

Council Priority Projects for 2020/21

Local Plan Review:

Review of the District Plan to ensure:

- A spatial strategy and policies which provide for objectively assessed needs for housing, employment and other necessary land uses;
- Policies which can be used to protect areas and assets of particular importance;
- A robust 5-year housing land supply;
- Policy gaps are addressed.

The project targets adoption of a new local plan in 2023.

Household Waste Recycling:

Delivery of trial food waste and absorbent hygiene products collection during 2020/21, funded by West Sussex County Council. The trial will enable the Council to:

- Use the learning to consider longer term change to household waste collection services including expansion of green waste;
- Redesign services for implementation in 2021/22.

The Orchards Shopping Centre:

A three-year project of modernisation, regeneration and a repositioning of the Orchards Shopping Centre to:

- Enhance future viability and income generation, in a challenging commercial environment;
- Explore options to diversify the centre, including provision of a leisure facility;
- Support Haywards Heath master plan and policy objectives to enhance the town centre economy through collaborative working to improve The Orchards and its catchment.

Enabling Full Fibre Infrastructure

Provision of digital connectivity through a full fibre network in Burgess Hill, designed to support local business growth in its construction and commercialisation. This is a long-term project, with its first phase due to complete by March 2021. It has been shaped to use the opportunity of growth in Burgess Hill and beyond, alongside the increasing demand for high capacity 'backhaul' fibre infrastructure to accelerate the provision of digital infrastructure. It supports the objectives of:

- Developing the economy;
- Transforming public services;
- Giving residents access to opportunities to develop skills to succeed.

Sustainability Action Plan:

Delivery of a comprehensive programme of activities arising from the sustainability strategy and complementing the work being undertaken at county and regional level to deliver against new policy and guidance from central government.

This will include a project to deliver a network of electric vehicle charging points in town and village locations across Mid Sussex to encourage residents, businesses and visitors to switch to electric vehicles.

Parks Investment

The investment programme will provide a range of projects which will:

- Shape a five to ten-year strategy for the provision of parks and open spaces;
- Plan and deliver improvement in support of the strategy for six key parks, while having a clear proposal for future improvements and investment required in the lifetime of the strategy and a sustainable plan for the management and maintenance of park assets;
- Plan and deliver seven improved playgrounds by March 2021.

Provision of Sites for Gypsies and Travellers

The project will continue the Council's work to develop options to ensure a supply of gypsy and traveller accommodation to meet the identified need of the community to 2031.

Temporary Accommodation

This project will consider the impact of the Council's work to secure its own temporary accommodation and, in the light of that, consider options to expand the provision of temporary accommodation for homeless households in the district.