

BUSINESS

REDCAR | CLEVELAND



Business Bulletin

June 2026

Supporting new enterprise at Festival of Thrift



Festival of Thrift returns to Kirkleatham Museum and Grounds on **Saturday 4th** and **Sunday 5th July 2026**.

Now in its 14th year, this nationally celebrated event continues to champion sustainable living, creativity, and positive change. Visitors can look forward to an exciting, free programme featuring everything from arts, crafts, live performances, fashion, and delicious food to independent traders, hands-on workshops, and innovative sustainability ideas.

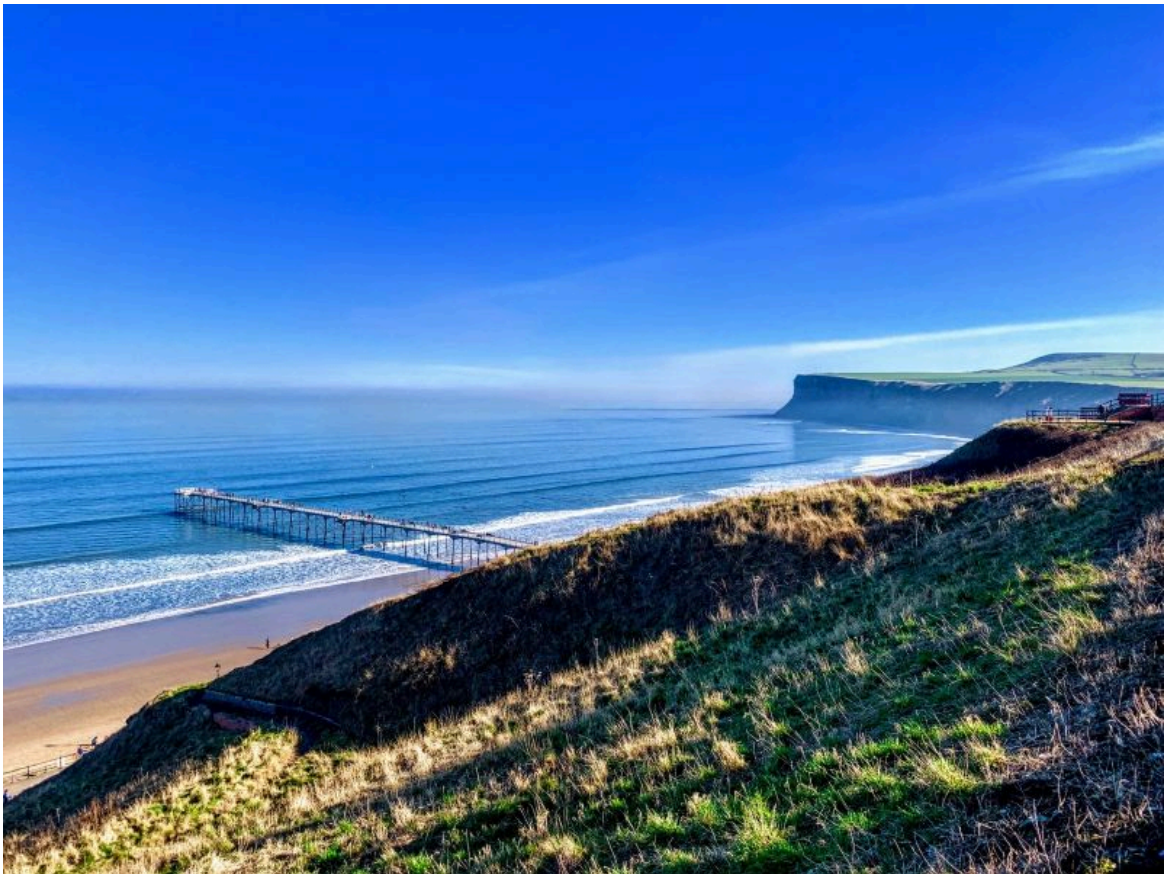
We are proud to be supporting five local traders through our Enterprise Development Programme, all

of whom will be showcasing their products and creativity at this year's festival in the Enterprise Development Zone.

Find out more about our traders and the Enterprise Development Zone by clicking the link below.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

Grants available to tourism businesses



The North York Moors National Park Authority is offering grants to tourism businesses, and voluntary and collaborative groups, to support projects which will raise the profile of the North York Moors area and highlight its special qualities.

Funded through section 106 agreements linked to the Woodsmith and Boulby mines, the grants support ideas that enhance the visitor experience, aid diversification, encourage off-peak visits and embodies the regenerative tourism principles.

There are two grant schemes available: one is specifically for businesses located within the national park boundary, while the other covers a wider area, including Saltburn, Guisborough, and East Cleveland.

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

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

Tees Valley Roundtable Series





Tees Valley Combined Authority are developing a new approach to business support across Tees Valley, and they want to make sure it works for everyone.

