



HAMBLETON

DISTRICT COUNCIL

Our Plan

2019-23

Draft v9

a place to
grow

Welcome

Welcome to our council plan for the next four years. We are ambitious for the future of our district and the past four years have shown that we can work well, with focus, despite the challenging times local government faces.

Hambleton is a vibrant and prosperous district with an enviable quality of life. We will continue to focus on issues which are most important to our local communities and businesses. We have clear priorities that build on the successes of the past few years, in an resolute, incremental and thoughtful way. We are committed to delivering high quality services to our residents, at the lowest cost possible.

With an ever-changing funding environment for councils, we are determined to secure our own financial future and to safeguard the key services local people tell us are essential. To do this we are supplementing our existing prudent approach to financial management with a healthy appetite to investment in new development projects, and a new commercial strategy to generate additional income.

Over the past decade we have worked hard to keep our council tax low and we are proud to have the third lowest council tax in the country, and the lowest in North Yorkshire. The council tax we collect from you also contributes to the combined cost of North Yorkshire County Council, Town or Parish Councils, Police and Fire Services. Although we are the collecting authority, Hambleton District Council only keeps 6% of the total collected.

We have clear priorities for the four years of:

- driving economic vitality,
- enhancing health and wellbeing,
- caring for the environment,
- providing a special place to live,

and we are determined through hard work, collaboration with partners, leadership and influence to ensure that Hambleton is a place to grow.



Councillor Mark Robson
Leader of Hambleton
District Council



Dr Justin Ives
Chief Executive

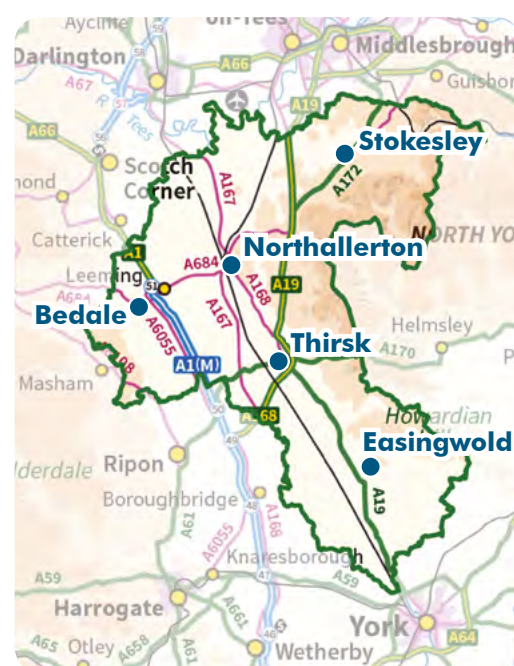
Introduction

About Hambleton a place to *grow*

Located within the picturesque Vale of York, Hambleton is the second largest district in North Yorkshire. With many residents living in outlying villages, Hambleton is a largely rural district with a quarter of its population living in the five historic market towns of Bedale, Easingwold, Northallerton, Stokesley and Thirsk.

The local area is well known for its stunning landscape, with the Hambleton Hills, between Helmsley and Sutton Bank, and the Howardian Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Population levels have risen steadily over the past decade as more people choose to make the district their home. People are healthier and live longer than the national average and levels of deprivation, though present, are generally low.

Local shopping, recreation and sports facilities are very good and there is a strong sense of community. Added to this, exceptional business and transport links mean the district is a popular location for new and existing businesses of many types, from local enterprises to global companies. Hambleton is a place to grow.



The district council

Hambleton District Council provides high-quality services for local people, businesses and visitors. In common with other district councils, these include many essential day-to-day services as well as those contributing to a good quality of life for residents and a pleasant environment:

- refuse and recycling collection
- street cleaning
- supporting businesses
- local planning
- car parking
- market town investment
- environmental health
- housing
- sports and leisure services
- economic development
- housing benefits and

The council operates a cabinet structure with 28 elected councillors representing 17 wards. Elections are held every four years. Cabinet comprises the Leader, Deputy Leader (who leads on economic development and finance) and portfolio holders for the key areas of leisure; environmental health, waste and recycling; governance and planning.

Our Purpose

Hambleton District Council exists to serve its communities and to ensure Hambleton continues to be an attractive and vibrant place to live, work, visit and invest.

We deliver our purpose in three ways:

Community Leadership

Community leadership is at the core of our purpose. Our 28 councillors make a unique contribution as Community Leaders, engaging directly with their communities in Hambleton's 17 wards. Their local knowledge, combined with other insights gained from our Customer Services, and directly from residents and businesses, is helping us become more responsive to local need and to reconfigure and evolve our services accordingly.

Community leadership supports us to start, stop or alter what we are doing and to deliver 'more for less'. It encourages us to be locally responsive and to develop new forms of service delivery and accountability in partnership with residents and others.

