



Report No 04

the expertise, the experience

the facts

Tees Valley fact sheets



HAVING **FIRST-CLASS FURTHER & HIGHER EDUCATION FACILITIES** ON YOUR DOORSTEP IS CRUCIAL TO YOUR BUSINESS...



IN TEES VALLEY, THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT YOU GET...

- 1. The Tees Valley houses two world-class universities, the Universities of Teesside and Durham (Queens Campus based at Stockton-on-Tees) and is 1 hour's drive from 6 more.**
- 2. The number of students at the University of Teesside has grown by 65% in the last decade to over 22,000, with a further 20% rise forecast by 2020.¹**
- 3. Durham University's Queens Campus is home to over 2,000 students and is looking to expand to 5,000 by 2020.²**
- 4. The University of Teesside's School of Computing is ranked as the best new university for teaching quality and has more students and staff than any UK university in visualization.³**
- 5. The University of Teesside is the best in the UK for Mechanical Engineering courses,⁴ fourth for Animation⁵ and has the top possible grade for its Historical Research.⁶**
- 6. The University of Teesside engaged with over 500 businesses last year – the head of HEFCE recently praised employer engagement at the University.⁷**
- 7. The University of Teesside has invested around £100m in the last decade, including £38m on new buildings, and plans to invest a further £45m over the next 7 years.⁸**
- 8. A student survey for The Times voted Teesside the top modern university in the UK and put it alongside Durham as the best in the North East.⁹**
- 9. There are over 125,000 enrolments in FE courses in the Tees Valley each year and the 6 main colleges generate an income of over £100m a year.¹⁰**
- 10. Over £78m has been invested in building new facilities at Stockton Riverside, Hartlepool, Darlington, Redcar & Cleveland and Middlesbrough Colleges.¹¹ Middlesbrough Colleges.¹¹**

1. University of Teesside
2. University of Durham
3. One North East
4. Guardian University Guide 2008
5. Evening Gazette
6. 2001 Research Assessment Exercise, University of Teesside
7. University of Teesside
8. Evening Gazette
9. University of Teesside Learning & Skills Council Tees Valley
10. Learning & Skills Council Tees Valley
11. Learning & Skills Council Tees Valley

TO FLOURISH, YOUR BUSINESS NEEDS A PROVEN SUPPLY OF THE **RIGHT STAFF WITH THE RIGHT SKILLS...**



IN TEES VALLEY, THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT YOU GET...

- 1. There are 14 Centres of Vocational Excellence in the Tees Valley, specialising in the likes of Logistics, Media-Digital Production & Design and Technical & Design Engineering.¹**
- 2. The North East houses 4 Centres of Excellence: CELS (specialising in biosciences), CODEWORKS (digital), NAREC (renewable energy) and CPI (process and nanotechnology).**
- 3. The University of Teesside has opened Higher Education centres at Darlington, Middlesbrough, Hartlepool and Redcar & Cleveland Colleges.²**
- 4. Of the perceived skills gaps in the UK, the lowest proportion is found in the North East.³**
- 5. More 19-21 year old's in the North East hold NVQ Level 2 qualifications than the national average, with the region experiencing the biggest increase in the UK over the past decade.⁴**
- 6. The Tees Valley has double the proportion of 16-24 year old's with trade apprenticeships than the national average.⁵**
- 7. Apprenticeship success rates in Tees Valley have leapt 16% in the past 5 years.⁶**
- 8. The numbers of people with undergraduate qualifications is increasing faster in the North East than the national average.⁷**
- 9. A higher percentage of workers in the Tees Valley have undertaken training in the last month or 3 months than the national average.⁸**
- 10. Employers in the North East invest more in training their staff than any other region of the UK.⁹**

1. Learning & Skills Council
2. University of Teesside
3. Learning & Skills Council
4. Sustainable Development Commission
5. NOMIS
6. Learning & Skills Council Tees Valley
7. Skills North East
8. NOMIS
9. LSC

HAVING GREAT VALUE & FLEXIBLE EMPLOYEES ENABLES YOUR BUSINESS TO GROW



IN TEES VALLEY, THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT YOU GET...

