



# Hart News



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# Welcome

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

There's lots to celebrate in Hart, and it's easy to see why it's been rated one of the best places to live in the country. However, we know that the cost of living has affected our communities.

We want to find ways to ease some of the burdens on our residents and support those local partners trying to help. That's why we run a series of grant schemes, to help them reach those who need it most. Find out more about some of the community schemes we've supported on page 6.

As well as supporting our communities, we're proud of our connection with the military in the area. Armed Forces personnel, their families, veterans and reservists are all important members of the Hart community. In June, we were awarded the Silver Award in the Defence Employer Recognition

Scheme and we'll continue our work to support our Armed Forces.

As always, we want to hear from you, especially if there are things you feel we aren't getting right. Get in touch – all our contact details are on this page.

## Wishing all our residents a bright and happy 2025 in Hart

“ We've got some exciting plans and changes for 2025 as well as continuing our work to always be here for Hart. ”

Councillor Stuart Bailey  
Portfolio Holder for Community Services



Front cover image: UK MOD © Crown copyright 2024

### 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](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.youtube.com) and search Hart District Council

## Accessibility matters

Did you know that an estimated one in five people in Hart could have a disability? This includes residents with:

- impaired vision
- motor difficulties
- cognitive impairments or learning disabilities
- deafness or impaired hearing

If something could work better for you on our website, tell us! That's what one blind user did, enabling us to make looking up his bin calendar much easier for him and others with a visual impairment.

In the same way that we ensure there are ramps for wheelchair users, our websites need to be accessible too. Digital or web accessibility means making content clear and simple enough for most people to understand it, while presenting it in a way that supports people who need extra help.

We try to make our website easy to read and use but we know we don't always get it right. That's why we regularly ask residents to help us make improvements.

If you can spare an hour in the comfort of your own home to test out our website with us, please email [communications@hart.gov.uk](mailto:communications@hart.gov.uk)



## Celebrating our Ministry of Defence Award

Supporting our Armed Forces and connection with the military is important to us here at Hart. We're proud to have been awarded the Ministry of Defence Employer Recognition Scheme Silver Award.

The Armed Forces Covenant is a promise from the nation to those who serve and their families. The Silver Award recognises organisations that ensure the value of the Armed Forces is championed through employment and support for charities and organisations that raise funds for veterans.

We also encourage other organisations to sign up. If your organisation is interested, you can find details on the Government website.



CGI image of the new gym upgrades

## Hit 2025 running!

Get your 2025 fitness off to a great start at Frogmore Leisure Centre. Following the gym upgrade at Hart Leisure Centre last year, Frogmore is getting its own makeover in January 2025. Over £300,000 of investment will see all current kit replaced with the latest models, exciting new additions and complete redecoration.

Earlier this year, the sports hall floor was also given a revamp with a new rubber covering and remarked lines.

Joe Noble, General Manager of Frogmore Leisure Centre, says: "On top of the recent sports hall investment we are hugely excited about this gym

refurbishment and look forward to seeing the local community take full advantage of these facilities, to keep active and improve their health."

There will be some disruption while this takes place. Keep an eye on the Frogmore Leisure Centre website for dates and full details.



# Heating up with heat pumps

We've been awarded £1.6 million towards the cost of installing heat pumps in three of our key buildings.

The funding, from the government's Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme, will be used to replace most of the current old heating systems in the Civic Office building in Fleet, Frogmore Leisure Centre and The Harlington, Fleet.

Replacing fossil fuel heating systems with more sustainable energy sources is essential in helping to reduce a building's carbon footprint.



An installed heat pump

“ Our commitment to becoming a carbon neutral council by 2035 is at the forefront of our work and we are always looking for ways to improve our energy efficiency. We hope these steps will take us closer to our carbon neutrality goals. ”

**Councillor Richard Quarterman**  
Portfolio Holder for Climate Change and Corporate Services



# Carbon savings for our waste services

In April we took a positive step towards our carbon neutral goals as most of our kerbside waste and recycling trucks swapped diesel for a low-carbon biofuel.

In the five months of April to August this change produced savings of nearly 140 tonnes CO2 equivalent (tCO2e). This saving is the same as the carbon produced by:



Driving around the world 19 times (492,000 miles) in a medium-sized petrol car



Taking a domestic flight from London to Sydney 30 times (515,000 kilometres)



Disposing of 280 tonnes of household residual waste via landfill

Supplying **250**

homes with electricity for a whole year (based on Ofgem's annual household bill assumption)

Travelling the length of Britain, Land's End to John O' Groats

**1,295**

times (780,000 miles) on an average motorbike

(Calculations based on UK government conversion factors, 2024)



## Here for Hart

For local help, information and community connections, visit the Here for Hart directory at [www.hereforhartdirectory.org.uk](http://www.hereforhartdirectory.org.uk)

# Could you ditch the glitter?

We love sparkles at Christmas as much as anyone, but did you know that cards and wrapping paper with glitter can't be recycled and could contaminate the whole lorry load of recycling?

