



Meeting	The Scrutiny Committee
Date and Time	Wednesday, 4th March, 2026 at 6.30 pm.
Venue	Walton Suite, Guildhall, Winchester and streamed live on YouTube at www.youtube.com/winchestercc

Note: This meeting is being held in person at the location specified above. Members of the public should note that a live video feed of the meeting will be available from the council's YouTube channel (youtube.com/WinchesterCC) during the meeting.

A limited number of seats will be made available at the above named location however attendance must be notified to the council at least 3 working days before the meeting (5pm Thursday, 26 February 2026). Please see below for details on how to register to attend. Please note that priority will be given to those wishing to attend and address the meeting over those wishing to attend and observe.

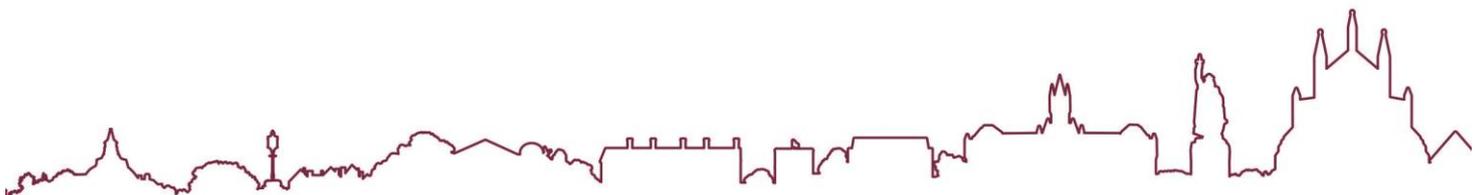
AGENDA

- 1. Apologies and Deputy Members**
To note the names of apologies given and deputy members who are attending the meeting in place of appointed members.
- 2. Declarations of Interests**
To receive any disclosure of interests from Councillors or Officers in matters to be discussed.

Note: Councillors are reminded of their obligations to declare disclosable pecuniary interests (DPIs), other registerable interests (ORIs) and non-registerable interests (NRIs) in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct.

If you require advice, please contact the appropriate Democratic Services Officer, prior to the meeting.

- 3. Chairperson's Announcements**
- 4. Minutes of the meeting of the 10 February 2026 (Pages 5 - 12)**
That the minutes of the meeting be signed as a correct record.



5. **Public Participation**

To receive and note questions asked and statements made from members of the public on matters which fall within the remit of the Committee.

Members of the public and visiting councillors may speak at the committee, provided they have registered to speak three working days in advance. Please complete [this form](https://forms.office.com/r/Y87tufaV6G) (https://forms.office.com/r/Y87tufaV6G) by 5pm on 26 February 2026 or call (01962) 848 264 to register to speak and for further details.

6. **Annual Community Safety Update** (Pages 13 - 46)
RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee acknowledge the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) progress report and agree any matters of significance with the Cabinet Member for Healthy Communities.

7. **Planning Enforcement - Task and Finish Group - Feedback to Scrutiny Committee.** (Pages 47 - 58)
RECOMMENDATION:

That the Scrutiny Committee notes the recommendations from the Task & Finish Group.

8. **Q3 Finance & Performance Monitoring** (Pages 59 - 116)
RECOMMENDATION:

That the Scrutiny Committee raises with the Deputy Leader or relevant Cabinet Member any issues arising from the information in this report, ref CAB3537, which is being presented to Cabinet on the 12 March 2026 and considers whether there are any items of significance to resolve or to be drawn to the attention of Cabinet.

9. **To note the committees current Work Programme.** (Pages 117 - 118)
The latest version of the committee work programme can be found here:
<https://democracy.winchester.gov.uk/mgPlansHome.aspx?bcr=1>

10. **To note the latest Forward Plan of Key Decisions** (Pages 119 - 126)

Laura Taylor
Chief Executive

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24 February 2026

Agenda Contact: Matthew Watson, Democratic Services Officer
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THE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – Membership

Chairperson: Councillor Brook **Vice Chairperson:** Councillor Wallace

Committee Members.

Councillors:

Batho
Laming
Pett
Clear
Power
Murphy
Bolton

Quorum = 3 Members

Relevant Cabinet Members

Having regard to the content of the agenda, the Chairperson requests that The Leader and all relevant Cabinet Members attend meetings of the committee

Public Participation

A public question and comment session is available at 6.30pm for a 15 minute period. There are few limitations on the questions you can ask. These relate to current applications, personal cases and confidential matters. Please contact Democratic Services on 01962 848 264 at least three days in advance of the meeting (5pm Thursday, 26 February 2026) for further details. If there are no members of the public present at 6.30pm who wish to ask questions or make statements, then the meeting will commence.

Filming And Broadcast Notification

This meeting will be recorded and broadcast live on the Council's YouTube site and may also be recorded and broadcast by the press and members of the public – please see the Access to Information Procedure Rules within the Council's Constitution for further information, which is available to view on the [Council's website](#). Please note that the video recording is subtitled, but you may have to enable your device to see them (advice on how to do this is on the meeting page).

Voting

1. Apart from the Chairperson, every member has one vote when a matter before the meeting requires a decision.
2. In the event of an equality of votes, the Chairperson may exercise a casting vote and that vote may be exercised in any way seen fit.
3. A member may abstain from voting or vote differently from how they may have indicated during the debate, without further explanation.
4. The way each member voted will not be recorded in the minutes, unless a motion to have a recorded vote has been passed.

Terms Of Reference

Included within the Council's Constitution (Part 3, Section 2) which is available [here](#)

Public Document Pack Agenda Item 4

THE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 10 February 2026

Attendance:

Councillors
Brook (Chairperson)

Wallace
Batho
Laming
Pett

Power
Murphy
Bolton

Apologies for Absence:

Councillor Clear

Deputy Members:

Councillor Gordon-Smith as deputy for Councillor Clear

Other members in attendance:

Councillors Cutler, Porter, Reach and Tod

Video recording of this meeting

1. **APOLOGIES AND DEPUTY MEMBERS**

Apologies for the meeting were noted as above.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

Councillor Wallace declared a disclosable pecuniary interest due to his role as a Hampshire County Councillor. However, as there was no material conflict of interest, he remained in the room and spoke under the dispensation granted by the Audit and Governance committee.

Councillor Pett declared a disclosable pecuniary interest due to his role as a member of the South Downs National Park Authority. However, as there was no material conflict of interest, he remained in the room and spoke under the dispensation granted by the Monitoring Officer.

3. **CHAIRPERSON'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairperson advised that the running order of agenda would be adjusted to bring forward the item "Treasury Management Strategy 2026/27"

4. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE 19 JANUARY 2026**

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 19 January 2026 be approved and adopted.

5. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were no comments or questions made during public participation

6. **TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2026/27**

Councillor Neil Cutler, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation introduced the report, ref CAB3538 which set out proposals for the Treasury Management Strategy 2026/27. Councillor Cutler advised that there were no significant changes to the strategy for the 2026/27 year and that whilst the report included updated figures there was no change in policy proposed. Gemma Farley and Daniel O'Rourke on behalf of Hampshire County Council were also present to respond to the committees' questions.

The committee was recommended to comment on the proposals within the attached cabinet report, ref CAB3538 which was to be considered by cabinet at its meeting on 12 February 2026. The committee proceeded to ask questions and debate the report. In summary, the following matters were raised.

1. A question was asked regarding the trajectory of higher borrowing shown on page 151 and whether this represented a shift in the council's appetite for risk.
2. Further clarification was sought on whether externalising borrowing increased the risk profile, particularly given the council's moderate risk appetite.

These points were responded to by Neil Aitken, Service Lead: Finance accordingly.

RESOLVED:

1. That the report be noted.

7. **PLANNING ENFORCEMENT - TASK AND FINISH GROUP - FEEDBACK TO SCRUTINY COMMITTEE.**

The committee thanked the Task and Finish Group for their work and noted the minutes of the two meetings held. Councillor Wallace, as Chair of the Task and Finish Group asked that a review of the recommendations be undertaken and a further virtual meeting was agreed. The Chief Executive proposed that the recommendations through the report be brought together once agreed and an update included on the agenda of a future meeting of this committee.

8. **HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT (HRA) BUDGET 2026/27**

Councillor Mark Reach, Cabinet Member for Good Homes introduced the report, ref CAB3540 which set out proposals for the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Budget 2026/27 and the longer-term business plan regarding capital investment. The introduction included the following points.

1. The report was produced following modelling and engagement with tenants, including the TACT board, two members of which were present at the meeting and a wider consultation which received 291 responses.
2. The plan addressed challenges arising from inflation, increased construction costs, energy prices, and borrowing.
3. The aim was to ensure a housing service that was fit for purpose, providing tenants with good, warm, safe, and secure homes that were economical to run and met regulatory standards.
4. The report set out plans to protect the repairs and maintenance programme, retrofit and decarbonisation plans, and the strategy for building or acquiring further council homes.
5. Savings of approximately £1.1 million were identified within the budget.
6. The proposal followed the rent setting guidelines from the Social Housing Regulator of CPI plus 1%, equating to 4.8% for the period.
7. Risks facing the HRA in the medium term were outlined, primarily relating to macroeconomic factors and central government funding.
8. A verbal update would be provided to Cabinet regarding a change to one of the savings recommendations following a request from the TACT board.

