

HAVANT BOROUGH COUNCIL
PUBLIC SERVICE PLAZA
CIVIC CENTRE ROAD
HAVANT
HAMPSHIRE P09 2AX



Havant
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Telephone: 023 9244 6019
Website: www.havant.gov.uk

12 March 2024

SUMMONS

Dear Councillor

You are requested to attend the following meeting:

Meeting: Council
Date: Wednesday 20 March 2024
Time: 5.30 pm
Venue: Hurstwood Room, Public Service Plaza, Civic Centre Road, Havant, Hampshire PO9 2AX

The business to be transacted is set out below:

Steve Jordan
Chief Executive

COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

Chairman: Councillor Raines (Mayor)

Councillors Rason, Blades, Briggs, Gray, Gray, Coates, Brent, Harris, Patrick, Bowdell, Bowerman, Crellin, Denton, Diamond, Fairhurst, Guest, Keast, Kennett, Linger, Lloyd, Milne, Munday, Patel, Payter, Rennie, Redsull, Richardson, Robinson, Sceal, Mrs Shimbart, Stone, Tindall, Turner, Wade (Deputy Mayor) and Weeks

Contact Officer: Jenni Harding 02392 446234
Email: jenni.harding@havant.gov.uk

AGENDA

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PART 1 (Items open for public attendance)

1 Apologies for Absence

To receive any apologies for absence.

2 Declarations of Interests

To receive and note any disclosable pecuniary interests from councillors. In accordance with the Code of Conduct, a councillor is required to disclose at the meeting any disclosable pecuniary interest (DPI) that they may have in respect of any matter for consideration on this agenda. Any councillor with a DPI must not participate in any discussion or vote regarding that matter and they must also withdraw from the meeting immediately before consideration of the matter.

Councillors are further invited to disclose any personal or prejudicial interests which may be relevant to any matter on this agenda. Participation in the meeting and vote shall depend upon the nature of the interest.

Councillors should refer to the declaration of interest flowchart and raise any queries with the Monitoring Officer in advance of the meeting.

Members are reminded that they should re-declare their interest before consideration of the item or as soon as the interest becomes apparent and if appropriate, withdraw from the room immediately thereafter.

3 Confirmation of Previous Minutes

5 - 16

To confirm the minutes of the meetings of the Council held on 17 January and 28 February 2024 as a true record.

4 Provisional Appointment of the Deputy Mayor for 2024/25

5 Public Participation Under Part B of Council Standing Orders

To receive any public questions or speeches from members of the public in accordance with Part B of Council Standing Orders.

6 Cabinet/Board/Committee Recommendations

To consider any recommended minutes from the Cabinet and any of the Boards or Committees.

Human Resources Committee – 31 January 2024

[Pay Policy Statement 2024/25](#)

Council is Recommended to RESOLVE to approve the submitted Pay Policy Statement for 2024/25.

Cabinet – 6 March 2024

[Review of Environmental Health and Licensing Enforcement Policy](#)

Council is Recommended to RESOLVE to approve the submitted Environmental Health and Licensing Enforcement Policy.

[Conclusions of Water Quality Testing in Langstone Harbour](#)

Council is Recommended to RESOLVE to note the works undertaken and that the Cabinet Lead for Planning, Environment and Water Quality has reported back to full Council on the water quality sampling programme in Langstone Harbour.

- | | | |
|------------|--|----------------|
| 7 | Mayor's Report | 17 - 24 |
| | For Council to receive and have opportunity to ask questions on the Mayor's report. | |
| 8 | Leader and Cabinet Lead Report Questions (CSO 14) | 25 - 78 |
| | The Leader and Cabinet Leads may introduce their portfolio reports following which 15 minutes of question time may commence. | |
| | A Councillor may ask the Leader of the Council or a Cabinet Lead a question in respect of the content of the portfolio reports of the Cabinet submitted to Full Council. | |
| 9 | Questions at Council (CSO 15) | |
| | To receive written questions from Councillors submitted to the Monitoring Officer before 12 noon five clear working days prior to the date of the meeting. | |
| | The total time for questions under Standing Order 15 shall be 15 minutes, or such longer time as the Mayor may allow. | |
| 10 | Notice of Motions (CSO18) | |
| | To deal with any motions from Councillors received by the Democratic Services Manager by no later than 12 noon seven clear working days before the meeting. | |
| 10a | Notice of Motion - Parental Leave | 79 - 80 |

10b	Notice of Motion - Southleigh Site Development	81 - 82
10c	Notice of Motion -Increasing our recycling offer to residents	83 - 84
11	Special Urgency Decisions	
	None	

GENERAL INFORMATION

IF YOU WOULD LIKE A VERSION OF THIS AGENDA, OR ANY OF ITS REPORTS, IN LARGE PRINT, BRAILLE, AUDIO OR IN ANOTHER LANGUAGE PLEASE CONTACT DEMOCRATIC SERVICES ON 023 9244 6019

Internet

This agenda and its accompanying reports can also be found on the Havant Borough Council website: www.havant.gov.uk

Public Attendance and Participation

Members of the public are welcome to attend the Public Service Plaza and observe the meetings. We also endeavour to broadcast the meeting and make the recording available on the Council website for up to 6 months.

Address from the public

In accordance with paragraph 2 of Part B of Council Standing Orders, an address made by a member of the public may only be presented if a summary of the text has been received by the Democratic Services Manager no later than 12 noon on Wednesday, 13 March 2024. The speech shall reflect the summary provided.

Questions from the Public

Meetings of the Council will allow a period not exceeding 15 minutes during which time members of the public may ask the Leader or Committee/Sub Committee Chairs questions relating to matters over which the Council has powers or duties, or which affect the Borough.

Questions from members of the public will only be permitted where they have been received by the Democratic Services Manager no later than 12 noon on Wednesday, 13 March 2024.

All questions must be received in advance of the meeting and no supplementary questions are not permitted.

A member of the public may not submit more than 3 questions for any Council meeting.

Questions shall be asked in the order received, except the Mayor may group together similar questions. If more than two questions are submitted by the same person, the third person shall be moved to the end of the agenda item.

No question shall exceed 100 words in length in order to allow all members of the public submitting question to have a fair and equitable opportunity to ask their question within the time allotted. The question may be accompanied by a statement of context which must not exceed 250 words and must be clearly separated from the text.

The Monitoring Officer may reject any question that:

- (a) is a matter about which the Council has no responsibility nor affects the Borough,
- (b) is vexatious, derogatory, defamatory, frivolous or offensive;
- (c) concerns a Council employment or staffing matter or sensitive personal information about a Councillor;
- (d) requires disclosure of confidential or exempt information
- (e) is unrelated to functions of the Council; or
- (f) Is the same or very similar to a question that has been previously considered in the last 6 months.

The Mayor shall invite the questioner to put the question to the Councillor named in the notice. If the questioner who has submitted a written question is unable to be present they may ask the Democratic Service Manager to put the question on their behalf.

The Councillor to whom a question is put may:

- (a) direct an oral answer
- (b) decline to answer;
- (c) refer the questioner to a Council document or publication where the answer may be found;
- (d) undertake to supply an answer (either to the questioner or to all the Councillors) if an answer cannot conveniently be given when it is asked and circulate within seven Clear Working Days; or
- (e) refer the question for answer to another member of the Cabinet.

Before submitting a question, you are recommended to consult the scheme, which is set out in Part of the [Part B of the Council Meeting Procedure Rules](#) .

Disabled Access

The Public Service Plaza has full access and facilities for the disabled.

Emergency Procedure

Please ensure that you are familiar with the location of all emergency exits which are clearly marked. In the unlikely event of an emergency an alarm will sound.

PLEASE EVACUATE THE BUILDING IMMEDIATELY.

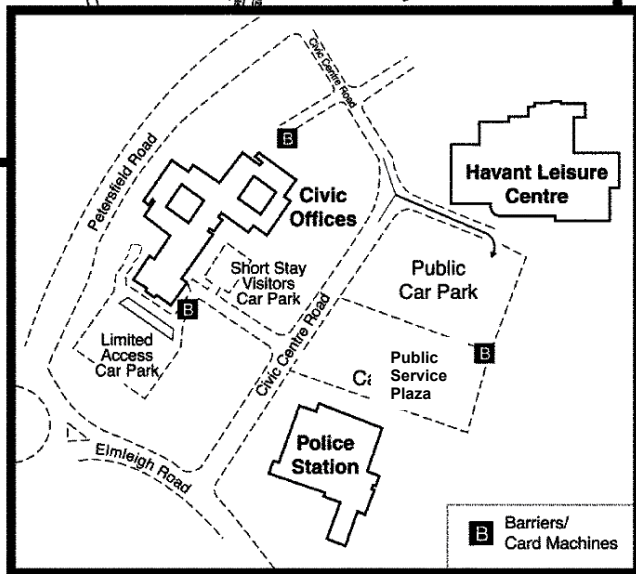
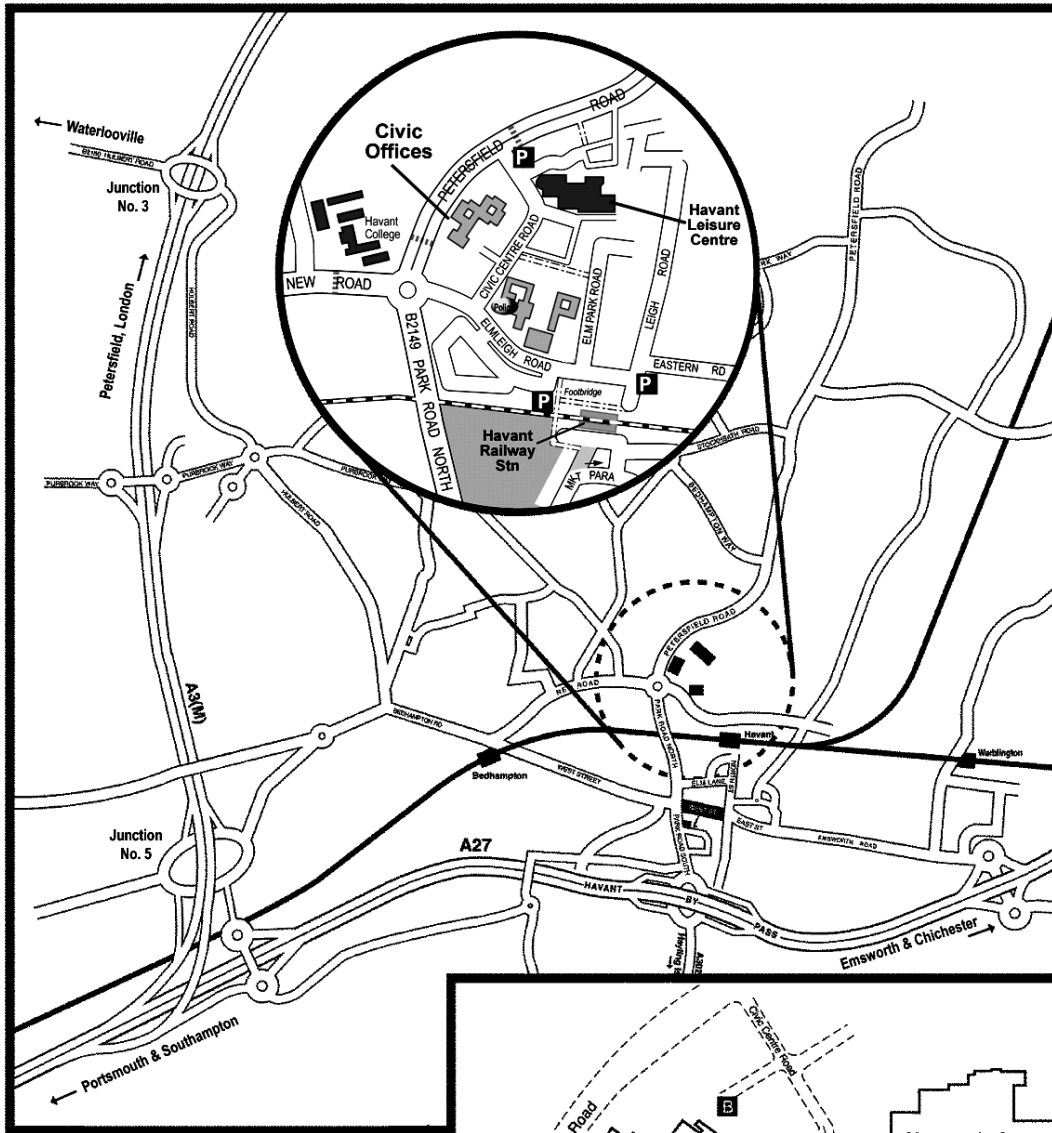
DO NOT RE-ENTER THE BUILDING UNTIL AUTHORISED TO DO SO

No Smoking Policy

The Public Service Plaza operates a strict No Smoking policy in all of its offices, corridors, meeting rooms and toilets.

Parking

Pay and display car parking is available in the Leisure Centre car park opposite the Plaza.





Havant

BOROUGH COUNCIL

PROTOCOL AT COUNCIL MEETING – AT A GLANCE

Sit or Stand?

Stand to address the Council/Mayor at all times

Rules of Debate

- always address each other as “Councillor ...”
- a motion or amendment has to be proposed and seconded
- once an amendment has been proposed and seconded, it becomes the subject of the debate until it is either accepted or rejected by a vote
- a seconder can choose to make their speech at a later time
- only one Councillor to stand at any one time
- except for speeches at the Council’s Budget meeting, all speeches will not exceed 5 minutes
- there will be no time limit for speeches made by the Leader of the Council or the Cabinet Lead for Finance and the finance spokesperson of the opposition group(s) at the Council’s Budget Meeting.
- a Councillor can only speak again on an amendment, to move a further amendment, on a point of order or personal explanation.

