

Mayor, Leader and Cabinet Lead Reports

HAVANT BOROUGH COUNCIL
COUNCIL
28 MARCH 2018

Dear Councillor

I am now able to enclose, for consideration at next 28 MARCH 2018 meeting of the Council, the following cabinet lead reports that were unavailable when the agenda was printed.

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Mayor's Report to Council 28.3.2018

Since my last report to Council I have attended almost 30 events. The first was a visit to Portsmouth Guildhall for the annual celebration of Chinese New Year on the 18th of February. The following Tuesday I joined a group of children from Tops Day Nursery for a clean up on the foreshore near the Ship at Langstone. Unfortunately someone had done the same a couple of days before, so there was very little to clean up! The same evening we went to the AGM of Help in Bereavement.

The next event took place on the 24th. when we went to the re-opening of The Deck at Emsworth Yacht Harbour. On the 25th we were at St. James Church in Emsworth for the Institution and Induction of Revd. Andrew Sheard as the new Rector of Warblington with Emsworth. On the 27th there was a visit to the Meridian Shopping Centre to help to promote Fairtrade Fortnight and in the evening we went to the Guildhall for the second heat of the UK Rock Challenge, where four local schools were competing, these being Warblington, Purbrook Park and Rachel Madocks working with the Cowplain School.

The 28th saw my last Coffee Morning. This was held at the Sacred Heart Church in Waterlooville, where children from St. Peter's RC primary School entertained us with some lovely singing.

And so to March. The 3rd saw us, once again, on Hayling Island, this time to open a new hairdressers. The 6th was another Coffee Morning, this time for Fairtrade Fortnight at the United Reformed Church in Havant.

The 8th saw me at St. Francis Church for an International Women's Day meeting, while the 9th was the Havant Civic Day, with many of the Hampshire Mayors and Chairmen, plus those from Chichester and West Sussex, being shown some of Havant's successful businesses and hearing presentations from Norse and also from the SCOPAC team. This was a very successful day, with several appreciative comments following. The evening of the same day I was presenting Certificates to around 50 or so young people who had undertaken the Bronze Award for the Duke of Edinburgh's award scheme.

On the 10th we started the day at Southdown's College for a local round of the Rotary Young Chef competition. Competitors came from as far as the Channel Islands for this, with the winners going on to the regional finals the following weekend. From Southdowns we went to St. Francis Church in Leigh Park, where I presented certificates to Beaver and Cub Scouts.

The 14th saw the launch of the Havant Lottery in the morning, with the re-launch of a hairdressers in Hambleton Parade in the evening.

There were two engagements on the 16th, the first being the opening of a new veterinary practice in Solent Road, followed by a second, very successful, Mayor's Dinner and Dance at Waterloooville Golf Club in the evening.

On the 17th we attended a concert given by the Havant Symphony Orchestra at Oaklands RC School as part of the Havant Music Festival, while the following day we were at the Pallant Hall for a concert, again for the Music Festival, given by the choir of the East Hants Townswomen's Guild, and led by Councillor Beryl Francis. The 19th was the AGM of the Havant Youth Sail Training Scheme, which has been helping young people from the area since 1974.

The 21st saw us back on Hayling, this time to see a performance by the Hayling Island Amateur Dramatic Society of Alan Bennett's The Madness of George III at the Station Theatre. Back to Havant's United Reformed Church on the 22nd for the 10th Anniversary Tea Party of the local branch of the Macular Society, followed, in the evening, by a performance in the Meridian Centre by the Urban Vocal Group, again as part of the Havant Music Festival.

During the day on the 23rd the annual Youth Conference took place. As usual this was a very successful event, and thanks are due to our Communities team for this. There were some highly motivational speakers and the usual Voted by You awards, where three worthwhile causes gave presentations in support of their charities. That evening we went to the Bedhampton Social Hall for another concert, given by the Langstone Big Band, as part of the Havant Music Festival.

Finally, on the 24th, we first went to the Hayling Island Community Centre for the spring show of the Hayling Island Horticultural Society, where there were some wonderful displays.