Place Shaping

Place shaping is an essential part of what we do. Hambleton's rural setting with our vibrant market towns, excellent transport links and strong visitor offer all contribute to an already established sense of place. Building on this strong identity includes recognising and promoting what is distinctive about Hambleton.

Sustainability, innovation and customer service are at the heart of our approach and working with partners we use our influence and shared resources to promote the general well-being of Hambleton, its villages and market towns. For a district of our size, we have an ambitious and already well-established portfolio of place shaping development projects.

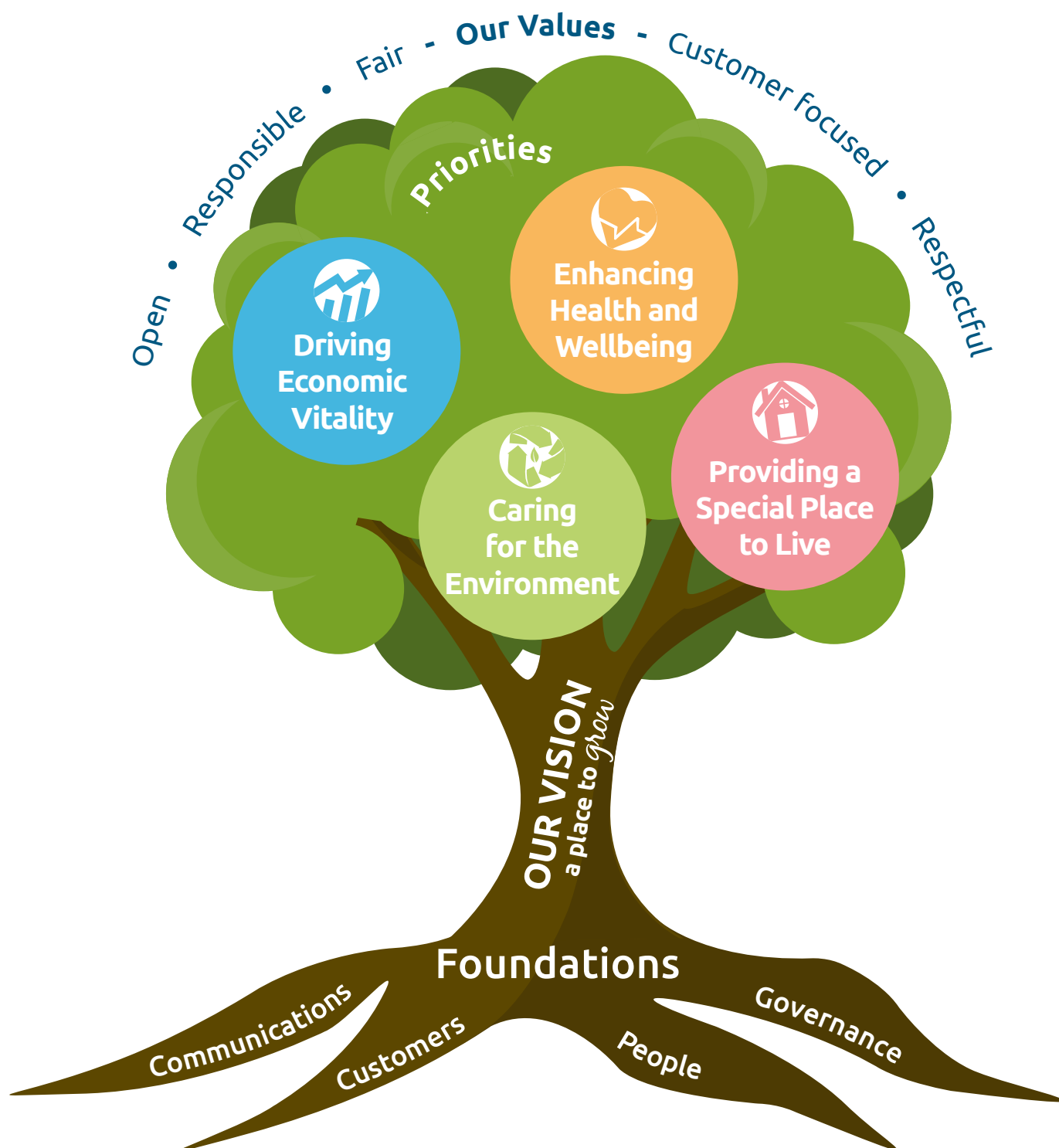
Delivering Services

We pride ourselves on delivering high-quality services at the lowest cost possible. We are committed to ensuring our services reflect the needs of our different communities and that they are responsive and easily accessed.

A priority across all our services is to protect the district's heritage and high quality environment, with investment in services that work for local people today as well as planning for the future.



