



Hart News



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Welcome

Welcome to the latest edition of Hart News, with all the updates from your district council.

We received some great feedback on our new look magazine when it was delivered back in the summer and we hope to continue with this latest edition.

Making Hart the best place, community and environment to live, work and enjoy is at the centre of all the work we do. This covers a broad scope of work, from providing safe, affordable homes in the area to maintaining our fantastic green spaces and working towards our climate change goal of becoming a carbon-neutral district by 2040.

As always, we want this magazine to be interesting and informative and to cover the areas you care about the most.

If you have any feedback please do let us know – you can find all our contact details on this page.

Wishing all our residents a bright and happy 2024 in Hart

“ We’re pleased to share news and details of some of the projects progressed throughout 2023 for the benefit of Hart residents. Work continues into 2024 and we’ll keep you updated.”



Councillor Tony Clarke
Portfolio Holder for Digital and Communications



“ We welcome these enhancements to Hart Leisure Centre and the experience it will offer to our residents. While a closure does affect users in the short term, this gym refresh improves on the existing gym offering.”

Councillor Richard Quarterman
Portfolio Holder for Corporate Services



Hart Leisure Centre invests in gym facilities

Everyone Active, which manages Hart Leisure Centre on the Council’s behalf, has announced that a planned gym refresh will start in December this year.

New state-of-the-art equipment will reflect the growing demand for strength training and offer a revamped cardiovascular section. Alongside this, contemporary decor, modern lighting and upgraded flooring will create a more inspiring environment.

In addition, an all-new relaxation zone will be introduced, complete with amenities like massage guns.

The gym will temporarily close, but members can access other Everyone Active centres such as Frogmore and Farnham.

For more information, visit:
www.everyoneactive.com/news/hart-leisure-centre-gym-refurbishment



Chairman’s Carol Service

Join us for our Chairman’s Carol Service on Saturday 9 December at 5pm

St Barnabas Church
Brinn’s Lane, Blackwater, Hampshire

Keep in touch

We want to make it easy for residents to get in touch.

If you have a general enquiry, you can contact us by calling **01252 622122** or emailing enquiries@hart.gov.uk.

Like us on Facebook: [/HartDistrictCouncil](https://www.facebook.com/HartDistrictCouncil)

Follow us on Twitter: [@HartCouncil](https://twitter.com/HartCouncil)

Follow us on Instagram: [/HartCouncil](https://www.instagram.com/HartCouncil)

Connect with us on LinkedIn: [/Hart-District-Council](https://www.linkedin.com/company/Hart-District-Council)

Subscribe to us on YouTube: Go to www.youtube.com and search Hart District Council

Welcoming students for further education in Hart

Hart Professional College, run by Farnborough College of Technology, opened its doors in September, welcoming the first students to the new site.

The College, located at our Civic Office in Fleet town centre, offers a range of both part- and full-time qualifications for adults seeking to change jobs or climb the career ladder.

Virginia Barrett, Principal CEO of Farnborough College of Technology, said: “We are delighted to see the first groups of students taking advantage of their new facility. Thanks to our collaboration with Hart District Council, we can now reach more local people than ever before.”

Visit www.farn-ct.ac.uk to discover the full range of courses available at Farnborough College of Technology.

£1 million boost for Hart communities

Projects that support Hart communities are to benefit from £1 million funding as part of our commitment to increase life chances and boost people’s skills.

We’ve secured funding over three years through the government’s UK Shared Prosperity Fund. This is a central pillar of the Levelling Up agenda to build pride in place and reduce inequalities.

We will use the funds for two main priorities:

- Community hubs - £600,000 to develop and enhance local spaces where communities can come together to connect and access activities and support
- Young people’s employment skills - £130,000 to support Hart’s young people to prepare to enter the workplace

The Council is currently considering a number of proposals from organisations across the district and successful projects will be announced soon.

The funding is staggered over three years: £59,708 was allocated in 2022/23, £79,417 in 2023/24 and £880,875 in 2024/25.

