

# OUR FIVE YEAR PLAN &

## Actions for 2023/24 and beyond

Our vision: to enhance the Malvern Hills District as a destination to explore and an outstanding place to live and work



### Our Communities

#### **Our Environment**

- 1. Continue to invest £500,000 to support and enable our communities to:
  - Increase volunteer activity and support;
  - Bring together neighbours to feel part of their community;
  - Reduce crime and anti-social behaviour;
  - Reduce social isolation and loneliness and promote inclusion;
  - Enhance mental health and well-being.
- 2. Continue to work with communities and partners to provide cost of living support, targeting our collective resources on prevention, support, and recovery;
- 3. Support Malvern Hills District Youth Forum priorities to improve mental wellbeing education in schools and increase environmental awareness and local action;
- 4. Actively promote health, fitness and well-being through community outreach programmes and support for leisure centres, with 1.5mn visits in the plan period;
- 5. Facilitate investment of at least £10mn in new open space provision, play areas, playing pitches and community facilities in the plan period;
- 6. Continue to work with partners and communities to enable the delivery of 550 affordable new homes over five years to March 2025, and to ensure a wider provision of affordable housing options for residents;
- 7. Minimise homelessness and rough sleeping by targeting support to those at risk;
- 8. Promote and invest £150,000 in major flood alleviation schemes, including Tenbury and Severn Stoke;
- 9. Invest in the refurbishment of five town centre toilets by 2025;
- 10. Continue to provide support under the Homes for Ukraine scheme, including support into accommodation and community life;
- 11. Create a vibrant arts community, working with Malvern Theatres and the community arts sector, to improve wellbeing, economic prosperity, and connected communities;
- 12. Continue to enhance and make improvements to Priory Park.

1. Produce a new, ambitious Economic Vision for the district by Summer 2023 to set out how the Council will deliver a sustainable growth plan for the future;

**Our Economy** 

- 2. Support at least 100 businesses per year to innovate and grow, through business start-up and growth programmes;
- 3. Work with all partners on the Malvern Hills Science Park Board to deliver Phase 6 of the Science Park as a low carbon development as early as possible, and by 2027 at the very latest;
- 4. Work with partners to deliver investment in new workspace and key employment sites increasing overall stock by at least 10% by 2025;
- 5. Invest up to £100,000 by 2025 to provide upskilling grants to encourage local businesses to take on apprentices and graduates, and to promote Kickstart placements and other employment programmes to local residents;
- 6. Deliver actions within the Town Centre Plans covering our 5 town centres, promoting our high streets and increasing footfall to pre-Covid levels;
- 7. Work with Malvern Theatres to facilitate the delivery of a new extension to contribute to the local economy and cultural experience;
- 8. Promote and develop the visitor experience of the Malverns, increasing visitor spend by 10% above 2021 levels by 2025;
- 9. Support the tourism sector with a focus on sustainability by supporting 30 local businesses to achieve Green Mark accreditation by 2025;
- 10. Building on the strengths of our rural businesses and communities, deliver a £500,000 Rural England Prosperity Fund capital grants programme by March 2025.

- 1. Ensure we remain on target to reduce the council's own greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2030;
- 2. Lead the district by example, to become carbon neutral as soon as possible, and by 2050 at the very latest and deliver Destination Zero:
- 3. Ensure planning policies are in place to safeguard the quality of the built environment, natural environment and energy efficiency of buildings;
- 4. Champion sustainable travel solutions, including low carbon, community transport and active travel;
- 5. Develop a Biodiversity Action Plan by March 2024;
- 6. Double the amount of renewable energy generated in the district by 2030;
- 7. Double the number of employees in the low carbon economy in the district by 2030 from a 2020 baseline;
- 8. Improve the energy efficiency of Malvern Splash by March 2024 and Malvern Theatres by March 2027;
- 9. Work with communities on local environmental action:
  - Encourage responsible disposal of waste, including the creation of a district wide Litter Charter
  - Improve the appearance of our streets, including through 'Adopt a Street' and Green Dog Walkers.
- 10. Support initiatives that promote 'refuse, reduce, reuse, and recycle'.

