



Hart News



Food waste
collections are
coming!

Page 3



Future of local
government
in Hart

Page 5



Welcome

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

It's vital that we as your local council continue to develop as the community and world around us continues to change. Recycling has become a part of our day-to-day life and we're pleased to be launching the much-anticipated weekly food waste collection service in late 2025. This will build on the positive recycling rates already produced in Hart.

It's important that we challenge ourselves to change positively where we can as well. That's why we invited the Local Government Association, the national membership body for local authorities, in for a Corporate Peer Challenge in April. Read about the results below, and we'll strive to incorporate their findings into our future.

The biggest change on the horizon for Hart District Council is the local government reorganisation proposed by the Government. While our submissions are still being put together, the Government's long-term vision is to simplify how

Delivering for Hart

“ We're proud of what we deliver for those who live in Hart and will continue to work towards a bright future for the district. ”

Councillor David Neighbour
Leader of Hart District Council



councils are organised and run and who provides your services. We've outlined plans and timelines on page five but rest assured you'll continue to receive all the services you need. We'll be here for you as we're needed.

Cover image: Pillbox at Edenbrook Country Park



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 www.hart.gov.uk

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 X:
[@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

Challenging our services

Hart District Council is a 'great place of work' with 'a positive, open and transparent organisational culture' according to local government experts.

We recently welcomed a team of senior councillors and officers from other authorities for three days to review our operations as part of a Corporate Peer Challenge. The team undertook a comprehensive review of key finance, performance and governance information. They also interviewed staff, councillors and partners to determine what's going well and what we can improve.

The feedback celebrated our strong track record of delivering core services with impressive examples of work that have improved outcomes for our residents.

Their report praised the way the Council has managed its finances, provided support to the local armed forces, developed Here for Hart and our approach to climate change.

Improvements identified included focusing on the future vision for our district and what can be delivered ahead of local government reorganisation whilst maintaining services to residents.

We'll be developing an action plan from the findings and the Peer Challenge team will revisit us in nine months to assess our progress.

Food waste
recycling

Coming
soon

Small scraps, big impact

Boosting recycling with new food waste service

People from across Hart have been asking to recycle more from the kerbside. By late 2025 you'll benefit from a new weekly collection service for your household food waste.

Plans are progressing for the roll-out of the service, which will help boost the amount you recycle and reduce the weight of your black bin by up to a third. Thanks to the excellent recycling habits of our residents (that's you!), we are already one of the top performers for recycling in Hampshire. By separating food waste we can increase the amount recycled across Hart by over 20%.

How it will work

Once we've confirmed the start dates for the service, we'll deliver two caddies to every property - a small one to use in the kitchen and a larger one to put out with your bins each week. These will be delivered before the service begins and contain your collection start date.

You'll also be provided with 52 caddy liners for your kitchen caddy. After this you'll need to source liners to use.

You can use anything to line your caddy. Things like bread bags are perfect and a great way to re-use something you already have.



“ Reducing waste and increasing what can be recycled is a key focus alongside our commitment to a carbon neutral district by 2040. ”

Councillor
Alan Oliver
Portfolio Holder for
Development Management



Once the service starts, you can empty the small kitchen container into the larger outside caddy throughout the week. Put this out **each week** for collection.

For those living in flats, every property will be provided with a small kitchen caddy and liners with a communal food waste wheeled bin placed in existing bin stores.

PUT YOUR
FOOD WASTE
BIN OUT
EVERY WEEK!



The recycling process turns food waste into a biogas. This contains natural gas, a greener energy source than fossil fuels. It will also produce valuable soil products such as nutrient-rich compost and liquid fertiliser.



We'll be in touch with start dates and all the information you'll need. To keep up-to-date, sign up for our resident newsletter on our website, follow us on social media or visit www.hart.gov.uk/food-waste-collections

FOR MY FOOD WASTE BIN

✓ fruit and vegetable peelings, cores and skins

✓ teabags and coffee grounds

✓ plate scrapings

✓ raw and cooked meat and fish, bones and shells

✓ dairy products and egg shells

✓ bread, rice and pasta

✓ pet food

REMEMBER!

Keep an eye on any spoiled food going out, like mouldy bread or brown bananas. Could you adjust your shopping to save money and prevent food waste?

Funding supports Armed Forces community

Six Hart organisations including local schools and cadet groups are benefiting from over £20,000 of funding through our Armed Forces Community Support Fund.