“ With the support of key stakeholders, we have identified a number of projects which aim to level up our communities. These projects will make a real difference on the ground and create opportunities for all.”

Councillor David Neighbour
Leader of Hart District Council



Stay up to date with our e-newsletter

We send out Hart News twice a year, but did you know we also have an e-newsletter? We send this more frequently with the latest news and updates. Sign up on our website at hart.gov.uk.

Hart's new climate emergency plans

Like many other councils we have declared a climate emergency and set ourselves the goal of becoming a carbon-neutral authority by 2035 and district by 2040. We believe this is necessary for tackling climate change.

We've recently approved and launched a new Climate Change Action Plan which will enable us to progress our carbon reduction programme and focus on the areas that will have the biggest impact. The plan details what we are going to do over the next four years to achieve our goals.

Priority work over the next 18 months includes reducing our energy consumption, investing in renewable energy and protecting and enhancing biodiversity.

Want to see the new action plan? Please visit: www.hart.gov.uk/environment/climate-change/climate-action-hart

We've also allocated £137,000 of the climate change budget to projects detailed in the action plan. We'll spend this budget mainly on research, studies and plans to better understand where we are now and the potential for decarbonisation of our buildings.

Once completed, we'll put together a comprehensive plan and prioritise recommended upgrades to deliver carbon and cost savings for the district.

We'll continue to be supported by the climate change team at Local Partnerships, a not-for-profit consultancy working with the public sector to achieve their carbon reduction plans.

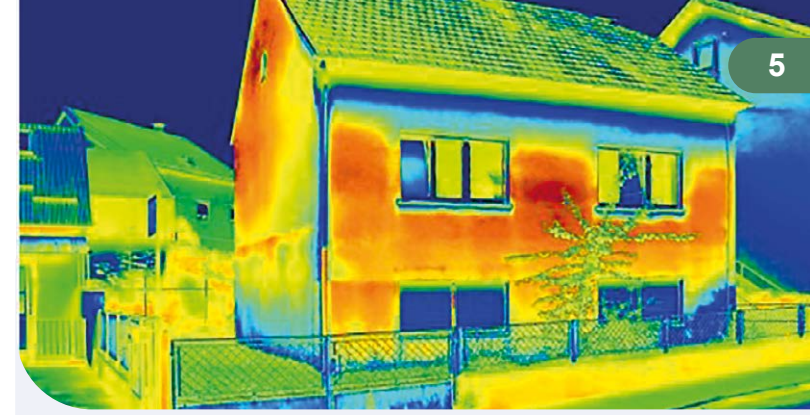


What have we been doing? We're already putting the new plan into action. In 2023 we've:

- 1 Developed a biodiversity and carbon offsetting strategy
- 2 Consulted on our Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan
- 3 Upgraded two of our vehicles to electric vehicles
- 4 Replaced more of our car park lights with LED alternatives
- 5 Started a climate emergency engagement group with parish councils & local organisations
- 6 Worked on the installation of electric vehicle charging points across Hart
- 7 Installed solar panels at our civic offices
- 8 Supported residents with home energy improvements
- 9 Updated our online climate change information and support for residents

“ We've made significant progress on our climate change plans in recent months, both with our own plans and in our engagement with local stakeholders. ”

Councillor Richard Quarterman
Portfolio Holder for Climate Change and Corporate Services



Could you save energy?

With the cost of energy bills often a concern, you may be interested in upgrading your home for long-term energy savings. Many people across Hart have already upgraded with great results.

Andy from Yateley has installed solar panels and said: *“In summer, our electricity use is down to zero on sunny days and low on cloudy days.”*

Roof insulation is another popular upgrade. *“Roof insulation has made a huge difference to the amount of heat our house retains in winter,”* said Kevin from Fleet.

Upgrades can be low cost or free depending on circumstances, with grants aimed at reducing energy bills and carbon emissions.