Questions and Motions

- Motions must be received in writing (or by email) to the Democratic Services Manager no later than 12 noon seven Clear Working Days before the meeting
- Councillors may ask questions, without notice, of the Leader and Cabinet Leads in respect of the Cabinet Lead reports submitted to Council
- Councillors may ask questions of the Leader, Cabinet Leads and Committee Chairmen, on any matter affect the Borough or its residents, providing that the Monitoring Officer has received a copy of the question to be asked before 12 noon five Clear Working Days prior to the day of the Council meeting

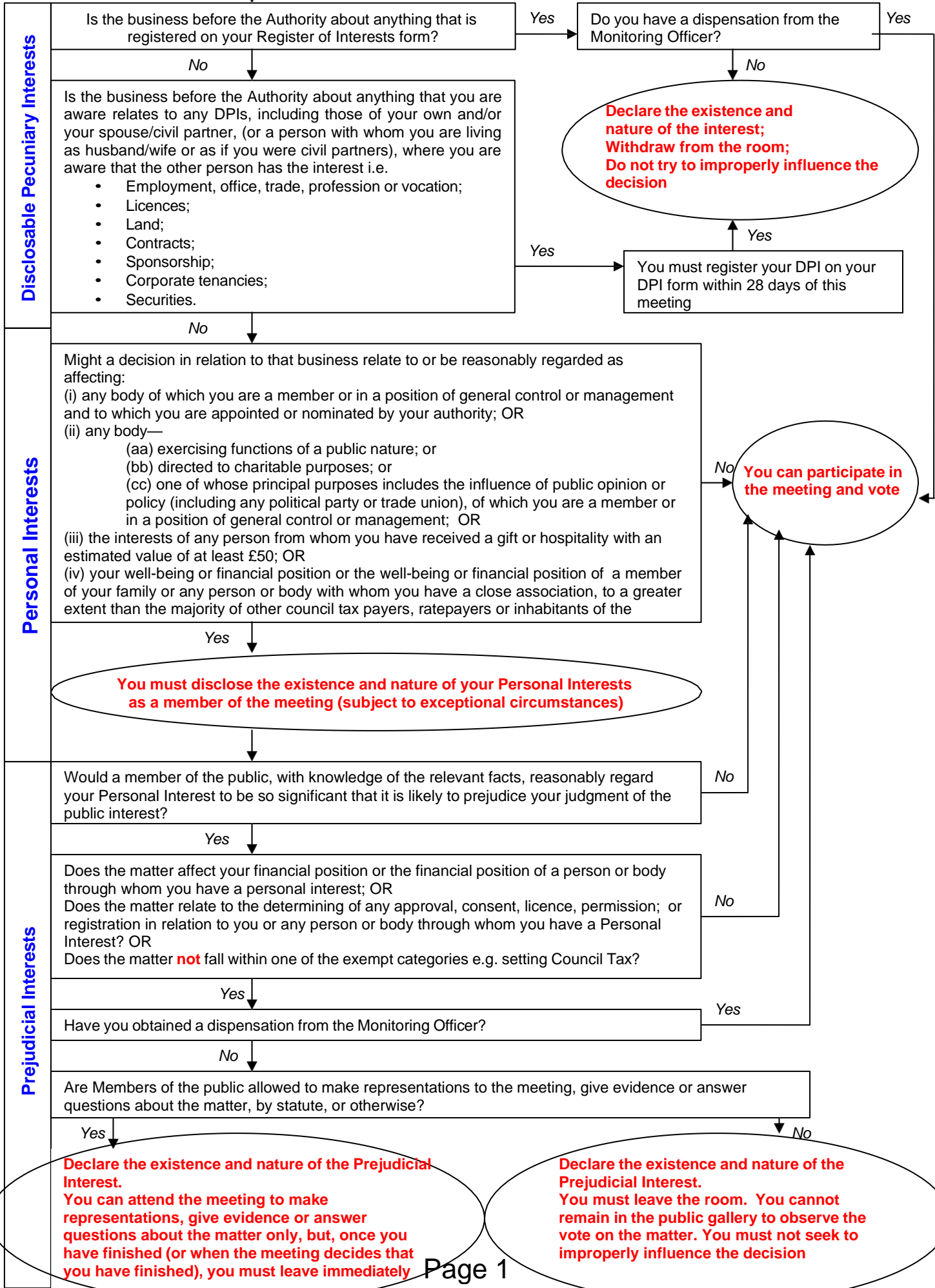
Voting

- Voting may be by a show of hands or by a ballot at the discretion of the Mayor
- Two Councillors may request, before a vote is taken, that the names of those voting be recorded in the minutes
- A recorded vote will always be taken in respect of approval of the Annual Budget

- Councillors may not vote unless they are in the meeting for the full debate on any particular item
- A Councillor may request that his/her vote be recorded in the minutes

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What matters are being discussed at the meeting?



DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012 (the 'Regulations'), in relation to disclosable pecuniary interests require you to notify the Monitoring Officer of any 'disclosable pecuniary interests'.

These provisions are enforced by criminal sanction and so Members must comply with the Regulations.

A 'disclosable pecuniary interest' is an interest of yourself or your partner (which means spouse or civil partner, a person with whom you are living as husband or wife, or a person with whom you are living as if you are civil partners) within the following descriptions:

- (i) Employment, office, trade, profession or vocation;
- (ii) Sponsorship;
- (iii) Contracts;
- (iv) Land
- (v) Licences;
- (vi) Corporate tenancies; and
- (vii) Securities

Non participation in case of disclosable pecuniary interest

A) If you are present at a meeting of the authority, or any committee, sub-committee, joint committee or joint sub-committee of the authority, and you have a disclosable pecuniary interest in any matter to be considered or being considered at the meeting.

1. You may not participate in any discussion of the matter at the meeting;
2. You may not participate in any vote taken on the matter at the meeting.
3. If the interest is not registered, you must disclose the interest to the meeting.
4. If the interest is not registered and is not the subject of a pending notification, you must notify the Monitoring Officer of the interest before the end of 28 days beginning with the date of the disclosure.

Note: In addition, the Code requires you to leave the room where the meeting is held while any discussion or voting takes place.

B) Where an executive member may discharge a function alone and becomes aware of a disclosable pecuniary interest in a matter being dealt with or to be dealt with by her/him in the discharge of the function, the executive member must notify the Monitoring Officer of the interest before the end of 28 days beginning with the date when the member becomes aware. The member must not take any steps or further steps in the matter.

Dispensations

The authority may grant you a dispensation, but only in limited circumstances, to enable you to participate and vote on a matter in which you have a disclosable pecuniary interest.

Offences

It is a criminal offence to fail to notify the Monitoring Officer of any disclosable pecuniary interests (DPIs). This requirement arises in each of the following circumstances:

- (a) before the end of 28 days beginning with the day on which you become a member or co-opted member of the *authority* (s30(1) *Localism Act 2011*);
- (b) where the DPI is not entered in the authority's register and is not the subject of a pending notification, but is disclosed at a meeting of the authority (or any committee, sub-committee, joint committee or joint sub-committee) as required by s31(2) of the Localism Act, within 28 days beginning with the date of the disclosure (s31(3) *Localism Act 2011*);
- (c) where the DPI is not entered in the authority's register and is not the subject of a pending notification, within 28 days beginning with the date when you become aware that you have a DPI in any matter to be dealt with, or being dealt with, by you acting alone in the course of discharging a function of the authority (s31(7) *Localism Act 2011*).

It is also a criminal offence to knowingly provide information that is false or misleading (or being reckless as to whether the information is true and not misleading).

The criminal penalties available to a court are to impose a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale and disqualification from being a councillor for up to 5 years.

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HAVANT BOROUGH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Council held on 17 January 2024

Present

Councillor Raines (Mayor)

Councillors Blades, Bowerman, Brent, Briggs, Coates, Crellin, Fairhurst, Gray, Gray, Harris, Keast, Linger, Lloyd, Munday, Patel, Patrick, Rennie, Redsull, Richardson, Sceal, Stone, Tindall, Wade (Deputy Mayor), Turner and Weeks

65 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Bowdell, Denton, Milne, Kennett, Rason, Robinson and Shimbart.

66 Declarations of Interests

There were no declarations of interests from the members present relating to matters on the agenda.

67 Confirmation of Previous Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting of the Council held on 22 November 2023 were approved as a correct record.

68 Mayor's Report

The Mayor had nothing further to add to her published report and there were no questions from members present.

69 Public Speaking under Standing Orders 27.5 & 28

There were no public questions or requests to address Council received in accordance with the requirements of these Standing Orders.

70 Cabinet/Board/Committee Recommendations

There were 2 recommendations from the Standards Committee for Council to consider at this meeting.

(1) Review of the Constitution

Councillor Turner introduced the item and recommendations to Council arising from the meeting of Standards Committee held on 12 December 2024, seeking the agreement of Full Council to revisions to the Council's Constitution.

It was proposed by Councillor Turner and seconded by Councillor Bowerman that the recommendations made by Standards Committee be approved.

The members considered the options set out in the committee report and following a vote, Council

RESOLVED that:

- a. the revised Constitution for Havant Borough Council as attached to the report submitted to the Standards Committee on 12 December 2023, be adopted, in accordance with Section 9P of the Local Government Act 2000.
- b. the Monitoring Officer be authorised to correct any minor typographical errors or inconsistent numbering or cross references which become evident in publishing the Constitution in its final form.
- c. the Constitution be reviewed by the Standards Committee bi-annually with any recommended changes arising from its review to be submitted to Council for determination

for the reasons set out in the report submitted to the Standards Committee held on 12 December 2023.

(1) Members' Code of Conduct

Councillor Turner introduced the item and recommendations to Council arising from the meeting of Standards Committee held on 12 December 2023, seeking the agreement of Full Council to adopt the Local Government's Model Code of Conduct.

It was proposed by Councillor Turner and seconded by Councillor Rennie that the recommendations made by Standards Committee be approved.

The members considered the options set out in the committee report and following a vote, Council

RESOLVED that:

- a. the Local Government Association's Model Code of Conduct be adopted.
- b. the revised arrangements for dealing with allegations that a Member has failed to comply with the Code of Conduct be adopted; and
- c. training be arranged for all Members

for the reasons set out in the report submitted to the Standards Committee held on 12 December 2024.

71 Dispensation for Councillor Non-Attendance at Meetings of the Authority

Councillor Rennie, Leader of the Council, introduced a report seeking Council approval for special dispensation for Councillor Guest to be excused from attending meetings of the Council for a period up to and including the end of his current term of office, due to medical grounds.

A motion was proposed by Councillor Rennie and seconded by Councillor Keast to adopt the recommendations set out in the report for the reasons set out in the report.

Council discussed the motion in detail, including the options available to Council.

Council voted to agree the motion.

It was therefore,

RESOLVED that:

1. the grant of a dispensation for Councillor Guest pursuant to section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 for a period up to and including Councillor Guest's end of his current term of office be approved;
2. Councillor Guest be granted a leave of absence for non-attendance at meetings of the Authority in that period on medical grounds; and.
3. the best wishes of the Council are conveyed to Councillor Guest at this time.

72 Local Government & Parliamentary Boundary Review

Councillor Rennie, Leader of the Council, introduced a report setting out how the changes to the new electoral constituency arrangements for Havant Borough Council following the Review of Parliamentary Constituencies by the Boundary Commission for England would affect the Council. The report also outlined the case for appointing a Deputy Monitoring Officer.

A motion was proposed by Councillor Rennie and seconded by Bowerman to adopt the recommendations set out in the report for the reasons set out in the report.

Council discussed the motion in detail, including the options available to Council and voted to agree the motion.

It was therefore,

RESOLVED that:

1. the changes to the new electoral constituency arrangements for Havant Borough Council following the Review of Parliamentary Constituencies by the Boundary Commission for England be noted;
2. the impact of the new ward boundaries and equality of electorate for Havant Borough Council following the Local Government Boundary Review by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England be noted; and.
3. the Monitoring Officer be appointed as Deputy Electoral Registration Officer, with full powers, for Havant Borough.

73 Polling District & Polling Place Review

Councillor Rennie, Leader of the Council, introduced a report on the 2023 polling district and polling place review.

A motion was proposed by Councillor Rennie and seconded by Munday to adopt the recommendations set out in the report for the reasons set out in the report.

Council discussed the motion in detail, including the options available to Council and voted to agree the motion.

It was therefore,

RESOLVED that:

1. the report on the review of polling districts and polling places following the Local Government Boundary Review of all wards in the Borough be noted; and
2. the recommended polling places and the Returning Officer's choice of polling stations for future elections be approved.

74 Leader's Report

Councillor Rennie, the Leader of the Council, presented his published report and responded to questions from Councillors within the meeting.

75 Cabinet Lead Reports and Councillors Question Time

Council considered the published Cabinet Lead reports.

In addition to her published report, Councillor Lloyd provided an update on

- a. the Southleigh Park planning application; and
- b. the provision of electronic signage about water quality on Hayling Island beaches.

The Cabinet Leads took questions from Councillors on their published reports, which were duly responded to within the meeting.

Council noted that, in view of Councillor Robinson's absence, a written answer would be provided to a question relating to the number of youth workers currently deployed in the Borough.

76 Questions Under Standing Order 27.4.1

There was one question received from Councillor Coates under the provision standing order 27.4.1, which was duly responded to within the meeting by the relevant Cabinet Leads.

A summary of the question and response is attached as an appendix to the minutes of this meeting.

77 Urgent Questions Under Standing Order 27.4.2

There were no urgent questions received from Councillors under the provision of Standing Order 27.4.2

78 Special Urgency Quarterly Report

There were no special urgency decisions for consideration by Council for this meeting.

79 Appointments

RESOLVED that Councillor Harris be appointed to the Langstone Harbour Board in place of Councillor Coates.

80 Calendar of Meetings 2024/25

RESOLVED that the Calendar of meetings for 2024/25 be approved.

81 Acceptance of Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of Committees held since the last meeting of Council be received.

.....
Chairman

HAVANT BOROUGH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Council held on 28 February 2024

Present

Councillor Wade (Deputy Mayor)

Councillors Rason, Blades, Briggs, Gray, Gray, Coates, Brent, Harris, Patrick, Bowdell, Bowerman, Crellin, Diamond, Fairhurst, Keast, Kennett, Linger, Lloyd, Milne, Munday, Patel, Rennie, Redsull, Richardson, Robinson, Mrs Shimbart, Stone, Tindall and Weeks

82 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Denton, Guest, Payter, Raines, Sceal and Turner.

83 Declarations of Interests

There were no declarations of interests from the members present relating to matters on the agenda.

84 Provisional Appointment of the Mayor for 2024/2025

Proposed by Councillor Weeks seconded by Councillor Shimbart, it was

RESOLVED that Councillor Peter Wade be provisionally appointed as Mayor for 2024/2025.

85 Provisional Appointment of the Deputy Mayor for 2024/2025

The Mayor, in consultation with the Chief Executive, deferred consideration of the provisional appointment of the Deputy Mayor to the next meeting of Full Council.

86 Cabinet/Board/Committee Recommendations

There were 4 recommendations for Council to consider at this meeting.

(1) Council Tax Support Scheme 2024/25

Councillor Bowdell introduced the item and recommendations to Council arising from the meeting of Cabinet held on 14 February 2024, requesting Full Council to adopt the Council Tax Support Scheme for 2024/25.

The members considered the options set out in the Cabinet report and following a vote, Council **Page 11**

RESOLVED to

- a) agree to amend the current scheme so that the allowances and premiums used in determining entitlement for working age claims are uplifted in line with the figures applied by the Department for Works and Pensions, (DWP), for the Housing Benefit Scheme in 2024/25;
- b) agree to amend the current scheme so that the non-dependant deductions used in determining entitlement for working age claims are adapted in line with the rates as set by the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities for non-dependant pension age claims;
- c) approve that the Council continues to facilitate a Council Tax Support Hardship Fund;
- d) approve the retention of all remaining elements of the current 2023/24 scheme; and
- e) approve the necessary amendments being made to the Council Tax Support Scheme document and that it then being published in accordance with Local Government Finance Act 1992 Section 13A(2).

