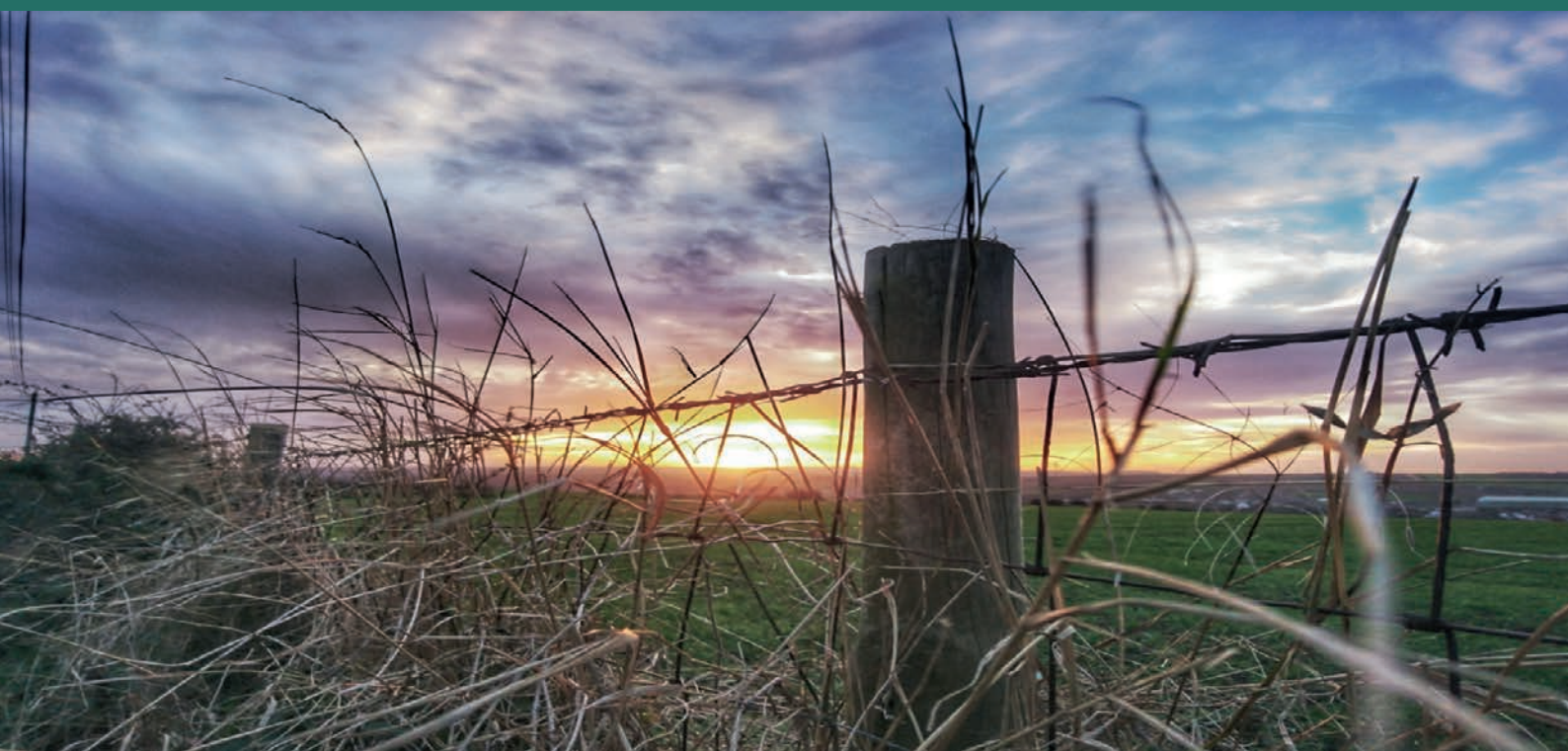




# TEES VALLEY RURAL ECONOMY EVIDENCE BASE

Commissioned by Tees Valley Rural Action

JANUARY 2021



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### Executive Summary

This report sets out the key characteristics of the economy of Tees Valley through a rural lens. It updates a previous report from 2017. It has been commissioned by Tees Valley Rural Action and produced by Rose Regeneration. In terms of the “big picture” it tells us:

**Coronavirus** – a short term perspective of the impact of the Coronavirus on the rural components of the Tees Valley suggests severe impacts to employment and the availability of services. This is exacerbated by poor levels of broadband connectivity which challenge the opportunity to maximise the response to the pandemic through online working and accessing of services. In line with the rest of England the area is entering a period of significant unpredictability and there is real merit in planning to re-commission this evidence base in no more than two to three years to begin the process of capturing the working out of the long term disruptive effects of the pandemic.

**Character** – Tees Valley has two very distinct rural components, with different characteristics. This presents a need for differentiated thinking and action by TVRA. The Western area is a classic relatively remote series of hinterland settlements with links to Darlington and Hartlepool. The Eastern area is more suburban in character and relatively more deprived and forms a relatively large portion of the hinterlands of Guisborough, Redcar and Saltburn.

**Marketing/Tourism** - The Western rural area has a strong opportunity agenda. It provides a residential base for a significant number of people working in Darlington and Stockton on Tees, and it has high levels of wages and qualifications. This is a fertile area for discussion with the local authorities and other key players around marketing and tourism strategies for example. The East has the scope to benefit more from its proximity to the North York Moors and the traditional seaside offer in Saltburn and Redcar. More work needs to be done to understand and develop these opportunities.

**Access to Housing and Services** - One challenge in the West is access to services and housing and there is scope for a review and dialogue about the nature and distribution of affordable housing. This is pertinent as the high stock of jobs per resident provides scope for retaining more residents in local employment settings. This theme also raises the importance of ongoing local transport solutions to those with significant service challenges in the more sparsely populated Western area. This will remain a justification and an ongoing theme for the delivery of the community transport services led by Tees Valley Rural Action.

**Deprivation and Services** - The Eastern area, is moderately deprived, it does have key needs (e.g. health and employment). The fact that this area is covered by one local authority (Redcar and Cleveland) - and represents a third of the population of that geography – provides a strong base for the development of a relatively intensive programme of engagement with the local authority in terms of service delivery.

**Wider Linkages** - Whilst there is a diffused pattern of commuting in both areas, most of this takes place across the Tees Valley. The limited role of Middlesbrough and Hartlepool (as two of the largest towns in the

area in attracting workers from the rural components of the Tees Valley), which was identified in the previous version of this report is unusual in an England wide context and merits further consideration and discussion. These areas, with relatively large populations, must provide markets for rural goods and services (e.g. local food and tourism). The recent pandemic driven interest in people seeking to move to rural areas also provides a golden opportunity to renew a dialogue with these large towns about the future.

**Environment** - The natural environment offer in the East is powerful and there is scope to strengthen and consolidate activities around the North York Moors brand and to explore potential connections to County Durham the base for a very dynamic tourism offer around the Northern Pennines AONB.

**Businesses and Sectors** - In line with most rural areas in England, the whole rural component of the Tees Valley has a higher stock of micro-businesses than the national average. This provides scope for a dialogue with the local authorities and LEP about ensuring these businesses are not excluded from funding opportunities because of their size or relative remoteness. There is scope for discussion with the LEP about the distinctive nature of agriculture, manufacturing, construction and mining and quarrying in the rural areas and how TVRA can support activities with rural businesses in these sectors. The relative decline in the stock of small businesses is an area of concern and it is important, particularly against the background of the impact of the coronavirus on a number of key sectors, to consider the specific rural challenges of maintaining the resilience of local businesses in rural settings in the Tees Valley. Without strong representation the fact that these businesses represent a small proportion of the over business stock in the area means that in the drive to recovery measures this particular group of businesses and the communities they serve could become overlooked.

**Farming** - The East is a significant livestock rearing area and this is perhaps less well known and understood outside of the area itself. The West also has a regionally significant livestock component. Overall, there is scope for greater engagement with, and promotion of, the agricultural sector. Some sectors of the farming community (particularly dairy) are economically challenged and understanding the impact that the decline in this sector is having on those rural neighbourhoods where it predominates is important.

**Broadband** – Both rural areas, but particularly the West area have poorer broadband connectivity than the national average. This creates significant challenges for the population in relation to both the opportunities for work from home and in relation to access to services.

### Comparisons

Taking a national perspective there are two different and distinctive rural areas in the Tees Valley and both of them, if they follow national trends are likely to be on different economic trajectories.

***The Western area, which is a dispersed rural setting, if it follows national norms is likely to experience:***

- Enhanced interest in accommodation linked to urban flight connected with the pandemic.
- Significant challenges in terms of access to services exacerbated by small settlement size and through the pandemic increasing incidences of e-delivered services.
- Increasing levels of loneliness and isolation linked to an ageing demography and a higher proportion of small sparsely populated settlements.
- Increased pressure on settlements with a relative high dependence on agriculture linked to new economic regimes arising from post Brexit transition.

***The Eastern area which is more sub-urban in nature is likely to experience a different range of challenges namely:***

- A sluggish pattern of economic development due to dependence on large urban centres which continue to underperform economically.
- The likely persistence of a relatively low level of interaction with major settlements such as Middlesbrough and Hartlepool as they struggle particularly in terms of their retail and hospitality functions to adjust to the impact of the pandemic.
- Gradually deteriorating prospects for economic development around the coastal context of the area due to increased flood risk driven by climate change.
- Gradually declining economic prospects due to demographic change which will increase the stock of retired people overlain with poor health outcomes.





### Introduction

This report sets out the key characteristics of the economy of Tees Valley through a rural lens. It updates a previous report from 2017<sup>1</sup>. It has been commissioned by Tees Valley Rural Action and produced by Rose Regeneration.

### Geography

This report uses the rural/urban classification<sup>2</sup> to identify the rural components of Tees Valley. A good deal of economic data is collected at small geographical unit level which can be categorised according to this classification. The smallest useful unit is called a lower super output area (Lsoa) and represents an average of 1500 people by population. Details of the Lsoas used have been set out at Annex A. By aggregating these areas together, it is possible to develop detailed economic profiles of settlements according to their rurality. The rural areas of Tees Valley fall into two categories within the rural/urban classification – rural village and dispersed areas and rural town and fringe areas. The commentary below provides a synopsis of the rural components of the area.