This is part of our Armed Forces Covenant, committing us to supporting serving members, their families, veterans and cadets.

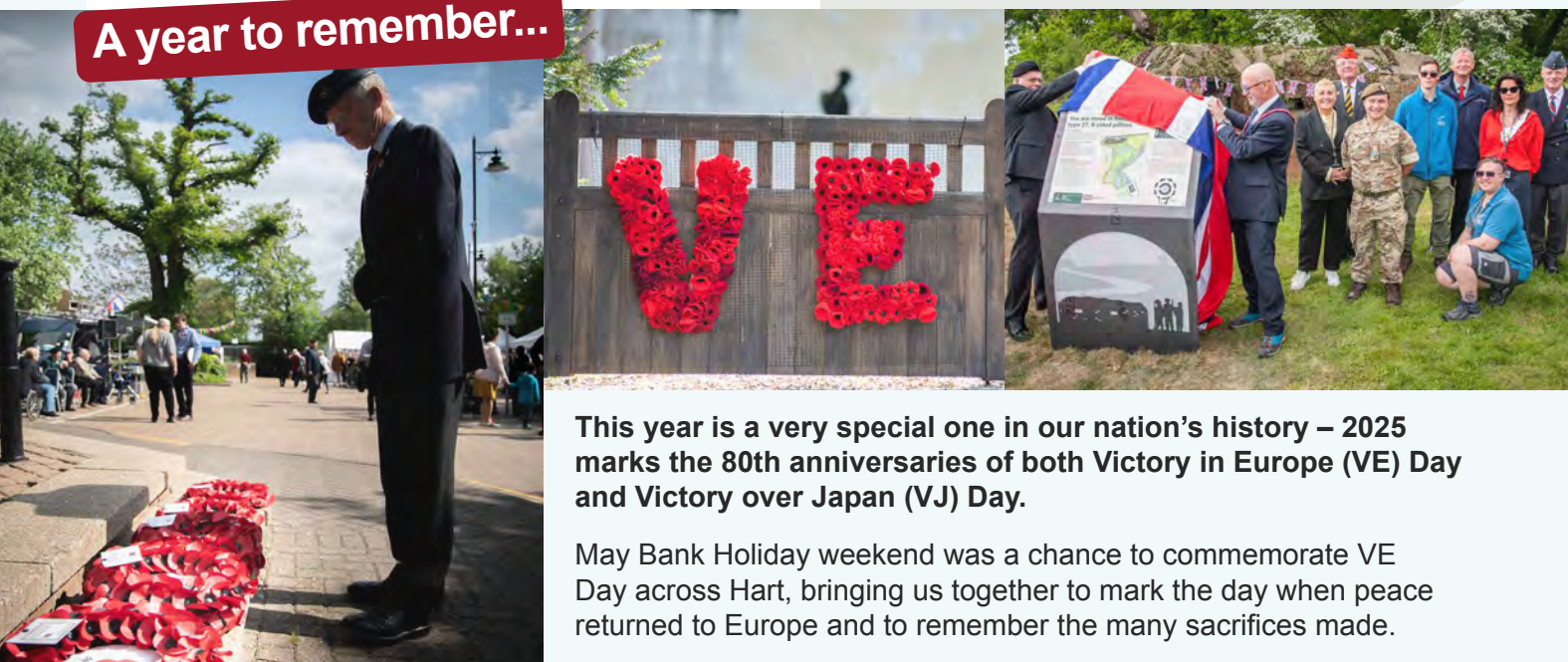
Find full details of the funding awarded on our website by searching 'Armed Forces funding'.

“ We’ve pledged that our Armed Forces community won’t be disadvantaged in accessing our services as a result of their service in the military. ”

Councillor Peter Wildsmith
Portfolio Holder for
Housing and Community Services



A year to remember...



This year is a very special one in our nation's history – 2025 marks the 80th anniversaries of both Victory in Europe (VE) Day and Victory over Japan (VJ) Day.

May Bank Holiday weekend was a chance to commemorate VE Day across Hart, bringing us together to mark the day when peace returned to Europe and to remember the many sacrifices made.

VJ Day marks the day Japan surrendered on 15 August 1945, ending the Second World War. A service of remembrance will be taking place on Friday 15 August at 11am, in Gurkha Square, Fleet.