The committee was asked to comment on the proposals within the attached cabinet report, ref CAB3540, which was to be considered by the cabinet at its meeting on 12 February 2026. The committee proceeded to ask questions and debate the report. In summary, the following matters were raised.

1. A question was asked regarding the table on page 44 regards “loss of funding”, as it was felt that the numbers did not appear to add up correctly.
2. Further clarification was sought regarding paragraph 11.9 and the full stock condition survey, and whether any unexpected findings were anticipated.
3. Clarification was requested regarding paragraph 11.66 and the wastewater treatment plant upgrades, specifically which site was referred to in this paragraph.
4. Clarification was requested on whether the council was moving towards full cost recovery for sewage treatment, the progress in rationalising resident charges, and if the issues regarding charging at Hobbs Close would be addressed.
5. Clarification was sought regarding paragraph 1.6 and how the feedback from tenants, including those who had exercised Right to Buy, had been considered.
6. A question was asked regarding paragraph 11.64 and EPC targets, and how much the needs of tenants for warmer homes and lower costs were considered in prioritisation decisions.

7. It was asked whether the challenges regarding energy improvements and the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (SHF) Programme Wave 3 funding had been discussed at a recent the Cabinet Committee: Housing meeting.
8. Clarification was sought regarding the change in approach to Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) funding, noting that the proposal was for the council to self-fund.
9. Clarification was requested on how many of the confirmed programme of 672 homes for solar panel and battery installation had been completed.
10. A question was asked regarding the target of 87% of stock to meet EPC-C by March 2028, and what percentage of tenants were resistant to retrofit schemes and what was a realistic target.
11. Clarification was sought regarding paragraph 11.8 and the average social rent for new tenancies.
12. A question was asked regarding paragraph 11.9 and the stock condition survey availability in mid-2026, and whether this should feed into the 2027/28 planning process rather than 2026/27.

These points were responded to by Councillor Reach, Cabinet Member for Good Homes and Simon Hendey, Strategic Director accordingly.

RESOLVED:

1. That the report be noted.
2. That whilst the committee had no specific recommendations to forward to Cabinet, that cabinet considers the committee's comments raised during the discussion of the item.

9. GENERAL FUND BUDGET 2026/27

Councillor Neil Cutler, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation introduced the report, ref CAB3541 which set out proposals for the General Fund Budget 2026/27. The introduction included the following points.

1. The budget paper was prepared based on the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) and budget options presented to the committee in November 2025.
2. The priority remained on maintaining business as usual and prioritising key projects.
3. The provisional government spending settlement received on 17 December 2025 was worse than expected, potentially leaving a deficit of £3.5 million rather than the expected £1.8 million over a 3-year period.
4. It had been confirmed earlier this month that the government had made a calculation error regarding business rates pooling, the correction of which was resulting in a reduction of the settlement by just under £1.4 million per year.

5. The government had provided a special grant to cover this loss for the current year, meaning the 2026/27 budget remained balanced; however, the annual £1.4 million reduction would impact subsequent years.
6. The MTFs figures would be updated to reflect this change before being presented to the Cabinet on the 12 February 2026.

The committee was asked to comment on the proposals within the attached cabinet report, ref CAB3541, which was to be considered by the cabinet at its meeting on 12 February 2026. The committee proceeded to ask questions and debate the report. In summary, the following matters were raised.

1. A question was asked regarding the government recalculation, specifically whether this affected most councils in the same way or if Winchester City Council was particularly affected.
2. A question was raised regarding the statement that Shire Districts were mainly affected by the recalculation, and how this would affect LGR plans and the preservation of services for the new unitary councils.
3. Clarification was sought regarding paragraph 14.3 on the digital customer experience, and whether the system would track queries from residents who contacted the council by phone or in person.
4. A question was asked regarding recommendations four and six, specifically the reasons for the spending of £470k (one-off) and £89k (recurring) on “digital transformation” software.
5. Clarification was sought regarding the £60k income reduction for the Guildhall.
6. A question was asked regarding the Guildhall condition surveys, and the level of contingency included in the budget given the history of rising costs for building works.
7. Clarification was requested regarding page 75, specifically regarding risk reserves in support of the TC25 programme.
8. A question was asked regarding the debt write-off mentioned in paragraph 21, and whether lessons had been learned to avoid such positions in the future.
9. A question was raised regarding New Burdens Funding, and whether existing funding was adequate to cover additional duties resulting from the Renters' Rights Bill and homelessness requirements.
10. Clarification was sought regarding the employer's pension contribution reduction.
11. A question was asked regarding the reference to “parking overtime” of £30k in and whether this was a one-off or anticipated to be recurring.
12. Clarification was sought regarding the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) General Fund in Appendix C, and why the reserve balance appeared to plateau in 2027/28.

13. Further information was sought regarding Plant, Property, and Equipment (PPE) and Investment Properties and if the valuation matters previously highlighted in a recent Audit & Governance Committee should be reflected in this report.
14. Clarification was sought regarding Appendix D and the tree works undertaken in the Winchester Town area.
15. A question was raised regarding the reduction in the “night bus contribution” referred to in Appendix D.

These points were responded to by Liz Keys, Director (Finance), Councillor Neil Cutler, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation, Darren Kennedy, Finance Manager (Strategic Finance) and Simon Hendey, Strategic Director accordingly.

RESOLVED:

1. That the report be noted.
2. That whilst the committee had no specific recommendations to forward to Cabinet, that cabinet considers the committee’s comments raised during the discussion of the item.

10. **CAPITAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY 2026-2036**

Councillor Neil Cutler, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation introduced the report, ref CAB3539 which set out the Capital Investment Strategy 2026-2036. The introduction included the following points.

1. The Capital Investment Strategy was brought forward as part of the annual budget setting process.
2. The report provided detailed information regarding the capital programme, the financing of capital, Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) requirements, and the policy for the flexible use of capital receipts.
3. Officers had undertaken significant work to collate the extensive information contained within the report.

The committee was asked to comment on the proposals within the attached cabinet report, ref CAB3539, which was to be considered by cabinet at its meeting on 12 February 2026. The committee proceeded to ask questions and debate the report. In summary, the following matters were raised.

1. A question was asked regarding page 132 and the acquisition of land and property. Specifically, whether this would require Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) in the General Fund or if it would be treated like the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) with a write-down over time.
2. Further clarification was sought regarding; the HRA budget and whether assets were depreciated over time and the rules surrounding depreciation time periods.

These points were responded to by Neil Aitken, Service Lead: Finance accordingly.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted.

11. **TO NOTE THE COMMITTEES CURRENT WORK PROGRAMME.**

RESOLVED:

That the latest version of the work programme (which can be found here

<https://democracy.winchester.gov.uk/mgPlansHome.aspx?bcr=1>)

be noted.

12. **TO NOTE THE LATEST FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS**

RESOLVED

That the latest Forward Plan of Key Decisions be noted.

The meeting commenced at 6.30 pm and concluded at 8.10 pm

Chairperson

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REPORT TITLE: ANNUAL COMMUNITY SAFETY PERFORMANCE UPDATE

4 MARCH 2026

REPORT OF CABINET MEMBER: Councillor Kathleen Becker, Cabinet Member for Healthy Communities

Contact Officer: Sandra Tuddenham Tel No: 01962 848132 Email studdenham@winchester.gov.uk

WARD(S): ALL

PURPOSE

As the Crime and Disorder Committee, the Scrutiny Committee is responsible for reviewing and scrutinising the decisions and work of the Community Safety Partnership (CSP). This report provides an update on the progress made by the Partnership against the priorities and actions emerging from the Strategic Assessment 2025. It covers the period 1 April 2025 to 31 December 2025¹.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That the Committee acknowledge the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) progress report and agree any matters of significance with the Cabinet Member for Healthy Communities.

¹ Data – only the first 3 quarters of the 2025/26 data has been collected due to the timing of the Scrutiny Committee.

IMPLICATIONS:1 COUNCIL PLAN OUTCOME

1.1 Greener Faster

1.2 In light of recent housing restructure, the community safety team are sharing 1 electric fleet vehicle between two Community Safety Accredited Patrol Officers.

1.3 Thriving Places

1.4 Public Space is a focus for the community safety partnership in terms of making it more attractive to those who visit or reside in Winchester. The partnership puts in place targeted activity that aims to reduce the incidence of street based ASB and serious violence i.e. Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) initiative within the night-time economy, Public Space Protection Order in place to manage alcohol related ASB and multi-agency operations agreed to provide intervention for those rough sleeping, begging in the city centre.

1.5 The partnership has secured OPCC funding to provide increased high visibility partnership patrols aimed at increasing feelings of safety, encourage community engagement and provide a timely response to ASB concerns. By adopting a collaborative approach, the partnership can provide support to those who are vulnerable and put in place intervention and diversion for those identified as offenders of crime & disorder i.e. county lines.