Tees valley comprises 5 unitary local authorities covering an area of 795 square kilometres. The distribution of population across the area is set out on the map below. There are two distinct rural components – or sub geographies – in the area.

Firstly, to the north and west (centred on Darlington and inland from Hartlepool) is an area characterised by a dispersed pattern of rural villages and smaller settlements. These include small service centres such as: Heighington, Hurworth-on-Tees, Sadberge, Kirklevington, Teesside International Airport, Carlton, Stillington, Wynyard, Elwick and Hart. Key road corridors in this area are the A66 (in the west) and the A19 (in the north). Secondly, to the south and east a significant coastal component comprises a more suburban network of settlements exclusively in Redcar and Cleveland. This area includes larger settlements including: Loftus, Brotton, Saltburn by the Sea and Marske by the Sea. The A171 and the A 1085 (both running east west) are the key connecting roads in this area.

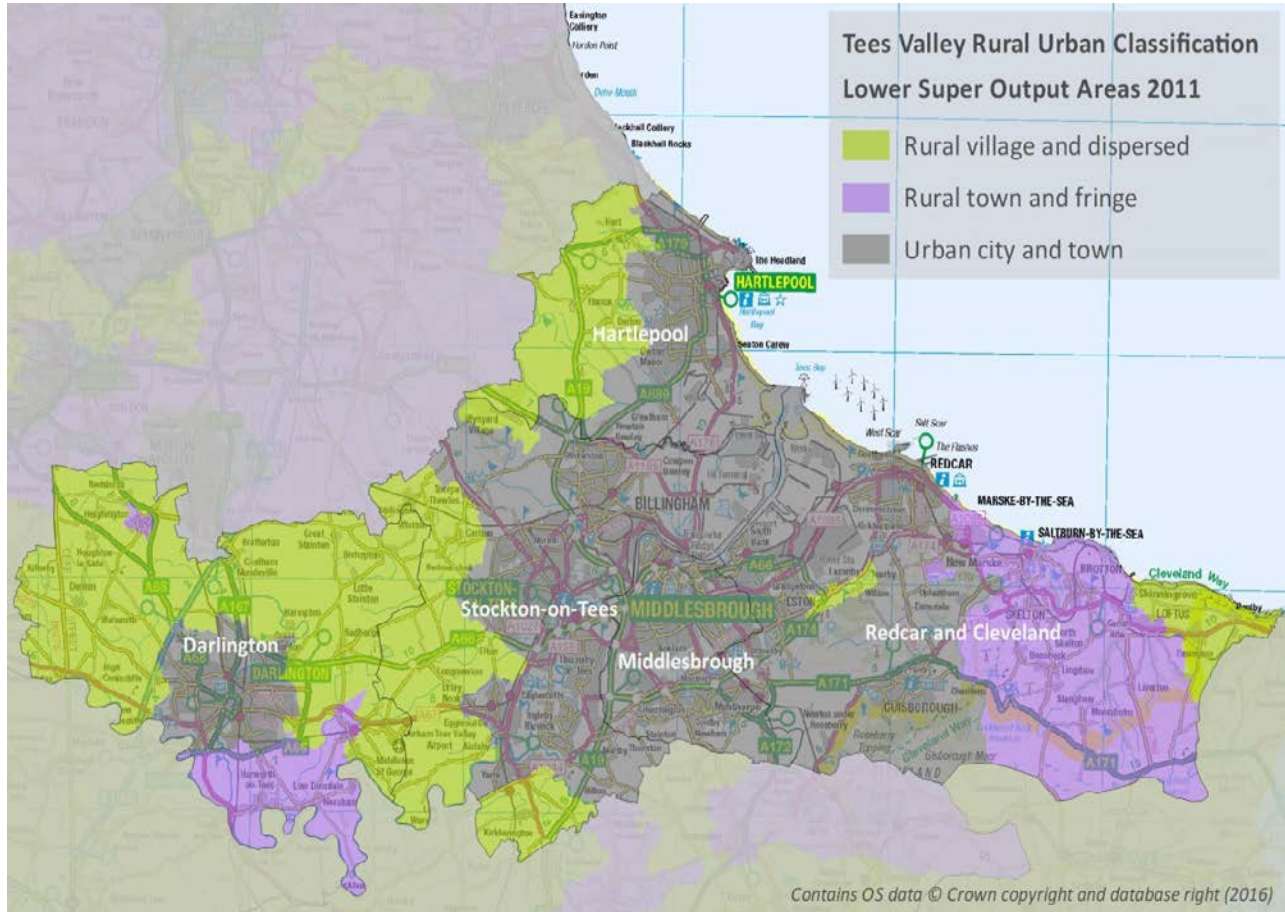
These two areas are sufficiently distinct (as set out in more detail below) in socio-economic terms that we have treated them as specific rural sub-geographies within the area rather than as a single rural entity.



<sup>1</sup> Tees Valley Rural Community Council Rural Evidence Base Final Report (July 2017) <http://roseregeneration.co.uk/teesvalleyruralcommunitycouncilruralevidencebasefinalreport/>

<sup>2</sup> The Rural\_Urban classification is the Government's official process for classifying areas based on the spatial distribution of their population. <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/rural-urban-classification>

Figure 1 Map of Tees Valley Rural Geography



## Environment

The rural components of the Tees Valley encompass two national landscape character areas. The western area falls into the Tees Lowland area, and part of the eastern area falls into the North York Moors and Cleveland Hills (NYMCH) area<sup>3</sup>. While 5% of the land mass of the NYMCH (which covers 165,900 hectares overall) is in the Tees Valley, it does include the key settlements of Loftus, Saltburn by the Sea and Skelton.

The Tees Lowland area covers 102,000 hectares and is very different in character from NYMCH having a significant industrial landscape component in its central and eastern stretches. The western rural area is at the furthest northern and western extremities of the Tees Lowland National Character Area (NCA) and is significantly different in character from its central core. The NCA document identifies the following areas of environmental opportunity (SEO)s:

<sup>3</sup> (Tees Valley Lowland Area) <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/9860030?category=587130> (North York Moors and Cleveland Hills) <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/2646022?category=587130>

*“SEO 1: Protect and enhance the unique landscape of the Tees Estuary with its mosaic of internationally important intertidal, wetland and brownfield habitats.*

*SEO 2: Incorporate semi-natural habitats within the farmed environment and use innovative farming techniques in order to improve the value of food provision alongside biodiversity, flood water storage capacity, and the ability of the landscape to adapt to the impacts of climate change.*

*SEO 3: Ensure that there is a well-connected network of high-quality green infrastructure throughout the Tees Lowlands which will enable people to understand and enjoy the natural environment, as well as providing a range of other benefits including biodiversity enhancement, food provision and flood risk mitigation.”*

## Overall Population

Using the rural/urban classification arising from this report, the distinctive nature of the two rural sub-geographies identified above is very clear in relation to the distribution of population. Whilst the land mass covered by each area is similar, two-thirds of the rural population live in the eastern area of the Tees Valley and one-third in western area which is far more sparsely populated. This is set out in the table below which uses 2019 mid-year population estimates.

**TABLE 1 RURAL/URBAN POPULATION SPLIT**

Local Authority	Total Population (2019 SAPE)	Rural village and dispersed 2019	Rural town and fringe % 2019	Total Urban City and Town 2019	Total Rural 2019
West Area					
Darlington	106,803	5.4% 6,062	8% 8,658	87.6% 92,083	13.4% 14,720
Hartlepool	93,663	2.7% 2,516	0	97.3% 91,147	2.7% 2,516
Middlesbrough	140,980	0	0	100% 140,980	0
Stockton-on-Tees	197,348	3.7% 7,871	0	96.3% 189,477	3.7% 7,871
East Area					
Redcar and Cleveland	137,150	2.4% 2,826	29% 39,454	68.6% 94,870	31.4% 42,280
Whole Area					



## TEES VALLEY RURAL ECONOMY EVIDENCE BASE

Local Authority	Total Population (2019 SAPE)	Rural village and dispersed 2019	Rural town and fringe % 2019	Total Urban City and Town 2019	Total Rural 2019
Tees Valley	675,944	2.9% 19,275	7.1% 48,112	90% 608,557	10% 67,387

Source: Small Area Population Estimates – Office for National Statistics 2019

Using the same data set we have looked at the demographic split for each of the rural areas identified in the Tees Valley. Both rural areas have a higher proportion of over 65s than the national or sub-regional average and this is most pronounced in the eastern area. The figures are: West – 18%, East – 21%, Tees Valley – 17%, England – 16%.

### Population Projections

Using the population data above and relating it to projected population change from the Office for National Statistics (Sub-National Population Projections for England; 2018 based) for each local authority area we have produced the table below which projects population change to 2039.