Last line of defence

Nestled in Edenbrook Country Park are four concrete structures that may be easily overlooked. But more than 80 years ago, they were part of an elaborate line of defence stretching across the South designed to repel a German invasion during the Second World War.

Called pillboxes, they were installed to guard strategic structures such as bridges and canals and create 'stop lines' across the country to limit any invasion to much smaller areas. The name pillbox comes from their designs, often compared to early 20th century medicine containers to store pills.

To mark VE Day, these monuments were given a new set of explainer boards telling their story. So next time you're strolling through the park, why not take a look. There are also plenty more pillboxes around the district including along the Basingstoke canal and in Ewshot. How many do you know of?



Pillbox at Edenbrook Country Park

Future of local government in Hart

The Government's long-term vision is to simplify local councils and how they provide your services.

In December 2024 they proposed creating new strategic authorities alongside local government reorganisation.

For now, nothing is changing for Hart and the services you receive from us. In the background, we are working with the other councils across Hampshire on proposals for a new structure of local government in the area.

An interim plan was submitted to the Government at the end of March, setting out guiding principles and identifying areas where clarity is needed. The final proposal needs to be with the Government by the end of September. If approved, the Government will move quickly to establish new unitary councils, with elections for shadow councils likely to be in 2027.

Our priority is to find the best solution for the people of Hart. We are exploring proposals that could see a new unitary council bringing us together with our neighbours Basingstoke and Deane and Rushmoor.

After local government reorganisation, you'll receive all the services you do now, but from a new unitary council.

Alongside the local government reorganisation,

plans are being prepared for the new Strategic Authority created through the devolution process. As part of this process, elections for Hampshire County Council, originally scheduled for May 2025, were postponed until May 2026.

We'll be running engagement activities including a resident survey in the next few weeks.

Please visit the Local Government Reorganisation Hub on our website for the latest information.

What is devolution and local government reorganisation



Although talked about together, there are two different processes taking place across Hampshire.

Devolution will create a Strategic Authority covering all of Hampshire, to provide strong leadership on issues including housing, highways and transport, economic growth, skills, environment and climate change, health and public safety. A regional mayor will be elected in May 2026 to lead this new strategic authority.

Local government reorganisation will replace the current two-tier council system of county and district councils with several new unitary councils to deliver all services.

Election news

Do you need to reapply for a postal vote?

BY THE END OF JANUARY 2026 OVER 10,000 ELECTORS IN HART WILL NEED TO REAPPLY

Those who vote by post now need to reapply every three years or their postal vote will be cancelled.

Elections take place most years and you can take steps now to make sure you still have a postal vote if needed.

Our Elections team will contact those affected by email or post to let them know, but if you think this applies to you or you'd like to set up a new postal vote you can do this at any time by visiting www.gov.uk/apply-postal-vote

Who's voting in Hart?

In August we'll start the annual process of confirming who should be registered to vote at each property. You might receive an email or letter asking you to check the details and make any changes.

Some letters need a response and we'll contact you again if we don't hear back. Other letters don't need one so please make sure you read what you get from us and follow the instructions given.



Get outside with our countryside events

We're holding a variety of events over the coming months and attending those hosted by others.

Visit www.hart.gov.uk/events for more information, new additions and to sign up.

Scan the QR code to find out more about these events in Hart!



JULY

ADULT BAT WALK | ADULT | £5.00 each – Advanced booking required

Friday 4 July 8:45 – 10:45pm | Whitewater Meadows Country Park, Hook

Step into the night and explore bats! Join our guided dusk walk, and use bat detectors to learn more.

AUGUST

TALES OF THE HEATH | ADULT
Free entry – No booking required

Friday 1 August 11am – 3pm
Hazeley Heath, Hartley Wintney

FREE

Come along to a day of discovery with us and Thames Basin Heaths Partnership during Heath Week. Explore heath history, wildlife and stories.

NATURE DISCOVERY DAY | FAMILIES
Free entry – No booking required

Saturday 16 August 11am – 4pm
Edenbrook Country Park, Fleet

FREE

Meet local wildlife charities and businesses, enjoy nature crafts and explore activities. The perfect countryside day out!

POND DIPPING AND BUG HUNT | FAMILIES
£2.50 – Advanced booking required

Wednesday 27 August 1 – 3pm
Fleet Pond

Join us for pond-dipping and a bug hunt, using spotter sheets to identify insects and water bugs.

