

BUSINESS

REDCAR | CLEVELAND



Business Bulletin

August 2026

Funded support to recruit young people



UK Government

YOUTH GUARANTEE

FUNDING OFFER TO EMPLOYERS

NEW

FROM OCTOBER 2026

▶ **£1,000**
additional
payment for
hiring apprentices
aged 16-18.

▶ **£2,000**
for SMEs who
hire apprentices
aged 16-24.

NEW

FROM JUNE 2026

▶ **£3,000**
for employers who
hire 18-24 year olds
who have been on
Universal Credit for
over 6 months.

▶ **No NICs**
for employees
under 21, or
apprentices
under 25.

▶ **£2,000**
for employers who
hire foundation
apprentices aged
16-21.

▶ **Jobs
Guarantee**
Fully subsidised work for
long-term unemployed
18-24 year olds.



Apprenticeships



Employers looking to attract new talent and develop future skills can benefit from a range of government-backed programmes through Jobcentre Plus. The **Build Your Future Workforce** initiative is designed to help businesses recruit, train and retain young people aged 16 to 24, while reducing recruitment costs and supporting workforce growth.

- **Work Experience Placements:** Offer young people practical workplace experience for between one and eight weeks, helping them build skills while giving employers access to enthusiastic candidates and fresh perspectives.
- **Work Trials:** Trial potential recruits for up to 30 days without paying wages, as participants continue to receive their benefits. This provides a low-risk way to assess whether a candidate is the right fit before making a permanent offer.
- **Jobs Guarantee:** National rollout is planned for Autumn 2026, the scheme offers eligible 18 to 24-year-olds who have been on Universal Credit for a minimum of 18 months a six-month paid job of up to 25 hours a week. Employers providing jobs will be reimbursed 25 hours per week at the age relevant National Minimum Wage or National Living Wage for 6 months. National Insurance Contributions and minimum automatic enrolment pension contributions, where relevant, will be covered for 6 months.
- **Youth Jobs Grant:** From 30 June 2026, employers can receive £3,000 for each eligible 18 to 24-year-old they hire who has been claiming Universal Credit and seeking work for six months or more. The grant is paid in two instalments and helps reduce employment costs while building a motivated workforce. Eligible roles must be at least 25 hours per week and expected to last four months or more.
- **Apprenticeships:** £2,000 payment for non-levy paying businesses from all sectors hiring an apprentice aged 16 to 24, available from October 2026.

Additional £2,000 payment if you are hiring a foundation apprentice aged 16 to 21. Foundation apprenticeships are available in construction, engineering, digital, hospitality, retail, and health and social care.

£1,000 to support a young person aged 16 to 18 (19 to 24 with education, health or care plan or care leavers) when they start their apprenticeship training.

- **Other support:** No employer NIC contributions for employees under 21 years old or for apprentices under 25 years old.

For more information on how to access the funded support mentioned above please visit the Department for Business, Innovation, Science and Trade website by clicking on the link below.

Coatham Coaches pledges £3,000 free travel to local schools



The Coach Travel Group operator Coatham Coaches has pledged £3,000 worth of free coach travel to help children from disadvantaged backgrounds access educational school trips.

The Redcar and Cleveland based business will provide complimentary transport for five local primary schools, supporting trips that may otherwise be out of reach for many pupils.

The initiative will fund up to £600 of transport per school, enabling some children from areas of deprivation to take part in curriculum-enhancing educational visits. The journeys will be provided where capacity allows, helping maximise the use of existing coach services while delivering meaningful social value within the local community.

Mark Hodgson, Managing Director of Coatham Coaches, said:

"As a local business, we're proud to support initiatives that make a genuine difference within our community. Educational visits can have a lasting impact on young people, and if we can help remove one of the barriers that prevents schools from organising those trips, then we're delighted to do so."

"Securing work on the NZT Power-Northern Endurance Partnership project allows us to support local

schools while making the best use of our fleet during quieter periods. It's a simple way of giving something back to the communities we serve every day."