1.6 Good Homes for All

1.7 The Community Safety Team collaborate with relevant partners to try and reduce detrimental behaviour that may impact on an individual either securing or remaining in accommodation.

1.8 Efficient and Effective

1.9 The Community Safety Team is now a streamlined service, made up of 4 officers who all have 20+ years' experience of working within a crime & disorder related role. This ensures greater resilience and individual expertise across the team.

1.10 Listening and Learning

1.11 The Community Safety Team utilises a variety of methods in their quest to open up communication between the council and residents using letter drops, satisfaction surveys, street briefs/face to face contact, broader consultation and social media campaigns. This enables us to ascertain levels of satisfaction, seek resident views/concerns and provide proactive responses.

2 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (to be reviewed by s151 officer)

2.1 The delivery of the council's statutory responsibility via the Community Safety Team is £320K, funded from the General Fund (£181K) and Housing Revenue Account (£139K) budgets.

2.2 Delivery of partnership activity is also supported via Government grant funding as commissioned by the OPCC or via independent grant funding bids direct to the Home Office. Grant fund applications facilitated by the community safety team for the period 2025/26 resulted in 2 specific Winchester projects i.e. 1 for 12-25yrs (Legacy Plus) and 1 for additional patrols (ASB hot spots), securing an overall total of £57,536K.

3 LEGAL AND PROCUREMENT IMPLICATIONS

3.1 Section 19 of the Police & Justice Act 2006, requires the city council to have a crime & disorder committee', which has the power to:

a. Review and scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, in connection with the discharge by the 'responsible authorities' of their crime & disorder functions.

b. Make reports or recommendations to the local authority with respect to the discharge of those functions.

3.2 The term 'responsible authorities' refers to the bodies and persons covered by section 5 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, which includes, the City and County Councils, National Probation Service, Hampshire & Isle of Wight Constabulary, Hampshire & Isle of Wight Fire & Rescue Service and the Integrated Care Board.

3.3 As the city council operates executive arrangements (with a Cabinet), the 'crime and disorder committee' must be a Scrutiny Committee.

3.4 The role of the crime and disorder committee is to act as a 'critical friend' of the CSP, providing it with constructive challenge at a strategic level rather than adversarial operational level.

3.5 There are no procurement implications as a result of this report.

4. WORKFORCE IMPLICATIONS

4.1 None

5. PROPERTY AND ASSET IMPLICATIONS

5.1 None

6. CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

6.1 The development of the community safety strategic assessment and the subsequent delivery plan is completed in consultation with statutory and non-statutory partners/community representatives. The Cabinet Member for Healthy Communities is the chair of the CSP and is kept fully informed of partnership activity via the Community Safety Manager.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

7.1 The Community Safety Team collaborates with internal and external partners to minimise the impact on the environment from those who are illegally camped or rough sleeping.

7.2 The ASB officer works closely with the Sustainability And Natural Environment (SANE) Team, city council waste services and special maintenance operatives to support the response to complaints of waste on public open space and housing land.

8. PUBLIC SECTOR EQUALITY DUTY

8.1 The council has a statutory duty under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 that requires public bodies to consider the needs of all individuals in their day-to-day work and in the course of their work supporting the Partnership, officers must have due regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED).

8.2 More specifically, officers understand the protected characteristic groups as set out in the Equality Act 2010 and have due regard to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation as well as advance equality and foster good relations between people who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not.

8.3 This report provides an update on the progress made by the CSP against the priorities and actions emerging from the Strategic Assessment 2025 and is not requesting any decisions. The report is for noting and raising issues only and therefore, an equalities impact assessment is not necessary at that point.

9. DATA PROTECTION IMPACT ASSESSMENT

9.1 The CSP is governed by legislative powers in relation to the sharing of information for the purposes of managing risk around crime & disorder, i.e. the power to share via the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022 (amendment to section 115 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998). The storage and security of personal data within the confines of the service is managed in line with statutory guidance, council policies and service retention schedules.

10. RISK MANAGEMENT

Risk	Mitigation	Opportunities
Financial Exposure	N/A	N/A
Exposure to challenge – legal statutory duty for the city council to provide scrutiny functions set out in s.19 and 20 of the Police & Justice Act 2006.	Ensure that an annual report is placed before Scrutiny Committee which enables feedback on the partnership work programme	
Innovation	N/A	N/A
Reputation	<p>Ensure that all ward members are fully appraised of relevant issues in identified ASB hot spot locations.</p> <p>Ensure the professional integrity of all staff/partner contact is maintained.</p> <p>Deliver against grant fund application.</p>	<p>Manage delivery expectation.</p> <p>Improving collaborative working arrangements and confidence in reporting.</p> <p>Introduction of new initiatives/projects commissioned for Winchester.</p>
Achievement of outcome	Continue to nurture partnership collaboration.	
Property		
Community Support – reputational risk around not being able to provide staffing resource to events/walkabouts.	X1 ASB Patrol Officer and X1 Community Safety Officer who can be called upon to provide staffing resource to events/patrols.	<p>Improving opportunity to survey residents about feelings of safety.</p> <p>Provision of public reassurance via high vis patrol activity.</p>
Timescales	N/A	N/A
Project capacity – Team cannot respond to all requests for operational support.	Broaden the partnership collaboration i.e. double crew with partner agencies in order to enhance team resilience.	Greater visible presence in collaboration with other organisations and strengthening partnership activity.
Local Government Reorganisation – The Council fails to consider	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Community Safety Team ensures the legal obligation 	The Community Safety Manager has contributed to consultation with the

the risks and opportunities offered by LGR.	<p>around statutory duty is at the forefront of decision-making processes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Assessment and recommendations are adopted and/or considered by future authorities. 	strategic director to the public safety work strand.
Other		

11. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 11.1 For the purpose of section 19 of the Police & Justice Act 2006, this committee acts as the council's crime and disorder committee and, as such, is responsible for reviewing and scrutinising the decisions and the work of the CSP.
- 11.2 The Committee is asked to consider this report and associated appendices in accordance with its scrutiny role as the council's crime and disorder committee.
- 11.3 The Community Safety Partnership is a collaboration of multi-agency partners who are duty-bound to deliver against Government statutory duty i.e. Serious Violence, High Harm Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour.
- 11.4 The Community Safety Delivery Plan for 2025/26 focused on 2 priority themes in accordance with statutory duty, they are:
- High Harm Crime
 - ASB/Public Place
- 11.5 The information listed in **Appendix 1** is twofold:
- it outlines how the work of the CSP supports the council's plan to deliver a safer district to the benefit of all who live, work and visit Winchester.
 - it provides a Community Safety update, by way of a progress report against the activity the Partnership has delivered upon during the period 1 April – 31 December 2025.
- 11.6 The data in **Appendix 2** is a crime summary provided by the police district commander.

11.7 Examples of key partnership activity to date:

- a) A grant fund agreement was reached with the OPCC that enabled the partnership to continue with ASB Hot Spot patrols over above core patrol activity in identified locations as mapped by police data.
- b) Drug related police enforcement - data showed there were 354 possessions with Further Action Taken (FAT) against 326 and 60 trafficking offences with 22 (FAT) outcomes. Warrants and active monitoring/disruption of drug lines, aligned with county lines teams continue.
- c) ASB/shoplifting, City Centre (Op Compile): 22 arrests, 2 new Community Banning Orders (CBO's) in place and a total of 166 weeks imprisonment secured. Joint patrols with CSP and BID Rangers continue on the High Street.
- d) The CSP launched a new initiative for Winchester in October – the Legacy Plus Project aims to provide access to support for young people and adults in terms of behavioural change and tenancy support.
- e) Youth Options launched youth outreach in the city centre as of Q3. Data shows contact was made with 143 young people who were previously known alongside 30 new individuals of those 51 were signposted for additional support/diversion. Outreach locations are identified via local community concerns and professional knowledge related to hot spots.
- f) The partnership extended the Emergency Bleed Kit offer and subsequent training to 3 support services and two licensed premises (City, Alresford and Wickham). All 3 locations will be added to the police control room for frontline officers who may need to access the kits in an emergency situation.
- g) The Community Safety Officer successfully recruited to the council's ASB Officer Vacancy in Q3, the successful candidate brings to the role 19+yrs experience as a Police Community Support Officer (PCSO).
- h) ASB interventions
 - ASB/CS Team - 19 interventions (Q3), including 6 Community Protection Warning's (CPW's), 3 Community Protection Notices (CPN's), 3 ABC's.
 - The CS ASB Officer undertook 58 urban patrols and 11 rural patrols during her first 3 months in post.

