

Cabinet Lead Reports – Full Council November 2019

Councillor Narinder Bains - Cabinet Lead for Neighbourhoods, Safety and Enforcement

Community Safety:

Neighbourhood Quality

Now that the summer has passed the teams' attentions turn from the unprecedented number of unlawful incursions we experienced, to focusing on the quality of place in our town centres, fly tipping and delivering the Supporting Families programme.

In addition, the team will also be delivering the annual Junior Citizen event at Fort Purbrook where key safety and crime prevention messages will be delivered to some 1400 junior school pupils from across the Borough.

Tree Service

In spring 2019 Cllr Prad Bains brought forward an exciting proposal to create a Memorial Woodland to the fallen in Havant Borough to mark the centenary of the First World War. Councillors and Officers from the Tree Service working together and in partnership with Portsmouth Water have managed to secure a site for the Memorial Woodland at Havant Thicket where the new reservoir is to be developed. The woodland planting scheme will be located at the south west corner and consist of a mixture of tree species to include Oak, Sweet-Chestnut, Field Maple and Hazel. This area will have its own identity on the site, and it is hoped that it will be marked with public art designs created by local community groups and workers that reflect the character of the woodland planting scheme.

Planting has been scheduled to begin in December 2019.

Planning Enforcement

There are currently some 80 open cases under investigation ranging from listed buildings to unauthorised advertising with many and varied reported issues in between. The team has recently come up to strength so that we now have two officers (one in training) working through this heavy workload. It is timely to remind people that there is an online reporting process which can be accessed through the Planning Portal.

Environmental Health

Private Sector Housing

The Empty Homes Strategy for the council has been drafted and is ready for review before being fully adopted. The Strategy formalises the excellent work already undertaken on the empty home workstream by teams across the council, and enhances our approach by providing clarity.

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