sector (under this header only is) **£265,177** (though note the total awarded to the third sector is £589283.05 and represents 25% of the total fund). Co-located advice by third sector.

Community Hubs

- Additional funding to support the co-location of advice and specialist advice in community hub locations to support a holistic and person-centred resilience offer.
- Scoping and delivery of welfare benefit training to internal and external colleagues and partners to increase ability of the sector to give initial advice and signposting, recognising that income maximisation and poverty prevention is everyone's business.
- Partnerships and Performance Officer will undertake the liaison between all the delivery partners to ensure effective and joined up partnership working, as well as co-ordinating all the performance returns and keeping a track of delivery against expected performance.
- Delivery of employability support to those in the supported accommodation sector and subject to benefit cap to support them to get into work and provision of financial support for 1st month lying on.

4. Housing Costs:

- Expected expenditure Year 1: £233,796
- Note this figure is set by Central Government

- Intend to move from a reactive approach, whereby it relies on the resident self-identifying or a referral agent doing so that they can apply, we will consider use of LIFT platform to proactively target private rented tenants who may be experiencing financial distress.

- Whilst this is part of the Crisis Resilience Fund, it should also be viewed as a key contributor to homeless prevention by sustaining residents in their tenancies.

5. Other Administrative Costs

- Expected expenditure Year 1: £161,366.18 (note this is a low 6.85% of the total CRF fund)

Outline Proposals

- LIFT platform – utilise data analytics to identify and target residents for various benefit take up campaigns
- Post Office Cash processing
- Third sector – allowable back-office costs (IT, office space etc).
- Housing Cost administration (which is specified as a set amount of £38,437.87)



Housing, Growth and Communities Committee

17th June 2026

Report of: Director of Housing, Growth & Communities

Subject: PRIDE IN PLACE PROGRAMME UPDATE

Decision Type: For Information

1. Council Plan Priority

Hartlepool will be a place:
where people live healthier, safe and independent lives. (People)
that is connected, sustainable, clean and green. (Place)
that is welcoming with an inclusive and growing economy providing opportunities for all. (Potential)

2. Purpose of Report

2.1. The purpose of this report is to provide the Housing, Growth & Communities Committee with an update on Hartlepool's Pride in Place Programme.

3. Background

3.1. The Long-Term Plan for Towns was launched by the Government in early 2024, identifying 75 towns, including Hartlepool, to receive up to £20 million over a 10 year period. Following the 2024 General Election, the programme was paused pending the Autumn Budget. This confirmed that the initiative would continue but would be reformed into a new community regeneration programme which was to be announced in early 2025.

3.2. In March 2025, the programme was relaunched as the Plan for Neighbourhoods. It continued to provide up to £20 million of funding over a 10 year period, with the approved boundary covering the whole borough of Hartlepool. In September 2025, the Government subsequently rebranded the initiative as the Pride in Place Programme, forming part of its wider Pride in Place Strategy. The prospectus identified three strategic objectives for the Pride in Place Programme:

- Thriving Places – To have vibrant neighbourhoods and communities with busy high streets, a good range of local amenities, and high-quality physical infrastructure.
- Stronger Communities – To empower Boards to tackle the root causes, rebuild relationships, and bring people together so they can feel proud of their area and safe in their neighbourhood.
- Taking Back Control – To empower people to enter the workplace, workers to progress, and businesses to grow. People want to be empowered and have a say over the future of their community.

3.3. In line with programme requirements, the Council established the Hartlepool Board to develop, oversee, and support delivery of the Pride in Place Programme. The Board brings together a diverse cross-sector membership, including community representatives, businesses, public services, education providers, and other key stakeholders, and is led by an Independent Chair. The Board operates as the borough's Local Strategic Partnership.

3.4. The Board includes representation from the Council to ensure alignment with local priorities and effective democratic accountability. This includes the Leader of the Council, the Chair of the Housing, Growth & Communities Committee, an Elected Member from the non-majority group, and the Council's Chief Executive.

3.5. In addition to Board representation, the Council provides ongoing officer support and oversight in its role as the Accountable Body. This ensures that all investment decisions are subject to appropriate due diligence and that funding is managed in line with grant conditions, statutory and legal obligations, and financial governance requirements. Officers also ensure that all investment proposals are evidence-led and aligned with the priorities set out in the 10 year Pride in Place Regeneration Plan.

3.6. Government guidance sets out that the Pride in Place Programme should operate as a partnership comprising:

- Hartlepool Board – Responsible for the strategic oversight and governance of the Pride in Place funding. This includes making investment decisions,

setting priorities, and ensuring that funded interventions align with Hartlepool's 10 year Pride in Place Regeneration Plan.

- Local Authority – Accountable body with overall responsibility for the administration of the funding. This includes ensuring compliance with all statutory, legal, financial, and governance requirements, as well as providing support to the Hartlepool Board.
- Local Community – They are the heart of the programme and should be actively engaged throughout its design and delivery. Community involvement ensures that investment decisions reflect the local needs and priorities of local people within Hartlepool.

3.7. Hartlepool is considered by Government as a Phase 1 area, with a further 209 neighbourhoods awarded funding as part of Phase 2. This brings the total number of Pride in Place areas to 284 across the UK.

4. Regeneration Plan

4.1. Government guidance required each area to develop a comprehensive 10 year Regeneration Plan setting out a long-term vision, strategic objectives, and priority themes. This was supported by a 4 year Investment Plan, which identifies the specific interventions to be delivered in the first phase of the programme.

4.2. In response, the Hartlepool Board has developed a 10 year Regeneration Plan (2026–2036), establishing a clear and ambitious vision for the borough alongside a framework for delivering sustainable, community-led regeneration. This is supported by an initial 4 year Investment Plan (2026–2030). The programme will be delivered across three investment periods, with further Investment Plans developed at the start of each phase to ensure ongoing alignment with local priorities and community need.

4.3. The Hartlepool Regeneration Plan is included as **Appendix 1**. It is underpinned by a robust evidence base and an extensive programme of community and stakeholder engagement undertaken during the Summer of 2025. This engagement was led by Hartlepool Opportunities Partnership (HOP), the borough's Voluntary & Community Sector Infrastructure Organisation, on behalf of the Board. The engagement included:

- Direct engagement with over 1,400 residents, including at least 100 people within each of the twelve wards within Hartlepool.
- More than 900 face-to-face conversations gathering rich qualitative and quantitative insight from neighbourhoods.

- Attendance at over 75 in-person community events, alongside online surveys, and stakeholder workshops.
- 4.4. This approach ensured that the Regeneration Plan was grounded in the lived experiences, priorities, and aspirations of local residents. The engagement approach has also been recognised nationally as best practice by Belong and included within guidance issued by the Local Government Association.
- 4.5. The findings from this engagement, combined with detailed baseline analysis and stakeholder input, informed the identification of priority investment themes for the first four years of the Pride in Place Programme. The Hartlepool Board subsequently adopted the following themes, reflecting those most strongly identified by residents:
- Safety and Security
 - Health and Wellbeing
 - Community Cohesion
 - High Street, Heritage, and Regeneration
- 4.6. In addition, the Board identified Housing and Education & Opportunity as two foundational themes, recognising their cross-cutting importance and alignment with the wider needs and priorities of communities across Hartlepool.
- 4.7. Community Power has also been adopted by the Hartlepool Board as a core way of working underpinning delivery of the Pride in Place Programme. This approach places communities at the centre of the programme, incorporating ongoing engagement, active participation in decision-making, and a direct role in the design and delivery of interventions. It also supports wider community wealth building and includes targeted capacity building for the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) sector in Hartlepool.
- 4.8. The 10 year Regeneration Plan and 4 year Investment Plan were approved by the Board and submitted to Government in November 2025 in accordance with programme requirements. In March 2026, the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) confirmed approval of the plans for Hartlepool's Pride in Place Programme.
- 4.9. In April 2026, the Council and the Independent Chair of the Hartlepool Board both signed the Memorandum of Understanding with MHCLG for the 10 year Pride in Place Programme.

5. Recent Progress and Next Steps

- 5.1. Building on the extensive engagement, a series of Innovation Days were held in March 2026 to translate community priorities into deliverable interventions.
- 5.2. The three Innovation Days brought together over 140 partners, stakeholders, community representatives, and residents to collaboratively develop ideas aligned with the priority investment themes. These workshops built on community insight and enabled participants to shape agreed interventions, explore opportunities, develop partnerships, and contribute directly to the delivery of the programme.
- 5.3. As part of the next phase of delivery, an Investment Prospectus is being developed through the Board. This will establish a clear and coherent framework for investment in Hartlepool. The Prospectus will:
 - Translate the Regeneration Plan into clear strategic investment objectives for Year 1 (2026/27)
 - Provide a single, compelling narrative for partners and funders to leverage further investment for Hartlepool
 - Align the funding with wider public, private, philanthropic, and social investment opportunities
 - Guide investment decisions and ensure a consistent, community-led approach to delivery of the Pride in Place Programme
- 5.4. The Investment Prospectus will underpin the launch of Open Calls for Proposals, which are planned for Autumn 2026. These calls will invite organisations and partnerships to submit proposals aligned to the agreed priorities and outcomes of the Pride in Place Programme.
- 5.5. The Open Calls will set out clear expectations in relation to delivery, including requirements for community involvement, alignment with the Regeneration Plan, and opportunities to maximise match funding and wider benefits for communities across Hartlepool.
- 5.6. This approach will enable the Pride in Place Programme to move into delivery in a structured, transparent, and community-led way, ensuring investment is targeted towards projects that deliver the greatest impact for Hartlepool.

6. Other Considerations/Implications

<p>Risk Implications</p>	<p>Appropriate risk management arrangements are in place, including the development and ongoing maintenance of a programme-level Risk Register and a Fraud Risk Assessment. These provide a structured framework to identify, assess, and mitigate risks associated with the management and delivery of the programme. Risks will be subject to regular monitoring and review through established governance arrangements, including oversight by the Hartlepool Board and the Council as the Accountable Body.</p> <p>In addition, Pride in Place has been incorporated into the Council’s Internal Audit Schedule for 2026/27 to provide further assurance on governance, financial management, and compliance.</p>
<p>Financial Considerations</p>	<p>Pride in Place provides up to £20 million of funding over a 10 year period, comprising 75% capital and 25% revenue. This funding is provided to the Council under Section 50 of the UK Internal Market Act 2020. Robust financial management arrangements are in place through the Council which will ensure all funding is administered and monitored in line with the requirements set by MHCLG, including the conditions of the Grant Determination Letters.</p> <p>In addition, capacity funding has been provided to the Council to support programme development. This includes £200,000 in 2024/25 and a further £200,000 in 2025/26, which has been used to build local capacity and support participatory engagement with communities. A final allocation of £150,000 will be provided in 2026/27, bringing the total capacity funding to £550,000.</p>
<p>Subsidy Control</p>	<p>Any funding allocated through the Pride in Place Programme will be assessed to ensure compliance with the UK Subsidy Control regime. Appropriate processes and guidance are in place to ensure that any support provided to organisations is lawful, proportionate, and aligns with the Council’s statutory responsibilities as the Accountable Body.</p>
<p>Asset Management Considerations</p>	<p>There will be asset management considerations once investment decisions are made, and these will be appropriately managed by the Council</p>

<p>Legal Considerations</p>	<p>The Pride in Place Programme will be delivered in compliance with all relevant statutory and regulatory requirements. As the Accountable Body, the Council will ensure that appropriate legal, governance, and procurement requirements are applied to all funding decisions and programme activities. The programme will also be delivered in accordance with the terms and conditions set out in the Grant Determination Letters issued by MHCLG.</p> <p>Oversight of the programme sits with the Council’s Director of Housing, Growth and Communities, who is not a member of the Hartlepool Board and therefore provides independent advice and assurance to the Board. This ensures that all decisions are appropriately recorded, comply with grant obligations and legal requirements, and are supported by robust governance and due diligence processes. This also supports the Council in fulfilling its responsibilities as the Accountable Body.</p>
<p>Staff Considerations</p>	<p>The Hartlepool Board has agreed to allocate dedicated management funding to the Council to support effective programme oversight. This will ensure that sufficient staffing capacity is in place across the lifetime of the Pride in Place Programme.</p>
<p>Environment, Sustainability & Climate Change Considerations</p>	<p>Investment through the Pride in Place Programme will contribute positively to environmental sustainability and climate objectives, including alignment with the Council’s Net Zero Strategy and Council Plan.</p>

7. Recommendations

- 7.1. It is recommended that the Housing, Growth & Communities Committee note the current progress of the Pride in Place Programme, including endorsing the 10 year Regeneration Plan and 4 year Investment Plan.
- 7.2. It is also recommended that members note the proposed next steps, including the development of an Investment Prospectus to establish a clear framework for Hartlepool. This will support the subsequent launch of Open Calls for Proposals in Autumn 2026, aligned with the agreed priorities of Hartlepool’s Pride in Place Regeneration Plan.

8. Reasons for Recommendations

- 8.1. The Pride in Place Programme provides additional investment of up to £20million over a ten-year period to improve local communities across Hartlepool.
- 8.2. The Council and Hartlepool Board will continue to explore opportunities to secure additional investment, which can be aligned to and will maximise the funding through Pride in Place. The Council will also ensure that funding complements other programmes and avoids duplication within Hartlepool.

9. Background Papers

- 9.1. Links to the Government guidance, published Hartlepool Pride in Place Regeneration Plan and previous Committee Reports are provided below:

- [Pride in Place Programme: Prospectus - GOV.UK](#)
- [Pride in Place Programme: Funding Profiles - GOV.UK](#)
- [Pride in Place Programme: Governance Guidance - GOV.UK](#)
- [Pride in Place Programme: Monitoring Guidance - GOV.UK](#)
- [Hartlepool Pride in Place Regeneration Plan \(2026-2036\)](#)
- [Economic Growth & Regeneration Committee – 01.10.2025](#)
- [Economic Growth & Regeneration Committee – 09.07.2024](#)

- 9.2 Further information can also be found on the dedicated webpage for the programme – [Hartlepool Pride in Place – Hartlepool Borough Council](#).

10. Contact Officers

Scott Campbell
 Service Manager
 Email: scott.campbell@hartlepool.gov.uk
 Tel: (01429) 284487

Gemma Ptak
 Director of Housing, Growth & Communities
 Email: gemma.ptak@hartlepool.gov.uk
 Tel: (01429) 523441

Sign Off: -

Chief Executive	Date: 03.06.2026
Director of Finance, IT and Digital	Date: 03.06.2026
Director of Legal, Governance and HR	Date: 03.06.2026

PRIDE IN PLACE

Hartlepool

Hartlepool Regeneration Plan

2026 - 2036



Hartlepool
Borough Council

Hartlepool
Board

 Layer.studio

Foreword

We are proud to introduce Hartlepool's ten-year Regeneration Plan which sets a bold, community-led vision developed by and for local people in Hartlepool.

The plan details how the funding will drive regeneration, directly aligned with the priorities identified by local people. "This marks a major milestone in our collective journey with the goal of bringing about long-lasting change that will improve the lives of local residents and communities within Hartlepool," said Malcolm Walker, Chair of the Board.

Hartlepool is rich in heritage and history, and is known for its resilience, passion and strong community spirit. However, like many places, it has also faced complex social and economic challenges. This plan represents an opportunity to overcome these challenges, leverage this investment to unlock growth and to shape a better future for everyone who lives and works in the borough.

This plan has been developed by the Hartlepool Board - a partnership of community representatives, businesses and strategic partners who all have a deep connection to the borough. The Board represents a far broader and more strategic partnership than the Pride in Place Programme alone, encompassing a wide range of initiatives across Hartlepool.

To help bring this shared vision to life, Hartlepool will receive up to £20million from the Government as part of the Pride in Place Programme, which will be available over the next decade, to 2036. This investment will strengthen our communities, expand opportunities for residents and build on the substantial regeneration already underway in Hartlepool.

The local community has played a vital role in shaping this plan and will continue to be at the heart of its delivery over the next decade. Councillor Pamela Hargreaves, Leader of the Council, said, "This is not just a plan for investment - it is a catalyst for long-term change. It represents our commitment to working together, listening and transformative action. Together, we can shape a brighter future and we invite all residents, businesses, and community partners to join us in turning this vision into reality for Hartlepool."



Malcolm Walker:

Chair of the Hartlepool Board



Councillor Pamela Hargreaves:

Leader of the Council

(Accountable Body)

01	Introduction			06	Alignment with Other Programmes and Investments	
	1.1 Overview	05			6.1 Alignment with Other Programmes and Investments	36
	1.2 Timeline	06			6.2 Local and Regional Alignment	40
					6.3 National Alignment	42
02	Local Context			07	Match Funding and Leveraged Investments	
	2.1 Identity and History	09			7.1 Overview	45
	2.2 Key Demographics	11		08	Community and Stakeholder Engagement	
	2.3 Current Regeneration	12			8.1 Hartlepool Board	47
03	Spatial Targeting				8.2 Community and Stakeholder Engagement	49
	3.1 Spatial Targeting	14			8.3 Continued Engagement and Consultation	51
04	Vision for the Future			09	Governance	
	4.1 The Vision	17			9.1 Governance	55
	4.2 Detailed Vision for the Next Decade	19		10	Assurance	
	4.3 What Does Success Look Like?	20			10.1 Assurance	58
05	Strategic Case for Change			11	Appendix	
	5.1 Methodology	22			11.1 Baseline: Regeneration, High Streets & Heritage	60
	5.2 Emerging Priorities	23			11.2 Baseline: Housing	66
	5.3 Key Issues, Evidence and Board Response	24			11.3 Baseline: Work, Productivity and Skills	73
	5.4 Community Priorities	29			11.4 Baseline: Cohesion	76
	5.5 Alignment with the Fund Objectives	30			11.5 Baseline: Health and Wellbeing	80
	5.6 Long-term Outcomes	31			11.6 Baseline: Transport	84
	5.7 Prioritising Interventions	32			11.7 Baseline: Safety and Security	89
	5.8 Conclusion	34			11.8 Baseline: Education and Opportunity	91

Introduction

PRIDE IN PLACE

01

1.1 Overview

This document sets out the 10-year vision for the regeneration of Hartlepool under the Pride in Place Programme. It represents a shared commitment between the local community, the Hartlepool Board and Hartlepool Borough Council to deliver long-term, transformative change.

The Regeneration Plan is designed to deliver systematic change by addressing deeply rooted challenges through a coordinated approach, recognising that the priorities and themes are interlinked and must be tackled together to achieve lasting impact across Hartlepool.

Developed to align with the requirements of the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), this plan is structured around the core framework of the Pride in Place

Programme. This framework provides a clear structure and is built on two key pillars:

- **Strategic Objectives:** These define our overarching strategic goals - what we aim to achieve through the Pride in Place Programme
- **Investment Themes:** These define how we will achieve the objectives through focused actions, projects, and investments

Every intervention we deliver will align with one or more of these investment themes and will directly contribute to the wider strategic objectives. This ensures that the plan is strategically aligned whilst being responsive to local needs, grounded in evidence and shaped by community priorities.



1.2 Timeline

In Spring 2024, Hartlepool was identified as one of 55 areas who would be awarded up to £20million over a 10-year period as part of the previous Long-Term Plan for Towns. In March 2025, this funding was subsequently confirmed and would become known as the Government's Pride in Place Programme. Following this announcement, a Hartlepool Board was established bringing together key stakeholders and community leaders in partnership with Hartlepool Borough Council.

The Board led the development of this 10-year Regeneration Plan and a complementary 4-year Investment Plan, informed by:

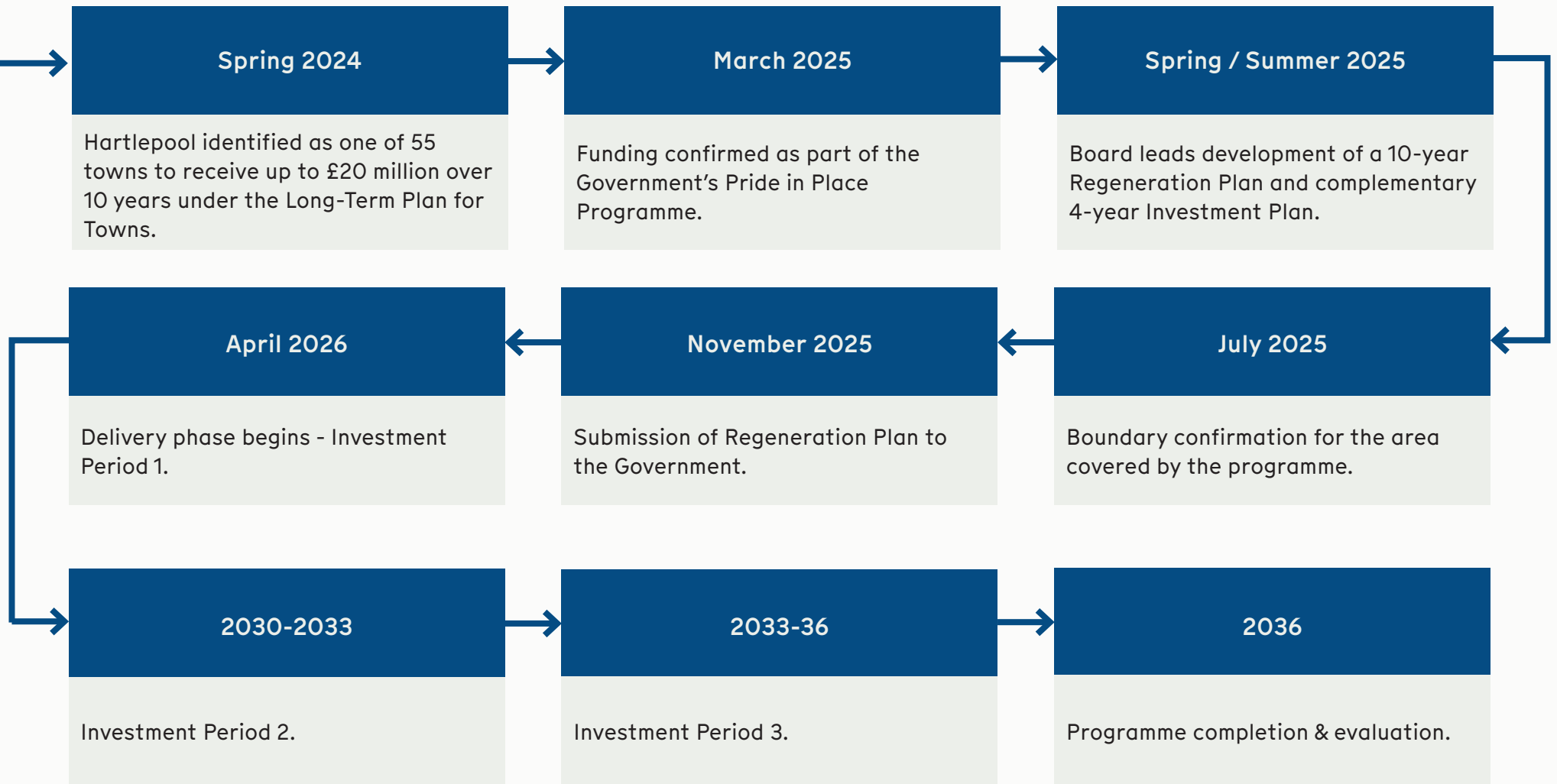
- Desktop baseline analysis to identify critical challenges and opportunities for targeted interventions across Hartlepool
- Community and strategic stakeholder engagement to understand priorities for change and opportunities for interventions
- Development of a strategic vision for the next 10 years, informed by the community and guided by the direction of the Board
- Workshops to prioritise the themes and interventions to deliver upon this vision for Hartlepool

Following the submission of this Regeneration Plan in November 2025, the delivery phase will commence from April 2026. This will be split into three investment periods:

- Investment Period 1 – 2026-27 to 2029-30 (4 years)
- Investment Period 2 – 2030-31 to 2032-33 (3 years)
- Investment Period 3 – 2033-34 to 2035-36 (3 years)

At the beginning of each investment period, the Hartlepool Board - working together with the local community - will develop a new Investment Plan. These plans will articulate the priorities identified by residents, demonstrate how proposed activities contribute to the overarching 10-year vision, outline the specific interventions to be pursued, and detail how the allocated funding will be managed and spent to benefit the borough. This iterative approach will ensure that the investment remains responsive to evolving local needs while maintaining strategic alignment with the long-term ambition for Hartlepool.

1.2 Timeline [Continued]



Local Context

PRIDE IN PLACE

02

2.1 Identity and History

Hartlepool is a coastal destination with a rich maritime heritage in the North East of England. It is situated approximately 10 miles north of Middlesbrough and 20 miles south of Sunderland. It is bordered by the North Sea to the east and is surrounded by a mix of urban and rural areas, including Seaton Carew and Headland. There are also nearby villages such as Hart, Elwick, Greatham, Wynyard and Dalton Piercy which all form part of the Borough of Hartlepool. The landscape features a blend of coastlines, marshes, and countryside, with nature reserves including Teesmouth.

Historically, Hartlepool was founded in the 7th century around the monastery on the Headland where St Hild was abbess, and the 13th century church still bears her name. The name derives from the old English “hart”, referring to stags, and “pool”, referring to drinking water. The area was a

safe haven, landing, and trading point for North Sea sailors for thousands of years. Across the bay, West Hartlepool, emerged in the Industrial Revolution on the back of the combination of shipbuilding excellence and the arrival of the Hartlepool and Stockton railway – and grew rapidly shipping Durham coal and making iron.

In 1967, the old Hartlepool and West Hartlepool were formally unified, giving rise to the current borough of Hartlepool.

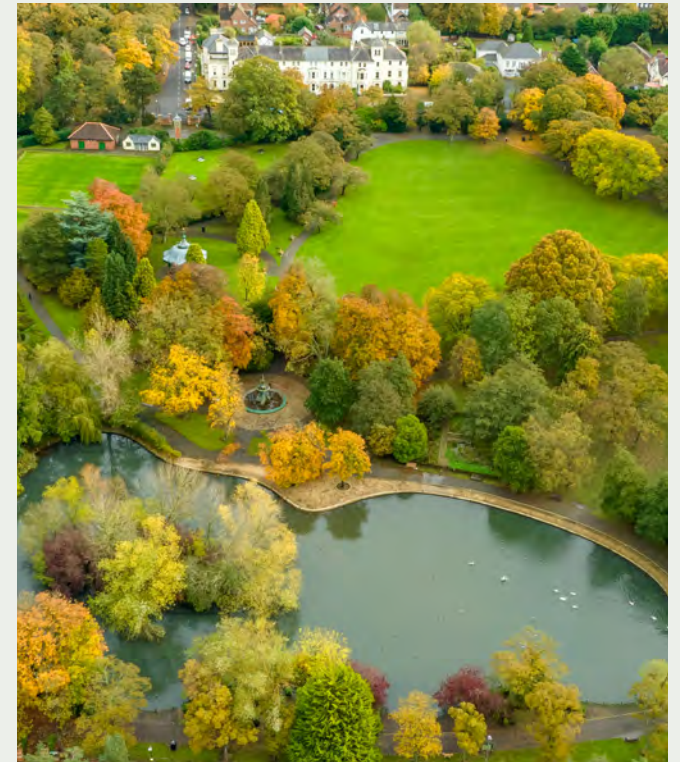
The Industrial Revolution transformed Hartlepool from a modest market community into one of the primary ports and marinas on the east coast of England. The area developed rapidly through the 19th century to become a major industrial centre for shipbuilding and steel production. The marina is also home to the National Museum of the Royal Navy with a recreated

18th century sea port and HMS Trincomalee – the second oldest water-bound warship still afloat in the world, launched in 1817. This heritage is still visible in the built environment, including the docks, marina, and historic buildings within Hartlepool.

Like many industrial area, Hartlepool experienced decline during the 20th century, marked notably by the closure of its last shipyard. Despite these challenges, the borough has demonstrated remarkable resilience, innovation, and adaptability. It continues to maintain a strong foundation in advanced manufacturing and engineering, while also embracing new and emerging sectors such as renewables, nuclear and the creative industries. In addition, hospitality and tourism remains vital to the local economy, and welcomes hundreds of students from across the country each year to the Northern School of Art.

The people of Hartlepool are proud of where they live – one with a rich productive maritime history. Hartlepool has a higher proportion of people who work in skilled trades, but it also has the capacity to keep evolving. Hartlepool also benefits from a vibrant and active voluntary and community sector. The borough has over 300 voluntary and community organisations which play a vital role in promoting social inclusion, improving health and wellbeing, and supporting children and young people. These community groups deliver essential services and engage residents through volunteering and grassroots initiatives. This collaborative culture ensures that regeneration is community-led as well as business-driven.

2.1 Identity and History [Continued]



2.2 Key Demographics

The economic profile for Hartlepool is summarised below:

Population and Demographics

Hartlepool has a population of approximately 98,100, including a working age population of 59,900 which accounts for 61% (ONS, 2024). There is also a small but growing ethnic minority population which makes accounts for 4% of residents or approximately 3,300 people in Hartlepool. (ONS, Census, 2021)

Employment Patterns

There has been a transition from traditional industrial jobs to a wider range of sectors, including healthcare, construction, renewables, and professional services. The local economy supports around 2,200 businesses, and 29,000 jobs (ONS, 2024). This accounts for 11% of all jobs within Tees Valley and 2.5% of all jobs within the North East (ONS, 2024).