There are also different grants available for eligible Hart residents. We've put these together in one place on our website. Visit www.hart.gov.uk/environment/climate-change/are-you-eligible-grant to see current schemes.

Thermal imaging can help you identify where heat is leaking from your home. This can help you make it more energy efficient. Last winter, we ran a pilot with a small number of parish councils to lend cameras to residents and gathered useful feedback. We realise there is demand among residents to borrow thermal cameras and will be offering them to town and parish councils again this winter.

Let there be (LED) light

We've recently upgraded the lights in some of our car parks to reduce our carbon emissions and energy bills.

As well as an expected energy reduction of 50-60%, these should also reduce our maintenance costs due to their longer life span. The new LEDs should last 20+ years, compared to the three to four years for the old high-pressure sodium lights.

Visitors using the car parks may notice brighter and more natural light, which should improve visibility for drivers and pedestrians.

Get involved locally!

Interested in finding out more about what you can do? There are lots of ways across Hart you can save money, have fun and help the planet.

- ✓ **Join a local eco group in Hart. We have:**
 - the Facebook-based Hart Eco Action Team facebook.com/groups/hartecoactive
 - **Fleet Greening:** www.fleet-tc.gov.uk/Greening_Fleet_.aspx
 - **Yateley Climate Action Network:** yateleycan.org.uk
 - **Hartley Wintney Climate Action:** www.facebook.com/groups/3369921503262866
 - or ask your parish council about initiatives in your area

✓ **Share free stuff on Olio**
Join the local community on the Olio app to get free food and household items. They also have a 'borrow' section: olioapp.com

✓ **Become a Kitchen Hero – and win!**
Earn green points for logging your food habits: www.hampshirekitchenheroes.co.uk



✓ **Visit your local library**
Not only great for borrowing books but also for workshops on topics such as upcycling: www.hants.gov.uk/librariesandarchives/library

Free online tool for your home

Get recommendations that could make your property cheaper to heat and keep warm.

Find estimated costs and energy savings as well as next steps and grants available: www.gov.uk/improve-energy-efficiency

Alternatively, you can call Hitting the Cold Spots on 0800 804 8601 for free advice.



Landlords help secure safe housing for our community

The home in which we live has a huge influence on the quality of all our lives and health. Access to safe, secure, and affordable housing is fundamental to supporting wellbeing and creating sustainable communities where people can live and work.

Our Hart District Council housing team supports people with various housing issues and needs. One way we offer support is by working with private landlords to provide rental properties. With over 900 people currently on the housing register, we are always in need of more landlords who, backed up with support from our team, could offer homes for rental to members of our community.

One such person was Alison (*name changed). Alison and her young daughter had been living at her mum's house for over a year, sleeping in the lounge due to overcrowding. The lack of space caused tensions, meaning Alison and her daughter were spending the days living in a car, only returning to the home to sleep from 10pm.

After unsuccessfully trying to find a private rental home, Alison contacted our Housing team for help.

“My housing officer mentioned they worked with a number of landlords of private rentals who would help me, along with the Council's support.”

As soon as a flat became available, our team arranged a viewing and for Alison to meet the landlord. The team offered support to both landlord and tenant. Alison says “Within days my housing officer had let me know the landlord had accepted everything and was happy for us to move in.”

Some private landlords may be resistant to renting their property through our service. However, we offer a lot of support and benefits and by considering renting your property in this way

you'll be helping members of the Hart community who have limited options. We offer free tenancy services and bond guarantees and provide quarterly newsletters alongside regular training sessions.

Tony, a local landlord, first used the service with one home, renting to a young mum. “I was sceptical at first but after meeting the tenant and the team I felt reassured. There was no cost to me as this is all covered by the housing team, and I felt I would be doing my bit for the community, helping a young mum who needed support and shelter.”

Tony now rents three properties through the service and hasn't looked back.

“I would happily recommend the system in place with Hart. The advice and support offered is beneficial and you never feel that you are on your own.”

