

Council Plan

The vision, values and priorities for our borough
2024 - 2028



Our vision

During recent discussions with councillors and council officers, it was felt that a new vision should be considered to capture our goal of creating a better future for all communities in the borough.

The new vision proposed is:

**‘Supporting people,
strengthening communities.’**

Our priorities

We have established three priorities:

The proposed priorities will place communities at the heart of everything we do.

Caring for our people - we are dedicated to the well-being of our communities to ensure our borough is a supportive, inclusive and thriving place with a focus on those that need us most.

Caring for our environment - we will provide community leadership to support the borough to become carbon neutral. We will deliver policies and practices that protect and enhance our environment.

Caring for our place - we are committed to working with our communities to shape the future of our towns, villages and rural areas, actively contributing to the prosperity of our borough.

Our values

Our values underpin everything we do.



We will be open and honest:

this value promotes trust, clarity, and accountability in all interactions and decision-making.



We will be respectful:

being respectful to others is fundamental to building strong, trusting relationships both with our communities and our colleagues/staff.



We will be inclusive:

we are committed to fostering an inclusive environment where we listen to our communities and value and embrace their diversity.



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Our areas of focus

As a borough council, we are responsible for a wide range of services. You can look at what services we deliver compared to town/parish councils and the county council [here](#).

Alongside the teams that help to run our council (such as finance, IT, communications, human resources and elections), we deliver over 50 services directly to our communities.

Over the next four years, we think our focus areas should be (these are not presented in an order of priority):



Climate and ecological emergency - supporting our climate and ecological emergency motion to meet our carbon neutrality aims and enhance biodiversity and healthy habitats across the borough.



Flooding - working with partners to review our flood response and improve our flood resilience.



Place - developing a closer working relationship with town and parish councils and our communities so we can better focus on local issues.



Growth - looking at the future of our borough through strategic planning, including the garden communities programme and an improved planning service.



Housing - helping support residents to access good quality housing that is affordable whilst also developing an emergency housing supply for people in immediate need.



Economy - working more closely with our business community to support business growth and helping people into employment.



Youth - being better at listening to and engaging with our young people within our borough.



Health and wellbeing - targeting programmes where we work with our partners to help people stay healthy in our communities.