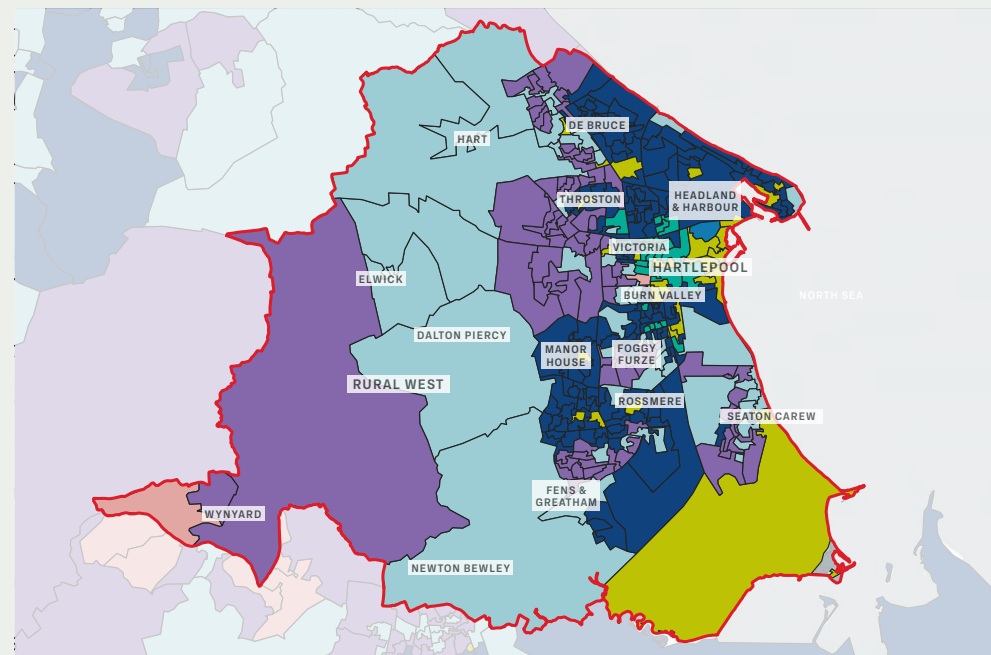
The key sectors include:

- 10,375 jobs in public sector, health, and education
- 5,875 jobs in retail and food & beverage
- 3,500 jobs in manufacturing
- 2,250 jobs in construction
- 2,125 jobs in business and professional services

In Hartlepool, around 87% of businesses are micro businesses which employ fewer than 10 people, 10% are small businesses of 10-50 employees, 2% are medium businesses of 50-250 employees and 0.5% are large businesses of over 250 people.

Economic Challenges

The 2025 Indices of Deprivation highlights that Hartlepool continues to face a range of socio-economic challenges. It is ranked as the third most deprived Local Authority with 42% of neighbourhoods in the most deprived 10% nationally.



— Proposed PIP Boundary

2023 OAC Pen Portraits

(dominant group/census area)

- Retired Professionals (RP)
- Suburbanites & Peri-Urbanites (SPU)
- Multicultural & Educated (ME)
- Low-Skilled Migrant & Student Communities (LSMSC)
- Ethnically Diverse Suburban Professionals (EDSP)
- Baseline UK (BU)
- Semi- & Un-skilled Workforce (SUSW)
- Legacy Communities (LC)

2.3 Current Regeneration

Hartlepool has recently received significant investment which is starting to transform the borough. The use of funding streams such as the Town Deal together with resources from Hartlepool Borough Council and Tees Valley Combined Authority, have enabled £150million of investment across a range of high-profile developments and historic building renovations. This includes the £3.9million restoration of the Wesley Chapel to become a boutique hotel, the development of the £33.5million Screen Industries Production Village and the new £34million Highlight Active Wellbeing Hub. Alongside this, strategic investments in transport infrastructure - such as improvements to Hartlepool Rail Station and new walking and cycling routes - have enhanced connectivity and accessibility across the borough.

Together, these wider regeneration schemes are revitalising Hartlepool by repurposing historic assets into vibrant spaces, commercial facilities, improving connectivity, enhancing the public realm, and reinforcing the long-term strategic vision for the borough. Hartlepool manages to maintain its character as a proud coastal borough, while evolving into a growing centre for creative industries, advanced manufacturing, and a strong visitor economy.

Despite this there remains more to do, Hartlepool continues to face deep-rooted challenges such as over a third of its neighbourhoods in the most deprived 10% in England. The Pride in Place Programme provides a unique and exciting opportunity to build on the momentum within the area, leveraging its economic resilience and the strength of its

active voluntary and community sector to foster inclusive growth and social cohesion. Hartlepool is emerging as a powerful example of coastal regeneration, with the potential for further transformation through continued investment and collaboration through the Pride in Place Programme.



£33.5m Screen Industries Production Village



£34m Highlight Active Wellbeing Hub

Spatial Targeting

PRIDE IN PLACE

03

3.1 Spatial Targeting

The Pride in Place Programme aims to revitalise places and bring long-lasting, transformative change that will improve the lives of local residents and communities. This holistic approach recognises that regeneration is not just about infrastructure it is about empowering people to take pride, participate in local life, and thrive in the spaces around them in Hartlepool.

The spatial targeting reflects the ambition to ensure that every resident can benefit from the investment through the Pride in Place Programme. The projects will improve local neighbourhoods including shared spaces that bring people together to create welcoming places where residents can connect and take pride in their community across Hartlepool.

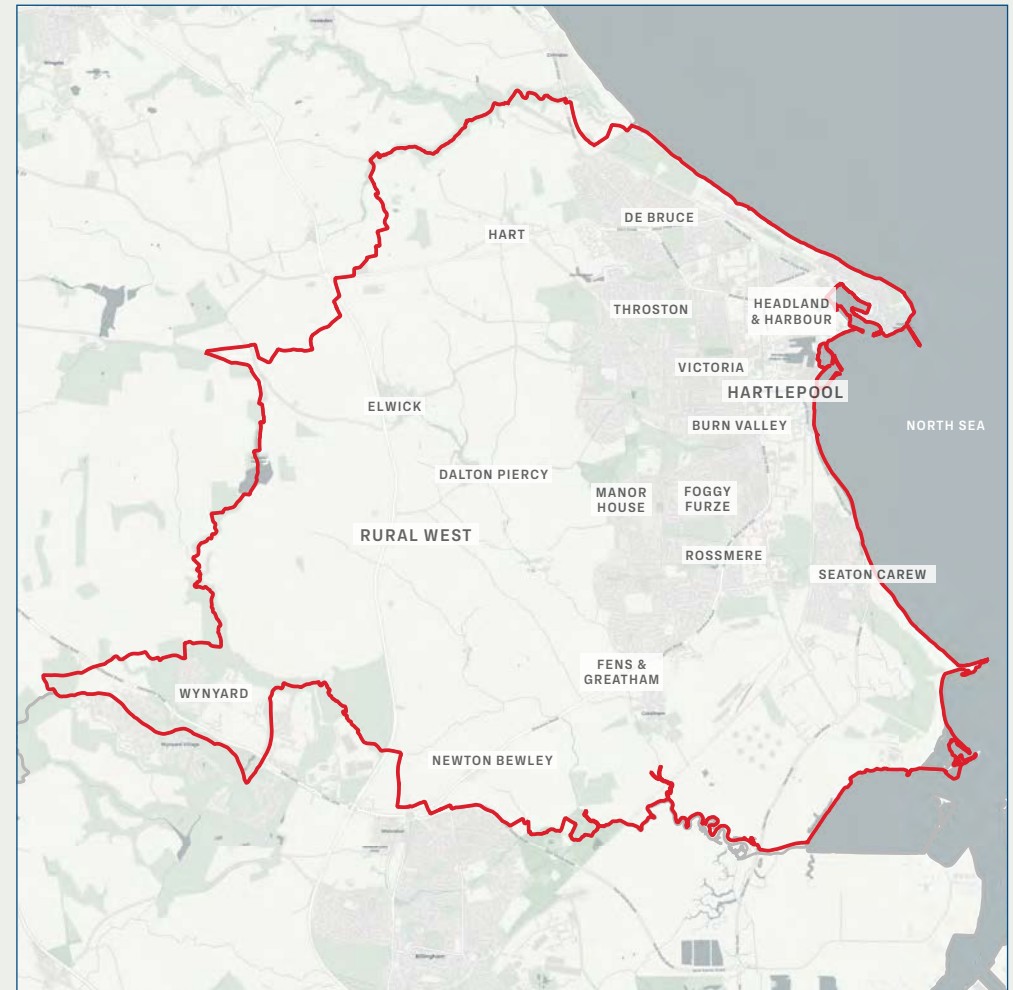
Boundary

Our boundary for the Pride in Place Programme was extended to incorporate the whole borough of Hartlepool. This was vital to ensure equity through the investment with all communities included which will provide a legacy for the programme. This in turn will build trust and drive growth in the areas identified by the community and supported by Hartlepool Board.

The extended boundary will allow this funding to be maximised with the Hartlepool Board seeking opportunities to leverage other investment, to add value and complement the priorities through the Pride in Place Programme.

Key

— Proposed PIP Boundary



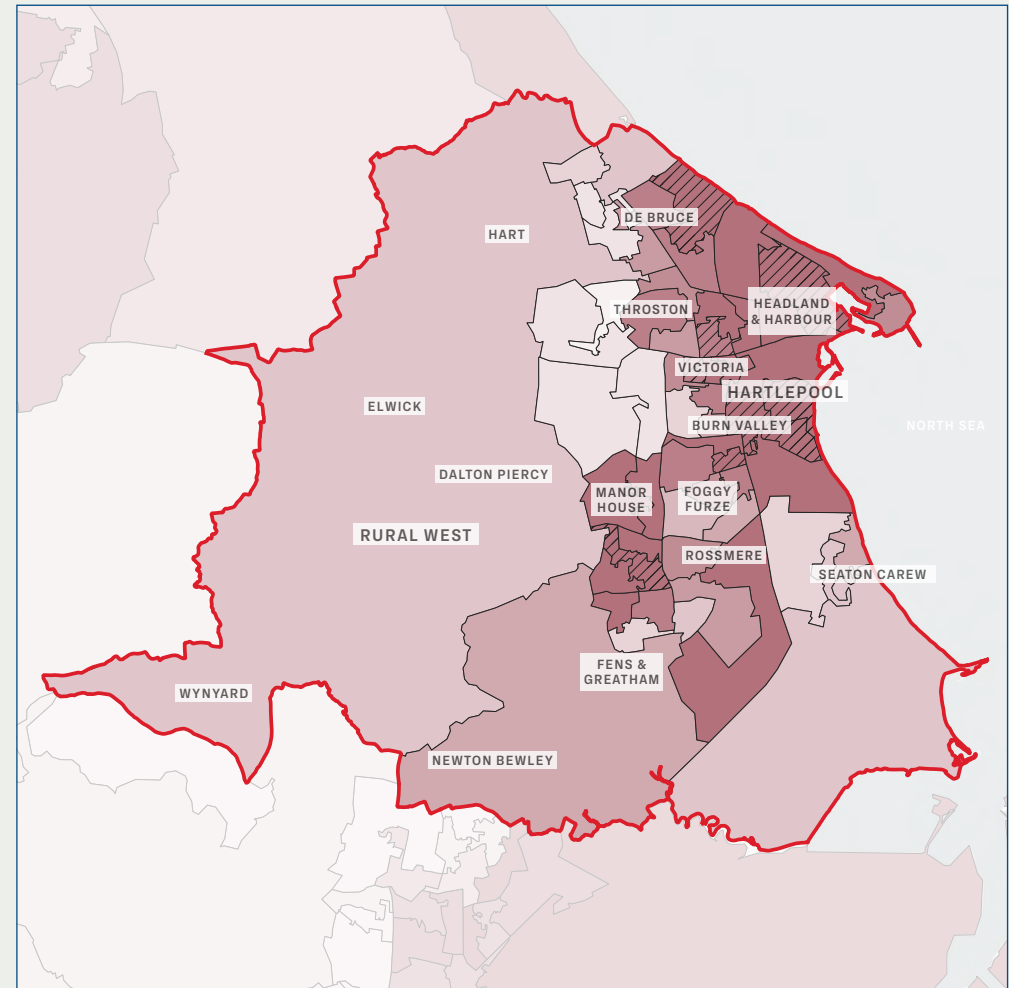
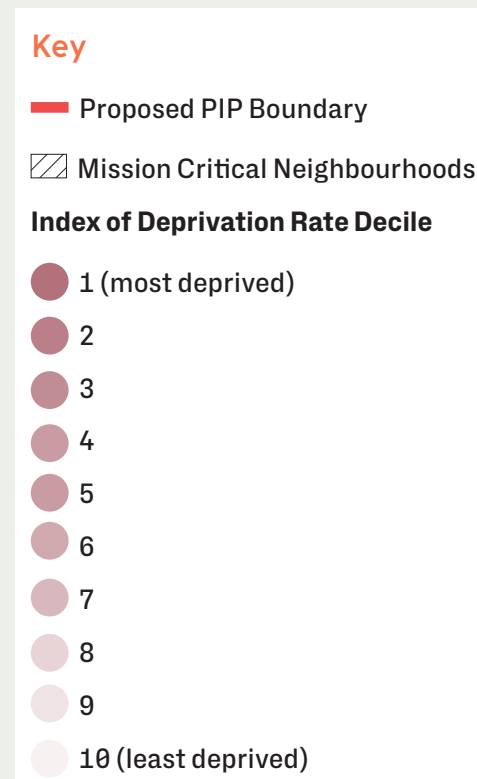
3.1 Spatial Targeting [Continued]

Where Change Will Happen

Hartlepool has significant potential, and the community involvement to date has clearly demonstrated the transformative impact the Pride in Place Programme can have to raise aspirations, build trust, empowering communities and attract further investment. This lays the foundations to deliver long-term change in Hartlepool over the next decade and beyond.

Investment through the Pride in Place Programme will be targeted and prioritise the areas where it is needed most. This will be guided by robust evidence, baseline analysis, findings from the community, and strategic intelligence such as the mission critical areas identified by the Independent Commission on Neighbourhoods and the 2025

Indices of Deprivation. Together, this will ensure the investment is directed to areas where they can deliver the greatest impact in Hartlepool.



Vision for the Future

PRIDE IN PLACE

04

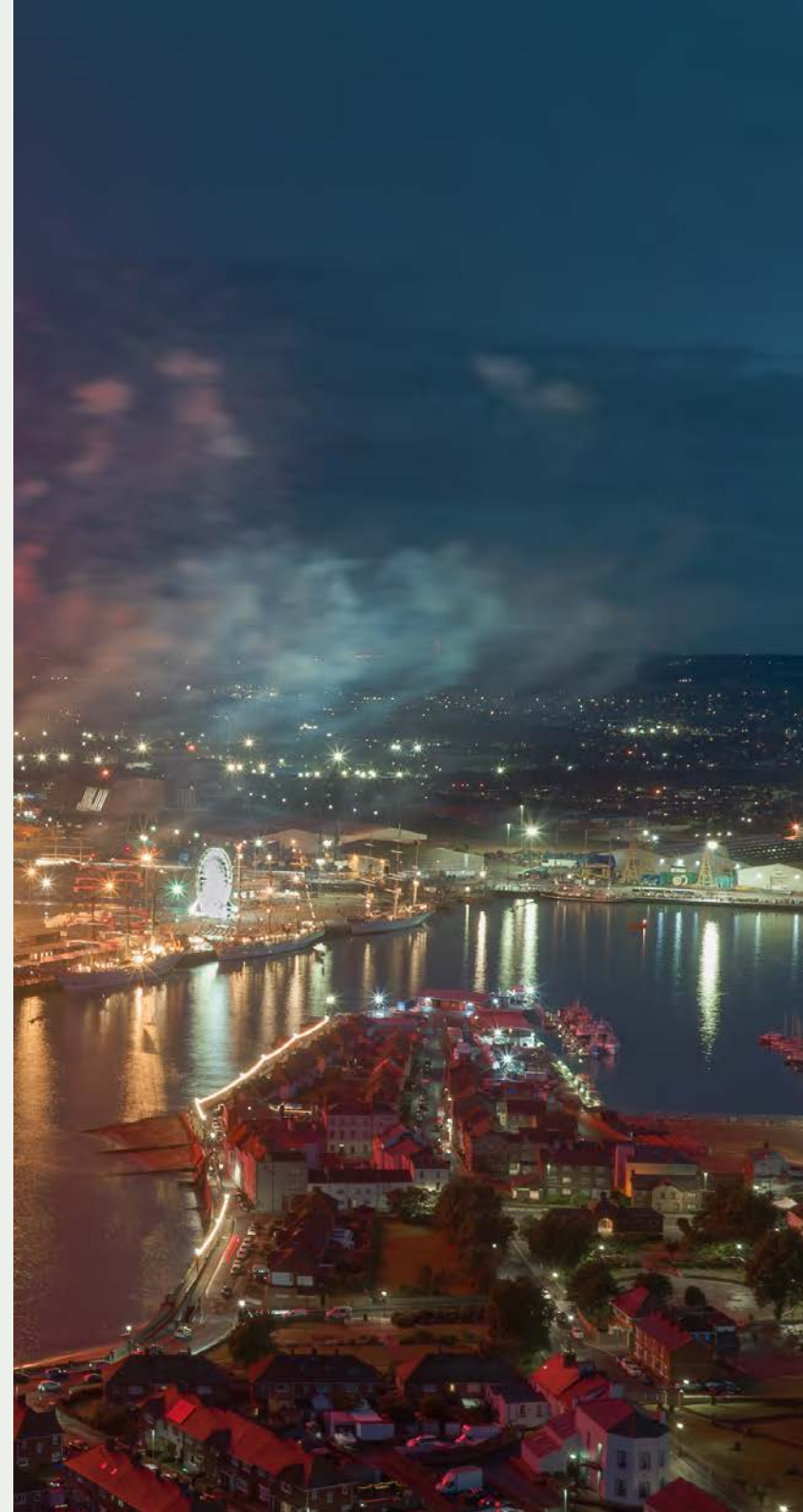
04 Vision for the Future

4.1 The Vision

Over recent years, Hartlepool has continued its transformation, driven by targeted investment in regeneration and infrastructure. This plan builds on those strong foundations, aligning with the strategic ambitions of Hartlepool Borough Council, the Tees Valley Combined Authority, and the Government's Pride in Place Programme.

We have established a bold and unifying vision for Hartlepool through to 2036 - one that reflects our shared commitment to building stronger communities, creating thriving places, and empowering people. These guiding principles will underpin every intervention and investment over the next decade, ensuring that regeneration delivers meaningful and lasting impact for Hartlepool.

To realise this vision, it is acknowledged that transformation must be both physical and social which are two interconnected strands essential to revitalising Hartlepool. These strands are connected together by a golden thread of collaboration and cohesion, ensuring that regeneration is locally led, community driven, and rooted in shared purpose to benefit our people and neighbourhoods in Hartlepool.



04 Vision for the Future

4.1 *The Vision [Continued]*

Hartlepool will be an **ambitious, connected and resilient** place where **residents and communities** work together to **deliver positive** change that people can feel in their everyday lives. **Communities will lead** this transformation, showing the **power of people** and organisations coming together to **build trust, tackle challenges** and shape a **positive future** for everyone.

Our borough will be a **vibrant hub of inspiration and innovation**. We will **nurture creativity, empower individuals** and ensure that everyone has the opportunity to succeed. We will be **fair, inclusive and welcoming**, where **every voice matters and every person belongs**. Children, young people and adults will be empowered through learning, development and opportunities enabling Hartlepool to **grow and thrive for generations to come**.

The Hartlepool Board will be **bold and aspirational**, acting as a catalyst for change. By harnessing the **collective expertise and influence** of our board members and wider stakeholders, we will create a partnership that builds on local strengths, **champions co-design** and **places communities at the heart** of every decision. Through collaboration, strategic alignment and shared resources the Board will turn **vision into action**, which will **deliver meaningful and lasting impact**.

We will have a **reputation for sustainable progress** - improving the local economy and quality of life. All investments will be aligned with the priorities of our communities ensuring that all **projects are meaningful and transformational**.

Together, we will create a place of pride and hope improving how people see and experience life within Hartlepool.



4.2 Detailed Vision for the Next Decade

Leading with Vision and Purpose

Hartlepool will continue to lead with strength and purpose, powered by a collaborative Board. We will celebrate our maritime heritage as a source of identity and inspiration, while shaping a borough that is driven by aspiration. Our future will be shaped by a bold vision that restores pride, unlocks opportunity, and builds momentum for lasting change.

A Welcoming, Ambitious and Resilient Borough

We believe in a Hartlepool where every resident feels valued, empowered and has the chance to thrive. Investment will focus on areas of greatest need, creating safer communities, vibrant public spaces, and opportunities for all. We will celebrate our strong community spirit - built on resilience and shared ambition - as we work together to improve the borough.

Community-Led Transformation

This vision is essentially about people, communities, and meaningful change. Decisions will be made openly and collaboratively, with projects designed with the community - through open conversations, pop-up events, neighbourhood forums, and local leadership. This is a shared journey, with residents at the heart of decision-making, driving transformation that reflects local aspirations for Hartlepool.

Creating Opportunities for All

Hartlepool will be a borough where opportunity is nurtured through strong community foundations. We will champion local businesses, attract new investment, and foster a culture of innovation. Learning will be at the core of our approach - ensuring that both young people and adults are engaged, empowered, and equipped to shape their own futures.

Championing Creativity and Inclusion

Culture and creativity will be key catalysts for change. Hartlepool's rich history and heritage will be celebrated through inclusive programmes, activities, and storytelling. We will champion diversity and elevate underrepresented voices through our decision-making whilst creating spaces where everyone can express themselves and feel a sense of belonging.

Lasting Change through Sustainable Growth

Sustainability will be embedded to drive inclusive and long-term progress for Hartlepool. From enhancing green spaces to investing in community infrastructure, we will lead on innovation that supports social and economic wellbeing. By strengthening social capital and fostering community resilience, Hartlepool will grow as a place where people thrive, both now and for generations to come.

Impactful Investment

Every investment will be intentional and shaped by the voices of our communities. We will breathe new life into neighbourhoods, support local businesses, and transform underused spaces into vibrant assets for all. Our approach will be inclusive, transparent, and rooted in local priorities to ensure that growth is meaningful and reflective of what matters most to the people of Hartlepool.

A Place of Pride and Hope

Hartlepool is a place of pride, potential, and possibility both now and in the future. Over the next 10 years we will celebrate our history, embrace our identity, and build a future that is filled with hope. We believe in the power of our community, the strength of local ideas, and Hartlepool will be a leading example of what's possible when people come together to shape their place.

4.3 What Does Success Look Like?

What Does Success Look Like?

By 2036, Hartlepool will be recognised as a resilient and inclusive borough with empowered communities, and a thriving economy. This Regeneration Plan will engage residents, businesses, community partners, and other key stakeholders to ensure that the investment delivers real change for Hartlepool.

In neighbourhoods, targeted interventions will focus on improving safety and security, community cohesion, access to services, and opportunities for young people. This will include investment in health and wellbeing, local community infrastructure and, and resident-led programmes that will enable residents in Hartlepool to live better and healthier lives.

The plan will prioritise neighbourhoods within Hartlepool experiencing the greatest levels of deprivation, entrenched inequality and where underutilised assets have constrained opportunity. These communities will be supported to benefit through targeted engagement and efforts designed to improve quality of life and unlock long-term potential through the Pride in Place Programme.

Success will be measured by tangible improvements focused on:

01 | Economic Growth

This will include increased productivity, employment levels and higher Gross Value Added (GVA) for Hartlepool.

02 | Health and Education Outcomes

This will include higher skills levels, improved health, and better access to services in Hartlepool.

03 | Community Cohesion

This will include increased civic participation, and resident voices in local decision-making in Hartlepool.

Strategic Case for Change

PRIDE IN PLACE

05

05 Strategic Case for Change

5.1 Methodology

The development of the Case for Change section was guided by a comprehensive and evidence-led methodology. This approach integrated multiple data sources and engagement strategies to ensure a robust understanding of Hartlepool's current position and to identify key types of intervention for the Regeneration Plan.

Data Collection and Analysis:

The process involved the collection and analysis of both quantitative and qualitative data. Quantitative responses were primarily gathered through spatial and socioeconomic, place data analysis and extensive community engagement, which provided measurable insights into resident's concerns and potential funding priorities. This data allowed for the ranking of funding themes, such as "Safety and Security" and "Health and Wellbeing," based on the number of votes received.

Qualitative data, derived from local insights and community feedback, supplemented these findings by providing deeper context and understanding of the underlying issues and aspirations within Hartlepool and at ward level.

Evidence-Led Approach:

A robust evidence base was utilised, drawing on data analysis, and local insights to inform the strategic case for change. This included an assessment of Hartlepool's socio-economic challenges, health and wellbeing outcomes and skill levels, comparing them against national averages where appropriate.

Engagement:

This played a central role in shaping these priorities, ensuring that the plan directly reflects the needs and concerns of residents and stakeholders within Hartlepool. This feedback was

crucial in identifying immediate priorities and understanding the perceived impact of various issues.

This integrated methodology ensured that the Board's priorities and objectives were not only data-driven but also deeply rooted in the lived experiences and expressed needs of the Hartlepool community, providing a credible rationale for the coordinated interventions proposed in this Strategic Case for Change.



5.2 Emerging Priorities

Hartlepool’s funding priorities, based on quantitative responses, are led by Safety and Security - 891 votes. Health and Wellbeing, Community Cohesion, and High Street and Regeneration closely follow, each with over 600 votes from 1,437 total respondents. In contrast, Transport, Housing, Work and Skills, and Education and Opportunities received fewer votes, ranging from 467 down to 70.

For Investment Period 1, the proposed strategy focuses on the top four investment themes (Safety and Security, Health and Wellbeing, Community Togetherhness, High Street and Regeneration) alongside Housing and Education and Opportunity, which the Board consider to be foundational themes. The principles for this period are to demonstrate a clear response to the priorities from community and stakeholders, build public confidence and complement existing investments within the borough.



Safety & Security



Health & Wellbeing



Cohesion



Regeneration, High Streets & Heritage



Housing
(Foundational)



Education & Opportunity
(Foundational)

5.3 Key Issues, Evidence and Board Response

Hartlepool faces a period of significant challenge and opportunity. The Strategic Case for Change establishes a shared understanding of the current position and the key priorities agreed by the Hartlepool Board. Drawing on a robust evidence base and data analysis, community involvement and local insight, this section outlines why intervention is necessary now, what the main drivers of change are and how the Board has shaped its long-term outcomes in response.

A detailed baseline analysis which provides a snapshot of Hartlepool's socio-economic conditions is included as an appendix to this Regeneration Plan. Alongside the wider evidence base, this provides a robust evidence base to inform strategic priorities and identify areas for targeted intervention within Hartlepool. The thematic analysis summarises the principal issues identified through evidence and findings from the community, alongside the strategic response of the Board.

Indicator	Hartlepool Borough Average	National Average (UK)	Source	Commentary
Crime Rate	135	72	Crime data from data.police.uk (Last updated in August 2025)	Hartlepool experiences higher crime concentration in key town centre locations, impacting safety perceptions.
Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD)	5th most deprived	N/A	Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) (2025)	Highlights acute socio-economic challenges and prioritisation of neighbourhoods with high deprivation.
Economic Inactivity (%)	31.5%	26.4%	Office for National Statistics - Employment, unemployment and economic activity (2025)	Significantly higher than the national average, suggesting barriers to labour market participation.
Adult Qualifications (%) - Level 4+	34.9%	47.2%	2024 data provides sub-local authority level data on resident qualification	Skills deficit impacts local economic growth and social mobility.
Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index	49.4%	7%	Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) (2025)	Demonstrates geographic disparities in child poverty across Hartlepool.
Life Expectancy (years)	Female: 82.9 Male: 79.0	Female: 81.1 Male: 76.5	Office for National Statistics - Life expectancy for local areas of the UK (2018-2020)	Slightly below regional average; significant gaps within northwen MSOAs.
Obesity - Adults (%)	37.9%	26.5	Department of Health & Social Care - Obesity, physical activity and nutrition (2023)	Reflects higher levels of obesity compared to national average, linked to health inequalities.

5.3 Key Issues, Evidence and Board Response [Continued]

Theme: Safety and Security



Headline Data/Observations:

- Hartlepool experiences elevated crime rates, particularly in specific urban areas, impacting community safety and investment.
- Hartlepool's crime rate is 143 crimes per 1,000 people (ONS, 2024), which is higher than Cleveland's overall crime rate of 132 per 1,000 population and the seventh most dangerous Local Authority in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.
- The crime hotspots are centred on specific town centre locations.
- In 2024/25, Hartlepool recorded 865 deliberate fires and 32 accidental house fires, resulting in an estimated economic cost of £4.92 million. This was 20% of all deliberate fires in 2024/25 across Cleveland.

Community Feedback:

- Safety is the paramount concern for residents and the top funding priority.
- A significant portion of residents (716 out of 1,437) do not consistently feel safe, with ward-specific concerns about crime, drugs, neglect, and lack of youth activities across neighbourhoods in Hartlepool

Board Response:

- Safety and Security has been identified as a key priority for Hartlepool.
- The Board will prioritise measures that reduce crime and antisocial behaviour, rebuild public confidence, and create safer environments that attract investment and improve quality of life.