For Alison, she feels that the support from her landlord and our housing team has been life-changing. “My daughter has finally got the big girl bedroom of her dreams, a routine, and a suitable bedtime for her age!”

If you are a landlord interested in our service please email rentdeposit@hart.gov.uk or call **01252 774239**.

If you are looking for housing advice please contact our Housing team by email on housing@hart.gov.uk or call **01252 774420**.

Helping our residents put down roots

We're committed to working with housing providers to increase the number of affordable homes in Hart, to help residents who cannot afford to buy or rent on the open market.

Hart is a popular place to live but is very expensive to rent or buy a home. We are delighted that two new affordable housing schemes have recently been delivered within the district offering homes for rent at a social rent and to buy through shared ownership.

Claudia Coyne is thrilled to be setting up her family home in Warren Andrew Drive in North Warnborough, made possible by an affordable housing scheme. She said:

“Until we moved, myself, my partner and our baby daughter were living at my mum's. Now we have a lot more space, independence and room for our family to grow.”

The homes mark the first Rural Exception Site for the Odiham and North Warnborough parish, which allows land to be used for affordable housing so people can put down their own roots in areas with which they have a local connection.

The one, two and three-bedroom homes, which are owned and managed by Hastoe, provide an opportunity for people to rent or buy through shared ownership (part rent, part buy).

For more information about affordable housing, please contact Hart's Housing Team by calling **01252 774420** or emailing housing@hart.gov.uk.



Claudia Coyne with baby Peyton and Grandma

Claudia added: “If housing associations like Hastoe did not provide affordable options, we would not now be living in our dream home.”

We're also delighted that 75 new affordable homes in Hook are now available for people aged 55+ to rent or buy through shared ownership.

The Signals, owned and managed by Anchor, are new-build flats with a variety of on-site facilities, including a bistro, hairdressing and beauty room plus communal gardens, all close to Hook's shops and cafes.

“We work closely with housing providers to provide a mix of rental and shared ownership properties so local people can stay in Hart and make a life here.”

Councillor Stuart Bailey
Portfolio Holder for Communities



Enjoy library services at home this winter

Those unable to visit local libraries this winter can still enjoy the pleasure of reading and learning, with access to library materials delivered to their door.

The free Home Library Service from Hampshire Libraries is an invaluable resource for anyone in Hampshire who finds it difficult to access a library due to ill-health, disability or caring responsibilities.

Specially recruited volunteers are matched to customers and visit their homes each month. They can deliver a wide variety of library materials, not just books.

If you or someone you know would benefit from the service, enquire online at www.hants.gov.uk/librariesandarchives/library/services/access-for-all/homelibraryservice, ask at your local library or call 0300 555 1387.



View a short video about the Home Library Service at www.youtube.com/watch?v=UUJRFs8MyXA



Come and play at Whitewater Meadows

We're proud of the public open spaces across the district and work hard in maintaining them for everyone to enjoy.

Looking for a new outdoor space to explore in Hart? We recently added a play area to Whitewater Meadows in Hook, which opened in late September.

The £150,000 play area, funded by housing developer contributions, is jam-packed with exciting equipment including a zip line, climbing frames, slides, seesaw, roundabout, trampoline, sensory panels and much more.

The new area provides play opportunities for children of all ages.

“Forward planning at the development phase of new housing areas is so important. We are fortunate that council officers planned early to secure contributions for this outstanding play area for the community to enjoy.”

Councillor David Neighbour
Leader of Hart
District Council



Hart District Council Countryside Service manages Whitewater Meadows. The site is made up of a series of meadows and hedgerows running alongside the River Whitewater, providing a fantastic amenity for the local community.

Find out more about Whitewater Meadows on our website at www.hart.gov.uk/country-parks-and-green-spaces/whitewater-meadows

If you want some other great spaces to visit over the next few months, we manage 17 beautiful country parks and green spaces across Hart. These offer a great variety of activities and amenities. Find them all at www.hart.gov.uk/country-parks-and-green-spaces.