- 1. The weekly pay of full-time Tees Valley workers is 85% of the UK average. ¹**
- 2. Full-time and part-time Tees Valley employees work more hours than those in the North East or UK. ²**
- 3. Tees Valley employees work more overtime than their regional or national colleagues. ³**
- 4. Taking into account regional price differences, North East productivity is 5% higher than the national average. ⁴**
- 5. Staff turnover in the North East is lower than any other region in the UK and half the rate of the South East. ⁵**
- 6. Over 80% of Tees Valley employees work in the service industries and the area has proportionally more workers in construction and manufacturing than the UK average. ⁶**
- 7. Employment in Tees Valley has increased by more than 13% over the past decade. ⁷**
- 8. Economic activity in the Tees Valley has increased by almost 4% over the past 8 years. ⁸**
- 9. 50,000 workers in the North East work from home, up 56% since 1999. ⁹**
- 10. The North East has the lowest rate of fatal and major injuries to workers in the UK. ¹⁰**

1. Office of National Statistics
2. Tees Valley Joint Strategy Unit
3. Office of National Statistics
4. North East Business
5. One North East
6. Tees Valley Joint Strategy Unit
7. Tees Valley Joint Strategy Unit
8. Tees Valley Joint Strategy Unit
9. North East Business
10. HSE

YOUR BUSINESS NEEDS **EXCELLENT** **TRANSPORT LINKS** AND SHORT COMMUTING TIMES TO ACCESS ALL PARTS OF THE UK



IN TEES VALLEY, THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT YOU GET...

1. North East roads carry the lowest amount of traffic,¹ consume the least amount of fuel² and provide the fastest commuting times in the UK.³
2. The Tees Valley has the fastest-flowing urban traffic speeds in the UK.⁴
3. Tees Valley is 40mins drive from Newcastle, 1hour from Leeds and York and just over 2hours from Manchester.⁵
4. Over 400,000 people of working age live within Tees Valley, with 1.7million an easy commute away.⁶
5. Tees Valley has excellent rail links – Newcastle in 30mins, Glasgow and Edinburgh in 2 hours and London in 2.5 hours – via the East Coast Main Line.
6. There are excellent rail services to Leeds and Manchester (Transpennine Express),⁷ as well as the Midlands and South West (Virgin Cross Country).
7. The Tees Valley has excellent rail freight facilities, with both EWS and Freightliner operating modern rolling stock, providing connections to all parts of the UK.
8. Durham Tees Valley Airport is rapidly expanding to handle an anticipated 3million passengers a year⁸ and currently provides regular routes to the likes of Heathrow, Dublin, Amsterdam and Barcelona.⁹
9. Teesport is the third largest port in the UK, handling the largest amount of outbound traffic of any port in the UK.¹⁰
10. Teesport is expanding its operations, with a £300m Deep Sea Container Terminal able to increase direct links to China, recently receiving Government approval.¹¹

1. Department for Transport
2. Department for Transport
3. Department for Transport
4. Department for Transport
5. AA
6. Tees Valley Joint Strategy Unit
7. Transpennine Express
8. Durham Tees Valley Airport
9. Civil Aviation Authority
10. Department for Transport
11. PD Ports, Northern Gateway

WE KNOW THAT TO KEEP EXISTING, AND RECRUIT NEW, TALENT, YOU NEED TO OFFER **MORE THAN JUST A PLACE TO WORK**



IN TEES VALLEY, THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT YOU GET...

- 1. Lonely Planet described the area around the River Tees as the “most exciting, beautiful and friendly region in the whole of England”.¹**
- 2. Tees Valley house prices are more affordable than any other region of the UK and half the rate of London and the South East.^{2,3}**
- 3. The number of overnight visitors to the Tees Valley has leapt by 39% in the past 3 years.⁴**
- 4. Over 150,000 people have visited Middlesbrough’s modern art gallery, mima, in an opening year where works by the likes of Cezanne, Picasso, Warhol and Matisse were displayed.⁵**
- 5. The Tees Valley successfully hosted the BBC Proms in the Park in 2007.**
- 6. Yarm was voted as having the best high street in the UK in a BBC News poll.⁶**
- 7. Darlington’s markets were named the Greenest in the North in 2008.⁷**
- 8. Europe’s largest golf course is currently being built in Darlington.⁸**
- 9. Saltburn attracts surfers from all across the UK and has a dedicated surf school.⁹**
- 10. The North East has 138km of Defined Heritage Coast.¹⁰**

1. One North East
2. Tees Valley Joint Strategy Unit
3. Tees Valley Joint Strategy Unit
4. One North East
5. Evening Gazette
6. Visit Tees Valley
7. National Market Traders Federation
8. Northern Echo
9. Visit Tees Valley
10. Sustainable Development Commission

WE KNOW HOW IMPORTANT **SUSTAINABILITY** IS TO YOUR BUSINESS AND HOW SERIOUSLY YOU TAKE IT



IN TEES VALLEY, THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT YOU GET...