Consider using glitter-free alternatives, or why not ditch the paper altogether and wrap presents in a scarf or colourful top. It could even be part of the gift itself!

# Impact Hart this New Year

Whether it's a pledge to join the gym, or learn a new language, New Year's resolutions can get our heads in a right spin. So why not make your 2025 resolution an environmentally friendly one? Interested, but not sure where to start? Impact Hart has got you covered.



## Go electric



Getting a new car? Consider electric. Kinder on the environment and now even easier to charge at one of Hart's new charging bays in Victoria Road, Fleet, Crossways Manor in Hook and The Bury, Odiham car parks.

## Invest in solar panels



Generating your own electricity through solar energy is not just good for the environment, it could save you money on costly energy bills too.

## Upgrade your insulation



Many homes don't have adequate insulation. With grants available to help with the cost, this doesn't need to be an expensive investment but could help cut your energy consumption and save money.

## Eat more plants



You could take part in Veganuary, but you don't need to eat vegan to make an impact. Adding more fruit and veg to your diet and reducing meat can make a massive difference. And if you eat local seasonal produce, you're reducing the distance your food has to travel and supporting local farmers too.

## Try second hand

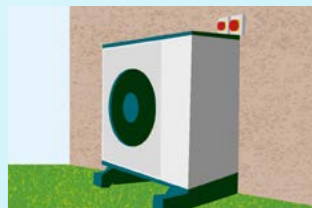
January sales can be full of great bargains but can lead to purchases you might not need.

Rather than buying new, check what you already have or:

- ✓ invite friends to a clothes swap party
- ✓ go to an online shop such as Vinted or Depop
- ✓ visit the local charity shop

## How efficient is your heating?

Check the efficiency of your boiler to ensure it's working at its best. You could also consider a heat pump as a low carbon alternative. Heat pumps capture the air from outside, heat it and circulate it around your home, keeping you toasty warm without harming the environment.



## Visit Fleet Repair Cafe

Toaster on the blink? Make a resolution not to throw it away until you've visited one of the friendly experts at a local free Repair Cafe.

Find the team at The Harlington in Fleet on the first Saturday of each month, between 10am and 12:30pm or other locations around the district throughout the month.

▶ For more tips on helping your local environment, visit [www.impacthart.co.uk](http://www.impacthart.co.uk)





## Making a difference in our communities

We know many people in Hart may be struggling to pay for essentials like energy bills and food.

With the rising cost of living, we are working with local partners to help residents through these challenging times.

This year and last, we awarded grants to a number of community groups and organisations to help them support those most in need.

## Winter relief from grants

Community groups that received Council funding to support Hart families have described the difference the grants have made.

We made seven awards through our Winter Grants Scheme for projects that increased standards of living and wellbeing within local communities.

Fleet Phoenix received funding for their Open Door project, providing food, hygiene products, clothing and day-to-day living help. They said: "The funding has enabled us to make a massive difference to young people. Feedback has shown we're making a difference in supporting families to make ends meet, an opportunity to 'start again' and improving their mental health and relationships."

Christians Against Poverty, which received funding to run 'Cook Well for Less' sessions in Fleet and Church Crookham, said: "So far, we've run three workshops for everyone aged from five 70! They create such happiness and provide skills that enable people to cook for friends and family."

Read more about other projects at [www.hart.gov.uk/winter-grants-scheme](http://www.hart.gov.uk/winter-grants-scheme)



We have just finished our latest round of funding for the coming winter. Our grant schemes have included Climate Change, Cost of Living and Armed Forces support, with successful bids to be announced soon.

“There are huge pressures on many of our residents right now and that has a far-reaching impact on their health and wellbeing. Our schemes are designed to fund local projects that will make a significant difference to local people.”

**Councillor Stuart Bailey**  
Portfolio Holder for  
Community Services



## Play to support good causes

Hart Lottery is a weekly online community lottery, raising money for local charities, community groups and sports clubs. Since we launched the lottery in 2017, it has raised over £180,000 for good causes in Hart.

- Players can win up to £25,000 with a 1 in 50 chance of winning a prize in each weekly draw.
- Play for £1 per week with 60p from every ticket going to good causes.
- You decide which good cause to support, with more than 80 to choose from!

To join, visit [www.hartlottery.co.uk](http://www.hartlottery.co.uk). Local organisations can nominate themselves online too.

## Could you be entitled to pension credits?

It's estimated that up to 850,000 pensioner households may be entitled to Pension Credit but don't claim it.

Pension credit is a benefit that gives people extra money to help with their living costs if they are over State Pension Age and on a low income. As well as topping up income, it can provide a passport to help with things like rent, Council Tax, Cold Weather



Check your eligibility today at [www.gov.uk/pension-credit-calculator](http://www.gov.uk/pension-credit-calculator)

Payments and a free TV licence for people aged 75 and over. People need to claim if they are entitled as this won't be paid automatically.