(2) Review of Street Trading Consent Fees

Councillor Patrick introduced the item and recommendations to Council arising from the meeting of the Licensing Committee held on 16 January 2024, requesting Full Council to agree revisions to the street trading consent fees.

The members noted that no representations had been received following the public consultation exercise. Members considered the options set out in the Licensing Committee report and following a vote, Council

RESOLVED that the street trading consent fees as set out in Appendix A of the submitted Licensing Committee report be approved for implementation for the financial year commencing 1 April 2024.

(3) Review of Hackney and Private Hire Licensing Fees

Councillor Patrick introduced the item and recommendations to Council arising from the meeting of the Licensing Committee held on 16 January 2024, requesting Full Council to agree revisions to the hackney carriage and private hire licensing fees.

The members noted that no representations had been received following the public consultation exercise. Members considered the

options set out in the Licensing Committee report and following a vote, Council

RESOLVED that the hackney carriage and private hire licensing fees as set out in Appendix A of the submitted Licensing Committee report be approved for implementation for the financial year commencing 1 April 2024.

(4) Update of Community Infrastructure Levy Spending Protocol

Councillor Patel introduced the item and recommendations to Council arising from the meeting of the Planning Policy Committee held on 5 February 2024, requesting Full Council to agree changes to the Community Infrastructure Levy Spending Protocol.

Members considered the options set out in the Licensing Committee report and following a vote, Council

RESOLVED that the

- a) the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Spending Protocol (2024) as set out in Appendix A of the submitted Licensing Committee report be approved (Appendix A)
- b) authority be delegated to the Executive Head of Place, in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Lead to amend the CIL Spending Protocol following adoption, provided those changes are limited to the correction of factual errors and changes necessary to accommodate national or local changes in regulations, guidance or procedures and shall not otherwise alter the meaning of the Protocol.
- c) authority be delegated to the Executive Head of Place, in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Lead to prepare guidance and relevant process notes for the implementation and administration of CIL spending decisions in line with the Spending Protocol.
- d) authority be delegated to the Executive Head of Place, in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Lead to determine applications for spends from the Neighbourhood Portion;
- e) subject to the total expenditure not exceeding that set out in the Capital Spending Programme for the stated year.
- f) the Local Scheme of Delegation be updated to record the delegation of authority at b) – d) above and the revocation of the earlier authorisations contained in b–g of Council minute 83/03/2021.

87 Havant Borough Council Budget 2024/25

Council received budget speeches from:

- A. Councillor Rennie, as Leader of the Council;
- B. Councillor Munday, as Leader of the Labour Group; and
- C. Councillor Phillipa Gray, as Leader of the Liberal Democrats Group.

Council debated the recommended budget.

In his response to issues raised during the debate, Councillor Rennie agreed to:

- a) provide support for climate change in the budget every year;
- b) support the creation of jobs, including “green jobs”, in all employment sectors across the Borough;
- c) work with Solent Cluster to deliver green policies;
- d) consider improvements to the public conveniences in South Street, Emsworth;
- e) consider the extension of the opening hours of the public conveniences at Emsworth Recreation Ground;
- f) provide a breakdown by ward of the 250 second homes in the Borough;
- g) ensure play parks are disability friendly;
- h) consider the introduction of a car parking ticket for all car parks in Hayling Island as part of the car parking review;
- i) provide a link to the key performance indicator (KPI) portal; and
- j) ensure that all asylum seekers are looked after in the Borough;

RESOLVED that Council:

- 1) approve the proposed Revenue Budget and Capital Programme for 2024-25 and set a Council Tax rate of £232.82 at Band D, representing a £6.76 increase on the current charge;
- 2) approve the Medium-Term Financial Strategy for the period 2024/25 to 2028/29, Capital Strategy, Investment Strategy, Treasury Management Strategy Business Rates 2024/25 and Prudential Indicators;
- 3) approve the Fees & Charges schedule for 2024-25;

- 4) approve the Council Tax Resolution, as per Appendix I;
- 5) approve the application of a Council Tax premium of 100% for all dwellings which are unoccupied but substantially furnished (second homes) with effect from 1st April 2025;
- 6) approve the drawdown of up to £500,000 from the ringfenced Leisure Contingency Reserve to be used to secure the main leisure facilities in Havant Town and Waterlooville;
- 7) delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer, in conjunction with the Section 151 Officer to agree terms with Horizon Leisure Trust in line with the approved drawdown; and
- 8) note and endorse the Statement of the S151 Officer on the robustness of the budget and the adequacy of the Council's reserves.

In accordance with the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 and the requirements of Council Standing Order 22.6, the vote on this resolution was recorded as follows:

For the Motion:

Councillor Blades
Councillor Bowdell
Councillor Bowerman
Councillor Brent
Councillor Briggs
Councillor Coates
Councillor Crellin
Councillor Diamond
Councillor Fairhurst
Councillor Philippa Gray
Councillor Harris
Councillor Keast
Councillor Kennett
Councillor Linger
Councillor Lloyd
Councillor Milne
Councillor Munday
Councillor Patel
Councillor Patrick
Councillor Rason
Councillor Redsull
Councillor Rennie
Councillor Richardson
Councillor Robinson
Councillor Shimbart
Councillor Stone
Councillor Tindall

Councillor Wade
Councillor Weeks

Against the motion

None

Abstentions

Councillor Paul Gray

Absent:

Councillors Denton, Guest, Payter, Raines, Sceal and Turner.

The meeting commenced at 5.30 pm and concluded at 6.50 pm

.....

Chairman



Mayoral report for Full Council 20th March 2024

The Mayor's Facebook page currently has 768 likes and is followed by 980 people.

Wednesday 3rd January – “Vintage Wine” meeting at the Church of the Good Shepherd

It was lovely to chat to residents at the church of the Good Shepherd at Crookhorn over a nice cup of tea.



Friday 5th January – Dynamo Youth Theatre's performance of “The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe”

On Friday evening we were both really pleased to be invited to the Pallant in Havant to watch the Dynamo Youth Theatre's production of The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe, it was absolutely fantastic, well done team, you put your heart and soul into the production!



Thursday 11th January – Meeting with School Councillors from Riders Junior School

Today we were invited to the Federation of Riders schools in Leigh Park where we were introduced to Katie Dawkins, Head of the Junior School and Carolyn Owens, Chair of Governors.

We were both met by Lisa Ruffell and met 18 School Councillors who were simply amazing, some of the interesting questions they asked were, “How long do you get to be Mayor for?” “Is it fun being the Mayor?” “Do you have any children and pets? They were so genuinely interested and asked a lot more questions, it was an absolute delight spending the morning with them and they were all so well behaved and a credit to the school.

Saturday 13th January – Service to welcome the 98th Bishop of Winchester

Today, we were invited to Winchester to help celebrate a service of welcome to the 98th Bishop Philip Mounstephen. The cathedral was bitterly cold with the West doors open for ages, that aside it was a humbling experience to play a very small part in Winchester’s history. We did get to speak to him very briefly before he was whisked away, but it was also lovely to see Bishop Jonathan from Portsmouth. A really lovely day.



Thursday 18th January – Funeral of Honorary Alderman Gwen Blackett

Although a sad day to attend Cllr Gwen Blackett's funeral, it was a beautiful day, the sun was shining, and it was lovely to meet and speak to the family. Gwen was the longest serving Councillor in the Borough, serving for 45 years, she was even mentioned at Parliament. A minute's silence was also held at full council this week to honour her memory.



Sunday 21st January – Mayor of Fareham’s Civic Service

To visit the Church of St Peter’s in Titchfield this afternoon for the Mayor of Fareham’s Civic service was a complete joy, the service was excellent, and the church is one of the oldest in Hampshire, with a former Earl of Southampton laying in state, a lovely afternoon and great to catch up with Mayoral colleagues.



Wednesday 24th January – Chairman of Hampshire County Council’s Civic Dinner

Tonight, we were both honoured to attend a dinner at Serle’s house in Winchester. Councillor Patricia Stallard was an amazing host, I sat next to Rob Humby, the leader of Hampshire County Council and opposite Tom and Nikki Coles Lord Mayor of Portsmouth, it was a really lovely evening.



Friday 26th January – Holocaust Memorial Commemoration Service

Today we attended the Holocaust Memorial Service at Havant Cemetery. Numerous Mayors from all over the County, children from at least 4 local schools and other dignitaries and guests, also attended. The service was led by Councillor Leah Turner. This year we were privileged to have a very special guest, Mr Bryan Huberman, whose father survived the Holocaust.

After the service there was a presentation by Bryan at the Plaza, the room fell silent, and everyone listened intently at the drama that unfolded and how his father survived the appalling conditions of the labour camps.



Friday 2nd February – Celebration and Thanksgiving Service for Honorary Alderman Mr Brendan Gibb Gray

It was an honour and a privilege to be able to represent Havant Borough Council today at Chichester Cathedral, to celebrate the life of former Cllr Brendan Gibb Gray, Honorary Alderman and resident of Emsworth. A truly gentle man, with passion, integrity, inspiration, courage and honesty, a tower of strength to all that he met. Both Graham and I have met him on several occasions, but the most memorable was the last one, in June, at the unveiling of one of his passion's, for the Ems Valley Memorial Arboretum grand metal sign. We were treated like royalty on that beautiful day. It is one memory that we will both treasure and felt honoured to play such a small

part. Goodnight Brendan, your legacy goes before you, and you will be missed by everyone that knew you.

Sunday 4th February – Chairman of East Hampshire District Council’s Civic Service

Sunday the 4th of February was the Civic service for Cllr Anthony Williams in Petersfield, it was a beautiful day. The service was lovely with traditional hymns that we both knew, followed by refreshments. We both arrived early and had lunch in Petersfield and went to the farmers market in the square before we went into the church. We both had a really lovely day; it was nice to catch up with our Mayoral colleagues too.

Tuesday 6th February – Visit from Enterprise Students from Glenwood School, Emsworth

I had the pleasure of entertaining and explaining the role of the Council and Mayoral role to some of the pupils from Glenwood school in Emsworth in the Mayor’s Parlour. They were all an absolute delight and enjoyed their hot chocolate before they went home. The staff must have felt very proud of their behaviour, such lovely youngsters with some really interesting questions too.

Thursday 8th February – Havant Sports Awards 2023

Today, I was invited to attend the Annual Havant Borough Sports Award Ceremony at the Horizon Leisure Centre. One of the recipients was Jackie, a mature lady who received an award for volunteering with a local Badminton group at the age of 82! She was a truly amazing lady, ironically, I met Jackie again the next day in a queue in a local well known store in Havant, it was really nice to see her again so soon!

Everyone had worked so hard to make the event a success, there were lots of amazing stories to be told, it was a real honour to be able to represent Havant Borough Council.



Sunday 11th February – Mayor of Gosport’s Civic Service

Today, Graham and I attended the Mayor of Gosport, Cllr Martin Pepper’s, Civic Service. It was a very moving service conducted by the Reverend Sean Blackman, he also included the Ukrainian war and spoke about other atrocities around the world. We all finished with tea, coffee and cake. It was nice to meet new people but also catch up with other Mayors from around Hampshire. It was a lovely service, time for reflection and kindness.

Sunday 18th February – Chinese New Year Celebrations

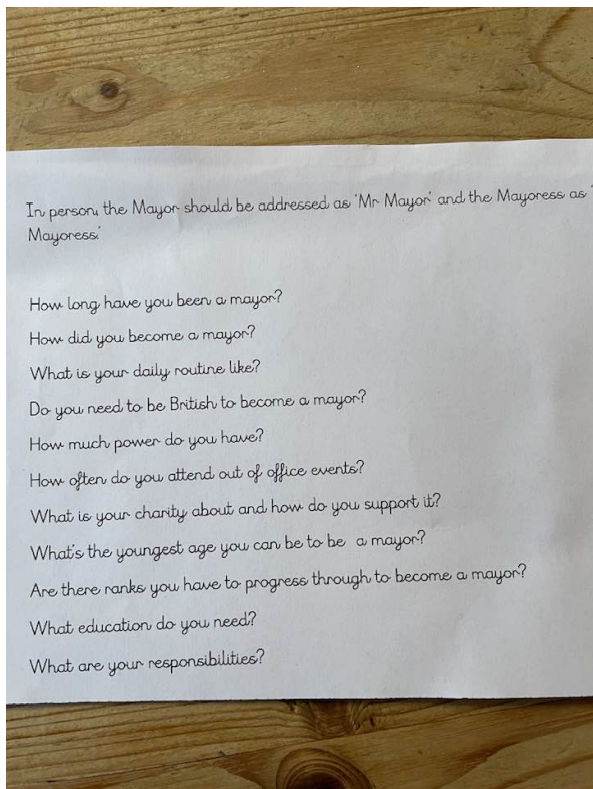
Today, Graham and I were invited together with other Mayors from Fareham Gosport and Portsmouth, to help celebrate the 2024 Chinese New Year celebrations, the year of the dragon. The children were amazing and the adults were all so talented. We all had an amazing time with huge thanks to Albert Choi, Chairman of the Portsmouth Chinese Association and his team, who all did a fantastic job, the whole event was absolutely brilliant, thank you!



Tuesday 20th February – Visit from pupils from Mill Hill Primary School Waterlooville

Today, I was lucky enough to entertain the year 6 pupils of Mill Hill Primary School, it was the largest group we have ever had, but, after a quick visit to the Mayor’s parlour and a short history of how long there has been a Mayor in Havant, 50 years this year, we all moved to a bigger room in silence as there was a conference in one of the rooms opposite. The children were so well behaved

and polite, I think the hot chocolate and chocolate biscuits helped, they were all an absolute delight to be with. One of the young pupils said before he left, that he had really enjoyed his visit, you never know, we might have budding Councillors in the making!



Saturday 24th February - An evening of reflection (2 year anniversary of Russian invasion/Ukraine War)

I was invited today to St Faith's Church in Havant to help remember the 2 year anniversary of the war in Ukraine against Russia.

It was a time for reflection, prayer, contemplation and hymns, concluding with a wonderful short musical concert by the 2 colours choir. At the end it was lovely to join the queue for a cup of tea with Father Andrew who was visiting his Ukrainian family in Gosport. Also, to have a chance to make a Ukrainian doll at the workshop with lots of children. We then all walked to the Pallant Centre for a warming bowl of Borscht soup. It was delicious.

The one thing that struck me the most was the friendships between the Ukrainian families and their hosts, the love and passion in their singing and love for each other was truly inspiring. Despite the sadness of the war and their situation, I came home feeling content and happy.

