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**BUSINESS**  
REDCAR | CLEVELAND



Business Bulletin

January 2026

## Introducing the Tees Valley Business Masterclasses

**TEES  
VALLEY**



Funded by  
UK Government

Tees Valley Business  
Masterclass Series

January - March 2026



Tees Valley Combined Authority has introduced a programme of over 40 expert-led masterclasses, workshops, and webinars taking place between January and March 2026. This fully funded series, designed in collaboration with all five Tees Valley local authorities, is here to help businesses access a range of expertise to grow or start a business, improve efficiencies and seize new market opportunities.

Masterclass topics include:

- Start-up essentials
- Finance & funding
- Sales, marketing & social media
- HR, recruitment & leadership
- Cyber security
- AI & ChatGPT

Designed and delivered by experts from:

- Enterprise Made Simple Ltd
- HR2day
- Hour One
- Circle Cloud
- Collective Minds CIC

In the coming months this special series of masterclasses will be delivered through a mixture of online workshops and in-person sessions. With a cluster of events planned to take place in Redcar and Cleveland starting with the full day 'Start Strong' workshop, taking place next Friday at the Redcar Civic Centre delivered by Phil Teasdale, founder of Enterprise Made Simple.

**Date:** Friday 16th January

**Time:** 9:30am – 4:00pm

**Venue:** Redcar Civic Centre, Ridley St, Redcar, TS10 1TD

**['Start-up and Finance Essentials – Redcar and Cleveland'](#)**

To view all of the workshops and webinars announced so far as part of the series, click the link below.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

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## **Business support opportunities**

**Are you a social enterprise in Redcar and Cleveland?**



Voluntary and community sector (VCS) organisations in Redcar and Cleveland can still access support via the LARCH (Local Access Redcar and Cleveland and Hartlepool) programme.

The LARCH programme is a £4 million investment and is one of only six areas in the UK to be chosen by Access Foundation for Social Investment and Big Society Capital, the main funders of LARCH, with support of two other partners – The Key Fund and Tees Foundation.

The programme is designed to accelerate the growth of social enterprises by facilitating tailored enterprise development support. This includes helping VCS organisations build sustainable income

streams and offering access to blended repayable finance to support long-term growth.

LARCH clients can also access the School for Social Entrepreneurs online workshops for FREE! These workshops are designed to support growing social enterprises.

### **Future workshops:**

#### **Working with Corporates**

27th Jan | half day | online

#### **Writing a Successful Funding Application**

28th Jan | half day | online

#### **Measuring Social Impact**

27th - 29th Jan | 3x 3 hours | online

#### **Creating a Theory of Change**

29th Jan & 5th Feb | 2x 3 hours | online

#### **Introduction to Social Impact Measurement**

12th Feb | half day | online

#### **Impact Storytelling**

16th Mar | half day | online

#### **Sources of Funding for Charities and Social Enterprises**

31st Mar | half day | online

For more information on LARCH and how it supports Redcar and Cleveland's social enterprises please contact Nicola Wylde - [nicola.wylde@vonne.org.uk](mailto:nicola.wylde@vonne.org.uk). To visit their website click the link below.

FIND OUT MORE

## Made Smarter Adoption North East



Redcar and Cleveland manufacturers looking to become more efficient and implement digital technology into your business are invited to take part in the Made Smarter Adoption North East programme which includes the opportunity to apply for up to £23,500 in grant funding to help access expert technical advice and to purchase and implement new software/equipment.

Support includes:

- Get hands on help to develop a digital roadmap for your business – wherever you're at on your digital journey.
- Access specialist training and workshops on digital transformation, road mapping, process mapping, leadership development and industrial cyber security.
- Grants of up to £3,500 to access expert technical advice.
- Grants of up to £20,000 to help you purchase and implement new software and/or equipment (up to 50% of the overall cost).

The **FINAL** cohort of this year's programme starts on **Wednesday 14th January**, we would encourage businesses interested to register as soon as possible to not miss out on this opportunity.

**For more information on the programme and the range of support to make your manufacturing business more efficient and productive, click the link below.**

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## Tees Valley Youth Guarantee Trailblazer



Access fully funded work placements (up to 6 months) for your business through the Tees Valley Youth Guarantee Trailblazer programme. The programme also provides the opportunity for your business to access funding to offer a week long unpaid 'taster session' to young people interested in your industry.

Open to businesses with five or more employees, the scheme provides funding for you to employ young people aged 18-21 who are not in education, employment, or training.

To help your business take on a young person additional support is available including:

- Up to £2,000 is available to help you identify dedicated work-based mentors within your team as part of the taster sessions.

- Training grants are also available with up to £2,500 towards certified training, qualifications, and upskilling.
- Funding for any uniforms, PPE, tools, or digital equipment the young person requires to carry out the role.

Paid placements will be subsidised for up to 25 hours per week, wages will be fully funded meaning there is no financial cost to your business.

Businesses can also offer flexible unpaid work taster sessions for young people to explore which sectors/roles they're most interested in.

Please note this programme is currently inviting expressions of interest from businesses with more than 5 employees, if you have less than 5 employees but are interested in the programme, please contact our team at [Business@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk](mailto:Business@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk).

For more information, including FAQs and to sign up, visit the Tees Valley Combined Authority website by clicking below.

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## **New tenders added to £4 billion Carbon Capture project**



Tender opportunities are live for the £4 billion Northern Endurance Partnership project, opportunities in logistics, engineering, manufacturing and services are listed on the Energy Pathfinder platform below.

The Northern Endurance Partnership is a UK joint venture led by BP, Equinor, and TotalEnergies that is building onshore and offshore infrastructure to transport captured CO2 from industrial sites in Teesside and Humber to permanent storage in the Endurance saline aquifer beneath the North Sea, enabling large-scale decarbonisation of these regions as part of the East Coast Cluster.