The same evening, as our final visit to the Havant Music Festival, we went to Park Community School to hear ex-pupil Jay Jupe performing. Jay has a wonderful operatic voice but, unfortunately, had been unwell for some time and was forced to curtail his performance, with the second half of the concert featuring, at extremely short notice, members of the Dynamo Youth Theatre.

Cabinet Lead Reports – Full Council 28th March 2018

Councillor Michael Cheshire: Leader's Report

Cabinet Lead for: Corporate Strategy, Devolution, quality and Programmes

I am pleased to announce that on 12th March, the Conservative group voted Cllr Michael Wilson to be Leader of the Group following my departure in May. His position as Leader of the Council will be formalised at Full Council on 9th May 2018. I wish to place on record my congratulations to Cllr Wilson, and to wish him and his Cabinet every success for his future – I will be watching events closely from the Principality of Wales.

On Wednesday 7th March, I attended the Annual General Meeting of Solent Local Enterprise Partnership Limited. The 2017 Annual Report are available in the Councillors Coffee room for those who are interested.

Also on 7th March, I was delighted to present nine You're a Star awards to officers. There were some fantastic nominations this quarter with some well-deserved nominees and winners from a wide variety of teams. A running thread through many of the nominations was officer's ability to provide exceptional customer service and a willingness to go above and beyond normal expectations of their role and to always put the customer and the community at the heart of our work.

On Friday 23rd March I attended the fourth annual Havant Borough Council Youth Conference, the theme was 'Positive Choices, Positive Futures'. Pupils from twelve of the borough's secondary schools were invited and took part in various workshops and activities throughout the day. I held a Q&A session with the pupils, which was very enjoyable. We look forward to continuing to engage with the local schools.

I would also like to take the opportunity in this, my final formal report to Council, to offer my sincere thanks to you all who have worked so hard as Ward Councillors in the Borough of Havant. During my leadership tenure, I have not heard one single moan or groan from any resident about the performance of the Ward Member. In fact, the comments that I have received, both in writing and verbally have all, without exception been complementary.

It would also be remiss of me not to thank the Cabinet for the amount of work they all put in for the good of their Borough, their support as we formulated our Corporate Strategy for Havant, and for their good humour during those times that have been, shall we say, challenging. It has been a pleasure and a privilege to work with such talented people from all walks of life.

I could not leave this place without formally thanking the CEO, the Executive Board, Heads of Service and all of their teams for the fantastic work they do, not only for the Membership, but also more importantly for our Residents. Their determination and drive to do the best for our customers are beyond reproach, particularly with the uncertainties of the past and the support difficulties we are currently experiencing. I am sure all officers here will pass on my total thanks to them for a work so professionally and competently undertaken.

Finally, I leave this Council having done the very best I could over the last 12 years. I have lead it in the way I know best over the last 3 and half years, with honour, with passion and with respect and good humour – but I have always had the residents of Havant in mind.

I leave this Council with my head held high, and in very, very capable hands.

End.

Cabinet Lead Reports – Full Council 28 March 2018

Councillor Narinder Bains - Cabinet Lead for Marketing and Commercial Strategy

Strategic Commissioning (including contract negotiation and management such as 6 Councils partnership)

Capita contract

As mentioned in earlier reports, the Councils in the 5 Council contract have been negotiating variations to the contract with Capita. The Deed of Variation, setting out the high level negotiating principles, has been agreed and is now in the process of being signed by all Councils and Capita. Stage two of this process sees the Council working with the other councils to develop their negotiating strategy regarding operational matters and governance.

Operationally, services are continuing to transition towards the target operating model with the focus now being on Finance and HR/Payroll services.

We are continuing to work hard with Capita to ensure the contract delivers the level of services the Council requires.

Marketing

Bird Aware

- The role of Brand and Communications lead has been secured and graded for the Bird Aware initiative, and will be based at the Plaza at no cost to HBC. Advertisement of the post will begin imminently.
- Additional paid marketing work has been secured by HBC with Bird Aware until their new staff have been sourced and established in their role.
- A Sales Pack has been developed for circulation amongst interested national partners to ascertain whether further income could be generated for the Council.