It was an amazing experience, thank you for letting me play a very small part in your service.

Mayor of Havant Cllr Rosy Raines

Cabinet Lead Reports

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Leader of the Council –**Councillor Alex Rennie****1. Policy development/lead for inter authority relations, engagement with Government, engagement with community and key stakeholders**

- 1.1. We continue to closely monitor the latest developments in central government policy to ensure we can effectively consider any opportunities that arise and will help us to deliver our priorities.
- 1.2. In early January 2024, Hampshire County Council launched their Future Services Consultation document which contained 13 cost savings proposals covering various services, some of which will have an impact on our services and our residents. A response has been drafted with input from across the Council and this will be sent to Hampshire before the consultation closes on 31 March 2024.
- 1.3. The budget for 2024-25 was approved at Full Council in February which committed funds for delivery of our Corporate Strategy over the next year. Proposals included:

Wellbeing

- Continued investment in our play parks with a further £339,000 for refurbishment of three play parks over the next 18 months.
- Freezing of fees on cost of hiring council owned sports pitches
- Supporting the development of Waterlooville Leisure Centre.

Pride in Place

- Extra funding (£50,000 extra) to fund our Climate Action Plan delivery.
- Investment in a further £100,000 in deployable and static CCTV.
- Funding to deliver numerous civil engineering programmes including improvement of active travel routes.

Growth

- £69m capital investment across the Borough over the next five years.
- Funds to improve our town centres such as delivering our Waterlooville Masterplan and vacant shops schemes in Waterlooville and Leigh Park.
- Havant Town Centre Bulbeck Road demolition funding.

2. Council performance against corporate strategy

2.1. Since the last report we have continued our work on delivering the corporate strategy priorities. Our Corporate Performance Scorecard is live on our website and captures progress against our 16 corporate priorities which will help us deliver our ambitions in our Corporate Strategy. We continue to make progress across our three Corporate Strategy themes of wellbeing, pride in place and growth.

2.2. Our key performance indicators are monitored and reviewed quarterly and included on our Corporate Performance Scorecard. The latest quarterly information included:

- Housing – a reduction of households placed in temporary accommodation although the average length of stay has increased
- Information Governance – response times for FOIs/EIR's all within performance target
- Environmental Services – a significant decrease in missed bins has been seen over the previous few quarters alongside consistently good performance for bulky waste collections
- Customer Services – a significant reduction in complaints down from 230 in Q1 to a 82 in Q3
- Planning – processing times for applications remains in target for most applications and we have now started to monitor pre-application processing times.

2.3. A link to our live dashboard can be found here: [Corporate performance scorecard | Havant Borough Council](#)

3. Regeneration, including the Hayling Island Seafront Strategy

3.1. Waterlooville Town Centre

3.2. The Council employed Feria Urbanism a consultancy practice to deliver a masterplan for Waterlooville Town Centre, the residents of Waterlooville and other stakeholders have reacted to this in a positive manner. The Council ran a series of walking tours that were attended by over 200 people, as well as engaging with local schools and colleges in the area. The next stage of the masterplan is an exhibition that brings together all the feedback plus the work carried out by the consultant team, this will take place at the old Game store on Waterlooville High Street from the 14th to the 16th March.

3.3 Following the exhibition a first draft of the Masterplan will be published and then work begins on incorporating this as a supplementary Planning document. The consultant team will also be publishing a quick wins report that will enable the Council, in a coherent manner, to introduce changes to the High Street to make it more attractive for shoppers, retailers and investors.

3.4 Meanwhile the Council have also designed a scheme to introduce colour to the High Street with lamp post banners that highlight the rich history of the area. Licences have been applied for from Hampshire County Council and we await their approval. A supplier has been selected and we plan to have these up by April 2024, subject to licencing.

3.5 The Waterlooville Vacant shop scheme will be relaunched in the next week or so. The Council are in final discussions with a couple of applicants and we hope to be able to announce the successful applicants shortly, meanwhile the scheme will be relaunched as not all the money from the £140,000 will have been spent in the first tranche.

3.6 Havant Town Centre

3.7 The Cabinet have now approved the demolition for Bulbeck Road car park to deliver much needed housing in the Borough and to remove a current hot spot for anti social behaviour. Council officers have started the planning application and a contractor has been selected to carry out the works. The team are also

devising an engagement plan to keep residents and other stakeholders up to date with the progress.

3.8 An agent has also been procured to help the Council market the site and work has begun on putting together a prospectus for the site.

3.9 In February the Council ran a workshop in the Spring Havant facilitated by the High Street Task force Professor Steve Millington. The workshop was well attended by Residents, Councillors and other local stakeholders. The workshop focussed on the physical things that a town can do to generate footfall to preserve the town centre. This is particularly pertinent for the newly formed Havant Town Centre Board who are due to meet for a second time in mid-March.

3.10 **Leigh Park**

3.11 The Council were successful in securing £120,000 from the One Public Estate fund that will allow it to carry out an options appraisals for the regeneration of Leigh Park that currently includes the Community Centre, Library, Apex Centre and NHS buildings. The hope is to come up with options for delivery of a regeneration of the site whilst still maintaining and enhancing the functions already delivered on site.

3.12 The Leigh Park Vacant shop scheme will be launched in March 2024, and this will allow local entrepreneurs to bid up to £150,000 to take on a vacant unit within the Leigh Park Vacant shop scheme zone which includes Park Parade and the Greywell shopping centre.

3.11 **Hayling Island**

3.12 Works will begin in March on a brand new and enhanced board walk and eating area at Chichester Avenue designed to help people with physical disabilities access the beach area with their families. Also the team have started to submit the planning application for a Changing Places public convenience in the same area which will have enhanced facilities for those people with physical disabilities.

- 3.13 The Council are in talks with the Owners of Inn on the Beach and Hayling Island golf course to come up with a engineering solution to stop the erosion at West Beach.
- 3.14 The team are also looking at a drainage solution and revised layout for parking at West Beach that will be approved Natural England and causes the least impact to the SSSI.

4. Communications

4.1. Significant engagement campaigns over the previous few months have included:

- Waterlooville Town Centre Masterplan engagement
- Housing Strategy consultation
- Play park engagement
- Havant Town Partnership Board meeting.

4.2. In addition to engagement work communications activity has been focussed around:

- Cabinet agreement regarding the demolition of Bulbeck Road carpark
- Statement of common ground on the medium-term future for sea defences at Mill Land and Wade Lane, Langstone
- Promoting the introduction of direct debit payments for long term parking permits
- Funding success for Leigh Park's community assets
- Approved budget for 2024-25

4.3. The website continues to be an essential tool for engagement with 144,000 visits last quarter compared to 64,000 visits this time last year.

5. Armed Forces Covenant

5.1. In December, a letter from Councillor Rennie was electronically sent to 2,700 local businesses encouraging them to follow in our footsteps and sign the Armed Forces Covenant. The letter explained how we actively show our commitment through our HR policies for staff, working with partners through the Stakeholder

group and our gold employers award. Havant Borough Council plan to re-sign the Covenant on Thursday 28th November at the Plaza.

The Havant Borough Armed Forces Stakeholder group continue to meet every 3 months. Key Armed Forces services, organisations, charities and Veteran groups are working closely together to share information and address key issues such as housing, employment, health and education.

The Armed Forces Staff Network group continue to meet face to face every 4 months. This is a support group for HBC officers who are linked to the Armed Forces Community, there are 11 members which include Veterans, spouses of serving personnel and a Reservist.

We continue to be a key member in various partnership meetings including the Southeast Regional Employer Engagement Group, the Solent Armed Forces Covenant Partnership Board and the Armed Forces lead group with other Councils across the south.

Achievements over the past year

HBC was successful in being awarded a gold Armed Forces ERS (Employers Recognition Scheme) award, this is the highest badge of honour an organisation can get

The Reservist leave HR policy now offers up to 15 paid days leave for training instead of 10 days. The Guaranteed Interview Scheme HR policy for Veterans has been reviewed and updated too.

6. Economic Development and Levelling up Priorities

6.1. Havant Borough Council were a Civic Sponsor of the Portsmouth & South Coast Business Week 19th – 23rd February and used this opportunity to connect with businesses across the borough where the Economic Development team outlined our business support offer and job matching service as well as outlining new initiatives being launched from April, such as the Youth Employment Scheme. Many businesses expressed how pleased they were to be visited by the team as it was the first time they had ever hosted a team from the council

Part of the week included 'Open Doors' where delegates from across the Solent were taken to visit businesses in Portsmouth, Fareham, and Havant. Future Water hosted the group in the afternoon and gave a presentation about the Havant Thicket Reservoir and how it links through skills to the local community and education establishments.

At the end of the week the Economic Development and Regeneration team hosted a Webinar outlining the ambitious plans for the next year and beyond. The Portsmouth & South Coast Business Week concluded with the The Portsmouth News Business Excellence awards night at the Guildhall where Horizon Leisure won Community Business of the year.

In March, Havant Borough Council are looking forward to hosting the next Havant Business Partnership networking event on the 14th March at Havant Horizon Leisure Centre in the evening.

6.2. Havant YouthHub

Achievements (End of JAN 24)

172 young people into paid employment

78% attendance for sessions during November

210 young people attended training (accredited and non accredited to upskill)

340 young people support in total

Partnership Updates January - February

Itchen College running a 6-week maths functional skills course from the Youth Hub over February and March to support 9 young people from the hub to achieve a numeracy qualification. HSDC will be providing 1-day Interpersonal Skills sessions to improve confidence and skills ahead of searching for jobs. They will be introduced to Leigh Park Learning Centre to encourage them to gain further qualifications and get a Level 1 Employability qualification from the course.

Widening Engagement and Participation We are working on a communications plan for 2024 to promote the youth hub service to organisations and the community to

increase incoming referrals. We currently have great success working with those 18-24 and are looking to focus effort into engaging with 16-17.

We have one event running throughout March:

- Digital Skills Bootcamp Tuesday 12th March 10.00-14.00
- Barratt Homes @ Youth Hub Mock Interviews; Wednesday 27th March 10:00-13:00

Digital Skills Bootcamps are flexible courses of up to 16 weeks for adults aged 19yrs or over and are aimed at delivering training co-0designed with employers to respond to skills shortages. Digital skills are one of seven areas the Solent Partners are resourcing.

Barratt Homes collaborate regularly with the Youth Hub to offer employment support to the local community; they will be attending to mock interview 24 young people currently attending the youth hub to give them professional connections and build their confidence.

6.3. Link Up Leigh Park Programme

Milestones achieved:

- Phase 2 of the mentoring programme has started, in partnership with HSDC and Park Community School. A total of 16 pupils have been referred onto the mentoring programme with targeted support focusing on improving social and environmental challenges experienced with the goal to unlock potential to achieve meaningful GCSE outcomes to better prepare for further education and career trajectory.
- The programme has launched a funded work placement scheme to pilot with local businesses interested in offering paid placements to 18-24-year-olds from Leigh Park. There are four work placements available to offer paid experience to these young people for a 6-month period. The learning gained from this pilot scheme will feed into the rollout on a larger scale in a couple of months with 18-24-year-olds across Havant.

- Following the Intervention Development Workshop that took place at the end of 2023, the decision has been made to design and launch another two interventions to provide support to businesses. The first will focus on the development of a virtual 'central hub' that will connect businesses to training providers, recruitment and available support. The second will focus on supporting businesses to upskill and develop their staff, as well as consider best practice to support a younger workforce. This will be through offering a membership with Youth Employment UK where there will be access to a benchmarking tool, how-to guides and a wide network of like-minded businesses.

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Cabinet Lead for Finance –

Councillor Neil Bowdell

1. Finance & Treasury

1.1 Treasury Management:

Havant's treasury investment portfolio remains in an increasingly strong position. With our minimal borrowing, but high levels of investment, the increase in interest rate rises has positively impacted HBC treasury investments.

The council has had a reasonably consistent £35m-£40m out in active investment loans across the year. In this past quarter, the Council has managed to also improve the returns received on its daily cash balances (the fluctuating amount we cannot commit to any fixed-term investments). We are currently locked in to generate £2.25m in interest, whilst new investments being are offer at ~5.7%. We are currently forecasting an overall return for the 2023/24 financial year of between £2.35m and £2.45m.

1.2 2021/22 Financial Statements:

All adjustments from the 2021/22 audit have been completed. The Council are now waiting for Ernst & Young LLP are able to issue their audit opinion and an update on this is expected by the forthcoming Audit and Finance Committee on 25th March 2024.

1.3 2022/23 Financial Statements:

The draft 2022/23 financial statements were made public during September. With the prior year audit now almost complete, plans and dates are being put into place to start work on the 2023/23 audit. However, these are pending the Government Department's review of outstanding audits and are subject to change. A further update on this is expected at the Audit and Finance Committee on 25th March 2024.

1.4 2023/24 Budget monitoring:

The current year budget is monitored throughout the year and report on to cabinet each quarter. The quarter three (month 9) report forecast a potential operational overspend of up to £1.5m and an overall overspend (once in-year adjustments and contingencies are included) of £0.8m. This is a slight downturn in position from the quarte two forecast and has been driven by increased demand from homelessness and temporary accommodation costs, reduced uncontrollable income from planning fee and off-street parking, and some one-off costs from 2019 being transferred from a historic liability to a cost in the current year.

1.5 2024/25 Budget:

The 2024/25 budget was agreed at the Full Council meeting on 28th February 2023 with 28 Councillors voting for, 0 against and 1 abstaining.

The £18.1 m net revenue budget, £69m capital programme and Council tax resolution were all approved as part of the process.

The Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) presents a challenging but affordable forecast for the next five years. The Council will be swiftly working on addressing the financial challenges identified in the MTFS processes and exploring all reasonable options to close the future funding gap presented.

2. Council Tax

2.1 In the budget agreed in February 2024, the Council:

- a. Council Tax levels for all bands, for 24/25.
- b. Agreed to extend its Council Tax Support Scheme, which provides vital financial assistance to many residents, for a further year.
- c. Gave notice of the intention to apply Council Tax premium of 100% for all dwellings which are unoccupied but substantially furnished (second homes), with effect from 1st April 2025.

3. Mayoralty and Health, Safety and Risk

3.1 The team continue to support the office of the Mayor, both with official engagements, and with matters relating to national or civic events.

3.2 The Council also held its annual Holocaust event at Havant Cemetery on 26 January 2024. This was very well attended by residents, schools and other visiting Mayors and Chairmen from Hampshire. We were also lucky to have a 2nd generation speaker from the 45 Aid Society, Bryan Huberman. The council appreciates the ongoing support given to us by Cllr Leah Turner, who leads the annual service to commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day. The theme for this years' service was 'Fragility of Freedom,' which encourages people to reflect on their own freedom and remember those who risked their lives and lost their freedom.

