



Business Bulletin

January 2026

Export funding opportunity reopens

Tees Valley Export Fund

Ready to Take Your Business Global? Access Grant Funding to Kickstart or Grow Your Export Activity.



Are you looking to take your products or services to international markets?

The Tees Valley Export Fund is here to help you do just that, whether you are an SME or a larger business.

This grant programme is funded by the UK Government through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund and delivered in partnership with the Department for Business and Trade (DBT). The programme offers financial support to businesses that are either starting out on their export journey or looking to grow/diversify their current export activities.

This could include help with the costs associated with:

- Market research
- International compliance and certifications
- Translation services
- Export-focused promotional materials
- Attendance at international trade shows

The fund allocation for Tees Valley is £200,000, for business grants between £3,000 and £10,000 for eligible businesses. 25% match funding is a requirement of this programme.

Businesses can apply for project activity which will take place and be completed **up to the end of August 2026**.

For more information and to apply, click the link below.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

South Tees Business Briefings



Thank you to the South Tees businesses who joined us at our Business Briefings in Grangetown and on Skippers Lane Industrial Estate, held in partnership with Cleveland Police.

Attendees heard an update from Detective Inspector Anthony Ford on current policing activity across Skippers Lane Industrial Estate and the wider South Tees area. This was followed by a productive roundtable discussion where businesses shared concerns around crime and security, explored common challenges, and identified opportunities for stronger collaboration on practical solutions.

Cllr Alec Brown, Leader of Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council, said: "We would like to thank all the local businesses who attended our recent South Tees Business Briefings, sharing practical solutions and working together. A special thank you also to Cleveland Police for keeping the community informed on current policing activity."

We plan to hold bi-monthly South Tees business briefings moving forward, you can find more details on the next meeting and how to book below, if you have any questions please contact our team at Business@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk.

Date: Wednesday 11th March

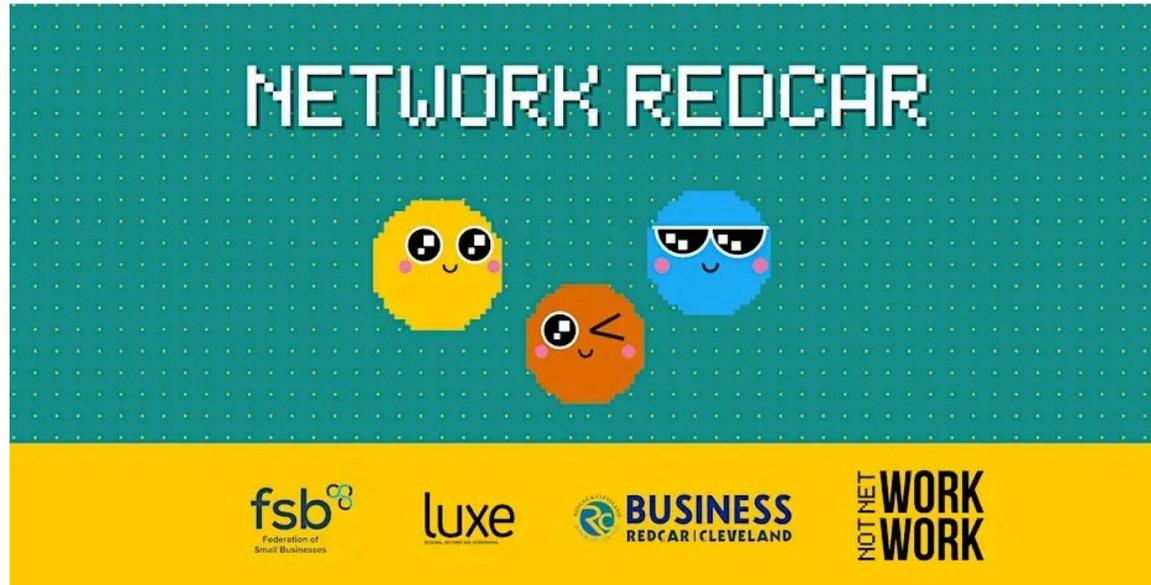
Time: 10:00am to 11:30am

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

If you are a business operating on the Skippers Lane Industrial Estate or in the wider South Tees geography, book your place on the link below.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

NetWORKing at Redcar & Cleveland College



Book your place at the next NetWORKing Redcar meeting and connect with business leaders from across the region.

Hear from a panel of local Redcar and Cleveland business leaders including Samuel Moore of Samuel Moore Roofing Ltd and Michelle Jackson MD of Caremark Redcar & Cleveland.

Featuring a presentation on social value from Jacqui Hutchinson of Redcar & Cleveland Voluntary Development Agency and an update on support available locally for new and early stage businesses delivered by our Enterprise Lead Ainsley Mullen (Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council).

Date: Wednesday 28th January

Time: 9:30am - 12:00pm

Venue: Redcar and Cleveland College, Corporation Road, TS10 1EZ

To book your place, click the link below.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

Business support opportunities

Tees Valley Business Masterclass Series



The banner features the Tees Valley logo on the left, followed by the text 'Funded by UK Government' with the Royal Coat of Arms. The main title 'Tees Valley Business Masterclass Series' is centered, with the dates 'January - March 2026' below it. On the right, a photograph shows a woman in a red top interacting with two other people in a workshop setting.

