

FAREHAM

Achievements

CORPORATE STRATEGY 2023-2029



THERE IS MORE TO US THAN BIG PROJECTS



This document highlights some of the Council's main achievements over the lifetime of the 2017-23 Corporate Strategy.

It is important to note that, as well as our big projects, consistently delivering high-quality Council services at value for money to our residents is an achievement we are extremely proud of.

Collecting bins, picking up litter, conducting environmental health inspections and delivering sheltered housing schemes, processing benefit claims and housing applications, are just some of the services we provide daily.

Our Local Service Agreements, which are updated annually, enable our residents to keep up to date with how Council services are performing in relation to our Corporate Priorities.

DELIVERING THE ESSENTIALS DURING THE PANDEMIC



Covid-19 resulted in one of the largest Business Continuity Incidents the Council has ever faced. Council staff worked hard to continue to deliver our services in very difficult circumstances.



£61m+

amount administered by the Council in grants and reliefs

However, we went well beyond our normal service provision to:

Work with charities and voluntary organisations to provide vital food supplies for those in need.

Provide fully equipped, self-catered accommodation for all rough sleepers.

Work with Citizens Advice to provide advice and support across the Borough at a time of high anxiety for many of our residents.

Administer over £61 million in grants and reliefs to help businesses who impacted by the pandemic.

Collaborate with retailers and Fareham Shopping Centre to ensure high streets could reopen safely after lockdown restrictions were eased.

Launch Shop Local, Eat Local campaign to encourage residents to support local traders.

Introduce Covid Marshals to support and advise people on sticking to Government guidelines on social distancing to help keep people safe.

WORKING TO PROVIDE HOUSING CHOICES



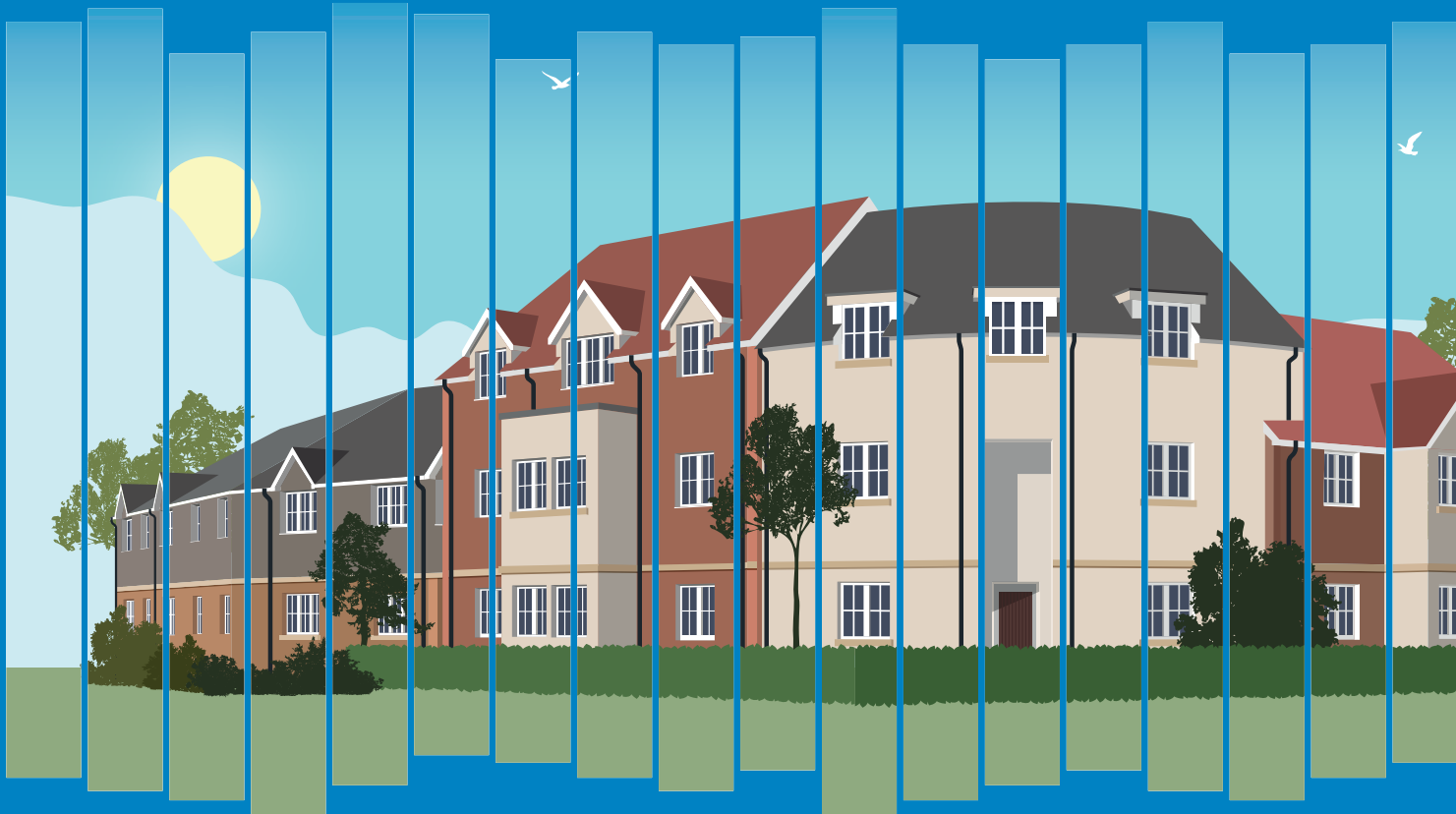
In Spring 2023 the Council's new Local Plan was approved. It will be used to guide development throughout the Borough until 2037.