Some pensioners think because they've got savings or own their home they won't get any Pension Credit. But they could still qualify and should check their eligibility.



## Investing in our communities

We received £1 million from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund which we used to help fund community hubs and support employment and skills for young people.

The Fund aims to improve pride in place and increase life chances across the UK.

In total 16 projects received grants which can be seen at [www.hart.gov.uk/UKSPF](http://www.hart.gov.uk/UKSPF)

Funding for Yateley Men's Shed has enabled them to upgrade their facilities and create a welcoming space. Members make and repair items, supporting projects in their local communities as well as improving wellbeing and reducing loneliness.

Shed secretary John Stephens said: "We urgently needed an extension to give us our own toilet and water facilities and a better environment to meet, have a cuppa and a chat."

“Thanks to the UKSPF grant and a lot of commitment from our members, we recently enjoyed our first meeting in our new facility.”

**John Stephens from Yateley Men's Shed**

For St Barnabas Church, the funding has benefited their community hub serving Darby Green, Frogmore and Blackwater.

Reverend Faith Bailey said: "The grant is enabling us to enhance our building to make it more flexible. The building hosts a range of cafes for local groups, a youth group run by Vison for Youth two evenings a week, a pre-school, a food bank, and the local community pantry."

**ARE YOU STRUGGLING TO MAKE ENDS MEET?**

Our cost of living hub has a wealth of advice and practical information on everything from help paying bills and buying groceries to family support and health and wellbeing services.

Visit [www.hart.gov.uk/cost-living-support-hub](http://www.hart.gov.uk/cost-living-support-hub)





Flying the Green Flag at Fleet Pond

## Going for green!

Five of our countryside sites retained their Green Flag Award this year, recognising them as some of the very best in the UK.

One of the sites, Fleet Pond, has received the award for the 13th year in a row. It joins Hartley Wintney Central Commons, Elvetham Heath Local Nature Reserve, Hartland Country Park and Edenbrook Country Park who all retain their green flag status.



## Spot the difference!

Quite a change for the steps into Fleet Pond nature reserve from the train station car park!

A huge thank you to Octavius Infrastructure for helping to improve the facilities at Fleet Pond. Octavius not only carried out these works, but they also funded it all. Works included the replacement of old jetty boards along with the pictured steps renovation.

## Winter works at Whitewater Meadows

This winter, significant works will be taking place at Whitewater Meadows Country Park to improve the site for both people and wildlife.

The project will include the creation of seasonal pools and wetlands. The mill channel, in the bottom field, will be re-meandered to increase the wetland habitat for wildlife, which will also improve site drainage. As well as this, additional tree and hedgerow planting will take place.

A new path is being laid from the car park to the play area. The materials dug up during the works will also be reused to raise existing paths. We thank you in advance for your patience whilst this work takes place.

To keep up to date with the latest information about this project, visit [www.hart.gov.uk/whitewater-meadows](http://www.hart.gov.uk/whitewater-meadows)

Pro mountain biker Sam Reynolds opens our new bike tracks



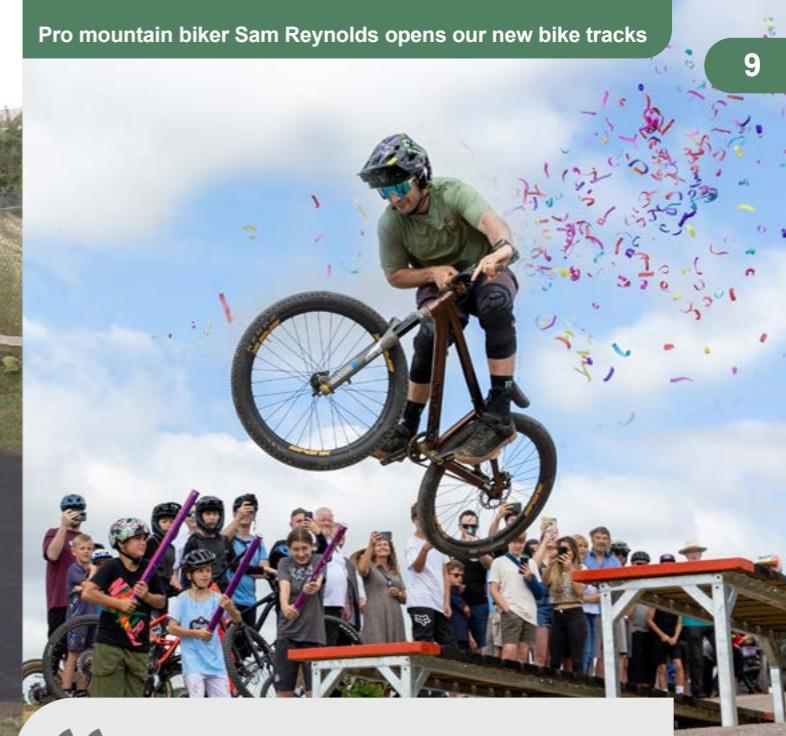
## Time for teens at Edenbrook

Last year our Countryside rangers carried out a survey at Edenbrook Country Park to find out what facilities teenagers would like to see. Equipment for teens is often less represented in areas than those for younger children, and we are keen to make sure there is something for everyone in Hart.