Odiham festivities

RAF Odiham and town celebrate 100 years of aviation.

RAF Odiham came into existence officially on 11 January 1937 while Odiham has been associated with aviation since 1925 when a field at Downs Farm was bought by the Air Ministry for a landing strip.

There's already been a series of events around the themes of Community, Legacy and Celebration, and you can catch more over the summer:

OCTOBER

FAMILY BAT WALK | FAMILIES
Adult: £5.00 Under-16: £2.50
Advanced booking required

Friday 3 October 6 – 8pm
Bramshot Farm Country Park, Fleet

A magical chance to discover bats! Join our guided dusk walk with educational stops and use detectors to hear them in action.

BUSHCRAFT | FAMILIES
£2.50 – Advanced booking required

Tuesday 28 October
Two sessions: 10am – 12pm and 1 – 3pm
Bramshot Farm Country Park, Fleet

An event focused on survival, wildlife, and nature. Learn practical outdoor skills, fire safety and bushcraft with our rangers.

AUTUMN TALES WITH PUMPKIN CARVING | FAMILIES
With pumpkin: £7.50 / Without: £5.00

Thursday 30 October 3:30 – 6pm
Bramshot Farm Country Park, Fleet

A festive celebration with pumpkin carving and an educational walk. Learn about the history, global traditions and wildlife.

100 Days of Flags: take a trip down the High Street to enjoy the flags with designs incorporating aircraft flown from RAF Odiham.

History of aviation exhibition: until 1 September at All Saints Church in Odiham.

Odiham RAF Box Car Race, Sunday 13 July: this amazing event will feature a variety of box carts racing down the High Street.

New arrivals at Edenbrook Country Park

We know that our beautiful Highland cows are much loved across the district so we're thrilled to welcome them to a new site!

If you've visited Edenbrook Country Park, Fleet recently you may have noticed the cows on site, which have been happily grazing to help maintain and improve the biodiversity of grassland and wetland areas.

The cattle help by trampling down vegetation to keep it under control and creating areas of bare ground. As they graze, they tend to target more dominant plant species, allowing other seedlings time to establish and creating a more diverse plant structure.

Getting fruity

We've created a small community orchard at Edenbrook, planting 30 trees, including a range of apple and pear varieties, in partnership with Hampshire Forest Partnership.

The orchard is a perfect place to walk through or have a picnic and the fruit can be picked as ready. It also provides habitat for birds, small mammals and pollinating insects.

As the orchard develops, we will be looking for keen volunteers of all ages to help the rangers look after the site. This could be watering trees in the summer, pruning branches, picking fruit and hopefully planting more trees in the future.

Supporting unpaid carers in Hart

Caring is a valuable role, reducing burden on public services. However, caring for someone at home can impact mental and physical health as well as finances.

At least 1 in 15 Hart residents are unpaid carers, with numbers likely to be far higher as many won't identify themselves as such. Unpaid carers are spouses, family members and friends who help look after someone who couldn't cope without their support.

We've been working with our Here for Hart partners to raise awareness of the challenges for unpaid carers and find ways to support them. Recently we hosted a new Carers Focus Group for organisations that work with carers.

We've also helped produce a new carers leaflet and available discounts for carers in Hart. Download from our website at www.hart.gov.uk/unpaid-carers



SALESIAN COLLEGE FARNBOROUGH

A place to flourish and thrive!

- Excellent Exam results
A Level 90% pass rate A - C
AAB Average Grades
GCSE 72% pass rate grades 9 - 6
- Small Class Sizes
- Subject Specific Teachers
- Outstanding Pastoral Support
- Extended Learning Stretch & Challenge

Encouraged to be your best self!

- 75% Distinction and Merit + in English Speaking Board exam
- 75% of current Year 7 have represented the College in competitive sport
- All year groups involved in School Production
- Extra-curricular programme including:
 - STEM, Chess, Debating
 - Japanese, Greek, Latin
 - Music, Drama and Art

www.salesiancollege.com

A place to call home

We're working to help people make a home in Hart, but the high cost of living is reflected in the number of families on our housing register needing larger properties. There are nearly 100 households waiting for a four-bed home, often waiting years due to lack of supply.

Working in partnership with VIVID Housing Association, we've recently purchased three four-bedroom houses to rent to families on our housing register at a low social rent. These have provided much-needed homes for local families.