They are inviting local business leaders and entrepreneurs to take part in four roundtables this July:

Accessibility Business Support Roundtable

Date: Monday 6th July

Time: 2:00pm to 4:00pm

Venue: Teesside International Airport, DL2 1NJ

Help Shape Future Business Support in Tees Valley for the VCSE Sector

Date: Thursday 9th July

Time: 10:00am to 12:00pm

Venue: Microsoft Teams

Book your place for this workshop [HERE](#).

Female Founder Business Support Roundtable

Date: Friday 10th July

Time: 12:00pm to 2:00pm

Venue: Teesside International Airport, DL2 1NJ

Ethnic Minority Business Support Roundtable

Date: Friday 10th July

Time: 2:30pm to 4:30pm

Venue: Teesside International Airport DL2 1NJ

If you are interested and would like the opportunity to have your voice heard then click the link below to view the workshop series on Eventbrite.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

Business support opportunities

Tees Valley Investment Zone: research and innovation support





Teesside University is leading the Research and Innovation strand of the Tees Valley Investment Zone, an ambitious programme aimed at accelerating growth in the region's digital and creative industries. Backed by £9.4m from Tees Valley Combined Authority, alongside matched investment from the University, government and industry, the programme will deliver targeted, high impact support to turn cutting edge ideas into commercial success.

The programme features five pillars of support for digital and creative businesses:

- **Innovation vouchers** - businesses can apply for £50,000 or £300,000 vouchers to develop, and accelerate innovative ideas linked to the digital themes in the guidance document.
- **Knowledge Transfer Partnerships (KTPs)** - for businesses developing a new product, service, or process to accelerate growth.
- **Collaborative PhD studentships** - businesses pursuing long-term R&D or looking to solve complex technical challenges.
- **Proof of concept** - academics taking a research idea towards commercialisation, de-risking feasibility, and supporting spinout or product pathways.

- **Innovation fellows** - for short, high-impact projects that need specialist expertise to deliver quickly.

Find more information on this support by visiting the Teesside University website linked below.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

Export funding opportunity



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](#)

Tees Valley Digital Connectivity Survey

TEES VALLEY

Tees Valley Combined Authority is inviting businesses in Redcar and Cleveland to share your views on the digital infrastructure that supports your operations. Your feedback will help build a clearer picture of where future improvements are needed, based on the real business demand in our area.

This is your chance to highlight whether broadband speeds, network stability or mobile network coverage are holding your business back from growing and/or adopting smart technologies.

Please take a few minutes to complete the short survey linked below. Your insights are vital in shaping future digital connectivity improvements across our area.

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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).

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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Land and property opportunities

Rental opportunities at the new Eston Precinct



The New Eston Precinct development is due for completion in September 2026, with expressions of interests now open for seven new retail units.

The scheme will feature 14,650 sq ft of accommodation arranged in an L-shaped parade with prominent frontage to the High Street and a new landscaped public space, with dedicated parking off Lodge Road.

Units will be delivered in shell condition with glazed shopfronts and roller shutters, supported by secure rear servicing, a shared service yard, and delivery facilities including a loading dock.

The precinct is intended to host regular events and revive an outdoor market, creating a vibrant destination for retailers and the local community.

Click the link below to view the brochure for full unit details and information on how to register your interest.

You can register an interest by contacting Portland Dodds Brown on any of the following contact details.

Richard Wilson

M: 07894256309

E: rwilson@portlanddoddsbrown.co.uk

FIND OUT MORE

Opportunity to lease Tuned In!



An exciting seafront opportunity to lease Tuned In! is available and interest is invited in the venue which was originally designed as a performing arts space with a strong focus on youth engagement.

Prospective tenants are invited to bring forward proposals for a range of uses; however, youth engagement must remain a core function of the facility.

Applicants will be required to demonstrate how their plans incorporate performing arts, with a particular emphasis on delivering activities and opportunities for young people.

For more information on the opportunity and to contact the agent, visit the link to the Savills website below.

FIND OUT MORE

Opportunity to operate Kirkleatham Walled Garden Catering and Events Facility



An exciting procurement opportunity is now live to provide site management and commercial development of the Kirkleatham Walled Garden facility, including visitor attraction activities, admissions, catering, retail, weddings, events and venue hire.

This is a concession contract with an initial duration of 5 years plus an optional 5 year extension available.

Key dates:

Tender submission deadline: Friday 31st July 2026 2:00pm

Questions deadline: Friday 24th July 2026 2:00pm

For more information on the opportunity and to express your interest, click the link below.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

News

PD Ports strengthens bulk handling capacity at Teesport with £5.4m crane investment



PD Ports has further strengthened its bulk handling capability at Teesport following a £5.4m investment in the port's infrastructure.

The new Liebherr LPS 550 crane complements two identical models introduced in 2023 - an £8.6m investment - and significantly enhances Teesport's ability to handle a wider range of bulk and breakbulk commodities, reduce emissions, improve discharge rates and respond quickly and flexibly to customer demand.

In addition to the Liebherr crane, PD Ports has also invested in new, task-specific grabs, which allow their operations teams to better match equipment to individual cargoes and conditions.

The investment improves both safety and operational efficiency, reduces discharge times and supports PD Ports' entry into new bulk markets, rather than relying on more generalised handling equipment.

