

## **Cabinet Lead Report – 20<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

### **Councillor Gwen Robinson - Cabinet Lead for Affordable Housing, Communities and CIL**

#### **Community relations, including sport, leisure and play parks**

##### **Get Up & Go**

There have been 600 people sign up to the project since the start of 2023, with 42% having comorbidities (2 or more health conditions). The top 3 most common health conditions of people accessing the activities are overweight / obesity (155 people), mental health conditions (148 people) and a form of Arthritis (118).

The 'Ladies that lift' and 'Introduction to weights for men over 55' courses in partnership with Horizon wellbeing hub have been a huge success, with this continuing to a 2<sup>nd</sup> course in September and the addition of low impact circuit classes. The following activities have all been full with waiting lists: open water swimming, coastal rowing, stand up paddle boarding, Nordic walking and women's boxing.

Evaluation is starting to form a picture of the impact the project is having on residents in the borough with mild to moderate health conditions, with data around physical activity, mental health alongside success stories and positive feedback. Below is an example of one success story:

*"I commenced Tai Chi out of interest and then experienced a crisis in my self-confidence and self-worth due to work related stress. Get up and Go Havant has been my anchor encouraging me to take part in activities to improve my mood and physical well-being. Whenever I feel panicked, I practice Tai Chi breathing exercises, I feel grounded and less anxious. I have hypertension that has been difficult to manage due to stress and was recently checked by my GP and was very surprising and delightful 120/80 (that of a 20 yr old) which it has not been for years and I attribute to the techniques I have learnt with Tai Chi. I amazed myself by being able to master stand-up paddle-boarding through a session organised by Get up and Go Havant and have rediscovered my love of Nordic Walking on Hayling Seafront. I cannot wait for Ladies Weight-lifting to start! Thank you Get up and Go Havant and Sophie for enabling me to regain my sense of self-worth, lose weight and improve my physical fitness and health".*

##### **Havant Parks Tennis**

A successful open event was held on the 12<sup>th</sup> August at Waterlooville Recreation Ground, where the Mayor of Havant formally opened courts and welcomed the operator, National Tennis Association.

The open day provided free sessions of tennis for residents of the borough and introduced the tennis coaching programme and other opportunities that will be going live in September.

To date, there are 246 annual pass members utilising the courts across the borough.

### **Springwood Avenue Play Area, Stakes**

Contractors, Kompan Ltd have completed works at Springwood Avenue play area. £61,500 of DLUC levelling up parks funding and £18,500 of section 106 funding went towards this. An opening event took place on 29/08/23.

### **Eastoke Corner, Hayling Island**

Community consultation for the refurbishment of the Playpark, MUGA and outdoor gym at Eastoke corner is now complete and the tender for a contractor to build has gone live this month. The £200k project is funded by Neighbourhood CIL. Work is planned for February 2024 with a view to completing by the Easter holidays.

Work will also include replacing the existing sleepers and replanting with hedgerows and trees thereby improving the biodiversity and overall aesthetic of the area.

### **Bidbury Mead Play Area, Bedhampton**

Works to refurbish the play area within Bidbury Mead started on the 29<sup>th</sup> August, this is expected to take approximately 3-4 weeks and is funded by £115,000 of CIL funds.

Following completion, a formal opening event will be held.

### **Hayling Island Dirt Jumps**

Community consultation has largely supported work to refurbish the site. Feedback from the community will be used to inform the specification for tender, which will go live later this year, with the anticipation that works will start in Spring 2024.

The successful contractor will need to evidence within their submission the ability to work closely with key stakeholders and users to ensure new provision meets their needs in this project which has £80k of UKSPF funding.

### **Spencers Field Play Area, Emsworth**

A contractor has been appointed to install new play provision this autumn with final date TBC. The project is funded by £60k of CIL and £23k community fundraising.

### **Minor works at Emsworth Recreation Ground, Mengham Park and Longwood Avenue**

Playsafe Ltd have been scheduled to carry out some additional installation works at Emsworth, Mengham and Longwood Avenue play areas to the value of £9497 of Neighbourhood CIL funding. Emsworth will receive an extra area of wet pour safety

surfacing, Mengham will receive some additional fencing and Longwood will see the installation of a rope swing early in September.