Pigeon PSPO

- The content has been developed for promoting the Pigeon PSPO which is being implemented in Waterloo Town Centre. This will be of benefit to residents and businesses who have been suffering the impacts from the pigeon population for a lengthy period of time.

Cycle leaflet

- Work is underway on a new, scratch-built guide to cycling in the borough. This will provide handy maps and key information to meet the many varied requirements of different cycling audiences. The communications team are looking at whether this map could be available electronically for cyclists to access on their handheld devices.

Hampshire Farm

- Working with community groups, exhibition panel content is in development for the Hampshire Farm Community Orchard. Information board telling people different types of apples and trees and the lifecycle of trees and apples.

Havant Borough Community Lottery

- Ongoing design, production and support has been provided for the new Havant Borough Community Lottery. The first draw is taking place on 7th April 2018.

Garden Waste

- Campaign plans have been in development to promote the Garden Waste service provided by NSE on behalf of HBC. The intent is to refresh branded content in circulation and develop new subscribers to the service through a targeted campaign.

Communications

The following issued press releases include:

[Kick yourself into shape at Front Lawn Community Hub](#)

A unique opportunity to get into shape whilst playing football is about to kick off with a new programme being launched in the borough that asks if you have the "Guts for the Game" Organised by Hampshire FA in partnership with Havant Borough Council.

[New Leadership for Havant Borough Council](#)

Following a meeting of the Conservative Political Group, Councillor Michael Wilson has been selected as the candidate for leader, following his potential re-election in the borough wide local elections being held on Thursday 3rd May 2018.

[Havant Community Lottery goes live!](#)

Charities and community groups registered with the Havant Community Lottery are set to benefit as tickets go on sale ahead of the first draw on Saturday 7 April. From Tuesday 13 March, supporters can purchase tickets online or over the phone.

Council to spend more than £1 million on new projects

Havant Borough Council is spending more than £1m on new infrastructure and community projects across the area. The investment is funded by the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), a charge paid by developers based on the size and type of development.

Environment Minister sees how new technology is protecting our coastline

Environment Minister Thérèse Coffey visited Hayling Island to see how the Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership (ESCP) is using new technology to protect our coastline. Alan Mak MP, who had invited the Environment Minister, was there to welcome her.

Making our councillors the best they can be

Councillors in Havant can expect top-class training as standard after its Councillor Development Programme earns Charter Status for quality. All councillors are signed-up to the officially recognised professional development programme.

Council increases council tax 'with great reluctance'

Havant Borough Council has 'with great reluctance' decided to increase its council tax for the first time in nine years – with an increase of 2.99% which is £5.76 per year – less than a month's membership of Netflix at £5.99.

Working to produce

Press Release for the introduction of a PSPO in WaterlooVille Town Centre for feeding pigeons, production of a short video highlighting the issues faced by residents and businesses in the area

Press Release in relation to the Youth Conference

Production of three short videos for use on social media for the promotion of the Havant Borough Community Lottery

Production of a "Introduction to being a Councillor" short video

Internal Comms

Internal message to staff and councillors in relation to Purdah & Local Elections

Serving Us - weekly internal newsletter to staff

Website/ICT

The Council's IT Service continues to transfer to Capita as part of the 6 Councils Partnership. The transition is challenging, and is being closely managed by the Council's management team and skilled officers across the Council. Meetings are held daily to monitor progress across all issues, and in-house technical resources are supporting and advising Capita.

Frontline services are working extremely hard to continue to provide a good standard of service to all customers despite difficulties with the IT. Capita continue to work with the services to find solutions to numerous issues, and are committed to resolving matters as soon as possible.

On Friday 16th March, part of the transition resulted in the Council's website becoming unavailable. Officers responded promptly to ensure Capita fixed the problem, and normal service resumed by Sunday 18th March. As is usual in these situations, Capita will produce a summary of the cause of the issue, the nature of the fix, and detail any actions required to avoid a reoccurrence.

