



Join The Team

Business Property Director



Welcome

County Durham has ambitious plans to build on its proud industrial heritage with investment of around £3 billion. We are creating more jobs and encouraging more start-ups than ever before.

Last year we delivered:

- 98.53% occupancy within our property portfolio, home to 450 tenants across our 463 buildings
- 6,559 jobs created/safeguarded
- £192M GVA growth
- 1,150 businesses engaged, of which 281 businesses engaged in innovation
- 634 businesses intensively assisted
- £9M secured for businesses
- 18 inward investors
- 60 business start-ups

We are already delivering more, there has never been a better time to join Business Durham.



Business Durham, the business support service

Business Durham is the business support service of Durham County Council.

As part of the Regeneration Economy and Growth Directorate our mission is to enable business growth and deliver more and better jobs and a strong competitive economy for County Durham.

We have five strategic aims we are working towards:

1. Build a profile and reputation for County Durham as the best place to invest, start or grow a business.
2. Maintain strong financial performance in order to invest in property and services to support business and economic growth.
3. Deliver outcome focused support to businesses to enable economic growth.
4. Develop the ecosystem to enable County Durham to be a leader in innovation and enterprise.
5. Invest in our people, systems, and processes to ensure our organisation is robust and agile with a reputation for quality.



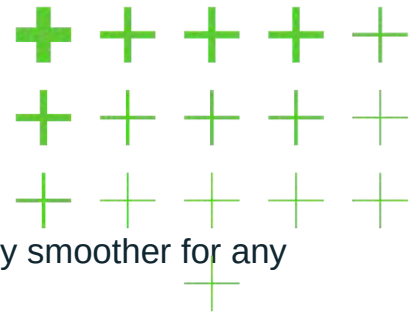
Tailored Support

Our experienced and successful team can help make the journey smoother for any business looking to establish, expand or relocate here.

We provide bespoke support, which includes:

- Access to centres of excellence, networks and clusters
- Facilitated connections to professional, legal and financial advice, including access to funding and incentives
- Help to find the right property – from science labs and clean rooms to office space and industrial units
- Help with recruitment and training
- Research, economic intelligence and ideas to support a company's business case

We offer a professional approach which means we can be trusted to be sensitive with commercial information, we will take great care in understanding business requirements and will help directly, or through our network of partner organisations, to make the right connections to the people who can provide the support needed.



Business Property Director

Grade 16 Salary £51,466 to £55,221



This is an exciting time to be joining us as the Business Property Director.

You will lead the property team, of circa 25 staff, managing just over 800,000sq ft of property containing 519 units, providing a home to around 450 businesses in County Durham. The team is made up of experienced property professionals adding exceptional value to our tenants, resulting in a 96% average occupancy during 2022.

You will be responsible for leading the effective performance of Business Durham's business sites and premises portfolio, in order to maximise income and occupancy and to support business growth. This is an important role for the long-term economic performance of County Durham. Your leadership will ensure continued success in the effective and efficient management of the Business Durham portfolio and, with it, monitoring and managing the performance of our services and our employees.

As you would expect with a role of this nature, managing and monitoring income and expenditure against budgets will be part of your budgetary and financial responsibility, with value for money, business creation/development, job creation and economic impact being key factors.

You will also be responsible for leading the identification and development of opportunities to acquire or develop additional business space, while maintaining knowledge of premises provision, initiatives and best practices. Ongoing review of business sites and premises within County Durham, including public and private sector provision, will be part of your responsibilities.

Your leadership will ensure that tenant services are properly planned and reviewed, effective arrangements are in place for site management and that maintenance standards for the portfolio of business properties are in place.

This pivotal role will see you working closely with the Council's Corporate Property and Land (CPAL) and Legal Services, as well as supporting the Business Durham Managing Director in the corporate management of the service.

The Business Durham Property Director is a high-profile role where you will be expected to establish and build strong relationships with key organisations regionally and nationally, including NELEP, government bodies, private sector developers and agents. Representing Business Durham and Durham County Council interests at stakeholder meetings and events and leading internal and external teams dealing with major projects will be expected as part of the role.





Managing Exciting Projects

We launched the highly successful Jade Business Park in Murton, full within 18 months and now home to some of the most innovative businesses in the region. Its success has resulted in planning for phases two and three to be approved. Business Durham will be working closely with the private sector developer to see these phases developed as one of the strategic employment sites for the county.

Station Place, in the region's largest business park in Newton Aycliffe, is the latest addition to our portfolio. Opened in November 2022 it is already attracting strong interest. All these sites provide vital business space right across County Durham, offering companies high-quality accommodation and providing much-needed employment in a variety of locations.

The most significant project being undertaken by Durham County Council is phase 3 of NETPark. The science park is unique to the region, offering exceptional campus-style accommodation to businesses in sectors like Life Sciences and Space.

Phase 3 is being led by Business Durham and is a £58m development. NETPark Phase 1 and 2 are currently full and the expansion will build on the exceptional success of the park. The 370,000sqft flagship development will further cement the site as the region's premier, and one of the UK's leading, science parks.





Business Durham Management Team

