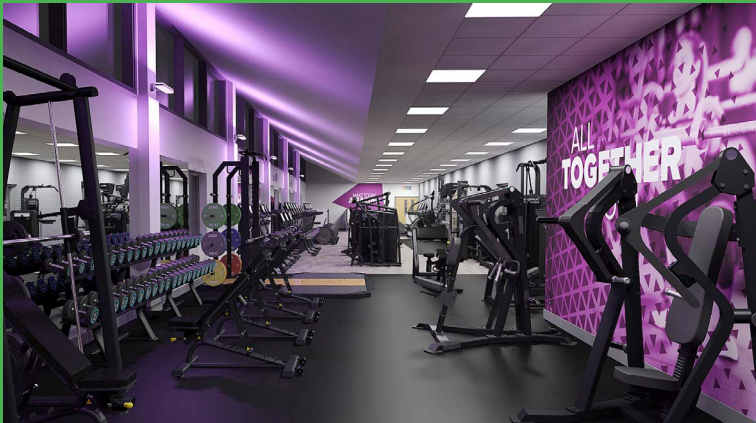


Craven District Council Council Plan 2019-20



A message from the Council Leader & Chief Executive

Craven had many successes to celebrate around the district in 2018-19.

Our achievements included providing new affordable, shared-ownership homes in Glusburn, Giggleswick and Sutton-in-Craven, improving Cross Hills town centre, installing a new playground at Aireville Park, refurbishing gym facilities at Craven Leisure, and upgrading vital equipment at Waltonwrays Crematorium. We have continued to provide high quality local services whilst meeting our challenging targets for savings and income.



Richard Foster
Council Leader



Paul Shevlin
Chief Executive

This plan describes the council's priorities for improving services during what promises to be another exciting year.

We have started the redevelopment of Skipton Town Hall to provide a performance space and museum facilities fit for the 21st Century. We are developing new employment sites, and striving to provide more affordable housing. Through our partnerships with other agencies we will encourage more young people and families to remain in and move to the area, address rural loneliness and isolation, and help to make the district dementia-friendly.

We will continue our commitment to improving the environment by installing electric vehicle charging points, delivering the Craven Cleaner Neighbourhoods strategy, tackling fly-tipping, dog fouling and littering, and running the Craven Green Apple Awards to celebrate local businesses who are doing their bit to help the environment. And we will continue to provide our wide range of day-to-day services that support those who live, work in and visit our district.

We have set a balanced budget of £6,735,044 million for 2019/20. This means that services delivered by Craven District Council will cost the average Craven taxpayer just £3.31 a week in 2019/20. We will deliver our services and the improvements described in this plan whilst continuing to meet the financial challenge created by further cuts in government funding. We hope you will support our Members and staff in their efforts to achieve good value and high quality services for Craven.

What your Council does for you

The Council provides a wide range of services and facilities throughout the Craven District. We provide all the below and more to our communities for just £3.31 a week per resident – based on average Band D Council Tax.

Business and Tourism

- Supporting the growth of new and existing businesses across Craven
- Providing car parks across the district
- Working with partners to increase the contribution of tourism to the local economy
- Running Tourist Information Centres in Skipton and Settle
- Supporting the delivery of local festivals and events across Craven
- Hosting the Green Apple Awards for environmentally-friendly businesses
- Liquor, entertainment and hackney carriage (taxi) licensing
- Food safety inspections of local restaurants and takeaways
- Working with partners to improve access to higher speed broadband



Community

- Working with local communities and supporting local voluntary and community groups such as the Friends of Aireville Park to deliver local plans and initiatives
- Hosting the Community Champions Awards Scheme
- Providing grants to local organisations and communities, including Ward Member Grants
- Working in partnership to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour
- Supporting the development of dementia friendly communities across Craven
- Providing planning and building control services and administering local land charges
- Working with partners to address rural loneliness and isolation
- Managing bereavement services at Waltonwrays Cemetery & Crematorium in Skipton, and Ingleton Cemetery
- Maintaining public conveniences in Skipton and Settle



What your Council does for you

Culture and Recreation

- Maintaining Aireville Park in Skipton
- Supporting activity to develop the arts and sport across Craven
- Managing Craven Leisure facilities
- Running a programme of events across Craven during the Skipton Town Hall redevelopment



Democracy

- Maintaining the register of elections
- Administering elections for local Parish, District, County, UK Parliamentary, European Parliamentary, Police and Crime Commissioner elections and referendums
- Supporting Council Members and the Chairman of the Council to undertake their duties as democratically elected representatives
- Administering meetings of the Council's committees and Council



