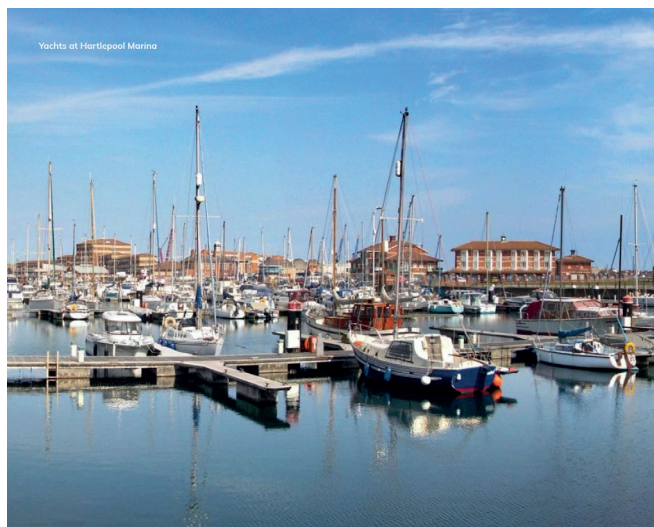


Power your career in Hartlepool: lead a council on the rise



Great things don't just come in small packages, sometimes they reshape entire places. Hartlepool may be one of the smallest unitary authorities in the country, but its ambition, creativity and momentum rival that of any major city. Hartlepool Borough Council is driving one of the most exciting place-making programmes in the UK and it is seeking the leaders who will take the borough into its next era of growth.

The council's £160m regeneration programme is transformative in both scale and scope. A new leisure centre, a film and TV production village, a re-imagined town centre, major highways infrastructure and a £20m investment in strong, resilient communities are already shaping a new urban future for the town. This is not just development, this is long-term renewal that will create opportunity, unlock potential and create lasting impact for generations.

Outgoing Chief Executive Denise McGuckin captures the feeling of the moment simply, saying: 'Hartlepool is a special place to live and work.'

Nestled on the North East coast, the town combines a proud maritime heritage with a deep sense of community and a bold vision. With Denise retiring early next year after more than three decades with the council, including five-and-a-half as CEO, Hartlepool is now seeking her successor, along with three Assistant Directors who will help shape the future of the borough.

Recent organisational change has created a modern, dynamic leadership structure. Two Assistant Directors have moved into Director roles and a new Director of Children's Services has joined the council. With these changes in place, the incoming CEO will step into a refreshed senior team at a pivotal moment for the organisation.

Denise believes this combination of timing, ambition and organisational renewal makes Hartlepool a unique and exciting proposition:

'For an individual with a sharp focus on delivery or perhaps someone stepping into their first Chief Executive role, Hartlepool is an exceptional place to learn, grow and lead. We're a high-performing authority – with Children's Services rated 'Outstanding' by Ofsted and Adult Services rated 'Good' by the CQC – and yet we're small enough that the impact of your decisions can be seen every day.

'What makes this moment special is the opportunity to bring together a brand-new senior leadership team while working with a council leader who brings fresh energy, focus and a private-sector ethos. With the level of investment coming into the borough, leaders here have a genuine opportunity to address inequality, drive inclusive growth and help shape a thriving future for the town. The question for candidates really is: what can you bring to the table to help deliver our vision?'



Denise McGuckin – outgoing Chief Executive; Pamela Hargreaves – Leader, Hartlepool Borough Council



Three pivotal roles. One shared mission: fulfilling Hartlepool's potential.

• Assistant Director of Housing & Communities

This role will play a vital part in shaping the places people call home and strengthening the fabric of community life. Responsible for housing strategy, community wellbeing, employment and skills, the role requires a leader who can champion inclusive, preventative and asset-based services that reflect the lived experiences of residents. It is an opportunity to build resilience, unlock opportunity and ensure support is responsive, modern and grounded in local need.

• Assistant Director for Inclusive Growth

Regeneration of this scale demands

strategic leadership capable of turning investment into lasting economic benefit. This role will ensure local people and businesses feel the true impact of the council's major projects. From supporting proposals for a £6bn new nuclear project to overseeing the creation of a new £5m culture and leisure destination at the waterfront, this is a position that will shape the borough's prosperity for decades. It also requires a confident ambassador – someone who can build partnerships, secure further investment and position Hartlepool as a dynamic place to live, work and visit.

• Assistant Director of Neighbourhood Services

Responsible for highways, transport, planning, environmental services and major capital projects,

this post will shape the physical and environmental character of the town. With a new Local Plan about to begin, the successful candidate will help define a long-term blueprint for Hartlepool's neighbourhoods, infrastructure and future growth. This role calls for strategic leadership, a commitment to high-performing services and a passion for innovation, particularly in using technology to improve how residents experience their local environment.

'Hartlepool is full of pride, potential and possibility,' says Council Leader Cllr Pamela Hargreaves, who believes the town is at a defining moment: 'Our council is one of Hartlepool's greatest assets, home to passionate teams delivering excellent services every day and Denise has been been pivotal in creating that – but we're not standing still! We are investing, evolving and transforming at a scale that reflects our ambition for the town and its people.'

'Our new leadership structure strengthens our focus on housing, regeneration and community development. These roles, including our next CEO, will be central to driving this momentum forward so if you're a bold, innovative leader who wants to make a tangible difference, these are the roles for you!'

Hartlepool is rising. For leaders ready to embrace challenge, drive change and play a defining role in the future of a place with extraordinary potential, this is the moment – and this is the town! ■