Theme: Health and Wellbeing



Headline Data/Observations:

- Average life expectancy (78.8 years) is 0.5 years shorter than Tees Valley average [ONS, Life expectancy for local areas of the UK, 2018-2020].
- There is geographic disparity with some neighbourhoods recording an average life expectancy of just 76.5, over 2 years shorter than the rate for Hartlepool.
- There is a high prevalence of overweight (77.2%) and obesity (37.9%) in adults, higher than national averages [Public Health England, 2023/24].
- Certain neighbourhoods have poorer access to healthy assets, despite good community sport facilities in deprived areas [Access to Health Assets, 2020].

Community Feedback:

- Identified as the 2nd (joint) funding priority by 627 of 1,437 respondents.
- There is a call for better health and housing services including improving access to services including GPs/Dentists alongside more affordable homes and stronger landlord regulation within the borough.

Board Response:

- Health and wellbeing is central to the regeneration of Hartlepool.
- In response to clear evidence of health inequalities, the Board will focus on improving access and expanding community health initiatives, particularly focused on the most deprived areas.

5.3 Key Issues, Evidence and Board Response [Continued]

Theme: Cohesion (Community Togetherness)



Headline Data/Observations:

- Hartlepool shows a high level of community need [Community Needs Index 2023].
- The urban areas have higher numbers of assets but lower uptake whilst Rural West shows more engagement despite fewer community assets.
- Most cultural and heritage sites are located close to the town centre, particularly along the coast, reflecting a centralised pattern of provision.
- There is a good coverage of play areas across most wards and neighbourhoods within the borough.

Community Feedback:

- Identified as the 2nd (joint) funding priority by 627 of 1,437 respondents.
- There is a need for more youth activities, clubs, and safe spaces across nearly all wards, highlighting a lack of community facilities for young people.
- There is a call to “revive community spirit” with more youth clubs and community hubs which reflects a desire for improved community assets within the borough.

Board Response:

- Strengthening community infrastructure is essential to the long-term resilience and pride. The Board will invest in facilities, youth activities, and intergenerational initiatives that rebuild local networks, promote inclusion, and foster social connections.

Theme: High Street and Regeneration



Headline Data/Observations:

- There is a rich maritime heritage and numerous listed buildings with a small number of historic assets at risk [Heritage Risk Register, Historic England, 2025].
- There is a good network of green spaces, but community feedback highlights concerns around safety and security from residents.

Community Feedback:

- Identified as the 3rd funding priority by 610 of 1,437 respondents.
- Calls to “regenerate the town centre - fewer empty shops, more independent businesses cafes and better shopping options,” with emerging investment in this through the Hartlepool Development Corporation (HDC).

Board Response:

- Revitalising Hartlepool’s high streets and town centre is key to restoring civic pride and economic vitality. The Board will champion visible, high-impact regeneration projects that enhance the borough’s identity, attract visitors, and stimulate local enterprise whilst complementing wider investment such as HDC.

5.3 Key Issues, Evidence and Board Response [Continued]

Theme: Transport



Headline Data/Observations:

- There are areas with poor public transport connectivity across the borough. For example, in rural communities the 65 bus service operates only twice daily on Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays, offering limited travel options for residents.
- A limited number of residents can access the retail core by foot, leading to reliance on cars within the borough.

Community Feedback:

- This theme consistently appears across all wards as a priority for funding and improvement, with 467 out of 1,437 total respondents prioritising it for funding across Hartlepool.
- Common requests include better bus services (more regular, evening services and links to hospitals), safer roads, improved cycling/walking routes, and parking.
- Rural West, Fens & Greatham, Seaton and Hart wards specifically highlight the need for better public transport links particularly into the Town Centre.

Board Response:

- Accessible, reliable transport underpins inclusion and opportunity across Hartlepool. The Board will aim to address long-standing transport gaps (especially in rural and coastal areas) by supporting improved public transport links, safer roads, and better walking and cycling connections to ensure equitable access to jobs, services, and leisure within the borough.

Theme: Housing



Headline Data/Observations:

- Hartlepool is among England's most deprived authorities [IMD, 2025].
- There are 8 neighbourhoods classified as Mission Critical Areas, reflecting acute socio-economic challenges [Mission Critical Neighbourhoods, 2025].
- Most deprived neighbourhoods cluster in coastal and central Hartlepool.

Community Feedback:

- Housing was identified as the 6th funding priority out of 8 themes, with 325 of 1,437 total respondents prioritising it for funding across Hartlepool.
- The conversations highlighted a link between the "Housing" and "Health and Wellbeing" themes with residents calling for "more affordable homes alongside stronger landlord regulation."

Board Response:

- Quality, affordable housing is essential for wellbeing and economic stability. The Board will prioritise improving housing standards, affordability of homes, and neighbourhood renewal to create safer, more attractive living environments for all residents in Hartlepool.

5.3 Key Issues, Evidence and Board Response [Continued]

Theme: Work and Skills



Headline Data/Observations:

- Workforce skill and qualification levels are below regional and national averages, hindering economic advancement.
- 12% of residents have no formal qualifications [ONS, 2024]. This is a significant concern for the borough.
- Only 35% hold Level 4+ qualifications, significantly less than national average of 47% [ONS, 2024].
- The highest employment densities are located in the town centre, particularly around business parks, industrial estates, and the port, making the urban centre the main economic hub of Hartlepool.

Community Feedback:

- “Work and Skills” was identified as the 7th funding priority out of 8 themes, with 266 votes, which indicates that while there is a perceived community needs in this area, it is considered less critical compared to other priorities such as Safety and Security, Health and Wellbeing, Cohesion and Housing.

Board Response:

- Building a skilled and employable workforce is vital to Hartlepool’s economic future. The Board will support initiatives that expand vocational training, apprenticeships, and local business partnerships to boost employment and social mobility within the borough.

Theme: Education and Opportunity



Headline Data/Observations:

- 22 of 30 Primary Schools perform above average in Reading, Writing and Maths.
- Only one Secondary School underperformed against Hartlepool’s average attainment 8 score (32.8% vs. 41.0%).
- Hartlepool’s Further Education achievement rate stands at 6,472 per 100,000 -one of the highest in the region and above the Tees Valley average of 5,863.
- Geographic disparity in deprivation, with the town centre and surrounding areas experiencing higher rates of child income deprivation [IDACI, 2019].

Community Feedback:

- “Education and Opportunity” was identified as the 8th funding priority out of 8 themes, with only 70 votes, strongly indicating that it is considered the least pressing concern amongst community respondents in Hartlepool.

Board Response:

- Education is fundamental to the long-term vision for Hartlepool, extending beyond academic attainment to fostering aspiration and opportunity. The Board will champion a culture of collaboration between schools, colleges, and wider institutions. By working together, we will empower children, young people, and communities to thrive, ensuring that learning opportunities reflect local aspirations and contribute to an inclusive future.

5.4 Community Priorities

Through the synthesis of data and findings from the community engagement, ten clear community priorities have been validated by the Board, these underpin the delivery focus for the Pride in Place Programme.

Priority Description		PiPP Theme Alignment
A	Tackle drugs, crime & anti-social behaviour - more police, CCTV, wardens, better enforcement.	Safety and Security
B	Clean up the town - reduce litter, fly tipping, dog fouling; more street cleaning and greener spaces.	High Street and Regeneration
C	Revive community spirit - more youth clubs, community hubs, intergenerational activities.	Cohesion (Community Togetherness)
D	Regenerate town centre - fewer empty shops, more independent businesses, cafes, and better shopping options.	High Street and Regeneration
E	Create jobs & opportunities - attract investment, industry, apprenticeships and support for small businesses.	Work and Skills
F	Transport & infrastructure upgrades - better bus services, safer roads, cycling/walking routes, more parking.	Transport
G	Better health & housing services - restore A&E, improve GPs/dentists, more affordable homes, stronger landlord regulation.	Health and Wellbeing / Housing
H	Improve parks & seafronts - safer, well-maintained play areas, toilets, family activities and year-round event.	Community Togetherness
I	Support vulnerable groups - elderly, homeless, and those struggling with addiction or poverty.	Community Togetherness / Health and Wellbeing
J	Boost local pride & tourism - celebrate Hartlepool's coast, heritage, and culture to make it a place people are proud to live in and visit.	Community Togetherness / High Street and Regeneration

5.5 Alignment with the Fund Objectives

The ten community priorities validated by the Board are directly aligned with the three core objectives of the Pride in Place Programme. This alignment ensures that local efforts directly contribute to the overarching goals of the programme, fostering comprehensive and impactful change within communities.

The three objectives of the Pride in Place Programme funding are:

- To build stronger communities: Fostering strong relationships and a sense of belonging to promote cohesion, resilience, and pride, and ensure people feel safe in their neighbourhoods.
- To create thriving places: Developing vibrant neighbourhoods and communities with active high streets, good local amenities, and high-quality physical infrastructure.
- To empower people to take back control: Enabling individuals to be in control of their lives and have a say in the future of their community.

These identified community priorities are not isolated but rather interconnected actions that collectively contribute to the achievement of the Pride in Place Programme's three overarching objectives. By addressing issues from crime and cleanliness to economic opportunity and community spirit, the Board aims to create a holistic and sustainable positive impact, driven by the active participation and empowerment of local residents in Hartlepool.

- A | Tackle drugs, crime & anti-social behaviour: Enhances public safety and improves residents' perceptions of their neighbourhoods.
- B | Clean up Hartlepool: Fosters a sense of pride and respect for local areas.
- C | Revive community spirit: Strengthens social cohesion and a sense of belonging among residents.
- D | Regenerate the town centre: Reinforces pride and local distinctiveness.
- E | Create jobs & opportunities: Provides pathways to employment and reduces economic vulnerability.
- F | Transport & infrastructure upgrades: Reduces isolation and fosters a sense of inclusion across the borough.
- G | Better health & housing services: Addresses health disparities and improves access to essential services.
- H | Improve parks & seafronts: Improves quality of life and encourages active lifestyles.
- I | Support vulnerable groups: Fosters an inclusive and supportive environment for all members of the community.
- J | Boost local pride & tourism: Reinforces local identity and strengthens a collective sense of pride.

5.6 Long-term Outcomes

The following long-term outcomes outline the envisioned future for Hartlepool as a result of this Regeneration Plan. These outcomes reflect the aspirations to create lasting positive change across the borough’s social, economic, and physical landscape over the coming years.

The key difference is that community priorities are the immediate issues or areas the community wants to address, while long-term outcomes are the desired future impacts that result from addressing those priorities through the Pride in Place Programme. Priorities drive the actions, and outcomes are the ultimate goals achieved by those actions within the borough. Each long-term outcome represents the desired future state that results from successfully delivering against the corresponding community priority.

Community Priorities		Long-term Outcomes
A	Tackle drugs, crime & anti-social behaviour	Residents experience enhanced safety and reduced crime.
B	Clean up the town	Cleaner, well-maintained public spaces foster civic pride.
C	Revive community spirit	Revived community spirit through increased participation and connection.
D	Regenerate town centre	A vibrant town centre with thriving businesses and renewed sense of identity.
E	Create jobs & opportunities	Increased employment and skills, leading to economic resilience.
F	Transport & infrastructure upgrades	Improved health and housing conditions supporting wellbeing.
G	Tackle drugs, crime & anti-social behaviour	High-quality recreational spaces promoting active lifestyles.
H	Improve parks & seafronts	A proud, distinctive town celebrated for its heritage and culture.
I	Support vulnerable groups	An inclusive community for everyone regardless of their needs, disabilities or vulnerabilities
J	Boost local pride & tourism	A proud, distinctive town celebrated for its heritage and culture.

5.7 Prioritising Interventions

This section outlines the specific interventions that have been prioritised by the Board to address the community priorities. These interventions are strategically aligned with the findings from the community engagement and data analysis, as well as the wider investment programme within Hartlepool and they aim to translate the identified priorities into actionable plans for the Pride in Place Programme.

In October 2025, the Board's Regeneration Plan Subgroup hosted a workshop to democratically agree on the investment themes and the proposed interventions for each of these top-ranked themes. This collaborative decision-making process reflects the Board's commitment to delivering meaningful and measurable improvements across Hartlepool.

These interventions represent a balanced portfolio that directly address community concerns while supporting long-term outcomes. Each is grounded in evidence and designed to deliver measurable impact within the investment period (2026 to 2030).

Safety and Security (1st Priority Overall)	
Intervention	Rank
Interventions to tackle anti-social behaviour, crime and minimising reoffending	1st
Design and oversight of the built and landscaped environment to 'design out' crime and encourage positive behaviour	2nd
Policing interventions to target crime prevention in specific locations, particularly town centres	3rd
Health and Wellbeing (2nd Priority Overall)	
Intervention	Rank
Supporting community-level health provision	1st
Provide drug and alcohol support for people with experience of homelessness and rough sleeping	2nd
Integration and co-location of health and wellbeing services	Joint 3rd
Funding for local sport and activity facilities, events, teams and leagues, to foster community engagement and connection	Joint 3rd

5.7 Prioritising Interventions [Continued]

Community Togetherness (3rd Priority Overall)	
Intervention	Rank
Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society, youth, and community groups	1st
Measures to improve community cohesion	2nd
Funding for impactful volunteering and social action projects to develop social and human capital in local place	3rd

High Street, Heritage and Regeneration (4th Priority Overall)	
Intervention	Rank
Funding for improvements to town centres, neighbourhoods, and high streets, including capital spend and running costs	1st
Creating and improving green spaces, community gardens, watercourses, and embankments in the local area, along with incorporating natural features into wider public spaces	2nd
Funding for local arts, cultural, heritage and creative initiatives	3rd

Housing (6th Priority Overall, but a Foundational Theme)	
Intervention	Rank
Support wider neighbourhood renewal by improving the attractiveness and liveability of homes and their surroundings	1st
Provide safe and supportive environments for people with experience of homelessness and rough sleeping	2nd
Support local community initiatives that support people in bringing down their home energy bills and improve the energy efficiency of their homes	3rd

Education and Opportunity	
Intervention	Rank
Support to both reduce levels of child poverty and to prevent the negative impacts of child poverty on children and families	1st
Support for growing the local social economy, including community businesses, cooperatives and social enterprises	2nd
Support for community-based learning and development	3rd

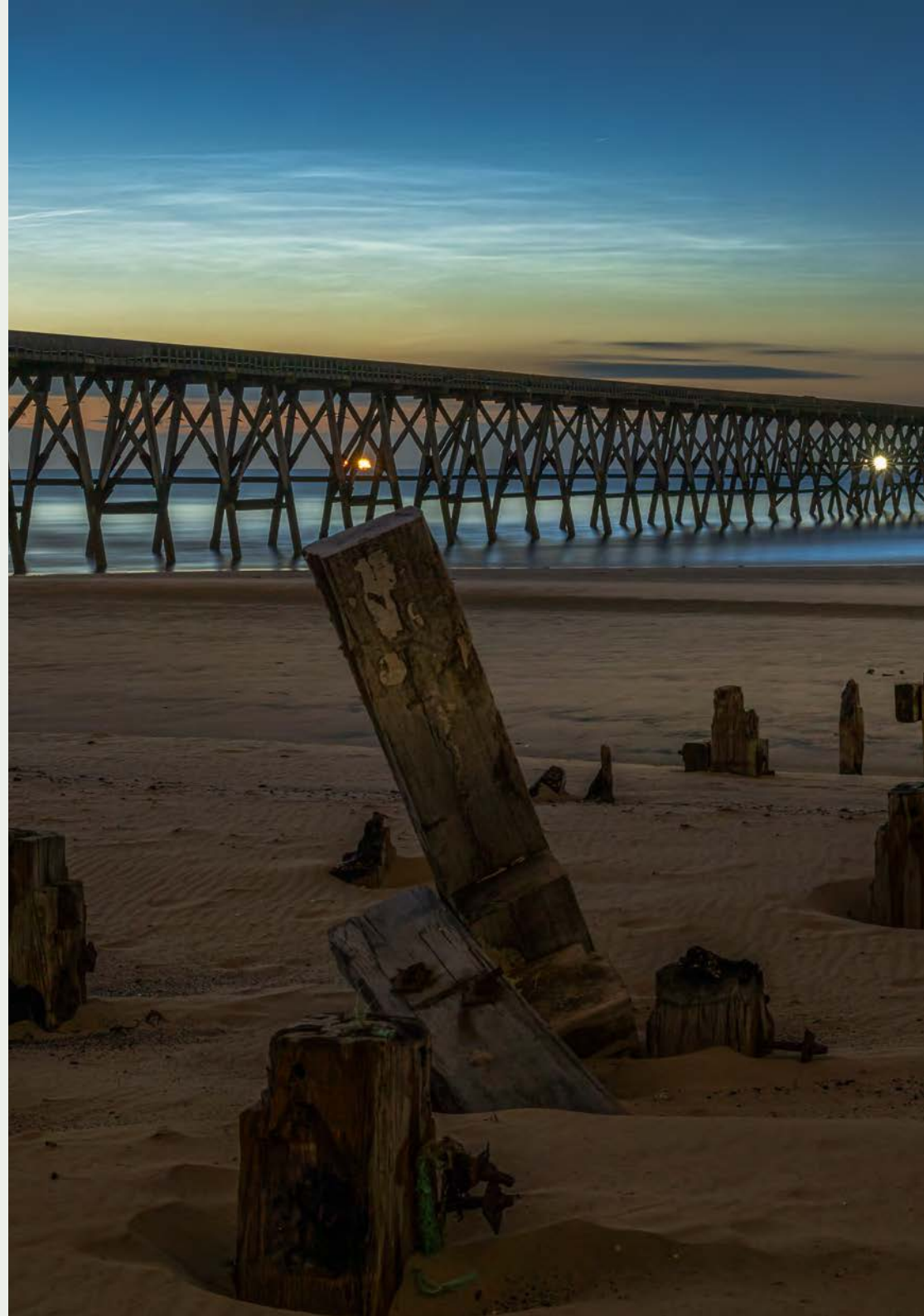
05 Strategic Case for Change

5.8 Conclusion

The Strategic Case clearly demonstrates:

- A robust evidence base underpinning the need for change
- Strong community mandate for identified priorities
- Clear alignment with local, regional, and national policy objectives
- A credible rationale for coordinated intervention through the Pride in Place Programme

Delivery of the Pride in Place Programme will provide the strategic framework for sustained regeneration, enabling Hartlepool to unlock economic potential, strengthen community wellbeing, and enhance civic pride for the long term. By embedding the principles of Pride in Place within the long-term regeneration framework, the borough can foster a stronger, fairer, and more resilient community where residents are proud to live, work, and invest within Hartlepool.



Alignment with Other Programmes and Investments

PRIDE IN PLACE

06

06 Alignment with Other Programmes and Investments

6.1 Alignment with Other Programmes and Investments

The Hartlepool Board recognises that the Pride in Place Programme cannot address every challenge or opportunity facing the borough. Instead, it has been purposefully designed to complement and add value to the existing investments - whether planned, committed, or completed – rather than duplicate. Hartlepool has already made significant progress recently, with over £150 million of investment for a range of high-profile developments and renovations, including the Highlight Active Wellbeing Hub on The Waterfront, the Screen Industries Production Village centred around Church Street, and the restoration of the historic Wesley Chapel.

This Regeneration Plan will build on those efforts by aligning with initiatives such as the Town Deal and supporting broader regional ambitions like the Tees Valley Combined Authority's Growth Plan. This joined-up approach is intended to unlock further

investment to benefit Hartlepool.

The Board acknowledges the strategic importance of aligning with local plans, regional strategies, and national policies, alongside wider programmes aimed at strengthening place-based investment, empowering communities, and driving regeneration. Achieving the borough's long-term vision will require strong collaboration with partners at every level. The plan will serve as a local delivery framework for shared priorities across key themes, including safety and security, housing, health and wellbeing, community cohesion, and regeneration. By aligning with and adding value to these efforts, the Regeneration Plan aims to deliver the greatest possible impact for the people and communities of Hartlepool.



6.1 Alignment with Other Programmes and Investments [Continued]



Safety and Security

Investment - £2.40m

Examples of investments include:
Neighbourhood Policing 2025/26
(Cleveland Police)
UKSPF Community Safety 2025/26
(TVCA)



Health and Wellbeing

Investment - £45.90m

Examples of investments include:
Place Expansion
(Sport England)
Health & Growth Accelerator
(NHS)



Community Cohesion

Investment - £1.65m

Examples of investments include:
Common Ground Resilience Fund
(MHCLG)
Pride in Place Impact Funding
(MHCLG)



High Street and Regeneration

Investment - £2.80m

Examples of investments include:
Reimagining Middleton Grange
(Town Deal)
Tides of Change
(Heritage Lottery Fund)



Transport

Investment - £38.7m

Examples of investments include:
Hartlepool Local Transport Plan
(Department for Transport)
Town Centre to A689
(Sustainable Transport Funds)



Housing

Investment - £4.15m

Examples of investments include:
Household Support Fund
(Government)
Warm Homes Local Grant and Social
Fund
(DESNZ)



Work and Skills

Investment - £22.70m

Examples of investments include:
Youth Trailblazer
(DWP)
Connect to Work Programme
(DWP)



Education and Opportunity

Investment - £6.81m

Examples of investments include:
Youth Transformation Fund
(DCMS)
Rock Pools Creative People & Place
(Arts Council)

6.1 Alignment with Other Programmes and Investments [Continued]

Theme: Safety and Security

Local Plans/Strategies

- Hartlepool Community Safety Plan 2024-2027
- Hartlepool Youth Justice Strategic Plan 2025-2026
- Hartlepool Domestic Abuse Strategy 2021-2025
- Cleveland Police and Crime Plan 2024-2029
- Cleveland Fire Brigade Community Risk Management Plan 2026-2030
- Tees Tackling Domestic Abuse Perpetration Strategy 2025-2035
- Teeswide Safeguarding Adults Board Strategic Plan 2025-2028

Theme: Health and Wellbeing

Local Plans/Strategies

- Hartlepool Local Football Facility Plan 2025
- Hartlepool Indoor Facility Strategy 2026
- Hartlepool Play Pitch Strategy review 2020-2035
- Hartlepool Adult Social Care Strategy 2024-2029
- Hartlepool Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2026
- NHS North East & North Cumbria Integrated Care Strategy 2030
- Hartlepool Drug and Alcohol Strategy 2023-2028
- Hartlepool Tobacco Control Strategy 2023-2028
- Hartlepool Health & Wellbeing Board Strategy 2025-2030
- Hartlepool Domestic Abuse Strategy 2022-2025

Theme: Community Cohesion

Local Plans/Strategies

- Hartlepool Cohesion Strategy 2025-2028
- Hartlepool Council Plan 2030

Theme: High Street and Regeneration

Local Plans/Strategies

- Hartlepool Capital Strategy 2023-2028
- Hartlepool Development Corporation Masterplan
- Hartlepool Headland Heritage Strategy 2020-2030
- Seaton Carew Conservation Management Plan 2024
- Headland Conservation Management Plan 2024
- Tees Valley Local Growth Plan 2026-2036
- Tees Valley Destination Management Plan 2021-2026
- Tees Valley Strategic Economic Plan 2016-2026

6.1 Alignment with Other Programmes and Investments [Continued]

Theme: Transport

Local Plans/Strategies

- Hartlepool Local Plan 2016-2031
- Hartlepool Local Transport Plan 2011-2026
- Hartlepool Transport Management Plan 2023
- Hartlepool Highway Maintenance Plan 2025
- Tees Valley Strategic Transport Plan 2020-2030

Theme: Housing

Local Plans/Strategies

- Hartlepool Net Zero Strategy 2023-2033
- Hartlepool Housing Strategy 2026
- Hartlepool Homelessness Strategy 2026
- Tees Valley Investment Plan 2019-2029

Theme: Work and Skills

Local Plans/Strategies

- Hartlepool Inclusive Growth Strategy 2026
- Hartlepool Employment & Skills Strategy 2026
- Get Tees Valley Working Plan 2025-2035

Theme: Education and Opportunity

Local Plans/Strategies

- Hartlepool Early Years Strategy 2021-2025
- Hartlepool Community Hubs Strategy 2022-2027
- Hartlepool Youth Work Strategy 2026
- Hartlepool Poverty Strategy 2026
- Tees Valley Digital Inclusion Strategy 2022-2032
- Tees Valley Employment & Skills Strategy 2022-2032

6.2 Local and Regional Alignment

The Hartlepool Pride in Place Programme aims to build on the momentum of recent investments that are already driving regeneration and wider improvements across the borough. The programme will maximise the impact of existing plans, strategies, and partnerships, ensuring that efforts are coordinated and complementary. This approach recognises the importance of aligning with and strengthening initiatives that are already delivering positive outcomes across Hartlepool.

The programme will actively connect with key local and regional strategies, ensuring coherence with wider ambitions and priorities across Hartlepool and the Tees Valley. In particular, it will reinforce the vision and objectives which are set out in the Regeneration Plan. This will create a joined-up approach that amplifies benefits for residents and communities across Hartlepool.

Council Plan (2025 to 2030)

This sets the vision for the borough alongside the priorities that will be focussed on over the next five years across four themes: People, Place, Potential, and Organisation. It aims for Hartlepool to be a place:

- Where people live healthier, safe, and independent lives (People)
- That is connected, sustainable, clean, and green (Place)
- That is welcoming with an inclusive and growing economy (Potential)
- With a Council that is ambitious, fit for purpose and reflects the diversity of its community (Organisation)

The Pride in Place Programme is fully aligned with the priorities within the Council Plan which will collectively make a difference to Hartlepool.

6.2 Local and Regional Alignment [Continued]

Get Tees Valley Working Plan (2025 to 2035)

This is a regional employment, health and skills strategy developed in response to the UK Government's Get Britain Working Plan, which aims to increase employment, reduce economic inactivity, reduce health-related barriers to work, and improve job quality. Tees Valley seeks to contribute to the national ambition of achieving an 80% employment rate by 2035. This is structured around three pillars of support:

- Retention – Support for those in employment and accessing work (our existing and new workforce)
- Intervention – Support for those who are actively seeking work (our potential future workforce)
- Preparation – Support for those who are still in education and training (our pipeline future workforce)

The Get Tees Valley Working Plan aligns with the Pride in Place Programme through its shared commitment to tackling employment and health inequalities and fostering resilient communities in Hartlepool.

Tees Valley Local Growth Plan (2026 to 2036)

This is emerging and will provide a long-term 10-year strategic framework for the Tees Valley. The aim of the strategy will be to secure sustained and inclusive growth by building on our success to date, to power a diverse and balanced economy, with job growth and productivity gain that creates opportunities for everyone. The Local Growth Plan will include the following three core elements:

- Economic Overview: This will identify the key strengths, opportunities, and challenges for the economy including key sectors for Tees Valley.
- Shared Priorities: These are agreed with Government and will include Transport, Skills & Employment, and Housing & Commercial Development.
- Investment Pipeline: This will provide a short investment pipeline of priority projects that have specific significance for enabling growth in Tees Valley.

The emerging Tees Valley Local Growth Plan aligns with the Pride in Place Programme by driving inclusive economic growth and will support the delivery of the priorities identified within this Regeneration Plan.

6.3 National Alignment

The Pride in Place Programme draws on key learning from previous programmes such as the New Deal for Communities, adopting an approach that ensures this investment is fully aligned with wider national plans, strategies, and initiatives. By embedding national priorities into local delivery within Hartlepool, the programme will reflect and complement broader Government policies while connecting to other available funding streams across the UK.

This alignment is critical to maximise impact which will not only strengthen the delivery of Hartlepool's Regeneration Plan but also create opportunities to leverage additional resources and attract further investment for the borough. By positioning Pride in Place as a key contributor to national objectives, this will ensure the vision and objectives are supported by a coherent, joined-up approach at every level.

Pride in Place Strategy (2025 to 2036)

Hartlepool is a Phase 1 area for the Government's Pride in Place Programme, receiving £20 million over ten years from 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2036. The vision and priorities for the investment are within this Regeneration Plan.

In addition, Hartlepool has been allocated £1.5 million of Pride in Place Impact Funding for 2025/26 to 2026-27. This investment focuses on delivering immediate improvements based on the priorities of people and communities within Hartlepool.

- **Community Spaces:** Investing in community facilities which will give improve the spaces that matter most to people.
- **Public spaces:** Enhancing the physical environment so communities feel safer, more connected, and prouder of where they live.
- **High Street & Town Centre:** Revitalising high streets makes them more attractive, encourages people to come together, and boosts local pride.

The Regeneration Plan is aligned with the Government's Pride in Place Strategy, as outlined in Section 3 – Case for Change.

6.3 National Alignment [Continued]

10-Year Health Plan for England: Fit for the Future (2025)

This sets out a bold vision to transform the NHS by creating a new model of care which is fit for the future across England. A key aspect is a Neighbourhood Health Service which will provide care that is tailored to local needs and embedded within communities. This plan is focused on three radical shifts:

- Moving Care from Hospitals into Communities
- Transitioning from Analogue to Digital Services
- Shifting Focus from Treating Sickness to Preventing Illness

The Health Plan emphasises local leadership, community empowerment, and cross-sector collaboration, with a new operating model designed to deliver change at pace. Health and wellbeing is a priority theme for Hartlepool, and this will add support and momentum to a model designed to deliver change at pace through the NHS.