**TABLE 2 POPULATION PROJECTIONS TO 2039**

2019	East			West			2039	East				West			
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total		M	F	Total	% Change	M	F	Total	% Change
<b>0-10</b>	2224	2060	4284	1216	1236	2452	<b>0-10</b>	1886	1764	3650	-15	1031	1059	2090	-15
<b>11-20</b>	2379	2349	4728	1619	1161	2780	<b>11-20</b>	2301	2215	4516	-4.5	1566	1095	2661	-4.3
<b>21-30</b>	2360	2264	4624	1829	1231	3060	<b>21-30</b>	2269	2160	4430	-4.2	1759	1175	2933	-4.1
<b>31-40</b>	2182	2664	4846	1493	1474	2967	<b>31-40</b>	1974	2284	4257	-13	1350	1264	2614	-12.9
<b>41-50</b>	2238	2689	4927	1361	1503	2864	<b>41-50</b>	2444	2825	5269	6	1486	1579	3065	7
<b>51-60</b>	3037	3417	6454	1585	1568	3153	<b>51-60</b>	2756	3175	5931	-8	1438	1457	2895	-9.2
<b>61-70</b>	2647	2972	5619	1289	1338	2627	<b>61-70</b>	2581	3054	5635	0	1257	1375	2632	0
<b>71-80</b>	2378	2481	4859	1033	995	2028	<b>71-80</b>	3278	3533	6811	40	1424	1417	2841	40
<b>80+</b>	1179	1506	2685	500	706	1206	<b>80+</b>	2049	2262	4311	60	869	1060	1929	60
<b>Total</b>	20624	22402	43026	11925	11212	23137	<b>Total</b>	21538	23272	44810	4.1	12181	11480	23660	2.2

Source: Sub-National Population Projections for England; 2018 base year

In the pyramid charts below we show the projected change for each of the rural areas in the Tees Valley from 2019 to 2039. The “y” axis represents age bands and the “x” axis the percentage of the population. This shows very clearly the strong similarity and ageing profile of the population of both areas:

**Figure 2 Population Pyramids Tees Valley Rural Area (East)**

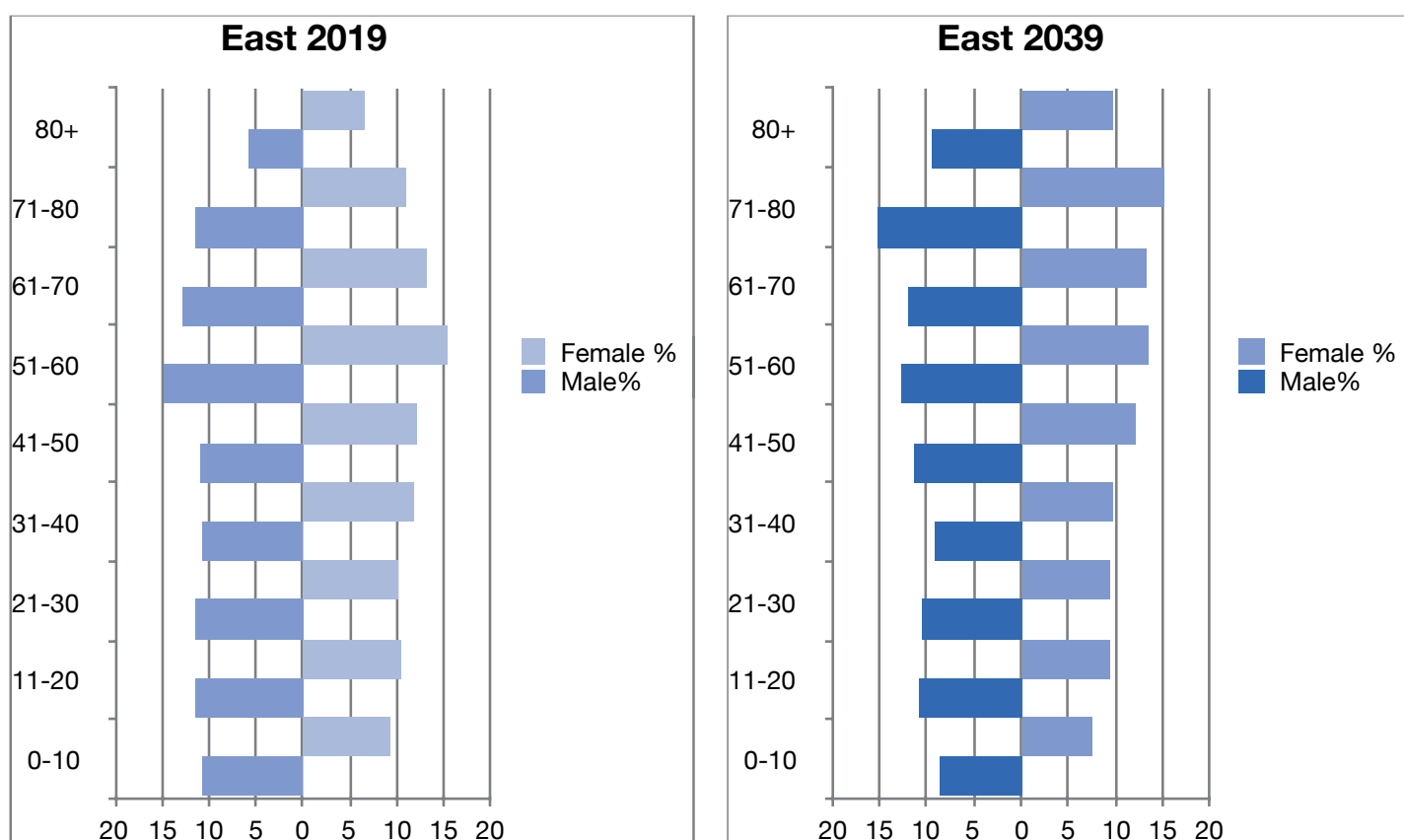
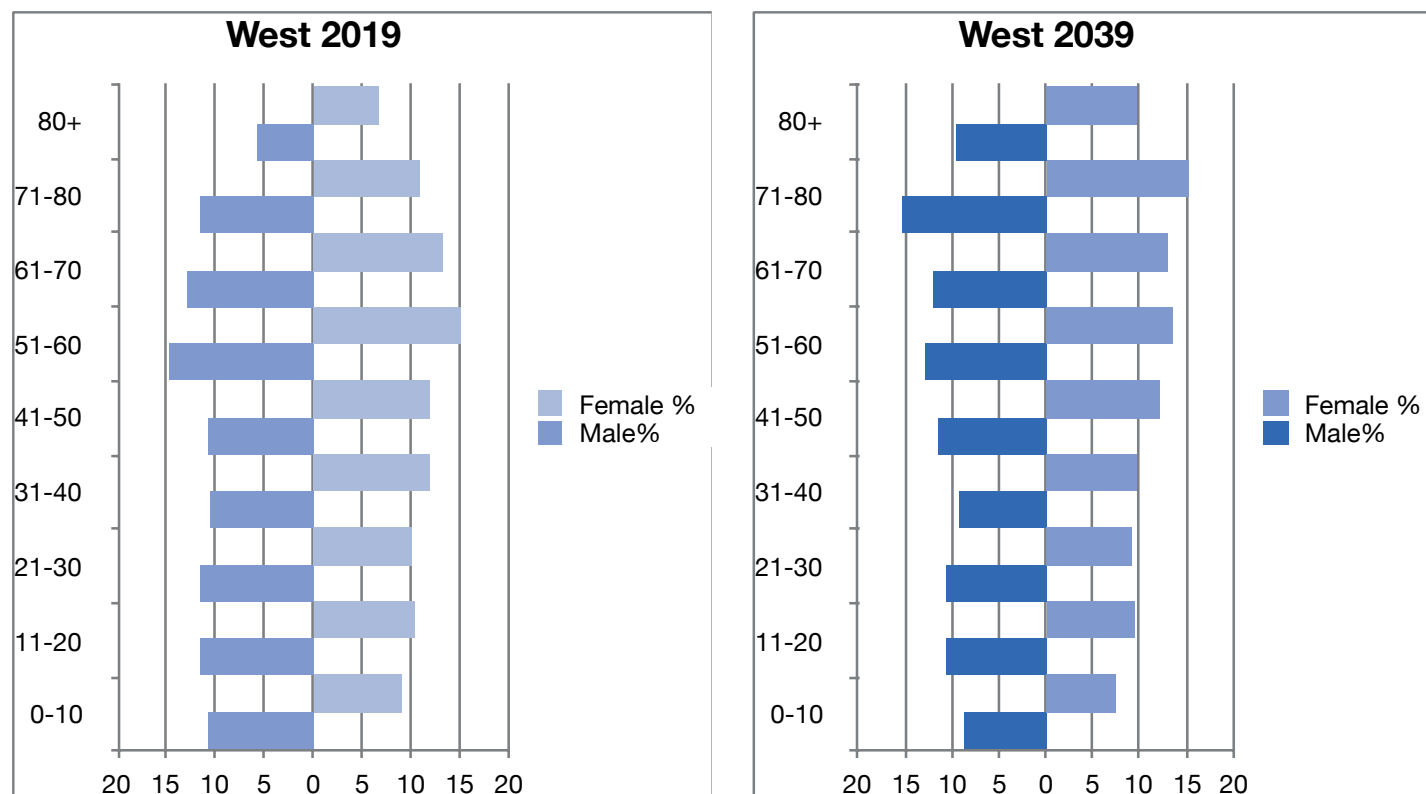


Figure 3 Population Pyramids Tees Valley Rural Area (West)



### Deprivation and Quality of Life

The English Indices of Deprivation provides a comprehensive overview of a number of quality of life factors. It ranks every neighbourhood in England according to its relative deprivation in terms of 7 themes. It then creates a composite measure of overall relative deprivation which can be compared with all other neighbourhoods in England. ***The Barriers to Housing and Services domain set out below provides a detailed comparator of transport and affordable housing challenges for rural dwellers.***

- The **Income Deprivation** Domain measures the proportion of the population experiencing deprivation relating to low income. The definition of low income used includes both those people that are out-of-work, and those that are in work but who have low earnings (and who satisfy the respective means tests).
- The **Employment Deprivation** Domain measures the proportion of the working-age population in an area involuntarily excluded from the labour market. This includes people who would like to work but are unable to do so due to unemployment, sickness or disability, or caring responsibilities.

- The **Education, Skills and Training Deprivation** Domain measures the lack of attainment and skills in the local population. The indicators fall into two sub-domains: one relating to children and young people and one relating to adult skills.
- The **Health Deprivation and Disability** Domain measures the risk of premature death and the impairment of quality of life through poor physical or mental health. The domain measures morbidity, disability and premature mortality but not aspects of behaviour or environment that may be predictive of future health deprivation.
- The **Crime** Domain measures the risk of personal and material victimisation at local level.
- The **Barriers to Housing and Services** Domain measures the physical and financial accessibility of housing and local services. The indicators fall into two sub-domains: 'geographical barriers', which relate to the physical proximity of local services, and 'wider barriers' which includes issues relating to access to housing such as affordability.
- The **Living Environment Deprivation** Domain measures the quality of the local environment. The indicators fall into two sub-domains. The 'indoors' living environment measures the quality of housing; while the 'outdoors' living environment contains measures of air quality and road traffic accidents.