Our Vision, Values and Priorities



Our Vision

Hambleton a place to *grow*

Where people
grow ideas

Where communities *grow*
and flourish

Where creativity
grows

Where ideas *grow*
into reality

Where
families
grow

Where sense
of place
grows

Where market
towns *grow*
and flourish

Where businesses
grow their
reach, from local
to global

Where ambitions *grow*

Our Values

Our values underpin everything we do: how we work, how we set our priorities, how we do things, how we hold ourselves accountable. The people of Hambleton demand high standards from us and we demand them of ourselves.

Open

We are honest and transparent in what we do and how we work. We act with integrity. We aim to provide timely and accurate information. We welcome change and have a healthy attitude to risk.

Responsible

We place high regard on being accountable for our actions both as individuals and as an organisation. We are financially prudent. We measure our performance.

Customer Focused

We put Hambleton residents, businesses and visitors at the heart of how we work. We set ourselves high standards and we are committed to being responsive and effective.

Fair

We strive to be fair to all on an equal basis. We work as a council and value everyone's contribution.

Respectful

We are inclusive, listen and consider others. We value everyone.



Our Priorities

Hambleton a place to *grow*

Our four key priorities will ensure Hambleton continues to offer an enviable quality of life now and for future generations.



Driving Economic Vitality

Enhancing Health and Wellbeing



Caring for the Environment

Providing a Special Place to Live



Our Priorities



Driving Economic Vitality

We want Hambleton to continue to attract and keep, good and stable employers, encourage new businesses and generate commercial opportunities. We will build on our excellent reputation as an easy place to do business through our responsive business support service. Providing advice on grants, premises, funding and planning. We will promote opportunities for companies to network and forge links with other businesses.

During 2019/20 we aim to:

- Facilitate 28 young people into local small businesses through apprenticeships and the graduate scheme
- Support £1m of new business investment in Hambleton
- Increase footfall across Hambleton's market towns by 5%
- Achieve a level of business rate collection of 98%
- Achieve a level of council tax collection of 98%
- Increase the number of major planning applications determined within 13 weeks, or as agreed with the applicant, to 80%
- Increase the number of minor planning applications determined within 8 weeks, or as agreed with the applicant, to 85%
- Achieve 8 out of 10 success rate in defending appeals where major developments are refused planning permission

Where businesses *grow* their reach, from local to global

Where creativity *grows*

Where ideas *grow* into reality

Where ambitions *grow*

Where market towns *grow* and flourish

KEY PROJECTS

Northallerton bridge and road development

Central Northallerton redevelopment

Leeming Bar employment site

Car park improvement scheme

Dalton utilities improvement

Our Priorities



Enhancing Health and Wellbeing

We are proud to run and support high-quality leisure facilities, leisure and cultural events and sporting activities. With a growing population in Hambleton and an increasing number of visitors, participation in physical activity remains a priority for us. Our community grant programme encourages a wide range of neighbourhood activities while the council's ZEST leisure centres offer well-resourced health and fitness facilities and inclusive activity programmes, with state-of-the-art equipment and seasonal activity programmes.

During 2019/20 we aim to:

- Achieve health and fitness membership base of 3,192
- Achieve 'Learn2 Swim' membership base of 2,645
- Successfully allocate 100% (£236,600) of community grants
- Complete 100% (85) of high/medium risk food premises inspections
- Complete 100% (22) of private water supply risk assessments

Where communities *grow* and flourish

Where people *grow* ideas

Where families *grow*

Where creativity *grows*

KEY PROJECTS

Northallerton Sports Village

Sowerby Sports Village

Thirsk & Sowerby Leisure Centre improvements

Community Leisure facilities improvements - Bedale, Easingwold and Stokesley

Events and legacy programme

Our Priorities



Caring for the Environment

The environment is a top priority for us and our residents and we are working on ways to reduce the impact of climate change. We encourage sustainability and work hard to reduce our own environmental impact. We are rigorous in our efforts to maintain high-quality waste and recycling collections. We will continue to support communities with their neighbourhood litter picks and take enforcement action on fly tipping and littering. We will promote renewable energy and install electric charging points. By installing improved energy efficient lighting, we will continue to improve our energy efficiency and reduce our CO² emissions.

During 2019/20 we aim to:

- Maintain a recycling rate of 47%
- Implement fly tipping and littering enforcement policy including established monitoring of the policy
- Facilitate 52 community litter picks
- Improve efficiency of lighting by reducing energy consumption by 200,000Kwh.