The website data is as follows:

Website - December 2017 – March 2018

138,198 website visits

398,139 number of pages viewed

When compared to this period last year, the number of website visits has increased from 116,166 to 138,198.

This is an increase of 19%.

Most service areas visited

Most viewed online press releases

| Services | | | Press releases | | |
|----------|--|--------------|----------------|--|-------------|
| 1 | Bin collection https://www.havant.gov.uk/bin-collection | 48,837 views | 1 | Revised waste collections for the festive period - https://www.havant.gov.uk/news/revised-waste-collections-festive-period | 2,013 views |
| 2 | Search and comment on planning applications https://www.havant.gov.uk/search-and-comment-planning-applications | 17,427 views | 2 | Council to spend more than £1 million on new projects https://www.havant.gov.uk/news/council-spend-more-%C2%A31-million-new-projects | 256 views |
| 3 | Rubbish and recycling https://www.havant.gov.uk/rubbish-and-recycling | 16,373 views | 3 | New lottery arrives in borough https://www.havant.gov.uk/news/new-lottery-arrives-borough | 243 views |
| 4 | Local Plan https://www.havant.gov.uk/localplan | 14,417 views | 4 | Residents invited to comment on the next stage of the local plan. https://www.havant.gov.uk/news/residents-are-invited-comment-next-stage-draft-local-plan-2036 | 211 Views |
| 5 | Contact us https://www.havant.gov.uk/contact-us | 13,482 views | 5 | Council increases council tax with great reluctance https://www.havant.gov.uk/news/council-increases-council-tax | 165 views |

Social media

Facebook - 103 new likes meaning we now have 2,482

Twitter – 55 new followers meaning we now have a total of 2,959 followers - **nearly at 3,000.**

Guts for the game campaign

<https://www.facebook.com/HavantBoroughCouncil/posts/1520118978086616>



Havant Borough Council

www.facebook.com

Carrying a bit of weight? Kick yourself into shape in Leigh Park with £2 footie sessions!

We are running a paid for campaign on Facebook to engage overweight residents with playing football at the Front Lawn Community Hub in Leigh Park.

The campaign has been seen by over 11,000 residents with 275 of them clicking the link to find out more. The campaign is running until the 11th April.

Cabinet Lead Reports – Full Council 28 March 2018

Councillor Lulu Bowerman: Cabinet Lead for Governance and Organisational Development.

Legal Services

Razana Begum and Annabel Foskett participated in the Annual Local Authority Challenge, and were part of the team that picked up the Partnership Award after stepping into the shoes of senior management for a day.

The team competed against teams from 16 other councils in tackling a challenging scenario as part of an annual local authority challenge. Held in Winchester, the event threw participants into all manner of hypothetical crises, having to work together to handle the media, elected members, residents who are less than happy with their council, and their neighbouring local authorities. It was a test of teamwork, leadership, diplomacy, political awareness and, sometimes, patience! Congratulations Razana and Annabel.

I am pleased to report that Jo Tarrant has returned to work following major back surgery in December.

Finally, thank you to the Legal Team for their Easter Egg Drive for the Mayor's Charities, I am sure that all of the eggs will be well received. It's not too late to donate – Easter Eggs can be brought in this week.

Democratic Services

Councillor Development

Following our successful bid for accreditation for the SEE Charter for Elected Member Development the focus has now turned to continuing the work undertaken to embed Councillor Development as a key priority for the organisation.

The Councillor Development Panel is working to implement a new Councillor Induction Programme for those who will be newly elected in May 2018. The programme will include essential information and briefings on key areas of the Council's services, including introductions to licensing, planning and safeguarding.

Many thanks to those Councillors who have volunteered to be mentors for the newly-elected members. These mentors will be invited to attend the induction sessions and work closely with the new members as they get used to life as a Councillor and be on hand to help with any queries that may arise.

Early in the next council year the Panel will conduct the annual Training Needs Analysis. This short survey aims to ascertain from all members those

areas in which they feel they are in need of further development and any requests for future training. Please look out for this survey and respond fully as the TNA will inform the Councillor Training Programme for the coming year.