- 3.3 We held our second Civic Board Meeting with Councillors and Officers in late January to bring together the Borough's first Honorary Citizen Award(s) that will be presented at the Annual Mayor Making Ceremony in May this year. Applications were received from various Councillors and reviewed for consideration by the Board and will be taken forward.
- 3.4 In early February 2024 Council Officers held a 'Community Resilience Flood' event specifically for Hayling Island residents, the event was held at Hayling Island Community Centre. Agencies such as Hampshire County Council, The Environment Agency, British Red Cross, HBC Coastal Partners and the National Flood Forum gave informative presentations, talks and discussions on how residents could prepare and protect their homes from the threat of flooding. The residents also received a copy of the Environment Flood Action Plan handbook and for further assistance/queries information of the agencies email contacts. The event was well attended and received by the residents, who were given the skills and knowledge of support available to them, to enable them to not only set up a Flood Community Group, but also on remaining vigilant for weather warnings and flood alerts, to empower them to be proactive in protecting the safety of their family, homes, and personal assets.

4. Corporate Governance

- 4.1 Over the last municipal year, the Council has undertaken a comprehensive programme of work to ensure that the Council's governance procedures and decision-making processes continue to be in line with best practice and reflect Havant as a Council. Notably, the Council reviewed and adopted a revised Constitution in January 2024. The Council recognises that the Constitution is a living document and one which should be continuously refined and improved. As such, the Council has also committed to looking at further areas for development next year.
- 4.2 The Council has also adopted the LGA (Local Government Association) Model Code of Conduct. The Model Code was designed to protect the democratic role, encourage good conduct and safeguard the public's trust in

local government. The adoption of the Model Code ensures good governance and public confidence in the Council's decision making practices and procedures through which the Council agrees and delivers its Corporate Strategy.

Following the adoption of the above members have attended training sessions.

- 4.3 The Council has spent the last municipal year refining processes to ensure that they are easily accessible and understood by all. Members will have noticed these changes, such as the revised report template, Notice of Motion template and procedural guidance together with declaration of interests and amendment flowcharts.

5. HR

- 5.1 The HR team has been liaising with subject matter experts within the Council, such as the Health and Safety, Safeguarding and Information Governance leads, and Virtual College, our eLearning platform, to create a suite of baseline training for all colleagues in 2024/25. Following feedback from colleagues, this package has been greatly reduced since moving to a new standalone platform in 2023, but ensures we continue to offer the basic training required in key areas. The team has also negotiated an expanded number of licences to enable access for Members in the near future too.
- 5.2 Having initiated a recruitment campaign through Tile Hill in December 2023, two rounds of interviews were held in February 2024 for the Executive Head of Commercial. The HR Committee has selected a candidate to appoint, and they have agreed to join us, starting in May 2024.
- 5.3 The HR team are supporting Economic Development colleagues in piloting a scheme called the Youth Employment Scheme. This involves trying to get 16-24 year olds into employment and, together, we will be modelling this within the Council, so looking to support placements using a streamlined version of our internal recruitment process.

Cabinet Lead for Commercial –
Councillor Lulu Bowerman
Environmental Services Update

Reduction of complaints

The number of complaints continues to remain low with a total of one complaint for December and ten complaints in January after the Christmas break. This is testament to the hard work of the Norse operatives during the busiest time of year for waste collections and the excellent Environmental Services customer liaison team who quickly identify missed bins and schedule another collection. The sharp decline in complaints in January this year is compared to the 65 received in January 2023.

Key Performance Indicators (KPI's)

The team continue to use the KPI dashboard to monitor and manage the performance delivery for Environmental services and to help identify areas for service improvement that we will deliver during 2024.

Norse carry out over 3 million bin collections each year in Havant. The number of missed bins reported by the public is monitored using national indicator BVPI 88, which uses missed bins per 100,000 collections to enable benchmarking. This has dropped from around 250 each month to below 100 in February, demonstrating a significant improvement in performance.

Budget 2024/2025

The budget and draft business plan have both been approved on time and will be in place for the forthcoming financial year. The Operations Director Jim Perkins has had a pivotal role in all the improvements and has brought a wealth of industry experience and knowledge to the smooth running of the Norse contract.

Fly Tipping

An additional clothing bank has been positioned at Hambledon Parade accompanied with a 'No fly tipping' A board, both supplied by the Salvation Army, to reduce the amount of fly tipping at this location. The team have seen a vast reduction in the number of incidents since this change has been implemented.

Tidworth Road in Havant continues to be a hot spot location. However the team are working closely with the Neighbourhood Quality enforcement team to investigate these occurrences and meet regularly to discuss areas of concern within the Borough

Litter Picking

Norse SE are focusing on the busy 'A' roads for their litter picking schedule. The team recently attended Hulbert Road, Waterlooville where the team collected 48 bags of litter. The team are required to undertake specialist training for this task due to the road speed being above 30mph as clearing waste on very busy, dangerous roads is challenging.

Litter blackspots include slip roads and roundabouts where traffic slows, making it easier for thoughtless drivers and passengers to throw waste out of vehicle windows. Unfortunately the costs of clearing these blackspots fall to the local authority.

Recycling & Contamination

The Client Liaison team are analysing the data received from Hampshire County Council to identify areas and properties within the Borough that require assistance with improving their recycling rate and reducing the level of contamination within their recycling bin. The team are sending letters to householders offering recycling advice and support to educate them on the items accepted by Hampshire County Council.0.8=9/9

Town Centre Inspections

The Client Liaison Team and Norse SE have implemented a key change in Waterlooville town centre to tackle the littering issue. A litter bin with an ashtray lid

was placed outside the barbers which has seen an issue with cigarette ends being left on the floor leading to complaints about the cleanliness of the town centre and requiring the presence of the enforcement team. This special bin has brought about a visible reduction in this litter type and therefore improved this area of the precinct and has a reduced need for enforcement action.

Grass cutting

As part of the on-going review and improvement plan of the grass cutting programme, Norse have carried out the 'first cut' of the season on many parts of Hayling Island and this will continue as the weather improves. This early 'first cut' regime will be taking place across the borough in the forthcoming weeks to avoid difficulties experienced last year.

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Cabinet Lead for Coastal –

Councillor Liz Fairhurst

1. Coastal Management

Hayling Island Coastal Management Strategy

Final amendments are being made to the Strategic Environment Assessment (SEA), Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) and Water Framework Directive (WFD) assessment. We are continuing to work with regulators with the intention that they will be able to provide an 'in principle' acceptance of the Strategy in the Spring.

Following this, the project team will work on the Statement of Environment Particulars and HRA Derogation before issuing the Strategy and environmental documents to the Secretary of State.

The benefits and economics assessment will be revisited to ensure the Strategy captures the latest cost and benefits information. This task has been pushed back by 2 months because it needs to be dated within 6 months of going to the Environment Agency (EA) for approval.

The Strategy's programme has shifted to allow more time for regulator review and approval of the environmental documents. This means that HBC approval on the Strategy will be sought in the Summer and EA approval in the Autumn. Expected completion is late Autumn.

South Hayling Beach Management Activities (BMA) (2017-2024)

We are coming to the end of the current Beach Management Plan (BMP), which ends on 31st March 2024. Over the past 7 years this project has maintained a healthy beach at Eastoke, which takes the brunt of the storm waves. These works are fully funded (£3.2m) by the Environment Agency and protect up to 1,500 properties at high risk of flooding.

A business case was prepared and submitted to the Environment Agency in December 2023 to secure funding for the next 5 years of beach management (2024-2029). We are currently working through questions from the Environment Agency, and the outcome of the application will be known by April 2024.

The final beach management campaign is scheduled to start on 4th March 2024, lasting for 3-4 weeks on site. Beach material will be recycled from beaches between the Coastguard Revetment and Inn on the Beach, back to the Eastoke frontage to reinstate the beach profile in front of the properties. We will also be importing up to 5,000t of beach grade shingle via road to add to the beach and provide a wider beach crest. The works will be completed before the start of the Easter holidays and will ensure the frontage is safe and accessible ahead of the summer season.

West Beach – Monitoring and Adaptive Management.

A policy decision was taken in 2008, by Havant Borough Council, that once the coastal defences reach the end of their serviceable life or become a health and safety risk, the structures should be removed, and the beach allowed to evolve, in line with the shoreline management plan policy. The first section of defence was removed in 2012, a further section was removed in 2020 allowing the coast to erode.

The coastline is monitored for erosion into the ‘rebound zone.’ Routine seafront inspections are made for health and safety purposes, with exposed debris on the beach removed by Norse. Recent swell waves and high tides (Feb-2024) have caused more significant beach cliffing and exposed old concrete structures. A review is underway to assess this risk and implement appropriate controls and clear-up works for public safety.

The coast is dynamic and has changed shape through natural processes for many years. Officers are developing partnership opportunities with the Councils’ neighbours at the Golf Club and owners of Inn on the Beach to collaborate towards an adaptive ‘Do Minimum works’ which would build resilience for partners respective objectives and find affordable ways forward to gain more certainty how the coast will continue to evolve for the next fifty years. If this proactive collaborative opportunity is successful, then this initiative will support the Councils’ Beach Management activities to recycling beach material back to Eastoke helping to reduce the risk of flooding to the community. However, there are not significant numbers of properties at risk at West Beach to attract central government funding to undertake long term engineering works, which would also find difficulty securing the numerous consents in such an

environmentally designated location and as such the Council does not envisage being able to reinstate the previous West Beach car park or beach hut offer.

Langstone Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (FCERM) Scheme – Detailed Design

This year, the Langstone FCERM project team have continued to work collaboratively with AECOM to progress the detailed design from 80% to 100% design which is now being finalised. Certainty of project costs have improved following the receipt of the 100% design cost estimate from cost consultant, Atkins Realis (formerly Faithful & Gould) in December 2023. With improved cost certainty the team have incorporated these costs into the overall project finances and forecast. The updated construction cost for the core scheme is £17,563,506 including risk, excluding future maintenance (£498k).

The Project Team have and continue to assess and identify potential funding sources for the scheme while outcomes of current funding bids are awaited. An official approval letter from the Environment Agency is still expected for the inflation uplift claim following the National Project Assurance Service approval for £818,000 in November 2023. The project team are also waiting to have the £1.9million bid for additional OGD funding confirmed by the EA, in which there is high confidence of being successful. A Capital Bid made to Havant Borough Council is made for an additional £2.5million of funding. If successful, this funding will be used through construction to scheme completion.

A number of engagement events have been undertaken with key stakeholders and the public this year, including five topic-specific drop-in sessions which were held for the Langstone community for their input and discussion as the design developed towards the 100% milestone. A number of 1-2-1 meetings with residents and stakeholders have been held throughout the year and continue to be held as necessary to discuss specific details around the scheme and design. The 100% design was presented to the public at an exhibition held on 11th January 2024. This event presented twenty-seven information posters covering key topics and a frontage-by-frontage design breakdown. The event was also supported by a public questionnaire, feedback demonstrated a 90% level of support for the scheme.

Broadmarsh Coastal Defence Scheme – Detailed Design

Broadmarsh Coastal Defence Scheme was submitted to the HBC Capital Programme, with a bid for £1,258m to fund Stage 2: Detailed Design, Licensing, and Consents. The project is recognised as one of the Council's corporate Priority Projects. While awaiting the outcome of the bidding process and we continue work with Defra at a national level as part of their prioritisation project, in the hope of unlocking future funding for coastal landfill sites at risk of erosion.

Essential maintenance to the revetment to contain the chalk bund and landfill contents was completed in November. Ongoing monitoring of this key sea defence infrastructure has continued over the winter period to check for damage caused by storms.

Langstone Sea Wall Old Mill to Wade Lane

During the year, the Council has led a collaborative approach with all stakeholders to find the right approach for the short- and long-term preservation of the area. Coastal Partners have continued to monitor this section of coastal erosion throughout the year. Recent site visits indicate that the community activism is still on-going at this location.

The Leader of the Council wrote to the Minister for the Environment Quality and Resilience, and the Minister for Heritage, together with letters to the senior officers of Natural England, the Environment Agency, and Chichester Harbour Conservancy. These letters expressed our support for protecting the habitats around the Mill Pond, and to ask for support to the wider Chichester Harbour Investment and Adaptation Plan.

In October Chichester Harbour Conservancy published an Independent Assessment Report, and in December a joint public Drop-In Session on the report was held. The session was well attended and representatives from all the agencies were available to discuss the report.

The Leader has now also had the opportunity to chair a meeting with the consenting organisations. Good progress was made, and a Statement of Common Ground was agreed setting out maintenance of the Mill Pond wall and the Maintenance of the Coastal path, on its current route by construction of a footbridge towards Wade Lane.

There is agreement that these priorities are reached in a wider principle of supporting environmental social and economic adaptation to climate change. A wider Chichester Harbour Investment and Adaptation Plan is proposed for determining the longer-term actions for coastal management.

Coastal Environmental Initiatives

The Coastal Environment team are actively working across several initiatives that aim to protect and improve the natural coastal environment within the Havant Borough, such as:

- **Habitat Compensation and Restoration Programme (HCRP)** The HCRP identifies and delivers habitats to replace those that are being lost due to coastal squeeze. Below is an update on key initiatives linked to this.
- **Solent wide coastal grazing marsh study:** In January, we submitted a business case to the Environment Agency to fund this study and we are awaiting the outcome. The study will identify important terrestrial habitat creation opportunities across the wider Solent that will sustain our internationally important network of environmental sites – and enable future FCERM delivery.
- **Solent Dynamic Coast Project update:** Following Environment Agency approval of funding for this study (£236k), data analysis work has commenced. The study will help us understand future coastal habitat changes more accurately, so that we can better plan habitat creation opportunities in a changing climate.
- **Monitoring and communication at Southmoor:** We are currently finalising the business case to unlock funding to monitor and communicate the natural coastal defence breach at Southmoor. We are aiming to submit this in March.
- **Hayling Island Coastal Management Strategy – additional studies:** We have been undertaking further analysis of two potential opportunities for intertidal habitat

creation on Hayling Island, currently focussing on the need, location, and cost of any 'set back' coastal defences / site landscaping.

Langstone FCERM scheme – Saltmarsh Feasibility Study

We are continuing to investigate opportunities to restore the degraded and poor-quality saltmarsh habitats in the vicinity of Langstone Village and Wade Lane. We have applied for additional funding from Defra's 'Climate for Nature' underspend, as well as continuing to explore other potential funding opportunities, so we can start to consider a wider opportunity here, with the potential to restore up to 12ha of saltmarsh on the degraded foreshore at this location.

Chichester Harbour Investment and Adaptation Plan (CHIAP)

CHIAP will help guide the future management of Chichester Harbour's coastline and waters, addressing people, property, and environmental challenges in one place. Working together with regulators, stakeholders, landowners and the community, this plan will set out adaptation options and pathways for key focus areas within the Harbour, defined by triggers for action. This will provide a much-needed holistic plan for the harbour.