Match Funding and Leveraged Investments

PRIDE IN PLACE

07

7.1 Overview

The Hartlepool Board recognises that unlocking and leveraging further investment will be essential to delivering the priorities set out in this Regeneration Plan. By attracting match funding and securing further investment from public, private, and philanthropic sources, the Board will be able to increase the funding available through the Pride in Place Programme. This approach also aligns with the Government's ambition of empowering people and communities which is a critical theme of the Pride in Place Strategy.

Central to this will be collaboration and the Board will work in partnership with communities, businesses, and strategic partners to secure match funding and additional investment. In addition, continued investment will enhance Hartlepool's physical environment, strengthen community

infrastructure, and expand opportunities for local people. This will position Hartlepool as an attractive destination for further investment across a diverse range of sectors aligning with this Regeneration Plan.

There will be a dedicated sub-group of the Board which is focused on Leveraging Investment which will develop a live database of potential funding sources including local, regional, and national opportunities, as well as philanthropic and social investment channels. This collaborative and strategic approach will significantly benefit our neighbourhoods within Hartlepool.

Securing Further Investment

To build on these foundations, the Hartlepool Board will pursue a strategic approach to securing further investment and match

funding. These efforts will be linked to the themes and priorities within the Regeneration Plan including:

- **Private Sector:** The Board will actively engage with private sector businesses, highlighting opportunities to positively contribute through direct investment and social value commitments which will benefit communities in Hartlepool.
- **Public Sector:** There will be strategic alignment with key stakeholders such as Tees Valley Combined Authority, Integrated Care Board, and other statutory bodies to help unlock complementary funding streams through Government.
- **Philanthropic and Social Investment:** The Board will actively engage charitable trusts, and social investors to support community-led projects, particularly those focused on priorities such as tackling inequality.

This approach will not only broaden the impact of the Pride in Place Programme but will also foster cross-sector collaboration and enable greater regeneration outcomes for the community by maximising value for money. By taking this approach, it embeds a sense of collective ownership and a long-term commitment to delivering real change which benefits people and communities within Hartlepool.

Community and Stakeholder Engagement

PRIDE IN PLACE

08

8.1 Hartlepool Board

The Hartlepool Board provides strong, representative leadership which will guide the development and delivery of this 10-year Regeneration Plan. The membership brings together a diverse mix of community leaders, businesses, statutory agencies, strategic partners, and individuals with a deep connection to Hartlepool.

While working closely with Hartlepool Borough Council, the Board retains its independence, enabling it to focus on the delivery of this Regeneration Plan alongside wider strategic priorities as Hartlepool's Local Strategic Partnership. This balance ensures that community voice is central to decision-making whilst the board remains an independent body.

The Board's structure is designed to be inclusive and community-led, ensuring the plan reflects local values and lived experiences

rather than being shaped solely by organisational priorities. It is a knowledgeable and collaborative partnership that represents the key sectors and communities in Hartlepool.

Membership includes a balanced mix of roles including the Independent Chair, the Leader of the Council, the Chair of the Housing, Growth & Communities Committee, the Chief Executive of the Council, the Police and Crime Commissioner, and the local Member of Parliament. These roles rather than the individuals are members, which provides strategic oversight and access to critical resources.

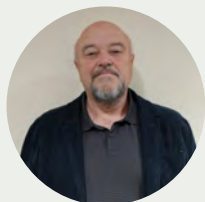
Critically important are the wider members who bring vital community perspectives from the voluntary sector, cultural and sports partnerships, business networks, and faith groups. Their contributions ensure the plan is grounded in community insight

and informed by local experience and passion for Hartlepool.

Leadership is provided by Independent Chair Malcolm Walker, who facilitates inclusive dialogue, fosters collaboration, drives collective decision-making, and brings extensive knowledge from the Hartlepool New Deal for Communities. This governance model ensures transparent, accountable, and community-focused leadership for the Hartlepool Board.

Together, this structure enables the Board to effectively guide this plan and meet the needs and aspirations of the people of Hartlepool.

8.1 Hartlepool Board [Continued]



Malcolm Walker:
Chair of Hartlepool Board



Jonathan Brash:
Member of Parliament (Hartlepool)



Councillor Pamela Hargreaves:
Leader of the Council



Haani Hasnain:
Business Representative



Councillor Brenda Harrison: Elected Member



Carl Jorgeson:
Hartlepool Sport (Sports Representative)



Christiana Celestine:
Hartlepool Diversity Network



Christine Eddowes:
Community and Faith Representative



Darren Hankey:
Principal of Hartlepool College of FE



David Preston:
Area Manager at a Cleveland Fire Brigade



Denise McGuckin:
Chief Executive of Hartlepool Borough Council



Helen Wilson:
Cleveland Police District Commander



Iain Caldwell:
Hartlepool Opportunities Partnership



Jane Reed: Head of Hartlepool Sixth Form



Juli Simons:
Hartlepool Community Trust (Community Representative)



Karen Hawkins:
Intergrated Care Board Representative



Councillor Karen Oliver: Chair of Housing, Growth and Communities Committee



Kathryn Whittle:
Director of Corporate Affairs at Thirteen Group



Martin Raby:
Principal of Northern School of Art



Mark Robinson:
Chair of Hartlepool Development



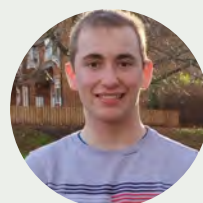
Mark Tilling:
Secondary School Representative



Matt Storey:
Cleveland Police and Crime Commissioner



Neil Atkinson:
Managing Director of North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Trust



Oliver Huermann:
Member of Youth Parliament (Hartlepool)



Phil Douglas: Chair of Hartlepool Creative and Cultural Partnership



Sue Sharpe:
Primary School Representative



Sacha Bedding:
Wharton Trust (VCS Representative)

8.2 Community and Stakeholder Engagement

The Hartlepool Board through a partnership led by Hartlepool Opportunities Partnerships (HOP) - who are the borough's Local Voluntary & Community Sector Infrastructure Organisation - directly engaged with 1,441 people in Hartlepool. This was achieved over 10 weeks from July to September 2025 with the team attending over 75 in-person events alongside conversations within community venues, online surveys and facilitated workshops with stakeholders. It is important to highlight that this included over 900 face to face meaningful conversations which provided rich insight from neighbourhoods and communities.

This final number indicates that the findings are statistically reliable

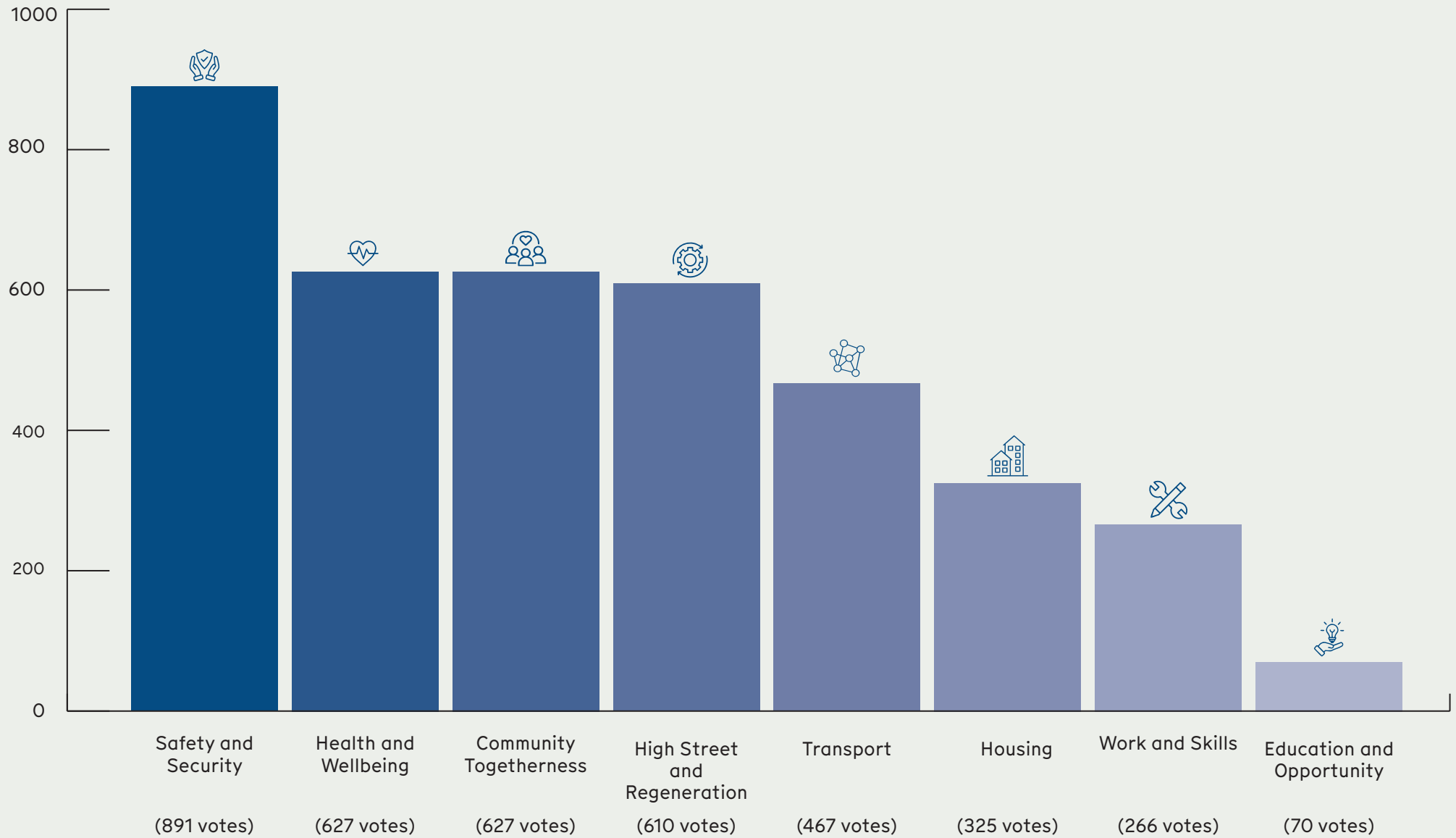
and representative of the population. To achieve a 99% confidence level with a 5%

margin of error in Hartlepool (a borough with a resident population of 98,100 people), a sample size of 662 people is required. So, having engaged with 1,437 people including at least 100 people in each of the twelve wards, the findings are statistically reliable and representative for Hartlepool.

The key aim of this community and stakeholder involvement was to understand the priorities of local people. The rich qualitative and quantitative data provided insights into the themes, interventions and changes that matter most to people and what would deliver the biggest impact for communities and stakeholders within the borough. This supplemented the knowledge and experience of the wide range of stakeholders within Hartlepool Borough Council and the Hartlepool Board.



8.2 Community and Stakeholder Engagement [Continued]



8.3 Continued Engagement and Consultation

The Hartlepool Board is committed to working with the local community, businesses, and key stakeholders which is at the heart of this 10-year Regeneration Plan and the first 4-year Investment. Building on the foundation of over 1,400 community conversations, this next phase of work will ensure that local voices continue to shape both the design and delivery of interventions under the Pride in Place Programme.

The first phase resulted in a clear set of ward-level priorities, reflecting local aspirations around health and wellbeing, high streets and regeneration, safety and security, community togetherness, and housing. These priorities now provide a strong foundation for the Board to shape this plan, ensuring that future interventions directly reflect the voices, needs, and priorities of the communities within Hartlepool.

The Board through the commissioned work of HOP will be embedding community participation as a continuous and structured process over the next decade. Interventions will not only be informed by residents' priorities but where possible co-designed and co-delivered with them. Key approaches will include:

- Neighbourhood Forums and Community Representatives: HOP in partnership with Thrive and the Hartlepool Community Trust will ensure participatory involvement with local people to represent each of the twelve wards. These representatives will form part of themed working groups and neighbourhood forums that will review progress, identify emerging needs, propose project ideas and be the voice for their communities across Hartlepool.

- Participatory Delivery: The interventions and projects will incorporate opportunities for residents and local stakeholders to play an active role in the planning and delivery. As an example, this could include local residents co-designing new infrastructure within our parks and open spaces or young people shaping the future of youth provision within the borough.
- Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD): The Plan will continue to recognise and mobilise the strengths, skills, and social networks already present in neighbourhoods across Hartlepool. To build trust and momentum residents will be supported to take forward community-led projects which will include a mix of quick, visible improvements alongside long-term, transformative interventions over the next ten

years.

- Advisory Networks: There will be a lead member for each Board Advisory Group – Youth, Diversity, Business, VCSE, and Public Sector. They will act as a representative to ensure meaningful two-way communication and each network will establish feedback mechanisms that enable stakeholders across the borough to contribute ideas, raise challenge, and co-design solutions. This will strengthen transparency, and shared

8.3 Continued Engagement and Consultation [Continued]

The regeneration will only be achieved through strong collaboration. The Board will work proactively with local businesses, stakeholders, community organisations, and anchor institutions to deliver this shared vision for the future of Hartlepool.

- **Local Communities:** Involvement will remain accessible, visible, and ongoing across the next decade. Building on the successful progress so far, the Board will continue to hold community listening events and will ensure residents can feed back easily and see tangible responses to their ideas.
- **Civil Society and Voluntary Sector:** Community organisations, faith groups, and social enterprises will be key partners for both the development and delivery of interventions. They will help shape ideas, co-create interventions, host local events and will act as champions for the Pride in Place Programme.

- **Local Businesses:** Engagement will take place through forums, networks, and direct conversations with the business community. Local businesses will be encouraged to deliver on projects and to contribute by leveraging additional investment and social value to contribute to the Regeneration Plan.

To ensure meaningful involvement, the Hartlepool Board will adopt a participatory governance model rooted in transparency, accountability, and shared learning. There will be a comprehensive capacity-building process for community representatives, clarifying roles, expectations, and communication channels while providing ongoing support and training. This will foster mutual understanding and influence whilst regular feedback mechanisms - including newsletters, ward-level communications, and community roadshows - will enable

continuous reflection and improvement. Transparent decision-making is essential, with clear communication of funding decisions underpinned by evidence and insights from the community and stakeholders within Hartlepool.

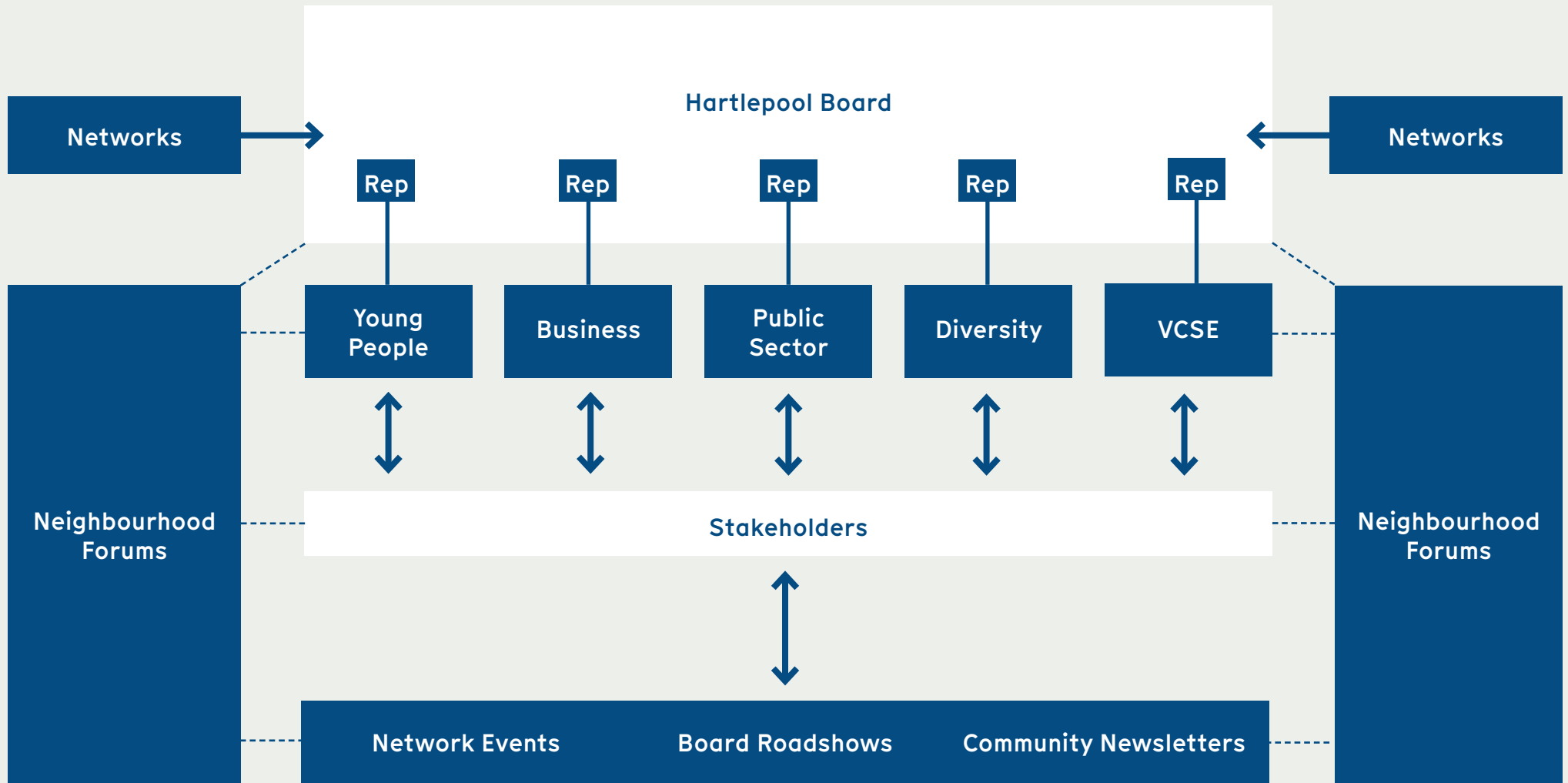
Community feedback and stakeholder involvement to date, has demonstrated the transformative power of listening. Many residents and organisations have reported that taking part in the conversations for Pride in Place has “changed the way they see the area,” highlighting the strengths, challenges, opportunities, and pride that exist across Hartlepool.

Community engagement will be a continuous dialogue with residents having clear routes to provide feedback, see how their input influences decisions, and be involved through co-design. This feedback will be embedded as a structured, iterative process

throughout the programme which will ensure that it remains responsive and evolves in line with changing circumstances over the ten-year period. This commitment to listening and adapting will help maintain trust and ensure that regeneration reflects the evolving aspirations of communities in Hartlepool.

The Board aims to harness and build on this spirit by embedding listening as an ongoing feature of governance - not a one-off exercise. The long-term goal is to nurture a culture of collaboration and civic pride, where residents and stakeholders feel empowered, heard, and connected to decision-making processes that shape the future of their neighbourhoods. Through sustained community involvement, clear accountability, and participatory delivery, this Regeneration Plan will reflect the voices, hopes, and ambitions of the people who live and work in Hartlepool.

8.3 Continued Engagement and Consultation [Continued]



Governance

PRIDE IN PLACE

09

9.1 Governance

The Hartlepool Board has been established to provide strategic leadership and oversight for the delivery of the Pride in Place Programme. Comprising a diverse cross-sector membership - including community representatives, businesses, public services, educational institutions, and other key stakeholders - the Board ensures that decisions reflect the priorities and aspirations of residents in Hartlepool.

The Board will operate as a Local Strategic Partnership and, alongside leading the £20million Pride in Place Programme, there will also be strategic oversight over other key cross-cutting investments and initiatives across the borough.

The operation of the Board is underpinned by a clear governance structure and

framework including Terms of Reference, Code of Conduct, and Conflict of Interest Policy. These documents are publicly available and were subsequently approved by the Ministry of Housing, Communities, and Local Government in July 2025. This governance framework incorporates formal feedback loops, with regular reporting to the Board. These mechanisms will allow the Board to adapt delivery based on real-time insights, ensuring transparency and continuous improvement.

Hartlepool Borough Council, as the accountable body, retains responsibility for ensuring that the Board complies with the Local Authority Assurance Framework including the Managing Public Money standards (Regularity, Propriety, Value for Money, and Feasibility). The Pride in Place Programme will be managed in line

with the Nolan Principles, and this is incorporated within the governance documentation for the Board.

The Council will ensure transparency and compliance with all investment decisions being appraised and approved against all recognised legal, risk management and procurement frameworks. All procurement will be undertaken in line with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules and Procurement thresholds which complies with the UK Procurement Act 2023. The investment decisions will comply with the Government's pre-approved interventions for the Pride in Place Programme whilst ensuring they deliver value for money and community impact for Hartlepool. The Council will therefore review and sign-off all investment decisions which are taken by the Hartlepool Board.

There will also be timely monitoring and reporting to both the Board and the Council.

A dedicated webpage has been developed which provides key information and documentation for the Board to provide transparency to residents, the local community, and stakeholders. This includes the dates of previous and forthcoming meetings, agendas and minutes, a list of board members including photos and short bios, and copies of governance documents such as the Terms of Reference. In addition, regular neighbourhood forums will ensure that local voices shape decisions and drive action on the priorities that matter most to each community which will feed directly into the Hartlepool Board.

9.1 Governance [Continued]





Assurance

PRIDE IN PLACE

10

10.1 Assurance

Robust assurance will be embedded into the management and delivery of the Pride in Place Programme over the next decade. The Council will adopt a comprehensive assurance framework, drawing on best practice from the existing capital programmes which have been successfully delivered across Hartlepool. This will be aligned with statutory requirements and professional standards including Best Value and Managing Public Money (Regularity, Propriety, Value for Money, and Feasibility).

To ensure transparency, accountability, and effective use of public funds, the Council will schedule a programme of regular internal audits throughout the lifespan of the Pride in Place Programme. This proactive approach to internal audit will help safeguard the investment and will align to the governance of the Hartlepool Board. These

audits will provide assurance covering themes such as verification of funding usage, compliance with finance and procurement regulations, monitoring of risk and control systems and a review of governance and decision-making arrangements. The findings will be reported to the Hartlepool Board, Section 151 Officer, and the Council's Independent Audit and Governance Committee in line with best practice from the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA). This proactive approach to internal audit will help safeguard the investment for the Pride in Place Programme.

The Council already manages significant levels of public spending and our Constitution and Financial Procedure details how we ensure assured administration of our financial affairs. These existing arrangements will be

used to assure the investment through the Pride in Place Programme covering:

- Procurement rules and arrangements which includes compliance with the requirements of the UK Procurement Act 2023.
- Financial management processes and system which includes authorisation limits for expenditure decisions and segregation of duties.
- Budgetary control arrangements, including the allocation of named responsible budget holders and a named financial officer for the programme.
- Appointment of appropriately qualified and experienced finance staff, including Section 151 Officer and Deputy Section 151 Officer.
- Robust and effective audit arrangements which includes a

dedicated and resourced Internal Audit Team

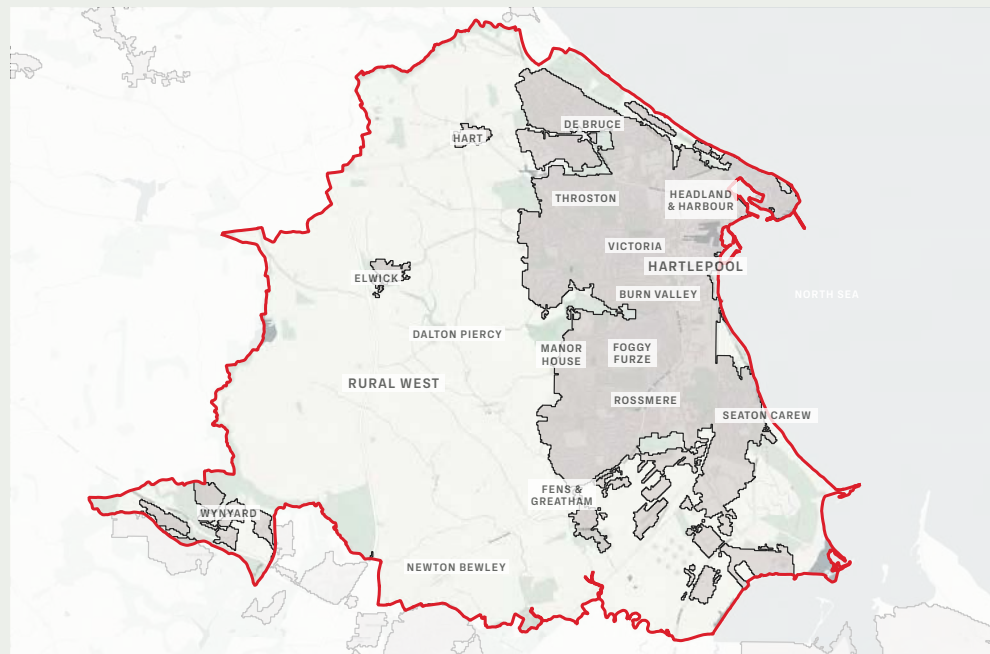
- Independent External Audit arrangements with unqualified opinion from external audit, including opinion on Value for Money.
- Independent Audit and Governance Committee in line with best practice from the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA).

This assurance process confirms that the Council has the appropriate and effective systems, controls, and processes in place to manage the investment as the accountable body for the Pride in Place Programme.

Appendix

PRIDE IN PLACE

11.1 Baseline: Regeneration, High Streets & Heritage



--- Hartlepool BUA Boundary

— Proposed PIP Boundary

○ Built Up Areas 2022

Built Up Area

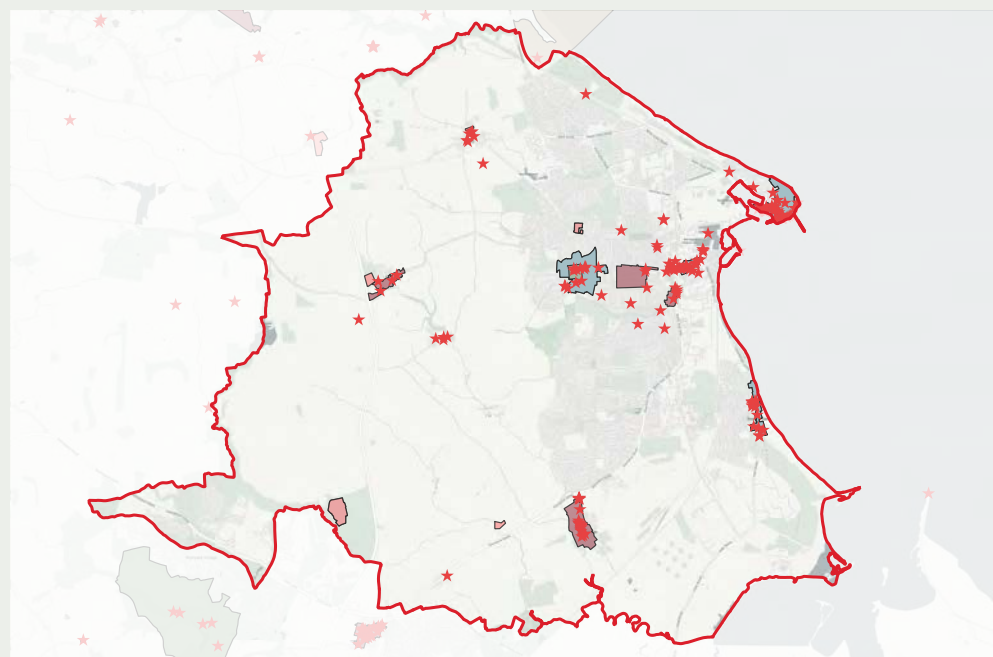
The built-up area of Hartlepool Borough is concentrated around the main town of Hartlepool, which forms the borough's urban core. This continuous urban area extends from the historic Headland in the north, through the central retail districts, and southwards to West Hartlepool and the coastal settlement of Seaton Carew. It also incorporates suburban neighbourhoods such as Rift House, Fens Estate and Owton Manor.

While much of the borough is urban in character, there are also rural and semi-rural communities including Elwick, Dalton Piercy, Greatham and Hart village, which are physically separated from the main urban mass by open countryside and green spaces. The built-up area is bounded to the east by the North Sea coast, and to the west and south by agricultural land, with transport connections linking it to Stockton-on-Tees, Billingham and the wider Tees Valley conurbation.

Observations

- **Urban core concentration** - The main built-up areas are concentrated around Hartlepool, forming the borough's urban core where most services, employment and residential development are located.
- **Rural and semi-rural separation** - Villages like Elwick, Dalton Piercy, Greatham and Hart are physically separated from the urban core by open countryside and green spaces, indicating potential challenges for transport connectivity and service access. Potential for psychological disconnect from the urban core communities.
- **Southern Built-up Areas** - Areas such as Seaton Carew along the coast are separated from the urban core by industry, highlighting opportunities for improved links and connectivity.