In addition to the above, the Panel will also be looking to arrange a 'Be a Councillor' event aimed at encouraging residents of all backgrounds to consider becoming elected members. Regular monitoring of training sessions and consideration of the Councillor Training Programme will also continue. If there are any areas a councillor feels need to be covered within the training programme or if they have any suggestions for future development, please liaise with Democratic Services.

Scrutiny

Democratic Services are compiling the Scrutiny Board Annual Report which summarises the work undertaken by the function during 2017/18. The report will provide details on the 22 projects that have been carried out this year, including the major review of the Budget 2018/19.

In the past month, recommendations relating to reviews into grass cutting and weed clearance in the Borough and the Community Trigger have been agreed by the Board. These recommendations, in addition to recommendations on the Council's Assets of Community Value Policy, were also agreed by Cabinet on 14 March.

Elsewhere the review of the Development Management Service is nearing completion. As requested by a motion at Full Council on 12 December 2017, the Marketing Scrutiny Panel's review into the Parking Supplementary Planning Document has begun with Panel members meeting key officers to discuss the scope of the project.

The Budget Scrutiny Panel are currently undertaking a review into the Councillor Community Grants scheme and the Operations Scrutiny Panel are undertaking a review into Litter in the Borough. Finally, the Communities Scrutiny Panel are scoping their next review into Parking Enforcement.

Councillors who wish to take part in any of these reviews are encouraged to speak to Democratic Services.

Customer Services

Garden Waste Renewals renewals were sent out during February and over 8,000 customers have renewed so far. 3,000 customers renewed over the telephone with the calls being answered by the Coventry Customer Centre. Norse will now take this information and create the new round schedules for the next municipal year

Organisational Development (including Councillor training and development, HR, Learning and Development, Access and Equalities)

There are a number of Strategic HR and OD projects which are continuing in order to support the strategic aims of the Council;

Executive Coaching

Arrangements for Executive Coaching are continuing, with six Heads of Service to be supported by expert external coaches from April. In conjunction with Executive Directors, Heads of Service and their coaches can identify the areas of professional and personal 'stretch' in order to agree a development plan which supports the strategic goals of the Council.

Leadership Conference

Following the Leadership Conference which took place on 10 January which focused on productivity and performance, a productivity tool was introduced to managers to support productivity and overall performance and this is now being used by seven service areas on a pilot basis. Case studies will be completed and will then be available for other services to review in the near future to support its potential use across the Council.

Employee Engagement

Employee engagement continues to be a priority area of work for the Strategic HR and OD team. Two former peer groups have been combined to focus on four key organisational matters which require a change in culture/behaviour to achieve high performance; Wellbeing, Governance, Productivity and Communications. Each workstream has a number of volunteers from the wider staff group who will work with the HR Business Partner to deliver specific outcomes, as well as to consider other areas of focus which emerge over time. Examples of workstream planned outcomes include;

- Wellbeing – establishing Mental Health First Aiders in the workplace;
- Productivity – promoting self service of Capita HR and Finance systems;
- Governance – roll out of GDPR training
- Communications – undertaking employee surveys

A number of Heads of Service will support the volunteer members of staff in their activities.

Learning and Development

HR Skills

Following a successful modular programme for Heads of Service and Team Leaders, a second phase of training will be rolled out to other line managers and supervisors. The programme's objective is to ensure that staff with line manager responsibilities are fully aware of and able to work with policies and procedures relating to the management of staff. Managers who are able to

operate successfully without reference or minimal reference to the Capita HR service will ensure additional costs to the Councils are limited. The second phase of training delivery will be designed and delivered by an HR Business Partner, reducing costs to the Council.

GDPR

The General Data Protection Regulation will come into force on 25 May 2018. The Regulation widens responsibility for personal data. An HR Business Partner is preparing a training package which will raise awareness of individual responsibility as an employee, undertaking work practices to minimise risk of data breaches and the consequences of data breaches. This training will also be delivered to councillors in May.

