

Clean Growth and Regeneration End of Year Council Plan Performance Report 2020-21

Progress on Council Plan deliverables and key measures

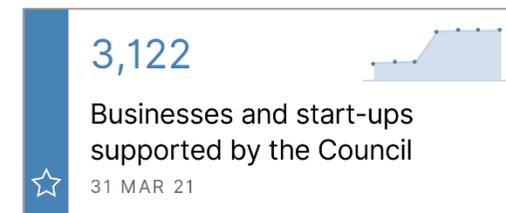
A prosperous and green Derbyshire

★ Developed and implemented a Covid-19 economic recovery strategy to support business and sector renewal

Strategy completed and priority interventions being delivered

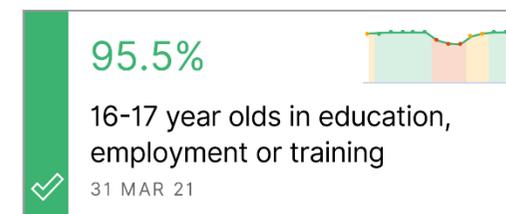
A total of 3,122 businesses have been supported during the year. The number of Derbyshire based business members of the Trusted Trader scheme increased by 63 to a year end figure of 1,064. Trading Standards support 22 Derbyshire businesses with formal agreements to provide advice. The Economy Transport and Environment department supported 2,036 business via the Business Hardship Fund, webinars and advice to start-ups.

There has been continuous engagement with business throughout the Covid-19 pandemic at a time when many business have been closed and could have disengaged. During the height of the pandemic Vision Derbyshire recognised that additional support was needed to support new start business start ups. Funding to secure 5 new business advisers and a business support grant scheme is now in place. The new business advisers are to be in post by Quarter 1 of 2021 with the grant scheme to be launched in Quarter 2 of 2021.



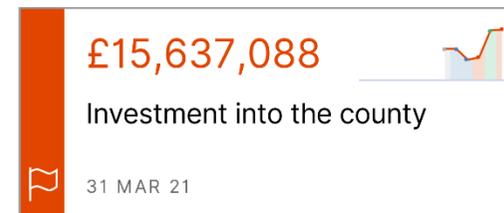
✔ Delivered the Employment and Skills Strategy action plan in line with programmed timescales including improved co-ordination of Council activity

Good progress continues to be made in delivering the Council's Employment and Skills Recovery Action Plan. Key success areas in Quarter 4 have included the development of a My Futures platform for Southern Derbyshire, due to go live in the 1st quarter of 2021/2022. The Kickstart programme of work placements for 16-24 year olds has also now started to be delivered in greater numbers as more vacancies come online including positions at the Council. The percentage of young people aged 16 and 17 in education, employment and training is 95.5% whilst the more specific figure for those not in education, employment and training (NEET) and unknown stands at 2.53% which continues to compare favourably with National figures. Early work with Vision Derbyshire has taken place to identify suitable programmes for delivery. The restructuring of the Employment and Skills Board is planned to be implement by the summer of 2021 following the local elections.



✓ Delivered the new “Invest in Derbyshire” programme

The level of inward investment in the County has remained stable over the period September 2020 to March 2021, although enquiries have continued to show good levels of business confidence in Derbyshire as a place to invest. The existing investment strategy has been reviewed with Marketing Derby and a revised delivery plan is being finalised for the period April 2021 – September 2022. In the year 2020/2021 the Council has attracted £15.6m of external funding to support recovery and help drive continued economic growth, whilst below the target of £20m, this is a substantial increase from last year and the total value of investment linked to this external funding is considerably higher and is likely to be in excess of £23m (based upon Global Infrastructure Hub and Office of National Statistics analysis of public infrastructure investment).



✓ Assisted in the successful implementation of a new manufacturing zone in North Derbyshire

The first stage of work on the East Midlands Manufacturing Zone was successfully completed in March 2020 with the production of a suite of reports. To date, Government has not launched any further stages of this initiative, but the findings are being taken into account where they can be incorporated into funded projects.

✓ Completed the clean-up of polluted land at the former Coalite works in Bolsover and further developed Markham Vale

Remediation works at the former Coalite site are nearing completion on the eastern side of Buttermilk Lane; there have been some delays due to Covid-19. The offsite highway infrastructure work has a planned start date of 17 May 2021 with a 22 week programme and project completion anticipated on 15 October 2021. Marketing of the site is underway.