11.1 Baseline: Regeneration, High Streets & Heritage [Continued]



- Proposed PIP Boundary
- ★ Listed Buildings
- Scheduled Monuments
- Registered Parks and Gardens

- Heritage at Risk
- Heritage Coast

Heritage

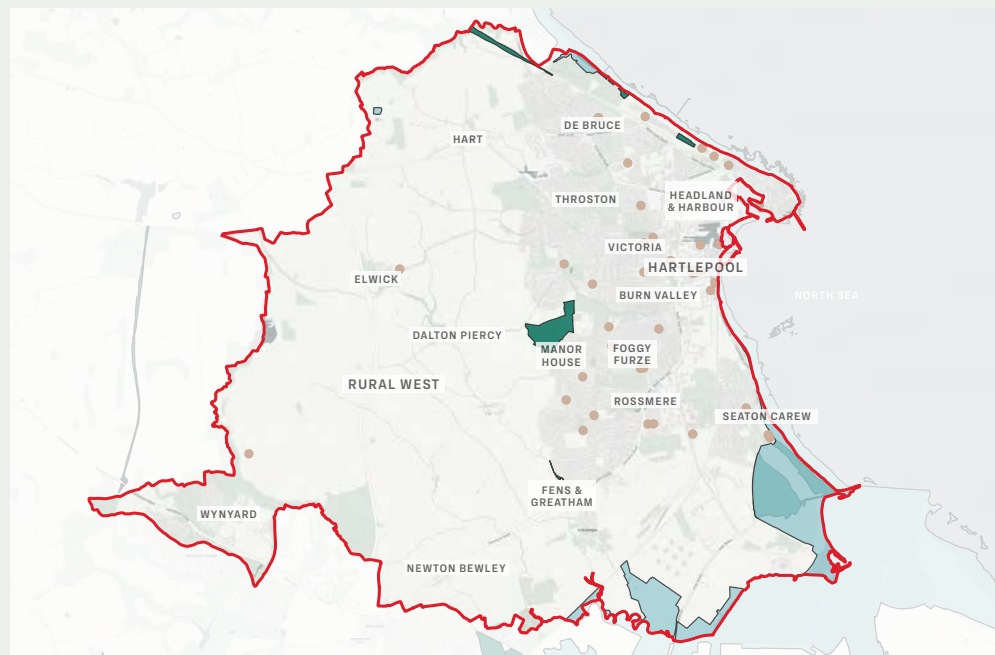
Hartlepool Borough contains a rich heritage, with a number of nationally and locally significant historic assets. The borough has listed buildings, ranging from medieval churches and 18th-century houses to Victorian civic buildings and maritime structures. The Headland is the historic core of Hartlepool, characterised by narrow streets, historic public houses and notable landmarks such as St Hilda's Church, which is Grade I listed.

The borough's maritime heritage is nationally significant, centred around the preserved 19th-century quayside and the National Museum of the Royal Navy Museum complex, which includes the restored HMS Trincomalee. Several conservation areas protect the character of distinct parts of the borough, including the Headland, Seaton Carew and parts of West Hartlepool. Industrial heritage is also evident, with surviving shipyard buildings, dock structures and former railway infrastructure reflecting Hartlepool's role as a major 19th- and 20th-century port and shipbuilding centre.

Observations

- **National significance** - The borough's maritime heritage, including National Museum of the Royal Navy Museum complex, is of recognised national importance.
- **Listed buildings** - Hartlepool's heritage encompasses its nationally significant maritime past (National Museum of the Royal Navy Museum complex) alongside a rich variety of listed buildings, from the medieval Church of St Hilda to Victorian landmarks such as Borough Hall and Ward Jackson Park.
- **Conservation areas** - Hartlepool has eight conservation areas - Elwick, Greatham, Headland, Seaton, Grange, Park, Stranton and Church Street - designated to protect the borough's most important historic villages, coastal heritage, green spaces and distinctive architectural character.
- **Character and distinctiveness** - Heritage features contribute to character of place and should be preserved and celebrated.
- **Heritage at Risk** - Some of Hartlepool's historic assets are identified as at risk due to vacancy, neglect or structural decline, highlighting the need for active preservation and reuse to secure their future.

11.1 Baseline: Regeneration, High Streets & Heritage [Continued]



- Proposed PIP Boundary
- Brownfield Sites
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- Local Nature Reserve

Planning Designations

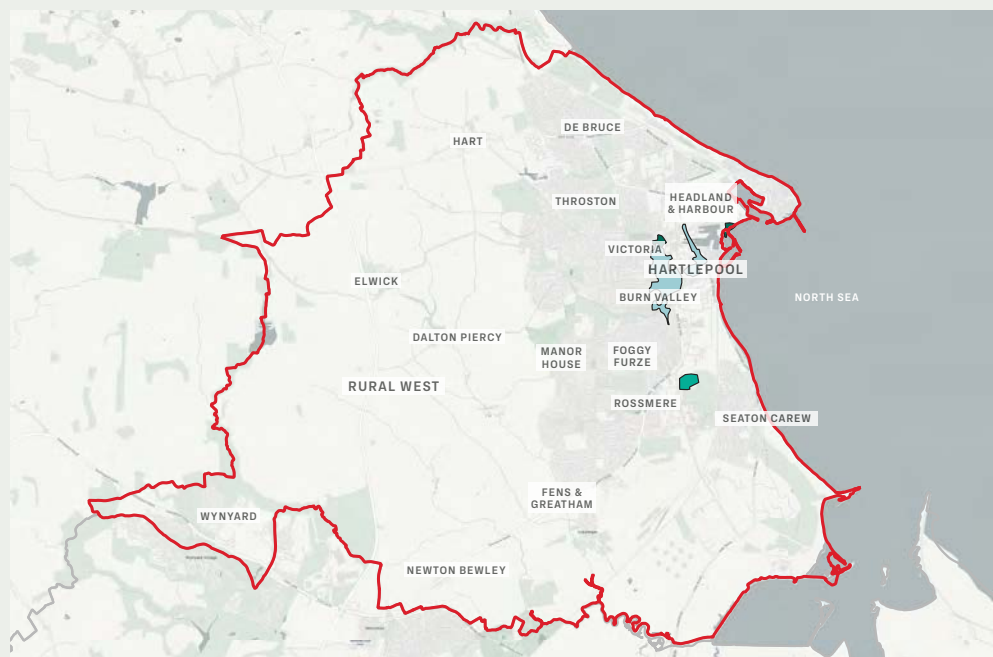
Hartlepool Borough includes important environmental designations such as Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) and Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs). LNRs, like **Summerhill Country Park**, provide accessible green spaces that support biodiversity, conservation and community recreation. The Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast SSSI is a key coastal habitat featuring intertidal mudflats and saltmarshes, supporting diverse bird populations and rare species. These designations play a vital role in protecting and managing the borough's natural assets.

In addition, the borough contains a number of brownfield sites - previously developed land that is no longer in use - which present key opportunities for sustainable redevelopment and regeneration. Prioritising brownfield land helps to reduce pressure on greenfield sites, supports local economic growth and contributes to meeting housing and employment needs in line with planning policy.

Observations

- **Ecological sensitivities** - The presence of significant environmental designations such as LNRs and SSSIs such as Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast highlights the need for careful consideration of ecological sensitivities in future development plans.
- **Sustainable growth** - Brownfield sites offer valuable opportunities to meet housing and economic growth targets while helping to preserve greenfield areas and natural habitats.
- **Local pride and wellbeing** - Protected outdoor spaces offer amenity and help to define distinctiveness of place.

11.1 Baseline: Regeneration, High Streets & Heritage [Continued]



— Proposed PIP Boundary

● Retail Typology 1 - Local retail & service centres

● Retail Typology 2 - Retail, shopping & leisure parks

○ Retail Typology 3 - Leading comparison & leisure destinations

Retail and Shopping Provision

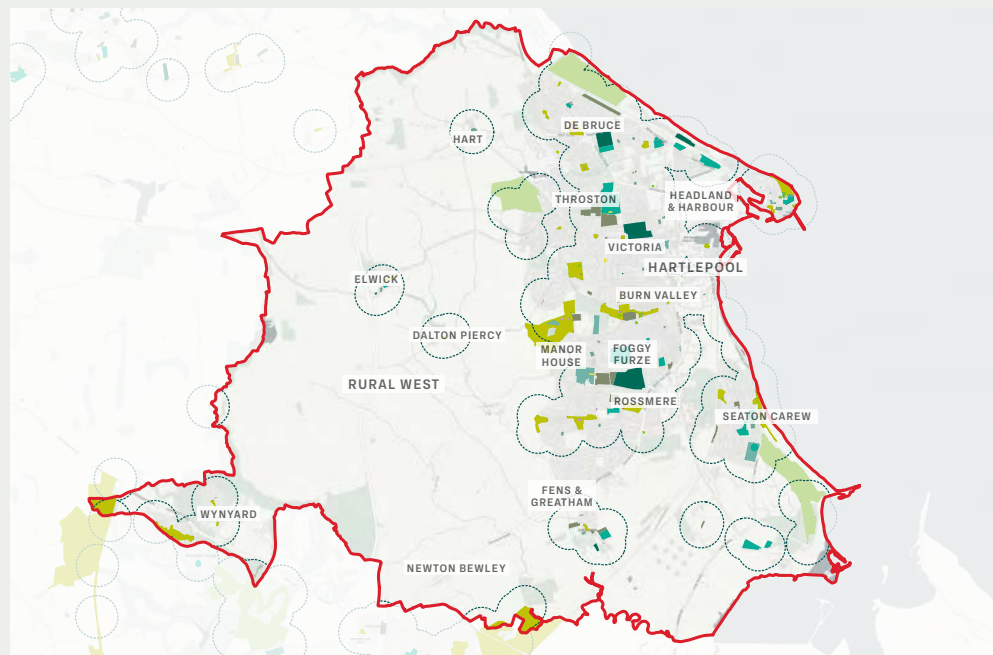
Retail and shopping provision in Hartlepool is concentrated in the town centre, the primary destination for comparison and convenience shopping, cultural activities and key services. District and local centres, including Seaton Carew and Middleton Grange, play a vital role in meeting the everyday shopping and service needs of surrounding neighbourhoods, helping to sustain accessible and vibrant community hubs across the borough. The retail typologies are classifications used to understand and differentiate various retail environments :

- Local retail & service centres: Small, serve local community, convenience stores, walkable (≤ 15 min).
- Retail, shopping & leisure parks: Large, out-of-town, big-box stores + leisure, wide catchment (20+ min drive).
- Leading comparison & leisure destinations: Major centres, comparison goods + leisure, high footfall, regional draw.
- Primary food & secondary comparison destinations: Anchored by supermarkets, some comparison goods, local & nearby catchment.
- Traditional high streets & market towns: Historic town centres, mixed retail, social hub, local + surrounding visitors.

Observations

- **Retail Concentration** - The majority of retail and shopping activity is focused in and around Hartlepool's town centre. Limited number of residents can access the retail core by foot, which means many are reliant on access by car.
- **Competition** - Mapping indicated limited competition from surrounding towns.
- **Teesbay Retail Park** - Located on the outskirts of Hartlepool town centre, the retail park serves as a key retail and leisure destination, featuring a mix of larger scale retail stores. This is a car focused environment.

11.1 Baseline: Regeneration, High Streets & Heritage [Continued]



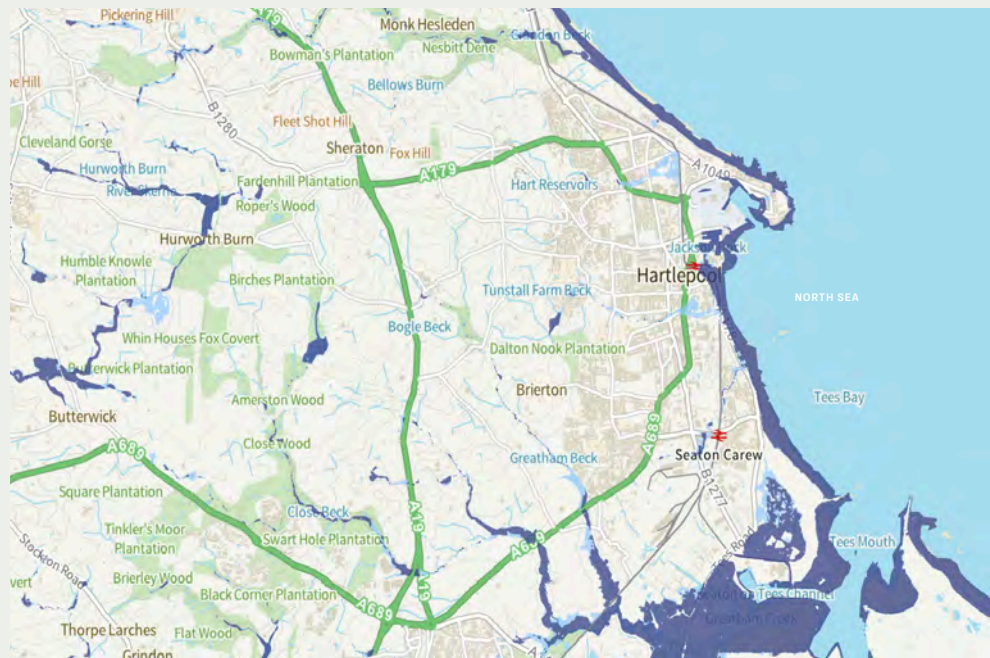
Public Greenspace

The mapped public green spaces in Hartlepool Borough range from coastal parks and local nature reserves to community recreation areas and waterfront promenades. They collectively provide opportunities for leisure, sport and nature conservation serving residents and visitors alike.

Observations

- **Diverse functions** - The green spaces cater to a wide range of uses, including active sports, children’s play, nature walks and heritage appreciation. Mapping doesn’t indicate quality of provision or maintenance.
- **Network** - The map indicates a good network of green spaces within a 5 minute walking distance of many residential areas. Mapping doesn’t not illustrate quality of journey - poor walking experience can result in default to car journeys. Walking is the most accessible form of movement.
- **Safety and security** - Important to cross reference this topic will public consultation findings on perceptions around safety.

11.1 Baseline: Regeneration, High Streets & Heritage [Continued]



- Proposed PIP Boundary
- Flood Zone 2 (0.1% chance of flood each year from rivers or sea)
- Flood Zone 3 (1% chance of flood each year from rivers, 0.5% chance of flood each year from sea)

Flooding

Hartlepool Borough is susceptible to various types of flooding due to its coastal location and river systems. Coastal flooding poses a significant risk, particularly along the seafront and low-lying areas near the North Sea, where storm surges and high tides can lead to inundation. The borough's estuaries and river valleys, including the Teesmouth area, also face potential fluvial flooding during periods of heavy rainfall.

Surface water flooding is another concern, especially in urbanised areas where drainage infrastructure may be overwhelmed during intense storms. Some residential and commercial neighbourhoods in Hartlepool town and West Hartlepool have experienced localised flooding incidents linked to surface runoff and drainage capacity issues.

Observations

- **High vulnerability in coastal and low-lying areas** - Hartlepool's proximity to the North Sea and its estuaries increases the risk of both coastal and river flooding, which could affect residential, commercial and public spaces.
- **Surface water challenges in urban areas** - Localised flooding in parts of Hartlepool town and West Hartlepool indicates that existing drainage systems may be insufficient during extreme rainfall events.
- **Need for proactive flood management** - There is an opportunity to strengthen flood defences, improve drainage infrastructure and implement sustainable urban drainage solutions to mitigate future risks.

11.2 Baseline: Housing



92,340,

Residents

(Based upon Hartlepool's District and Census 2021 datasets)

14% of Tees Valley's overall employment

NHS representatives advise registered patient list is 99,663 (NHS Hartlepool, 2025).



40,930 Households

Businesses

14% of Tees Valley's business base

(Based upon Hartlepool's District and Census 2021 datasets)



In 2011 - 2% of the Hartlepool population was BAME (2,129 people)

In 2021 - 4% of the Hartlepool population was BAME (3,372 people)

Population and Housing

Based upon Hartlepool's District and Census 2021 datasets, we are able to estimate the area's population and households.

Observations

- Hartlepool has a resident population of 92,340 and around 40,930 households.
- The area accounts for around 14% of the wider Tees Valley population and households.
- Around 20% of the population are aged 65+ years – this is in line with Tees Valley (20%) and the North East (20%), however higher than we see nationally (18%).
- Consequently, the area's resident population is slightly older than average, resulting in a slightly smaller working age population (57% aged 20-64 years compared to 58% nationally).
- Hartlepool's population is 96% white, making it less ethnically diverse than both Tees Valley's and England where the white population makes up 92% and 81% of the population respectively. Hartlepool has a small BAME population of around 1,600 residents (4%).
- The BAME population in Hartlepool is concentrated around the town centre, and surrounding areas.

11.2 Baseline: Housing

Legacy Communities

"These neighbourhoods are characterised by high proportions of single, often never-married adults of normal retirement age or older, including many that are in the most advanced age groups. Most adults are UK born and live at high residential densities, and many of the children living with parents are in adulthood. Individuals identifying as members of ethnic minorities are uncommon, but above average proportions of households include individuals that identify with different ethnic groups. Long-term disability is relatively common, and the dominant accommodation type is flats. Unemployment rates are high, with most of those employed working in routine occupations. Few individuals have high level qualifications. Car ownership is not high."

Semi- & Un-Skilled Workforce

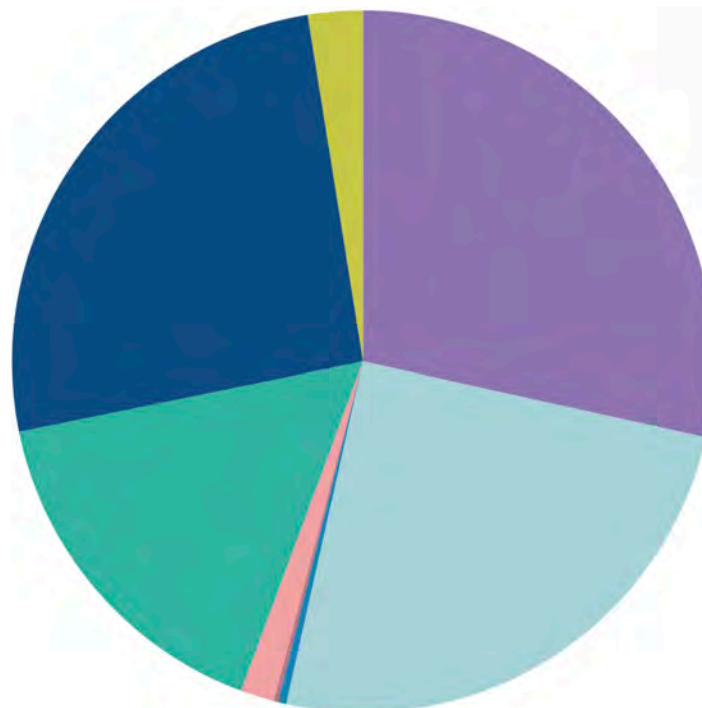
"Living in terraced or semi-detached houses, residents of these neighbourhoods typically lack high levels of education and work in elementary or routine service occupations. Unemployment is above average. Residents are predominantly born in the UK, and residents are also predominantly from ethnic minorities. Social (but not private sector) rented sector housing is common. This Supergroup is found throughout the UK's conurbations and industrial regions but is also an integral part of smaller towns."

Baseline UK

"This Supergroup exemplifies the broad base to the UK's social structure, encompassing as it does the average or modal levels of many neighbourhood characteristics, including all housing tenures, a range of levels of educational attainment and religious affiliations, and a variety of pre-retirement age structures. Yet, in combination, these mixes are each distinctive of the parts of the UK. Overall, terraced houses and flats are the most prevalent, as is employment in intermediate or low-skilled occupations. However, this Supergroup is also characterised by above average levels of unemployment and lower levels of use of English as the main language. Many neighbourhoods occur in south London and the UK's other major urban centres."

Ethnically Diverse Suburban Professionals

"Those working within the managerial, professional and administrative occupations typically reflect a wide range of ethnic groups, and reside in detached or semi-detached housing. Their residential locations at the



Retired Professionals

"Typically married but no longer with resident dependent children, these well-educated households either remain working in their managerial, professional, administrative or other skilled occupations, or are retired from them – the modal individual age is beyond normal retirement age. Underoccupied detached and semi-detached properties predominate, and unpaid care is more prevalent than reported disability. The prevalence of this Supergroup outside most urban conurbations indicates that rural lifestyles prevail, typically sustained by using two or more cars per household."

Suburbanites & Peri-Urbanites

"Pervasive throughout the UK, members of this Supergroup typically own (or are buying) their detached, semi-detached or terraced homes. They are also typically educated to A Level/Highers or degree level and work in skilled or professional occupations. Typically born in the UK, some families have children, although the median adult age is above 45 and some property has become under-occupied after children have left home. This Supergroup is pervasive not only in suburban locations, but also in neighbourhoods at or beyond the edge of cities that adjoin rural parts of the country."

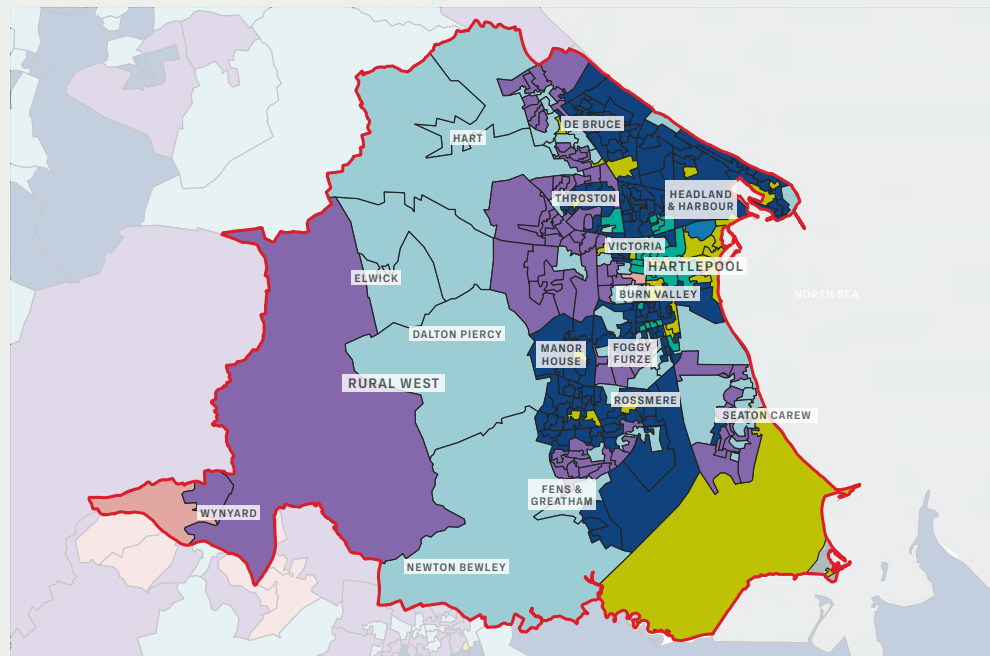
Multicultural & Educated Urbanites

"Established populations comprising ethnic minorities together with persons born outside the UK predominate in this Supergroup. Residents present diverse personal characteristics and circumstances: while generally well-educated and practising skilled occupations, some residents live in overcrowded rental sector housing. English may not be the main language used by people in this Group. Although the typical adult resident is middle aged, single person households are common and marriage rates are low by national standards. This Supergroup predominates in Inner London, with smaller enclaves in many other densely populated metropolitan areas."

Low-skilled Migrant & Student Communities

"Young adults, many of whom are students, predominate in these high-density and overcrowded neighbourhoods of rented terrace houses or flats. Most ethnic minorities are present in these communities, as are people born in European countries that are not part of the EU. Students aside, low skilled occupations predominate, and unemployment rates are above average. Overall, the mix of students and more sedentary households means that neighbourhood average numbers of children are not very high. The Mixed or Multiple ethnic group composition of neighbourhoods is often associated with low rates of

11.2 Baseline: Housing



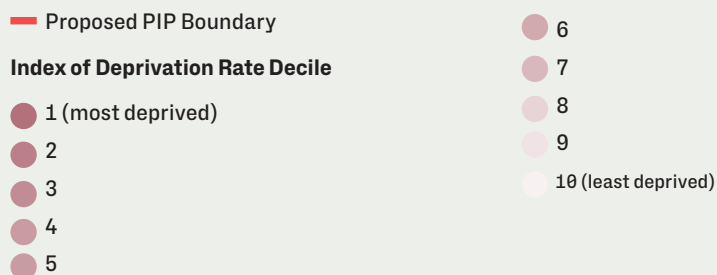
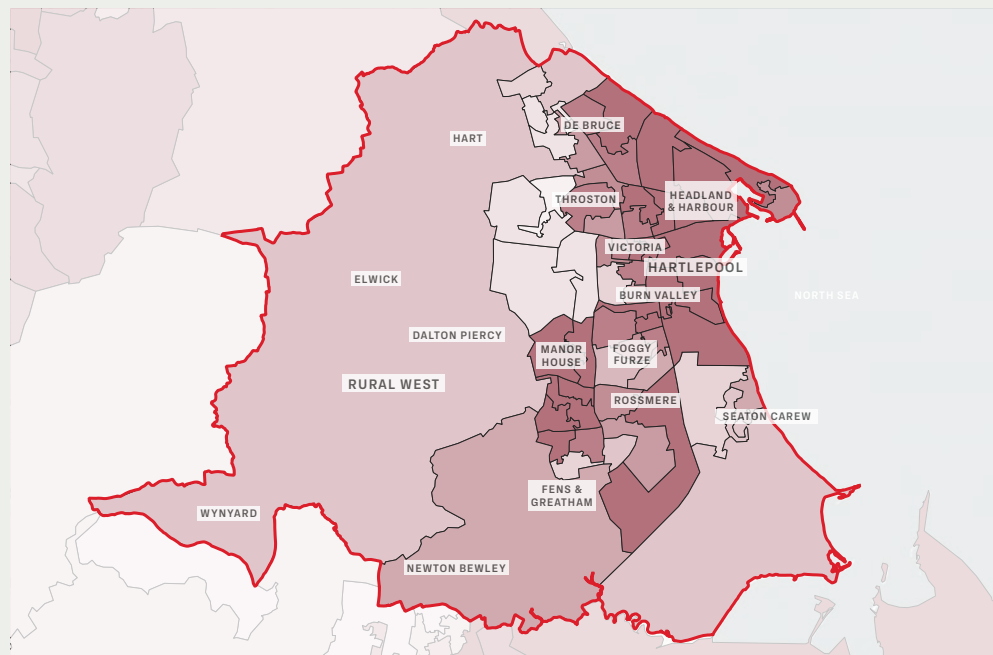
Demographic

Hartlepool’s demographic landscape is marked by a diverse mix of socio-economic groups, ranging from Retired Professionals to Semi- and Un-skilled Workforce populations, reflecting a wide spectrum of economic backgrounds. Despite this diversity, the borough faces ongoing economic challenges, particularly within groups like the Semi- and Un-skilled Workforce and Legacy Communities, which continue to experience vulnerabilities linked to Hartlepool’s industrial heritage. Meanwhile, Suburbanites and Peri-Urbanites tend to prefer the suburban fringes of the borough, drawn by family-friendly environments and access to community amenities, highlighting the varied living preferences across Hartlepool.

Observations

- **Range of socio-economic groups** - Hartlepool’s population includes a range of groups from Retired Professionals to Semi- & Un-skilled Workforce, reflecting varied economic backgrounds.
- **Economic challenges** - Groups like the Semi- & Un-skilled Workforce (SUSW) and Legacy Communities (LC) highlight ongoing economic vulnerabilities (lower levels of education and higher levels of unemployment, born in the UK often of ethnic minority) - these tend to be located in Hartlepool town urban areas.
- **Suburbanites & Peri-Urbanites (SPU) and Retired Professionals (RP)** - This group favors suburban areas on the fringe of Hartlepool, valuing family life and community amenities.

11.2 Baseline: Housing



Deprivation

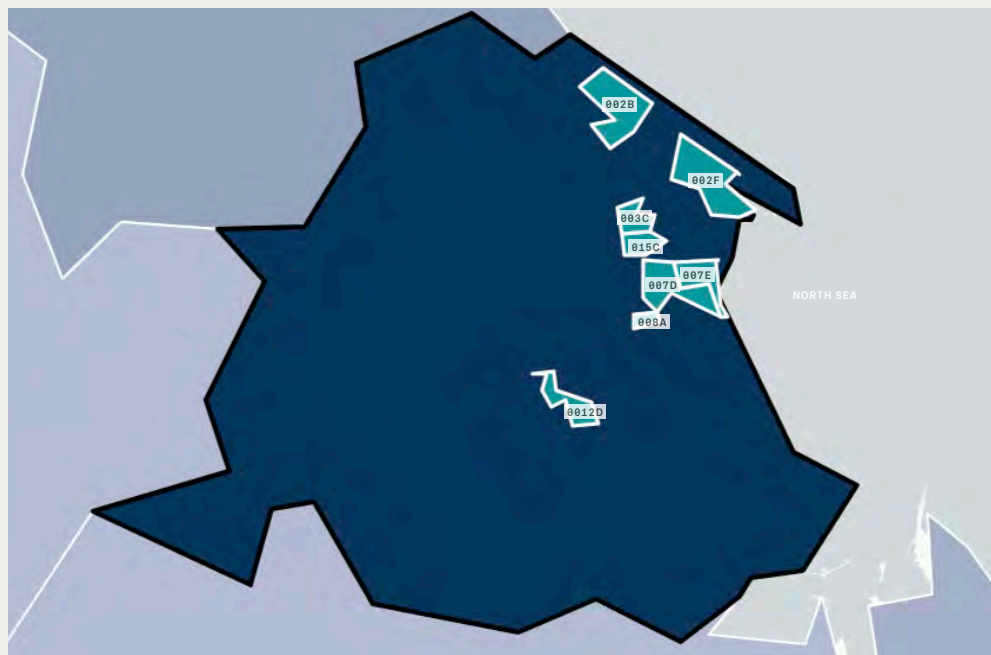
The 2019 Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) highlights that Hartlepool Borough faces considerable socio-economic challenges. While some parts of the borough show signs of gradual improvement, there remain substantial pockets of deprivation that require focused support and investment to promote long-term recovery and growth.