### **Youth Justice project – Summer provision**

A further £9965 from the National Lottery Million Hours fund has been secured to extend the existing 'Your Goal' project that takes place at Front Lawn into the school holidays. This means that young people at risk of entering the criminal justice system will have free access to 2 coached football sessions per week during all of the school holidays including half terms up until the end of summer 2024. Pompey in the Community deliver these sessions and a youth worker from Motiv8 attends to offer 1 2 1 mentoring and support to participants. Currently 25 young people are engaged in the sessions.

### **Playing Pitch Strategy Review**

Consultants, Strategic Leisure, have secured steering group sign off for the supply and demand data and review of quantity and quality of playing pitches and associated facilities across the borough. They now move to produce recommendations and an action plan to address the key issues.

### **Grow it, Cook it, Eat it**

The project is progressing well. Sheds have been ordered and will be installed 13<sup>th</sup> September. This will then help to focus the project onto the next stage. Officers are meeting with 8 young people who want to volunteer for the project to support their CV's.

Although the allotment is not yet producing much other than a few apples, HBC staff are being encouraged to donate any surplus from their own allotments to the Pantry and Food Banks

### **Springwood Community Orchard**

To keep momentum, the Springwood Environmental Group (SEG) will encourage new membership for the community orchard to avoid losing the next growing season.

### **Dementia Havant Group**

A 1-hour Dementia awareness session was held for members of the Customer Service Focus group. This was well received, we will look into organising further awareness sessions for all officers, Councillors and other members of the community.

### **Ukraine drop-in session**

The next Ukraine drop-in event will take place on 28th November, 11am – 2pm at the Plaza. This will possibly be the last drop-in event of this nature. Hosts and families are able to drop-in to seek advice and information from local organisations such as Citizen's advice, Job Centre, Housing team, Rural Refugee Network, Community First and more.

### **Ukraine Integration Support**

Two Colours Choir.

Officers are working with the Choir to enable them to become increasingly independent. They are receiving requests from all over the County to perform. Officers, working with the Spring, are working towards a Christmas concert on 5<sup>th</sup> December and will be looking to contact other Choirs to join in.

### **Havant Borough Community Lottery**

The Havant Lottery currently has 110 registered Good Causes and 748 players are purchasing tickets. £226,000 has been raised for local Good Causes since 2018.

The next Community Fund round takes place in October, registered Good Causes will be able to apply for up to £2,000 to support their community projects and activities. A panel made up of Councillors, officers and other community representatives will assess each application and decide which projects are funded.

The current licence holder of the Lottery is Chris Bradley, we are in the process of removing him and adding Jo McIntosh.

From October 2023, the minimum age of playing the Lottery will change from 16 years old to 18 years old. Our managing agent, Gatherwell will manage this change and send the appropriate communications to players and Good Causes.

### **Armed Forces**

The MOD has invited Steve Jorden, Laura Bevis (Community Officer) and our Reservist to attend the Gold Employers Recognition Scheme (ERS) award ceremony on 5th October on board HMS Warrior in Portsmouth. The event will include a military display, a flypast, a bagpiper and refreshments.

The internal Armed Forces staff group met this week, 4 officers attended. Members discussed a variety of subjects including upcoming remembrance events, using volunteering days to support a local charity, regular group walk, homelessness and contributing ideas to the main action plan.

## **Emsworth Youth Forum**

The forum is planning two face to face consultation events for young people living in the Emsworth area. The first one will take place on 18th November and the second event will take place on 12th February at the Community Centre. The events will offer low-cost fun activities and food. A similar event pre Covid was well attended by over 100 young people aged 11 to 16. The aim of the events is to give young people the opportunity to say what activities and projects they would like to see taking place in the local area.

## **Events**

Most Summer events have now happened and we are moving towards Autumn events.