Successful applicant Claire* is excited to get into their new family home.



Visiting one of the new properties

"I am so happy and grateful to finally have the space my family needs. Being offered this property is going to make such a difference to our lives. We can't wait to move in and make our family home."

*Not applicant's real name

Delivering rural affordable housing

Access to good quality affordable housing provides significant benefits and security. However homes in rural areas such as Hart are often more expensive to buy or rent and in high demand.

Affordable housing in rural areas is vital to ensure people can stay where they have strong connections and create thriving communities.

We recognise the importance of affordable housing in rural areas, and our Housing Strategy and Development team works alongside partners including parish councils, housing associations and the Hampshire Rural Housing Enablers at Action Hampshire to identify and help meet housing needs.

Such housing can be delivered through Rural Exception Sites. These small sites would not otherwise be allocated for housing and give priority to people with a local connection.

We have ten schemes in Hart, offering homes for rent and shared ownership (part buy, part rent). The rented homes are often let at the lowest possible



Strong local connections

We've updated how we allocate homes on the housing register to prioritise people who have lived here for at least two years, following positive feedback from consultation with residents.

Our Housing Allocations Policy ensures a fairer and more efficient allocation of social housing for those in greatest need with a strong connection to Hart.

The level of allowed savings has also increased from £16,000 to £30,000 and those refused housing due to antisocial behaviour must wait two years rather than one before they can be considered to join the housing register.



If you have a local connection to a village in Hart and need affordable housing you can apply to join Hart's housing register at homeconnections.org.uk. Registering will also help us understand affordable housing need in our area.

rent level (Social Rent) and allocated through Hart's housing register, whilst shared ownership homes are sold via the housing association.

The most recent site was delivered in 2023 through the housing association Hastoe, providing 12 homes in North Warnborough. We continue to work with partners on future schemes where the need is identified.

"I was overjoyed at being offered a one-bed flat where I grew up. I can now enjoy my independence again, and be close to my family and friends." Andy

Search 'rural affordable housing' on our website to learn more or contact the Housing Strategy and Development Team on 01252 774110 / 01252 774078.



Here for young people in Hart

Keeping residents safe is the most important element of Hart's Community Safety team's work. As well as responding to community issues we also focus on education and prevention, often with younger members of our community.

The Think Safe programme offers all year 6 students the opportunity to take part in seven interactive sessions, covering topics from wildfires to planet safety and the dangers of railway lines. In May 2025 we welcomed 800 pupils to our offices who enjoyed our fast, furious and impactive sessions.

Our Stay Safe programme tackles Child Criminal Exploitation, or 'county lines', as well as antisocial behaviour, knife crime and domestic abuse so our young people can recognise issues and seek help if they or their peers need it.



Vision 4 Youth

Vision 4 Youth run youth clubs and a 1:1 service for young people aged 11-25 in Yateley and the surrounding areas. They are open weekday evenings in term time with activities that include mental health support, environments for neurodivergent young people, and a safe space to support those who often hang around on the streets.

They support many young people across the district. Recently they've helped two brothers in foster care overcome their shyness, develop their confidence and improve their social skills through attendance at their youth events. Find full details on their website www.vision4youth.org.uk



This year all five state secondary schools in Hart took part, with 1,479 students participating and we received excellent feedback.

We're proud of these initiatives and they show the strong engagement and connection we have with local schools.

We also work collaboratively with the amazing community youth support services available in the district, such as Vision 4 Youth and Fleet Phoenix.



Fleet Phoenix

Fleet Phoenix works with young people in Hart to break down barriers and empower the community to thrive.

They co-ordinate free innovative youth projects for people aged from 11 to 25 years, delivering music and youth clubs and mentoring projects, in addition to tailored individual support and community outreach.

Anxiety Unwound is their newest project. This eight-week course for secondary school age children suffering from anxiety helps them learn what anxiety is and develop coping strategies.

For more information about Fleet Phoenix, visit www.fleetphoenix.co.uk

Please consider if you have time, skills or funds you could support these amazing organisations with.

Getting greener

We've been working to reduce the climate change impact of our council operations.

We've switched to a

100%

renewable electricity supplier for our buildings, supporting generation of electricity from renewable energy sources

The final solar panels were fitted to Hart Leisure Centre in January 2025.