The latest investment builds on a sustained programme of continued improvements at Teesport, which has already delivered a 263% increase in its agribulk productivity since 2016, when PD Ports moved to diversify its bulk handling operations.

Read more by clicking the link below.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

British Industrial Competitiveness Scheme (BICS)



The UK government has announced the final design of the [British Industrial Competitiveness Scheme \(BICS\)](#), providing electricity bill relief to more than 10,000 manufacturing businesses. From April 2027, eligible firms could see electricity bills cut by up to 25%.

BICS is a new government support mechanism designed to reduce electricity costs for eligible UK manufacturers and other energy intensive businesses in their supply chain.

It works by removing certain policy-related costs from electricity bills. Specifically, eligible firms will be exempt from the indirect costs of three schemes:

- Renewables Obligation (RO)
- Feed-in Tariffs (FIT)
- Capacity Market (CM)

The government estimates this could be worth around £35–£40 per MWh, with total support reaching as much as £600 million per year.

Find out more by clicking the link below.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

Events

Tees Valley Business Summit 2026



Date: Wednesday 1st July

Time: 9:30am to 4:00pm

Venue: Digital Life Building, Teesside University

Join us at next month's Tees Valley Business Summit where you can network with business owners, providers and stakeholders from across the region.

Benefits of attending the event as a free delegate or as an exhibitor include the opportunity to:

- **Showcase your brand:** Elevate your profile with sponsorship and exhibition opportunities
- **Win new business:** Connect with 750+ senior decision-makers
- **Gain insight:** Hear fresh ideas and expert views on Tees Valley's business landscape

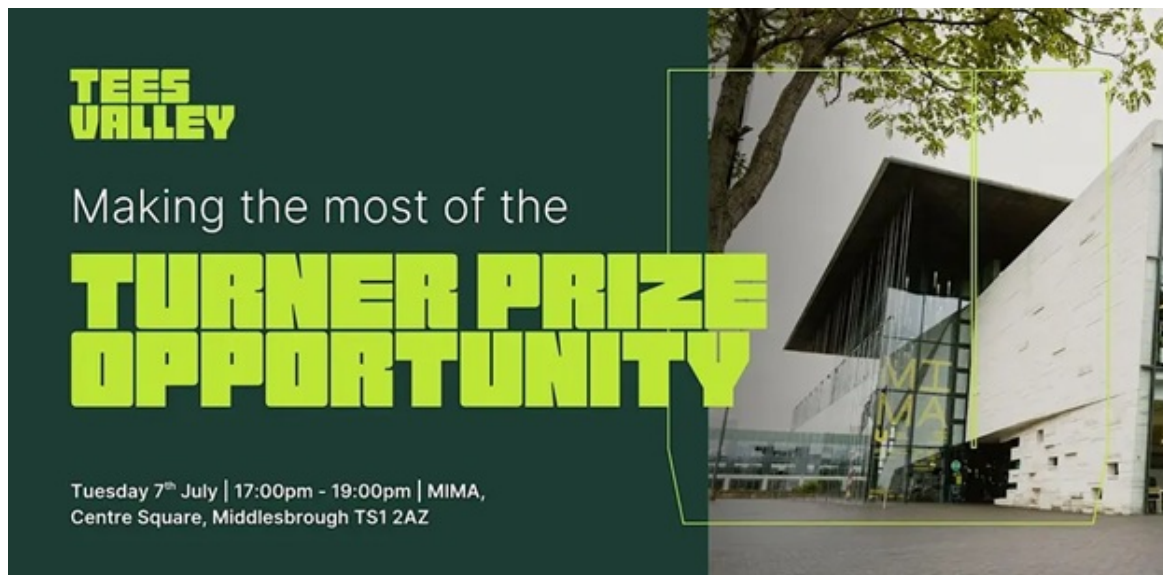
- **Get involved:** Join meaningful discussions shaping the region's future
- **Expand your network:** Meet leaders, reconnect, and build valuable relationships

We'll be on stand 52, so come and say hello to discuss how we can support your Redcar and Cleveland business!

For more information and to book your place, please click the link below.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

Visit Tees Valley: Making the Most of the Turner Prize Opportunity



Date: Tuesday 7th July

Time: 5:00pm to 7:00pm

Venue: MIMA, Centre Square, Middlesbrough, TS1 2AZ

Join Visit Tees Valley and MIMA for a special visitor economy networking event focused on the opportunities surrounding the Turner Prize.

With major cultural moments including the Turner Prize, New Contemporaries, Middlesbrough FC's 150th anniversary, Captain Cook 300, and Middlesbrough's Bicentenary all approaching over the next few years, this is an important opportunity for local businesses to start thinking commercially about how they can benefit.

The session will provide practical insight into the audiences these events attract, where visitor

spending opportunities may emerge, and how businesses across hospitality, retail, accommodation and attractions can position themselves to make the most of increased footfall and national attention.

For more information and to register, click on the link below.

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[Business Engagement Team privacy notice](#)



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