Calisthenics came out on top, and we're pleased to say that this facility is now in place, alongside the fantastic new bike tracks launched in June.

**So what is calisthenics?** It's a type of workout that uses your body weight with minimum equipment. Examples of calisthenics exercises include push-ups, squats, crunches, planks, burpees, pull-ups and lunges.

The new equipment is made up of a series of bars and hoops and set up to championship specification bar sizes and layout. It includes parallel bars, ultra-wide pull-up bars (2m each),



“ Our fantastic green spaces are one of the best things about living in Hart. We're so pleased to be able to add facilities to these spaces to benefit all the groups in our community. ”

Councillor David Neighbour  
Leader of Hart District Council



Olympic ring brackets, wide monkey bars and rails up to 1.2m with handstand boards above. The floor is line marked and includes low parallel bars and raised cubes.

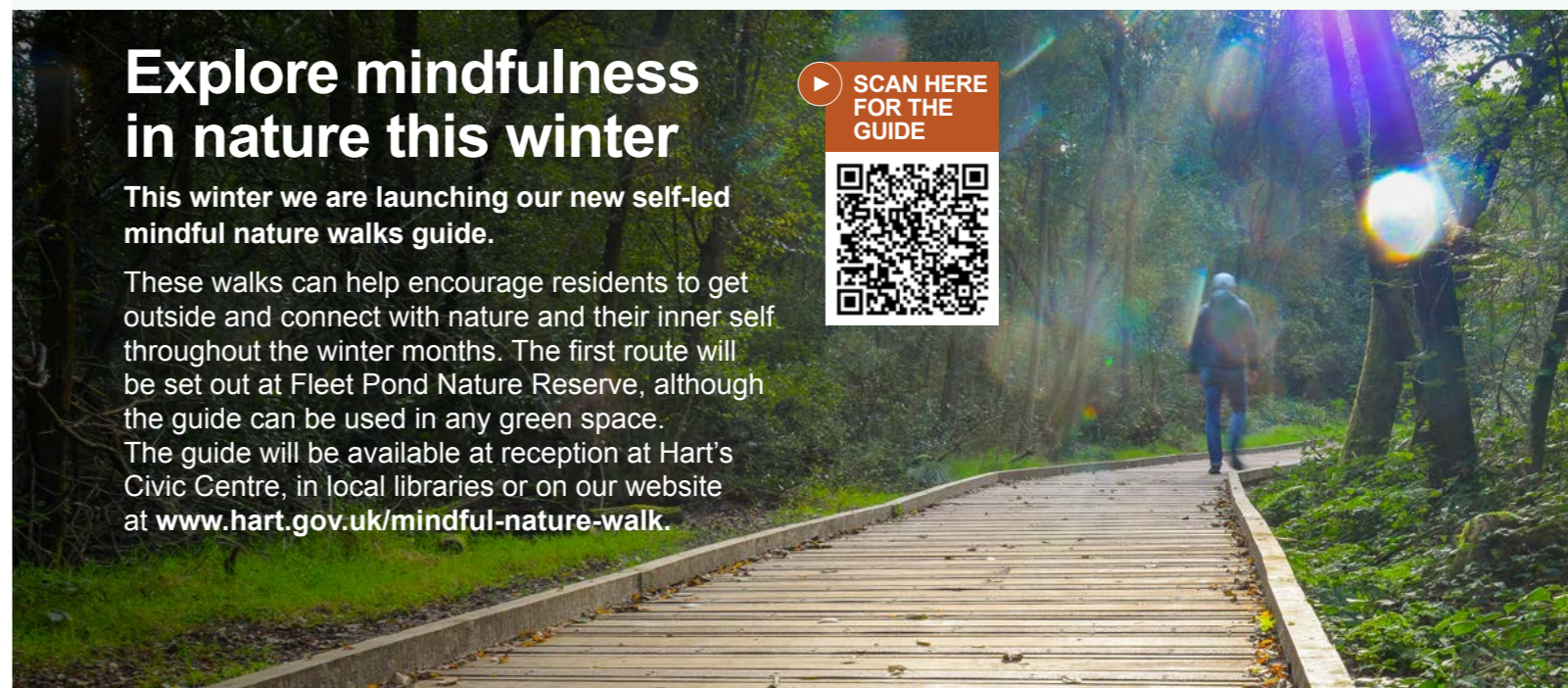
Use the QR codes onsite to watch videos on how to use. Alongside this, our new bike tracks are now fully open. With something for everyone, from beginners to more challenging trails, why not head out and explore this winter?