These panels should save around 32 tonnes of equivalent CO2 per year and around

£45,000

per year in costs

April marked a year of using low-emission biofuel in our waste and recycling service.

This has saved over 1,450 tonnes of carbon emissions across the shared service with Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council. The new fuel cuts carbon emissions by up to

98%

YOUR HOME

Could you get help improving your home?

Government grants are available to help Hart residents improve the energy efficiency of their home.

ECOFlex

We are working with our managing agent InstaGroup to offer households with an EPC rating of E, F and G help to insulate their homes.

Insulation helps keep you warmer in the winter and cooler in the summer, by trapping the temperature within the building and stopping warmer air from escaping.

Thermal imaging scheme success

Between November and March

136

HOMES WERE SURVEYED

BY 24

VOLUNTEERS

COLLECTIVELY GIVING UP

426

HOURS OF THEIR TIME

to help fellow residents understand the energy efficiency of their homes.

One of the most common sources of energy loss identified? The loft hatch!

The scheme has now closed until later in the year, but for more information or to get involved next year visit www.hart.gov.uk and search 'thermal imaging scheme'.

Warmer Homes

Households in Hart can receive solar panels, home insulation and air-source heat pumps under the Warm Homes Local Grant. Over time, these adaptations can help residents reduce energy bills and use greener energy in the home.

The new scheme, delivered by Warmer Homes, is available to homeowners and private renters/landlords with:

- a total take-home pay of £36,000 or less a year, or;
- who receive certain means-tested benefits, or;
- whose home has an Energy Performance Certificate rating of D - G

For more information on both these grants visit www.hart.gov.uk/home-grants

Not sure what you need?

My Home Made Better is a free energy advice service covering Hampshire. It provides personalised, impartial guidance on improving energy efficiency, reducing costs and future-proofing your home.

Run by expert advisers at the Environment Centre, you'll be given a step-by-step plan for any recommendations, ensuring confidence and a pressure-free approach. The initiative aims to foster a regional effort to inspire and connect communities.

To find out more call 0800 804 8601 or email myhome@environmentcentre.com

Making a difference at any age

All schools need to have a climate action plan in place by the end of 2025. We visited Hook Infant School to speak to pupils about the difference they can make and caught up with the school's sustainability lead Pete West, to find out why teaching pupils about the environment and climate change is so important.



Tell us about the school's sustainability journey

As a voluntary conservationist, I noticed the fascination children have with the natural world, so I set up the 'Wild Things' outdoor club in 2019. By 2020, we achieved our Plastic Free School status. In 2023 we adopted the new Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy issued by the Department for Education. We are now working on meeting those targets including a climate action plan.

What does a sustainability lesson look like?

Most focus on habitats and biodiversity, recycling and the circular economy. Last year we introduced a 'switch me off' campaign, encouraging the children and staff to turn off lights. We used the Retrofit House from Hart District Council to introduce more climate education-based aspects.

Aren't children too young to learn about the environment and climate change?

Our children range between four and seven, so the concepts can be tricky. But they are very receptive if the lessons are delivered appropriately. The children enjoy joining in with physical activities; we've had great success with creating habitat features such as planting wildflowers and creating heaps for wildlife.

Do children make good climate change ambassadors?

Children will take on new ideas and are generally interested in their environment. Our children take on an active role in relaying information back to their parents. One parent told me "We will now have an hour of this", when their child was passionately telling them about their experiences.

What is the school engagement group?

We've joined forces with Hart District Council and Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust to build a community where schools can share ideas around climate change and drive sustainability. We'd love for more schools to join, as this will bring more ideas and opportunities for everyone involved.

If one thing could come out of teaching about climate change, what would it be?

We're on this planet for a short period, but our impact will last generations. If I can encourage just a handful of children to work towards conservation and environmental issues as adults then I have achieved what I set out to do. They are our future after all.

If your school is interested in joining the school climate change engagement group email climatechange@hart.gov.uk



The Retrofit House allows residents to learn about energy saving improvements they can make to their property through a range of interactive activities. If you'd like more information on using the house or where you can see it in action, email climatechange@hart.gov.uk

Taking steps to wellbeing

Taking care of mental wellbeing is crucial and evidence suggests there are five simple steps you can take to positively contribute to your mental wellbeing.

CONNECT: Search Here for Hart under Social & Leisure Activities

Find a range of social groups whatever your interest, including history, allotments and gardens, churches, cameras and arts.