- Neighbourhood police team delivered 28 Community Resolutions and are also managing 7 CBO's overall.
 - Data for ASB cases coming in via the community safety inbox on-line report forms showed 49 rural and 65 urban locations were recorded within the report period².
 - Landlord Services delivered 150 interventions overall, 8 ABC's, 3 CPW's, 24 First Warning Letters, 4 Notice Seeking Possession, 37 Safeguarding Referrals, 14 Management Moves, 14 referrals for Mediation, 20 referrals for Victim Support and 3 referrals to STOP DA service.
 - Landlord Services managed 7 reported cases of drug related ASB³, 4 Assault and Harassment cases⁴.
- i) The Neighbourhood Policing Team data for the Formal Action Taken (FAT) outcome rates for violence with injury showed an improving picture i.e. Q3 showed 42 outcomes (21.3%) as opposed to 34 (16.6%) in the previous quarter.
- j) 13 new Domestic Abuse cases coming into the council via landlord services resulted in 2 approved management moves, 4 safeguarding referrals, 4 referrals to support services, 1 lock change, 1 referral to MARAC and 1 joint to sole tenancy change.
- k) Trinity Women's service has housed 4 women in their safe flats this year, supporting 3 self-referrals into community-based services. There were 12 referrals to the Stalking Advocacy service.
- l) Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) – the council's licensing team delivered 'Stay Safe know Your Taxi' campaign, Trinity Staff completed Stalking Awareness Training and Education and Awareness was undertaken between Hampshire & Isle of Wight Constabulary and the University of Winchester.

12. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

- 12.1 The Council is a responsible authority within the Community Safety Partnership and has a statutory duty to deliver against crime and disorder as laid down by government. Consideration of other options is not applicable to this report.

² ASB Reports – other reports come into the team via external partnership meetings, ward members, officers of the council etc.

³ Drug related action – Warning letters, Notice of Extension, safeguarding referral, referral to victim support.

⁴ Assault and harassment action – notice seeking possession, referral to mediation.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:-

Previous Committee Reports:-

[SC095 - ANNUAL COMMUNITY SAFETY PERFORMANCE UPDATE](#)

Other Background Documents:-

[Winchester Community Safety Partnership Strategic Assessment 2025](#)

[Winchester Strategic Assessment Infographic 2025/26](#)

[Violence Against Women and Girls \(VAWG\) Strategy 2025](#)

[Winchester Domestic Abuse Forum Stalking Plan on a Page](#)

APPENDICES:

Appendix 1. Winchester Community Safety Partnership – Annual Delivery Plan 2025/2026 (April to December)

Appendix 2. Police District Commander Summary Report

Appendix 3. District Police Data – contextual summary

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WINCHESTER COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

ANNUAL DELIVERY PLAN 2025/26 – April to December 2025 Performance Update

The Community Safety Partnership (CSP) is committed to reducing crime and disorder across the district in collaboration with a wide range of local partners. We recognise the importance of ensuring that all priority actions are effectively managed and monitored to meet the requirements of local scrutiny. This is demonstrated through the annual report presented to the City Council’s Scrutiny Committee, which reviews the partnership’s activity and achievements.

While we value the contribution of local partners, it is equally important to reflect the wider community safety landscape, including the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Partnership Strategy and the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Police & Crime Plan 2024–2028.

This report draws primarily on data from Hampshire & Isle of Wight Constabulary for the period 1 April to 31 December 2025, supported by additional information from statutory and non-statutory partners. Where available, comparative data¹ is provided to highlight trends and changes over time.

¹Comparative data – the opportunity to provide a comparable data set is limited, due to lack of availability or because of changes in partner recording methods.

Delivery Plan 2025/26 – priority outcome achievements

High harm Crime



49 perpetrators of DA offences were charged and summoned, resulting in **10** cautions and **11** community resolutions being issued.

Winchester Police Teams served **11** Domestic Violence Protection Notices (DVPN) and **4** Domestic Violence Protection Orders (DVPO) within the reporting period against 2024 data that showed 11 DVPN and 12 DVPO.

The FAT outcome for Most Serious Violence offences achieved **28.8%** in 2025 compared with 25% in 2024.

6 Op Sceptre actions completed in Q3 to include knife surrender at hostels, habitual knife carrier visits.²

Plain clothes police officers supported uniformed officers with dog support to deliver a police operation around all aspects of NTE crime and disorder.



Drug offences FAT outcome rates showed **83.5%** in the reporting period against 77% in the same period in 2024.

262 Community Resolutions were issued to adults in 2025 for drug related offending compared with 358 community resolutions in 2024.

There were **6** Out of Court Disposals related to young people drug related offending.

ASB/Public Place



Police recorded incidents of ASB demonstrated a **6.8%** reduction (46 incidents) during the reporting period.

There were **5** Section 34 dispersal orders⁵ utilised effectively by Police in ASB hotspots.



52 patrols were undertaken by Winchester BID Rangers and Neighbourhood Services Officers as part of the consolidated ASB hotspot patrols. Resulting in **267** patrol hours in Winchester city centre.

Shoplifting FAT Outcome rates showed **41.6%**.

The partnership delivered **13** targeted engagements linked to ASB, and the fear of crime including street meets, walkabouts and beat surgeries.



6 VAWG sessions were delivered to young people by Youth Options as part of Safer Streets Project funding.

7 schools now have Winchester school pastors in place, feedback from education to date has been positive.



There were **2** NTE VAWG operations completed in Q3 by Violence Protection Observation (VPO) Trained officers.⁶

A partnership operation was put in place in the NTE that included licensed visits to gain an early indication of potential problems. The visits also incorporated checks to see if bar staff were aware of the 'Ask Angela' campaign.

² OP Sceptre – Police operations aimed at reducing knife crime actions include knife sweep, knife surrender, Habitual Knife Carrier visits, amnesty bins and targeted proactive patrols.

⁵ Police Powers under Section 34 of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 enables the Police to issue a dispersal order, which can cover a specific area for up to 48 hours, allowing them to instruct individuals to leave the area and not return for a designated period. Failure to comply with such an order can result in arrest under section 35 of the same Act.

⁶ VPO trained officers – are police officers trained to specifically target VAWG offenders.



The police provided **112** police disclosures under Clare’s Law (91 right to ask/ 21 right to know), against 8 in 2024 (4 right to ask/4 right to know)³

27 women were supported via the Winchester Freedom programme.



Across Hampshire, Stop Domestic Abuse supported **76** young people through the Adolescent to Parent Abuse programme⁴

Winchester Community Safety Partnership supported Winchester Domestic Abuse Forum to run a successful White Ribbon Day campaign in November promoting the national message of ‘We Speak Up’ against gender-based violence in conjunction with Community and Men’s Sheds in Alresford and Kings Worthy.

A Stalking Strategy was delivered by Winchester Domestic Abuse Forum which informed their activity, training and development.

In Q3 the council’s licensing team delivered ‘Stay Safe know Your Taxi’ campaign.

An increase in the Police Licencing Team and Winchester’s PubWatch scheme enforcement resulted in license condition reviews being initiated for those premises that they considered were not being run responsibly. PubWatch bans from licensed premises were issued to individuals as appropriate.



Trinity Winchester have secured funding to extend their outreach service to provide weekend coverage.

Stop Domestic Abuse piloted a condensed GP referral pathway pilot in November 2025 to encourage increased DA referrals from GPs

Trinity Winchester have introduced a new women’s psychotherapy group, offering group counselling to be able to reduce the waiting list for 1 to 1 counselling.

³ The data shows an increase in Right to Ask due to a change in recording. Previously there was no location information recorded, it has now been added to the districts which is why there is a spike.

⁴ STOP DA – The service provides the support and safety needs for adults who are experiencing abuse/unhealthy behaviours from their children.

Headline Data: April – December 2025

Further Action Taken (FAT) outcomes⁷

WINCHESTER	FAT Outcomes Q1-3 2024	% FAT Outcome	FAT Outcome Q1-3 2025	% FAT Outcome
1 Violence Against the Person	303	14.0%	303	13.8%
2 Sexual Offences	19	6.4%	20	7.4%
3 Robbery	5	23.8%	9	22.0%
4 Theft Offences	326	18.1%	276	15.7%
5 Criminal Damage and Arson Offences	74	17.3%	62	14.2%
6 Drug Offences	221	77.0%	319	83.5%
7 Possession of Weapons Offences	14	28.6%	19	30.6%
8 Public Order Offences	74	13.9%	69	12.8%
9 Miscellaneous Crimes Against Society	28	17.7%	67	34.0%
Total	1064	18.5%	1144	19.4%

Figure 1 Hampshire & Isle of Wight Constabulary Further Action Taken (FAT) Outcomes for 2025 compared with 2024

- Despite an increase in reported offences the overall FAT outcomes achieved has increased by 7.5% (80 FAT outcomes) when compared with the previous reporting period⁸.

Adult Offender Profile

- A snapshot of the data provided by the Probation Service showed that officers worked with 147 offenders within the district between 1st January – 31st December 2025⁹ compared with 167 in the same period in 2024. 78.29% (115) identified as White British.
- The most common offence type was violence against the person.
- The geographical location profile indicted almost an even split between rural and urban.
- Figures 2 – 5 provide further detail on the adult offender profile.

⁷ Police Headline Data – see Appendix 2 District Commander Report

⁸ FAT Outcomes - There are a number of reasons for formal action not being taken i.e: the evidential standard is not met; the victim may not support the action or there was no identified suspect.

⁹ Annual data – no quarterly breakdown available at this time.