With regard to Markham Vale, there have been some delays due to Covid 19. There continues to be high levels of investor interest for sites:- Aver have completed the construction of two speculative industrial buildings branded Orion 1 and Orion 2; Daher Aerospace have taken a lease on Markham Vale 55, X-Bite have taken a lease on the former Andrew Page building; Squadron Medical have vacated their building but the agents have received several bids to purchase it, and Chesters have completed the purchase of Plot 7E to build a fish and chip restaurant. Meanwhile an earthworks contract is underway to bring forward an extension to Plot 6 and also a new large Plot branded The Sidings. A contract is underway to construct a new cycleway route to work between Bolsover and Markham Vale.

✓ Implemented the Carbon Reduction Plan to reduce emissions from Council owned buildings and operations

Good progress is being made on reducing carbon emissions from Council owned buildings and operations. Emissions from streetlighting have also reduced for the first ten months of the 2020/21 though final figures for the full year are not yet available. Emissions from grey fleet are also notably lower with initial estimates being that these will be around half typical levels. This is due to the switch to holding on-line meetings which is expected to continue moving forwards. The Council has introduced eight electric cars into its fleet and plans to further increase the number of low- and zero-emission vehicles. Plans to rationalise the Council's property portfolio and to promote Modern Ways of Working for staff will reduce emissions from property in the future. Opportunities to reduce emissions and improve the sustainability of the goods and services we procure is being explored.



 **Worked in partnership to deliver the Derbyshire Environment and Climate Change Framework, harnessing recent changes in employee, resident and business behaviour**

County-wide work to address climate change is being taken forward as part of Vision Derbyshire under the 'Living and Working Sustainably' workstream. Climate action planning is also continuing with the Derby and Derbyshire Action Planning process led by Midlands Energy Hub. Consultants are being engaged to produce a Natural Capital Strategy for the county. Whilst there has been increased activity in this area of work there is still limited project implementation. Accelerated action to reduce emissions across the county would need to be taken for the county to be on track in reducing emissions to net zero on a pathway consistent with the Paris Agreement. A programme manager for Climate Change has been appointed to drive this work forwards.

 **Delivered measures to encourage more people to choose sustainable methods of travel, create healthier lifestyles and reduce carbon emissions**

Public consultation for the new east to west cycle route across Chesterfield was delayed until March 2021 and closed on 26 March, as a result the outcome of this will not be reported until Quarter 1 2021/22. In addition to both South Derbyshire and Amber Valley's successful applications to the Office for Zero Emission Vehicles (OZEV); as reported in Quarter 3; applications from Bolsover and Chesterfield were also successful resulting in an additional 48 dual Electric Vehicle (EV) chargepoints. These have either already been installed, or are due to be shortly. This is in addition to the 3 additional dual EV chargepoints at Derbyshire County Council depots in Ambergate, Brimington and Darley Dale, installed in March 2021.

Empowered and self-sufficient communities

 **Helped people furthest from the labour market into sustainable employment**

This year we have supported 1333 people with careers guidance, with 358 of those progressing into employment. There has been strong progress on the roll out of the apprenticeship levy transfer which has been made with around 91 levy transfer apprentices at the end of Quarter 4. Targeted partner interventions are being implemented as part of the Recovery Action Plan including the development of a Derbyshire Youth Hub to support unemployed 16 -24 year olds, as well as an expansion of the Kickstart programme with the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). The percentage of 16-17 year olds not in employment, education or training (NEET) continues to be maintained at low levels despite the pandemic with the latest figure for NEET and Unknown standing at 2.53%.

 **Supported communities to take action to tackle climate change within their local areas through our new green action grants programme**

Proposals on new grant schemes are in development alongside a new funding model to allow the sector to be innovative and creative, whilst also delivering on the Council's priorities, including investment in sustainable and green community activity. Whilst the new grant schemes have not yet begun due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic the Council is also working on a Climate Change Strategy which will identify how the Council, in partnership with the VCS, can make best use of available funding.

Key  Strong  Good  Review  Action  Data not available/Target not set