Chairman Peter Wildsmith opens the new play area

Promoting wildlife and wellbeing for local children

Pupils at Heatherside Infant School in Fleet are enjoying their very own wildlife and wellbeing garden, thanks to support from the local community and a £15,000 grant from Hart District Council.



Volunteer project manager Eleanor Mann, a parent from the school who wanted to help improve the area, brought the local community together to bring this to fruition. The school's eco council also helped with the creation of the garden.

Multiple habitats have been created in the space and plants were chosen based on their benefits to wildlife, native origin, hardiness and with climate change in mind.

Wellbeing garden at Heatherside Infant School

Eleanor said: “The garden benefits children here now and supports future generations. They've already enjoyed bug-hunting and love getting involved with the ongoing gardening tasks. It's also a safe, quiet space to bring students needing extra support, and is used by staff and parents too.”

This project was supported by the Council's community grant fund. Applications for 2023 are currently being considered and we will be announcing the successful project winners early next year.

Cattle on the mooove

We were excited to welcome seven Highland cattle back to Fleet Pond to conservation graze on the marshes and heathland.

As well as being lovely to spot, the cows help to maintain the protected habitats within the nature reserve. Cattle have a unique method of eating when compared to ponies, sheep or goats as they wrap their long tongues around the vegetation and pull. This method of grazing creates smaller niches for specialist invertebrates and plants at the site.

As they move through the area, they break up dense scrub and brambles by pushing through. Their hooves also help to break up the soil which can weaken some dominant species and let more delicate plants grow.

Conservation grazing is tough, and the cows selected are well adapted to cope with the challenges like extreme weather conditions, a range of terrains and winter weight loss when vegetation decreases. Most commercial breeds would struggle in these conditions so it's not easy to find herds available to conservation graze.



One of our Countryside Rangers checks the cattle at Fleet Pond

The cattle's primary job is to graze to help benefit the habitat and the hardy breeds like these Highland cattle are up to the job!

From tip to tip-top!

One of our historic green spaces has received a thumbs-up from Natural England after a recent inspection showed that its habitats and features are in a healthy state.

Hazeley Heath, near Hook, has received the top classification of 'favourable status' thanks to the dedication and partnership working of Hart District Council's countryside team and the RSPB.



A Site of Special Scientific Interest and Special Protection Area, the heath has seen many changes in its time.

During WW2 the vast majority of Hazeley Heath was used as a military training area. In the early 1800s it was used as a racecourse before becoming a gravel pit in the late 1800s. From the 1920s, it was used as a municipal rubbish dump which closed in 1976.

Since then, great efforts have been made by the Countryside Service and the RSPB to improve the conditions. The southern section is owned and managed by the Council and the northern section is owned by the RSPB.

Today, the heathland is home to an array of wildlife species, including birds such as Nightjar, Woodlark and Tree Pipits, along with reptiles.

Find out more about Hazeley Heath at:
Southern Section: www.hart.gov.uk/hazeley-heath
Northern Section: www.rspb.org.uk/days-out/reserves/hazeley-heath



“ Lots of people enjoy eating out, especially over Christmas time. The hard work of our great local establishments and the support from our Environmental Health team mean eating out stays something to enjoy. ”

Councillor Tina Collins
Portfolio Holder for Environmental Health



A local restaurant receives its five-star rating from one of the Environmental Health team

Putting safety on the menu

Hart has a thriving food scene, with over 700 food businesses currently trading in the district. These range from fine dining to takeaways, and include home caterers, food shops and premises such as schools and nurseries.

With such a range, all visitors should have to worry about is what to order rather than food safety. Hart's Environmental Health team works hard to inspect all food businesses in the area, making sure they're a safe place for you to eat.

The good news if you're planning on eating out this festive period is that 80% of businesses are rated four or five out of five stars. Our food businesses have a good relationship with the Environmental Health team, so for those not meeting standards we work closely with them to provide advice and enforcement to get them to a satisfactory level.