## Explore mindfulness in nature this winter

This winter we are launching our new self-led mindful nature walks guide.

These walks can help encourage residents to get outside and connect with nature and their inner self throughout the winter months. The first route will be set out at Fleet Pond Nature Reserve, although the guide can be used in any green space. The guide will be available at reception at Hart's Civic Centre, in local libraries or on our website at [www.hart.gov.uk/mindful-nature-walk](http://www.hart.gov.uk/mindful-nature-walk).

▶ SCAN HERE FOR THE GUIDE





# Working together to combat fly-tipping

Fly-tipping is a blight on our district and reducing it is a priority for us and for our residents. We're tackling as many incidents as we can, but community support can help us to do more.

There's no such thing as a quiet week for our Fly-tipping Enforcement Officer at Hart. During an average week, he receives 25 reports across the district, from large dumps of building waste to green waste left in our country parks.

"We're determined to help tackle this issue, which we know is a big one for our residents," he says. "We resolve as many as we can, but with help from our community we know we could do even more."

We look through all reported fly-tips to find evidence of the culprit and follow up on CCTV.



We also work closely with landowners, community groups and neighbouring authorities to share information to help with our investigations.

Regrettably though, for some incidents there isn't a lead for us to follow. This is where information our residents provide is invaluable. Witness statements help us build a strong case for even more action.

## WHAT CAN I DO?

You can help us tackle more fly-tipping in Hart by reporting any incidents you see at 01252 622122 or online at [hart.fixmystreet.com](http://hart.fixmystreet.com). If you witness the incident this is especially important as your statement could be the key to pursuing a prosecution.

Our Fly-tipping Enforcement Officer says: "Your statement could be vital for identifying those fly-tipping in our district."

“By working together, we can achieve the best possible outcome for tackling more fly-tipping in Hart.”

Councillor Peter Wildsmith  
Portfolio Holder for Regulatory



## CASE STUDY

### Following the directions!

We recently prosecuted a man who dumped building waste including asbestos, in a field in Odiham.

The owner of the field had to pay to clear this, including the asbestos. We recovered these costs for him as part of the prosecution.

When clearing up, a satellite navigation device was found in the waste, which helped lead investigators to the person responsible. He has been fined £3,800 after being found guilty of two offences.

Help us tackle fly-tipping by checking your waste collector is licensed before using them at [hants.gov.uk/fly-tipping](http://hants.gov.uk/fly-tipping).



## Is it fly-tipping?

What of the following do you think is fly-tipping?

- ▶ Dumping asbestos in a field
- ▶ Leaving garden waste in a wooded area by your house
- ▶ Dropping off general household waste at a cardboard and clothing bring site
- ▶ Putting an old washing machine on the pavement
- ▶ Leaving building material on a country lane

✔ Correct answers – all of the above!

# Empty properties becoming safe homes

## How many homes do you think are currently empty in Hart?

With just under 43,000 homes in Hart, you might be shocked that over 700 are empty, with over 500 unoccupied for more than six months.

Properties are empty for many reasons, but with more than 1,100 applications for the housing register in Hart we're keen to see if any could be a safe home for someone.

Local landlord Vanessa contacted us when she found herself with an empty home. She says: "It's been a very positive experience and it's nice to think I've done my bit to help my lovely tenant find a suitable home.

"I was worried about renting through the Council, but the team was incredibly helpful throughout the whole process."

If you have an empty property and aren't sure what to do with it, we could help save you money and even turn it into an income. To find out more please contact us on [rentdeposit@hart.gov.uk](mailto:rentdeposit@hart.gov.uk) or call 01252 774146.

We offer free training, grants, guaranteed rents and tenancy sustainment throughout.

You can also help bring houses back into use by telling us if you see an empty home or property in disrepair, so we can offer help. Email [emptyhomes@hart.gov.uk](mailto:emptyhomes@hart.gov.uk) or call 01252 774038 and let us know.

## Find employment success in Hart

Are you looking for a new job in Hart, or fancy volunteering? We can help!

Our Here for Hart directory at [www.hereforhartdirectory.org.uk](http://www.hereforhartdirectory.org.uk) has lots of information on employment and skills, training and support. There's also our Employment Bulletin, which you can find at [www.hart.gov.uk/employment-and-skills](http://www.hart.gov.uk/employment-and-skills)

Our first Hart job fair in September was a great success with 32 businesses and support agencies present, and 225 attendees. The next event is planned for Spring 2025. Keep an eye out on our website and social media for details.

# Learning from our complaints

We strive to provide the best customer service for any issues or questions you may have. If you're not satisfied about the way we've delivered a service to you, we want to hear about it so we can put things right and make improvements.



