



Havant
BOROUGH COUNCIL


Mayor's Parlour
Public Service Plaza
Civic Centre Road
Havant
Hampshire PO9 2AX

T 023 9247 4174
F 023 9248 0263
DX 50005 Havant

www.havant.gov.uk



Mayor's Report
Wednesday 24th February 2021



My last report took us up to January 17th when Sarah Talbot won our inaugural photo competition with Gosport, congrats once again Sarah! Although primarily celebrated in America, I thought it very important to recognise MLK Day on January 18th. Today on #MLKDAY we celebrate the achievements and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. King drove the civil rights movement and worked alongside others to promote a non-violent activism approach; marches, boycotts and sit ins remain as relevant today as we have seen across the UK with the Black Lives Matter movement. King's 'I have a dream' speech is the most iconic in history and the issue of racial equality remains at the forefront of conversation today. In 2012 in the UK, the EHRC looked at section 60 stops by Police officers and found that black people were up to 28 times more likely to be stopped and searched than those from a white background. Hate crime has also doubled in the UK since 2013. We look back at MLK's huge strides in desegregation, rights to vote and non-violent activism that all helped to progress the worldwide civil rights movement. The BLM movement has highlighted to us again that although huge strides have been made, we need to continue the fight for equality in our modern society and build on the foundation that King and others have laid for us. "The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy" - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

January 19th, Emsworth strolls  Our latest lockdown walk took us to the Emsworth coastline, as well as having some stunning views the town also has a long history, here's 3 things pretty cool things that I found out –

- Queen Victoria visited Emsworth in 1842
- Pub crawls in the 19th century must have been tough, with over 30 pubs once in the town!
- Emsworth was granted the right to hold a market in 1239

There are also lots of small independents in Emsworth, so when you can support small businesses and #shoplocal

January 20th saw most of us watching the Presidential inauguration in Washington. A massive congrats to Kamala Harris on becoming the first female Vice President and to Joe Biden on becoming the 46th President of the United States. It's so refreshing to see a woman from a diverse background taking on this role, I can't wait to see the strides she's going to make  

January 21st - RACHEL MADOCKS RAINBOW WEEK  On this 21st Day, of this 21st year, of this 21st century, it was brilliant to be at Rachel Madocks School virtually to celebrate their fabulous Rainbow Week. This week the children and staff have celebrated the equality and diversity we find across our brilliant community. The themed week took its inspiration from the book 'Mixed' and also highlights the different make up of local families and households. The children worked really hard in creating rainbow shortbread, flowers for their rainbow garden and took part in rainbow musical lessons too! Niki, the headteacher at the school told me how much the children loved taking part in the week and really embraced it fully. When speaking about the rainbow flowers Niki summed it up brilliantly, "they are all in the same garden, but are all beautifully unique". This really tells us what this week is about, the equal celebration of every individual no matter who they are, who they love, or where they are from - equality brings us all together. I have always supported Rachel Madocks, regularly popping into the school that I'm lucky enough to have in my ward, and really believe in their vision moving forward. The school have also taken part in my initiatives such as Think Pink Week raising an incredible £126.70 for my Mayoral Charity, Hannah's Holiday Home and also designed my Mayor's Christmas card for this year! The leadership and staff are incredible and my wholehearted thanks goes out to each of those staff members for their selfless dedication to our local children during this pandemic, where a massive 60% of children are still attending the school daily - thank you for all you are doing 

January 22nd - It was really good to chat with the High Sheriff of Hampshire, Revd. Sue Colman today, who is the Queen's representative in the County for all things judicial - It was pretty cool meeting a real High Sheriff as the only one I'd come across before was in Robin Hood! 🇬🇧 The role of High Sheriff dates back to 1070 and is in real life far more charitable than our old friend the Sheriff of Nottingham! Sue has really supported early intervention drives for children across Hampshire, working with stakeholders like the Police, Prison service, court staff and judges along the way. I spoke to her about my experiences in mentoring young people, my time as a trustee at Y Services for Young People and my role working with younger people in my day job and we had some really positive discussions and I look forward to welcoming Sue to my ward to show her in person, when we can, the amazing work happening to support younger people in places like the Acorn Community Centre 🍷

On January 23rd I gave my weekly update to residents: Havant cases continue falling 🇬🇧📈 Following the trend of my last update, this week's data has shown our cases have dropped to 427 cases per 100k, down from 604 last week. There have been 539 new cases this week which is still high but down 225 from last week. Over 5 million vaccines have now been administered with over 2 million in the past week alone, well on the way to getting the top 4 priority groups vaccinated by mid Feb. In Havant we've seen thousands of people receive their first dose, putting us ahead of the national average. You can see on both graphs of daily cases and cases by age group, the line is now heading downwards, something we've all been waiting for, for a long time. Over 200 vaccinations are happening every minute, 400,000 happened on Thursday alone. The government has aimed to offer every adult a vaccine by September. These are all really positive signs and show us that many of us are doing our bit to drive figures down, we need to carry on during this home straight and protect those around us 👍