We have created a mean score for each of the domains of deprivation to give an overall indication of relative deprivation in the two rural sub-areas and the remaining urban area of the Tees Valley as a whole. The results for the Western area indicate that it is amongst the 30% least deprived areas in England. It fares particularly well in terms of its skills base and living environment being in the top 20% of all areas in England on these measures. ***The area of greatest challenge relates to access to housing and services and is likely to be linked to its sparsely populated profile leading to people being distant from services.*** The Eastern area is in the bottom 50% of deprived areas in England. It fares particularly poorly in terms of ***employment and health (where its results put it in the bottom third of all neighbourhoods)***. The suburban nature of the area and its better communications lead to it scoring highly for accessibility, being in the top 20% of all areas. The results for the Eastern area follow the results for the urban area of Tees valley far more closely, showing a greater commonality between this part of the sub-region and its urban core.

TABLE 3 ENGLISH INDICES OF DEPRIVATION

Domain	England	East	West	Domain	England	Rural	Urban
Income	16422	11079	23805	Income	16422	16415	11705
Employment	16422	7392	21286	Employment	16422	13219	9942
Education	16422	13038	25527	Education	16422	18275	13048
Health	16422	6569	16133	Health	16422	10580	7522
Crime	16422	18169	18092	Crime	16422	18485	12443

Domain	England	East	West	Domain	England	Rural	Urban
Barriers to Services	16422	24204	14312	Barriers to Services	16422	20056	23932
Living Environment	16422	24954	28494	Living Environment	16422	26439	26237

Source: English Indices of Deprivation 2019

We have set out these results in more detail in the radar charts below. The blue central line on each chart represents the England average. Where the line representing each Tees Valley geography is inside the blue line it is relatively more deprived, where the line is outside the blue line it is relatively less deprived.

**Figure 4 Relative Levels of Deprivation Tees Valley Rural Areas**

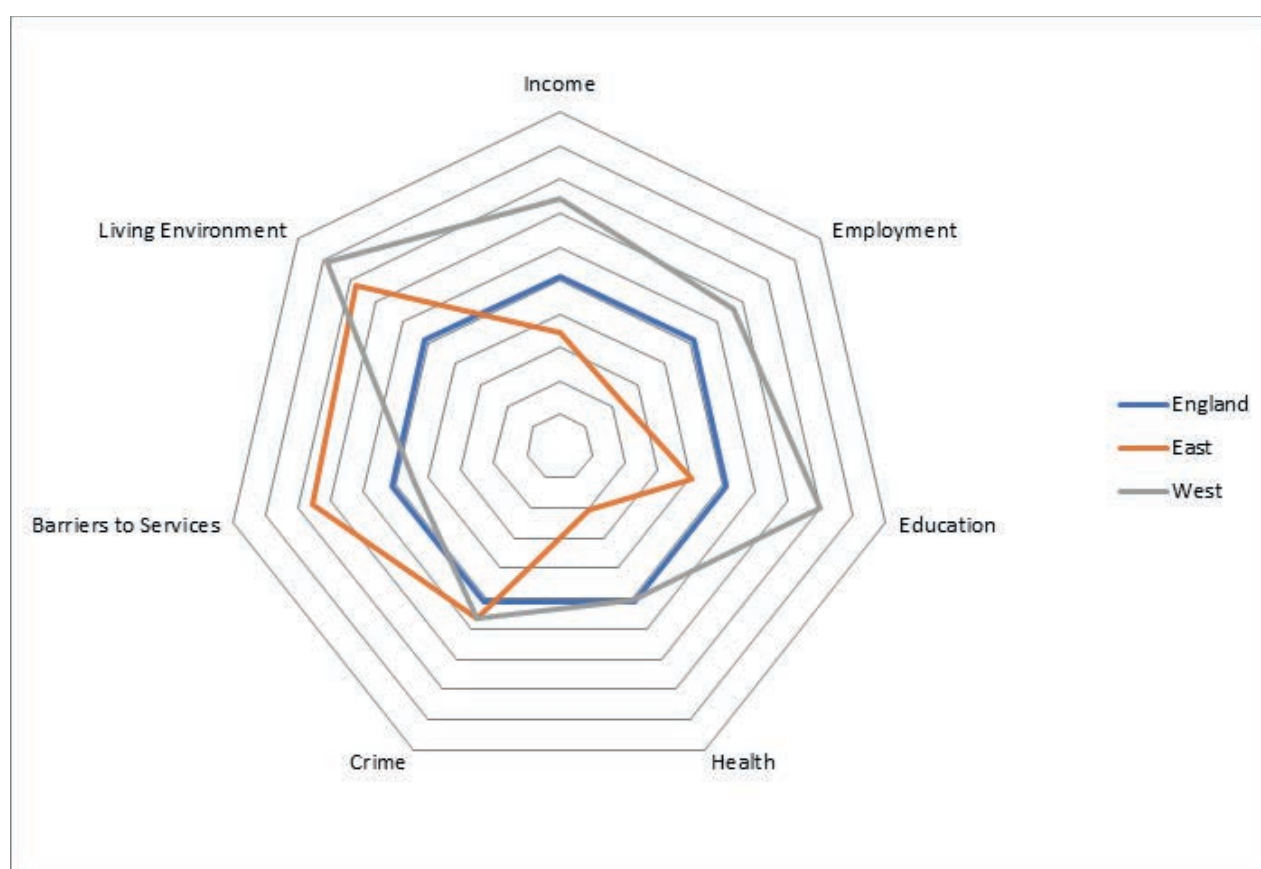
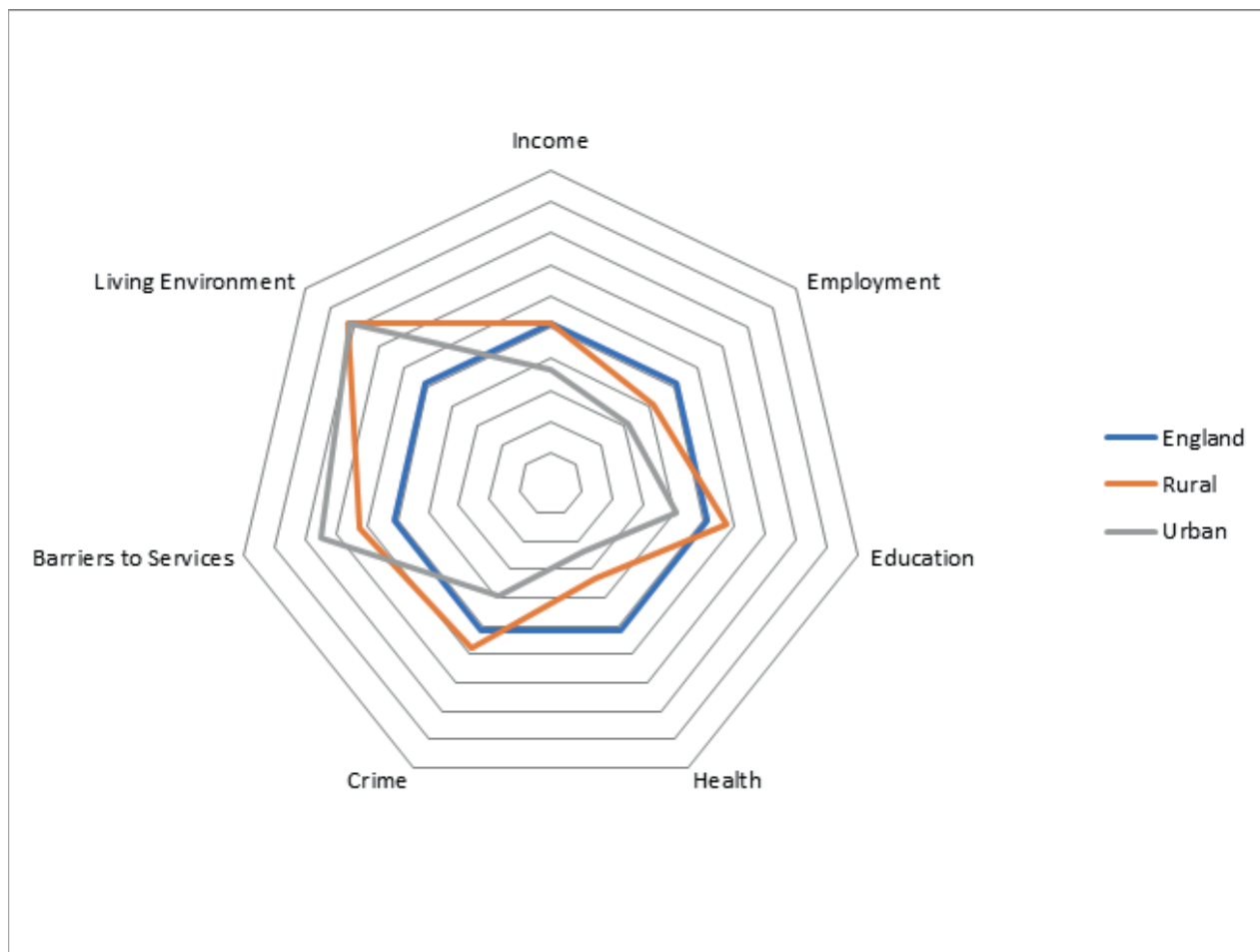




Figure 5 Relative Levels of Deprivation Tees Valley (Rural vs Urban)



This analysis identifies the following characteristics for each rural area:

The East area is more deprived than the West on most measures. It is particularly deprived in relation to health, income and education. It is more deprived than England on all measures apart from Barriers to Services and Living Environment.

The West area is less deprived not just than the East but than England on all measures apart from access to services.

*Looking at the results for the two areas together it is clear that there are significant challenges around key Tees Valley Rural Action themes including: transport, health and good quality local employment. The fact that this data set is very up to date – just over 12 months old provides a very powerful basis for a detailed dialogue with important agencies such as local authorities about the rural services agenda.*

Taken as a whole the urban areas of the Tees Valley are more deprived than both rural areas and England apart from in relation to access to services.