Read more by clicking on the link below.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

Commercial unit available at The Palace Hub



An exciting opportunity has become available to rent a commercial unit on the Esplanade in Redcar. A part of The Palace Hub, the property occupies a prime kerbside position on Redcar seafront, benefiting from excellent visibility and footfall in one of the town's most prominent locations. Prospective tenants can also benefit from the exciting regeneration taking place across the seafront, including ["The Lookout"](#) which is currently under construction.

This ground floor unit of circa 500 sq.ft in size comprises a modern open plan space with extensive glazed frontage overlooking the Esplanade, providing excellent natural light and visibility. Fitted out to a good standard, the unit includes ancillary preparation and storage space together with fitted stainless steel workstations and sinks. A commercial service and delivery yard is available at the rear of the building.

The unit is suitable for a variety of retail, leisure and commercial uses, subject to the necessary planning permissions.

Bid deadline: 12 noon on 25 September 2026

For more information, please click on the link below.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

Business support opportunities

Free business workshops and support directory launched in Tees Valley



Businesses across Tees Valley can now access a new programme of fully funded workshops designed to help companies at every stage of their journey – from start-up through to growth and expansion into new markets.

The practical, hands-on sessions will provide expert guidance on key business topics including launching a business, securing finance, innovation, digital marketing, and opportunities in emerging sectors such as retrofit and the green economy.

Delivered in partnership with Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council and funded through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, the workshops aim to provide straightforward advice, practical tools and valuable networking opportunities.

Alongside the workshops, a new Business Support and Funding Directory has been launched by Tees Valley Combined Authority, bringing together local, regional and national support in one easy-to-use platform. The directory is designed to help businesses quickly identify the most relevant support based on their needs, sector and growth stage.

Workshop topics include: **Get Funding Ready and Access the Finance Your Business Needs, Breathe New Life into Your Business, and Retrofit: A Growing Market.**

Businesses can find out more and register their interest in the workshops by clicking [here](#).

Explore the new Business Support and Funding Directory by clicking 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).

For more information on the programme and to apply to take part in the next cohort due to start in September, click the link below.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

Businesses invited to shape the future of Tees Valley tourism



Visitor economy businesses across Redcar and Cleveland are encouraged to take part in a new survey to help refresh the Tees Valley Destination Management Plan.

The survey is open to a wide range of businesses, including those in the night-time economy, attractions, accommodation providers, restaurants, cafés, venues, retailers, event organisers and other visitor-facing organisations. Feedback gathered will help shape priorities for the region's visitor economy over the next five years.

Organisers are aiming for at least 100 business responses and are asking regional networks, business groups and industry partners to share the survey as widely as possible.

To complete the survey please click the link below, it should take a few minutes to complete from start to finish.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

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

Nursery opportunity at Dormanstown Family Hub





Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council is inviting interest from nursery providers for an exciting opportunity at Dormanstown Family Hub.

The Council is seeking a nursery operator to provide **year-round childcare for children aged 0–5 years. This includes funded places for children aged from 9 months to 4 years, in line with early years statutory guidance, and provision that is suitable and inclusive for children with Special Educational Needs (SEN).**

Located in a well-populated area, the Family Hub offers an excellent opportunity to support families within Dormanstown and the surrounding communities. The available space includes partition walling, allowing it to be used either as one open-plan area or as two separate rooms. Both rooms benefit from children's toilets, with approximately 79 sqm of internal space in total and an outdoor play area of around 284 sqm.

