

Neighbourhoods, Community Safety & Enforcement

Cabinet Lead Report of
Cllr Narinder Bains



INTRODUCING

The Pest Control Team (above)

The team, consisting of Mat, James, Mike, and Mike are an enthusiastic and dynamic group who deliver a high quality of service to our residents, particularly the most vulnerable members of the community.

The most common pests dealt with are rats and mice, however the team is experienced and qualified and is able to treat for a variety of pests, further information is available on our website.



Additionally, recently the team has been looking to take a more commercial approach with a view to providing our services to businesses in our borough, at a very competitive rate. The team is able to offer ad hoc treatments as well as bespoke structured pest management on a contract basis.

To book a pest control treatment, residents can call our Customer Services Team on 023 9244 6016 and the booking will be made and payment taken. Concessions are available for those on low incomes. For businesses the team is able to provide a free no-obligation survey undertaken by an officer, and we can be contacted by email ehhealth@havant.gov.uk or call 02392 446770.



Licence fees have now been agreed by the Licensing Committee, and subject to the consultation process we hope they will be implemented in the new financial year.

Neighbourhood Quality

The October 2019 update alluded to a challenging summer with regards to unlawful encampments. As predicted the winter months have seen a significant decrease in reported encampments. Looking ahead, based upon data from 2018 and 19, it is reasonable to assume we will see a large number again in spring/summer 2020. During this time it is anticipated that we will also be assisting with enforcement patrols on Hayling Seafront. It is likely that much of the team's time will be focused on to these two areas between May and September.

The annual Junior Citizen Event held in November 2019 was a great success, providing safety and crime prevention messages to some 1400 year six pupils from 26 schools across the borough. This year we sought to promote the difficult message of drug use and safety as part of this event in collaboration with the family of Georgia Jones, the young lady who sadly lost her life at the Mutiny Festival in 2018. Sessions were delivered by HBC and MOTIV8 and were very well received. This year we were also joined by our own Animal Welfare team who did a terrific job in promoting safety around animals.

The Supporting Families Project continues to be delivered by the Neighbourhood Quality Team. We anticipate that we will be delivering the project in 2020/21 but cannot provide a firm judgment as to the future of the project beyond this date, while discussions are ongoing at central government. In light of this the Neighbourhood Quality Team has developed a contingency plan in order to continue the ethos of whole family working should the project come to an end.



Car Parking and Traffic Management



New lining is being carried out in certain Havant car parks.

We have purchased Meridian and Bulbeck Road car parks.

Currently working in partnership with Hampshire County Council regarding schools – The Senior Civil Enforcement Officers are in discussions with HCC officers regarding a joined up approach to engage all stakeholders on the issue of safety around schools – this is a multi-agency approach and not just a ‘parking problem’. We will keep Councillors informed and offer a chance to be involved.

Lines have been completed on Brockhampton Lane (South).

Trees

We are developing a Citizens Copse of tree planting at the Hampshire Farm POS and this is moving forward well - next meeting is on site 16/1/20.

Centenary Woodland - next meeting going forward for this project is 23/1/20 with Portsmouth Water for an update. This is running alongside the planning consultation on the reservoir.

Norse and council-owned trees - The tree surveying and customer inquiries for our tree stock is currently still in an interim position with Norse using consultants to undertake the role; they are currently working circa four weeks behind the inspection schedule - I am meeting on Monday 13/1/20 to discuss.

We are currently interviewing for new tree officers.

Havant Tree Wardens – Jamie is setting the dates for the year

Statutory duty - TPO applications, conservation area notification and planning application consultations are all still within and exceeding the national and local targets. We continue to make new TPOs where appropriate and are reviewing the existing TPOs. (Our core area of work - planning is increasing which is expected as development continues to rise)

Two tree enforcement cases currently being investigated.

Income generation - We currently have two fee earning projects for Hampshire Highways underway.

Emergency Planning



The annual exercise took place in the Emergency Control Centre at Penns Place on the 10th October. The scenario was based on widespread power loss in the Havant area which resulted in loss of power to the plaza. The exercise went well, with really good positive feedback around how calm the room was. Preparations are underway for the planning of next year's exercise. The councils have been invited to participate in a countywide exercise, called LIVEX, which will form our annual exercise in June.

The Emergency Response Plan has been circulated to CMT and training has taken place for those colleagues new to the duty rota. We attend the fortnightly Working On Tuesday training days held at Hampshire County Council offices. Each fortnight there is a different topic, recent sessions have been Flooding, Emergency Response Plans, Community Resilience, Severe Weather and Warning and Informing.

We are reviewing the Adverse Weather Plan in conjunction with many other teams.

The draft Hayling Island Plan is currently with members of staff who live on the island, for comment and feedback. This will then be circulated to Hayling Island councillors for their comments and once approved will be a public facing document.

Police Update

I regularly meet with Chief Inspector Alex Reading. My future reports will have an update from him. In the meantime, take advantage of Facebook groups set up by Havant, Hayling and Waterlooville Police Teams. They also conduct virtual beat surgeries.