## Agriculture

The most recent source for agriculture in terms of employment and holdings is the 2016 Census of Agriculture<sup>4</sup> it is only updated every 4 years in line with EU norms. In an addition to the analysis in our previous report (2017) we have included results for the Tees Valley below:

Tees Valley has 12% of the agricultural holdings and 7% of the land farmed in the North East. 36% of pigs and 43% of poultry in the North East are processed in Tees Valley. 1192 people, just over 11% of all farm employees in the North East are employed in agriculture in the Tees Valley. To get a sense of the relative importance of this distribution of activity it is helpful to consider the total population of the Tees Valley which is 25% of the population of the North East. We have set this out in the table below:

**TABLE 4: CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE INSIGHTS**

% Population North East	% North East:
25%	Agricultural holdings 12%
	Land farmed 7%
	Pigs processed 36%
	Poultry processed 43%
	Farm Employees 11%

Defra Agricultural Census 2016

This shows the importance of the livestock sector in the Tees Valley rural area in relation to the North East as a region. Overall Tees Valley has a smaller proportion of people employed in agriculture compared to its overall share of the population in the North East. The same is true in relation to its share of agriculture holdings compared to its overall population share for the North East. This identifies agriculture as a relatively less important aspect of the local economy than in the North East as a whole. This finding does merit some nuancing to take account of the very rural characteristics of County Durham and Northumberland which are the areas with a very significant share of the agricultural activity in the North East. In relation to the rest of the region it could be argued that the level of agricultural activity is on a par or relatively more important.

<sup>4</sup> Census of Agriculture 2016 (Defra, ONS): <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/structure-of-the-agricultural-industry-in-england-and-the-uk-at-june>

### Wider Sectoral Employment

The distribution of jobs across the rural parts of the Tees Valley is unevenly split between the east and west. While the west is more sparsely populated, it has a stock of 13,443 jobs, compared to 8,558 jobs in the east. This is accounted for in part by the inclusion of the Morton Park commercial area in the west (which is home to almost 6,000 jobs).

We have calculated the location quotient for key businesses in the Tees Valley and its two rural sub-geographies which is set out in the table below. A location quotient compares the number of people employed in Tees Valley with the England average. Where the figure is 1, the proportion of the workforce employed in the area is exactly the same as the national average, where it is lower than 1 the proportion is lower, and where it is higher than 1 the proportion is higher. For example, the location quotient in the west area for mining and quarrying – highlighted below is 12.4. This means that there are 12.4 people working in mining and quarrying in this area for every one person across England as a whole working in mining and quarrying.



TABLE 5 SECTORAL EMPLOYMENT ACROSS TEES VALLEY

	B : Mining and quarrying	C : Manufacturing	D : Electricity, gas, steam	E : Water supply, sewerage, waste management	F : Construction	G : Wholesale and retail	H : Transportation and storage	I : Accommodation and food service activities	J : Information and comms	K : Financial and insurance	L : Real estate activities	M : Professional, scientific and technical	N : Admin and support service	O : Public administration and defence	P : Education	Q : Human health and social work	R : Arts, entertainment and recreation
West	100	1,730	0	30	665	1,210	480	1,135	450	80	60	630	780	550	645	1,160	475
LQ	12.4	2.1	0.0	0.4	1.4	0.8	0.9	1.5	1.0	0.2	0.3	0.7	0.8	1.3	0.7	0.9	1.9
East	500	690	0	40	315	1,095	160	720	45	30	55	260	180	60	955	1,480	300
LQ	91	1.21	0.00	0.82	0.96	0.99	0.46	1.36	0.14	0.12	0.44	0.41	0.28	0.21	1.51	1.63	2.25
Tees Valley	900	22,000	1,000	2,000	12,000	31,000	12,000	12,000	4,500	6,000	2,500	12,000	14,000	10,000	17,000	30,000	4,500
LQ	5.9	1.4	1.1	1.5	1.3	1.0	1.2	0.8	0.5	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.8	1.3	1.0	1.2	0.9
England	20,000	2,092,000	116,000	179,000	1,202,000	3,993,000	1,279,000	1,936,000	1,150,000	902,000	453,000	2,325,000	2,386,000	1,030,000	2,312,000	3,306,000	633,000

Source: Business Register and Employment Survey ONS 2018

With the exception of mining, quarrying and utilities (based around the Boulby potash facility) there are no sectors with a nationally significant proportion of employees in the eastern rural component of the Tees Valley. In the western area, the following sectors have a statistically distinctive pattern of employment: manufacturing, construction, accommodation and food services (a proxy in part for tourism) and health provision.

### Workforce Participation

It is useful to moderate the number of jobs in the area against the levels of the population actively engaged in work or seeking work. In the Tees Valley area as a whole a higher proportion of the population is economically inactive (retired or for a range of personal reasons not seeking paid employment) than the regional and national average.

**TABLE 6: LEVELS OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITY**

Area	Active %	Inactive %
Tees Valley 2020	75	25
England (2020)	79	21
North East Region (2020)	76	24

Source: Nomis 2020

### Enterprise

Whilst the difference in the distribution of businesses by number of employees is relatively modest across both rural sub-geographies, Tees Valley and England; the table below demonstrates how there are proportionately more micro-businesses in both rural sub-geographies and fewer businesses in each of the other three size categories in both areas. Large businesses have been omitted from the table below as the percentages are so small.

**TABLE 7: BUSINESS STRUCTURE**

Area (2015 in brackets)	Micro (0 to 9)	Small (10 to 49)	Medium-sized (50 to 249)	Large (250+)
East	91 (87)	8 (11)	1 (2)	0 (0)
West	87 (87)	10 (10)	2 (2)	1 (1)
Tees Valley	88 (81)	10 (15)	1.6 (3.5)	0.4 (0.5)



Area (2015 in brackets)	Micro (0 to 9)	Small (10 to 49)	Medium-sized (50 to 249)	Large (250+)
England	90 (84)	8 (13)	1.5 (2.5)	0.5 (0.5)

Source: UK Business Counts ONS 2019

The updated figures for 2019 show an increase in the micro business category and a decline in the proportion of small businesses.

## Job Density

Job density is the ratio of jobs in an area to the overall number of 16-64 year olds within the population. Because of its relatively small population but high number of jobs, the Western rural sub-area has approaching a nationally comparable job density of almost 80%. This is 9% points higher than the job density for the Tees Valley as a whole.

In comparison, the Eastern area has a significantly smaller stock of jobs than the Tees Valley or England averages. The more densely populated and suburban nature of the East suggests it functions more as a residential than employment area. This is further borne out in relation to the statistics for the number of people working mainly from home and commuting patterns set out further on in this report.

**TABLE 8: JOB DENSITY**

Job Density	%
England	87
Tees Valley	70
East Area	30
West Area	79

Sources: Business Register and Employment Survey ONS 2018 and Small Area Population Estimates – Office for National Statistics 2019

Job density is a very useful proxy for commuting in the absence of contemporary data. We have included 2011 commuting data below because in the absence of anything more up to date it still provides a useful base from which to consider the inter-relationship between the key settlements.

## Travel Patterns

Travel patterns from the Western sub-area demonstrate that it has relatively limited self-containment, with only 8.2% of its workforce living and working in the area. The key role played by Darlington (which the area effectively surrounds) and to some extent Stockton on Tees (which is the other major centre close by) is shown through relatively significant levels of commuting to them. In the East, neither Hartlepool, Middlesbrough or Redcar as major employment centres, have much impact in terms of commuting and are all relatively less important than County Durham as a work location for the residents of this area. Approaching 20% of the workforce, commute outside of the greater Tees Valley area to work.

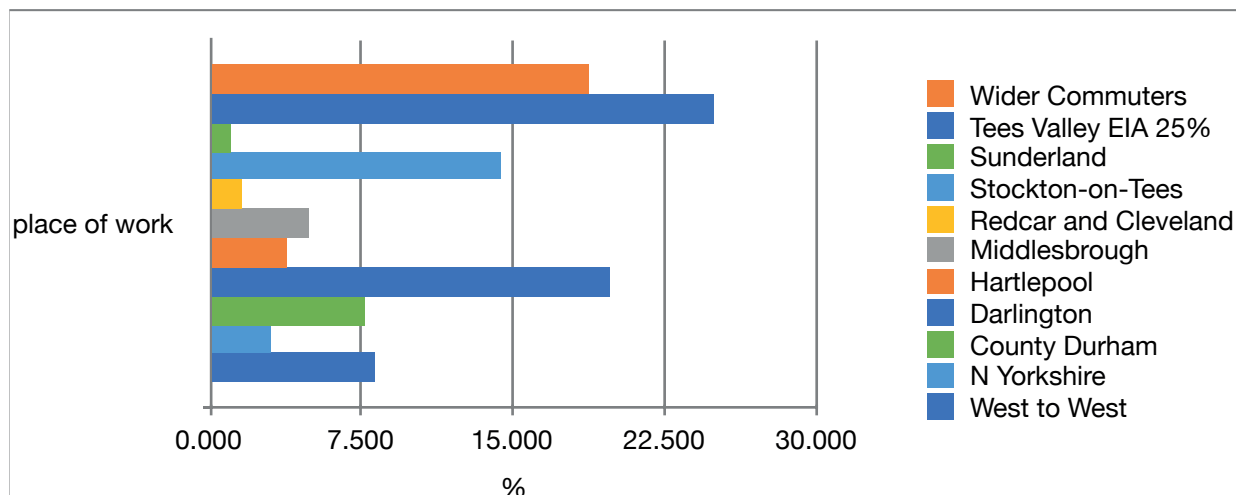
**TABLE 9: TEES VALLEY RURAL AREA (WEST) TRAVEL PATTERNS**

Place of work (west)	%
West to West	8.2
N Yorkshire	3.0
County Durham	7.7
Darlington	19.8
Hartlepool	3.8
Middlesbrough	4.9
Redcar and Cleveland	1.6
Stockton-on-Tees	14.4
Sunderland	1.1
Tees Valley EIA *	25
Wider Commuters	18.7

Source: ONS 2011 Census – Origin and Destination

\* Tees Valley Economically Inactive (EIA) represents the 25% of workers across the region, who are not engaged directly in any form of work travel as they are not participating in the labour force.