Within Hartlepool, deprivation is notably concentrated in certain neighbourhoods, including areas around Rift House and parts of West Hartlepool. The IMD data indicates that a significant portion of the borough continues to experience high levels of deprivation, with relatively few areas classified among the least deprived. This reflects ongoing socio-economic divides within the borough, with many communities still facing significant barriers to prosperity.

Observations

- **Significant socio-economic divides** - A significant portion of Hartlepool experiences high levels of deprivation, with few areas amongst the least deprived. Amongst England’s most deprived authorities (ranks 11th).
- **Need for inclusive growth** - The limited presence of less deprived areas calls for borough-wide strategies focused on reducing inequalities and improving quality of life.

11.2 Baseline: Housing



● Mission Critical Neighbourhoods

Hyper Local Need Measure:

Headland & West View (Hartlepool 002B) - Score: 88.94

Headland & West View (Hartlepool 002F) - Score: 88.94

Owton Manor (Hartlepool 012D) - Score: 92.30

Foggy Furze (Hartlepool 008A) - Score: 89.53

Old Town & Grange (Hartlepool 007D) - Score: 86.13

Old Town & Grange (Hartlepool 007E) - Score: 84.28

Harbour & Victoria (Hartlepool 015C) - Score: 90.99

Jesmond (Hartlepool 003C) - Score: 83.63

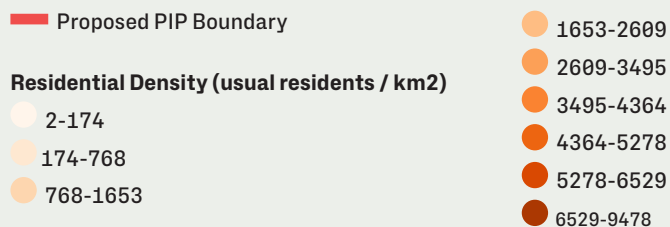
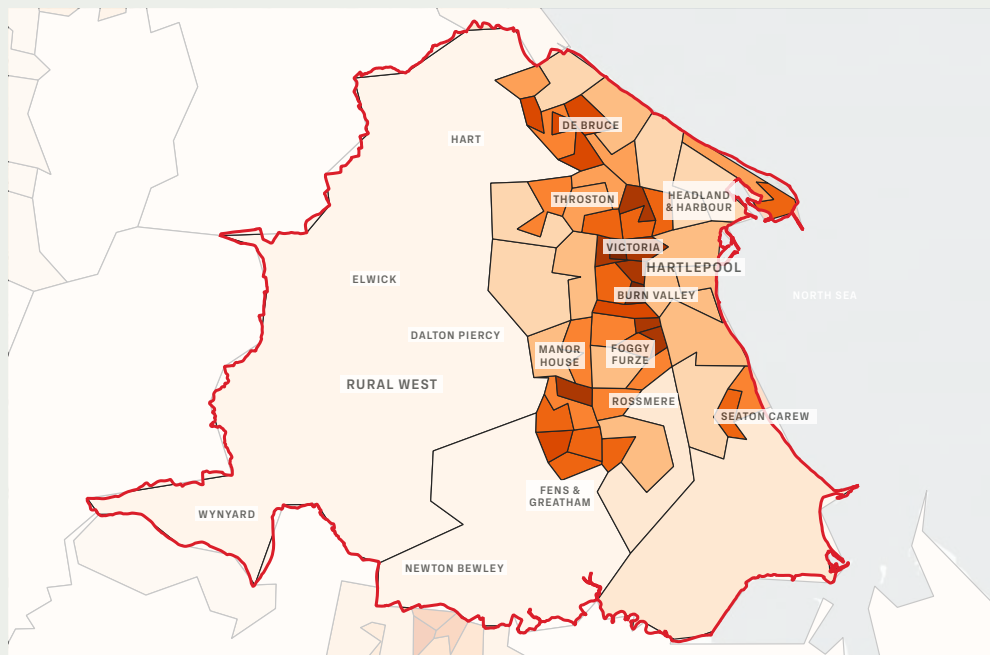
Mission Critical Neighbourhoods

The Mission Critical Neighbourhoods Dataset identifies communities across England that face the highest levels of socio-economic challenges and are at risk of failing to meet national priorities for renewal and development. Developed by the Independent Commission on Neighbourhoods (ICON) in partnership with Oxford Consultants for Social Inclusion (OCSI), this dataset is based on the Hyper-Local Need Index (HLNI), a measure that assesses multiple dimensions of local deprivation, including employment, health, education, housing and income.

Observations

- **Overall pattern** - Several Hartlepool neighbourhoods fall into the highest-need category, with HLNI scores well above 80, a threshold indicating acute socio-economic challenges.
- **Highest-scoring areas** - Owton Manor (92.30) and Harbour & Victoria (90.99) rank among the most deprived locally and would likely be considered "mission critical" for intervention.
- **Geographic distribution** - The most deprived neighbourhoods cluster in coastal and central Hartlepool, reflecting patterns seen in many post-industrial towns where economic restructuring has left pockets of concentrated disadvantage.
- **Implications** - Hartlepool demonstrates multiple overlapping neighbourhoods with HLNI scores above 85, showing that deprivation is not isolated but spread across the borough.

11.2 Baseline: Housing



Residential Density

Residential density across Hartlepool Borough varies according to urban form and land use patterns. The town centre and surrounding areas of West Hartlepool exhibit higher-density residential development, typically consisting of terraced housing and low-rise flats, reflecting historical patterns of industrial-era housing.

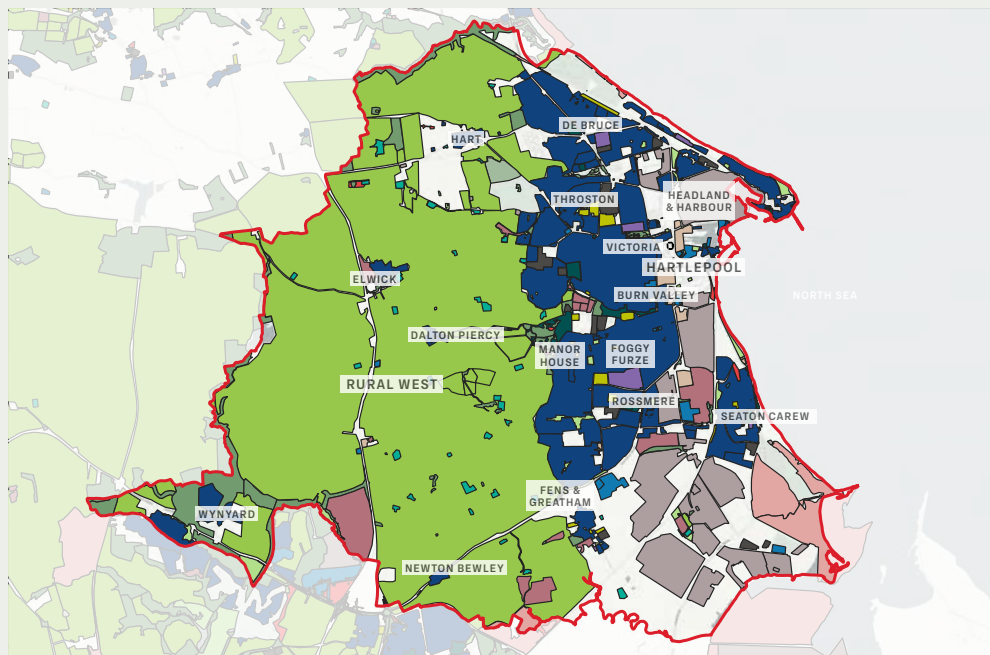
In contrast, suburban and peri-urban parts of the borough, including neighbourhoods such as Rift House, Owton Manor and the more rural villages like Elwick and Hart, feature lower-density housing with a mix of semi-detached and detached properties.

The borough also contains pockets of medium-density housing, often associated with post-war and more recent developments, which seek to balance efficient land use with provision of amenity space. Overall, residential density in Hartlepool reflects the borough’s mixed urban and semi-rural character, with development focused on sustainable regeneration of brownfield land within existing urban areas to optimise land use.

Observations

- **Low residential density** - Residential density within the study area is considered to be low when compared to other urban settlements.
- **UN-habitat benchmark** - UN Habitat recommend densities of 12,500 people per square kilometre for sustainable urban communities.
- **Opportunity for increased density** - There are opportunities to increase densities within the town especially on existing and planned sustainable transport networks.

11.2 Baseline: Housing



Land Use

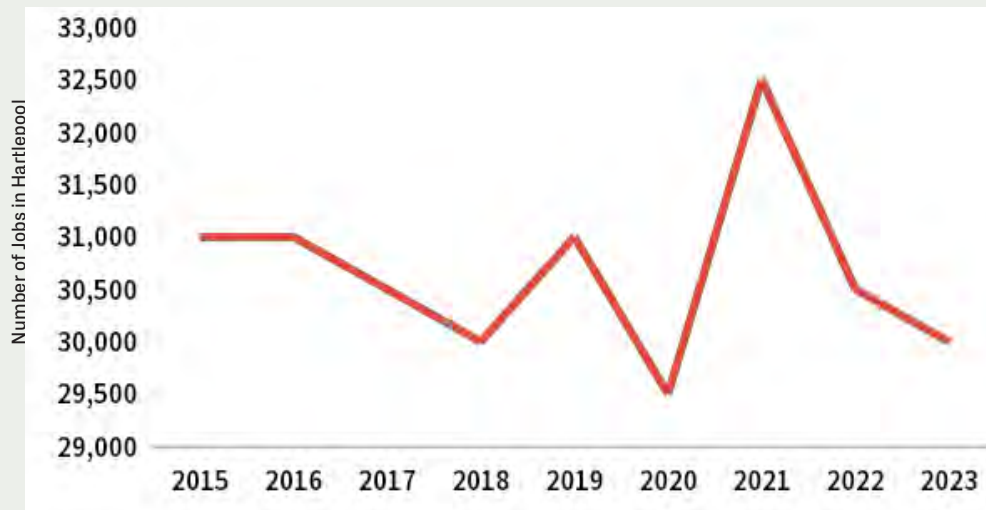
Hartlepool Borough’s land use is characterised by a mix of urban, suburban, industrial and rural areas. The urban core centres around Hartlepool town and West Hartlepool, where residential, commercial and retail developments predominate. These areas contain a mix of housing types, town centre shopping districts, business parks and community facilities. Industrial and port-related uses remain significant within the borough, particularly along the waterfront and docklands, reflecting Hartlepool’s historic maritime and manufacturing heritage.

Suburban residential areas surround the urban centre, comprising mostly medium- to low-density housing, parks and local amenities. Beyond these suburban zones, the borough transitions into rural and semi-rural landscapes, including agricultural land, open countryside and small villages.

Observations

- Mixed land use - The PIP boundary area comprises urban, suburban, industrial and rural areas, reflecting a clear land use pattern.
- Urban core focus - Residential, commercial, retail and industrial activities are concentrated in Hartlepool town, including waterfront and docklands.
- Green and community spaces - Urban edge and rural areas offer valuable parks, green spaces and community amenities that enhance quality of life and support biodiversity. Ensuring sustainable, accessible connections between residential areas and these outdoor spaces is essential.

11.3 Baseline: Work, Productivity and Skills



Local Economy

ONS Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES) data provides sub-local authority level employment statistics. Based upon Hartlepool’s district boundary we are able to estimate the area’s business and employment base.

Observations

- The local economy supports around 2,160 businesses, and 30,000 jobs
- It accounts for 11% jobs in Tees Valley and 2.7% of all jobs in the North East.
- Employment has shrunk by around 3% since 2019 (pre-covid) compared to both Tees Valley and the North East that have both seen 2% increase in employment.
- Key sectors within Hartlepool include:
 - 10,375 jobs – public sector, health, education
 - 5,875 jobs in retail and F&B
 - 3,500 jobs in manufacturing
 - 2,250 jobs in construction
 - 2,125 in business admin and professional services
- Around 89% of businesses are micro businesses employing fewer than 10 people, 9% small businesses 10-50 employees, 2% medium (50-250) and 0.5% large (>250+)



30,000

Jobs

11% of Tees Valley’s overall employment

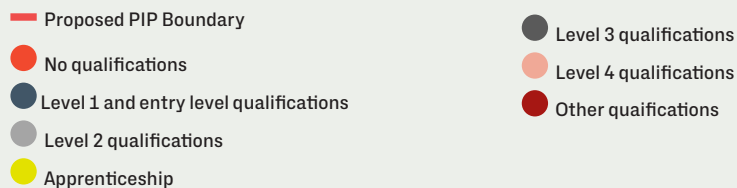


2,160

Businesses

12% of Tees Valley’s business base

11.3 Baseline: Work, Productivity and Skills [Continued]



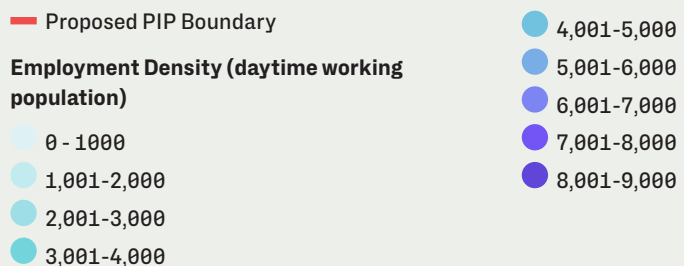
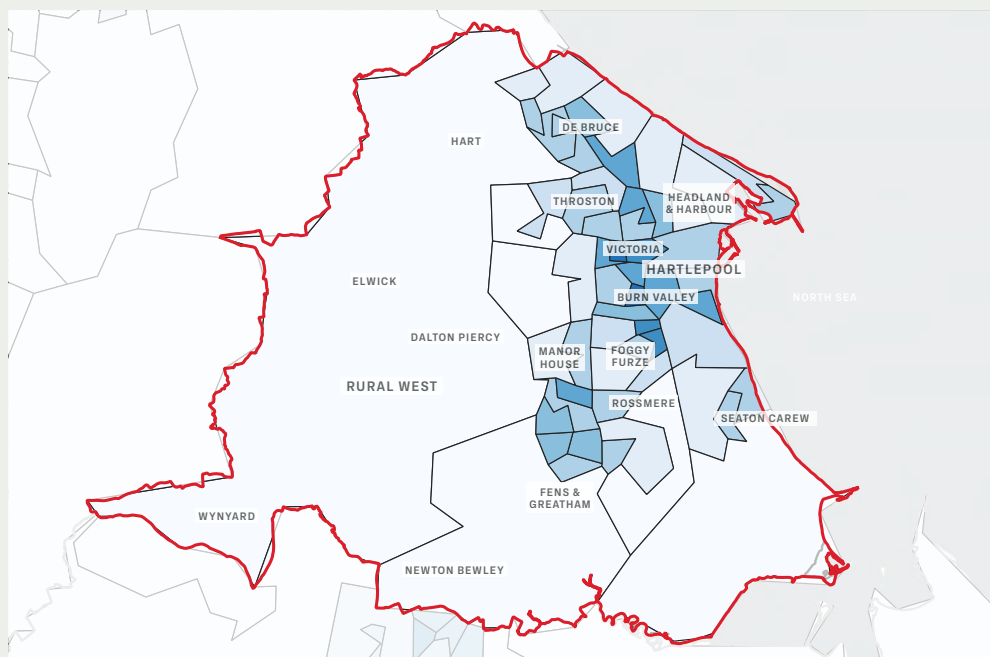
Skills and Qualifications

Census 2021 data provides sub-local authority level data on resident qualifications. While a little dated, it still provides the best analysis qualification levels locally for Hartlepool.

Observations

- **Below-average qualifications across the borough** - Resident skill levels in Hartlepool, measured by qualifications, fall slightly below national and regional averages.
- **High proportion of residents without formal qualifications** - Locally, almost a quarter of residents (23%) have no qualifications, this is higher than other comparator geographies.
- **Limited higher-level qualifications** - A quarter of residents (25%) have level 4 qualifications or above (which is considered degree level or above), which is significantly below the national average (34%).

11.3 Baseline: Work, Productivity and Skills [Continued]



Employment Density

Employment density in Hartlepool Borough varies across sectors and locations, reflecting the borough’s economic structure and land use patterns. The highest concentrations of employment are found in the urban core areas of Hartlepool town and West Hartlepool, particularly within business parks, industrial estates and the port and waterfront zones.

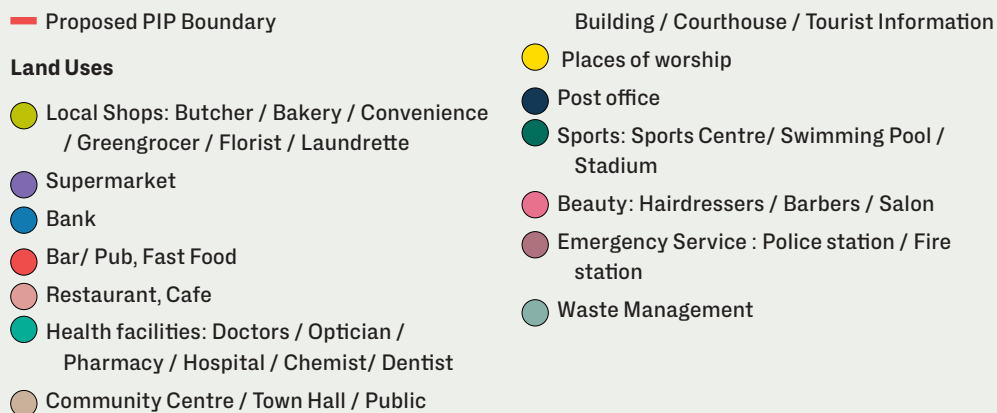
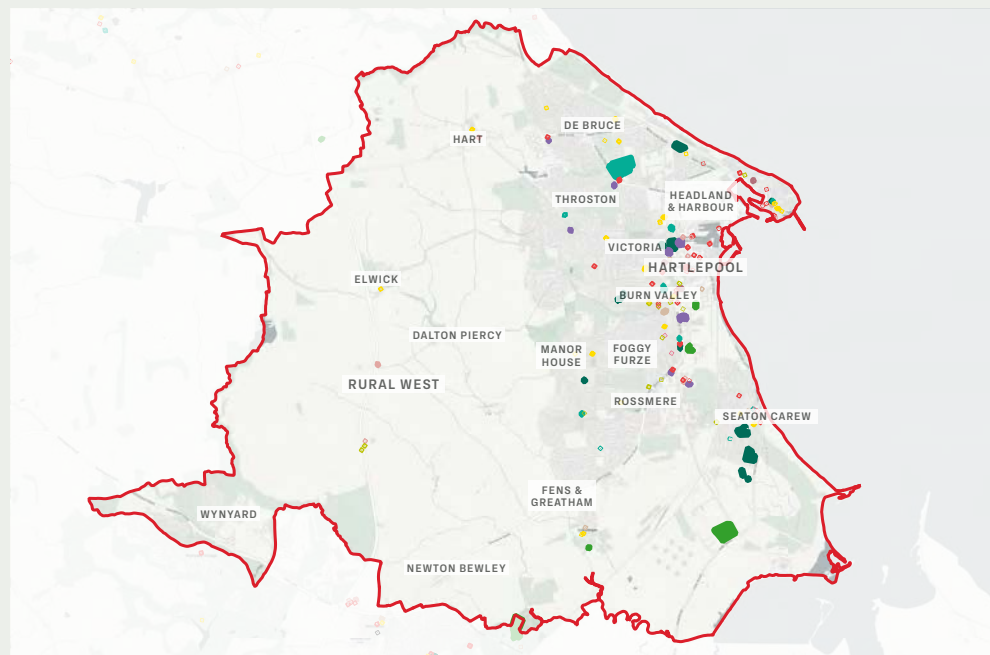
A limitation to census data 2021 is that it is reflective of the global COVID19 pandemic.

Observations

- **Low density in peripheral areas** - Employment density drops significantly in rural villages and outlying neighbourhoods, indicating limited local job opportunities and potential reliance on commuting to urban centres.
- **Concentration in urban core** - The highest employment densities are located in Hartlepool town centre, particularly around business parks, industrial estates and the port, making the urban centre the main economic hub.
- **Lower Density at specific sites** - Lower employment density noted at Hunter House, Tofts Farm and Hartlepool Pipe Mill.

Contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0 / ONS Crown Copyright Reserved [from ONS, TS066 dataset, 2021] Available at: <https://www.ons.gov.uk/datasets/TS066/editions/2021/versions/1/filter-outputs/9acfa907-83c9-4ee6-a158-ce8cf01657ba#get-data>

11.4 Baseline: Cohesion



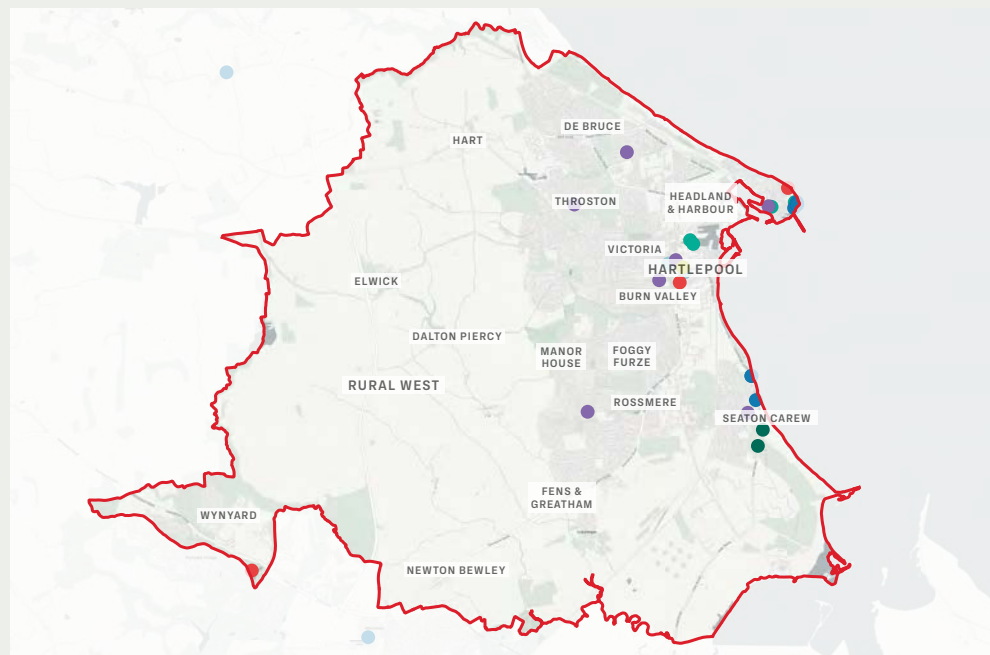
Community Infrastructure

Community infrastructure in Hartlepool Borough encompasses a wide range of facilities and services including education and skills hubs, community centres, green spaces and cultural venues. This mix supports both everyday needs and long-term social, economic and recreational development across the borough.

Observations

- **Urban-rural variation** - Central and coastal zones have denser clusters of services, while smaller villages and outlying areas have fewer facilities, often relying on core towns for specialist services.
- **Potential for complete communities** - Additional facilities could make neighbourhoods within the town more “complete communities” where residents can access their day-to-day needs within a 15 minute walk.

11.4 Baseline: Cohesion [Continued]



— Proposed PIP Boundary

Land Uses

- Arts Centre
- Library
- Memorial
- Monument
- Museum

- Ruins
- Theatre
- Tower

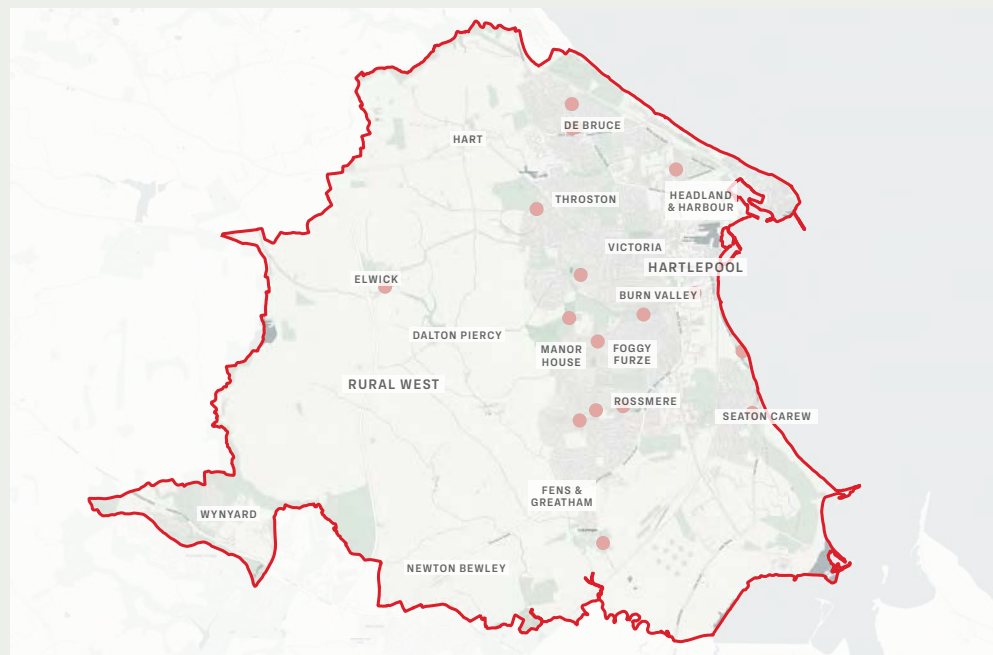
Arts and Cultural Institutions

Hartlepool hosts a wide range of arts and cultural institutions that contribute to the borough's identity. The Hartlepool Art Gallery presents local, regional and national exhibitions, while the Museum of Hartlepool and the National Museum of the Royal Navy celebrate the area's rich maritime heritage. The Borough Hall and various community arts venues support theatre, live music and community-led events. Libraries across the borough also deliver cultural programmes, including talks, workshops and heritage projects, alongside their core services.

Observations

- **Strong cultural concentration in the urban core** - Most cultural and heritage sites are located in Hartlepool town, particularly along the coast, reflecting a centralised pattern of provision.
- **Limited provision in rural areas** - The northern and southern parts of the borough have relatively few cultural facilities, suggesting lower geographic accessibility outside urban areas.
- **Imbalance in facility types** - Libraries and arts centres are less common than memorials and museums, indicating potential gaps in certain cultural services.

11.4 Baseline: Cohesion [Continued]



— Proposed PIP Boundary

Play Spaces

● Play Spaces

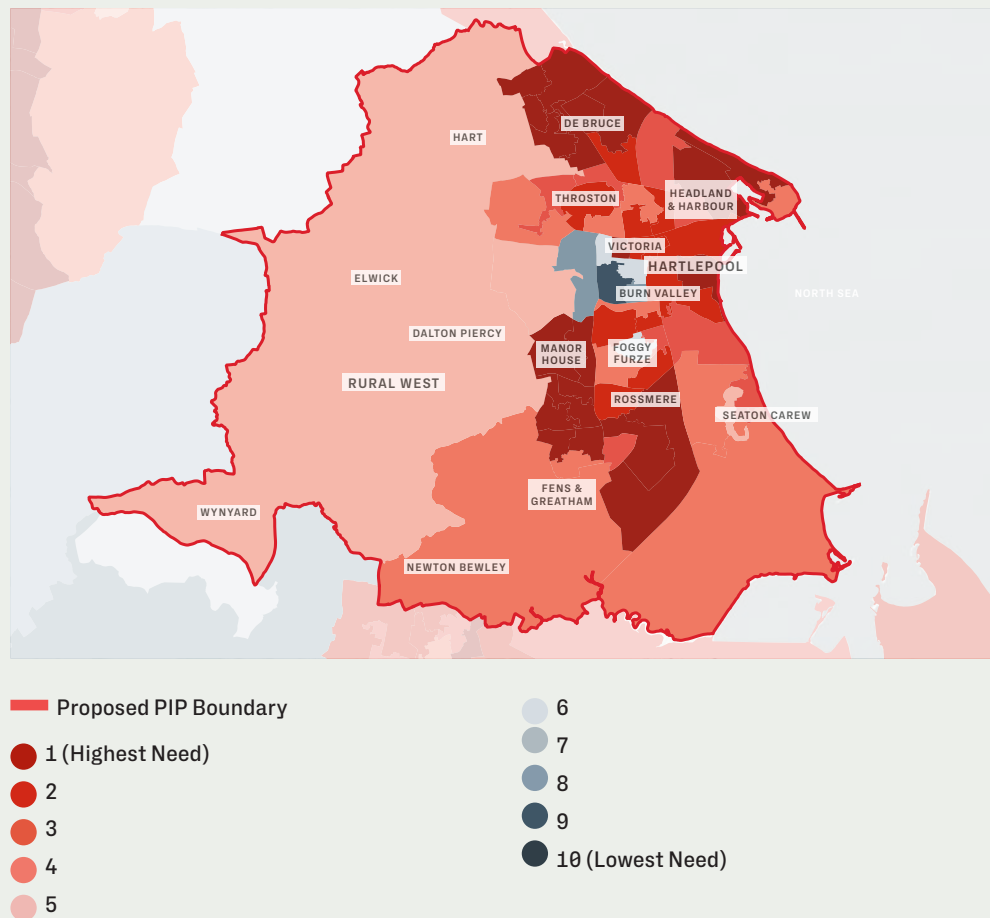
Play Provision

Hartlepool Borough Council provides information on the town's play areas through its official website. The data is organised by ward, showing where each play area is located and it also includes details of skate parks and seasonal facilities like the Seaton Carew Water & Play Area. According to the council, all play sites are open daily from 8am until dusk, 365 days a year, with some exceptions for seasonal attractions.