All local councils must adopt the Local Government Ombudsman complaint handling code by April 2026. The code sets out good practice to help councils respond to complaints effectively and fairly and use any learning to influence service improvements.

We've worked with the Ombudsman as part of their campaign to get councils ready for the changes. Our policy has been updated to reflect the changes in the code, and we'll follow this from now on for any complaints we receive. We've published our amended policy on our website which has been endorsed by our Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

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[www.salesiancollege.com](http://www.salesiancollege.com)  
Independent Catholic Grammar School for boys aged 11-18 with a Co-educational Sixth Form

Education is a Matter of the Heart



# New digital strategy for Hart

The use of digital is now deeply embedded throughout our everyday lives. We all want to do things quickly, easily and conveniently at a time that suits us.

As technology improves, our ability to deliver digital services also increases. Our Cabinet has recently approved our new digital strategy, setting out our approach to this.

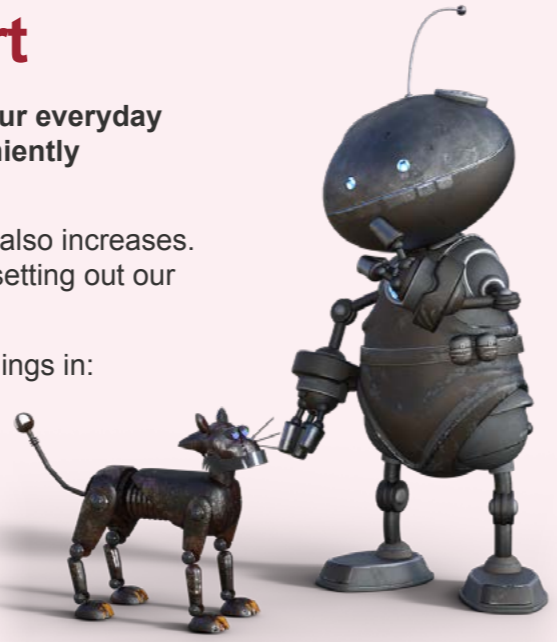
The strategy considers how it can influence the way we do things in:

- delivering convenient, easy to use and accessible services
- improving the digital skills and confidence of our people
- working with our partners to deliver consistent and effective services

We'll be looking at development on our website, better use of linked up data and consideration of the use of AI.

While this is looking forward, we also know that not everyone is able to use online services to access what they need. We'll make sure these people are still able to get what they need.

You can read our full digital strategy on our website.



**“ We need to make sure no-one is left behind. Accessing digital services requires people to be digitally enabled, and we will work to help tackle digital exclusion in our communities. ”**

**Councillor Tony Clarke**  
Portfolio Holder for Digital and Communications



Discover more

Book a tour

**SHERFIELD SCHOOL**

Ready for limitless learning?  
**Secure Your Spot for Year 7**

Year 7 Open Morning - Friday 28 March 2025  
Hook, Hampshire • Transport Available

## Safer communities with Neighbourhood Watch

**Feeling safe where you live is vital. Working together, we can make sure our communities are pleasant and secure environments for all.**

You may have seen Neighbourhood Watch signs around, but do you know what Neighbourhood Watch does? As the largest volunteer-led crime prevention charity in England and Wales, with over two million households signed up, they work across local communities to empower, educate and bring together.

The schemes in our district can be a key partner for our Community Safety team when there are community issues. They can help us build an intelligence picture, reporting incidents that we may not know about and help prevent crime and antisocial behaviour. If problems arise in these areas, we can hold engagement meetings and work together to find solutions.

Find your local scheme at [www.ourwatch.org.uk](http://www.ourwatch.org.uk)  
If you can't find a local group, why not start one?

## Learn tools to de-escalate safely

Having the tools to de-escalate situations safely is an important skill to have in our communities. For those wanting to learn these tools, free Community in Action training may be of interest.

Developed by a retired Chief Inspector who specialised in violence reduction, it equips those keen to promote peaceful resolutions with a toolkit to become an active bystander, dealing with and de-escalating real life situations and areas of concerns safely.

This training is free for Hart residents and organisations having been funded by the Police and Crime Commissioner. If you think you or your organisation could benefit from these tools, please contact [communitysafety@hart.gov.uk](mailto:communitysafety@hart.gov.uk) to register your interest.

## Do you recycle small electricals?

Broken hair dryer? New electric toothbrush? We have the solution!



We'll now collect small electricals from the kerbside for most residents in Hart. Simply leave any small electrical items on top of your waste OR recycling bin for collection. Items must be no larger than a kettle and small items such as vapes and toothbrushes should be left in a carrier bag, bread bag or similar. We also can't take loose batteries - these can be taken back to shops and supermarkets where they are sold.

We still have a little work to do to offer this to those of you who use communal bins or live in areas where we use a smaller vehicle for your waste and recycling collections. Keep an eye out for a letter inviting you to use the service in 2025.