Leadership Development

The middle management group i.e. those who report directly into a Head of Service will be supported through change by a modular programme being delivered between March and June 2018. The programme will focus on leading through change, understanding people's reactions to change and the importance of communication style during times of change in order to genuinely engage direct reports.

Mandatory Learning and Development

The Strategic HR and OD team will continue to work with Council staff members and external providers to ensure appropriate training is provided on an ongoing basis. This will cover corporate matters such as safeguarding, data protection, public disclosures and equality and inclusion. A quarterly induction for new members of staff will continue to be held.

Electoral Services

Electoral Services are progressing with arrangements for the forthcoming elections on May 3 and have been working very hard to ensure that everything is up to date. The poll cards are about to be distributed throughout the Borough by our canvassers and nomination packs will be available to candidates from Friday 23 March. There will be a Candidates and Agents briefing on 16 April at 4pm and an invitation is included in the packs for those who wish to attend.

Revenue and Benefits.

The Council Tax letters have now been posted with an invitation to customers to log on to their Council Tax through a customer Portal. This enables the customer to see information about their account including balance due and direct debit details. The Portal was 'soft' launched in January and Capita will be working closely with the Communications Team over the coming months to advertise the facility.

Cabinet Lead Reports – Full Council 28 March 2018

Councillor Tony Briggs

Deputy of the Council and Cabinet Lead for Finance and NORSE.

NORSE South East

Highway Weed Control The team have commenced weed spraying, starting on Hayling Island. It is anticipated that it will take 12 weeks to apply the first treatment throughout the borough. Thereafter we will immediately commence the second treatment and then the third.

Health and Safety – NSE and HBC continue to monitor Health and Safety, with regular planned inspections, and there are no current issues of concern.

Green Waste –renewal letters have been sent out to our 10,300 customers ahead of the new collection year in April; over 6,500 renewals have been made and 164 new customers have signed up for the service. With the support of HBC, NSE will be working hard to promote this service in an effort to increase our customer numbers up to 12,000.

Grounds and Open Spaces –highway verge cutting commenced in March; there was a slight delay to the programme due to snowfall and poor ground conditions. The first area to be cut is Hayling Island

Our target for the season is nine completed cuts but, as always, this will be dependent upon weather and ground conditions.

Vehicle Workshop and Fleet Management – we continue to see growth in MOT testing, servicing and repairs. NSE continue to promote the services to local businesses and the general public.

NSE continue to invest in their fleet and have recently taken delivery of two new Refuse Collection Vehicles to replace older vehicles within the fleet. We are awaiting delivery of a new Mechanical Road Sweeper and two new 7.5 tonne caged back vehicles, again to replace older vehicles within the fleet.

Commercial Update – NSE continues to develop new business opportunities and business growth is encouraging with recent business gained. 15 additional work requests were received during February which included new contracts, positive contract variations and new commercial waste customers.

NSE continues to bid for business with 20 proposals currently being considered for Cleaning, Facilities Management, Grounds Maintenance, Commercial Waste and Fleet Management.

Service Disruptions – Because of snowfall and poor ground conditions on Friday 02 March, all frontline services were suspended. NSE staff gave assistance in gritting HBC car parks and other publically accessible areas.

In an effort to collect all outstanding waste and recycling bins during the following week the decision was made to suspend garden waste collections. All outstanding work was completed by Thursday 08 March.

Customer feedback/Service issues – As mentioned before it is important that all customer enquiries are reported to the Customer Services Team, this will ensure that a record of the call is kept and the issue can be tracked through to resolution.

In the past calls have been made direct to NSE. Whilst the issue may have been resolved these calls may not all have logged onto the CRM system and as such there would be no record of the issue.

Cabinet Lead Reports – Full Council 28 March 2018

Councillor Michael Wilson

Cabinet Lead for: Cabinet Lead for Environment and Neighbourhood Services

Parking Strategy/Management & Traffic Management

Throughout the year, the Traffic Management Team has investigated Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO's) in 10 locations across the Borough. This has resulted in 4 TRO's being fully completed with the remainder very near completion and likely to be implemented during the first two months of the new financial year. The delay is predominantly due to issues relating to the transfer of the IT systems as well as the loss of one Traffic Engineer. Recruitment to the vacant post is underway. Three TRO's have been implemented relating to developments which have provided an income of £9000.