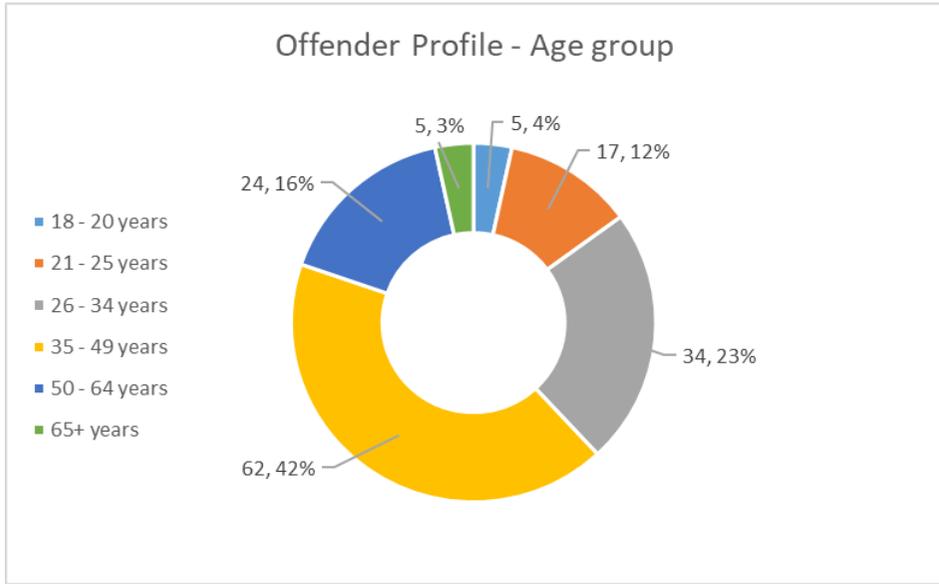


Figure 2 age breakdown of offenders managed by the Probation Service in 2025

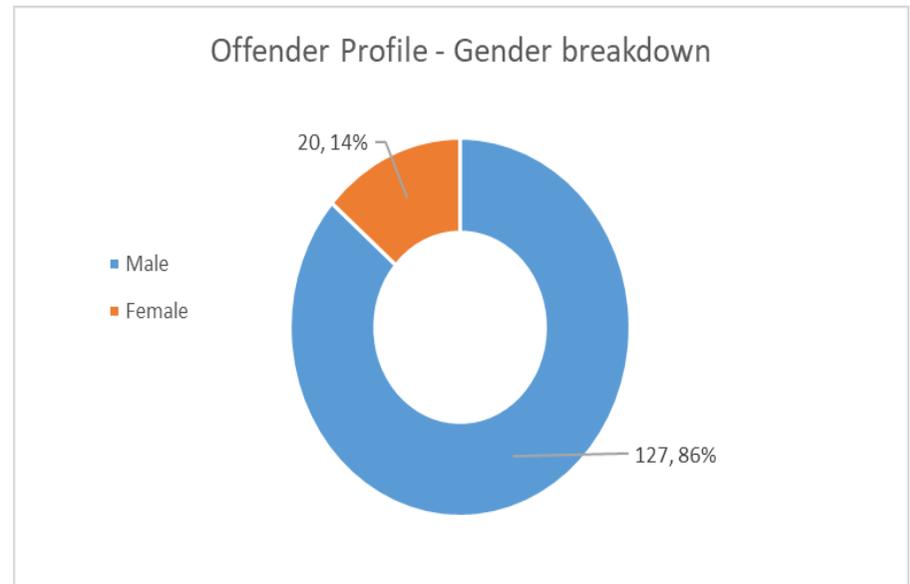


Figure 3 Gender profile of offenders managed by the Probation Service in 2025

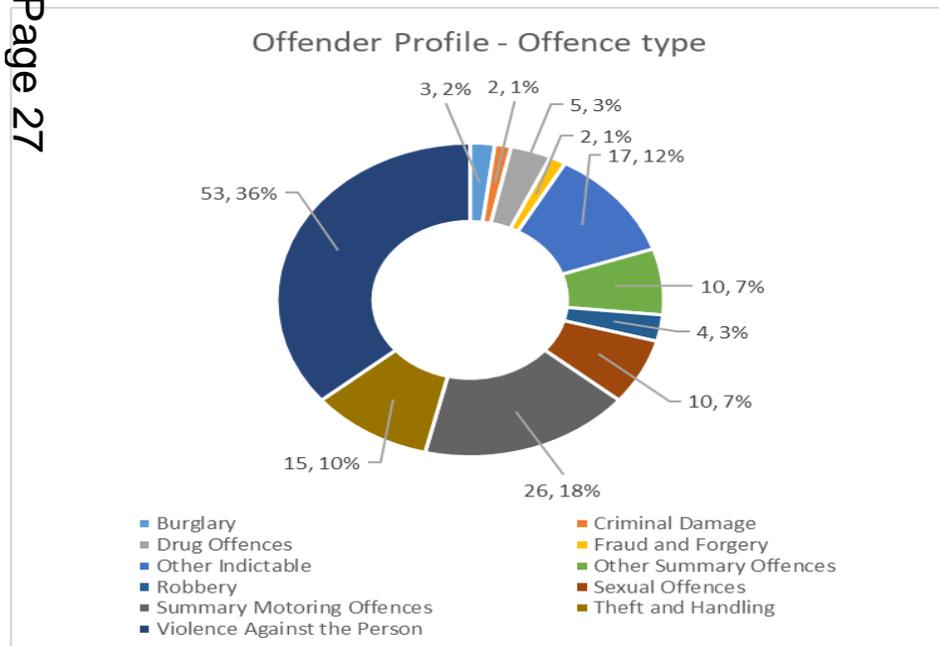


Figure 4 offence type committed by offenders managed by the Probation Service in 2025

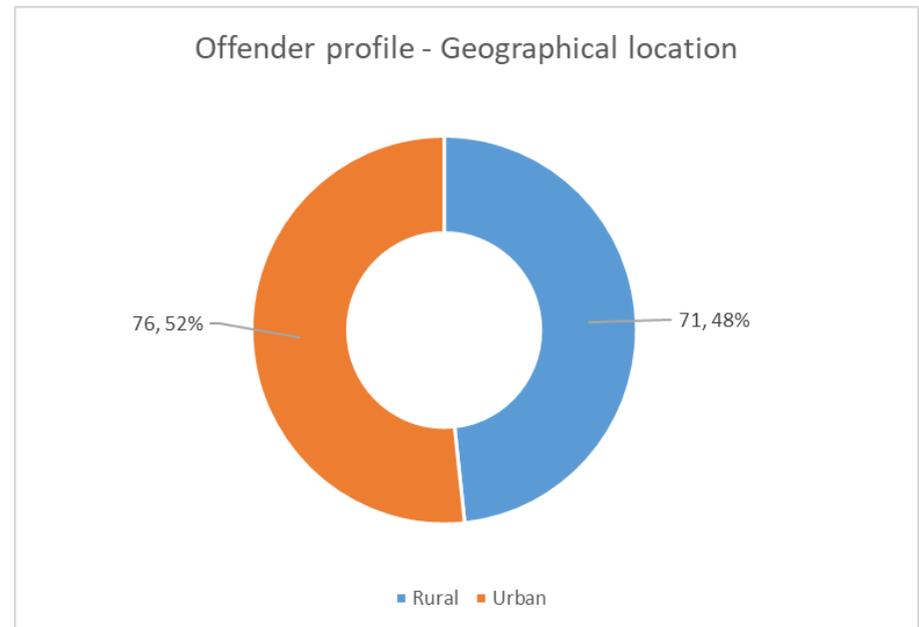


Figure 5 Geographical location profile of offenders managed by the Probation Service in 2025

- There were 5 referrals to the Youth Crime Prevention¹⁰ (YCP) service between April – December 2025 and as of January 2026 there is one case on the waiting list. 3 referrals were declined as not meeting the threshold, 1 young person declined to engage with the service and 1 case remains open.

Priority1: High Harm Crime

- High Harm Crime is not a specific crime type in its own right and is instead a classification used by Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary.¹¹
- Violence against the person offences accounted for 37.4% of all recorded crime, equating to 2203 offences reported between April and December 2025 compared to 2165 in the same period in 2024 showing a 1.8% increase¹².
- 71 crimes recorded in Q3 around the Night-Time Economy (NTE), without drug data the NTE crime data showed 39 of those 13 were VAWG related. Of the 13 VAWG offences 12 were non-domestic and 1 was domestic related.
- In Q3 the top 3 reported offence types for NTE VAWG were Violence without injury 14, Violence with injury 12, other sexual offences 7.

Violence with injury

- Figure 8 below shows the FAT outcomes rates achieved for violence with injury offences between April to December 2025 against the same period in 2024.
- In 2025 there were 611 incidents reported to police compared with 637 in the same period for 2024, a reduction of 26 incidents (4.08%).
- There was a slight decrease in overall FAT outcomes achieved, with the FAT outcome rate reducing to 18 % from 18.7% in 2024.
- The offence type accounting for the majority of violence with injury offences was Actual Bodily Harm (ABH). There were 47 less recorded offences in 2025 when compared to the same period in 2024.