## Christmas tree recycling

If you're planning on a real Christmas tree, don't forget you can recycle it once the decorations are down.

Leave your tree out with your garden waste bin if you subscribe to the service or check our website to find a free recycling point around the district. Our Christmas tree recycling drop-off points will be available from Thursday 2 January to Friday 31 January 2025.



The trees collected are then transformed into ProGrow Soil conditioner for gardens and wood chippings for our parks.

## Garden waste takes a Christmas break

Garden waste collections stop on Saturday 21 December for a two-week break. Garden waste customers can put their real Christmas trees out for collection with their garden waste when the service resumes from Monday 6 January.

## Don't forget the bins this festive season!

Usual collection	Revised collection
Wednesday 25 Dec	Friday 27 Dec
Thursday 26 Dec	Saturday 28 Dec
Friday 27 Dec	Monday 30 Dec
Monday 30 Dec	Tuesday 31 Dec
Tuesday 31 Dec	Thursday 2 Jan
Wednesday 1 Jan	Friday 3 Jan
Thursday 2 Jan	Saturday 4 Jan
Friday 3 Jan	Monday 6 Jan
Monday 6 Jan	Tuesday 7 Jan
Tuesday 7 Jan	Wednesday 8 Jan
Wednesday 8 Jan	Thursday 9 Jan
Thursday 9 Jan	Friday 10 Jan
Friday 10 Jan	Saturday 11 Jan

**Collections return to normal from Monday 13 January 2025**





# Hart takes to the polls

## Elections by numbers

<b>83</b> polling booths and <b>126</b> polling station signs delivered in one day!	<b>1</b> count venue with 98 tables, 260 chairs and 1 PA system
<b>390</b> temporary staff employed	<b>55,703</b> ballot papers issued
<b>72.41%</b> voter turnout	

2024 was a bumper year for elections! Running elections is a key function of ours, and we take great pride in giving our residents the chance to have their say.

On Thursday 2 May we held elections for your district councillors, with five new ones joining the Council, and the Police and Crime Commissioner. Following swiftly on, a general election was announced for Thursday 4 July. This saw a new MP for North East Hampshire and Aldershot constituencies.

After a busy 2024, there are only Hampshire County Councillor elections planned, in May 2025.

### What are all these elections for?

Different bodies are responsible for different things, and we know this is pretty confusing!

Your **parish and town councils** (who have elections every four years) are responsible for amenities such as local play parks, community centres and allotments. In Hart we have 21 parish and town councils.

Your **district council** (that's us!) elect a third of councillors every year, with one year off as councillors serve a four-year term. We're responsible for services such as planning, managing countryside sites, environmental health, housing, community safety and waste and recycling.

**Hampshire County Council** have their councillor elections in 2025. Contact them for help with roads and footpaths (including potholes), social services and education. Visit the Hampshire County Council website for more information.

Your **MP** can assist in a variety of ways, from making private enquiries on your behalf, to raising matters publicly in the House of Commons.

## Getting ahead with Hart Professional College

Hart Professional College is delighted to announce that the first cohort of students have now completed their **Counselling Children and Young People** qualification.

Former students Lindsey and Carol shared their experiences. Lindsey has now found a role at Relate West Surrey, saying: "The expertise, high standard of teaching, and support from tutors has enabled me to learn at my own pace and develop the skills to work as an ethical practitioner."

The College is proud of its ability to provide not only the practical skills and knowledge needed, but also a supportive learning environment where students can overcome adversity and achieve their goals. This is exemplified by Carol's immense resilience in completing the course.

She explains: "I completed the course after a significant bereavement: losing my husband six months before it started. In many ways the course helped me focus on something other than my grief and personal loss."

This is just one of the diverse range of courses at Hart Professional College. Options include: accounting, counselling, education and teaching, HR and management, and marketing.

Hart Professional College, conveniently located in Fleet in the Hart District Council offices, is excited for the year ahead and looks forward to supporting all those seeking professional development, career advancement, or a change in direction.

Visit [farn-ct.ac.uk/hart](http://farn-ct.ac.uk/hart) to explore courses and availabilities.

# DISCOVER HART PROFESSIONAL COLLEGE



## FOR QUALIFICATIONS IN:

- Accounting
- Counselling
- Human Resources
- Initial Teacher Training
- Marketing
- and more being added!