In addition to the permanent TROs the team has processed around 29 Temporary Traffic Orders relating to roadworks with an income in the region of £13,000.

The team have also processed around 56 applications for residents requesting a disabled parking bay and deployed speed monitoring equipment in approximately 35 locations to monitor speeding concerns across the Borough.

The new programme for 2018/2019 has been agreed and the Team can now commence the initial investigations to develop firm proposals for consultation.

The Parking Team are currently on a recruitment drive to fill vacancies within the Civil Enforcement Officers team. They have also undergone specialist

training and refresher training relating to the role of a CEO. This will ensure that the team are all trained to the same standard.

From April the CEO team will be wearing a new style of uniform which is now royal/navy blue. This has come about after receiving feedback that the colour was the same as the ambulance service

All Public Realm Enforcement

Since April when HBC delegated certain litter enforcement powers to East Hampshire, EH Commercial services have issued 1935 Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) for littering. The primary littering witnessed by the officers is the dropping of cigarette ends. Nine FPNs have been issued for dog fouling - this figure includes one issued by a Neighbourhood Quality Officer - which is triple the amount issued in the previous year.

76% of the fixed penalty notices pursued are paid before court.

We are currently in negotiations to extend the contract for a further year.

Begging in Havant Town

Following on from complaints of rough sleeping in Havant Town Centre, Hampshire County Council evicted the long term sleeper from West Street. While he now 'resides' elsewhere he continues to sit in the same spot and has been joined by another person. A third sits at the West Street entrance to Trafalgar walk.

These three males have been seen asking for donations of spare change - begging. One lives with a friend while the other two refuse support from Two Saints Housing, the council's homelessness outreach contractor.

Following complaints from residents, businesses and ward councillors Neighbourhood Quality Officers are reviewing enforcement options open to them and discussing these with Hampshire Police.

Officers will be speaking with anyone seen asking for money and checking that they are engaging with supporting agencies but pointing out that begging is unacceptable and action will be taken if it continues.

Officers will also be working with the existing Havant Homelessness Trust (run by the St Faiths ward churches) with a view to a scheme to encourage well-wishers to donate to that charity rather than individuals in the knowledge that it will not be used to support drug or alcohol addictions and keeping them on the street.

Waterlooville Precinct Public Space Protection Order (PSPO)

A PSPO will be in place from 9th April 2018, making it a criminal offence to feed pigeons in the area of Waterlooville Precinct. Pigeons are having a negative impact on residents, businesses and visitors and despite efforts to educate individuals, those feeding pigeons continue to do so.

Officers will have a greater presence in Waterlooville Precinct during March/April 2018. They will be engaging with individuals witnessed to be feeding pigeons, making them aware of the PSPO and the impact their behaviour is having locally.

Cabinet Lead Reports – Full Council 28 March 2018

Councillor Leah Turner: Cabinet Lead for Communities and Housing

Housing

The Homelessness Reduction Act 2018

This act received the Royal Assent in May 2017 and will be introduced in April 2018. The act sees the biggest change in homelessness legislation since the 1977 act. The act will mean that councils must have an even sharper focus on preventing homelessness as early as possible and not just for those who are in priority need.

The legislation states that all prevention of homelessness work is to be carried out under a statutory duty. As current homelessness legislation does not help a substantial proportion of those people seeking accommodation who are homeless or facing homelessness, this is a major change to policy.

There are new duties owed regardless of priority need, intentionality or local connection as the legislation extends homelessness prevention so that help is provided at an earlier stage to all eligible households. It is likely that local authorities will require more temporary accommodation, as using the private rented sector is more and more difficult, mainly due to changes in welfare benefits, like Universal Credit. Landlords are already stating that they will not accept tenants who claim benefits, due to the time it takes to process claims etc.