Officers now have a main focus on Christmas. The lighting licenses have been applied for and the trees will be ordered mid September. Officers are working with community groups to secure funding for the 5 town centres. HBC will be seeking to enter into a 3-year agreement with The Christmas Decorators to decorate the borough.

## **New Developments**

The Crematorium development on Bartons Road, Havant (Redrow) has started and is moving quickly. Officers are due to commence liaison meetings.

Bargate are on track to be off the site at Lower Road, Bedhampton by the end of October 2023, the sales area is currently being reverted into the garage for the show home. One property currently remains unsold, however, it is likely to be sold in September.

Work continues at Sinah Lane, 22 dwellings are now occupied and the first 3 units have been handed over to the housing association.

## **Havant Health and Wellbeing Partnership**

Meetings continue to be well attended by our Health Partners, ICB, HCC Public Health, representatives from our 3 PCNs, Horizon Leisure Trust, Energise me and a range of voluntary sector organisations such as MIND.

Increasingly our Health partners are looking to Havant Borough Council to assist in the delivery of community-based health interventions that focus on prevention and increasing activity levels in our most deprived wards.

HCC have just published their Public Health Strategy 2023 -2026. The strategy has two main ambitions.

- To increase the number of years Hampshire residents can expect to live in good health.
- To reduce the unfair gap in health life years between the most and the least healthy.

District and Borough Councils have an important role in making this impact.

### **Affordable Housing delivery**

In Q1 - 23/24 affordable housing handovers were confirmed as 36 in the last report. Q2 confirmed figures will not be available till after the end of September 2023.

However, Aster have provided an interim position which shows 5 Affordable Rented, and 3 Shared Ownership homes are to be delivered in Q2.

The remaining 50 affordable homes will be phased throughout 2023, 2024, and in to 2025.

### **Pipeline of new build affordable homes**

Other ongoing development sites that will continue to deliver new build affordable housing during 2023 across the borough through VIVID are:

Harbour View- Bedhampton,

Woodcroft Farm- Cowplain,

Manor Farm- Bedhampton.

Once planning approval has been gained VIVID hope to deliver another 72 affordable homes throughout 2024/2025 on the Dunsbury Way site in Leigh Park. These will be a mixture of 1- & 2-bedroom apartments, all to be let as Social Rent.

### **Housing Association Liaison**

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

The latest on 24/08/2023 covered topics including:

- TGP Internal Management Policy
- Solent House incident
- Terms of TGP tenancy regarding the upkeep of front & rear gardens
- Tenancy start dates, being advertised when works to homes not confirmed.

- Possibility that TGP could help HBC relieve some of their TA pressures?
- Pets' policy

The next meeting is currently scheduled for 24/11/2023.

### **Hampshire Home Choice (HHC)**

Current active applications to Havant Borough Council through Hampshire Home Choice as at 06/09/2023:

	Band 1	Band 2	Band 3	Band 4	Total
1	2	83	671	46	802
2		38	543	11	592
3	1	20	333	4	358
4	1	14	58	1	74
5		1	2		3
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>1607</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>1829</b>

### **Homelessness**

Homelessness has continued to increase during this quarter. The following reflects the work conducted by the Housing Advice and Prevention officers within Housing Services.

Homelessness approaches to Havant Borough Council for April – June 2023 are as follows: -

Month	CS Approaches	Calendar Entries
<b>April '23</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>143</b>
<b>May '23</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>152</b>
<b>June '23</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>92</b>

The differences between the CS (Customer Service) and Calendar Entries are the Duty To Refer (DTR), and the Section 198 referrals from another local authority.

Regarding Temporary Accommodation the following applies –

SC - Self Contained

SH - Shared Facilities

<b>Total in B&amp;B Inside the Borough - 3</b>
<b>Total in B &amp; B outside of the Borough - 7</b>
<b>Total T.A. end of Quarter inside Borough SC- 23</b>
<b>Total T.A. end of Quarter outside Borough SC - 46</b>
<b>Total T.A. end of Quarter inside Borough SH - 3</b>
<b>Total T.A. end of Quarter outside Borough SH -17</b>
<b>Total T.A. end of Quarter supported inside Borough - 0</b>
<b>Total T.A. end of Quarter supported outside Borough – 0</b>
<b>Total in Temporary accommodation - 99</b>

## **Brent House**

This facility is continuing to work well. The twenty-nine spaces are now full. There is a mixture of families, couples, and single people. There are a variety of work completed with the residents. Residents are assisted by support officers at Brent House via Two Saints.