- 1. The biggest carbon-neutral development in the UK is being built at Middlehaven in Middlesbrough.¹**
- 2. The North East emits fewer tonnes of carbon,² and produces less waste than any other region.³**
- 3. South Gare Lighthouse on the mouth of the Tees is the world's first Lighthouse to be powered by a Hydrogen Fuel Cell.⁴**
- 4. The North East has the best quality river water in the UK.⁵**
- 5. Middlesbrough Council is leading the UK's Local Authorities in tackling climate change.⁶**
- 6. Darlington Council is leading the UK's Local Authorities in creating cleaner, safer and greener public places.⁷**
- 7. 15 Tees Valley parks have received Green Flag awards, the national excellence standard for green spaces.⁸**
- 8. The North East has the highest percentage of land open to public access in the UK.⁹**
- 9. Saltholme, one of the UK's most important RSPB bird sanctuaries, is undergoing a £4 million redevelopment.¹⁰**
- 10. Darlington is one of only 6 Cycling Demonstration Towns, promoting sustainable lifestyles and encouraging cycling (which is up 79% and car journeys down 11%).^{11,12}**

1. BBC Tees
2. Sustainable Development Commission
3. Sustainable Development Commission
4. Centre for Process Innovation
5. Sustainable Development Commission
6. Middlesbrough Council
7. The Beacon Scheme
8. Green Flag Awards
9. Natural England
10. Evening Gazette
11. Department for Transport
12. Northern Echo

WE KNOW HOW IMPORTANT IT IS FOR YOU AND YOUR STAFF TO HAVE **TOP-PERFORMING SCHOOLS & HOSPITALS** ON HAND



IN TEES VALLEY, THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT YOU GET...

- 1. Class sizes and pupil-to-teacher ratios for primary and secondary schools in Tees Valley are amongst the lowest in the UK.^{1,2}**
- 2. Over the past 10 years, the number of pupils in the Tees Valley achieving 5 A-C's at GCSE has increased by more than the national average.³**
- 3. Tees Valley offers a wide choice of quality comprehensive and private schools, including the top-performing Macmillan Academy and the prestigious Yarm School.**
- 4. The region gives a higher proportion of children their first choice for secondary school than the national average, with Redcar & Cleveland having the highest rate in the UK.⁴**
- 5. There are 41 Sure Start Centres, providing free early-years childcare, in Tees Valley.⁵**
- 6. South Tees Hospitals NHS Trust was both 'Large Trust of the Year' and England's top national acute healthcare organisation in 2007, praised for its clinical excellence.^{6,7}**
- 7. All Primary Care Trusts in the Tees Valley give patients more choice of hospital than the national average.⁸**
- 8. North East hospitals provide the best maternity care in England.⁹**
- 9. GPs in the North East offer more extended opening hours in the North East than any other English region.¹⁰**
- 10. There is a better chance of seeing an NHS dentist in the North East than anywhere else in the UK.¹¹**

1. Department for Children, Schools & Families

2. Institute for Public Policy Research North

3. Department for Children, Schools & Families

4. Northern Echo

5. Sure Start

6. Dr Foster Intelligence

7. Evening Gazette

8. Department of Health

9. North East Strategic Health Authority

10. Department of Health

11. The Press Association

WE KNOW THAT YOUR BUSINESS NEEDS TO BE LOCATED WITHIN AN **INNOVATIVE, FAST-GROWING, DYNAMIC ECONOMY**



IN TEES VALLEY, THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT YOU GET...

- 1. The growth of the number of businesses in the North East has exceeded the national average for the past 5 years ¹, and 40% of Dow Jones listed companies have a presence in the North East.⁹**
- 2. 37% of businesses in the North East are 'growers,' reporting recent or planned employment growth, higher than the UK average.²**
- 3. Taking into account regional price differences, North East productivity is 5% higher than the national average.³**
- 4. The national productivity measure for the Tees Valley and Durham grew by more than any other area, bar London, between 2004 and 2005.⁴**
- 5. Darlington has the highest national productivity measure per person in the North East.⁵**
- 6. The North East has the highest proportion in the UK of enterprises making major policy innovations – bringing entirely new processes to industry.⁶**
- 7. The Centre for Process Innovation, based in Tees Valley, works with global industry and leading research universities on groundbreaking applied Research and Development.**
- 8. Some of the world's biggest companies are here, including SABIC, AMEC, Aker Kvaerner, Barclaycard, Tata, British Energy, PD Ports, Banco Santander and SembCorp.**
- 9. The Tees Valley's start-up business survival rate is higher than all regions, bar the South West,⁷ with Redcar & Cleveland amongst the best in the UK.⁸**
- 10. The Tees Valley has a higher proportion of businesses in manufacturing, construction, wholesale and retail, and health and education than the regional or national average.**