HBC's Housing Service has been preparing for the legislation since last Autumn and have already begun working in the new ways. Homelessness Prevention has been the team's key focus and this work will continue to be enhanced and developed in line with the new legislation.

It is anticipated that there will be a considerable increase in case load, but this will be monitored and reported to the Executive Board and Cabinet on a regular basis.

A more detailed briefing is being prepared for all councillors and will be sent out shortly.

Rough Sleepers

During the recent two spates of cold weather the Severe Weather Protocol, (SWEP) was introduced. The team worked with Two Saints and visited the Town Centre daily to ensure offers of support were made to any rough sleepers of whom we were aware. A couple and a single man were placed into B&B and a further offer was made to a single man. However this man chose not to take up the offer despite Officers following this up with him three times.

Community Issues

Community Grants

Notifications of reductions in Core Funding have been sent to both Making Spaces and The Spring.

Kite Surfing Armada

The 2018 Kite Surfing Armada is set to take place on Hayling Island from Friday 22nd to Sunday 24th June.

On the Friday, 300 local children will be attending the festival as part of the schools day. The children from years 5,6 and 7 will attend the festival free of charge with their schools to learn about kitesurfing, wind energy, sustainability and the environment. They will have a tour of the festival and be offered the opportunity to come back and try some activities over the weekend.

2018 is the 6th year that this event has been held on Hayling Island. It attracts hundreds of competitors from across the country as well as from overseas. It is a free event for spectators to attend and watch the action.

Havant Community Lottery

A good causes launch was held with over 60 people attending, they heard a presentation from our Lottery Management Company Gatherwell. We had really positive feedback and an interesting Q & A session. Eligibility criteria and FAQ was finalised and shared with groups across the Borough. A Facebook campaign was started and continues to go well. We then held a Web-Go-Live event supported by TV personality Fred Dineage which generated lots of publicity with over 100 tickets sold on the first day.

6 days later over 600 tickets had been sold and over 40 good causes registered, with 5 per week still joining.

Our Communities Team are currently finalising a long-term Communications and Marketing Plan with colleagues.

Havant Borough Youth Conference

Positive Choices-Positive Futures was the theme this year, with keynote speakers delivering inspirational messages. 10 Borough Secondary Schools attended, including Woodlands and Prospect attending for the first time.

Approved by You funding was voted for and allocated by the young people attending.

Those benefiting were Off the Record, Enable Ability and Y-Services.

Thank you to all Councillor's who attended and took part in our Q & A sessions on the day.

Armed Forces Mental Health Training

A course was held in The Plaza, delivered on our behalf by HCC. This was to raise awareness and develop the skills of front-line staff who may come into contact with serving forces members and veterans needing help, who may have mental health issues.

The course was oversubscribed and following extremely positive feedback further courses are to follow.

Sport

Sport England Active Ageing Project

Officers are currently working through the development phase of this Sport England funded project. Year 1 of this 3 year project received £19,700 of funding to develop a sustainable programme to engage over 55 's improve physical activity levels in the Borough.

A number of focus groups have recently met with local residents, following a comprehensive survey and the insight gained it will help shape the programme over the coming years.

Sport England have agreed £127,500 in principle funding towards the full project, following the development stage.

As the only successful applicant to the Sport England Active Ageing Fund in Hampshire, we have invited to be the guest speakers at the next District Leads Health Forum. The project see our Community Team in partnership with the Countryside Service for the first time.

Havant Rugby Football Club

Officers are currently working with the Rugby Football Union (RFU) and Havant Rugby Club (HRFC) to improve the facilities at the Hooks Lane site in Bedhampton.

A planning application has been submitted to install a full size rugby compliant artificial grass pitch in place of the existing grass pitch on the site. If successful, the project will bring all year round usage to the site, increased community use and improved quality of sports provision. The project will also relieve pressure on the grass pitches which currently struggle with the demands of rugby.

This project would see an investment of in the region of £850,000 from the RFU into the site, and this would make Havant the leading area for rugby in Hampshire. The project would be operated by the RFU under a lease agreement and HRFU would have priority use of the facilities for an agreed period of time.

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