Our team performs several functions including inspections of all new businesses, providing guidance and responding to any reported food safety concerns, all to ensure a positive experience for those using our food services.

We hope you never need to, but you can contact our team through our website at www.hart.gov.uk/environment/environmental-health/food-safety if you think there might be an issue with an establishment.

You can also contact us if you'd like some advice or you are setting up a new food business.



Check ratings at: www.hart.gov.uk/environment/environmental-health/food-safety/check-food-business-rating

Collections of small electricals coming to the kerbside!



We've successfully started the roll-out of the collection of small electricals from the kerbside, allowing you to recycle more from your home.

Some houses are already benefiting from this service and we'll be writing to everyone between now and Spring 2024 to let you know when your collections will begin.

When your service starts you can leave small electrical appliances such as hairdryers and kettles on top of your bin for recycling. Items can be left on either your waste bin or your recycling bin, meaning this collection is available every week.

By recycling broken electrical items, vapes and unwanted cables you're preventing precious metals being wasted and giving them a chance to be something new.



Christmas tree recycling in Hart

If you opt for a real tree this Christmas and subscribe to our garden waste collection service, you'll be able to recycle it with your green waste collection when this restarts in January.

If you don't, there are a number of Christmas tree recycling points around the district. You can find details on locations and opening dates at www.hart.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling.

'Tis the season to cut food waste!

Wasting food is one of the biggest contributors to climate change and yet it's an easy thing for us to change.

Try these to reduce your food waste footprint.

- Having a party? Think about how many are coming and what they will actually eat, then shop with this in mind!
- Look at what you waste. Buy less of items you often throw out.
- Make the fridge your friend. If your bread is going mouldy or fruits squishy, pop in the fridge to lengthen life.

These small and easy changes make a huge difference to the environment and your pocket – what's not to like!

Glass act

Christmas can mean an increase in glass recycling! Don't forget you can request a glass recycling crate free of charge, and have glass collected kerbside. You can put out multiple crates for collection if needed. Visit www.hart.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling/new-and-replacement-bins to order.



Christmas collections dates

Usual collection	Revised collection	Change
Monday 25 Dec	Wednesday 27 Dec	▶ Two days later
Tuesday 26 Dec	Thursday 28 Dec	▶ Two days later
Wednesday 27 Dec	Friday 29 Dec	▶ Two days later
Thursday 28 Dec	Saturday 30 Dec	▶ Two days later
Friday 29 Dec	Tuesday 2 Jan	▶ Four days later
Monday 1 Jan	Wednesday 3 Jan	▶ Two days later
Tuesday 2 Jan	Thursday 4 Jan	▶ Two days later
Wednesday 3 Jan	Friday 5 Jan	▶ Two days later
Thursday 4 Jan	Saturday 6 Jan	▶ Two days later
Friday 5 Jan	Monday 8 Jan	▶ Three days later
Monday 8 Jan	Tuesday 9 Jan	▶ One day later
Tuesday 9 Jan	Wednesday 10 Jan	▶ One day later
Wednesday 10 Jan	Thursday 11 Jan	▶ One day later
Thursday 11 Jan	Friday 12 Jan	▶ One day later
Friday 12 Jan	Saturday 13 Jan	▶ One day later

All collection days will return to normal on Monday 15 January 2024.

Extra waste will be collected on the first collection after Christmas. Remember, excess clean, dry cardboard can always be left flattened next to your recycling bin.

Check what day your bin is collected at www.hart.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling

Garden waste

There will be no collections from 25 December to 5 January.

Put your garden waste out on your normal collection day from Monday 8 January.

Here for Hart, here for you

Our Community Projects and Partnership Team works across the district with a wide range of partners.

You can find out about sports and social clubs, counselling and health support, community transport and much more at hereforhartdirectory.org.uk.

We're also here to help you through the cost of living crisis, with a support hub on our website and regular bulletins of useful information on a range of areas.