Observations

- **Play areas across different wards** - The play areas cover most wards. That indicates a commitment to serving many neighbourhoods, not just central or more affluent ones.
- **Limited provision in rural areas** - The northern and southern parts of the borough have relatively few cultural facilities, suggesting lower geographic accessibility outside urban areas.

11.4 Baseline: Cohesion [Continued]



Community Needs Index

The Community Needs Index (2023), published by OSCI, analyses the social and cultural factors that can contribute to poorer life outcomes. It ranks local community need across three domains:

Community Assets Domain – measuring the presence of key community, civic, educational and cultural assets.

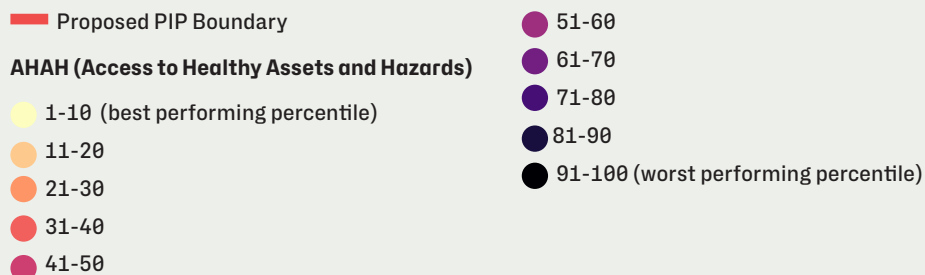
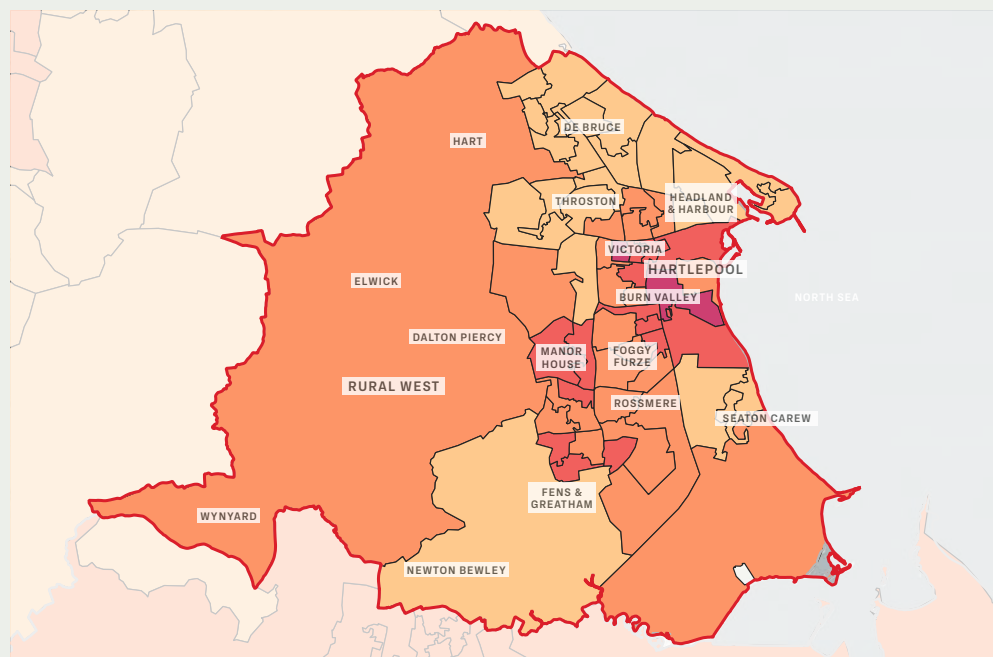
Connectivity Domain – measuring the connectivity to key services, digital infrastructure, isolation and strength of the local jobs market.

Active & Engaged Community Domain – measuring the levels of third sector civic and community activity and barriers to participation and engagement.

Observations

- **Widespread Community Needs Across the District** - High level of community need across the whole of the district.
- **Engaging communities around key neighbourhoods** - Opportunity to engage with the community surrounding the town centre.
- **Ensuring inclusive access to local assets** - Opportunity to ensure inclusive access to community assets in north Hartlepool and peripheral areas.

11.5 Baseline: Health and Wellbeing



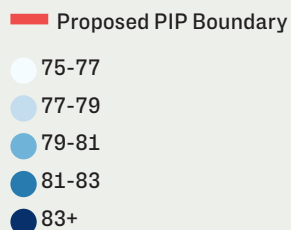
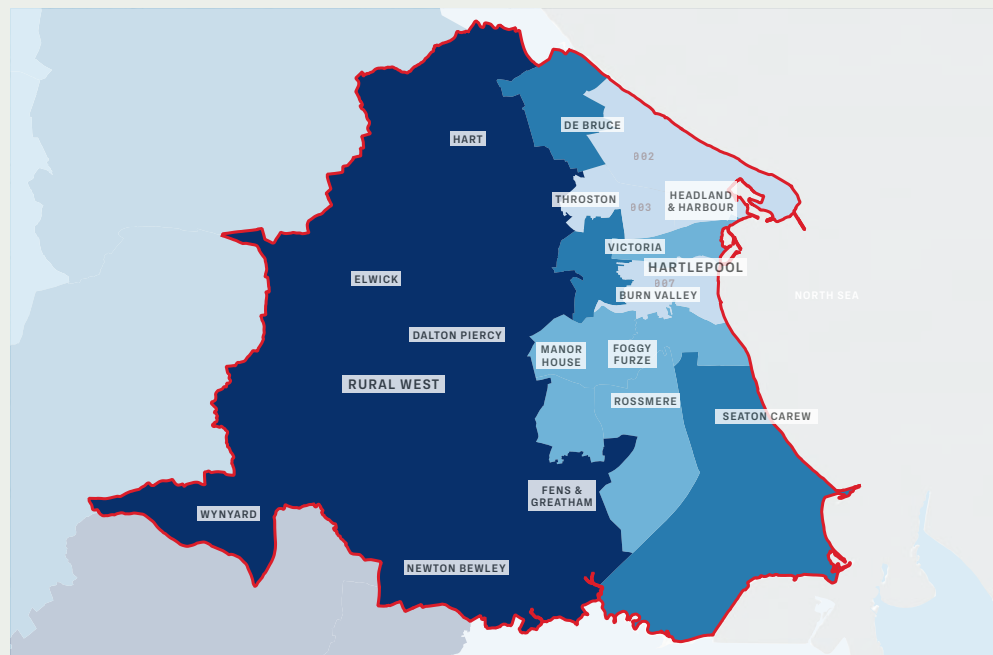
Access to Healthy Assets & Hazards

The map illustrates the Access to Healthy Assets and Hazards (AHAH) index for Hartlepool Borough, ranking neighbourhoods by percentile scores from best performing (1–10) to worst performing (91–100). The index evaluates four domains: retail environment, health services, physical environment and air quality. The Hartlepool Borough Boundary and the Proposed PIP Boundary are shown, overlaid on areas shaded to indicate relative performance.

Observations

- **Urban concentration of lower performance** - Central urban areas of Hartlepool town show poorer AHAH scores, suggesting lower access to healthy assets or higher exposure to hazards.
- **Targeting health and deprivation in priority areas** - Improving the AHAH score directly impacts health and deprivation, so efforts should prioritise the worst-performing areas, particularly in Hartlepool Town Centre.

11.5 Baseline: Health and Wellbeing [Continued]



Life Expectancy

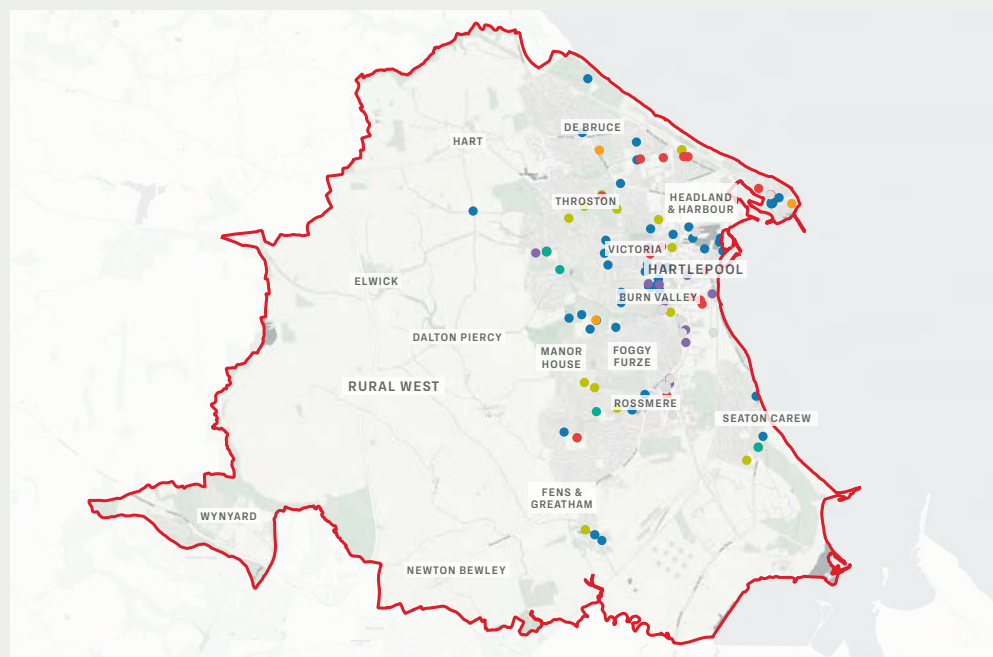
Sourced from the Department of Health and Social Care, this data shows the average life expectancy (averaged for males and females) at birth in 2016-20, by middle super output area (MSOA).

Observations

- **Slightly lower life expectancy than Tees Valley Average** - Average life expectancy in Hartlepool is 0.5 years shorter than the average in Tees Valley, at 78.8, compared to 79.3 across Tees Valley.
- **Significant geographic disparities within Hartlepool** - Within Hartlepool, there is geographic disparity with MSOAs within the north of the District (Hartlepool 002, 003 and 007) recording an average life expectancy of just 76.5, over 2 years shorter than the Hartlepool average.

Contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0/1, Life Expectancy by MSA 2016 to 2020
 Available at: <https://www.data.gov.uk/dataset/ab326806-131a-4023-8e12-67f1e8d56be4/life-expectancy-by-msoa-2016-to-2020>

11.5 Baseline: Health and Wellbeing [Continued]



— Proposed PIP Boundary

● All other sports clubs

● Rugby

● Gym

● Dance

● Combat

● Football

● Cricket

Community Sports Assets

This dataset maps the distribution of community sports assets across Hartlepool, highlighting provision by type within the Proposed PIP Boundary. The purpose of the dataset is to understand how accessible and varied local opportunities for physical activity are and how this relates to wider health and wellbeing challenges in the town.

Observations

- **Concentration of sports facilities** - The highest density of facilities lies within the central urban area. This clustering suggests good accessibility for residents in central Hartlepool but potentially less provision for more peripheral communities like Dalton Piercy, Greatham and Elwick.
- **Variety of offer** - There's a diverse mix of provision (dance, combat, gyms, football, cricket and rugby).
- **Mismatch between need and provision** - The Seaton Carew and portside areas show very few facilities despite being within or close to residential communities. These are also areas highlighted in deprivation datasets, suggesting a mismatch between need and provision.

11.5 Baseline: Health and Wellbeing [Continued]

Indicator	Period	Hartlepool	England
Overweight (including obesity) prevalence in adults, (using adjusted self-reported height and weight) (18+)	2023/24	77.2%	64.5%
Obesity prevalence in adults (using adjusted self-reported)	2023/24	37.9%	26.5%
Obesity in early pregnancy	2023/24	35.1%	26.2%

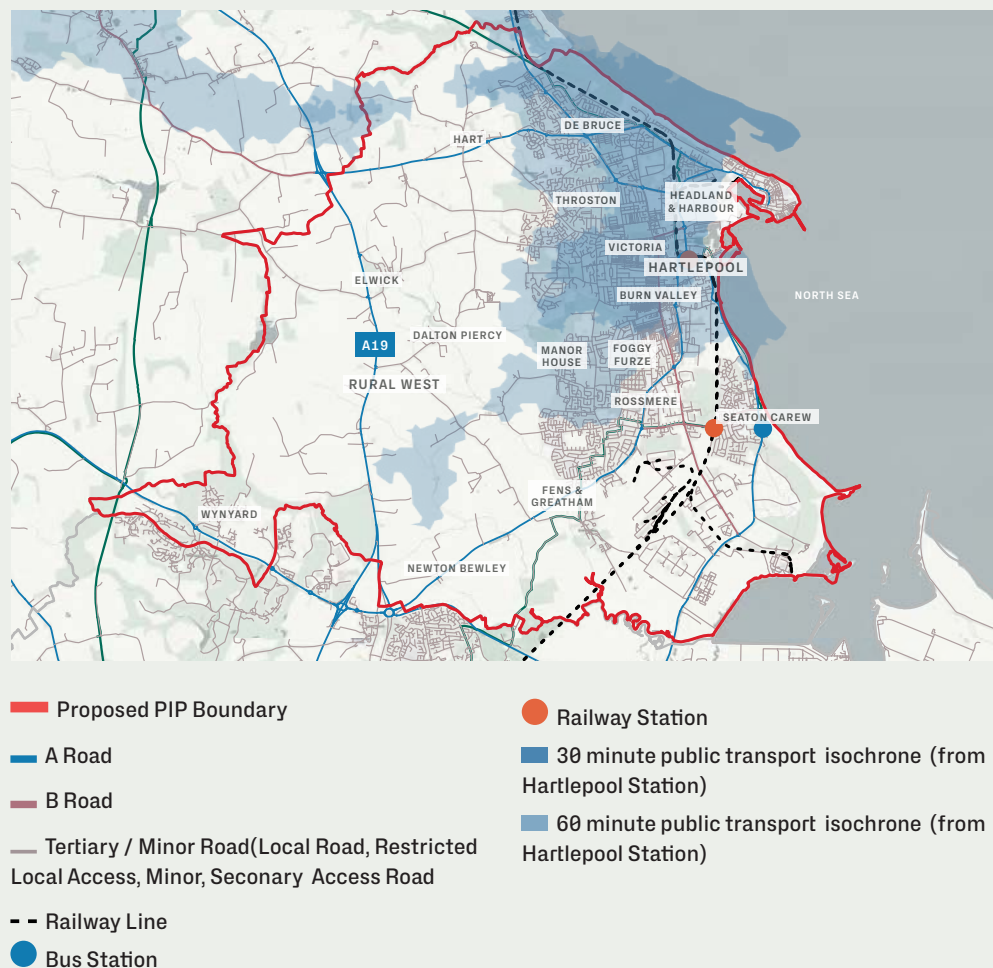
Obesity

This dataset offers insights into the prevalence of overweight and obesity among adults and in early pregnancy in Hartlepool, compared to national averages in England for the period 2023/24. The indicators are based on adjusted self-reported height and weight, providing a standardised measure to assess public health trends related to weight management.

Observations

- **High prevalence of overweight and obesity among adults** - 77.2% of adults in Hartlepool are overweight or obese, significantly higher than the England average of 64.5%. This highlights a major public health concern in the local adult population.
- **Obesity rates notably exceed national averages** - 37.9% of adults in Hartlepool are classified as obese, compared to 26.5% for England. This indicates that over a third of the adult population in Hartlepool is at increased risk of obesity-related health conditions.
- **Elevated obesity in early pregnancy** - 35.1% of pregnant women in Hartlepool are obese, higher than the England average of 26.2%. This raises potential concerns for maternal and infant health outcomes and points to the need for targeted interventions in pregnancy care.

11.6 Baseline: Transport



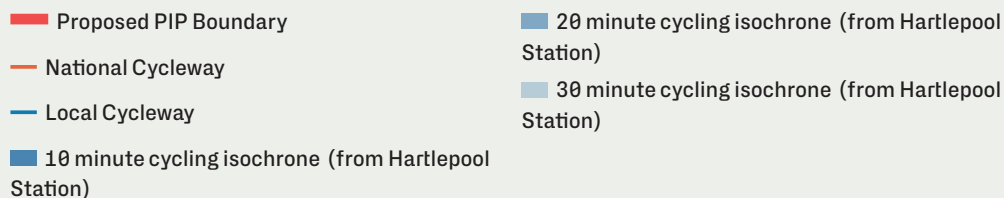
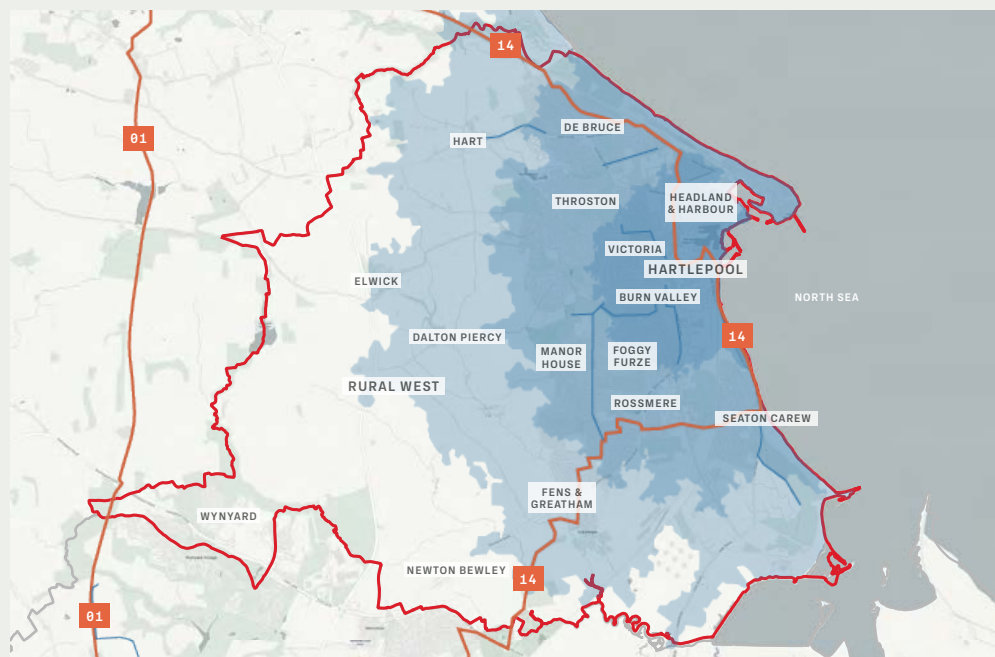
Strategic Transport

Hartlepool has relatively strong transport connections via the A19 and local roads, rail links to regional centres and bus services connecting residents to key jobs, education and healthcare hubs.

Observations

- **Road Access** - Hartlepool is well-connected to the A-road network, with the A19 providing direct routes to Tyneside and Teesside. The A1(M) is approximately 25 minutes away by car.
- **Good public transport coverage in urban areas** - In urban areas, Hartlepool town centre, Seaton Carew and major suburbs are well-served by frequent bus services operated by Stagecoach and Arriva. Rail connections via Hartlepool and Seaton Carew stations link to Middlesbrough (approximately 30 minutes, with services every 30 minutes) and Newcastle (approximately 45 minutes, with two services per hour).
- **Limited public transport access in rural villages** - In rural villages such as Elwick, Dalton Piercy and Greatham, public transport options are limited. The 65 bus service, operated by Paul's Travel, runs twice daily on Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays, with a journey time of approximately 26 minutes from Hartlepool to Dalton Piercy.
- **Opportunity for inclusive planning** - Ensuring inclusive access to public transport between urban and rural areas should be a key consideration.

11.6 Baseline: Transport [Continued]



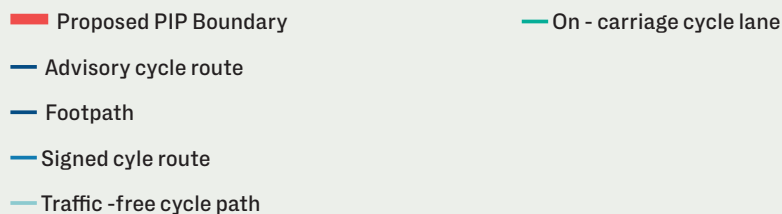
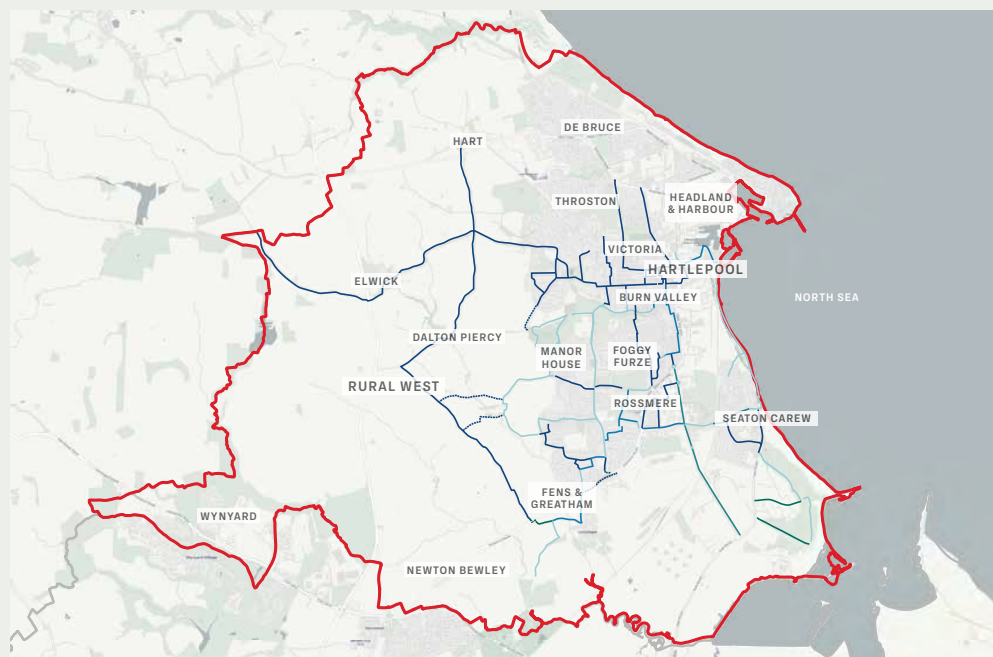
Strategic Cycling

Illustrated here are 10, 20 and 30-minute cycling isochrones from Hartlepool Railway Station. These isochrones indicate the potential distance that can be covered within each time frame, rather than the quality or comfort of the routes.

Observations

- **Within 10 minutes** - Much of the town centre, Hartlepool Art Gallery, Victoria Park football stadium, the marina and nearby residential areas are accessible.
- **Within 20 minutes** - Local schools, Ward Jackson Park, retail areas and the National Museum of the Royal Navy can be reached.
- **Within 30 minutes** - The Headland War Memorial, Steeley Pier and connections to National Cycle Network Route 14, offering access to neighbouring communities and coastal destination.
- **Overall PIP Boundary** - The majority of the PIP Boundary is accessible within 30+ mins including both local stations connecting residents to a sustainable transport network.

11.6 Baseline: Transport [Continued]



Local Cycling Infrastructure

Hartlepool Borough Council has developed several cycling maps to guide cyclists across the area. The map provides a clear overview of cycling provision in Hartlepool.

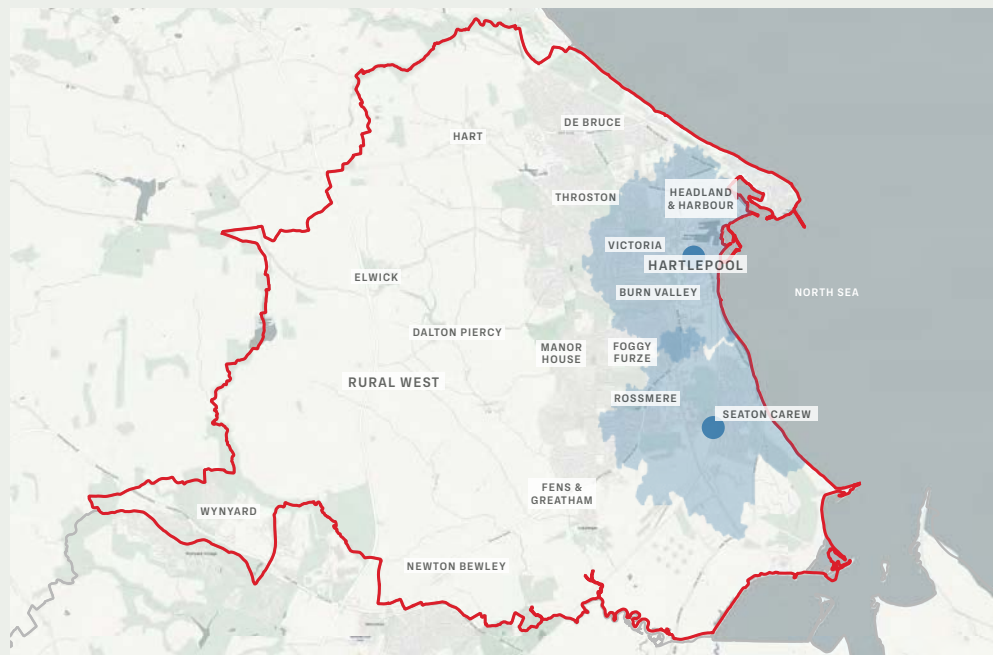
Cycle Route Types:

- **Advisory Cycle Routes:** Routes where cyclists are encouraged to ride but are not physically separated from traffic.
- **Signed Cycle Routes:** Clearly marked paths indicating designated cycling areas.
- **Traffic-Free Cycle Paths:** Completely segregated paths away from motor vehicles.
- **On-Carriage Cycle Lanes:** Lanes designated for cyclists within the road carriageway.

Observations

- **Limited Cycling Infrastructure** -The town has very few segregated cycle routes, contributing to low uptake of active travel.
- **Car Ownership** - 38% of Hartlepool households do not have access to a car, significantly higher than the UK average of 24%. Therefore, cycling should be promoted as an accessible, low-cost transport option.

11.6 Baseline: Transport [Continued]



- Proposed PIP Boundary
- 30 minute walking isochrone (from train stations)

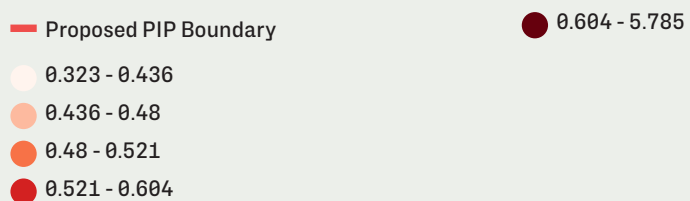
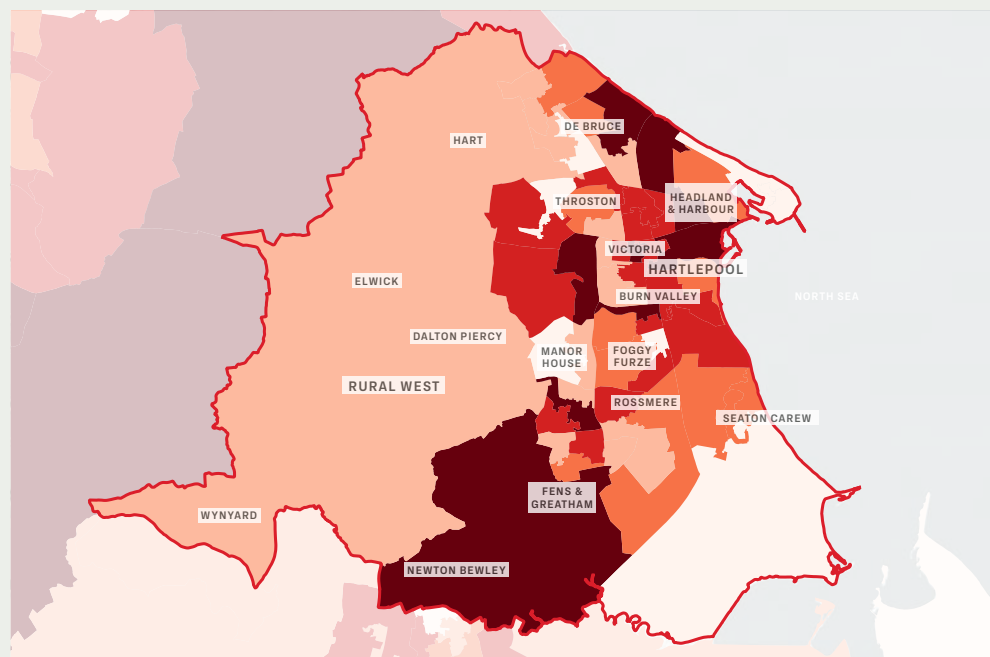
Strategic Walking

Illustrated here are 30-minute walking isochrones from Hartlepool and Seaton Carew Railway Station. These isochrones indicate the potential distance that can be covered within each time frame, rather than the quality or comfort of the routes.