Where communities *grow* and flourish

Where market towns *grow* and flourish

Where sense of place *grows*

KEY PROJECTS

Crematorium project

Renewable energy

Electric charging points

Fly tipping & littering improvements

Depot relocation review

Our Priorities



Providing a Special Place to Live

Hambleton is growing and we are working hard to ensure we have high quality housing available throughout the district. Across our five market towns and outlying villages, we are committed to ensuring a minimum five year supply of deliverable housing sites. Local people's views have helped shape the new Hambleton Local Plan and will continue to be at the heart of how communities develop. We want Hambleton to continue to be an attractive, prosperous and safe place to live. We are committed to supporting people to lead independent lives and ensuring housing is available for all. We will provide practical support to residents to prevent homelessness, including financial support.

During 2019/20 we aim to:

- Maintain each year a minimum five year supply of deliverable housing sites
- Publish the new Local Plan by July 2019
- Deliver an additional 315 new homes
- Ensure 100% of homelessness decisions are made within 56 days
- Ensure a total of 85% of funds allocated for disabled facilities applications is spent
- Process new housing benefit claims within 20 days in line with North Yorkshire authorities
- Process new council tax claims within 20 days in line with North Yorkshire authorities
- Process housing benefit changes in circumstance within seven days in line with North Yorkshire authorities
- Process council tax changes in circumstance within seven days in line with North Yorkshire authorities.

Where people *grow* ideas

Where families *grow*

Where communities *grow* and flourish

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Where creativity *grows*

Where sense of place *grows*

KEY PROJECTS

Local plan

Best in class planning service

Lambert Hospital community development

Vibrant market towns

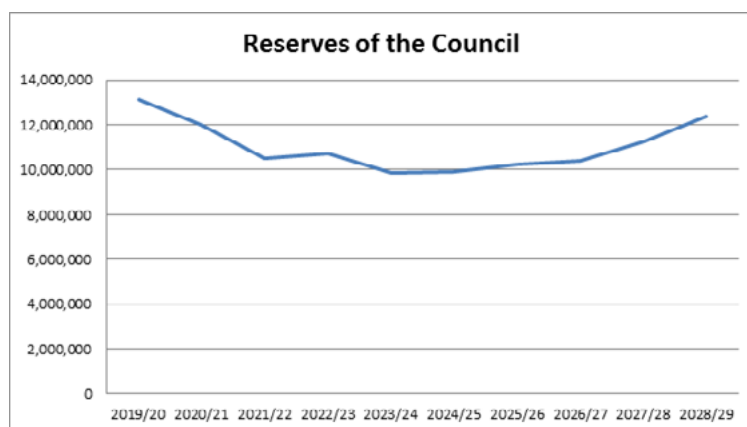
Our Finances

Hambleton has an impressive track record of sound financial management.

We create and support new opportunities and new income streams to ensure the on-going affordability of council services. We identify new ways to save, or make, money.

An example of this is the ambitious commercial programme we have established to enable the council to be self-sufficient and to fund future projects.

The illustration shows over the next ten years the council's financial position is stable.



The reserves of the council are expected to decrease over the next few years; there will be a large reduction in the grant we receive from government and at the same time, we will be investing in ICT and our assets.

Council funds will then increase as the commercial programme and its activities start to make a significant contribution to the council's income. This income will allow us to support, with confidence, our priorities over the longer term and demonstrates we are financially sustainable.

Where communities *grow* and flourish

Where businesses *grow* their reach, from local to global

Where creativity *grows*

Where ideas *grow* into reality

Where ambitions *grow*

Where market towns *grow* and flourish



Our Services

Economy and Planning:

- Building Control
- Business and Economy
- Communications
- Conservation
- Development Management
- Economic Development
- Graduate Programme
- GIS (Geographic Information Systems)
- Housing
- Local Land Charges
- Market Town Investment
- Planning Policy
- Street Naming and Numbering

Leisure and Communities:

- CCTV
- Community Leisure
- Community Partnerships
- Community Safety
- Design and Maintenance
- Events and Safeguarding
- Facilities Management
- Grants and External Funding
- Leisure Centres
- Parking
- Public Health
- Sports and Art Development

Environment:

- Business Continuity
- Emergency Planning
- Environmental Health
- Food Hygiene
- Health and Safety
- Household Waste
- Pest and Pollution Control
- Recycling
- Street Scene
- Environmental Health (Water Supply)

Law and Governance:

- Democratic Services
- Electoral Services
- Human Resources
- Information Governance
- Legal Services
- Licensing
- Procurement

Finance and Commercial:

- Audit Services
- Business Rates
- Business Support
- Commercialisation and Programme Management
- Customer Services
- Finance
- Housing Benefits
- ICT
- Payroll
- Performance and Risk Management
- Reprographics
- Taxation and Recovery
- Transparency



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HAMBLETON
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Civic Centre, Stone Cross, Rotary Way, Northallerton, North Yorkshire DL6 2UU
01609 779977

This information is available in alternative formats and languages