Coastal Partners will lead, manage, and undertake the work to deliver the Plan on behalf of both Havant Borough Council (HBC) and Chichester District Council (CDC), but also working closely in collaboration with our key project partners, the Environment Agency (EA), Natural England (NE) and Chichester Harbour Conservancy (CHC).

We are currently going through HBC approvals to seek Cabinet approval to apply for funding from the Environment Agency, and for delegated authority to spend the funds once approved. We have briefed the Executive Leadership Team and Portfolio Holder, been through the Corporate Governance Board and Cabinet Briefing, in preparation for Cabinet on the 6 March. In parallel we have also been going through the CDC approvals process, where we have briefed the CDC Portfolio Holder and the Environmental Panel before going to CDC Cabinet on the 5 March. Once we have a decision from both Councils, we will submit a business case to the Environment Agency to request funding.

2. Delivery of Civil Engineering Services

HCC Transforming Cities Fund and HBC CIL Fund

CELT were commissioned to design five transforming cities projects and to supervise four of these projects in the Havant area. All projects have been successfully completed on time and in budget. Additionally, CELT have also been commissioned to conduct the landscape elements of the work along Elmleigh Road. The works started on site 19 February 2024 and will be completed mid-March 2024.

Multi Use Games Area conversion to a car park at Havant Rugby Club car park HBC CIL Funded

Following the completion of the car park, funding for street lighting has been approved. Scottish and Southern Energy (SSEN) will be completing the works during the spring. Installation dates are subject to agreements with SSEN.

Hobby Close PCC Commission. Lottery and HBC CIL Funded

Due to the expiry of the existing planning application A new application has been made. To avoid bird nesting season the site clearance work to provide access to the site started 26 February 2024. Subject to the planning application approval it is anticipated works will start on site late spring 2024 for 12 weeks.

Rusty Cutter link road Active Travel Improvements HBC CIL

Continuing from the developer's S278 works to the Forty Acres site, CELT are adding value by designing a cycle scheme to link the Rusty Cutter roundabout to the Tear Drop roundabout and improving access to Harts Farm Way and A27 cycle routes. We will also be bidding in the spring for National Highways Designated Funds. The preliminary design is to continue using CIL, in readiness for the bid submission.

Elettra Avenue / Milton Road HBC CIL

Elettra Avenue design is complete and approved by HCC. The Elettra Road project will be on hold until S106 funding is made available by HCC.

The Milton Road element, including the link to the Hambledon Road (south) service road, has a completed design and is progressing through CELT's internal approval process. Once approved it will be handed to HCC to instruct the next stage.

Waterlooville To Denmead Active Travel Corridor HBC CIL + HCC

The design has been amended and was discussed with HCC as part of the Hambledon Road LCWIP Capability Fund feasibility report. The exhibition with the public is expected to take place late summer 2024. It is anticipated that this project will be a multi phased project with a potential start on the first phase in spring 2025, subject to funding.

Somborne Drive Greywell car park Drainage improvements HBC S106

This project is to remove the flooding issues in Greywell car park. The design is complete. Works will be split into three phases. The phase one will start in March 2024 at the eastern section of the car park to remove the flooding issues. Phase two is expected to start Summer 2024 which is in the central area of the car park. Phases one and two will include sustainable drainage. Phase three will be conducted in the Autumn which will include tree planting.

Future of Billy Trail (feasibility) HBC CIL Funded

This feasibility study looks at securing a route for the next 25 years, including alternative routes where the existing path is more vulnerable to flood or erosion. The report also looks at a preferred surface so as the path can be used pedestrians, wheelers, and horse riders. It includes extending the route to the sea front. The study is nearing completion. The shared path across Sinah Common is under construction. The drop kerb across Sea Front from Staunton Avenue is expected to be complete late spring 2024.

ATF4 (north of Hayling Billy) [detailed design] HCC Funded

CELT have completed the commission to conduct detailed design of the northern section of the Billy Trail (car park opposite Applegreen garage to North Hayling Halt car park). The design proposed a surface similar to the main-land section of the Billy Trail. The design was completed in November 2023. Public engagement took place 15 November 2023 at north Hayling Halt. Funding was secured by HCC from Central Government. The implementation is with HCC who are looking to start on site October 2024. For further information, please look at HCC web site.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/16012024Haylingbillytrailfunding> .

Victoria Road, Emsworth HCC Funded

Design has been completed. We are now seeking design approval from HCC. Subject to design approval, likely start date mid-summer 2024.

Bridge Road Emsworth HCC Funded

Design to reshape junction at Bridge Road, Emsworth is underway. Once the design is complete HCC approval will be sought, work on site to start late summer 2024.

Morelands Phase 3 (Gauntlett Park) HCC

The design is complete and has been approved by HCC. The additional CIL funding of £29,268, to cover the cost of lighting, has been approved. The Planning Application was made 4 December 2023. Subject to the Planning approval implementation will be Summer 2024.

Hayling Island Boardwalk, Chichester Avenue HBC UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF)

The design has been produced and is now out to tender. Specialist contractors have made a visit to see the existing boardwalk and to understand what we are looking to achieve with the replacement. CELT and Regeneration colleagues met with a local

disability group to understand their needs (the UKSPF funding is linked to disability access) and a comprehensive scope was put together following this meeting. A public engagement event is set to take place at the United Reformed Church, Hayling Island, on 19 March. Works to commence late Spring / early Summer 2024.

3. Property

- Terms agreed with Poundstretcher (subject to contract) to occupy the former Wilko store in the Meridian Centre.
- New 25 lease granted to Springwood Community Foundation at the Springwood Centre, Waterloo, placing responsibility for management and maintenance of the building with the organisation.
- Key terms agreed with Horizon Leisure Trust (subject to approval at Cabinet 6th March) for the variation of the partnering agreement with the council and both leases, to help ensure the sustainability of the leisure and wellbeing offer and facilitate improvements at Waterloo Leisure Centre.
- 900 trees planted at Hooks Lane Recreation Ground for site defence and climate change purposes.
- Working in conjunction with Regeneration / Economic Development colleagues, have secured space for construction of a new 'Changing Places' toilet within the Meridian Centre. Works to commence in Q2 2024.
- Successful recruitment to the establishment post of Senior Estate Manager. New employee started on 4th March.
- Annual commercial rent roll increase of £209,000 compared to April 23 starting position.
- Level of rent collection remains high at 95% this quarter. Small increase in total debt by £12,348.

4. Customer Services

4.1. The Household Support Fund Discretionary fund of £140,000 has now been fully spent and from 250 applications the Council have supported 75 vulnerable resident and enabled them to stay in their homes and prevent possible homelessness.

5. Cabinet lead for Digital (Capita Contract)

5.1. The service's exit work for the 5C Partnership contract for ICT in 2025

continues under the established three major project areas and as part of the Strategic Services Procurement Programme:

- 5.1.1. **Developing and procuring a new ICT Infrastructure and Security (ICT I&S 2025) provision.** The tender window ends at noon 19th February for supplier bids at which point resources will be focused on evaluation and leading supplier selection to presentations.
- 5.1.2. **Moving legacy applications to Software as a Service (SaaS) cloud provision in preparation of a new ICT provider** – all are dependents of the ICT I&S 2025 project:
- 5.1.3. **Planning Case Management.** A Project Management resource has started at the council to continue lead on this project through the implementation phase in line with the project timeline.
- 5.1.4. **Other regulatory case management (env. Health, licensing etc).** This project will be delivered alongside the Planning Case Management project utilising the same supplier and PM resource.
- 5.1.5. **Finance system replacement.** The project has awarded to a supplier and a dedicated Project Management resource will take over the lead at the end of February through to delivery.
- 5.1.6. **BAU work continues to support key council teams** including a refresh of the Elections assets and infrastructure support including the planned recruitment for a supportive assets resource to the Digital Services team. The team continue to work on 5C infrastructure initiatives and advise colleagues around security in a double-election year. The team's focus is, primarily, the procurement of the new ICT Infrastructure and Security provision at this time.

**Cabinet Lead for Planning, the Environment inc. Water Quality and
Environmental Health –**

Councillor Elizabeth Lloyd

1. Local Plan

- 1.1. Work is progressing on the evidence base to support the Draft Building a Better Future Plan, which will be considered by Members for consultation later this calendar year. This aligns with the Local Development Scheme which was published late in 2023 and is available at www.havant.gov.uk/planning-services/planning-policy/local-plan/local-development-scheme-lds.
- 1.2. To enhance the member oversight of this key corporate project, a cross party Local Plan Working Group has been set up. This group will provide key oversight and expertise to officers developing the plan as it moves forward. The Working Group will ensure that the Council's key priorities are reflected into the Plan alongside the latest updates from Government. The Group is to be chaired by the Chair of the Planning Policy Committee with membership made up of the members of that committee. Following a request from all members, one additional member has been requested and granted membership of the Working Group. Any further members who would wish to be on the Working Group should approach the Chair.
- 1.3. Changes were introduced in December 2023 to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). The changes which were introduced are relatively minor in nature and are not considered likely to materially impact on the development of the new Local Plan. They will nonetheless be considered by officers as policies are developed. Alongside this, there was also a Written Ministerial Statement made on 13 December 2023 regarding 'Planning – Local Energy Efficiency Standards Update'. This clarified the Government's approach towards energy efficient housing through the Future Homes Standard, which has been introduced through the Building Regulations and will be further improved upon in 2025.
- 1.4. Through the statement, it was clarified that Government does not expect local plans to set local energy efficiency standards for buildings that go beyond current or planned building regulations. Any policies which propose local

standards that do go beyond the Future Homes Standard would be rejected at examination if they do not have a well-reasoned and robustly costed rationale. This will need to ensure that development remains viable and the impact on affordable housing is considered. Additionally, that the requirement is expressed in line with conventional metrics of assessing carbon emissions from buildings. The provisions of the Statement will be considered as the evidence base for the new plan is developed and policies prepared.

2. Development Management

Workloads and performance

- 2.1. The team continues to maintain a high level of application performance, with all categories of planning application (major, minor and other) being determined at rates significantly better than the Government's standards during Q1 - Q3 of 2023/24.
- 2.2. Pre-application numbers also continue to run at a high level – with over 800 enquiries of all types received by the team during Q1 - Q3 of 2023/24.
- 2.3. Following a successful recruitment drive at the end of 2023, staffing levels have returned to normal in the Business Support team, and the benefits of this are being seen with significant inroads being made into the backlog of planning application validation.

Casework

- 2.4. Whilst a large number of significant planning applications remain under consideration by the team, the start of the year has seen positive Committee resolutions and planning permissions issued in respect of a number of major developments including Land at Cowplain School, Waterlooville (64 bed care home and 6 dwellings); Southleigh Park House, Havant (41 dwellings); Former Dairy Crest Depot, Leigh Park (74 dwellings); and Land on the east side of Helmsley House, Havant (78 bed older persons care home).
- 2.5. The team is also working to roll out the new requirements for Biodiversity Net Gain legislation as set out above.
- 2.6. Dealing with 792 planning and tree works applications this year, excluding discharge of conditions.

2.7. The Council has reviewed its fees developers pay to access pre-application advice from the Council. For larger developments these have been increased and are now in line with nearby authorities. We have capped increases for householder development at 6.7% in line with other fee increases.

3. Planning Enforcement

3.1. The service continues to work through a complex caseload of planning enforcement queries.

3.2. The team updated Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in January on progress that is being made to integrate the service into the Place directorate and to implement new processes and procedures that will deliver a more effective service and better outcomes for our residents. This includes our new approach to case management and training. The service has also successfully recruited a very experienced Senior Enforcement Officer to lead the team.

3.3. As reported at OSC 148 enforcement cases have been closed since September 2023 with the Council currently having 48 live investigations.

4. Climate Change and the environment

4.1. As was reported to Cabinet in November through the Climate Change and Environment Panel Update, Ashden Climate Solutions delivered a series of workshops with officers and members examining the Council's approach to climate change. This is now being progressed into a review of the Council's Climate Change and Environment Strategy by the end of 2024.

4.2. It is critical though that the review of the strategy is done in a collaborative way, working with our local communities. In the new municipal year, we will be progressing the engagement on the strategy, starting with a focussed citizen forum before a wider consultation on the strategy later in the year.

4.3. In the meantime, individual projects linked to our climate change response are being progressed. This includes the development of ten active travel projects at either feasibility or delivery stage, building on the success of the recently opened Elmleigh Road scheme.

- 4.4. Following approval of the budget at Full Council in February the Council will be recruiting into the new Climate Change Coordinator post.
- 4.5. Biodiversity Net Gain, which is a national initiative emanating from the Environment Act, came into force in on 12 February for new major planning application. From 2 April this will also come into force for smaller sites with nationally significant infrastructure from late 2025. Biodiversity Net Gain will ensure that all relevant development schemes leave the natural environment in a demonstrably better state than before – contributing to not only preventing further ecological losses but to create tangible gains.
- 4.6. We are in the process of updating our application requirements, to ensure that Biodiversity Net Gain is considered appropriately through the planning application process. We will be engaging with the development industry on this in due course. Further information is available on the Council's website at www.havant.gov.uk/node/8555/biodiversity-net-gain and this will continue to be updated as the rollout of the initiative continues.

5. Environmental Health

- 5.1. At Cabinet on 6 March 2023 we presented a summary of the findings of the Langstone Harbour water quality testing that was carried out by the Council during June to October 2023. The results have been independently verified and are to be published.
- 5.2. As Cabinet Lead for Planning, Environment and Water Quality I will be writing to partner agencies calling for further action to protect water quality in Langstone Harbour including calling on Southern Water to provide additional investment in infrastructure and on the Environment Agency to expand their current testing regime to sample recreational waters as well as designated bathing waters. Portsmouth City Council has confirmed that they will be supporting our approach.
- 5.3. I like to thank Les Glass, who works in the Private sector housing Team, for his 46.5 years of service with the Council. I wish him a long and happy retirement.
- 5.4. Other achievements that have achieved are the following:

Private Sector Housing

- Investigated 226 housing complaints in the past 12 months
- Served 17 housing notices in the last 12 months.
- Issued 4 fines amounting to £12,750.00 relating to concerns about Electrical Safety.
- We have approved 126 Disabled Facilities grants this financial year and spent £1.658 million

Pollution Team

- Investigated 674 complaints and queries in the past 12 months.
- Submitted and had approved the Air Quality report for 2022 and 2023.
- Dealt with 17 Public welfare burials cases in the past 12 months.
- Reviewed and commented on 201 Planning applications, in the last 12 months, (these will look at issues of noise, excessive light and contaminated land concerns).
- Reviewed and commented on 199 Licensing consultations, in the last 12 months,

Pest control

- In the past 12 months 359 rat treatments have been completed.
- The service continues to bring income from commercial contracts and investigation on PCC blocks or flats and houses (communal areas).