1. North East Regional Information Partnership
2. Department for Business, Enterprise & Regulatory Reform
3. North East Business
4. Office of National Statistics
5. North East Regional Information Partnership
6. EU Community Innovation Survey
7. Department for Trade & Industry, Small Business Service
8. Department for Trade & Industry, Small Business Service
9. One North East

WE KNOW THAT YOUR **ENERGY & PROCESS** BUSINESS NEEDS A NEEDS A LOCATION THAT IS RIGHT FOR YOU



IN TEES VALLEY, THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT YOU GET...

- 1. Tees Valley has the largest integrated process-industrial complex in the UK and the second biggest in Europe.¹**
- 2. The Tees Valley process complex has a combined sales turnover in excess of £4bn and has seen over £2bn of investment over the past 8 years.²**
- 3. The Tees Valley is the fastest growing location in the UK for the process industries,³ and benefits from the support of the North East Process Industry Cluster (NEPIC).**
- 4. 20% of the UK's gas and feedstock for the process industry are processed in the Tees Valley.⁴**
- 5. The Tees Valley has a constant feedstock of crude oil, natural gas, naphtha, LPG, Ethylene and LNG.⁵ It also has Europe's largest hydrogen network.¹³**
- 6. Wilton International has four power stations, readily available steam, plentiful supplies of potable and non-potable water and a liquid effluent disposal plant.⁶**
- 7. The National Skills Academy for the Process Industry, based at Teesside University,⁷ aims to deliver up to 8,000 extra NVQ qualifications and train an extra 900 apprentices.^{8 9}**
- 8. The Centre for Process Innovation at Wilton works with businesses on innovation and R&D projects and has leveraged £171m in investment in the Tees Valley over the past 3 years.¹⁰**
- 9. Tees Valley has a rapidly growing renewable energy industry, housing the world's largest biofuels plant and the largest biodiesel production facility in the world.¹¹**
- 10. The North East produces more energy from renewable sources than any other region, bar the East of England, and is home to a Marine Design Centre.¹²**

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1. European Chemical Site Promotion Platform
 2. European Chemical Site Promotion Platform
 3. Evening Gazette
 4. Tees Valley City Region Business Case
 5. European Chemical Site Promotion Platform
 6. European Chemical Site Promotion Platform
 7. Tees Valley Joint Strategy Unit
 8. North East Business
 9. Evening Gazette
 10. Department for Innovation, Universities & Skills
 11. Tees Valley City Region Business Case
 12. North East Regional Information Partnership
 13. One North East

WE KNOW THAT YOUR **COMMERCIAL CREATIVE** BUSINESS NEEDS A LOCATION THAT IS RIGHT FOR YOU



IN TEES VALLEY, THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT YOU GET...

1. **A recent Government study of the Creative Industries found that “the University of Teesside is considered one of the best” for computer software design courses.”¹**
2. **Creative industries, including computer games and video production, are growing faster in the North East – already turning over more than £800m a year - than in any other region.²**
3. **The University of Teesside is leading on the development of DigitalCity – comprising Digital Studios, a Virtual Reality Hemispherium and a Digital Business Park.**
4. **Part of DigitalCity, Institute of Digital Innovation at Teesside University is designed to stimulate innovation amongst students and businesses, businesses and has helped create 50 new start-ups since its inception.^{3,4}**
5. **The North East is the most active region outside London for ‘hi-tech’ business start-ups.⁴**
6. **Interactive software companies in the Tees Valley turn over more than £256m a year.⁵**
7. **There are over 2,800 creative businesses operating in the North East, employing around 26,000 people.⁶**
8. **Based in the North East, the Centre for Excellence in Digital Innovation, CODEWORKS, supports the creative industries in Tees Valley.⁷**
9. **Over 500 students graduate in computing-related disciplines each year from the North East’s universities.⁸**
10. **Qurio, based in the Tees Valley, specializes in animation and visual FX and have worked on films, including Harry Potter, and TV programmes, including Spooks.⁹**

1. Department for Culture, Media & Sport
2. One North East
3. University of Teesside
4. One North East
5. North East Business
6. One North East
7. CODEWORKS
8. One North East
9. QURIO

WE KNOW THAT YOUR **CONTACT CENTRE** BUSINESS NEEDS A LOCATION THAT IS RIGHT FOR YOU



IN TEES VALLEY, THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT YOU GET...