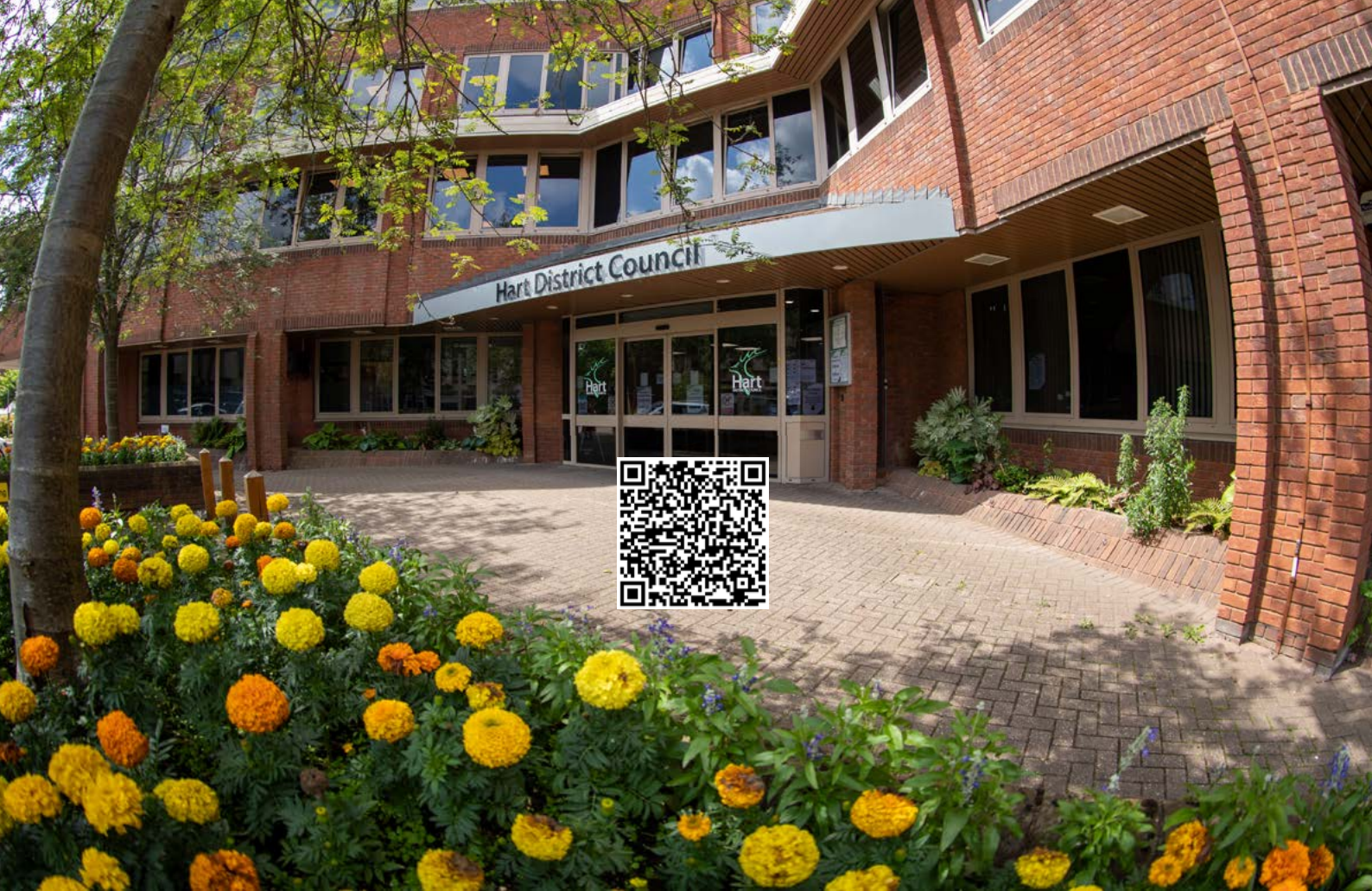
## STUDY LOCALLY

Our new campus is located on the same site as Hart District Council in Fleet town centre, with Open Events coming soon.

## FIND OUT MORE AND BROWSE COURSES AT FARN-CT.AC.UK







## 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.

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

Blackwater & Hawley	Fleet Central	Hartley Wintney	Yateley East
Andy Brown	Katie Davies	Dr Anne Crampton	Stuart Bailey - Portfolio Holder for Community Services
Robert Harward	Richard Jones	Spencer Farmer	Graham Cockarill
Bethany Woods	Alan Oliver - Portfolio Holder for Planning Policy 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	Daisy Khepar	Selena Coburn	Gerry Crisp
Gill Butler	Dan Taylor	Dermot Smith Independent - Chairman	Richard Quarterman - Portfolio Holder for Climate Change and Corporate Services
James Radley - Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Finance	Peter Wildsmith - Portfolio Holder for Regulatory	Jane Worlock	Mark Vernon

Crookham West & Ewshot	Fleet West	Odiham	Key
Tony Clarke - Portfolio Holder for Digital and Communications	Angela Delaney	Chris Dorn - Vice-Chairman	<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #fff9c4; border: 1px solid black;"></span> Liberal Democrats
Tina Collins - Portfolio Holder for Parking and Community Safety	Steve Forster	Jon Hale	<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #bbdefb; border: 1px solid black;"></span> Conservative
Wendy Makepeace-Browne	Ben Thomas	Stephen Highley	<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #e1bee7; border: 1px solid black;"></span> Community Campaign Hart