Food and Safety

- Completed inspections in line with the FSA (Food Standards Agency) local recovery plan (post Covid).
- Since April 2023 to present day 259 premises received an inspection – both programmed and new premises/businesses.
- Since April 2023 118 New Premises Registered
- 58 food and food premises complaints dealt with.
- 17 Health & Safety premises complaints and accident cases that received investigation.

Animal Welfare

- Awarded with a Silver RSPCA Paw Prints Award for our stray dog service.
- Reunited 18 stray dogs with their owners.
- Successfully found rescue places for 12 stray dogs.
- Provided our customers with up-to-date advice and guidance on compliance with the Government's ban on XL Bully type dogs, and responded to several abandoned or straying XL bully types.
- Employed a full time Senior Animal Welfare Officer.
- Undertaken a comprehensive review of the customer journey for applicants and licensees, including a full review of the website, application forms and guidance documents for licensees.
- The service has caught up on all overdue licence inspections.

6. Licensing

6.1. Reviewing the items Licensing have achieved this recently, these include the following:

- Undertaken a comprehensive review of our key policies, including the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy, Statement of Licensing Policy (LA2003), Statement of Principles (GA3005), and Street Trading Policy.
- Successfully implemented 6-monthly DBS checks and mandatory safeguarding training for all taxi and private hire drivers.
- Completed two successful taxi enforcement operations in partnership with Hampshire Constabulary and Portsmouth City Council, proactively stopping licensed vehicles to inspect for defects.
- Completely revitalised the process for applying for street trading consent, including adopting the relevant legislation, adopting a new policy, revising application forms and working with Public Relations to improve our messaging to the public.
- Supported community groups and a community centre with obtaining relevant licences for their events.

7. Building Control

- 7.1. The Council continues to work to implement new legal requirements coming into force in April 2024 that will make Building Control a regulated profession. Only Building Control staff who are registered at the appropriate class will be able to carry out Building Control work.
- 7.2. This core work is defined as ‘restricted activities’ (checking Building Regulation applications and carrying out site inspections) and ‘restricted functions’ (which includes advising the Council on enforcement and the issuing of all legal documents such as Building Regulation approvals, rejections and completion certificates). Carrying out this work without the appropriate registration will become a criminal activity.
- 7.3. The new register for Building Control Surveyors has been open since October 2023, but prior to being able to register Surveyors must validate their competence through a new process that includes a detailed submission of evidence followed by an interview or exam. Existing professional qualifications such as being a Chartered Surveyor are not adequate for registration.
- 7.4. Because of the significant numbers of Surveyors (there are approximately 4,500 Building Control Surveyors in the country) going through this new process in a short space of time there is a bottleneck in getting competence validated. Of the nine Surveyors within the Building Control partnership who need to undertake validation, one has been through the whole process and is awaiting results, five have had their submissions accepted and are being examined or interviewed towards the end of the month, two await acceptance of their submissions and one is off long-term sick and has not started the process. There is a risk to the Council that if no Surveyor has validated competence and registered by the 6 April the Council would not be able to carry out its statutory functions of enforcing the Building Regulations without breaking the law and would therefore need to buy in support by way of a registered Surveyor from another Building Control body. This assumes however that other Building Control bodies have enough registered Building Control Surveyors and capacity to support.
- 7.5. Whilst this risk exists it is considered to be reasonably low. Nearly all Councils across the country are in a similar position. The current pass rate for

the validation exam is approximately 70%. Therefore, it is likely that by April 6 sufficient numbers in the team will have passed and be able to register to ensure the service can continue to operate. The service may even be in a position where it can use this situation as a commercial opportunity and sell support to other Councils who do not have sufficient numbers of registered Surveyors. However, this will be dependent on the number of Surveyors that have been able to successfully complete the process.

- 7.6. On a day-to-day operational basis the service continues to perform well, hitting all targets and key performance indicators. It has also reduced the number of complaints it receives, with no complaints to Havant Borough Council in the last 6 months.

Cabinet Lead for Communities and Housing –

Councillor Gwen Robinson

1. Community relations, including sport, leisure and play parks

Front Lawn/Springwood Play Areas

1.1 The new play areas at both Front Lawn in Leigh Park and Springwood Avenue in Waterloooville are both now approaching 6 months since completion. Feedback from the community hubs at both sites inform the council that these sites have been well used throughout the year and seen a marked increase in usage.

Eastoke Corner

1.2 Six submissions for the refurbishment of Eastoke corner play area have recently been evaluated and Proludic produced the winning submission. The whole site will use an investment of £200k CIL funding to remove all old equipment and replace with new. This will include separated areas for play and exercise as well as a new enclosed multi use games area. Work is scheduled to commence ON 26TH Feb 2024 with the aim being completed by the Easter Holidays.

In addition to the play area refurbishments the Community Payback team have carried out some clearance work from the existing landscaped area that borders the current facilities. The Civil Engineering and Landscaping Team have reinstated the existing sleeper beds and the ground has been prepared and new planting has been instated. The plants were provided, for free, by the Woodlands Trust.

Outdoor Gym at Jubilee Park

1.3 The active wellbeing team have recently been awarded £60,000 of funding from Public Health to install an outdoor physical activity facility in Jubilee Park, Waterloooville. The project is currently out to tender, and a contractor will be appointed by the end of March with a view to begin construction in July. The facility will be located near to the newly refurbished tennis courts to complement the parks physical activity offerings.

Waterlooville Boxing Club

1.4 The Community Team were successful in obtaining £5000 from the Police and Crime Commission's Emerging Needs Fund. This will pay for a new, up to standard

boxing ring to be installed at the Waterlooville Boxing Club. Officers will take this opportunity to partner with the club to deliver some boxing programmes that aim to reduce antisocial behaviour and serious violent crime in the area. These will be aimed to begin shortly after the ring has been installed. In addition to this, a further £13,900 of Sport England funding has been awarded to the club with the assistance of HBC active wellbeing officers. This will go towards new equipment, coaching costs and staff training. These funds will help launch a new era for the club and the active wellbeing team look forward to working with them to help achieve shared social aims.

Havant Parks Tennis

1.5 Within the past twelve months officers from the Community Team have successfully launched Havant Parks Tennis.

This project is a result of strong partnership working with the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) since 2016, which in early 2023 resulted in c£219K investment into Havant owned park court sites. This funding was used to completely refurbish three sites including, resurfacing, respray, new nets/posts, new fencing at the Waterlooville site and new access gate technology at all sites across the borough.

In order to ensure the long-term sustainability of courts an operator (NTA) was appointed to manage a paid for model, this will secure the life time maintenance of courts. This includes, pay and play tennis, annual household memberships, coaching, school holiday clubs and other tennis activity.

Key participation rates since the implementation of this operating model (as of February 2024);

- 233 annual members who have unlimited access to courts across the borough
- 2,441 court bookings / 3,320 hours of court usage
- 825 pay and play bookings
- LTA Youth Start courses delivered in September
- Coaching delivered on Tuesdays and Saturdays

Considering the project missed a majority of the summer and the Wimbledon fortnight, these figures are very positive and provide a really strong baseline to build on in 2024 and beyond.

Plans are currently being prepared to advertise the courts early Spring to promote the opportunity for residents. Plans include;

- Increasing coaching offer, including expanding on the current junior and adults offer
- Free Parks Tennis, weekly free access to courts. This is an LTA product and is managed in a similar way to park run
- Concessionary membership rates for those in receipt of certain benefits
- Further open events and community events to raise awareness of the project

Officers will continue to work in partnership with the NTA to maximise opportunity in activating tennis across the borough.

We are one of the first Local Authorities nationally to work with the LTA on their large scale investment into parks tennis, Havant has been used as a case study by the LTA at workshops to evidence what a successful project looks like. Officers have also supported colleagues from other authorities in developing their projects.

Summary to Investment into Play Areas and Outdoor Leisure Facilities

1.6 Officers from the Community Team have continued to invest in refurbishing play areas that have been identified as nearing end of life and require replacing. Officers utilise CIL funding from the neighbourhood portion to complete the works, as well as any additional external funding that can be levered in.

The following sites have been refurbished in 2023-2024.

- Springwood
- Spencers Field
- Front Lawn
- Bidbury Mead

Officers have worked with the Insight team to undertake meaningful community engagement in order to provide facilities that meet the needs of communities.

Feedback from engagement has informed each tender specification. Each project is very different, this has allowed for varied provision across the borough and diversifies the play offer.

Works have provided fun, educational, modern and more accessible play provision at each site. We understand the importance that play has on the development of children and young people within Havant and continue to work to improve areas where provision requires replacing.

Upcoming projects that are either starting imminently or are close to starting.

- Eastoke Corner, Hayling Island. (February/March 2024)
- Hayling Dirt Jumps, Hayling Island (DLUCH Funding) (Contractor appointed)
- Waterlooville Recreation Ground, Waterlooville. Installation of new outdoor gym equipment. (Public Health Funding £60K) (Tender closes early March 2024)

Projects identified for 2024-2025 CIL Funding

- Avenue Road, Hayling Island
- Scratchface Lane, Bedhampton
- Cowplain Recreation Ground, Cowplain

Havant Community Lottery

1.7 The Havant Lottery currently has 112 registered Good Causes and 731 players are purchasing tickets. Over £247,000 has been raised for local Good Causes since 2018. Since 16th December, 28 cash prizes have been won by supporters on the weekly draw, totalling £1,375.

The next Community Fund round opens in the spring, registered Good Causes of the Lottery can apply for up to £2,000 for projects that support Havant Borough residents.

In the last 12 months fifteen Havant Lottery Community fund grants totalling £22,274 have been awarded to Good Causes to support small community projects within the Borough

Havant Dementia Information Fayre

1.8 The Havant Dementia Information Fayre takes place at the Plaza on Friday 28th June between 10am – 2pm. This is a free, drop-in for people living with Dementia, their carers, friends and families to seek advice and support from local charities and organisations. The event will consist of a main ‘marketplace’ with 20+ stalls and

information stands, free legal advice, live musical entertainment, craft sessions and physical activity sessions. Last year 150 people attended this event.

The Havant Dementia Network nearly folded early last year, we stepped into keep the group operating whilst a new chair was found. The group now has a permanent chair and is thriving and growing.

Emsworth Youth Forum

1.9 The Emsworth Youth Forum held their second engagement event on Monday 12th February (half term). The event was a good opportunity to engage with young people to find out what they would like to see happening in their community. The long-term aim is to set up a Youth Forum run by local young people. 47 young people attended this event.

Support for Ukraine

The emphasis of HBC' support to our guests has changed to keep it relevant. Officers, working in partnership, are now concentrating on providing multiple levels of ESOL courses via Rural Refugee Network. Officers are also working with Bridge to Unity to support entry into employment.

We have offered seven face to face Ukraine drop-in sessions for hosts and families at the Plaza. Regular advice and support has been offered from a range of different organisations over the last 18 months including the Community and Housing team, Health service, Connect to Support, Citizen Advice, MIND, Horizon and Bridge to Unity. No other Council has offered this kind of support in the Hampshire area.

The Ukrainian Choir have gone from strength to strength. HBC supported their formation with funding received from the ICB to support mental health in our guests. They are now working with Community First and New Royal Theatre to become independent and to set up a CIO.

Growing Projects

The Grow it, Cook it, Eat it project has successfully moved to a much smaller plot on the Stockheath Lane allotment site. A volunteer day has been held and seeds have been planted ready to be put into the ground in March/April time when hopefully the weather is dryer. Officers are continuing to work with Oarsome Chance who are creating 8 raised beds to house salad, herbs and soft fruit.

The Emsworth project is getting underway. The site has been cleared and the voluntary group, along with officers from the Community Team, are working with colleagues from Estates to create a long-term management plan.

Food Project

Officers within the team are now working with the Strategy Unit to create a database of food initiatives within the Borough. This will include the food banks and pantries, the growing projects and also other food projects like Munch and Bridge to Unity offerings.

Community and Ukrainian Bulletins

These publications are sent out every month. The 'What's on in Havant Borough' bulletin goes out to 886 people and the Ukrainian bulleting goes out to 362 people each month.

New Developments

Work continues to support three major new developments across the Borough. The Camp Field development is well underway including the delivery of the orchard, however, the first occupations have been pushed back to the end of March. Sinah Lane and Forty Acres continue with their build. Currently, 45 dwellings are occupied out of 195 at Sinah Lane and 248 dwellings are currently occupied out of 320 at Forty Acres.

2 Homelessness

2.1 To encourage best practice with partners the Housing Team has carried out the following training in 2023/24:

2.1.1 The Housing Team has forged links with the Department of Work & Pensions (DWP) and presentations and training have been provided by the team to DWP officers on homelessness regulations, duties and processes. This will help officers to provide the right advice to those people who contact the housing service and/or DWP and are in housing crisis.

2.1.2 Links have also been made with Childrens and Adult Services as well as the County Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub and officers have conducted three detailed workshops on homelessness to officers from these teams.

2.1.3 Housing officers have spoken to young people at the Youth Community Hub to explain the risks associated with homelessness and the legal duties that the Council must undertake in relation to requirements under the Homeless Reduction Act 2017.

2.1.4 The Housing Team has participated in workshops with National Health Service colleagues and General Practice Social Prescribers.

2.1.5 Housing Officers have been part of the Armed Forces Covenant sessions.

2.1.6 Housing Officers have attended and provided advice at Ukrainian national's drop-in sessions.

2.2 The Housing service has undertaken some initiatives to reduce the costs of temporary accommodation:

2.2.1 On 27 September 2023 the Council approved the purchase of temporary accommodation to reduce the use of costly short-term solutions such as bed and breakfast placements which have an impact on the Council's budget.

Since then, officers have been working to identify potential properties. This resulted in two properties that have had offers accepted and the Council is proceeding to purchase. These properties will provide a minimum of 28 rooms for homeless people and will include a support function to help these residents to move on to settled accommodation. Once the properties have been purchased the Council will begin the necessary works to get them ready for occupation. A process will also take place to commission specialist management and support services for these properties.

2.2.2 The Council has been successful in securing match funding to purchase properties under the Local Authority Housing Fund scheme. This work is in progress and properties are being secured across the Borough.

2.2.3 The Council entered into a yearlong pilot scheme with BEAM, an organisation that helps to assist people at risk of homelessness to secure settled homes in the private rental sector. A review of the pilot will take place in April 2024.