¹⁰ Youth Crime Prevention (YCP) Service supports young people aged 10 to 16yrs who are at risk of offending and who have not been to court. Engagement with YCP is on a voluntary basis and agreed with the family.

¹¹ The Police have created dedicated teams across the county, whose purpose it is to assist in the management and proactive targeting of priority crime offending and protecting those identified as the most vulnerable in our communities. Priority crime is a collection of crimes that includes Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE), Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE), Domestic Abuse perpetrators, habitual knife carriers, most serious violence (robbery, knife crime and gangs) and other dangerous offenders who do not fall under the management of Multi-agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) or Integrated Offender Management (IOM) schemes.

¹² Increased Police presence in the city during peak times linked to the night-time economy, can impact on the increased detection rates and/or reporting.

WINCHESTER	Q1 - Q3 2024	Q1 - Q3 2025	Variance	FAT Outcome 2024	FAT Outcome 2025
ABH (any lasting pain, hurt or any minor injury of any kind)	470	423	-47	71 (15.1%)	53 (12.5%)
ABH – PC / PCSO (any lasting pain, hurt or any minor injury of any kind)	4	0	-4	6 (150%)	0
Administering poison with intent to injure or annoy	8	15	7	0	0
Assault on emergency worker (not police): assault occasioning actual bodily harm	17	18	1	5 (29.4%)	13 (72.2%)
Assault on emergency worker (not police): malicious wounding or inflict GBH with or without weapon	2	1	-1	3 (150%)	1 (100%)
Assault on Police: Assault occasioning Actual Bodily Harm	1	5	4	0	4 (80%)
Attempted murder; attempted genocide or crime against humanity	1	1	0	1 (100%)	1 (100%)
Care worker ill-treat/wilfully neglect an individual	2	0	-2	0	0
Causing death by careless or inconsiderate driving	2	1	-1	1 (50%)	0
Causing serious injury by dangerous driving	1	3	2	0	1 (33.3%)
Causing serious injury by careless/inconsiderate driving	8	9	1	1 (12.5%)	5 (55.6%)
Encouraging or assisting serious self harm by another	3	2	-1	0	0
Malicious wounding: wounding or inflicting GBH	17	15	-2	2 (11.8%)	2 (13.3%)
Non-fatal strangulation or suffocation	35	48	13	7 (20%)	8 (16.7%)
Person in charge allow dog dangerously out of control in any place injuring any person/assistance dog	40	42	2	12 (30%)	13 (31%)
Racially and/or religiously aggravated ABH	3	1	-2	2 (66.7%)	2 (200%)
Racially or religiously aggravated non-fatal strangulation or suffocation	0	0	0	0	1 (100%)
Use of a Firearm to resist arrest	1	0	-1	1 (100%)	0
Use of noxious substances or things to cause harm and intimidate	0	1	1	0	0
Wounding with intent to do GBH	22	26	4	7 (31.8%)	6 (23.1%)
Total	637	611	-26	119 (18.7%)	110 (18%)

Figure 8 Violence with injury crimes and Formal Action Taken outcomes 2024 Vs 2025

Serious Violence

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 ensures that serious violence is an explicit priority for Community Safety Partnerships, delivering a duty that ensures strategy is in place that outlines how the partnership aims to tackle serious violence.¹³ Hampshire Violence Reduction Partnership¹⁴(VRP) has included specific offence types in their definition of serious violence.

¹³ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/serious-violence-duty>

¹⁴ <https://www.hampshire-pcc.gov.uk/vru-home/what-is-the-vrp>

WINCHESTER	Q1-Q3 2024	Q1-Q3 2025	Variance	FAT Outcome 2024	FAT Outcomes 2025
MSV - Existing definition	4	7	3	2 (50%)	4 (57.1%)
Robbery 3a & 3b	21	41	20	5 (23.8%)	9 (22%)
Possession of weapon offences	49	62	13	14 (28.6%)	19 (30.6%)
Public order 65 & 64/1	5	0	-5	1 (20%)	0
Violence with injury (bladed implement)	9	15	6	0	4 (26.7%)
Total	88	125	37	22 (25%)	36 (28.8%)

Figure 9 Most Serious Violence (MSV) offences and Formal Action Taken outcomes

- Figure 9 shows an overview of the offences using the VRP's definition of serious violence. Of the relevant crime type offences recorded, serious violence accounts for 2.12% (125) of all recorded crime during the reporting period compared with 1.53% (88) in the previous reporting period. Demonstrating an increase of 37 offences (42.04%).
- Most crime types included in this definition have seen an increase in offences, however in this reporting period public order offences decreased by 5 offences. Serious violence is a low volume crime in the district however even though actual numbers of recorded crimes are low it is recognised that these are serious in nature and will have significant impact on those affected.

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FAT Outcomes for MSV crimes increased by 3.8%¹⁵.

In order to comply with the Serious Violence Duty, it is the responsibility of the Community Safety Partnership to publish a response strategy aimed at reducing serious violence in Q4 of each performance year. This involves the delivery of a Strategic Needs Assessment (SNA) and in Hampshire the 2025 assessment was developed on the behalf of the Responsible Authorities by the Hampshire Violence Reduction Unit. The current SNA and response strategy has been refreshed and published as a copy on the city council's website¹⁶.

- Relevant sections from the SNA were reflected in the Community Safety Partnership Annual Strategic Assessment Report.

¹⁵ MSV FAT outcomes – Achieving outcomes for MSV offences is not a quick process and requires complex investigation of serious offences and is not always something that happens quickly. They are often linked to historic offences, coming to fruition at a much later date i.e. a year or two old.

¹⁶ [Statutory Duty - Winchester City Council](#)

Domestic Abuse & Violence

WINCHESTER	Q1 2024	Q1 2025	Q2 2024	Q2 2025	Q3 2024	Q3 2025	Total Q1-3 2024	Total Q1-3 2025	Variance % Change
All Domestic Crimes	266	299	264	303	283	275	813	877	64 (+7.87%)
Repeat Domestic	90	89	78	97	92	90	260	276	16 (+6.15%)
% Repeats	33.83%	29.77%	29.55%	32.01%	32.51%	32.73%	31.98%	31.47%	-0.51%

Figure 10 Hampshire & Isle of Wight Constabulary Domestic Abuse recorded crimes 2024 & 2025

- Figures 10 and 11 show an overall increase in domestic crimes being reported to Police in 2025 when compared with the same period in 2024 showing an increase of 64 offences (7.87%).
 - The FAT outcome rate within the reporting period was 8.1% against 11.3% within the same reporting period 2024.
 - Repeat domestic crimes also increased in Q2 of 2025 by 16 offences (6.15%). Overall, there was a slight decrease in the percentage rate of repeat crimes showing a 0.51% reduction.
- Page 32
- Females accounted for 572 (63.3%) of the aggrieved and 197 (34.1%) of those were repeat victims. Male victims accounted 296 (32.8%) 64 (23.8%) were repeat victims. This demonstrates a similar pattern to the last reporting period.
- The majority of perpetrators of domestic crimes were men accounting for 603 (71.2%) compared with 232 (27.4%) where a female was recorded as the perpetrator. Of the male perpetrators, 211(35%) were repeat perpetrators compared with 54 (23.3%) females identified as repeat perpetrators. This trend mirrors previous reporting periods and national trends related to gender violence.
- Over half of all cases showed there were evidential difficulties which prevented formal action from being taken, a trend seen in previous reporting periods.¹⁷

¹⁷ Evidential difficulties: Winchester's Police teams have a positive arrest policy which ensures that opportunities are maximised to secure and preserve evidence on attendance at domestic incidents.

Stop Domestic Abuse¹⁸

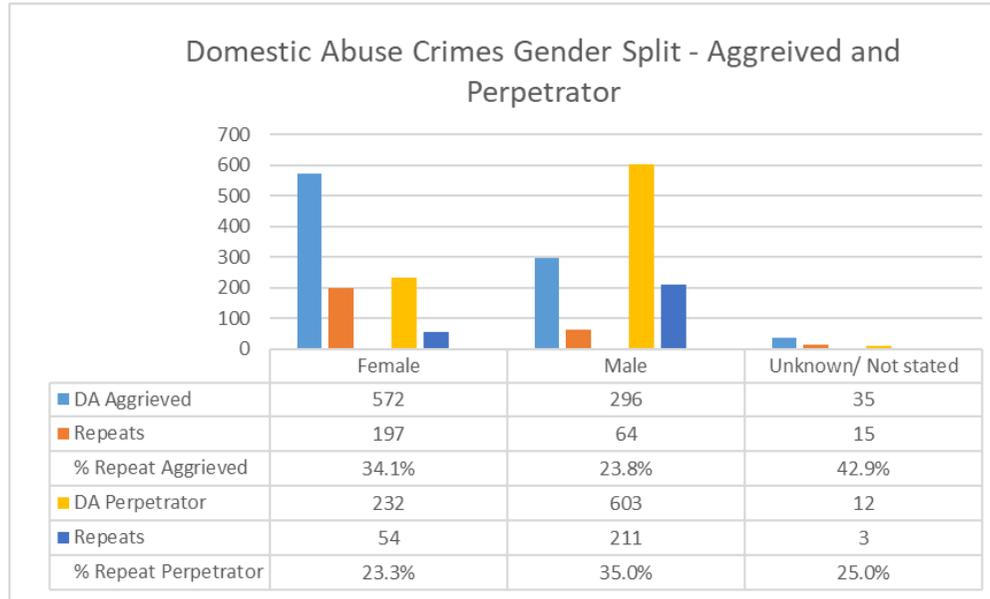


Figure 11 Hampshire & Isle of Wight Domestic Abuse Crimes Gender Split 2025

Referrals	Quarter 1-3 2024	Quarter 1-3 2025
Referrals to Community Based Services	242	483
Referrals to the Freedom Programme (Winchester)	32	27
Referrals to Stalking Advocacy Service	No data available	28
Referrals to Children and Young Persons Services	48	37
Self-Referrals	35	23
Total	357	598

Figure 12 Referrals to Stop Domestic Abuse services in 2025 compared to 2024

- Figure 12 shows that overall referral levels to Stop Domestic Abuse increased, with referrals to community-based services increasing by 241 (99.6%) referrals.

