



Northumberland County Council

The Right Hon Angela Rayner MP
Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of
State for Housing, Communities & Local Govt
2 Marsham Street
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Your ref:
Our ref: GS/JD/TH
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Date: 16 July 2024

Dear Secretary of State

Following the request of the former Minister for all Councils to produce a Productivity Plan, we are formally submitting Northumberland County Council's Plan, which I have endorsed as Leader of Northumberland County Council.

This year, as in previous, we have a balanced budget which will continue investment and sustain services across the county. Getting to that balanced position has not been an easy task but we have been prudent with our finances and made the right choices in previous years and now.

Northumberland is a Land of Great Opportunities, and our transformation plans enables the Council to give residents the best experience through its services. It is the Council becoming more financially efficient and sustainable and ensuring value for money in the delivery of services. These changes not only focus on improving productivity and efficiency but also on managing demand and inflationary pressures. This includes the way the Council is run, how we utilise our resources, technology, assets, and people and how we deliver our services to customers.

Despite our sound financial management and decision-making, and in common with many local authorities, our ability to sustain high-quality services to residents is being severely tested by rising cost pressures alongside increased demand for critical, statutory services. Local Government requires a sustainable, long-term funding settlement from national government to deliver on that.

We welcome working with you as Secretary of State to further deliver on our ambitions.

Yours sincerely,

Councillor Glen Sanderson
Leader of the Council



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