The Local Plan contains policies that set out the Council's provision for housing, employment opportunities, transport infrastructure, leisure and community facilities across the Borough and is used to determine planning applications. There are also specific policies to ensure biodiversity is protected and enhanced across the Borough.



Exciting progress has also been made with regard to Welborne Garden Village, which will provide around 6000 new homes to the north of Fareham. Outline planning permission has been granted and funding secured for an upgrade to Junction 10 of the M27 motorway.

DELIVERING HOUSING FOR ALL



The Council implemented a new Affordable Housing Strategy in October 2021.

A new Housing Allocations Policy was implemented in 2020 followed by our new Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy in April 2022.

The Council has also delivered new high-quality homes across the Borough:

25 new affordable homes at Oak Tree Close, Queens Road and Rose Court for customers on the Housing Register.

16 new sheltered housing apartments at Station Road, Portchester (Sir Randal Cremer House).

11 new shared ownership homes at Capella Close in Hill Head.

We have progressed the planned redevelopment of Assheton Court in Portchester to provide further high-quality sheltered apartments.

A property has been purchased in the town centre and redeveloped to provide emergency accommodation for those in need.

The provision of new homes continues with a further 250 in the pipeline which will be delivered by Fareham Housing.

250

new homes are planned for delivery by Fareham Housing

PROTECTING & ENHANCING THE ENVIRONMENT



In 2021 the Council launched its Climate Change Action Plan to support our commitment to becoming carbon neutral by 2030.

We have collaborated with LEAP to offer low income and vulnerable residents free home energy saving measures and advice.

The Council is also promoting the Warmer Homes programme which provides energy efficiency measures for low income and low energy performance homes.

In 2022, we started using a low carbon biofuel, Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) in our garden waste and smaller diesel vehicles.

