



# HASLEMERE TOWN COUNCIL

## STRATEGIC PLAN

2019-2023



## 1) Introduction

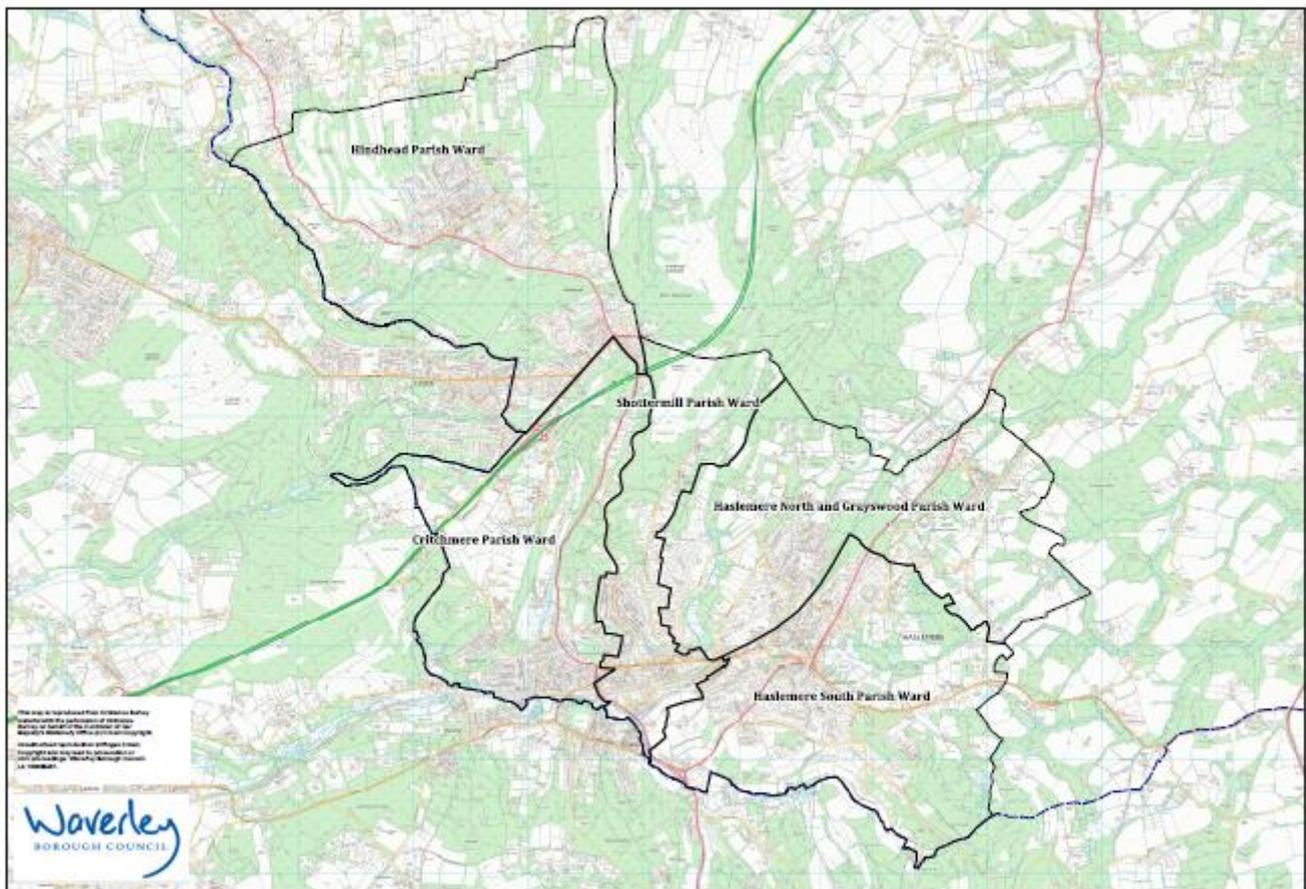
Haslemere Town council is served by 18 Town councillors elected to represent the residents of Critchmere, Haslemere North and Grayswood, Haslemere South, Hindhead and Shottermill.

This Strategic Plan is a statement of the Council's vision and objectives for the Council term 2019 – 2023.

It is intended that this document is an organic document which may be amended according to Council changing priorities.

This plan should complement existing plans for the Town such as the [Haslemere Design Statement](#) and [Neighbourhood Plan](#).

This document will be a standing item on each Council Agenda so that progress against objectives can be monitored.