¹⁸ Stop Domestic Abuse is the current commissioned provider for domestic abuse services across Hampshire excluding Southampton and provides services to residents of the Winchester District.

- Between April and December 2025 there were 159 Adult clients supported by the service, 149 (93.7%) of those were female and 10 (6.3%) were male. 29 (18.2%) were aged 16 - 25years.
- The service supported 70 young people within the reporting period. Using a snapshot from Quarter 3 data, 5 (41.7%) were female and 7 (58.3%) were male demonstrating a different dynamic between young people and adult clients using the service, being predominantly female.
- 11 young people (9 females and 2 males) were supported through the Teenage Intimate Partner Abuse Service (TIPAS).
- Figure 13 below provides an overview of some of the main issues adult clients disclosed during their contact with Stop Domestic Abuse.

Clients disclosing self-harm ideation, alcohol and substance abuse/dependency, psychological and emotional abuse	Q1	Q2	Q3	Average
Self-harm/suicidality	36%	13%	8%	19%
Alcohol use	7%	7%	7%	7%
Substance use	9%	8%	6%	8%
Dual diagnosis (Alcohol and Substance use)	11%	8%	6%	8%
Psychological/ emotional abuse	91%	87%	88%	89%
Tech facilitated abuse	12%	15%	25%	17%

Figure 13 Number of Stop Domestic Abuse clients disclosing additional needs: April - December 2025

Drug Related Offences

WINCHESTER	Q1-Q3 2024	Q1-Q3 2025	Variance	FAT Outcomes 2024	FAT Outcomes 2025
6a Trafficking of drugs	76	63	-13	18 (23.7%)	21 (33.3%)
6b Possession of drugs	211	319	108	203 (96.2%)	298 (93.4%)
Total	287	382	95	221 (77%)	319 (83.5%)

Figure 14 Hampshire & Isle of Wight Constabulary Drug related offences and Formal Action Taken outcomes 2024 vs 2025

- Drug offences accounted for 382 (6.5%) of all recorded crime in the reporting period, compared to 287 (5%) in the same period last year resulting in a 33.1% increase in incident levels. The increase could be attributed to Winchester Policing Team and in particular Winchester's Priority Crime Team (PCT) whose focus is to take a proactive approach to this crime type, creating a hostile environment for offenders and County Lines dealers.
- Figure 14 provides a breakdown of the possession and trafficking offences alongside the FAT outcomes achieved during the reporting period compared with the previous reporting period in 2024. Data shows an increase at the end of quarter 2 for both trafficking and possession offences.

- FAT outcome rates from possession related drugs offences remain high although currently reporting slightly lower than in the same period in 2024.
- The PCT also undertake daily checks of the addresses of individuals identified as vulnerable to exploitation of cuckooing. Planned operations are conducted routinely on a fortnightly basis which is complimented by spontaneous activity as required.
- The general trends shown are broadly similar to those seen in previous reporting periods in relation to the split between trafficking and possession offences, with possession offences continuing to report higher numbers than trafficking, indicating that possession rather than trafficking is the predominate offence type.
- Winchester Policing Team continue to build on strong partnerships which are already established with the University of Winchester and local senior schools to ensure effective information sharing but also via the Operation Fortress¹⁹ partnership meeting which allows any emerging hot spots to be tackled at the earliest opportunity and any vulnerable individuals appropriately supported.

Priority 2: Anti-Social Behaviour/Public Place

	ASB - COMMUNITY 2024	ASB - COMMUNITY 2025	ASB - ENVIRONMENTAL 2024	ASB - ENVIRONMENTAL 2025	ASB - PERSONAL 2024	ASB - PERSONAL 2025	Total 2024	Total 2025
WINCHESTER CITY	175	123	119	133	31	22	325	278
WINCHESTER GREATER	129	118	126	133	14	24	269	275
WINCHESTER RURAL	28	27	44	41	12	11	84	79
Total	332	268	289	307	57	57	678	632

Figure 15 Hampshire & Isle of Wight Constabulary Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) recorded incidents 2024 Vs 2025

- Recorded incidents show an overall downward trend to the end of the current reporting period; this follows trends seen in previous years, showing a reduction of 46 recorded incidents (6.8%), despite an increase in incidents of Environmental and Personal ASB across some beat areas.
- Levels of recorded incidents follow seasonal trends which recur on an annual basis, seeing less incidents being reported in the colder month's vs the warmer summer months.
- The current reporting period showed a decrease in CCTV recorded incidents of begging; data showed that there were 13 reports in the current period compared to 18 in the same reporting period in 2024. The majority of individuals linked to begging incidents are accommodated, additional support is provided via outreach and where appropriate the continued use of enforcement powers in line with ASB legislation i.e. Community Protection Warning Notices (CPW), Community Protection Notices (CPN) and Community Banning Orders (CBOs).

¹⁹ Operation Fortress - This meeting encourages the sharing of drug intelligence between partners to allow the police to take enforcement action and safeguard vulnerable individuals where required. Since March 2020 meeting frequency increased from monthly to fortnightly to ensure activity is closely aligned to a targeted operation schedule allowing police to be more reactive to intelligence or information that requires immediate intervention.

- The Community Safety Team facilitate the Offender, Victim And Location (OVAL) multi-agency meeting as a response/care pathway for those coming to the attention of partner agencies because of their risk.²⁰ The meeting aims to discuss and agree with partners agency intervention, enforcement and identify partner leads for the monitoring, management and support being offered to individuals.
- During the reporting period there were 93 cases raised for discussion at OVAL and of those 62 were from rural areas and 31 from urban areas.
- 10 locations were referred to the OVAL compared to 11 in 2024. All locations required the delivery of an intensive multi-agency response plan that activated a suite of options including high vis patrol activity, intervention and enforcement action.
- The council delivered 13 targeted ASB and Fear of Crime engagements during the reporting period, including supporting national awareness campaigns i.e. ASB awareness week.²¹ Figure 16 shows the activities undertaken.

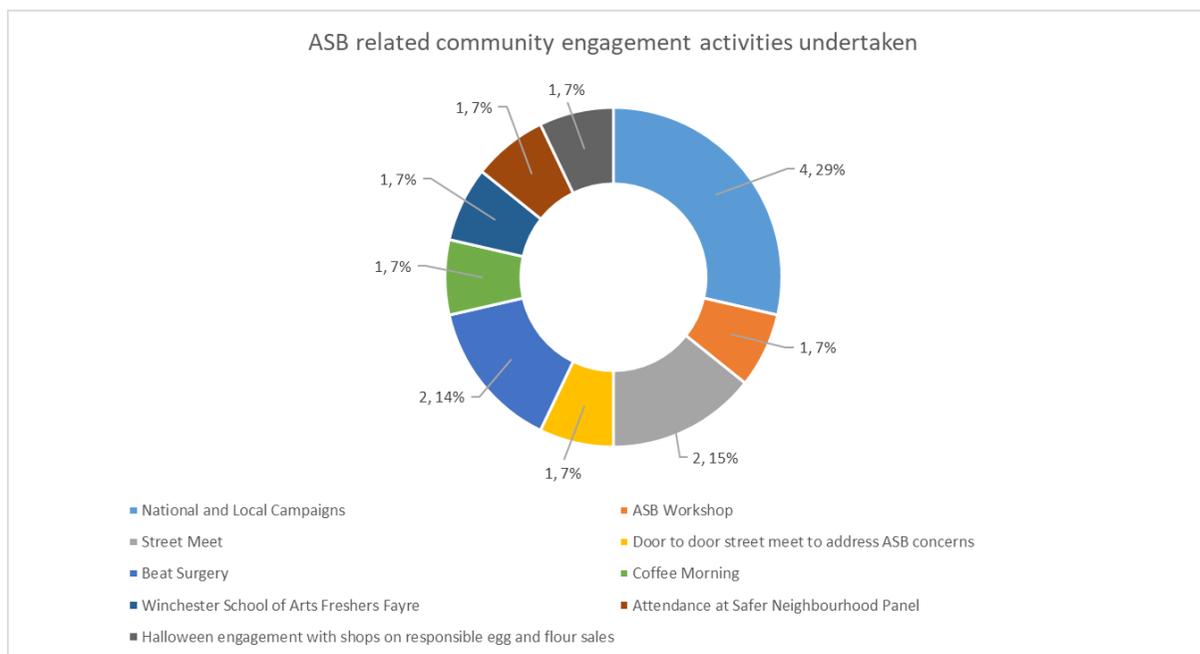


Figure 16 ASB related Community Engagement Activities delivered in 2025

²⁰ OVAL – risks in relation to Knife carrying, Drug issues, Serious Violence, Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) and ASB.

