

Corporate Plan 2023 - 2027

1. Delivering value for money and modernising the way we work

We will:

- Continue to balance the budget (over a four-year period), by improving our efficiency, increasing income and investing ethically and wisely.
- Work to keep council tax low without compromising local services.
- Continue to deliver the Transformation Plan.
- Continue to develop digital service delivery, enabling customers to engage with council services at their convenience, via websites and self-service portals, whilst investing in technology to support digital working and self-service for CBC staff, including mobile teams.
- Transition to the New Town Hall and embed new working practices.
- Maximise the use of our assets, ensuring they deliver value for money and consider the social value of what these provide to our communities, where appropriate.

2. Delivering affordable homes for Crawley and addressing homelessness

We will:

- Continue to deliver as much affordable housing as possible, particularly Council housing, through our own-build and enabling programmes for people with a local connection to Crawley and to meet our other statutory duties.
- Work collaboratively with other statutory and voluntary sector agencies in supporting those facing homelessness within the borough. Lobby government for the appropriate support with regard to temporary accommodation and those at risk of homelessness.
- Continue working with neighbouring councils in the spirit of partnership to collectively deliver housing to meet Crawley's needs through the 'duty to co-operate arrangements'.
- Deliver improvements to the management of the Council's housing stock in line with legislative reform, ensuring the customer is at the heart of service delivery and feel safe and secure in their tenancies.

3. Enabling a sustainable economic recovery and improving job opportunities

We will:

- Continue to implement Crawley's "One Town" Economic Recovery Plan, which sets out our commitment for Crawley's future socio-economic prosperity, a clear path for recovery from the pandemic and a marker to Crawley's formidable reputation for economic productivity. Enable support measures to diversify the local economy and building economic resilience in the borough.
- Deliver the Crawley Growth Programme and Crawley Towns Fund Programme to provide major improvements to the town's infrastructure, including significant sustainable transport enhancements and better business, skills and community facilities.
- Unlock pathways to better job opportunities for local residents, by working with employers on apprenticeship schemes and refreshing Crawley's Employment and Skills Programme and continuing its delivery. Deliver the outcomes within the Shared Prosperity Fund Investment Plan.

- Continue to work closely with our Local Economic Partnerships to boost sustainable business growth, attract new jobs investment and empower the local resident workforce.
- Utilise our place making responsibilities and powers to drive sustainable growth, enhance Crawley as a place to do business and support economic growth through technology and hyper digital connectivity.
- Work with partner organisations to support the green transformation of Crawley's economy and invest in the skills required to deliver this.

4. Reconnecting communities

We will:

- Support local groups in delivering a range of events and activities that celebrate Crawley's diversity, encourage tolerance and cohesion, and re-connect people with their wider community.
- Continue to help local voluntary and community sector organisations, through the grants process and other support to provide important services to residents.
- Continue to work proactively with our partners to sustain Crawley as a safe place to live, work and visit.
- Promote and facilitate opportunities for our residents to have their voices heard over how services are delivered, through a range of community engagement channels, including neighbourhood forums.
- Enable early intervention and support to households who are financially or socially vulnerable, through the delivery of the Shared Prosperity Fund Investment Plan and Access Crawley.
- Create a Covid-19 memorial to remember those we have lost and those whose lives have been permanently impacted by the pandemic.

5. Providing high quality leisure and culture facilities and supporting health and wellbeing services

We will:

- Continue to invest in and enhance the town's leisure, wellbeing and culture facilities and services, such as local parks and open spaces, Nature Centre, sports & playing pitches, play areas, K2 Crawley, the Hawth and outreach play service.
- Build on the success of Tilgate Park and the Nature Centre and continue to invest in the town's parks starting with Goffs Park improvements.
- Work with partners, residents and other key stakeholders to enhance our resident's health and wellbeing and reduce health inequalities across our town. Encourage services back to Crawley Hospital and address GP shortages in provision across the borough.

6. Protecting the environment

We will:

- Protect and enhance our environment by reducing the Council's and the town's Carbon footprint, through the delivery of the Climate Emergency Action Plan.
- Complete the feasibility of developing the phase 2 expansion of the town centre District Heat Network. Subject to the outcome of the feasibility study, progress the business case and development of the phase 2 expansion of the Heat Network.
- Continue to reduce, reuse and recycle our waste, providing the mechanisms to encourage residents to reduce the amount of residual waste they produce.
- Continue to seek measures to improve the air quality across the Borough.
- Revise the Crawley Local Plan 2022- 2037 to ensure that it remains up to date and reflects the key issues and growth challenges facing the town.

- Continue to provide a safe, clean and well-maintained town.
- Strive to deliver commitments to net zero through the Council's housing stock, seeking and maximising opportunities through external funding sources. Encourage the private sector to make changes as well, in consultation with the Council.
- Reduce the consumption of water in the borough and supporting water neutral development through reducing water consumption in the Council's housing stock and buildings.