



Leaders' Statement

The last two years have been difficult, not only as a Council but also for our communities and businesses. However, as a Council we have done all we can to support those worst affected by the pandemic. Whether that be the expedient processing of business grants, welfare calls to our most vulnerable residents or contributions to our community food banks, Hambleton as always has risen to the challenge and delivered.

Despite our pandemic response and the distraction of local government re-organisation we continue to invest in and improve services for our residents. This includes the successful completion of C4DI, with the e-campus element due for completion in Spring 2022.

The £4m redevelopment of Thirsk and Sowerby Leisure Centre is now complete and open. This provides residents with a state-of-the-art 24/7 Gym facility as well as improvements to the infrastructure and aesthetics of the building.

The development of Hambleton Crematorium at Maple Park is nearing completion and is due to open February 2022. Not only will this provide a new much-needed service for our residents, it will also be one of the first low carbon crematoriums in the country.

These are just a few of the unique and innovative services this Council is achieving for the community it serves, whilst maintaining the third lowest Council Tax in the country. However, 2022 brings with it many changes, not least elections to the new North Yorkshire unitary authority.

On a final note, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a Merry Christmas and a safe, happy New Year.

Councillor Mark Robson
Leader, Hambleton District Council
14 December 2021