What your Council does for you

Environment

- Cleaning streets and public places to maintain high standards of street cleanliness
- Dealing with noise nuisance issues
- Monitoring and improving air pollution, contaminated land and flood prevention
- Collecting trade and household waste and recycling including bulky items and garden waste
- Monitoring the quality and safety of private water supplies



Housing

- Preventing homelessness and providing housing advice
- Providing advice on disabled adaptations and energy efficiency
- Working in partnership to increase the supply of affordable housing
- Improving private sector housing conditions for people in Craven through initiatives such as advice to homeowners, tenants and landlords, and licensing of homes in multiple occupation
- Providing a Housing and Council Tax benefit claims service



Our Vision & Values

Our Vision

For Craven to be an increasingly prosperous place with strong, vibrant communities that celebrate their unique rural and urban settings, and where all residents enjoy a good quality of life.

Our Values

We believe our first responsibility is to the people and communities who live in, work in or visit Craven.

In serving those communities everyone within Craven District Council will:

- Treat everyone with respect
- Act with integrity and honesty
- Show commitment and flexibility
- Strive for improvement and excellence

Our values are at the heart of everything we do, they influence the way we work and help us to continually improve performance.





Our Priorities - Enterprising Craven ***Facilitating economic growth across Craven***

What we will do

Enable the provision of 230 homes per year across Craven to meet the needs of our current and future communities

How we will do this

Allocate a suitable supply of land for all types of residential development and increase the supply of affordable housing

Key delivery mechanisms include

- Publication of the Local Development Plan
- Use Council assets to build 25 housing units per annum from 2020 across all tenures
- Use of policies to enable the provision of 69 affordable homes per year
- Design and develop a new rural housing model fit for the 21st Century and roll out across the district
- Promote and assist communities to take advantage of the Community Led Housing Fund by supporting delivery of at least one Community Led Housing Funded Scheme per annum
- Hold a small builders' workshop to support the removal of barriers to house building



Our Priorities - Enterprising Craven

Facilitating economic growth across Craven

What we will do

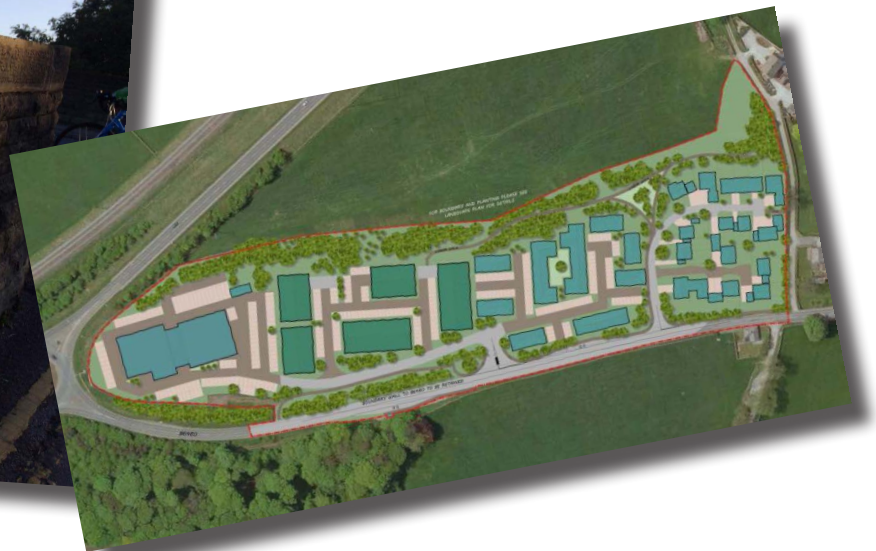
Stimulate business growth

How we will do this

Enable the development of 8 hectares of new employment land by 2020

Key delivery mechanisms include

- Development of the South Skipton Employment Zone and improvements to the Engine Shed Lane area
- Creation of new employment sites in Bentham, Ingleton and Settle (Anley Crag)
- Development of employment space at Langcliff, and Threshfield Quarry





Our Priorities - Enterprising Craven ***Facilitating economic growth across Craven***

What we will do

Stimulate business growth

How we will do this

Improve the quality and capacity of the transport infrastructure serving the District

Key delivery mechanisms include

- Production of a masterplan to inform improvements to infrastructure in and around Skipton Railway Station that increases economic vibrancy and creates an attractive gateway to the town
- Lobbying for investment in the road and rail infrastructure serving the District as part of the central Pennine corridor





Our Priorities - Enterprising Craven ***Facilitating economic growth across Craven***

What we will do

Stimulate business growth

How we will do this

Ensure new and existing businesses have access to, and are able to benefit from business support services