3. Affordable Housing

Q3 (Oct-Dec 24) delivery figures have been confirmed by Vivid and Aster as follows:

Site address	Registered Provider	Affordable Rent	Shared Ownership	Total
Manor Farm, Bedhampton	Vivid	2	0	2
Forty Acres, Havant	Vivid	6	14	20
Woodcroft Farm, Waterlooville	Vivid	0	9	9
Pebble Walk, Sinah Lane, Hayling Island	Aster	5	4	9
Total		8	23	40

These additional 40 units will take the cumulative total for 23/24 to 94 new homes with the following split:

Shared Ownership = 35

Social Rent = 29

Affordable Rent = 30

Total 94

Aster continues to deliver on the Pebble Walk site, off Sinah Lane on Hayling Island. A further 15 units, 12 new homes for Affordable Rent and 3 for Shared Ownership, are forecasting between now and the end of this financial year, i.e., Q4.

Moving into the 2024/2025 financial year Aster are forecasting a further 21 Affordable Rent homes by the end of December 2024.

Vivid have further units to be handed over during 2024/2025 at their 40 Acres & Woodcroft sites, 17 Affordable Rents, & 4 homes for Shared Ownership, and these will be the last handovers for both these sites.

Pipeline of new build affordable homes

Planning approval for the Former Dairy Crest Depot, Dunsbury Way, Havant has been granted recently and once completed in 2025 to 2026, this site will deliver 74-, 1- & 2-bedroom homes through Vivid Homes. All these homes will be for Affordable or Social Rent and be advertised through our housing register Hampshire Home Choice.

Following a site visit to the new development currently under construction at South Hayling Court in Elm Grove, Hayling Island, the provider Housing 21 are forecasting the first available homes to reach hand over stage in the Summer of 2024. Once fully completed this scheme will provide a total of 39 new apartments, 25 rented and 14 Shared Ownership, for residents over the age of 55.

4. Housing Association Liaison

Regular in-person quarterly catch-up meetings are held with The Guinness Partnership, our largest provider of social housing with over 4000 properties across our borough.

Meetings are attended by Cllr Gwen Robinson, manager representatives from the Housing Services team, Clare Easton-Regional Head of Customer Service, Ian Joynson- Executive Director of Asset Management, both from TGP, and enable discussion relating to both strategic and operational matters.

Future meetings and agenda items are currently being confirmed.

5. Hampshire Home Choice

Below is the current Hampshire Home Choice housing register data as at 01/03/2024.

	Band 1	Band 2	Band 3	Band 4	Grand Total
1	3	63	599	50	715
2		17	513	15	545
3	1	13	325	2	341
4	2	16	57		75
5		1	1	1	3
6		1			1
Grand Total	6	111	1495	68	1680

6. Health & Wellbeing

Active Wellbeing Strategy

6.1 The strategic steering group of physical activity, health and community partners has been set up to provide oversight and support in the development of a new Active Wellbeing Strategy for Havant. The steering group met for the first time in January. A stakeholder workshop event is planned for April, with attendees from all Council services and partners who can directly or indirectly encourage people to move more. The workshop will identify themes and objectives that a new strategy could include. These themes can then be tested through public engagement later in the year.

Energise Me – Active Health Funding

6.2 Officers have been successful in securing £74,000 of funding from Energise Me and Hampshire County Council. The funding enables the expansion of the Get up and go physical activity programme to work with priority communities who face the most significant income deprivation to co design activity programmes that respond to their need. The programme will continue to support residents into more active lifestyles and subsequently improve health inequalities.

Horizon Wellbeing Hub

6.3 Since the opening of the Wellbeing Hub in partnership with Horizon Leisure Trust in June 2023, it has had 1,191 visits across a number of programs from people embarking on a journey to improve their health and wellbeing or increase their confidence in being active.

Programmes delivered include the 'Foundations' course, designed to support people in their first steps into being active with 4 weeks at the wellbeing Hub to gently introduce physical activity on an individualised basis, who then transition to the leisure centre when confidence allows.

There are a number of classes aimed to support people to be active including Male and Female only sessions, low impact circuits, falls prevention which have seen some great success stories, one person reversing their Diabetes after just 12 weeks. Quantitative tests including Blood pressure, BMI, Peak flow, glucose and cholesterol testing help people to have a better understanding of their overall health and

wellbeing and allowing the Horizon team to signpost into activities that support them to improve their health.

The Wellbeing hub has enabled greater partnership working with our Local health partners including, Southern Health NHS Musculoskeletal physiotherapy team, local social prescribers and Smoke Free Hampshire who all run clinics out of the Hub on a weekly basis.

The surgery pod was introduced in November through England's Innovation for Healthcare Inequalities Programme (InHIP) which aims to address Health Inequalities in Hampshire. GP practices have been inviting their patients to drop-in to have their blood pressure checked which the results feed directly into the NHS system. Those invited have not had a blood pressure check in the last 5 years to encourage early detection and CVD prevention with the aim is to allow, better use of clinical time – improved responsiveness for patients with significant health risks and allow patients to be empowered to monitor and achieve better health.

Get Up and Go!

6.4 It has been an amazing year of Get Up and Go with 800+ registrations in the last year, with 500+ people attending over 20 activities that have been on offer. Most activities have been fully booked and have waiting lists for the 2024 / 2025 season. These include: Coastal rowing, Stand Up paddle boarding, Learning to swim, Nordic walking, Yoga, Pilates and Open water swimming.

New partnerships have been formed with Hayling Island watersports, Bedhampton bowls club, Hayling island Bowls club, Shiyong Tai Chi, Steady and Strong, Hayling and Emsworth walking football club, Jon Hammond badminton coach, Leigh Park Boxing club and Salt and Pebble swimming coaching. Most of which will continue in the 2024.

The top health conditions of people taking part in activities are: Overweight / obesity (224 people), mental health conditions (170 people), a form of Arthritis (148 people), blood pressure problems (115 people), A form of respiratory disease such as Asthma (53) and controlled diabetes (48). These figures are promising, given recent figures that 66% of residents in the borough are overweight or obese, 17% have registered depression and 9% of residents have Diabetes Mellitus, all of which are higher in the

borough than the national average. The borough also has a higher prevalence of comorbidity, and many of our participants have more than 1 health condition.

We also know that from evaluation, people engaging in Get Up and Go are also making other changes to their lifestyles, including healthier eating, getting out more and meeting people and reducing alcohol intake.

Our participant feedback page is full of various quotes from participants informing us how the project has helped their health:

<https://www.getupandgohavant.com/success-stories>

"Since taking part in the GUAG activities, especially the Coastal Rowing, I have not only lost 20lbs but I have taken up jogging, my physical fitness overall has improved and my mental health is so much better. I've joined the CRAC and have taken part in my first coastal rowing race competition! I'm aiming for the World Championships in the Scilly Isles next year!

Wellbeing walks

6.5 Wellbeing walks provision in the borough has doubled this year, which is great news for residents, with 10 walks now on offer across 6 days a week. Over 20 new walk leaders have been trained, many of which have started a new walk or in the process of planning one so there will be even more walks in 2024! Some walks are seeing 40+ people attending, which has resulted in a shorter walk being introduced, with the help of having more leaders available.

In December 2023, a thank you event was put on for walk leaders, some of which have been leading walks voluntarily for 20+ years. Around 20 leaders attended, along with the Mayor of Havant, and it was a fantastic and positive event thanking these amazing people who are valuable to the borough.

7. Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

7.1 Our public facing Exacom System (which we use to monitor Developer Contributions) provides up-to-date information on CIL and S106 income and expenditure and can be viewed via this link: <https://pfm.exacom.co.uk/havant/>.

Strategic CIL Funding

7.2 As per the Council decision of 28 February 2024, we have allocated funds to the following projects as identified in the table below. The references allocated to these projects in Exacom are listed in the left hand column:

Ref.	Description	Amount
5	Langstone FCERM	£2,500,000
306	Changing Places	£150,000
307	Northney Drainage	£184,000
308	Hayling Seafront Signage	£50,000
309	Hayling Seafront Boardwalks	£30,000
	TOTAL	£2,914,000

7.3 Further information on these spends will be provided in due course. Most of our spending on Strategic CIL takes place in time for the end of the financial year on 31st March 2024 and these spends will be reported on in a subsequent report.

Neighbourhood Portion CIL

Ref	Name and Description	Date Funding Approved	Amount
280	Relocation of Havant and East Hants MIND to The Meridian Centre	23/11/2023	£50,000

7.4 The majority of the Neighbourhood Portion CIL funds for 1/4/23 – 31/3/24 have been committed.

S106

7.5 There is no up-to-date news to report on S106 spending presently.

8. Freeport

- a. The Council continue to work collaboratively with the Freeport and Portsmouth City Council who own the land at Dunsbury Business Park that sits within the Freeport Tax Site.

9. Police & Crime Panel

9.1 Following the Service Review of the Prevention and Enforcement service there has been a new emphasis on the PAG (Partnership Action Group) meetings. The Executive Head and the Prevention and Enforcement manager have been working closely with the Chief Inspector for Havant to reinvigorate the meetings and to focus on dealing with strategic issues.

9.2 Police and Crime Commissioner, Donna Jones, has launched the Local Bobby Scheme; also known as Dedicated Neighbourhood Officers. The scheme means that anyone in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight can now find out not only who their Local Bobby is but also their email and direct phone number.

This can be done by entering your postcode on the dedicated webpage:
hampshirealert.co.uk/Content/AllLocalAreas

Feedback which Donna Jones received from the public was that not only do people want to see more police officers on the street, they also want a police force they feel connected to.

This scheme, the first of its kind in the region, aims to strengthen community-police relations; something which has been lost in recent years.

10. Community Safety

10.1 The Council have also sent its officers on a specific safeguarding training to renew their qualifications and to increase the number of qualified safeguarding officers. A new Safeguarding policy for the Council is currently being written and will soon be brought forward for approval by members.

10.2 The service review into Prevention and Enforcement is now concluded and the interviews for the new Prevention and Enforcement officers are currently taking place with a view to be up to full establishment by the beginning of April

2024. These new officers will be able to issue both Parking fines as well as working on Community Safety issues such as littering, fly tips and illegal encampments.

- 10.3 The Councils budget included funding for CCTV in both Leigh Park and Havant Town Centre and the team will start to look into this since the budget has now been approved. They are also looking at deployable cameras.

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Notice of Motion to Council

Title: Parental Leave for Councillors

Context:

- Currently, there is no ratified parental leave for councillors, meaning that any councillor wishing for maternity, paternity or adoption leave needs to apply for special dispensations to allow them to spend much needed time with their child.
- Data released by the Fawcett Society shows that only 34 per cent of councillors elected in the May 2021 local elections are women, meaning that only 35 per cent of councillors overall are women. The data shows that if this continues at a similar rate, we won't reach equality in local government until 2077;
- As of February 2022, 33 councils have passed the LGA Parental Leave policy, and an additional 7 councils have their own parental leave policy in place.
- In 2019, the LGA co-produced the **21st Century Councils Equalities Toolkit** with MHCLG (Now DLUHC/Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities). The toolkit recommends that councils adopt a parental leave policy, and they link to the LGA Parental Leave policy as a model to adopt;
- That the role of a councillor should be open to all, regardless of their background, and that introducing a parental leave policy is a step towards encouraging a wider range of people to become councillors, and is also a step to encourage existing councillors who may want to start a family to remain as councillors;
- That parental leave must apply to parents regardless of their gender, and that it should also cover adoption leave to support those parents who choose to adopt.

The Motion:

Members are requested to:

1. Commit to introducing a Parental Leave Policy to give all Councillors an entitlement to parental leave following the birth or adoption of a child.
2. Request that Officers prepare a draft Parental Leave Policy.

3. Request that the Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) consider the Parental Leave Policy as part of the Members Allowance Scheme Review (2024) and make appropriate recommendations prior to being presented for approval at a future meeting of the Council.

Proposed by:

Cllr Amy Redsull

[Signed by Cllr Amy Redsull]

Seconded by:

[Signed by Cllr Philippa Gray]

Date Submitted: 26 February 2024

Motion on the Southleigh site development

The area known as Southleigh lies to the west of Emsworth and east of Denvilles, Havant and is bordered to the north by Bartons Road. It appeared in the Local Plan submitted in 2019 as a site suitable for 2,100 houses, which is more than double the next biggest site in the plan. It appears again as one of the sites being considered for the new local plan.

The proposal involved shops, a primary school and a link road going south from Bartons Road, through the new estate to take traffic directly onto the A27 at the Warblington Junction. Traffic along Southleigh Road is already excessive with regular long queues at the railway crossing at Warblington, leading to increases in air pollution at Warblington School. The new road would also benefit Emsworth residents, by allowing traffic travelling along the B2149 to avoid Emsworth and access the A27 via a shorter route and would reduce traffic through central Havant by allowing traffic from the New Lane industrial estate, including the new Amazon warehouse to access the A27 more directly.

The final transport assessment with the final preferred route was published in 2020. The Government Inspectors indicated it was important to resolve whether the link road was needed to develop the site and if so, then the road should be built at the start of the project. We are therefore presenting this motion to Council:

If the new Local Plan includes the Southleigh site for new housing we ask the Council to work with Hampshire Highways to:

- a) *Carry out a detailed traffic survey to ascertain whether the proposed link road from Bartons Road to the A27 Warblington junction is required in order to develop the Southleigh site for housing.*
- b) *If the outcome of this survey indicates that the link road is necessary, to make every effort to ensure that the landowner and developer build the link road at the start of the development.*

Proposed: Councillor Phil Munday

Seconded: Councillor Richard Kennett

6 March 2024

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Council Motion: Increasing our recycling offer to residents

Proposer: Cllr Andy Briggs

Seconder: Cllr Imogen Payter

Introduction:

As a Council we want to help support our residents increase the amount they can recycle.

Currently there are no realistic ways for residents to recycle pots, tubs and trays, so called “hard recycling”. This is because the facilities provided by Hampshire County Council which handles all of the Borough’s recycling cannot process such polymers. However, we want residents to aspire to recycle more types of plastics.

Other Councils have introduced plastic recycling banks, directly for hard plastics that cannot be collected in the kerbside collection.

Meanwhile, five million disposable vapes are thrown away each week and research shows that 700 fires in bin lorries and recycling centres nationally were caused by batteries that had been dumped into general waste. The proper recycling of disposable vapes could be used to power batteries and have been proven to be successfully made into power banks in Ukraine.

There are currently 14 drop-off points for vapes in the Borough, mostly in Co-Op and Tesco stores.

We are asking the Cabinet to investigate ways of improving the recycling offer provided for our residents.

Therefore, we are requesting Council asks Cabinet to:

1. Consider a policy of installing plastic recycling banks in the Borough.
2. Work with Hampshire County Council to deliver a solution for kerbside hard plastics.
3. Investigate the feasibility of setting up collection boxes for used single-use vapes in controlled Council locations and encourage more shops in the Borough to install vape disposal points.
4. Ask Hampshire County Council and the Vape industry to explore innovative recycling methods for single-use and illicit vapes, such as donating to Ukraine.

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