January 25th - Toasting Burns Night the right way 🇸🇪🍷 The following day on the 26th January I joined billions of others to wish a Happy Republic Day to all my family and friends in India 🇮🇳 I've been so lucky to have grown up always visiting family in India, on my socials you'll see a big throwback to my 2010 trip where as you will see yellow crocs were 'in' 😄 Republic Day celebrates the day the Constitution of India came into effect on January 26th 1950, enabling India to rightfully regain in full her sovereignty and independence 🇮🇳

On January 27th I chaired Full Council, for the first time ever in an entirely virtual format. Being on my own in a room without physical support was a very different experience, however I am grateful to James and Dan especially for their support from start to finish. I thought that the meeting went very well and again highlights that even when we do revert to being back in person, we should continue to stream our meetings live, enabling true accessibility for all. Today also marks Holocaust Memorial Day. 🕯️ I marked Holocaust Memorial Day by laying a wreath on behalf of our Borough at our memorial. On the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, we commemorate the millions of people that lost their lives during the Holocaust. It's vital that we remember the atrocities that were witnessed only decades ago and continue to mark this day for future generations to understand the worst of what can be done to fellow men, women and children and to ensure that nothing like this ever happens again. This year's theme is #lightthedarkness. At Havant we marked the day by compiling a service, with contributions from local schools, my Mayor's cadets, Freemasons, Cllr Turner, my reading of 'Protest' by Zofia Kossak-Szczucka and an interview with Paul Sved - a Holocaust survivor whose words as you can imagine are incredibly moving. Link to our service is here: <https://fb.watch/3iMdtUUjXA/>

On January 29th I gave my weekly update to our residents: Havant cases falling quickly 🇬🇧📈 Following the trend of my last update, this week's data has shown our cases have dropped to 299 cases per 100k, down from 427 last week and 604 the week before - we've finally changed colour on the map! There have been 377 new cases this week which is still a worry but crucially down 207 from last week. Nearly 8 million vaccines have now been administered, well on the way to getting the top 4 priority groups vaccinated by mid Feb. In Havant we've seen thousands of people continuing to receive their vaccine, putting us ahead of the national average. You can see on both graphs of daily cases and cases by age group, the line is quickly heading downwards, a big positive sign - It show us that many of us are doing our bit to drive figures down, we need to carry on during this home straight and protect those around us 👍

February 1st - Armed Forces Covenant signing 🍷 It was such an honour to sign the Armed Forces covenant today on behalf of Havant. This commitment ensures we are doing all we can to support the Armed Forces community across the Borough and that no member of the Armed Forces past or present is at a disadvantage as a result of their selfless service to our nation. We have committed to ensuring any veteran that applies for a job at the Council will be guaranteed an interview if they meet the essential criteria and identify as a veteran. We have also appointed an Armed Forces Champion to ensure that every member of the Forces community living in the Borough is able to get the support they

need. Havant has a very deep connection with the Armed Forces and we are privileged to have members of the Armed Forces community working and living in the Borough. We have seen first-hand the incredible military response to the pandemic, helping to ensure testing is rolled out and vaccines are in the right place at the right time. By signing this covenant we renew our firm commitment to members of our Armed Forces across Havant that we will do all we can to support them and their families. My thanks to Cllr Thaine Smith for organising the event and to Wg Cdr Chrissie Miller MA RAF (CO RAF Swanwick), Lt Col Christopher Lane MBE RA (CO 16th Regt Royal Artillery) and to Cdr Michael Dreelan RN (Naval Base Commander Portsmouth Executive Officer) for each representing the Royal Air Force, British Army and Royal Navy as part of our binding covenant.

February 2nd – My thoughts are with the family and friends of Captain Sir Tom Moore who has today sadly passed away aged 100.

In Havant we are marking LGBT history month by flying a flag to acknowledge not only the struggles the LGBT community have faced, but also the progress that has been made in ensuring our society becomes a fairer place - one in which whoever you chose to love is accepted and however you identify is embraced 🏳️🌈

February 3rd - Waterlooville Toad Crossings open! 🐸 In Waterlooville every Spring common toads make the treacherous journey across the new Berewood site from the woodland areas where they live during most of the year, to find ponds and drainage ditches across the site where they can breed safely. They usually head back to their breeding ponds in the lead up to Valentines 💖 Their main crossing point is at the Berewood entrance across Grainger Street, which of courses poses a big threat with road traffic. It's estimated across the UK 20 tonnes of toads are killed on the road every year. With more than 1000 toads known to hop across the Berewood site in certain places, there are now officially marked toad crossings! (Thanks to Grainger for installing these!) Please do keep an eye out especially in the early evening when on the roads and make sure we keep good care of our local toad population! 🐸 If you'd like to become a local toad patroller please visit - <http://www.froglife.org/.../how-to-become-a-toad-patroller>

On February 4th I made a video for Children's Mental Health week that can be found on my socials. This video was shared with local schools and their pupils.