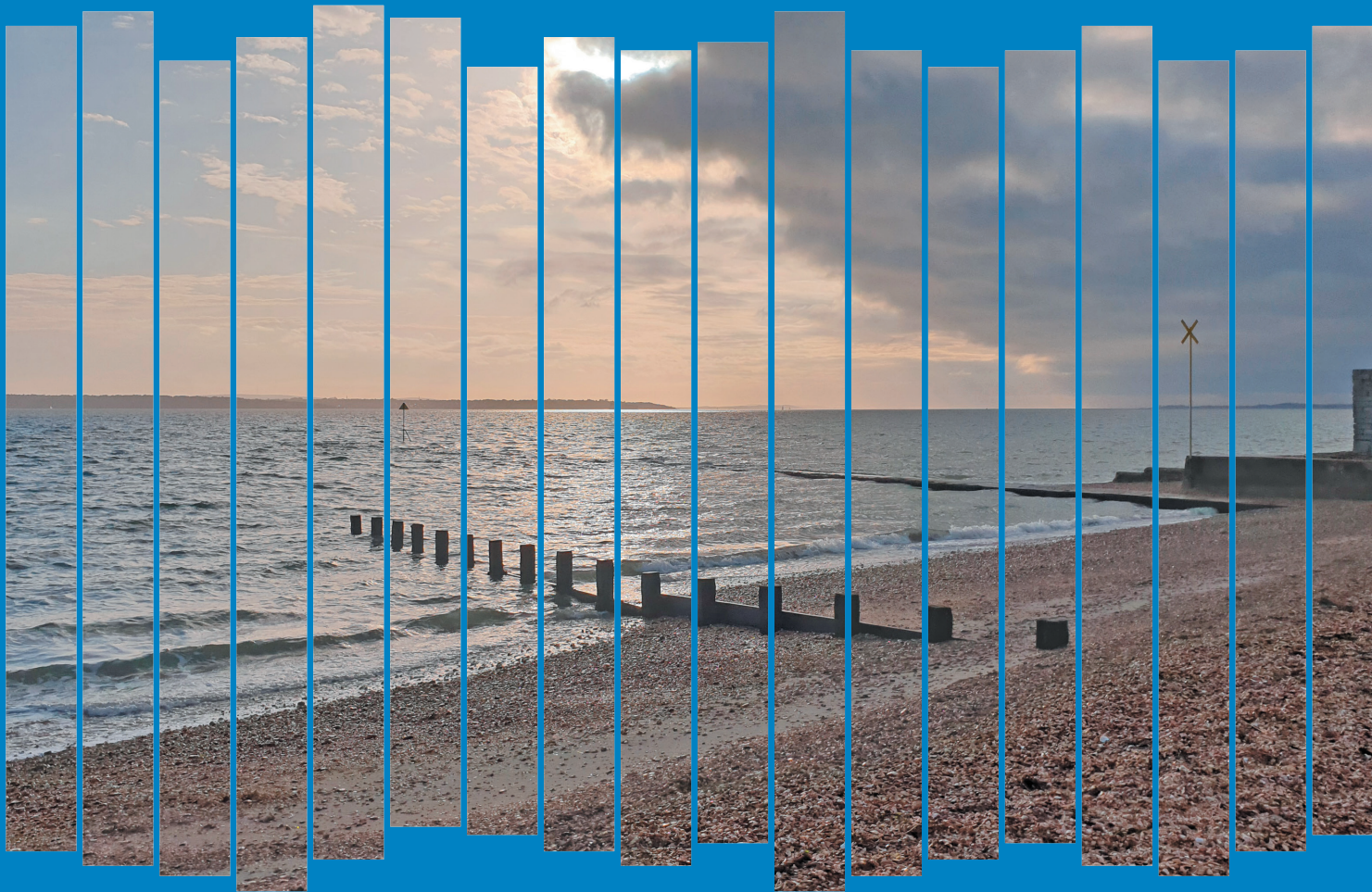
Two areas of sponsored tree planting – Queen’s Copse and Platinum Copse – were opened to commemorate the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee.

120+

**energy saving improvements
across the borough**

Over 120 energy saving improvements have been delivered, including the installation of solar panels to council homes across the Borough.

KEEPING THE BOROUGH CLEAN AND TIDY



Throughout the period of the **Corporate Strategy** the Council has successfully maintained its **Green Flag** awards at the **Sensory Garden** in Fareham Town and **Holly Hill Woodland Park** in Sarisbury.

A new anti-littering campaign ‘**No More Rubbish Excuses**’ was launched across the Borough in March 2022 to encourage people to dispose of their litter responsibly.

We restructured our Environmental Enforcement activities to ensure better provision across the Borough. This has seen a significant increase in the number of actions being taken against environmental crime.

More open spaces for the public to enjoy...

Two new public spaces opened for the local community- 20 hectares of green open space at Abbey Meadows and 15 hectares of green open space at Daedalus - Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Park.

A new strategic tree planting approach was introduced to ensure we can continue to look after our existing trees as well as expanding tree cover across the Borough.

Bio-Diversity Net Gain policies were introduced in our new Local Plan that will ensure we can continue to protect and enhance our natural environment while providing homes for Fareham residents.

Planted 20,000 trees at Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Park.

STRONG, SAFE, INCLUSIVE & HEALTHY COMMUNITIES



Community leadership is a role the Council takes very seriously and this was particularly important throughout the pandemic.

Four hundred new graves were built in 2020, as an extension to Holly Hill cemetery to increase the number of burial plots available to those living in the west of the Borough.

We completed a Community Safety Review, which resulted in improved CCTV provision and expanded the Council's uniformed enforcement team from six to eight officers.

Fareham and Holly Hill Leisure Centres were both accredited as fully accessible by Changing Places. Funding was secured for Changing Places facilities at the new Fareham Live.