The bulletins are available at www.hart.gov.uk/community/here-hart/here-hart-bulletins, printed copies from the council office reception or by emailing hereforhart@hart.gov.uk.



Apply online for a postal vote

Hart currently has around 13,500 postal voters, growing year on year. For many it offers ease and convenience if attending a polling station may be difficult.

From 31 October you'll be able to apply online at www.gov.uk/apply-postal-vote to vote by post at future elections. To use this new facility, you'll need your National Insurance number and be able to upload a photo of your real signature (not a digital version).

If you would prefer to register to vote by post on a paper form you still can. The form has changed and will also ask for further information including your National Insurance number.

You'll also be able to apply online for a proxy vote for a particular election.

Any questions?
 Please call the Elections team on 01252 774077 who will be happy to help.

Don't lose your vote in 2024

If you're not already registered or you've recently moved don't forget to register to vote at your new address.

We have elections for district council, parish and Police and Crime Commissioner in May 2024 and a Parliamentary General Election to be held before January 2025. Make sure you are registered to vote and can have your say.

Remember – it's up to you to make sure you are on the electoral register at your address.

The quickest way to register is to go online at www.gov.uk/register-to-vote. Have your National Insurance number to hand as you'll need it.



Work for us!

Would you like to get more involved on election day?

Delivering well-run elections for our residents is important to us. We have a dedicated Elections team who deliver a wide range of elections including district, parish and town council elections, neighbourhood planning referendums, Police and Crime Commissioner elections and Parliamentary elections.

Running elections takes a lot of manpower, so we always need temporary staff to help us on the day. We fill a range of positions at the polling stations and at the counting of votes in the evening.

These are paid positions, and payments are around £255 for a presiding officer and £160 for a poll clerk.

We also need staff for other functions such as the annual update of the electoral register.

We have people return year after year but are always looking for new recruits. It's an interesting day with lots going on, during the day and late into the night. Did you know that supermarket trolleys are used at the count venue to move ballot boxes around?

Jenny has worked as a presiding officer at a polling station for a number of years. She said:

“ I like meeting people and working in a team with fellow polling staff. It's a long but really enjoyable day and seeing democracy in action is a unique and fulfilling experience. ”

Interested in applying? Find out more about the roles available, requirements and apply online at www.hart.gov.uk/voting-and-elections/work-our-elections-team.

May 2023 elections by numbers

332 employees in 27 different roles	59 new election staff members
37 polling locations made up of 53 polling stations	15,366 postal packs issued, with 10,250 returned
25,305 district and 4,236 parish ballot papers verified and counted	20 Morrisons shopping trolleys used to deliver the ballot boxes to the count!

We're VIVID



A leading provider of affordable homes in Hart and the surrounding area, including rental and shared ownership.

Everyone has the right to a safe and secure place to call home. At VIVID, our customers have access to a wide range of services and tailored support, including help with:

- Money and benefits
- Digital skills
- Employment and training

...and much more!

For the wider community we work with foodbanks to help with the impact of the high cost of living, and support projects to create places where people feel proud to live.

Scan this QR code to find out more



Voter ID

The elections in 2023 saw the introduction of Voter ID. Previously electors were able to vote without any form of ID at the polling station.

While most people were aware of the new requirements, there were still a few people who arrived without ID. The need for ID at the polling station is now required by law in all elections going forward, so make sure you don't get caught out in 2024.

Accepted types of ID may change, so remember to check the list at www.gov.uk/how-to-vote/photo-id-youll-need. Those without ID can request a Voter Authority Certificate.





“ We want everyone to feel safe and secure in Hart. By reporting any issues you come across, you help us identify where they are occurring and put plans in place for a safer community. ”

Councillor Alan Oliver
Portfolio Holder for Community Safety



Building stronger communities

Keeping Hart a safe place to live, work and enjoy is a key priority for us, directly impacting on what we do. We work closely with partners but, alongside this, the active participation of communities in reporting concerns helps us build a stronger Hart for all residents.