MOVE: Search Here for Hart under Keep active

Our two leisure centres offer a wide range of activities for all abilities, including new pickleball sessions and health walks (both free). Other activities available in Hart include Parkrun, canoing, cricket and horse riding.

LEARN

Why not learn a new skill including digital skills, construction, first aid and sewing. Two services that may help are Hampshire skills bootcamps www.hants.gov.uk/business/skillsbootcamp and Hampshire learning in libraries shop.hants.gov.uk/collections/learning-in-libraries



Our Here for Hart Directory brings together all the resources you'll need for help in Hart. Find it at hereforhartdirectory.org.uk

Gobbling up your garden waste

Do you use our garden waste collection service?

If you make extra waste at home from mowing lawns, trimming trees or dead-heading your flowers, we can collect this every other week for a yearly subscription fee of £80 for a 240 litre bin, or £55 for a 140 litre bin.

Find out more or sign up by searching 'garden waste' on our website.

GIVE

Volunteering your time could help you connect with others, learn new skills and be physically active – win win! You can find volunteering opportunities in our countryside green spaces at www.hart.gov.uk/volunteering or through Volunteer Hampshire North: www.volunteernorthhants.org

MINDFULNESS

Pay attention to the present moment. As well as events at our countryside sites, we offer a mindful nature walk trail at Fleet Pond and a mindful nature walk guide for use in any green space. Visit www.hart.gov.uk/mindful-nature-walk for more information.



The maritime flares found in a Fleet bin

Don't be a firestarter!

Collecting your waste and recycling is a key service and our crews work hard providing this.

Recently our crews were put at risk, following a bin lorry fire caused by maritime flares triggered in general waste. Luckily no one was hurt and the fire was safely extinguished.

Putting batteries or flammable items in your bins can cause serious harm. While most use the service responsibly, please be aware of what goes in your bin, especially items with batteries (or explosives)!

You can use our weekly small electricals collection to safely get rid of items with batteries such as vapes and electric toothbrushes. This is not suitable for flares or similar which cannot legally be put out with general waste.

Check out our website at www.hart.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling for more information on what you can put in your bins.

Shaping the future in Hart

Future planning can ensure Hart remains a great place to live and work while still protecting our environment and helping address climate change.

We're working to shape the future of Hart by putting together a new local plan to help us plan for the new homes needed in Hart over the next 20 years, in line with housing numbers set by the Government.

Current numbers suggest more than 750 homes per year will be needed. Local plan policies will ensure that we have well-designed new developments delivering the right homes in the right places, including affordable homes.

They also protect the green spaces and wildlife habitats so important to our district.

Delivering a new local plan is a major project that will take around three years to complete. We'll be engaging with residents and businesses throughout the process so the views of those who live here help shape the future of Hart.

Although current plans mean Hart will become part of a new unitary authority towards the end of the process, we want to leave the legacy of a well-advanced plan that will positively address social, economic and environmental challenges through sustainable development.

Email planningpolicy@hart.gov.uk to be informed of local plan consultations. Find information on the current plan, future project and planning policy at www.hart.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy



Hart Community Pantry hits the road!

Hart Community Pantry is now on wheels.

Fondly nicknamed 'Harty', the mobile pantry van will visit Hook and Odiham on a Thursday, making access easier for local communities.

With this new mobile service, the Hart Community Pantry continues its mission of making good food more accessible, one stop at a time.

Clients will need to register before using these services at hartfoodbank.org.uk/hart-community-pantry



ELM LODGE
FOREST CARE

*ALL-
INCLUSIVE
FEES*

Elm Lodge Care Home

New Luxury Residential Care in Hartley Wintney

Physiotherapy, Chiropody, Hairdressing & Massage Included. Visit us and explore our wonderful new care home with welcoming hospitality and exceptional care.

0333 305 1785 enquiries@forestcare.co.uk





Meet our new Chairman

Councillor Chris Dorn has been elected as our 46th Chairman for 2025/26.

The Chairman has a number of duties and functions such as leading Full Council meetings. However, the main role is to act as the official representative of the Council on civic and ceremonial occasions and to be a figurehead in the Hart community. The role is also politically impartial.

Councillor Dorn has lived in Hart for 35 years, with the last 21 in Crondall. He became a district councillor in 2019 and is also the Council's Armed Forces Champion, supporting and advocating for the armed forces and veteran community in Hart.