Figure 6 – Travel Patterns (Rural West)



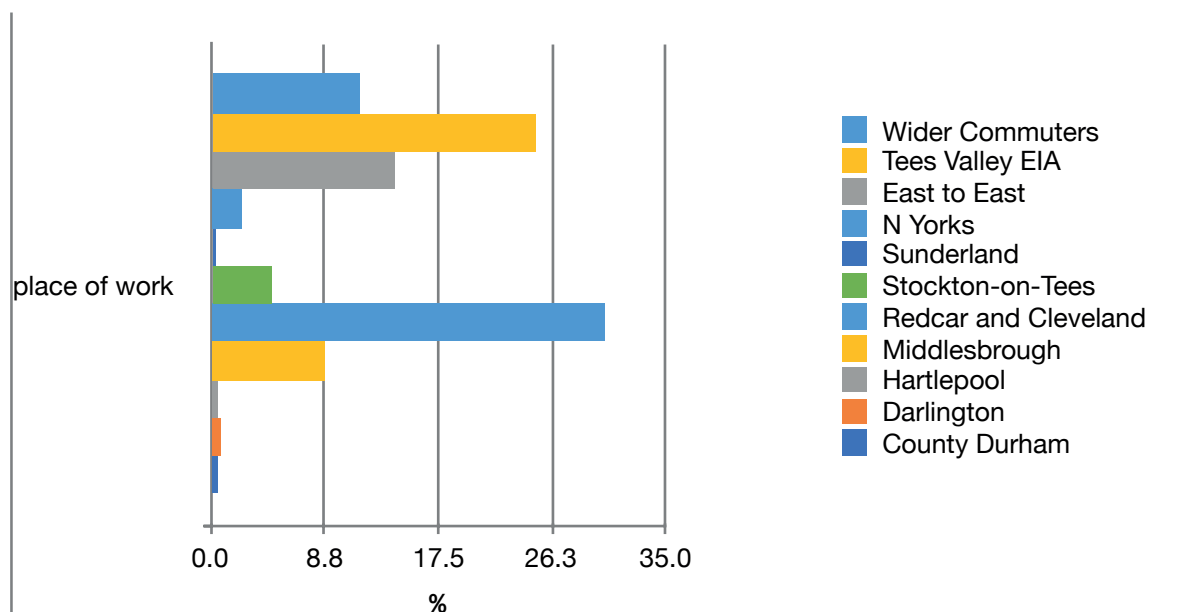
Commuting patterns in the Eastern rural sub-region show a far greater level of self-containment, with 14.2% of the workforce working in the area and almost one-third working directly in the borough of Redcar and Cleveland. Middlesbrough is the only other employment location of major significance in the area supporting the employment of just under 9% of the workforce in the east. Only 11% of the workforce commute outside of the greater Tees Valley area for work.

TABLE 10: TEES VALLEY RURAL AREA (EAST) TRAVEL PATTERNS

Place of work (east)	%
County Durham	0.5
Darlington	0.7
Hartlepool	0.5
Middlesbrough	8.7
Redcar and Cleveland	30.4
Stockton-on-Tees	4.6
Sunderland	0.3
North Yorkshire	2.5
East to East	14.2
Tees Valley EIA	25.0
Wider Commuters	11.3

Source: ONS 2011 Census – Origin and Destination

Figure 7 – Travel Patterns (Rural East)



### Home Working

The number of people who work mainly from home is nationally significant in the West rural sub-area: at 15.3% compared to a national figure of 10.4%. Whilst there are significantly fewer people who work mainly from home in the East area, it is still above the percentage for Tees Valley as a whole, but lower than the England average. Although there is no absolute correlation, areas with high proportions of people who work mainly from home often have greater levels of self-employment and entrepreneurship.

TABLE 11 HOME WORKERS

Area	%
West	15.3
East	8.5
Tees Valley	7.2
England	10.4

Source: ONS 2011 Census – Origin and Destination

## Internet Use

Data is not collected by reliable national sources in relation to internet access/usage at small area level. ONS does however publish larger area data and the latest results for the first quarter of 2015 are set out below. They show that in the most rural part of the Tees Valley South Teesside which incorporates Redcar and Cleveland (the heart of our rural east area) the proportion of the population which have never used the internet is higher than the regional and national average.

**TABLE 12: INTERNET USE**

Area	% Never Used Internet
Hartlepool & Stockton on Tees	12.3
South Teesside	17.1
Darlington	13.1
North East	16.5

Source: ONS Internal Usage Data 2015

ONS 2019 data suggests that those who have never used the internet is still at 10.6% compared to 7.5% for the UK as a whole. This is the second highest rate in England. We are no longer able to break the data down below a Tees Valley and Durham grouping.

## Impact of Coronavirus

### Job Seekers Allowance

The impact of Coronavirus has begun to negatively arrest the long term trend of downwards unemployment – it has had a significantly less severe impact in the Tees Valley in terms of the numbers of people moving onto Job Seekers Allowance. This report is being written during the pandemic and the longer term impacts are still to fully emerge.



TABLE 13 JOB SEEKERS ALLOWANCE

	July 2017	January 2020	July 2020	3 Yr Change%	6 Month Change%
East	484	220	261	-46	19
West	576	245	333	-42	36
Tees Valley	9916	3664	4459	-55	22
England	379222	138689	265925	-30	92

Source: DWP Job Seekers Allowance 2020

### Furlough Rates

ONS identified the following numbers of furloughed staff by key sectors – we have applied this to the distribution of employment in the East and West areas to come up with a projected figure for furloughed staff. This demonstrates furloughing numbers more on a par with England than the number of new JSA claimants.

TABLE 14: ESTIMATED PERCENTAGE OF SECTOR WORKFORCE FURLOUGHED, UK

Sector	% on furlough
Manufacturing	31.1%
Construction	46.2%
Wholesale and Retail Trade	21.5%
Accommodation and Food Service Activities	73.3%
Transportation and Storage	32.0%
Information and Communication	13.0%
Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities	13.2%
Administrative and Support Service Activities	31.3%
Education	6.8%
Human Health and Social Work Activities	8.5%
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	69.9%
<b>All Industries</b>	<b>28.4%</b>

Source: ONS Business Impact of Coronavirus Survey (BICS) (2020)

The table overleaf shows how these percentages map onto the economic profiles of the Eastern and Western rural areas and Tees Valley as a whole.

Table 15 Furloughing by Sector

	B : Mining and quarrying	C : Manufacturing	E : Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	F : Construction	G : Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	H : Transportation and storage	I : Accommodation and food service activities	J : Information and communication	K : Financial and insurance activities	L : Real estate activities	M : Professional, scientific and technical activities	N : Admin and support service activities	O : Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	P : Education	Q : Human health and social work activities	R : Arts, entertainment and recreation	S : Other service activities	Furlough Total
West	100	1,790	30	665	1,210	480	1,195	450	80	60	630	780	550	645	1,160	475	160	10460
Furloughed workers	28	555	9	307	344	136	876	59	23	17	83	244	156	44	99	332	45	3357
LQ	12.4	2.1	0.4	1.4	0.8	0.9	1.5	1	0.2	0.3	0.7	0.8	1.3	0.7	0.9	1.9	0.8	0.32
East	500	690	40	315	1,085	160	720	45	30	55	260	180	60	955	1,480	390	150	7115
Furloughed workers	142	214	11	146	308	45	528	6	9	16	34	56	17	65	126	273	43	2038
LQ	91	1.21	0.82	0.95	0.99	0.46	1.35	0.14	0.12	0.44	0.41	0.28	0.21	1.51	1.63	2.25	1.04	0.29
Tees Valley	900	22,000	2,000	12,000	31,000	12,000	12,000	4,500	6,000	2,500	12,000	14,000	10,000	17,000	30,000	4,500	4,500	197,900
Furloughed workers	256	6820	568	5544	8804	3408	8786	585	1704	710	1584	4382	2840	1156	2550	3146	1278	54414
LQ	5.9	1.4	1.5	1.3	1	1.2	0.8	0.5	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.8	1.3	1	1.2	0.9	1.1	0.27
England	20000	2082000	179000	1202000	3983000	1279000	1039000	1150000	902000	453000	2825000	2388000	1030000	2312000	3306000	630000	524000	

Source: Business Register and Employment Survey 2018 (ONS) &  
ONS Business Impact of Coronavirus Survey (BICS) (2020)

## Broadband Availability

The Coronavirus has highlighted the crucial role played by broadband in terms of both employment and services. Where there is poor access to broadband this has a major impact on the ability of people to work remotely and to access the services they need. At a local authority level the Tees Valley rural area is as well served as the local authority average for England in terms of access to superfast broadband. However when access to super-fast broadband is considered at neighbourhood levels this is not the case. The more suburban rural settlements of the East have a modestly lower proportion of houses with access to superfast broadband than the national average. In the remoter settlements in Darlington local authority area the position is much worse than the national average and represents a significant challenge to the sustainability of the localities in this area. Details are set out in the table below:

**TABLE 16 ACCESS TO SUPERFAST BROADBAND**

% Households with access to superfast broadband	
Darlington	95.2
Hartlepool	97.9
Redcar and Cleveland	97.2
Stockton on Tees	97.4
Middlesborough	100
Rural areas in Redcar and Cleveland	94.2
Rural areas in Darlington	49.1
England	95.3

Source: Connected Nations Update Ofcom (Summer 2020)

## Outline of the Functioning of the Rural Tees Valley

Almost 10% of the population of Tees Valley live in rural areas. It is important that this significant but small minority is not neglected in policy terms. ***Notwithstanding the small overall proportion of residents in its rural areas, this represents approaching 68,000 people – which in Redcar and Cleveland for example is around a third of the whole population.*** The rural area within the sub-region is in two distinct parts – a sparsely populated Western and Northern area (comprising almost 40% of the rural population) and a more densely populated Southern, Eastern and Coastal area (comprising approaching two thirds of the population). For ease of reference, we have called the former the Western area and the latter the Eastern area.

The population of both areas is anticipated to grow very slowly to 2039 and the vast majority of this growth will be amongst people over 70.

In terms of overall quality of life measures, the Western area is amongst the least 40% of deprived areas in England. It has relatively high levels of education, income, low levels of crime and its health scores are modestly below the national average. It is challenged by its sparse pattern of settlements which impacts on residents' access to services. In the Eastern area the overall quality of life measures place it in the bottom 50% of deprived areas – where it faces particular challenges in terms of employment and health which are in the lowest 20% of all neighbourhoods in England. It does however score above the national average for access to services and living environment.

