

WYCHAVON

Our strategy 2008 - 2013

Our priorities, goals and this year's promises

1 Safer

Communities that are safe and feel safe

1. To reduce crime and the fear of crime

- Extend the safe and sound security scheme to small and medium sized businesses to help reduce business crime.

2. To tackle anti-social behaviour and disorder

2 Greener

A better environment - for today and tomorrow

1. To minimise waste and increase recycling

- Extend our garden waste service and increase the amount of garden waste composted by 600 tonnes.

2. To balance new development with protecting the district's natural and built environment

- Publish a study to ensure new residential development looks after the environment for wildlife and people.
- Adopt a conservation plan for Hartlebury Castle.

3. To create a clean environment

- Encourage and support at least 30 community litter picks, with a focus on rural areas

4. To reduce the impacts of climate change and household energy consumption

- Use information from the Warmer Worcestershire project and customer insight to promote energy efficiency initiatives to at least 3,000 residents and help at least 600 households with advice to improve the energy efficiency of their homes.
- Reduce energy use by 5% and water use by 10% compared to 2009/10 in the Civic Centre and Community Contact Centres.

5. To aid recovery from flooding and reduce the impact of future floods

- Help deliver 14 parish level flood grants and the Beckford household protection scheme.
- Pilot an early warning/flood warden scheme in four parishes and if successful roll it out to the rest of the district.

3 Healthier

Improving health and well-being

1. To contribute to reducing the incidence of coronary heart disease, cancer, obesity and diabetes

- Use £50,000 of grant funding to commission local sports clubs and other organisations to deliver sports activities to children and young people building up to the 2012 Olympics.

2. To reduce health inequalities in Wychavon

- Work with partners to target health improvement activities in Badsey, Broadway, Evesham and Harvington.

4 Stronger

Vibrant and inclusive communities with a strong economy

1. To increase the availability of affordable, decent housing

- Improve the standards of at least 100 private sector homes through giving advice and support to owners and taking formal action where necessary.
- Make satisfactory progress towards our target to deliver at least 200 affordable homes by 2012/13 by completing 60 affordable homes during 2010/11.

2. To improve activities/facilities for young people

- Fund the Spa Youth Zone and youth bus for a year and secure their long term future.
- Help build four new play areas across the district.

3. To support local businesses and village services

- Work with partners to provide direct grant and advisory support to 15 businesses helping to support new or safeguarded jobs.
- Organise at least three roadshows for local businesses across the district focusing on changes to the delivery of training and skills.

4. Build vibrant and tolerant communities where people get on well together

- Work with partners to improve confidence and skills amongst 'workless' groups in Badsey, Broadway, Evesham and Harvington.
- Support the development of good community relations between the migrant and local communities through the new Migration in Rural Areas Partnership.

5. To increase leisure and cultural activities

- Work with partners to agree a way forward for the £200K brine bath fund.
- Run 750 arts workshops for children and young people, 35 professional rural touring events and initiate an arts in empty shops project.

5 Successful

Delivering excellent and value for money services

1. To provide high performing services that meet customers' needs

- Set up a text and email alert service to quickly communicate relevant services to customers.
- Develop an e-benefits electronic form facility to give customers, who attend the Contact Centres by previous appointment, a fast-track application process and decision within 48 hours after submitting their completed benefits application.

2. To increase efficiency and access to services

- Identify a further £250K of efficiency savings and cut out unnecessary processes through our 'Better not busier' reviews and switch resources that are freed up to other priorities.

3. To keep staff and Members developed and motivated

- Deliver staff engagement and development initiatives.
- Implement the recommendations from the diversity and councillor development peer reviews.

www.wychavon.gov.uk

Our vision: A safe, green, healthy and beautiful district that is a vibrant and creative place for everyone to live, work and visit. **Our aim:** To deliver excellent services and make life better for everyone.