Why is the role of Chair important to you?

It's a great honour, particularly as the nomination comes from across political parties. I'm very much looking forward to being the face of Hart and promoting the role of councillors.

What are your plans for the next year?

This will be a challenging year, as it is for councils across Hampshire, as we work towards local government reorganisation in 2028. As Chairman, I will need to carefully manage the debates at Full Council and ensure everyone has a chance to speak about the issues.

One of my first duties will be to arrange a Civic Day to highlight Hart to Hampshire, and we plan to include RAF Odiham among other key features. Our military connections are very important to me. I spent five years in the Navy – a formative time of my life which still echoes in what I do today. I am proud to be Armed Forces Champion.

What are your charities?

I shall be supporting Service Dogs UK and Mustard Seed Autism.

Service Dogs UK provides assistance dogs to veterans from the armed forces and emergency services suffering with PTSD. They're taught how to train and look after their dogs which gives them a sense of purpose and helps them refocus their lives.

Mustard Seed supports autistic children, their parents and siblings across Hart, Rushmoor and Surrey border towns. I understand how difficult it can be for parents of children with autism from the experiences of friends and colleagues. It's so important that the whole family has somewhere to turn for support.



A few words from last year's Chairman, Councillor Dermot Smith:

It has been an honour and privilege to be Chairman of Hart District Council. I've taken every opportunity to promote Hart

District to people – some who only know it for Fleet Services! I've been to every borough and district in Hampshire at least once, for formal and informal events and I'm delighted that I've also been able to raise over £10,000 for two very deserving local charities - Hart Food Bank and Citizens Advice Hart.

With the reorganisation of local government currently underway, it seems inevitable that Hart District Council will not be here in a few years, replaced by a unitary authority covering a larger area. I hope that in any new arrangements there will still be space for a role that promotes and celebrates civic and community pride.

If you have an event or activity you would like me to be involved with, please email chairman@hart.gov.uk or telephone 01252 774143.



Farnborough College of Technology



HART CAMPUS

UNLOCK YOUR TEACHING POTENTIAL WITH SUPPORT EVERY STEP OF THE WAY

WHY STUDY WITH US?

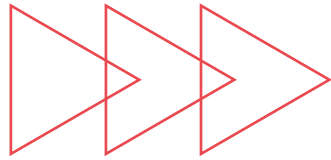
- ▶ Close-knit class sizes mean you're more than just a student number.
- ▶ Degrees awarded by the prestigious University of Surrey.
- ▶ School partnerships across two counties.
- ▶ Free careers advice.
- ▶ Free parking on-site.

APPLY TODAY

You can apply to us directly on our website at ucfarnborough.ac.uk or through UCAS.

ANY QUESTIONS?

We're happy to help you with any questions you may have. Please contact our Admissions Office on **01252 405555** or by emailing info@farn-ct.ac.uk



FARN-CT.AC.UK WE'RE SOCIAL



Information correct at time of publication but subject to change. Terms and conditions apply.





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.



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

Your councillors

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

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

Blackwater & Hawley	Fleet Central	Hartley Wintney	Yateley East
Andy Brown	Katie Davies	Dr Anne Crampton	Stuart Bailey - Vice-Chairman
Robert Harward	Richard Jones	Spencer Farmer	Graham Cockarill - Portfolio Holder for Planning Policy
Bethany Woods	Alan Oliver - Portfolio Holder for Development Management	Tim Southern	David Neighbour - Leader and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Direction and Partnerships
Crookham East	Fleet East	Hook	Yateley West
Chris Axam	Daisy Khepar	Selena Coburn	Gerry Crisp
Gill Butler	Dan Taylor	Dermot Smith Independent	Richard Quarterman - Portfolio Holder for Climate Change and Corporate Services
James Radley - Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Finance	Peter Wildsmith - Portfolio Holder for Housing and Community Services	Jane Worlock	Mark Vernon
Crookham West & Ewshot	Fleet West	Odiham	Key <div>Liberal Democrats</div> <div>Conservative</div> <div>Community Campaign Hart</div>
Tony Clarke - Portfolio Holder for Digital and Communications	Angela Delaney	Chris Dorn - Chairman	
Tina Collins - Portfolio Holder for Community Safety and Regulatory	Steve Forster	Jon Hale	
Wendy Makepeace-Browne	Ben Thomas	Stephen Highley	