Observations

- **Within 30 minutes** - Within a 30-minute walk, Hartlepool Railway Station connects to the town centre and nearby residential and leisure areas, while Seaton Carew Station provides access to the village, coastal homes and beaches.
- **Beyond 30 minutes** - Outlying neighbourhoods, parks and countryside paths become reachable only with longer walks of 1–1.5 hours, making them less accessible from either location.

11.6 Baseline: Transport [Continued]



Traffic Accidents

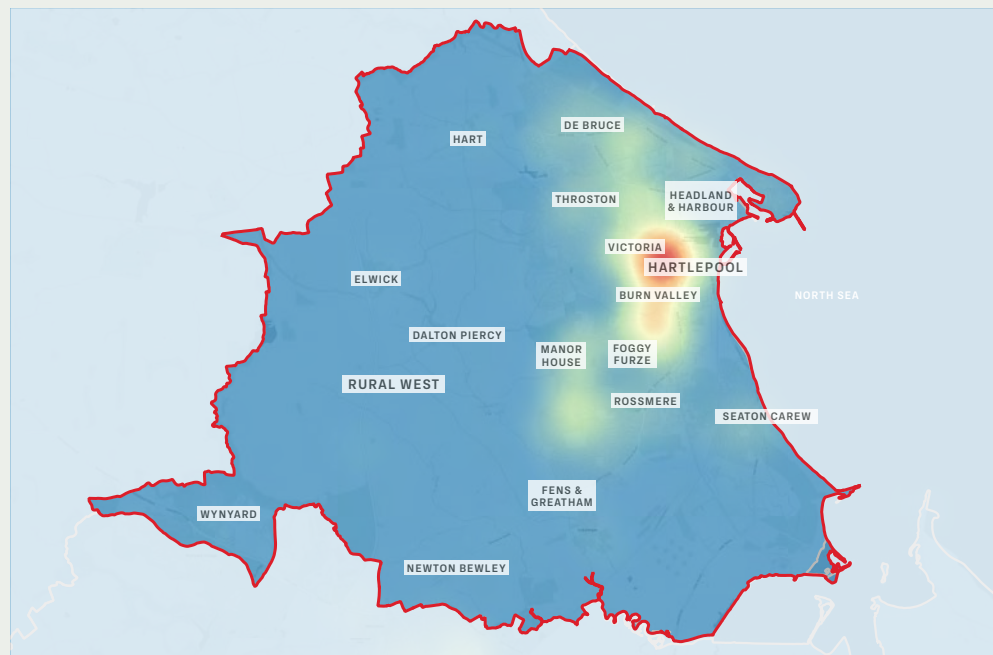
The road traffic accidents indicator, is a sub-indicator of the Living Environment Deprivation Domain of the Index of Multiple Deprivation. The indicator is based on reported accidents that involve death or personal injury to a pedestrian or cyclist. This indicator is expressed as a rate per 1000. The indicator contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0.

Observations

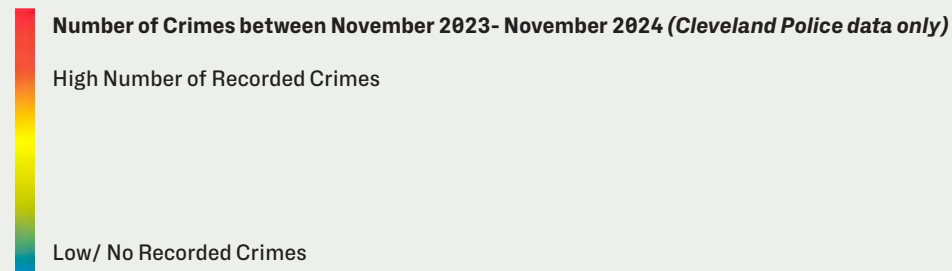
- **Geographic disparities in accident rates** - Geographic disparity in the rate of accidents resulting in death or personal injury
- **Higher accident rates in specific neighbourhoods** - Higher rates of accidents resulting in death or personal injury close to Manor House and Headland & Harbour. The area directly north of Hartlepool station also experiences slightly higher rates of accidents

Contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0 / Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, Road Traffic Accidents Indicator, Index of Multiple Deprivation Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/english-indices-of-deprivation-2019>

11.7 Baseline: Safety and Security



— Proposed PIP Boundary



Crime

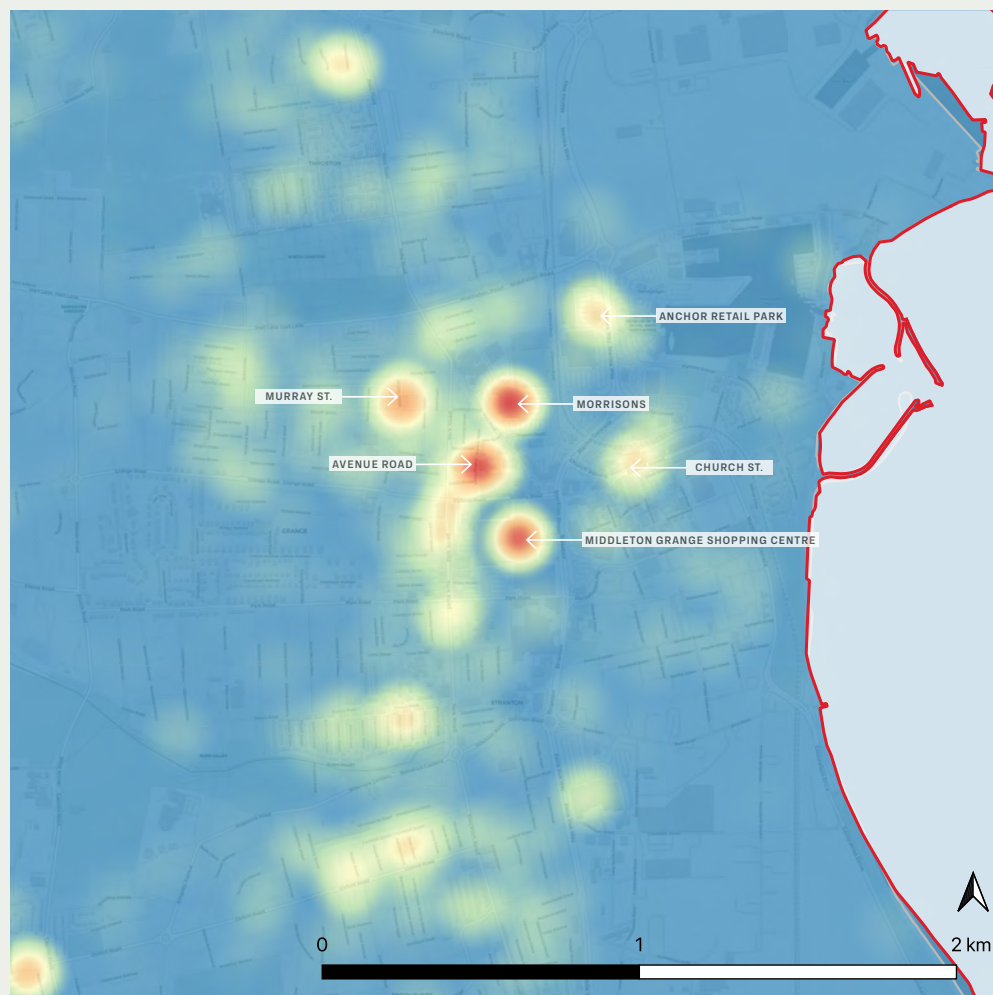
Hartlepool, situated in the Cleveland police force area, has experienced a notable increase in crime rates in recent years. This upward trend contrasts with the national picture, where overall crime levels have remained relatively stable. Certain areas within the study area (particularly within the town centre) report higher incidents of crime.

Observations

- **High crime rate compared to national average** - Hartlepool has a crime rate which is more than the national average. This places the borough among the areas with higher crime levels in the UK.
- **Prevalence of shoplifting and violent crime** - Shoplifting is the most common crime, with rates higher than the national average.
- **Concentration in specific hotspots** - Certain areas such as Hartlepool town centre report a higher density of incidents, indicating that crime is geographically concentrated rather than evenly spread across the borough.
- **Role of urban form in crime prevention** - Urban form plays a role in crime prevention - lighting, activity, clear surveillance and pride.
- **Application of secure by design principles** - Secure by design principles can assist with retrospective adjustments to residential layouts.

Contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government License v3.0 / Data.police.uk (2024) Available at: <https://data.police.uk/data/>

11.7 Baseline: Safety and Security [Continued]



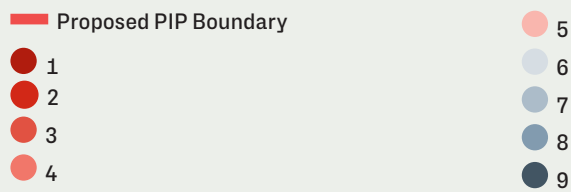
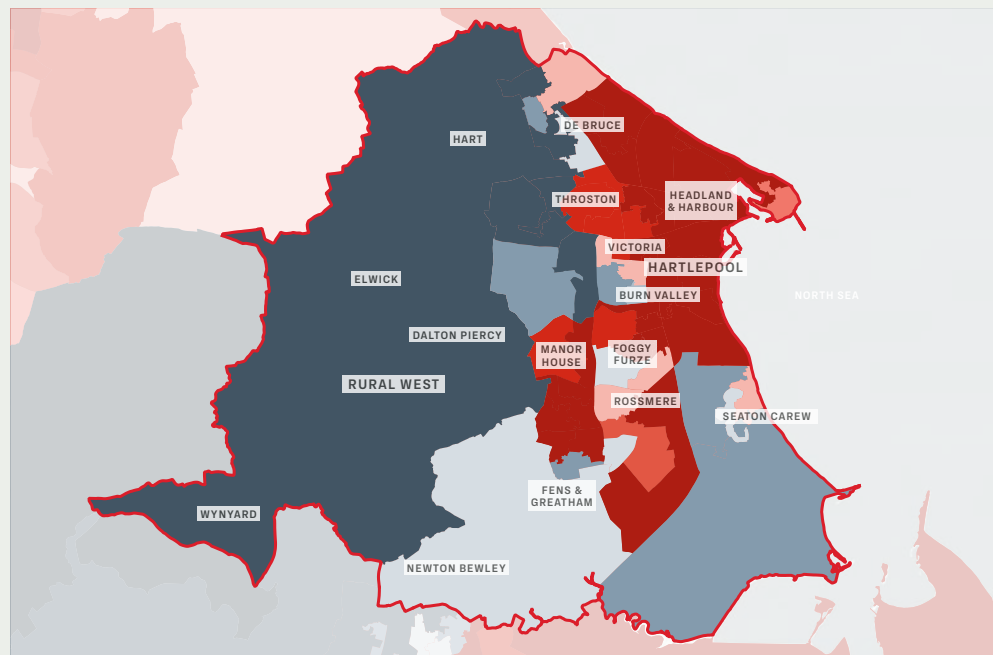
Crime - Hartlepool Town Centre

Hartlepool, situated in the Cleveland police force area, has experienced a notable increase in crime rates in recent years. This upward trend contrasts with the national picture, where overall crime levels have remained relatively stable. Certain areas within the study area (particularly within the town centre) report higher incidents of crime.

Observations

- **Key hotspots** - Hartlepool town centre has several identified crime hotspots, including Murray Street, Avenue Road, Morrisons, Anchor Retail Park, Church Street and Middleton Grange Shopping Centre. These areas report a higher concentration of incidents compared to surrounding parts of the borough, indicating that crime is geographically clustered.
- **Need for targeted interventions** - This highlights the need for targeted interventions such as increased policing, improved lighting and community safety measures in these key locations.

11.8 Baseline: Education and Opportunity



Data

The Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index measures the proportion of all children aged 0-15 living in income deprived families. It is a subset of the Income Deprivation Domain which measures the proportion of the population in an area experiencing deprivation relating to low income. The definition of low income used includes both those people that are out-of-work, and those that are in work but who have low earnings (and who satisfy the respective means tests).

Observations

- **Overall child income deprivation** - Across Hartlepool the average decile for income deprivation affecting children is 4, where 1 is the most deprived and 10 is the least deprived.
- **Higher deprivation in specific areas** - However, there is geographic disparity in levels of deprivation across Hartlepool, with Hartlepool town centre and the surrounding areas experiencing significantly higher rates of income deprivation affecting children.

Contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0 / Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI), Index of Multiple Deprivation Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/english-indices-of-deprivation-2019>

11.8 Baseline: Education and Opportunity [Continued]



— Proposed PIP Boundary
 ● Educational Establishment

📍 **Primary School**

- 01 St Peter’s Elwick CofE Primary School
- 02 Greatham CofE Primary School
- 03 Holy Trinity CofE Primary School
- 04 Golden Flatts Primary School
- 05 Fens Primary School
- 06 Grange Primary School
- 07 West Park Primary School
- 08 Hart Primary School
- 09 Clavering Primary School
- 10 Barnard Grove Primary School

- 11 Throston Primary School
- 12 West View Primary School
- 13 Brougham Primary School
- 14 St Bega’s Catholic Primary School
- 15 St Helen’s Primary School
- 16 Ward Jackson Primary CofE Primary School
- 17 Jesmond Road Primary School
- 18 Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School
- 19 Eskdale Academy
- 20 Eldon Grove Primary School
- 21 Lynnfield Primary School
- 22 Stranton Primary School
- 23 Kingsley Primary School
- 24 Rift House Primary School
- 25 St Teresa’s Catholic Primary School

Data

Hartlepool offers a diverse educational landscape, encompassing mainstream schools, specialist provisions and support services tailored to meet the needs of all students.

Observations

- **Diverse educational offerings** - Hartlepool provides a range of educational options, including mainstream primary and secondary schools, faith-based schools and specialist provisions, ensuring students have access to different learning environments.
- **Strong support for SEND and alternative provision** - The borough emphasises support for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) through schools such as Springwell School, alongside Catcote Academy and Catcote Futures, ensuring inclusive education and pathways into adulthood.
- **Focus on transition and language support** - schools like Lynnfield Primary provide dedicated EAL (English as an Additional Language) support for resettled or overseas children, helping them integrate academically and socially.

- 26 Rossmere Academy
- 27 St Cuthbert’s Catholic Primary School
- 28 St Aidan’s Church of England Memorial Primary School
- 29 St John Vianney Catholic Primary School
- 30 St Joseph’s Catholic Primary School

📍 **Special Educational Needs School**

- 01 Springwell School
- 02 Catcote Futures
- 03 Catcote Academy
- 04 Cambian Hartlepool School

📍 **Secondary School / Colleges**

- 01 Dyke House Academy
- 02 High Tunstall College of Science
- 03 Hartlepool Sixth Form College
- 04 Manor Community Academy
- 05 English Martyrs Catholic School & Sixth Form College
- 06 Hartlepool College of Further Education
- 07 Northern School of Art
- 08 St Hild’s CofE School
- 09 Horizon School

11.8 Baseline: Education and Opportunity [Continued]

School/Geography	% pupils reaching expected standard	% pupils reaching higher standard
Hartlepool	65%	7%
England (All Schools)	61%	8%

Educational Attainment - Primary

This data provides attainment statistics for key stage 2 national curriculum assessments, taken by pupils at the end of year 6, when most are age 11, in 2024. The table shows the percentage of pupils reaching the expected and higher standard in reading, writing, and maths (combined) for primary schools in Hartlepool, against the national average. Due to the large number of primary schools, the data for individual schools has not been added to the data.

Observations

- **Primary school performance across Hartlepool** - There are 30 primary schools in Hartlepool and 22 of them perform above average for the proportion of pupils reaching the expected standard in reading, writing, and maths.
- **Schools with lower attainment levels** - Ward Jackson C of E Primary School, Lynnfield Primary School and Golden Flatts Primary School have particularly low proportion of pupils reaching the expected standard, at just 38%, 42% and 42% respectively. Additionally, 0% of students reached the higher standard at these schools.

11.8 Baseline: Education and Opportunity [Continued]

School/Geography	Attainment 8 Score
Dyke House Sports and Technology College	44.7%
High Tunstall College of Science	44.4%
Manor Community Academy	42.4%
English Martyrs Catholic School and Sixth Form College	42.1%
St Hild's Church of England School	32.8%
Hartlepool's Average	41.0%
National Average	44.2%

Educational Attainment - Secondary

This data provides statistics for the average attainment 8 score for key stage 4 pupils for the academic year 2023/24. An attainment 8 score is a measure of a student's average grade across a set of eight GCSE-level qualifications. The table shows the average attainment 8 score across secondary schools in Hartlepool against the Hartlepool average (removing schools which only provide for pupils with additional needs).

Observations

- **Slight under performance at St Hild's School** - St Hild's Church of England School slightly under performs against Hartlepool's average attainment 8 score at 32.8%, compared to 41.0% in Hartlepool.

MANCHESTER

+44 (0)1625 523 157
manchester@layer.studio
8b Grove Street
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 1DR, UK

NEWCASTLE

+44 (0)1625 523 157
newcastle@layer.studio
Studio 29
39 High Bridge Works
Newcastle-upon-Tyne
NE1 1EW, UK

BRISTOL

+44 (0)1625 523 157
bristol@layer.studio
Generator Building
Counterslip
Bristol
BS1 6BX, UK

FOLLOW

Instagram, LinkedIn

VISIT

www.layer.studio



Hartlepool
Borough Council

Hartlepool
Board





Housing, Growth and Communities Committee

17th June 2026

Report of: Director of Housing, Growth & Communities

Subject: PRIDE IN PLACE IMPACT FUND UPDATE

Decision Type: For Information

1. Council Plan Priority

Hartlepool will be a place:
where people live healthier, safe and independent lives. (People)
that is connected, sustainable, clean and green. (Place)
that is welcoming with an inclusive and growing economy providing opportunities for all. (Potential)

2. Purpose of Report

- 2.1. The purpose of this report is to provide the Housing, Growth & Communities Committee with an update on the £1.5 million Pride in Place Impact Fund, including the interventions being delivered across Hartlepool.

3. Background

- 3.1. In September 2025, the Government launched the Pride in Place Strategy, which aims to create safer, healthier and more prosperous neighbourhoods across the UK. The Strategy brings together a range of funded programmes designed to support long-term, community-led regeneration, including the Pride in Place Programme and Pride in Place Impact Fund.

- 3.2. As part of this wider strategy, Hartlepool was allocated £1.5 million through the Pride in Place Impact Fund. This is capital funding, with £750,000 provided in 2025/26 and the remaining £750,000 in 2026/27.
- 3.3. The purpose of the Impact Fund is to deliver immediate, high-impact interventions that respond directly to community priorities, complementing the longer-term ambitions of the 10-year Pride in Place Programme. The funding is intended to support visible improvements, build confidence, demonstrate early progress, and strengthen neighbourhoods across Hartlepool.
- 3.4. The Impact Fund is focused on three strategic objectives:
- Community Spaces – Investing in the community facilities that matter to local people and enabling community organisations to take control or ownership of underused but valued local assets.
 - Public Spaces – Enhancing the physical environment within communities to help people feel safer and connected, such as improvements to green spaces, play facilities and installing seating, signage or public art.
 - High Street Revitalisation – Making these areas more attractive and welcoming places through targeted interventions such as shop frontage improvements, streetscape, wayfinding, and developing infrastructure.
- 3.5. The Council is the Accountable Body for the Pride in Place Impact Fund with overall responsibility for managing the funding, approval of investments or onward grants, and monitoring delivery of the programme. The Council has dedicated officers who provide oversight to ensure that all investment decisions are subject to appropriate due diligence and that funding is managed in line with grant conditions, statutory and legal obligations, and financial governance requirements. Officers also ensure that all projects are evidence-led and aligned with both community need and the priorities set out in the 10 year Pride in Place Regeneration Plan.
- 3.6. In line with Government guidance, the local MP must be consulted on how funding is allocated and spent within Hartlepool. Engagement with the wider community and stakeholders is also undertaken through the Hartlepool Board, ensuring that proposals and investment decisions are informed by local priorities.
- 3.7. The Pride in Place Impact Fund must be delivered between September 2025 and March 2027. Any funding that remains uncommitted at the end of this

period will need to be returned to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG).

- 3.8. The Impact Fund provides an opportunity to accelerate early delivery and build momentum with communities ahead of the wider Pride in Place programme and the forthcoming Investment Prospectus.

4. Year 1 Delivery (2025/26)

- 4.1. The priorities for the Pride in Place Impact Fund have been informed by an extensive evidence base, detailed baseline analysis, and community engagement undertaken to support the wider Pride in Place Programme. This included borough-wide engagement with over 1,400 residents led by Hartlepool Opportunities Partnership (HOP), alongside ongoing feedback from communities, stakeholders, and businesses across the borough. This has ensured that capital investment is clearly aligned with the priorities identified by local communities across Hartlepool.
- 4.2. During 2025/26, the Council allocated the first £750,000 of funding across a range of projects designed to deliver visible, high-impact improvements. This reflected a balance between strategic and locally responsive interventions, aligned to the three strategic objectives of the Impact Fund.
- 4.3. The key investments for Year 1 are summarised below:
- Play Equipment (£265,000) – Investment supported the replacement and enhancement of play facilities at Burn Valley Gardens, King Oswy, and Rossmere Park. This included the installation of new play equipment, improved surfacing, and the introduction of youth-focused facilities. Funding also helped to leverage additional investment to deliver improvements across other play areas within Hartlepool.
 - Community Assets (£175,000) – A capital grant scheme was established to improve, refurbish, and modernise local community facilities. Following a robust application and assessment process, grant funding was awarded to 15 community organisations across the borough. This investment supports the long-term sustainability of community buildings and ensures they can continue to be at heart of their local neighbourhoods.
 - CCTV Improvements (£130,000) – Investment focused on upgrading and enhancing CCTV coverage across the borough, including the replacement of outdated equipment. In addition, three mobile CCTV cameras and two Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) cameras were introduced to

target key issues such as fly-tipping, informed by local intelligence from communities and stakeholders.

- Neighbourhood Investments (£180,000) – This supported a range of smaller-scale, locally identified projects to deliver visible improvements. This included footpath and verge schemes, off-road bike prevention measures, planting, new signage, road markings, and the installation of picnic benches and outdoor games tables. The projects were developed following ongoing engagement with residents across Hartlepool.

4.4. Delivery has been supported by continued engagement with communities to co-design interventions, alongside robust project management and governance arrangements through both the Council and the Hartlepool Board. This has ensured that investment remains responsive, visible, and aligned with both local priorities and the wider objectives of the Pride in Place Impact Fund.

5. Year 2 Delivery (2026/27)

5.1. Building on the delivery of Year 1, the proposed investments for 2026/27 have been developed in line with the same robust evidence base and community engagement, with a continued focus on delivering visible improvements aligned to local priorities. The second year of funding places a stronger emphasis on enhancing high streets, supporting local businesses, and improving the quality and attractiveness of key spaces within Hartlepool.

5.2. During 2026/27, a further £750,000 of capital funding has been provided, and some of the proposed key investments include:

- Business Grant Scheme (£200,000) – A capital grant scheme has been launched to support visible improvements to business premises along York Road and Raby Road. This includes shopfront enhancements, signage, and external works to improve their appearance, with the scheme managed by the Council's Economic Growth Team.
- High Street Improvements (£400,000) – Investment will deliver targeted public realm and streetscape improvements to enhance the quality, accessibility, and attractiveness of York Road and Raby Road. This includes paving, seating, signage and greening, alongside infrastructure for a potential scheme on Scarborough Street.
- Activation and Wayfinding (£125,000) – Investment will support the activation of key high street areas through initiatives such as community murals, planting, and the temporary use of spaces. This will also expand

the installation of wayfinding signage to improve connectivity between key destinations and highlight local heritage assets across Hartlepool.

- Community Assets (£25,000) – Due to the quality of the applications received from communities, the grant panel agreed to fund 15 organisations with £175k committed from the year one funding allocation and the remaining £25k from the year two allocation for 2026/27.

5.3. This will build on the momentum established through Year 1, with a continued focus on delivering visible community-led improvements that enhance key areas of the borough. This will support increased footfall, strengthen local businesses, and contribute to creating safer, more attractive and vibrant neighbourhoods, in line with the wider ambitions of the Pride in Place Programme.

6. Other Considerations/Implications

<p>Risk Implications</p>	<p>Appropriate risk management arrangements are in place for the Pride in Place Impact Fund, including the maintenance of a programme-level Risk Register and Fraud Risk Assessment. These provide a structured approach to identifying, managing, and mitigating risks associated with delivery. Risks are subject to ongoing monitoring and oversight through the Council, as the Accountable Body, and the Hartlepool Board.</p> <p>In addition, Pride in Place has been incorporated into the Council’s Internal Audit Schedule for 2026/27 to provide further assurance on governance, financial management, and compliance.</p>
<p>Financial Considerations</p>	<p>The Pride in Place Impact Fund provides £1.5 million of capital funding across 2025/26 and 2026/27, with £750,000 allocated each year. This funding is provided to the Council under Section 50 of the UK Internal Market Act 2020.</p> <p>The Council, as the Accountable Body, has robust financial management arrangements in place to ensure all funding is administered, monitored, and reported in line with the requirements set out by MHCLG, including the conditions of the Grant Determination Letters.</p>

Subsidy Control	All funding allocated through the Pride in Place Impact Fund is assessed to ensure compliance with the UK Subsidy Control regime. Where grant schemes have been established, support is being delivered in line with Minimal Financial Assistance (MFA) requirements, ensuring that all funding remains within permitted thresholds and is awarded in a lawful, proportionate, and transparent manner. The Council has appropriate processes in place to record, monitor, and manage compliance with these Subsidy Control obligations.
Legal Considerations	<p>The Pride in Place Impact Fund is delivered in accordance with all relevant statutory and regulatory requirements. As the Accountable Body, the Council ensures appropriate legal, governance, and procurement requirements are applied to all funding decisions and delivery, including ensuring compliance with Subsidy Control requirements where applicable. For grant schemes, robust Grant Offer Letters are issued to all recipients, setting out clear conditions, funding requirements, and monitoring arrangements to ensure appropriate use of public funds. Delivery is also undertaken in line with the terms and conditions set out in the Grant Determination Letters issued by MHCLG.</p> <p>Oversight of the programme sits with the Council's Director of Housing, Growth and Communities who ensures that all appropriate arrangements are in place to comply with grant obligations and statutory requirements. This supports the Council in fulfilling its responsibilities as the Accountable Body.</p>
Staff Considerations	Appropriate resources are in place within the Council to effectively manage and administer the Pride in Place Impact Fund. This ensures oversight of the funding, programme delivery, monitoring, and governance requirements in line with the Council's role as the Accountable Body.
Asset Management Considerations	Asset management considerations are appropriately managed by the Council. For the grant schemes, Grant Offer Letters are issued to all recipients, clearly setting out ownership, maintenance, and ongoing responsibilities for funded assets. This ensures any assets improved via the programme are appropriately managed and maintained by the organisation to benefit communities in Hartlepool.

Environment, Sustainability & Climate Change Considerations	Investment through the Pride in Place Impact Fund will support improvements to the local environment and will positively contribute to wider sustainability objectives and align with the Council’s Net Zero Strategy and Council Plan.
--	---

7. Recommendations

- 7.1. It is recommended that the Housing, Growth & Communities Committee note the progress made in the delivery of the Pride in Place Impact Fund, including the Year 1 (2025/26) investments across Hartlepool.
- 7.2. It is also recommended that members note the proposed investments for Year 2 (2026/27), which build on priorities identified through community engagement and the wider evidence base. Members are also asked to note the governance, financial management, and assurance arrangements in place to support effective management and delivery of the Pride in Place Impact Fund.

8. Reasons for Recommendations

- 8.1. The Pride in Place Impact Fund provides £1.5 million of Government funding to deliver visible, high-impact improvements within communities across Hartlepool, supporting the objectives of the wider Pride in Place Programme.
- 8.2. This approach ensures transparency and accountability in how public funding is invested, while maintaining alignment with community priorities and the objectives set out by Government. The Council has robust governance and assurance arrangements in place, ensuring funding is effectively managed, delivers value for money, and supports sustained positive outcomes for communities across Hartlepool.

9. Background Papers

- 9.1. Links to the Government guidance and the published Grant Determinations are provided below:
 - [Pride in Place Strategy - GOV.UK](#)
 - [Pride in Place Impact Fund: Prospectus - GOV.UK](#)
 - [Pride in Place Impact Fund: Grant Determinations 2025/26 - GOV.UK](#)
 - [Pride in Place Impact Fund: Grant Determinations 2026/27 - GOV.UK](#)

10. Contact Officers

Scott Campbell
Service Manager
Email: scott.campbell@hartlepool.gov.uk
Tel: (01429) 284487

Gemma Ptak
Director of Housing, Growth & Communities
Email: gemma.ptak@hartlepool.gov.uk
Tel: (01429) 523441

Sign Off: -

Chief Executive	Date: 02/06/2026
Director of Finance, IT and Digital	Date: 03/06/2026
Director of Legal, Governance and HR	Date: 02/06/2026