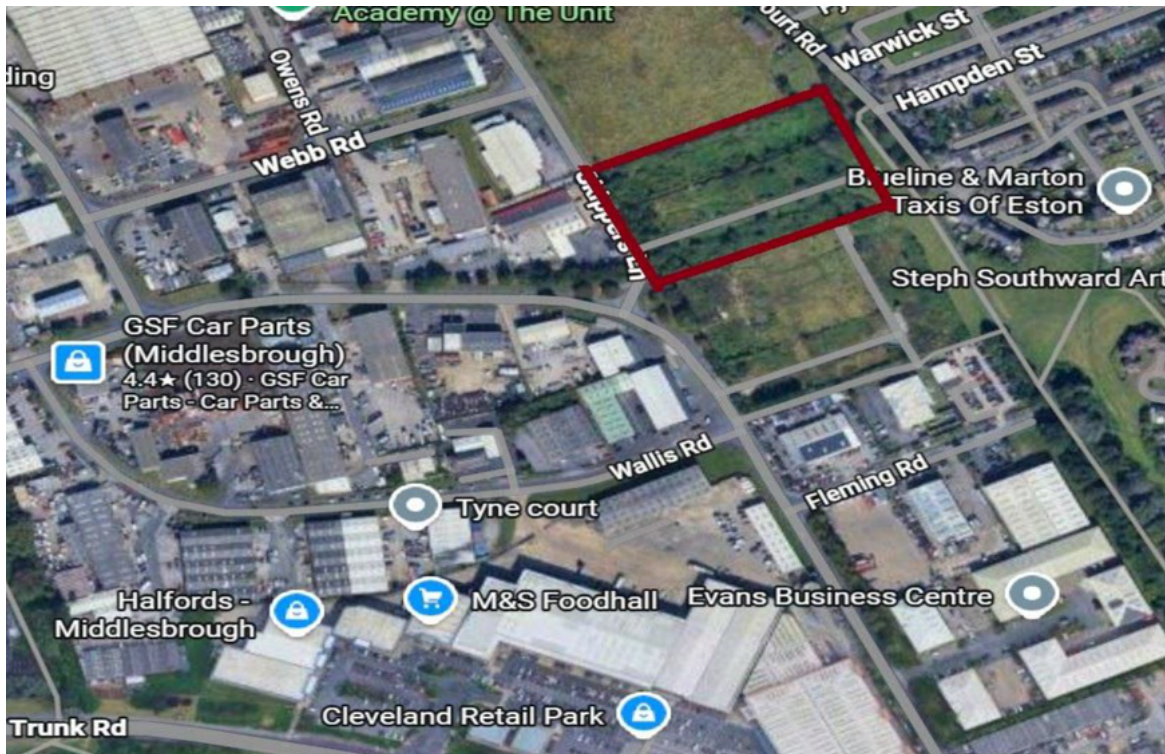
The property is available to let by licence or lease.

Bid Deadline: 12 Noon on 25th September 2026

For more information, please click on the link below.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

Harcourt Road Allotment Site - Commercial Development Opportunity



We are pleased to share with you an opportunity to purchase a c.4 acre parcel of land on Skippers Lane Industrial Estate. The land is now open to offers by way of informal tenders, located at the intersection of Sotheby Road parallel to Harcourt Road the site is available for interest from either build to let developers and owner occupiers with a target of c.30% coverage for light industrial space.

The site comprises former Harcourt Road allotments, is currently undergoing works to include remediation of the site and construction of a spine road from Skippers Lane and the realignment of the existing roads to facilitate access. The spine road has been constructed with ducts running underneath to allow for the installation of electrical cable by a prospective purchaser without the need to dig the road up again. A prospective purchaser will need to bring their own utilities onto site and will need to undertake their own investigations.

Bid deadline: 12 noon on 30 October 2026

For more information, please click on the link below.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

Temporary reduced rate of VAT this summer



A temporary reduced VAT rate of 5% has been introduced across the UK from 25th June to 1st September 2026 to support families in the summer holiday period.

The reduced rate applies to qualifying children's meals consumed on the premises and to certain admission tickets and attractions. For theatres, concerts, cinemas, exhibitions and other live events, the reduced rate is limited to tickets sold specifically as child admissions or family admissions that include one or more children.