■ A 2008 survey of the major Contact Centres operating in the Tees Valley found that:

1. The average starting salary for outsourced Contact Centres workers in Tees Valley, at around £11,500, is well below the national average of £13,000.
2. Starting salaries of Inbound Telesales workers are lower in the North East, averaging £13,000, than anywhere else in England and below the national average of £16,901.¹
3. Staff absenteeism in Tees Valley Contact Centres is almost half the national average.
4. Half of the Contact Centres surveyed had staff turnover rates of less than 10%, well below the UK Contact Centre average of 30%.
5. 80% of Contact Centre agents have a commute to work of less than 20 minutes.
6. 70% of Tees Valley Contact Centres are open 7 days a week, with 40% operating 24hrs a day.
7. 77% of Contact Centres in Tees Valley did not think the local market was saturated.
8. Training is hugely important to Tees Valley Contact Centres with more days training undertaken here than the national average.
9. Tees Valley was rated very highly for its low turnover and flexibility of staff, potential room for expansion, supply of good-quality buildings and the Tees Valley accent.
10. Stockton Riverside College offers a specialist course, 'Go Forward,' to train future Contact Centre workers.²

1. SalarySearch
2. Stockton Riverside College

WE KNOW THAT YOUR **MANUFACTURING** BUSINESS NEEDS A LOCATION THAT IS RIGHT FOR YOU



IN TEES VALLEY, THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT YOU GET...

- **A 2008 survey of major manufacturing companies operating in the Tees Valley discovered that:**
 1. **The typical starting salary for shop floor workers is £19,250, rising to £25,233.**
 2. **The typical starting salary for senior members of staff is £40,471, rising to £47,250.**
 3. **83% of businesses had an annual staff turnover of less than 10%, well below the national industry average of 13.4%.**
 4. **Average staff absenteeism in the industry in the Tees Valley is less than 3%.**
 5. **Over a third of sites in the Tees Valley worked 24hours a day, 7 days a week.**
 6. **There is a very strong commitment towards staff training and development, with every respondent offering training beyond induction.**
 7. **93% of businesses revealed that their staff had a daily commute of under 30 minutes, with over half saying it was less than 15 minutes.**
 8. **Almost half of businesses expect their staffing requirements to increase over the next 2 years.**
 9. **Tees Valley was rated highly for its proximity to supply chain, infrastructure (particularly Teesport) and its reputation for manufacturing expertise.**
 10. **Comments about the Tees Valley included: "A great place to live, great place to work, great people" ... "We get tremendous support – whatever we ask for.**

WE KNOW THAT YOUR **PROFESSIONAL SERVICES** BUSINESS NEEDS A LOCATION THAT IS RIGHT FOR YOU



IN TEES VALLEY, THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT YOU GET...

- 1. The Tees Valley is an established location for the service sector, which comprises 80% of the workforce, or over 210,000 people. Business services in the North East account for 23% of the regional economy.¹**
- 2. Digital, media and IT companies in the Tees Valley include Qurios Entertainment, Nisai, Infoserve and Enable Media.**
- 3. All of Tees Valley's colleges provide IT and Computing courses, with Middlesbrough College offering innovative ICT, software engineering, systems support and multimedia courses.²**
- 4. Engineering Management and Design companies in the Tees Valley include Foster Wheeler, Aker Solutions, Hertel and K Home International.**
- 5. A number of training providers offer Design Engineering courses, with Hartlepool College a Centre of Vocational Excellence for Technical and Design Engineering.³**
- 6. Public sector agencies and government departments in the Tees Valley include the Independent Safeguarding Authority, the CPS, the DCSF and the Student Loans Company.**
- 7. Accounting, Business Administration and Law are offered by most Tees Valley providers, including Redcar & Cleveland College, which is a Centre of Vocational Excellence in business administration.⁴**
- 8. Financial and Professional Services companies in the Tees Valley include Capita, Dickinson Dees, Mincoff Jacksons and Blackett, Hart & Pratt.**
- 9. All Tees Valley Colleges offer customer services training, with Stockton Riverside College offering dedicated courses and having previously work with the likes of Barclaycard and Orange.⁵**
- 10. Leadership & Management is another strongpoint of Tees Valley's colleges, with Darlington College offering Leadership and Management courses in association with the University of Teesside.⁶**

1. Tees Valley Joint Strategy Unit
2. Middlesbrough College
3. Hartlepool College
4. Redcar & Cleveland College
5. Stockton Riverside College
6. Darlington College



the expertise, the experience

the facts

to find out more

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