Key delivery mechanisms include

- Delivery of the Ad-Venture Enterprise Growth Programme in collaboration with partners
- Continuing with the role of SME Growth Manager in collaboration with Leeds City Region Local Enterprise Partnership
- Delivery of the Digital Enterprise Business Support Programme in collaboration with partners





Our Priorities - Enterprising Craven

Facilitating economic growth across Craven

What we will do

Stimulate business growth

How we will do this

Ensure all businesses and residents in Craven have access to a high quality broadband connection by 2020

Key delivery mechanisms include

Support for the delivery of Broadband Delivery UK funded activity through the Super-fast North Yorkshire programme

Working with businesses and communities to support delivery of alternative broadband technologies including wireless and fibre to the home networks



Our Priorities - Enterprising Craven

Facilitating economic growth across Craven

What we will do

Improve the economic vitality of Craven's market towns and villages

How we will do this

Enhance the quality of the trading environment within the District's core retail centres

Key delivery mechanisms include

- Development and delivery of actions plans for Bentham, Grassington, Cross Hills, Ingleton and Settle
- Working with partners to support delivery of the Skipton (BID) Business Improvement District
- Support the development of settlements in the Dales as part of the strategy to attract more younger people to the area.





Our Priorities - Enterprising Craven

Facilitating economic growth across Craven

What we will do

Improve the economic vitality of Craven's market towns and villages

How we will do this

Improve access to and enjoyment of Craven's great heritage and culture

Key delivery mechanisms include

- Development of Skipton Town Hall into a vibrant cultural community venue
- Establish in partnership with others a cultural apprenticeship scheme
- Enable and facilitate the development of new and existing hubs across Craven
- Delivery of the Access Development Plan for the Leeds & Liverpool Canal
- Work with partners to start the development of the Northern Forest





Our Priorities - Enterprising Craven

Facilitating economic growth across Craven

What we will do

Improve the economic vitality of Craven's market towns and villages

How we will do this

Collaborate with partners to retain and attract more working age households to the District

Key delivery mechanisms include

- Delivery of the Great Place Lakes and Dales Scheme including a series of small events in spaces and venues developed by younger people for younger people
- Build eight houses in Horton in Ribblesdale and Airton
- Adopt and deliver the action plan agreed with partners for the retention and attraction of working age households



Our Priorities - Resilient Communities

Creating sustainable communities across Craven

What we will do

Enable active communities and improve quality of life

How we will do this

Reduce health and wellbeing inequalities

Key delivery mechanisms include

- Actively participating in the Health and Care Partnership Board to encourage investment in prevention activities for the benefit of Airedale, Wharfedale and Craven Residents
- Supporting the Craven Communities Together programme (a cross sector partnership involving partners across health, social care, the voluntary sector, Craven District and North Yorkshire County Council) and the Nurturing Neighbourhoods workstream, developed to address loneliness and isolation and consequently the associated health implications across Craven.
- Identifying and implementing a range of projects to reduce health inequalities, including supporting the development of Dementia Friendly Craven
- Working with partners to provide improved support and intervention services for rough sleepers and those at risk of sleeping rough



Our Priorities - Resilient Communities

Creating sustainable communities across Craven

What we will do

Enable active communities and improve quality of life

How we will do this

Enable community groups across the District to achieve their ambitions

Key delivery mechanisms include

- Continue to deliver the Ward Member Grant Programme, providing support to a range of community groups across the District
- Facilitating community projects including working with the Friends of Aireville to deliver the final phase of new play area in Aireville Park.
- Maximising the use of Planning Gain to provide funding for community projects



Our Priorities - Resilient Communities

Creating sustainable communities across Craven

What we will do

Create greener communities

How we will do this

Reduce waste to landfill and increase re-use and recycling

Key delivery mechanisms include

- Actively engaging in the consultation on the new waste strategy proposed by DEFRA
- Promoting and increasing take up of the Council's commercial recycling scheme
- Encouraging residents to recycle more of their household waste to achieve household recycling targets and maximise income from recycled waste
- Explore options for the provision of anaerobic digestion facilities in Craven



Our Priorities - Resilient Communities

Creating sustainable communities across Craven

What we will do

Create greener communities

How we will do this

Promote use of electric vehicles in Craven

Key delivery mechanisms include

- Install electric charging points on Council owned assets at suitable locations
- Review the Council's commercial vehicle fleet and replace vehicles with an electric option where appropriate as part of the ongoing replacement programme.



Our Priorities - Resilient Communities

Creating sustainable communities across Craven

What we will do

Create greener communities

How we will do this

Make Craven's public spaces cleaner, safer and greener

Key delivery mechanisms include

- Working with relevant agencies to implement the powers contained in the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 to better protect communities from anti-social behaviour.
- Deliver the Craven Cleaner Neighbourhoods Strategy in order to reduce fly-tipping, littering and dog fouling.