In terms of agriculture the area has a modest number of employees and land mass which is farmed. It does however have a significant livestock sector, responsible for over a third of all pig breeding and approaching 50% of poultry farming in the North East region. The more urban nature of the East means it has a less significant farming footprint (with around a third of all farm based employees) compared to the Western area. However, the East does benefit from its proximity to the North York Moors National Park and it is an important livestock area in terms of pig and dairy production. The Western area has an important agricultural sector, hosting the majority of farm based employees. The West also makes a significant contribution to the livestock economy of the North East region – particularly in relation to dairy and poultry. The West is home to the Darlington Farm Auction Mart which has recently relocated out of the traditional town area situated close to rail and road links. It is not on a rather large site based at Humbleton, Darlington and is looking to replicate a similar operation to that in Thirsk.

The Western area has a higher stock of jobs with real strengths in manufacturing and construction. The Eastern area has a far smaller stock of jobs with one distinctive employment sector around potash mining. The Western area has 0.8 /job per head of its 16-64 year old population, whilst the Eastern area has a far lower ratio of just under one job per three 16-64 year olds.

The Eastern area has a higher proportion of micro enterprises than the national and sub-regional averages. In the West the position is on a par with the sub-region and below the national average. Both areas (in line with national trends) have seen a decline between 2015 and 2019 in 10-49 number of employee businesses. There are very few large employers (i.e., over 250 employees) in the Eastern area. Local authorities are not covered by this enterprise analysis.

Darlington operates as the economic hub for the Western area, with 20% of its workforce deployed in the town. The Western area has a relatively mobile workforce with approaching 20% of its labour commuting out of the greater Tees valley area to work. The Eastern area has more self-containment with 30% of its workforce living and working in Redcar and Cleveland.



The Western area has a nationally significant number of people who work mainly from home, whilst in the East the figure is below the national but above the sub-regional (Tees Valley) average.

The whole area has very low levels of internet usage and this may in part be driven by the limitations of the local broadband infrastructure. It comes second highest in sub-regional terms for the proportion of residents who have never used the internet at over 10%. Bearing in mind the increasing requirement for people to access services online, which has been exacerbated by the coronavirus pandemic, this is a major challenge for the area in terms of equity and fairness.

In terms of coronavirus impact on unemployment there has been a 19 % increase in JSA claimants in the East, and 36% in the West between January and July 2020. This compares to a 22% increase across Tees Valley and a 92% increase across England. Furlough rates suggest over 10,000 jobs in furlough in the West and just over 7,000 jobs in the East. The highest proportion of these are in manufacturing and retail. The high level of furlough and the modest distribution of employment in hospitality and tourism explain why the area has fared better than the national picture in terms of the employment impact of the pandemic.

Taken as a whole the area performs less well than the national average in relation to access to services, broadband usage, levels of economic activity and access to public transport, with necessity leading to the area having a higher proportion of cars and vans per head of population.

### SWOT

Arising from the analysis set out in the sections above we worked with members of the Tees Valley Rural Action Board to produce the following SWOT setting out the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats of the rural Tees Valley.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Strengths</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tourism offer – coast and proximity to national park</li> <li>• Small business base – higher than Tees Valley and national figures</li> <li>• Homeworking - higher than Tees Valley on a par with England</li> <li>• Unemployment – less impacted by the coronavirus because of its sectoral composition</li> <li>• Distinctive and important economic sectors: mining, manufacturing, construction, accommodation and food</li> <li>• Low levels of crime compared to the national figures</li> <li>• Important livestock area in relation to the North East</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Weaknesses</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low external recognition of the role the rural area plays in the environment and economy of Tees Valley stemming from only 10% of the population living in rural areas</li> <li>• Some pockets of significant deprivation – especially in the East area</li> <li>• Higher levels of economic inactivity than the national average</li> <li>• Low job density in the East area</li> <li>• Lower levels of internet use than the national average</li> <li>• Poor access to services in the West area</li> <li>• Very high levels of frailty and ill health in the East area</li> <li>• Lack of community transport provision</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Opportunities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tourism development – building on current strengths</li> <li>• Scope to build on the potential of a strong small business sector – particularly in the context of home workers – key opportunity to covid-proof the local economy in this context</li> <li>• Evolving relationships with local authorities – particularly in the context of the high proportion of the rural population in Redcar and Cleveland</li> <li>• Reduction of isolation through work to maximise uptake of the opportunities to work from home using the internet</li> <li>• Work with CCGs and other health partners to look in detail at the rural health challenges in the East area</li> <li>• Work to tackle the transport and wider access problems to services</li> <li>• A higher proportion of older people than the Tees Valley and national average</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Threats</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of understanding amongst “urban focused” local authorities of their rural context/impact</li> <li>• Worsening health outcomes and services particularly for those who are most vulnerable in the East area</li> <li>• Social isolation and lack of key services arising from more of these things being provided online – further intensified by the need to use the internet to consume services in the current pandemic climate</li> <li>• Decline of rural services centres and collapse of the High Street arising from structural change to shopping amplified by the impact of covid</li> <li>• The impact of climate change on the sustainability of coastal settlements and agriculture</li> <li>• A higher proportion (covering both rural areas) of older people than the Tees Valley and national average</li> </ul>

## Analysis

**Scale** - The modest number of rural dwellers within the Tees Valley overall means that TVRA needs to develop a strong, distinctive and compelling narrative about the rural context of the area to avoid rural issues and communities being overlooked. This should be based on the role the rural area plays as the hinterland of Darlington and to a lesser extent Hartlepool. In Redcar and Cleveland, the most important point is the large overall proportion of the population living in rural settings.

**Character** –Tees Valley has two very distinct rural components, with different characteristics. This presents a need for differentiated thinking and action by TVRA. The Western area is a classic relatively remote series of hinterland settlements with links to Darlington and Hartlepool. The Eastern area is more suburban in character and relatively more deprived and forms a relatively large portion of the hinterlands of Guisborough, Redcar and Saltburn.

**Marketing/Tourism** - The Western rural area has a strong opportunity agenda. It provides a residential base for a significant number of people working in Darlington and Stockton on Tees, and it has high levels of wages and qualifications. This is a fertile area for discussion with the local authorities and other key players around marketing and tourism strategies for example. The East has the scope to benefit more from its proximity to the North York Moors and the traditional seaside offer in Saltburn and Redcar. More work needs to be done to understand and develop these opportunities.

**Access to Housing and Services** - One challenge in the West is access to services and housing and there is scope for a review and dialogue about the nature and distribution of affordable housing. This is pertinent as the high stock of jobs per resident provides scope for retaining more residents in local employment settings. This theme also raises the importance of ongoing local transport solutions to those with significant service challenges in the more sparsely populated Western area. This will remain a justification and an ongoing theme for the delivery of the community transport services led by Tees Valley Rural Action.

**Deprivation and Services** - The Eastern area, is moderately deprived, it does have key needs (e.g. health and employment). The fact that this area is covered by one local authority (Redcar and Cleveland) - and represents a third of the population of that geography – provides a strong base for the development of a relatively intensive programme of engagement with the local authority in terms of service delivery.

**Wider Linkages** - Whilst there is a diffused pattern of commuting in both areas, most of this takes place across the Tees Valley. The limited role of Middlesbrough and Hartlepool (as two of the largest towns in the area in attracting workers from the rural components of the Tees Valley), which was identified in the previous version of this report is unusual in an England wide context and merits further consideration and discussion. These areas, with relatively large populations, must provide markets for rural goods and services (e.g. local food and tourism). The recent pandemic driven interest in people seeking to move to rural areas also provides a golden opportunity to renew a dialogue with these large towns about the future.

**Environment** - The natural environment offer in the East is powerful and there is scope to strengthen and consolidate activities around the North York Moors brand and to explore potential connections to County Durham the base for a very dynamic tourism offer around the Northern Pennines AONB.

**Businesses and Sectors** - In line with most rural areas in England, the whole rural component of the Tees Valley has a higher stock of micro-businesses than the national average. This provides scope for a dialogue with the local authorities and LEP about ensuring these businesses are not excluded from funding

opportunities because of their size or relative remoteness. There is scope for discussion with the LEP about the distinctive nature of agriculture, manufacturing, construction and mining and quarrying in the rural areas and how TVRA can support activities with rural businesses in these sectors. The relative decline in the stock of small businesses is an area of concern and it is important, particularly against the background of the impact of the coronavirus on a number of key sectors, to consider the specific rural challenges of maintaining the resilience of local businesses in rural settings in the Tees Valley. Without strong representation the fact that these businesses represent a small proportion of the over business stock in the area means that in the drive to recovery measures this particular group of businesses and the communities they serve could become overlooked.

**Farming** - The East is a significant livestock rearing area and this is perhaps less well known and understood outside of the area itself. The West also has a regionally significant livestock component. Overall, there is scope for greater engagement with, and promotion of, the agricultural sector. Some sectors of the farming community (particularly dairy) are economically challenged and understanding the impact that the decline in this sector is having on those rural neighbourhoods where it predominates is important.

**Broadband** – Both rural areas, but particularly the West area have poorer broadband connectivity than the national average. This creates significant challenges for the population in relation to both the opportunities for work from home and in relation to access to services.

### Comparisons

Taking a national perspective there are two different and distinctive rural areas in the Tees Valley and both of them, if they follow national trends are likely to be on different economic trajectories.

***The Western area, which is a dispersed rural setting, if it follows national norms is likely to experience:***

- Enhanced interest in accommodation linked to urban flight connected with the pandemic.
- Significant challenges in terms of access to services exacerbated by small settlement size and through the pandemic increasing incidences of e-delivered services.
- Increasing levels of loneliness and isolation linked to an ageing demography and a higher proportion of small sparsely populated settlements.
- Increased pressure on settlements with a relative high dependence on agriculture linked to new economic regimes arising from post Brexit transition.

***The Eastern area which is more sub-urban in nature is likely to experience a different range of challenges namely:***

- A sluggish pattern of economic development due to dependence on large urban centres which continue to underperform economically.