## **2) Council's Vision**

*[Insert Vision Statement]*

## **3) Strategic Goals**

In 2019 – 2023 Haslemere Town Council will work to meet the following objectives:

### **1) Environmental Protection**

- a) declare a climate emergency and develop an agenda for Haslemere Town Council to become a zero-carbon council by 2030;
- b) introduce sustainable wild flower areas to some of Haslemere TC's managed areas
- c) protect our Green Spaces
- d) promote an understanding of the climate crisis amongst its community and what can be done to reduce the carbon footprint;
- e) support divestment in fossil fuels and oppose development of new sources for fossil fuels through 'fracking', 'acidisation', drilling and other unsustainable approaches;
- f) protect and improve our environment by promoting deposit and return schemes for plastic bottles and reducing the use of plastic packaging and single use plastic throughout Haslemere;
- g) encourage the development of natural habitats and biodiversity within the area, and a move towards use of organic methods of gardening on allotments and other HTC owned land, including the avoidance of artificial pesticides/herbicides, and the re-wilding of margins and hedges, aiming for organic only sections over time.
- h) protect and manage soils, planting and landscape to lock in carbon and prevent soil degradation wherever possible
- i) promote strategies for REDUCING and REUSING materials as much as RECYCLING
- j) support the goal of Haslemere becoming and remaining a Plastic Free Community.
- k) encourage plastic-free initiatives and promote our plastic-free campaign (as coordinated by Love Haslemere Hate Waste) and its supporting events.
- l) lead by example, removing all single-use plastic items from council premises.

### **2) Planning and Housing**

- a) complete a plan for the Fairground Car Park
- b) maintain Haslemere Town Council's scrutiny of all planning applications within the Town Council area;
- c) seek to ensure that planning policy is consistent in securing the objective of Haslemere being a "zero carbon" council by 2030;
- d) where possible, reduce or remove any developer restrictions which reduce the number of affordable and social houses built;
- e) encourage plans that provide more social housing in the area and better provision of housing for homeless people and any person suffering domestic violence;
- f) do all it can to protect the Green Belt from development;
- g) ensure that there is transparency on the spending of CIL funding and that local communities have an opportunity to express their views on the deployment of this funding.
- h) ensure that new developments are built sustainably and support sustainable living and are supported with commensurate increases in local services and infrastructure
- m) press Waverley for additional support for sheltered housing

### **3) Transport**

- a) improve safety for cyclists in the Town
- b) develop an integrated transport plan

- c) recognise the significant effect that additional housebuilding plans will have on traffic (already congested in the area) by helping to plan for road changes and for a balanced, pedestrian and cycle-friendly, sustainable and affordable public transport system;
- d) give official council backing to the Godalming-Guildford greenway project, promoting safe cycling and taking cyclists off our dangerous roads;
- e) encourage energy efficient transport;
- f) press for the reduction or removal of parking charges for disabled people, and if charges remain press for safe and achievable access to ticketing machines for all;
- g) press Waverley for action to reduce carbon emissions from transport – to encourage residents to move away from fossil fueled vehicles towards electric vehicles and to encourage commuters to shift from cars to walking, biking or using public transport, and to protect and invest in bus routes
- h) take action on air quality – particularly in Haslemere Town Centre and near local schools.

#### **4) Well-being, Leisure & The Arts**

- a) make Haslemere a disabled friendly Town
- b) to encourage better communication between the Town's organisations
- c) support the Town's vulnerable groups
- d) be an inclusive Town ensuring that Our "equal opportunities" policy applies not only to staff, but to the entire town.
- e) encourage access to sports and leisure facilities and the arts for all, at a price that everyone can afford and with sponsorship from sustainable and local enterprises;
- f) promote and protect natural habitats and biodiversity and encourage local residents to enjoy the local countryside through reduced parking charges and the encouragement of more sustainable transport to areas of natural beauty.

#### **5) Education and Training**

- a) promote an understanding of the local area, sustainability, biodiversity, the arts and local history through the Haslemere Museum and Haslemere Town Council links with local schools;
- b) actively oppose cuts in funding for local maintained schools and oppose any further proposed school closures in Haslemere;
- c) support training and apprenticeship schemes for young people.

#### **6) Encouraging Local Businesses**

- a) buy locally and support local businesses where possible;
- b) encourage the development of local sustainable businesses that meet local needs;
- c) provide support for local businesses that are actively working towards becoming carbon neutral.

#### **7) Extending Local Democracy and Accountability**

- a) Haslemere Town Council will:
- b) take steps to extend its responsibility by seeking devolution of powers from Waverley Borough Council and Surrey County Council;
- c) move towards a more democratic and participatory form of governance, by giving the public greater say at Haslemere Town Council meetings and developing local residents' forums such as a People's Assembly
- d) seek to improve services for young people and to engage with them through social media and Youth Forums

#### 4) Projects to support objectives

This section details how the above objectives will be delivered by the Town Council.

Objective	Action	Measure	Cost	Owned by Councillor [name]
<b>1. Environmental Protection</b>				
a)				
b)				
c)				
d)				
e)				
f)				
g)				
h)				
i)				
j)				
k)				
<b>2. Planning and Housing</b>				
a)				
b)				
c)				
d)				
e)				
f)				
g)				
h)				
i)				
<b>3. Transport</b>				
a)				
b)				
c)				
d)				
e)				
f)				
g)				

	h)			
<b>4. Well-being, leisure and the Arts</b>				
	a)			
	b)			
	c)			
	d)			
	e)			
<b>5. Education and Training</b>				
	a)			
	b)			
	c)			
<b>6. Encouraging local business</b>				
	a)			
	b)			
	c)			
<b>7. Extending Local Democracy and Accountability</b>				
	a)			
	b)			
	c)			
	d)			