Our Priorities - Resilient Communities

Creating sustainable communities across Craven

What we will do

Create greener communities

How we will do this

Acknowledge, reward and promote best environmental practice across businesses and the voluntary sector

Key delivery mechanisms include

- Running and promoting the Craven Green Apple Award scheme



Our Priorities - Financial Sustainability

Ensuring a self-sustainable Council

What we will do

Create a council that is financially viable without government grant and able to deliver the services its residents require

How we will do this

Ensure expenditure is prioritised, regularly reviewed and reflects residents' priorities

Key delivery mechanisms include

- Reviewing and implementing the Council's Long Term Financial Strategy 2019/23
- Undertaking a budget consultation with residents and stakeholders
- Responding to consultations and changes that affect Local Government and or the Council thus ensuring that our voice is heard
- Influencing where possible changes that are outside of our control



Our Priorities - Financial Sustainability

Ensuring a self-sustainable Council

What we will do

Create a council that is financially viable without government grant and able to deliver the services its residents require

How we will do this

Improve the Council's commercial acumen and generate additional income

Key delivery mechanisms include

- Ensure that the council's Income and Savings plan is robust in order to meet the challenges going forward
- Exploring and exploiting opportunities to the Council presented through devolution





Our Priorities - Financial Sustainability ***Ensuring a self-sustainable Council***

What we will do

Create a council that is financially viable without government grant and able to deliver the services its residents require

How we will do this

Maximise the Council's assets for the long term sustainability of the Council and the District

Key delivery mechanisms include

- Identify opportunities within the Council's acquisition and regeneration investment strategy to acquire property assets to improve the financial sustainability and well-being of the district.
- Delivering a range of schemes through our Joint Venture Company to make best use of Council owned marginal land sites to support regeneration and growth across the District



Our Priorities - Financial Sustainability ***Ensuring a self-sustainable Council***

What we will do

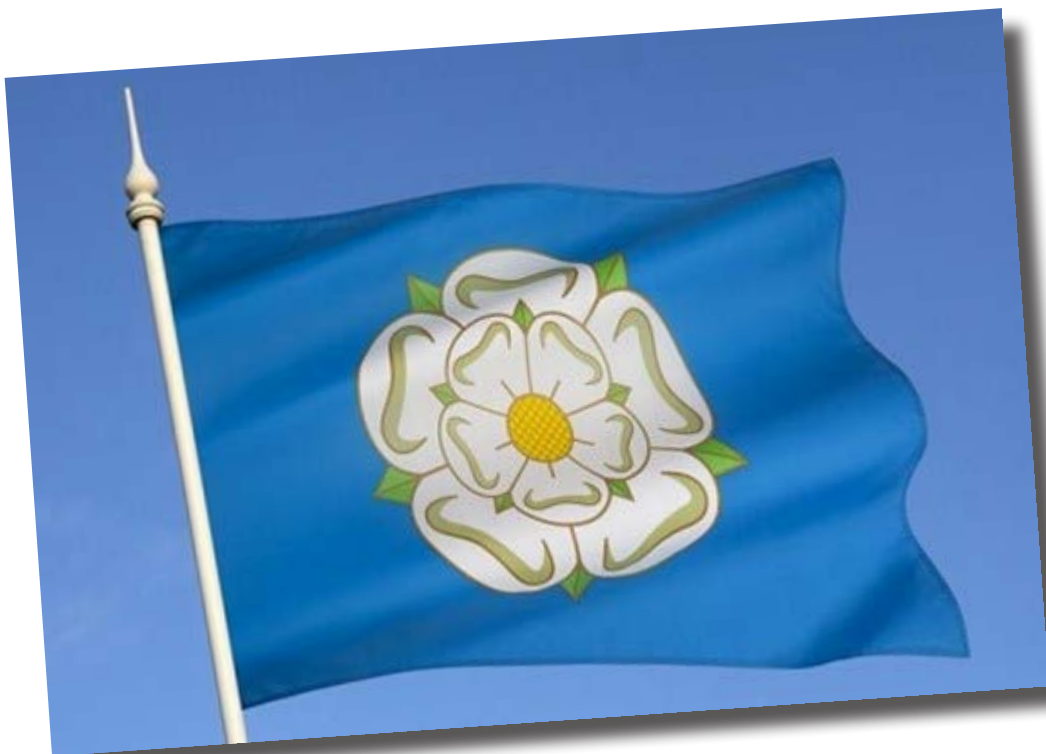
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Contact Us

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