Innovative online exhibitions were successfully introduced, and all democratic processes moved online, enabling us to continue to reach and engage with our customers.

Four sustainable measures were delivered as part of the Let's Clear the Air Campaign. These included:

To provide better infrastructure

Making improvements to traffic signals on Market Quay

Introduce a scheme to encourage taxi drivers to upgrade their own vehicles

Encourage residents to walk and cycle

MAINTAIN AND EXTEND PROSPERITY



Since the Council acquired the land at Daedalus in 2015 we have invested £28M in regenerating and transforming the airport and surrounding business parks.

This has seen Daedalus develop into the dynamic and thriving business and aviation hub it is today.

The investment in Daedalus has also supported major improvements to local highways- Stubbington Bypass and Newgate Lane.

Fareham's new Local Plan includes provision for approximately 122,000m² of new employment floor space at Daedalus and across the Borough..

Key achievements:

Daedalus (Solent Airport and Business Parks) produced a surplus income of £511,000 in 2020/21.

Flight movements at Solent Airport increased by 30% over three years.

The site has seen the opening of CETC – Civil Engineering Training Centre – and was awarded apprentice initiative of the year.

A £7 million extension to the award-winning Fareham Innovation Centre opened in 2018. The centre now supports 47 companies and has 275 people working from it.

Attracted key employers to the ever-expanding, award winning Faraday Business Park such as Britten Norman, All 4 Logistics and HC Coils.

Faraday Business Park also includes IFA2 which is bringing much needed electricity from France. This development also funded the wonderful new open space at Daedalus: Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Park.

SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESSES



Supporting shops and smaller local businesses across the Borough has been particularly important throughout the challenges of the last few years.

Live. Love. Local. 

A new Live, Love, Local campaign was implemented to encourage Fareham residents to support their local high street. This campaign has been extended to continue until October 2023.

We commissioned Enterprise South to deliver a fully funded programme of support for businesses within the Borough during the Covid-19 lockdown.

Provided support and resources for local businesses to help them reopen safely as lockdown restrictions eased.

LEISURE OPPORTUNITIES FOR HEALTH AND FUN



Fareham's high quality leisure facilities have seen significant investment over the last few years.

In 2021 Fareham Leisure Centre benefited from a £6.33m investment. New facilities were provided including a climbing wall, soft play area for younger children and an indoor splash pad, suitable for those with accessibility needs. New sauna and steam room facilities were provided at Holly Hill Leisure Centre.

£6.33m

invested in refurbishment of
Fareham Leisure Centre

Provided new sports pitches and a children's play area at Coldeast.

A wheelchair swing was installed at Holly Hill to complement a range of inclusive equipment.

The 25th anniversary of the annual 'Fareham In Bloom' competition ran virtually in 2021 with over 150 entries across six categories.

New themed play areas were opened at Daedalus and Abbey Meadows.

Held successful events at Daedalus:
Daedalus 100 and D-Day 75.

Beacon lighting at Portchester Castle for the Platinum Jubilee was attended by approximately 5,000 people.

Relaunched the Christmas Lights Switch-On in 2021 drawing thousands of people into the town centre.

The development of Fareham Live is now underway. It will provide an 800 seat arts and entertainment venue in the heart of Fareham. This will also help inject new life into the town centre when it opens in early 2024.

Fareham Community Lottery was launched to support good causes in the Borough. For every £1 ticket sold, 40p goes to charity and community organisations.

DYNAMIC, PRUDENT AND PROGRESSIVE COUNCIL



We are constantly looking for ways to make your money work harder and have an innovative approach to the way we work.

In the face of reduced funding from central government the Council has had to create new income generation schemes.

Over £2m in efficiencies were made across the organisation as part of the Opportunities Plan.

Successfully transitioned to home working during the Covid-19 lockdowns and have since transitioned to hybrid working. This enables the organisation to function more flexibly.

We greatly improved the accessibility of our website to ensure that everyone can access the information that they need.

A new chargeable garden waste service was successfully launched. This has improved the quality of the service and has more users than the previous sack-based service meaning that more green waste is recycled. The communications campaign that ran alongside this scheme won a national award.

Introduced coastal car parking charges to help fund improvements to car parks and a more responsive enforcement team.

We launched an Instagram account to reach out to as many of our residents as possible. This has proved extremely popular throughout our Live Love Local campaign as we have been able to showcase our fantastic local businesses.