- The likely persistence of a relatively low level of interaction with major settlements such as Middlesbrough and Hartlepool as they struggle particularly in terms of their retail and hospitality functions to adjust to the impact of the pandemic.
- Gradually deteriorating prospects for economic development around the coastal context of the area due to increased flood risk driven by climate change.
- Gradually declining economic prospects due to demographic change which will increase the stock of retired people overlain with poor health outcomes.

### Conclusions

In our 2017 report we drew attention to two scenarios for the future of the rural components of the Tees Valley. They are set out below. Notwithstanding the unforeseen impact of the coronavirus these two scenarios remain valid. Scenario one provides a challenge and scenario two an opportunity. Positively navigating these two alternatives provides the context for the development of a future rural strategy for Tees Valley Rural Action.

### Scenarios

It is useful to think about how best to address these challenges by thinking about what the Tees Valley rural areas might look like without any form of action from TVRA and then some of the things which might be done to deliver a “Future Rural” agenda to make the rural settlements in the Tees Valley more sustainable. We have set out both scenarios below – projecting forward 10 years.

#### **Scenario 1 – Steady State**

The Tees Valley Rural area is a place with:

- an ageing population,
- dependent on declining economic sectors,
- relatively poor access to services,
- and out-commuting of its more skilled residents.

This will put pressure on the viability of its smaller service centres and make it increasingly dependent for key services on its urban surroundings.



Dispersed rural communities will find it increasingly important to deliver more services on their own account (town and parish councils could become more challenged/prominent) if they wish to retain a good range of choices for local people in terms of public transport, leisure, retail and social housing.

It will be increasingly difficult to retain small rural schools and libraries, GP surgeries and dentists. Rural isolation will become a more significant challenge for the elderly and fuel poverty will continue to be a prominent challenge.

Young people will find it increasingly difficult find work and accommodation in the rural areas within the Tees Valley and communities will become less mixed and increasingly living places for the elderly and people who commute to work elsewhere.

### **Scenario 2 – Future Rural**

The Tees Valley Rural area will work with others to deliver a sustainable future for its rural communities by:

- Finding ways for people to both live and work in rural communities,
- Broadening its sectoral distribution of jobs to provide a more robust series of local economies and a higher level of wages locally,
- Focusing investment strategies on its service centres to offer people alternatives to a dependence for key services and leisure choices on external large towns.

Rural communities will be supported in developing innovative solutions to underpin their sustainability – this could involve actions such as:

- mutualising domiciliary care services,
- dynamic technological approaches to community transport and tele-health,
- cooperative schemes delivering community energy and local employment opportunities, including self-employment, for all sectors of the community but particularly young people,
- local ownership and management of libraries and other village amenities including shops and pubs,
- supporting the ongoing viability of small local schools,
- overcoming residual challenges to broadband connectivity,
- and delivering community led housing.

The approach to enabling this vision could involve locally relevant and focused approaches which bring communities together in the context of local history, traditions, art and culture.

### **Wider Comparators**

We have set out below some comparisons between the rural character of the Tees Valley rural area compared to Rural England overall. In terms of the distribution of workers there is a higher proportion of the workforce in the Tees Valley rural area employed in mining and quarrying, financial and insurance activities and public administration. There is a significantly smaller proportion of the workforce employed in accommodation and food services activities which is a useful proxy for tourism. Apart from these distinctive differences Tees Valley rural area and Rural England as a whole have a very similar economic profile.

Table 17 Comparison between Location Quotients Tees Valley Rural and Rural England

	B : Mining and quarrying	C : Manufacturing	E : Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	F : Construction	G : Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	H : Transport and storage	I : Accommodation and food service activities	J : Information and communication	K : Financial and insurance activities	L : Real estate activities	M : Professional, scientific and technical activities	N : Admin and support service activities	O : Public admin and defence, compulsory social security	P : Education	Q : Human health and social work activities	R : Arts, entertainment and recreation	S : Other services activities
Rural England	2.9	1.5	1.3	1.2	1.1	0.9	1.2	0.6	0.4	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.9	1	0.9	1.1	1
Tees Valley Rural	5.9	1.4	1.5	1.3	1	1.2	0.8	0.5	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.8	1.3	1	1.2	0.9	1.1

Business Register and Employment Survey 2018 (ONS)



The proportion of the population of Tees Valley rural area living in more and less remote settings is shown in table 16 below. A higher proportion of the rural population of Tees Valley rural area live in Town and Fringe settings and a smaller proportion in Village and Hamlet settings than the national average. This shows very clearly the more urban feel of rural settlements and dwellers in Tees Valley rural area.

**TABLE 18 DISTRIBUTION OF RURAL POPULATION**

Rural Setting	England	Tees Valley
Rural Town and Fringe	54%	71%
Rural Village and Hamlet	46%	29%

ONS Rural Urban Classification

Tees Valley rural area also has a lower proportion of people over 65 compared to Rural England as a whole: 22.4% compared to 25.1% (ONS population data 2014).

Whilst it is not straightforwardly possible to develop statistics for Tees Valley Rural in relation to economic inactivity we can compare the overall levels of economic inactivity for Tees Valley rural area (25%) Rural England (18.1). This enables us to infer that levels of economic inactivity are likely to be higher in Tees Valley Rural area compared to Rural England as a whole.

Overall a pattern of some distinctiveness in terms of the rural character of Tees Valley emerges. The area is relatively more urban than rural England as a whole, it is younger with a higher proportion of people who are economically inactive. It has a higher proportion of its workforce employed in the public sector and a smaller tourism sector than the Rural England position overall.



## Appendix A

### List of Lower Super Output Areas

LA	LSOA	LSOA name	RUC11	pop 2011
Darlington	E01012335	Darlington 001C	Rural town and fringe	1383
Darlington	E01012338	Darlington 015A	Rural town and fringe	1908
Darlington	E01012339	Darlington 015B	Rural town and fringe	1732
Darlington	E01012344	Darlington 015C	Rural town and fringe	1337
Darlington	E01012346	Darlington 015E	Rural town and fringe	1833
Redcar and Cleveland	E01012095	Redcar and Cleveland 010A	Rural town and fringe	1353
Redcar and Cleveland	E01012096	Redcar and Cleveland 013A	Rural town and fringe	1606
Redcar and Cleveland	E01012097	Redcar and Cleveland 010B	Rural town and fringe	1180
Redcar and Cleveland	E01012098	Redcar and Cleveland 010C	Rural town and fringe	1302
Redcar and Cleveland	E01012099	Redcar and Cleveland 010D	Rural town and fringe	1559
Redcar and Cleveland	E01012132	Redcar and Cleveland 016A	Rural town and fringe	2022
Redcar and Cleveland	E01012136	Redcar and Cleveland 013D	Rural town and fringe	1426
Redcar and Cleveland	E01012137	Redcar and Cleveland 016C	Rural town and fringe	1364
Redcar and Cleveland	E01012139	Redcar and Cleveland 006B	Rural town and fringe	1942
Redcar and Cleveland	E01012140	Redcar and Cleveland 006C	Rural town and fringe	1329
Redcar and Cleveland	E01012141	Redcar and Cleveland 006D	Rural town and fringe	1099
Redcar and Cleveland	E01012154	Redcar and Cleveland 006E	Rural town and fringe	1271

**TEES VALLEY RURAL ECONOMY EVIDENCE BASE**

LA	LSOA	LSOA name	RUC11	pop 2011
Redcar and Cleveland	E01012155	Redcar and Cleveland 006F	Rural town and fringe	1472
Redcar and Cleveland	E01012156	Redcar and Cleveland 006G	Rural town and fringe	1738
Redcar and Cleveland	E01012157	Redcar and Cleveland 006H	Rural town and fringe	1634
Redcar and Cleveland	E01012158	Redcar and Cleveland 007A	Rural town and fringe	1412
Redcar and Cleveland	E01012159	Redcar and Cleveland 007B	Rural town and fringe	1611
Redcar and Cleveland	E01012160	Redcar and Cleveland 007C	Rural town and fringe	1434
Redcar and Cleveland	E01012161	Redcar and Cleveland 007D	Rural town and fringe	1501
Redcar and Cleveland	E01012162	Redcar and Cleveland 012A	Rural town and fringe	1464
Redcar and Cleveland	E01012163	Redcar and Cleveland 012B	Rural town and fringe	2181
Redcar and Cleveland	E01012164	Redcar and Cleveland 012C	Rural town and fringe	1594
Redcar and Cleveland	E01012165	Redcar and Cleveland 012D	Rural town and fringe	2215
Redcar and Cleveland	E01012181	Redcar and Cleveland 016D	Rural town and fringe	1686
Redcar and Cleveland	E01033473	Redcar and Cleveland 013E	Rural town and fringe	2145
Hartlepool	E01011959	Hartlepool 014A	Rural village and dispersed	2061
Darlington	E01012334	Darlington 001B	Rural village and dispersed	2466
Darlington	E01012345	Darlington 015D	Rural village and dispersed	1480
Darlington	E01012366	Darlington 001D	Rural village and dispersed	2008
Redcar and Cleveland	E01012109	Redcar and Cleveland 011B	Rural village and dispersed	1396

# TEES VALLEY RURAL ECONOMY EVIDENCE BASE

LA	LSOA	LSOA name	RUC11	pop 2011
Redcar and Cleveland	E01012134	Redcar and Cleveland 016B	Rural village and dispersed	1447
Stockton-on-Tees	E01012235	Stockton-on-Tees 024A	Rural village and dispersed	1361
Stockton-on-Tees	E01012269	Stockton-on-Tees 005B	Rural village and dispersed	1673
Stockton-on-Tees	E01012294	Stockton-on-Tees 005D	Rural village and dispersed	1209
Stockton-on-Tees	E01012295	Stockton-on-Tees 005E	Rural village and dispersed	1210
Stockton-on-Tees	E01033476	Stockton-on-Tees 005F	Rural village and dispersed	1639

## NOTES

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## NOTES

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33-34 Cadcam Centre  
High Force Road  
Riverside Park  
Middlesbrough TS2 1RH

01642 213852

[info@teesvalleyruralaction.co.uk](mailto:info@teesvalleyruralaction.co.uk)



Exchequergate House  
18a Minster Yard  
Lincoln  
LN2 1PX

01522 521211

[enquiries@rosegeneration.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@rosegeneration.co.uk)



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