We also have the support of the community PCSO's who attend regular meetings with us and visit Brent House on occasions.

Outreach work is also working well, the outreach workers from Two Saints are going into Havant early in the mornings sometimes with the PCSO's in attendance. This means that they can spot any rough sleepers early, then intervene to aid where possible and make alternative arrangements for them.

Housing services are continuing to build relationships with external agencies who can assist with our homeless customers regarding prevention of homelessness as and where possible. We have met with Citizen Advice, housing associations, probation, DWP, internal services and social services, collaborating closely with Communities - youth hub. This is not an exhaustive list, as we are meeting with more agencies and looking to work closely so that we are able to try and avoid homelessness.

The housing service team have worked immensely hard this year, where the demand from the customers has risen, the Housing Advice and Prevention team have risen to meet the needs of their customers. They are conducting splendid work on behalf of Havant Borough Council.



## **Police & Crime Panel**

The Hampshire and Isle of Wight Police and Crime Panel now have a new Chairman, Sean Woodward. Many of you will know him as the Leader of Fareham Borough Council.

Through the effective discharge of its responsibilities, the Panel has sought to provide support and challenge to our Police and Crime Commissioner, Donna Jones, in the delivery of her statutory responsibilities and the objectives of her Police and Crime Plan, and I believe we have undertaken some excellent scrutiny of the activities of the Commissioner and her office across the year.

In addition to the four regular meetings, an additional meeting was held in November where the Panel confirmed the appointment of the new Chief Constable of Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary, Scott Chilton. This important statutory responsibility saw the Panel asking several questions of Mr Chilton, assessing his professional competence and personal independence. I'm pleased to report that, recognising his exceptional drive, ambition, resilience and leadership attributes, and gaining a clear understanding of the skills and experience he would bring to the role, the Panel unanimously recommended Mr Chilton's appointment to the position. The Panel looks forward to receiving regular updates from the Commissioner on how, working alongside and holding to account our new Chief Constable, she will continue to secure effective and efficient policing for our communities.

## **Community Safety and Neighbourhood Quality**

It has been a busy period for the Neighbourhood Quality Team

- They have dealt with 14 unauthorised encampments from April to September and on average we have had the land repossessed in 2.5 days.
- Solent SaferStreets 4 is drawing to a close, and a bid for Solent SaferStreet 5 (now including Gosport) has been submitted.
- The team have undertaken some joint patrols with the local policing teams over the summer to target 'Hotspots' and challenge anti-social behaviour.
- As a result of Partnership work, Hayling Police called four young people along with their parents into the station for a discussion and warning regarding their vandalism and anti-social behaviour.
- The Hayling Island Blue Flag has been delivered.
- Two Public Space Protection Order, PSPO, consultations are being prepared. The current Orders (Dog and Waterlooville Highstreet Pigeons) were

introduced in 2018, extended in 2021, in response to complaints received residents and businesses in the town centre, and will expire at the end of April 2024. As per legislation, a full consultation with residents, workers and visitors will be carried out in Waterlooville Town Centre to ascertain if there is a continuing issue which would require the PSPO to be extended, varied or ended

- The Serious Violence Duty (December 2022) makes councils and local services work together to share information and target interventions to prevent and reduce serious violence through partnership working. The council has been successful in securing £31,000 for the Borough, funded from the Violence Reduction Fund, to spend across three programmes offering support to young people under the age of 25.

## Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

### Neighbourhood Portion CIL

We are pleased to be able to provide a summary of Neighbourhood Portion CIL allocated/spent 1/4/23 to 1/9/23:

Ref	Name and Description	Date Funding Approved	Amount
252	<b>Spencers Field Play Area</b> The project will refurbish the current play area within Spencers Field. The current provision was installed in the 80's/90's and has now all been removed due to its condition and being no longer economically viable to replace, meaning that there is no current provision for play within Spencers Field (£27,477 is from the funds available 1/4/23 to 31/3/24)	18/01/2023	£60,000
263	<b>Eastoke Corner Footpath Improvements (additional funding)</b> To improve the footpath on the Eastoke Plaza on Hayling island by laying a permeable resin bound stone on the existing structure, which will improve the slip resistance, lower future maintenance costs, stop the footpath from being barriered off when unsafe and improve the visual aesthetics	04/05/2023	£10,000

Ref	Name and Description	Date Funding Approved	Amount
272	<b>Grow it Cook it Eat it</b> Use of a Council allotment to encourage residents in area that requires a lot of support from the food bank and pantry to become more food independent, by teaching them to grow food and then to learn to cook it and share it at community suppers. Surplus will be used to support the food banks and pantries within the Borough	04/05/2023	£3,000
276	<b>Eastoke Corner Play Park Refurbishment</b> At Eastoke Corner, removal of existing playpark, MUGA and outdoor gym equipment and their reinstatement with new improved facilities	31/05/2023	£200,000
287	<b>Removal and Replacement of Swing Frame at Longwood Park</b> Remove existing swing frame at Longwood Park and complete repair to location, install new frame and lay 'SafaMulch' bound rubber mulch safety surfacing	25/07/2023	£3,344
288	<b>Extension to safety surfacing within Play Area at Emsworth Recreation Ground</b> Wetpour rubber surface extension to existing play area safety surfacing at Emsworth Recreation Ground	25/07/2023	£2,653
289	<b>New Fencing Around Mengham Park Play Area</b> Creation of new fencing around Mengham Park Play Area comprising posts, top rail and high weld mesh	25/07/2023	£3,500

The following provisional allocations of Neighbourhood Portion CIL have also been made pending further details of the project and delivery. The sums mentioned are the maximum sums currently available. As costings are explored further the allocations may reduce/be redistributed:

Ref	Project title	Provisional allocation
238	Woodland Signage	£ 1,000
256	Springwood Centre Infrastructure Improvements	£56,257
278	Lighting and contribution to New DDA Compliant Path Gauntletts Park	£29,268

Ref	Project title	Provisional allocation
280	MIND Meridian Centre	£50,000
290	Waterlooville Regeneration Infrastructure Interventions	£150,000
295	Jubilee Pavilion Infrastructure Improvements	£56,256

The provisional allocation of these funds means that the majority of the Neighbourhood Portion CIL funds for 1/4/23 – 31/3/24 have been committed.

### Neighbourhood Portion CIL monies recently spent/in process of being spent (data collected 1/9/23)

Ref	Name/Description	Amount
272	Grow it Cook it Eat it	£1,771.00

### S106

Larger housing developments will often need Health Contributions, these are sought by the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Integrated Care Board to improve health facilities such as doctor's surgeries and become a financial covenant in the S106 agreement. We are pleased to report that we have collected and arranged for the following funds to be transferred to them:

Ref	App No	Site	Amount
223	APP/18/00450	Land at Forty Acre Farm, Havant Road, Havant	£71,560.26
	APP/18/01033	Land East of, Castle Avenue, Havant	£11,728.73
	APP/19/00427	Land at Lower Road, Havant	£9,245.42
	APP/19/00768	Land to the rear of, 15-27 Horndean Road, Emsworth	£2,860.62
	APP/20/00015	108-110 Elm Grove, Hayling Island	£7,703.84
	APP/20/00251	North Street Arcade, Havant	£4,997.98
	APP/20/01093	Land at Sinah Lane, Hayling Island	£35,536.46
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>£143,633.31</b>

The S106 project identified below has also been supported through the following allocation and spend:

Ref	Name/Description	App No	Site	Amount
254	Horizon Community Health Hub	APP/12/00407	Land east of New Lane and west of Warblington School	£30,000

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/>.