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. New workshops and webinars are announced regularly, these are available

to all Tees Valley residents.

Masterclass topics include:

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

Upcoming workshops and webinars include:

Marketing and Sales Growth

Monday 26th January

13:00pm-17:00pm

ONLINE

Start Strong: Start up and finance essentials

Tuesday 27th January

09:30am – 16:30pm

The BIS, Hartlepool, 13-17 Whitby Street, Hartlepool, TS24 7AD

Start Strong: Start up and finance essentials

Wednesday 28th January

09:30am- 16:30pm

Tandem Hub, Morton Park Business Training Centre, Yarm Road, Darlington, DL1 4PJ

Recruitment and Retention

Wednesday 28th January

09:30am – 12:30pm

Business Central, Darlington, 2 Union Square, Central Park, Darlington, DL1 1GL

Inclusive Recruitment

Wednesday 28th January

13:00pm- 16:00pm

Business Central, Darlington, 2 Union Square, Central Park, Darlington, DL1 1GL

Digital Marketing: Content Creation and Branding

Tuesday 3rd February

09:00am - 13:00pm

ONLINE

Leadership & People

Tuesday 3rd February

13:30pm - 16:30pm

EMS, Middlesbrough, 4 Eggleston Court, Middlesbrough, TS2 1RU

Digital Skills for Business Owners

Wednesday 4th February

13:00pm - 17:00pm

ONLINE

Chat GPT for Small Business

Thursday 5th February

10:00am - 12:00pm

ONLINE

Click the link below to view all announced workshops and webinars or to book your place.

FIND OUT MORE

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. To visit their website click the link below.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

A Taste of Redcar and Cleveland is back!



A Taste of Redcar and Cleveland is back!

The popular campaign returns on **Wednesday 4th March** and ends on **Sunday 15th March 2026**.

Who can take part?

The campaign is open to all sit-in hospitality venues in Redcar and Cleveland. This includes bars, cafes, bistros, pubs, restaurants and hotels. Whether you serve food, drinks or both, you are eligible to participate.

What's involved?

Taking part is quick, easy and FREE. All we ask is that participating venues offer at least one deal or discount during the campaign, in line with the set price points £5, £10, £15, £20, £25 and £30+. Offers can be tailored to your business type, for example:

- Food Venues might offer a coffee and cake combo for £5 or a 3-course set meal for £25
- Drinks only venues might offer special cocktail 2 for 1 deals or discounted drinks packages

Offers must be exclusive to this campaign and separate from any current promotions.

Benefits of taking part:

- Increased exposure to new customers
- Free promotion through Enjoy Redcar and Cleveland's tourism platform and social media
- Inclusion in printed and digital marketing

How to sign up

Complete the sign up form below, businesses that sign up before the 4th February will be included in the Taste of Redcar and Cleveland campaign leaflet.

To learn more and sign up to the campaign, click the link below.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

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.

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.

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

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

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.