The measure also covers admission tickets for a range of family attractions, including circuses, fairs, amusement parks, adventure parks, soft-play centres, zoos, observation attractions, farm visitor attractions, nature reserves, museums and similar cultural venues, subject to the conditions and exclusions set out in the legislation.

For more information on the scheme visit the government website below.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

Community news and opportunities

Make your business a welcoming space for families: join the 'Welcome to Breastfeed' Scheme



Are you a local business that welcomes families through your doors? The Welcome to Breastfeed Scheme for South Tees is a fantastic opportunity to show your support for mothers and children while enhancing your customer experience.

This initiative invites **public, private, and voluntary sector organisations** to create more inclusive environments by supporting breastfeeding mothers. Research from the National Breastfeeding Welcome Scheme shows that **staff trained to support breastfeeding mums often extend that care to all customers**, resulting in **higher customer satisfaction**.

Why Join?

- Boost your reputation as a family-friendly business.
- Increase footfall from parents seeking welcoming spaces.
- Get listed on the Council website, making it easier for local families to find you.

Signing up is simple and it's a meaningful way to show your commitment to community wellbeing.

Interested?

To find out more information and to register your business, please click [here](#).

Learn More:

Download the full guide linked below to discover how the scheme can benefit your business.

FIND OUT MORE

Sign your accommodation business up to England's Coast for free!



[England's Coast](#) is an exciting marketing and booking tool, a one-stop shop to boost the number of visitors to our coastline.

They run major promotional campaigns to encourage more visitors to holiday on the coast and accommodation businesses in Redcar and Cleveland have the opportunity to include their business in England Coast's activity. This includes press releases, media trips, competitions and much more!

England's Coast have more than 2,000 businesses listed, these include accommodation providers within five miles of the coastline or within 15 miles for all other visitor-facing tourism businesses.

It's completely free and there is no catch, all users book direct with you.

You can list your business with England's Coast by clicking on the link below.

FIND OUT MORE

Enhance your social enterprise with tailored support



VCSE Infrastructure
Support Service for
Redcar & Cleveland

Enhance Redcar & Cleveland provide a wide range of support to social enterprises, charities and community groups in Redcar and Cleveland including training, funding support and advice.

Specifically, their team can help with:

- Guidance on funding applications, to help your organisation secure the funding it needs.
- Advice on how to find (and keep) volunteers.
- Advice on policies and procedures, providing support to get your policies in place, or refreshed.
- Help link your organisation locally with other funders, support or groups.

Contact the Enhance Redcar & Cleveland team to find out how they can help your social enterprise move forward by emailing hello@enhanceredcarmacleveland.org.uk.

Visit their Facebook page linked below for updates on upcoming events and opportunities for the VCSE sector.

FIND OUT MORE

Events

Tees Business Live: August 2026



COURAGE, LEADERSHIP
AND CHANGING LIVES

SPONSORSHIP:
AVAILABLE



Claire Preston
(Tees Businesswoman
of the Year 2018)



Zoe Lewis CBE DL
(Middlesbrough College
Group)



Ann Ming MBE
(extraordinary campaigner)



Rachel Burke
(Tees Businesswoman
of the Year 2025)

/ The Auxiliary, Middlesbrough
/ Wednesday August 26
/ 11am-1pm

Networking, refreshments, expert panel discussion

Series Associate:
North East Chamber of Commerce



Date: Wednesday, 26th August 2026

Time: 11am – 1pm

Location: The Auxiliary, 31 Station Street, Middlesbrough, TS1 1SR

What gives someone the courage to challenge convention, overcome adversity and change lives? That question will be at the heart of the next Tees Business Live as five remarkable women whose work has transformed thousands of lives come together for a powerful discussion on leadership, resilience and making a lasting difference.

The event will explore the qualities that define exceptional leaders, from standing up for what's right and overcoming setbacks to creating opportunities for others and inspiring the next generation.

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

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

[Business Engagement Team privacy notice](#)



redcargcleveland.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](#).