On February 5th I gave my weekly update to residents: Havant cases rapidly falling 📉👉 Thankfully the trend of decreasing figures continues across Havant, this week's data has shown our cases have dropped to 187 cases per 100k, down from 299 last week - we've changed colour again on the map to yellow! There have still been 236 new cases this week, but this is crucially down 95 from last week. Some further good news, if you recall last month I pushed for our area to have access to rapid lateral flow testing to help drive down cases further and this Wednesday again asked the Director of Public Health Hampshire for this to be delivered for our residents. In the coming weeks, community testing and access to rapid tests is due to be rolled out locally and we will be working in close partnership with Public Health to ensure this is delivered for the benefit of our residents. Nearly 11 million vaccines have now been administered, bringing us closer to the completion of the top 4 priority groups. In Havant we continue to see thousands of people receiving their vaccine and new vaccination centres popping up across the Borough like the one in Leigh Park, all putting us ahead of the national average. Again you can clearly see on both graphs of daily cases and cases by age group, the line is rapidly heading downwards, a huge positive sign - It shows us that many of us are doing our bit to drive figures down, we need to carry on during this home straight and protect those around us 👍

February 7th - Staunton is something special #lockdownwalks 🌿

February 8th - Talking Mental Health with Mind 🗣️ In my latest catch up with the team at Havant and East Hants Mind, I thought it would be good to introduce them to local business owner and fundraiser Ellie, who's raised around £1500 for the charity. I thought it would be a brilliant opportunity for both the team and Ellie to hear about each other's work and for us all to learn more about where money raised for the charity goes at a local level. With mental health at the forefront of conversation, Mind have been able to help more children and adults than ever before. With the crisis line and the safe haven open, Mind have continued to provide their front line service throughout the pandemic. I have also put Julie the CEO in touch with our induction lead at Havant, where I hope to see them delivering mental health sessions to new members at the Council. Ellie, who runs her Salon in Bedhampton has got a Triathlon coming up on the 13th Feb to help raise even more money for Mind, check out the link to her just giving to hear more about it below - <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/ellessalon...>

February 9th - Heart-warming idea in Cowplain 🥰 Leading up to Valentine's Day, we often think about our loved ones. Many of us may not have seen our loved ones for long periods of time and sadly some of us may have lost those we loved during the past year. St Wilfrid's Cowplain on Padnell Road are inviting anyone local to make and place a heart on the front lawn or to hang onto the hedges to show the amount of love we have for those we care about. It might be for a loved one you're unable to see at the moment, for a loved you may have lost, or for someone special - an NHS worker, teacher or key worker for example. The message is clear - Know that you are loved. The message highlights that you are loved by family, friends, neighbours and by your community. Even if you're just walking by, know that you are loved by someone. St Wilfrid's is also open for some 'you' time all day on Mondays and Thursdays from 830-5pm where you can pop in taking some time for you. Sophie and I contributed to this amazing idea by making our heart and placing it onto the hedge. We'd love it if you would make a heart of your own and on your daily walk head down to the Church and add it to the display 🥰 Thank you so much Ian Snares and St Wilfrid's for your brilliant community idea 🙏

On February 12th I gave my weekly update to our residents: Havant cases fall again (real news not fake news) 🇬🇧🇮🇪 After some fake news has been seen online this past week I thought it helpful in this week's update to clear things up for figures across Havant. Thankfully again the trend of decreasing figures continues across Havant, this week's data has shown our cases have dropped to 145 cases per 100k, down from 187 last week. There have still been 183 new cases this week, but this is crucially down 56 from last week. 14 million vaccines have now been administered, bringing us very close to the completion of the top 4 priority groups. In Havant we continue to see thousands of people receiving their vaccine and the new vaccination centres are doing an incredible job, all of this putting us ahead of the national averages. Again you can clearly see on both graphs of daily cases and cases by age group, the line is rapidly heading downwards, a huge positive sign - It shows us that many of us are doing our bit to drive figures down, we need to carry on during this home straight and protect those around us 👍 Also wishing everyone celebrating a very happy #chinesenewyear

February 14th - Happy Valentine's Day, sending our love to each and every one of you ❤️

I will continue to engage with and support our local businesses, charities and organisations promoting our Borough at every step. The vast majority of my ward work and invitations have continued to come in via social media, enabling Sophie and I to continue our civic duties across the Borough, engaging with and using to our advantage, the virtual world we are surrounded by. I am pleased to say the Instagram page is growing day by day, now over 680 followers, which is being used alongside my main social media tool, my Cllr Prad Bains Facebook page. Over half my ward work comes via my social media pages..

Since being elected as Mayor on July 22nd, I'm incredibly proud to say that my 111 organic posts on my Facebook page alone have reached 516,104 people. Over half a million times my initiatives and ventures across the Borough have appeared on people's screens since taking office, Havant is truly being put back on the map.

Thank you.



[Cllr Prad Bains](#)



[@mayorofhavant](#)