View the opportunities below including recently added contracts for the supply of hoses, cleaning services and offshore services.

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## News

### £1 billion of UK subcontracts awarded in Net Zero Teesside's first year



Luke Myer, MP for Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland and chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group for Carbon Capture and Storage, has welcomed new figures showing that more than £1 billion

in UK subcontracts have been awarded in the year since Net Zero Teesside (NZT) and the East Coast Cluster project received government approval in December 2024.

Read the full story by clicking below.

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## Community news and opportunities

**Protect your business from fraud**



Fraud is the most common crime type in England and Wales, estimated to be 41% of all crime (National Crime Agency 2025).

Working closely with the police we have created a webpage to inform and raise awareness of support available towards business fraud prevention efforts and to keep your business safe from scams and frauds.

Common business scams cover a range of topics including:

- Business rates
- Energy broker
- Grant funding and financial

Find more information on our dedicated webpage below to help keep your business safe from fraud.

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## Events

### Tees Business Live 2026

**Tees LIVE**  
**Business**

*Engineering on Teesside:*

*our heritage and our future*

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



/ Lecture Theatre,  
Wilton Centre, Redcar

/ Tuesday January 13,  
11am-1pm

*Expert panel, peer discussion,  
networking, refreshments*

Series Associate:  
North East Chamber of Commerce



**Date:** Tuesday 13th January

**Time:** 11:00am - 1:00pm

**Location:** Lecture Theatre, Wilton Centre, Redcar, TS10 4RF

Book your place at the first Tees Business Live of 2026 for a special event focused on Teesside's engineering past and its exciting future, with event partners Technip Energies.

The event's theme is 'Engineering on Teesside: our heritage and our future', exploring how our region's rich industrial legacy continues to inspire innovation in sustainable energy, decarbonisation and skills development.

Along with the panel discussion, there will also be opportunity for attendees to network over refreshments.

To book your place please click the link below.

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## **Cleveland Police Business Safety Briefing for Skippers Lane and South Bank**



**CLEVELAND  
POLICE**

**Date:** Wednesday 14th January

**Time:** 10:00am to 11:00am

**Venue:** Cargo Fleet Business Centre, Middlesbrough Road, TS6 6XJ

Businesses operating on the Skippers Lane and South Tees Freight Park industrial estates are invited to attend a safety briefing next week with Detective Inspector Anthony Ford of Cleveland Police who will be providing updates to businesses following recent incidents in the area and engaging directly with their business safety concerns.

If you are not able to make next week's briefing but would like to engage directly with the policing team for the area please contact our team at [Business@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk](mailto:Business@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk).

To book your place please click on the link below.

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## Cybersecurity Essentials for SME Supply Chain Management



**Date:** Thursday, 22nd January 2026

**Time:** 09:00am - 12:30pm

**Venue:** Teesworks Skills Academy, Dorman Point Way, Middlesbrough, TS6 6BD

Join the 'Cybersecurity Essentials for SME Supply Chain Management' workshop with CyberWhite Ltd and discover how cybersecurity can strengthen and future-proof your supply chain.

The workshop will cover:

- Cybersecurity requirements in public and private procurement frameworks
- How to identify cyber risks in your own supply chain

- An overview of relevant frameworks, including Cyber Essentials & Cyber Essentials Plus, ISO 27001, GDPR and NCSC guidelines for SMEs

Please note this event is funded via the Tees Valley Supply Chain programme with RTC North and delivered by CyberWhite Ltd.

Click the link below to book your place.

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## **NEPIC Cluster Connect at the Wilton Centre**



**Date:** Thursday 29th January

**Time:** 09:30am to 11:30am

**Venue:** Wilton Centre, Redcar, TS10 4RF

Join us at the first NEPIC Cluster Connect of 2026, at the 'The Changing Process Industry' event you will hear from three industry experts as they share real-world insights into how the process sector is evolving and what it means for businesses like yours.

This free, monthly meeting brings together NEPIC members and offers the opportunity to make introductions, develop connections, gain support and inspiration from industry colleagues, along with helping to raise your personal and business profile.

Speakers:

Zoe McLone – **Addison Project**

Steve Guest – **Wolviston Management**

John Cauchi & Daniel Bennett – **Brand Energy & Infrastructure Services UK Limited**

PLEASE NOTE: If you are a NON-Member and would like to attend a Cluster Connect please contact [jane.thompson@nepic.co.uk](mailto:jane.thompson@nepic.co.uk) to discuss.

Click the link below to book your place.

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## Tees Valley Supply Chain Showcase 2026



**Date:** Thursday 12th February

**Time:** 9:00am to 4:00pm

**Venue:** Hardwick Hall Hotel, Stockton on Tees, TS21 2EH

Join RTC North next month for the Tees Valley Supply Chain Showcase event and take the opportunity to meet with major stakeholders, investors and beneficiaries from across Tees Valley.

Building on last year's success, which saw nearly 200 attendees and excellent feedback, this year's showcase offers even greater value, insight, and practical opportunities to help set your business up for success in 2026 and beyond.

Attendees will gain visibility into emerging projects, collaborate with major buyers, and hear from leading organisations such as Tees Valley Lithium, UK Docks Marine Services and JDR Cable Systems, part of the TFKable Group. The event highlights cross-sector opportunities in advanced manufacturing,

energy transition, digital innovation, construction, defence, infrastructure, and the public sector.

Meet-the-Buyer sessions return, providing focused 1:1 meetings with major buyers. Network with suppliers, access funding information, and discover real supply chain opportunities to strengthen your business's position in the region.

Don't miss the chance to network and meet potential customers for your business, spaces are limited and if you are interested we encourage you to book your place by clicking the link below.

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