

Waverley Borough Council Corporate Strategy 2019-2023

A programme for Waverley developed by the Executive of Waverley Borough Council

Our Vision

Waverley Borough Council is a council which promotes and sustains:

- *open, democratic and participative governance*
- *a financially sound Waverley, with infrastructure and services fit for the future*
- *the value and worth of all residents, regardless of income, wealth, age, disability, race, gender or sexual orientation*
- *high quality public services accessible for all, including sports, leisure, arts, culture and open spaces*
- *a thriving local economy, supporting local businesses and employment*
- *housing to buy and to rent, for those at all income levels*
- *responsible planning and development, supporting place-shaping and local engagement in planning policy*
- *a sense of responsibility for our environment, promoting biodiversity and protecting our planet.*

In our four-year term of office, we shall:

- develop a more open, inclusive approach to communications and decision-making;
- protect, support and empower Waverley's communities by changing the way that the council is organised and operates, seeking the delivery or devolution of responsibilities from Surrey County Council to Waverley and to Waverley's towns and parishes;
- encourage the development of small businesses and support for local employment;
- review charging policies to ensure that they are consistent with our vision;
- encourage affordable access to sports and leisure facilities and the arts for all, improving services across the borough, focusing on health inequalities ensuring that no area is disadvantaged;
- ensure local residents have access to local countryside and are not excluded through high parking charges;
- improve facilities for young people;
- work to maximise the availability of housing that meets the needs of local people at all income levels, as well as reviewing arrangements for preventing homelessness and providing accommodation for vulnerable people, such as those experiencing domestic abuse;
- take steps towards our aim of becoming a net zero-carbon council by 2030 encouraging carbon reduction and carbon offsetting and the promotion of biodiversity and sustainable homes, businesses and transport;
- promote reduction and re-use as well as recycling;
- work with partners to promote a pedestrian-friendly and cycle-friendly road system taking action on air quality especially those caused by vehicle emissions, and encouraging an improved "clean" bus service;
- tighten planning guidance so that it is consistent with meeting local needs and protecting the Green Belt, engaging with government to promote rebalancing the planning system in favour of localism;
- implement the Community Infrastructure Levy fully and allocate funds fairly and transparently;
- engage with all stakeholders to better control crime and anti-social behaviour;
- press the government for appropriate funding to meet local needs as reflected in our vision for Waverley, and reverse cuts to local government funding to enable us to intelligently deal with the looming budget shortfall.