By looking out for one another, watching for safeguarding concerns, and reporting crime and antisocial behaviour, the community can help identify and address potential risks, ensuring that everyone feels safe and cared for.

It's not uncommon for residents to feel discouraged when they report concerns and nothing is done immediately. However, reporting is a vital part of the process.

Each report builds data that police and partners use to identify patterns, allocate resources, and address recurring issues. By reporting concerns, you contribute evidence that leads to effective solutions and a safer community in the long run.

Your reports are not just about what happens today: they are an investment in the future safety and wellbeing of your community. So, don't lose faith.

Your voice makes a lasting impact, contributing to safer streets, stronger neighbourhoods, and a more resilient community.

Been a victim or witness of antisocial behaviour or crime?

- ▶ call 999 in an emergency where there is an immediate threat or while the incident is still happening
- ▶ in a non-emergency, please still report to police either through 101 or via their website at www.hampshire.police.uk/ro/report/ 
- ▶ report to our Community Safety team using our online form at www.hart.gov.uk/community/community-safety/antisocial-behaviour/report-anti-social-behaviour
- ▶ for safeguarding concerns: report to Hampshire County Council at www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth

What is a neighbourhood plan?

The neighbourhood planning process helps communities develop a shared vision for their neighbourhood and gives them a say in future development.

Neighbourhood plans are created by the communities they concern, supported by our team at Hart. If a neighbourhood plan passes an examination and a local referendum, its policies become key when determining planning applications, alongside the Hart Local Plan.

To date, we've supported ten town or parish councils in preparing plans. Most recently, Winchfield Parish

undertook this process to review a previous neighbourhood plan adopted in 2017. Their new plan was subject to a local referendum in November 2023.

It takes significant local commitment, but the outcome is a plan which we use to make decisions on planning applications for that area.

Want to know more, or see the plan for your area? Visit www.hart.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy/neighbourhood-planning



Sixth Form

- ✔ Top 1% Nationally for A Level Performance
- ✔ Transport available
- ✔ Specialist Leadership Pathway and Programmes
- ✔ Small class sizes - personalised feedback and one-to-one support
- ✔ Based in Hook, Hampshire
- ✔ TikTok - @sherfield6thform





Hart District Council



Who does what in Hart

Scan the QR code or visit hart.gov.uk/about-council to find out which authority is responsible for what.

Your councillors

33 elected councillors make up Hart District Council, who come together regularly to debate issues and make decisions in meetings and committees.

Hart is divided into 11 wards, each represented by three councillors.

Unsure of your ward? Search for 'Wards' on our website for more information.

Blackwater & Hawley	Fleet Central	Hartley Wintney	Yateley East
Brian Blewett	Mark Butcher	Dr Anne Crampton	Stuart Bailey - Portfolio Holder for Communities
Robert Harward	Katie Davies	Spencer Farmer	Graham Cockarill - Portfolio Holder for Planning Policy and Place
Bethany Woods	Alan Oliver - Portfolio Holder for Community Safety and Development Management	Tim Southern	David Neighbour - Leader and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Direction and Partnerships

Crookham East	Fleet East	Hook	Yateley West
Chris Axam	Silke Engström	Selena Coburn	Gerry Crisp
Gill Butler	Peter Wildsmith - Chairman	Dermot Smith Independent Vice-Chairman	Richard Quarterman - Portfolio Holder for Climate Change and Corporate Services
James Radley - Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Finance	Jonathan Wright	Jane Worlock	Mark Vernon

Crookham West & Ewshot	Fleet West	Odiham	Key
Tony Clarke - Portfolio Holder for Digital and Communications	Angela Delaney	Chris Dorn	 Liberal Democrats
Tina Collins - Portfolio Holder for Regulatory	Steve Forster	Jon Hale	 Conservative
Wendy Makepeace-Browne	Ben Thomas	John Kennett	 Community Campaign Hart