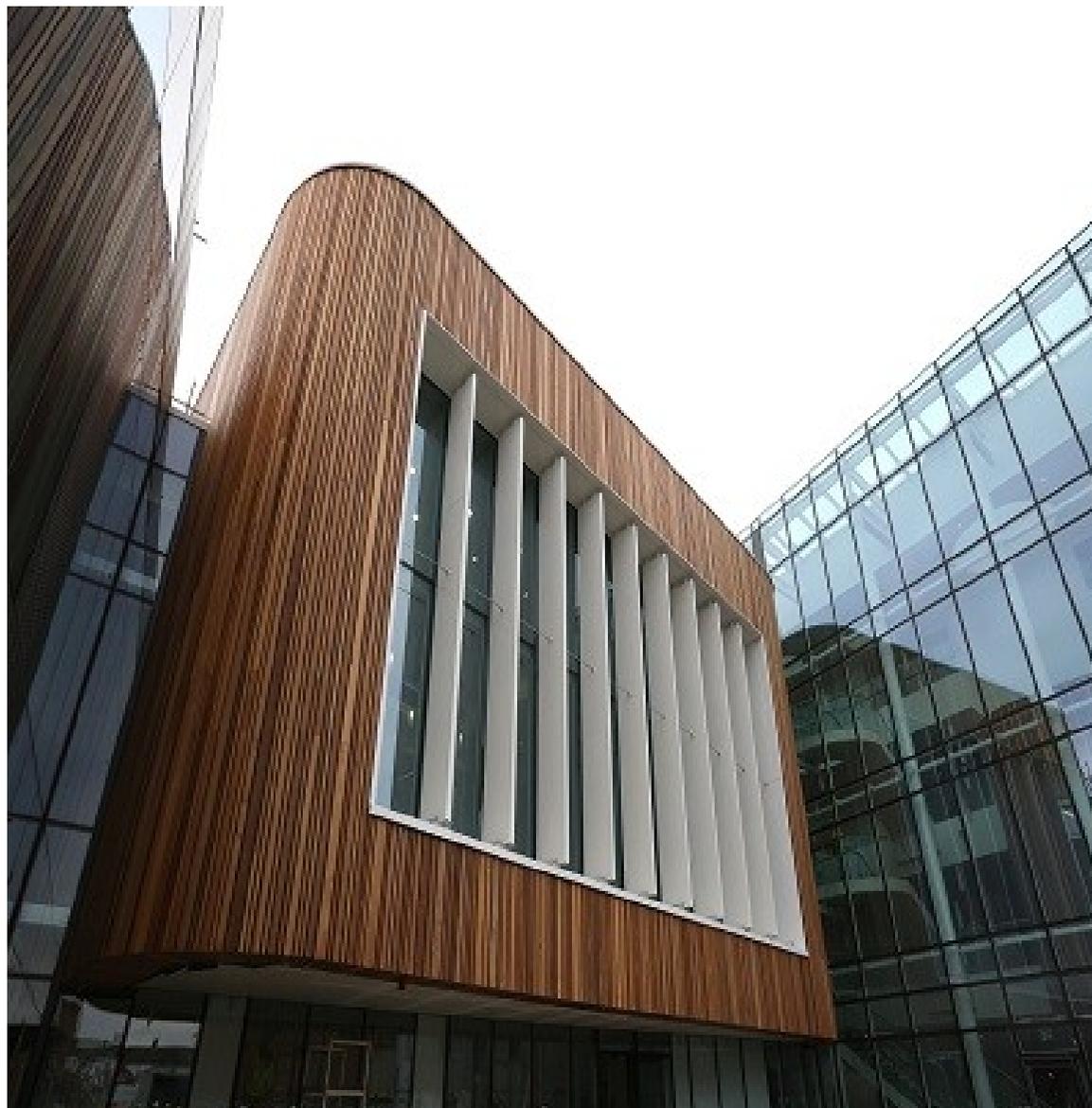
The Northern Endurance Partnership is a UK joint venture led by BP, Equinor, and TotalEnergies that is building onshore and offshore infrastructure to transport captured CO2 from industrial sites in Teesside and Humber to permanent storage in the Endurance saline aquifer beneath the North Sea, enabling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

To view all opportunities please click the link below.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

News

Masterclass series off to a strong start in Redcar



The Tees Valley Business Masterclass Series arrived in Redcar on Friday 16th January with a well-attended workshop hosted at Redcar Civic Centre.

Local businesses from a wide range of sectors joined the 'Start Strong and Finance Essentials'

workshop, delivered by Phil Teasdale, founder of Enterprise Made Simple.

The workshop provided attendees with practical guidance and valuable insights for their new businesses, to see a list of upcoming masterclasses click the link below.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

Community news and opportunities

Regional Men's Recovery Event



Date: Wednesday 28th January

Time: 9:30am - 4:00pm

Venue: Grangetown Community Hub, 6 Derwentwater Road, TS6 7PY

Join [Recovery Connections](#) at their upcoming Regional Men's Recovery Event at the Grangetown Community Hub for a day of solidarity, with activities designed to make men in recovery from drug and alcohol addiction be proud of who they are.

Activities include:

- Boxercise
- Sound bath
- Insights from lived experience shares and guest speakers.

For more information, email kenny.andrew@recoveryconnections.org.uk or darren.dowdall@recoveryconnections.org.uk

**Training opportunity with Cleveland Police &
CURV (Cleveland Unit Reduction of Violence)**



Our colleagues at Cleveland Police, [**CURV \(Cleveland Unit Reduction of Violence\)**](#) and partners are putting on a half-day of training for local businesses later this month focused on bleed cabinet training, violence against women and girls, and child exploitation.

Date: Thursday 29th January

Time: 09:00am to 12:00pm

Venue: Redcar Civic Centre, Ridley Street, TS10 1TD

Please see the agenda linked below, for more information on the training and to book your place

please contact Anna Waddington CURV Partnerships and Delivery Officer via email at anna.waddington@cleveland.police.uk

FIND OUT MORE

Events

NEPIC Cluster Connect at the Wilton Centre



Date: Thursday 29th January

Time: 9:30am 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 to discuss.

Click the link below to book your place.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

Tees Valley Supply Chain Showcase 2026



The banner features the Tees Valley logo and the text 'Funded by UK Government' at the top left. The central graphic consists of the words 'SUPPLY CHAIN' in large, bold, black letters, where the letters are filled with various images of people working in industrial and service environments. At the bottom left, it says 'Showcase 2026'. At the bottom center, it provides the date and time: 'Thursday 12 February, 9.00 - 16.00' and the location: 'Hardwick Hall'. At the bottom right is the RTC logo with the tagline 'inspiring growth'.

TEES VALLEY | Funded by UK Government

SHOWCASE 2026

Thursday 12 February,
9.00 - 16.00
Hardwick Hall

RTC
inspiring growth

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.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

[Business Engagement Team privacy notice](#)



redcarcleland.co.uk/business



Copyright © 2024 REDCAR | CLEVELAND, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).