²¹ <https://www.resolveuk.org.uk/our-services/asb-awareness-week#asb-week>

Road Safety Mobile Camera Enforcement and Community Speedwatch

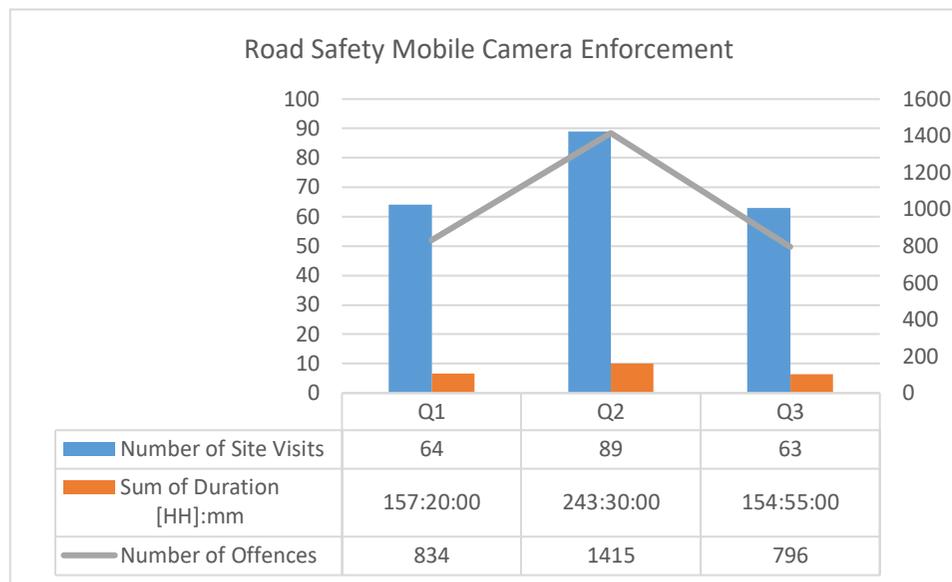


Figure 17 Road Safety Mobile Camera Enforcement April - December 2025

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Figure 17 provides details of the Road Safety Mobile Camera Enforcement undertaken in the reporting period. A total of 3045 offences were recorded.

Area	1st Time Letters	2nd Time Letters	High Speeders	Multiple Offenders
Bishops Waltham	41	8	1	3
Boarhunt	243	29	20	7
Colden Common	65	1	0	0
Droxford	8	0	0	3
Hambledon	51	1	1	4
Wickham	166	12	0	0
Winchester City	0	0	0	0

Figure 18 Community Speedwatch Snapshot for Q2 July – September 2025

- Figure 18 provides a snapshot of the Community Speedwatch activity conducted in Q2 (July to September 2025). 625 letters were issued in the 3-month period, 21 high speeders were recorded, and 17 multiple offenders were identified.

Conclusion

The Community Safety Partnership (CSP) remains committed to working collaboratively with statutory and voluntary organisations across the district. This reporting period highlighted several important achievements, reflecting strong partnership delivery. While celebrating these outcomes, we remain focused on reducing offending, addressing harmful behaviours, and improving safety and confidence across our communities.

Throughout the year the CSP has:

- **S**upported wider commissioning grant applications that provide a local operational response to crime and disorder, working collaboratively with internal and external partners.
- **A**cknowledged and responded to calls for a greater visible presence within our communities, aimed at increasing feelings of safety.
- **F**ocused on behaviour change for those who cause the most harm to others.
- **E**nsured any changing crime patterns include a response plan that delivers remedial activity.

The Strategic Community Safety Partnership recognises the challenges posed by evolving government directives and local priorities. By building on our progress and applying our learning, we are well positioned to deliver stronger outcomes in the year ahead.

District Commander's Introduction

As the District Commander for Winchester, I am pleased to present this updated Q1–Q3 2025 report to the Community Safety Partnership Scrutiny Panel. Our focus remains on visible, connected and trusted policing that relentlessly pursues offenders, puts victims first and delivers exceptional local policing.

Executive Summary (for Scrutiny)

- **Total recorded crime:** up 2.6% (148 offences). Many of the increases align with greater reporting and proactive enforcement, not necessarily increased harm.
- **Drug offences:** up 33.1%—largely a *positive enforcement indicator* linked to stop/search, warrants and targeted operations. A summer spike in possession and detections is associated with the Boomtown festival period and planned policing activity.
- **Robbery:** +95.2% off a low baseline; linked to confrontational shop thefts meeting robbery criteria and firmer recording standards/retail engagement.
- **Sexual offences:** –9.1% with continued focus on safeguarding and investigation quality.
- **Theft offences:** –2.5% overall; retail partnership work continues, with 41.6% formal action taken for shoplifting and targeted CBO use against repeat offenders.

Comparative Crime Table (Q1–Q3)

WINCHESTER	Q1– Q3 2024	Q1– Q3 2025	Variance	% change	Comments (drivers & context)
1 Violence Against the Person	2,165	2,203	+38	+1.8%	Small rise consistent with better reporting and visibility, notably around the NTE and domestic contexts; early intervention and presence can lift recording without increased harm.
2 Sexual Offences	296	269	–27	–9.1%	Reduction aligned with sustained safeguarding focus and investigation quality; continued emphasis on victim-led approaches and VAWG activity in the NTE.
3 Robbery	21	41	+20	+95.2%	Winchester remains a low-robbery district and this

					increase must be viewed in the context of a very low baseline. The rise does not indicate that Winchester has become a robbery hotspot. Instead, it reflects changes in recording practice, reporting behaviour, and policing focus. National policing reforms and the Crime and Policing Bill have reinforced the requirement to record retail confrontations as robbery where force, threat or intimidation is used. In a district that has seen a marked increase in shoplifting, this has resulted in incidents that would previously have been recorded as theft or public order now being correctly classified as robbery (e.g. offenders threatening staff when challenged or pushing past staff to escape). Enhanced neighbourhood policing, stronger engagement with retailers and improved crime recording standards have also increased reporting and accurate classification. In low-volume areas such as Winchester, small absolute increases can present as large percentage changes; therefore, the 95.2% increase reflects a classification and reporting shift rather than a significant increase in underlying risk or offender behaviour.
4 Theft Offences	1,805	1,759	-46	-2.5%	Ongoing retail partnership (CSP/BID Rangers) and offender management; shoplifting FAT 41.6% with spikes in Aug-Sep managed through targeted patrols.
5 Criminal Damage & Arson	427	436	+9	+2.1%	Seasonal ASB-linked damage; early intervention/restorative

					pathways used where proportionate.
6 Drug Offences	287	382	+95	+33.1%	Proactive activity (stop/search, warrants, county lines disruption). Summer spike linked to Boomtown operations ¹ and event-related detections; since April: 354 possession and 60 trafficking offences recorded locally.
7 Possession of Weapons	49	62	+13	+26.5%	Reflects intelligence-led stop/search and youth-safeguarding focus to prevent serious violence; increase consistent with proactive enforcement patterns.
8 Public Order Offences	532	539	+7	+1.3%	Stable demand: robust NTE policing and third-party reporting contribute to steady recording levels.
9 Misc. Crimes Against Society	158	197	+39	+24.7%	Category includes breach of court orders (including CBOs and bail), licensing offences, offences against public justice and prison-related offences. The increase reflects proactive identification and enforcement of breaches, increased licensing compliance activity within the NTE, and continued investigative activity linked to HMP Winchester rather than increased community harm.
Total	5,740	5,888	+148	+2.6%	Overall rise reflects confidence/visibility and targeted enforcement, not simply more harm.

Note: "FAT" = Formal Action Taken.

¹ Boomtown related crime data should be viewed as an indicator of effective and visible policing rather than increased criminality. The festival's presence leads to a temporary, positive spike in detections due to the scale of enforcement activity rather than any decline in local safety.

Why are some offences increasing?

- 1) Visibility & confidence:** When people have more confidence to report crime, more offences come to light. That increases recorded crime, but it does not necessarily mean more crime is being committed.
 - 2) Proactive enforcement:** Stop-search, warrants and targeted operations are designed to detect offences, especially drugs and weapons, so increases here are often *positive indicators* of disruption.
 - 3) Recording & retail engagement:** Firmer classification and partnership with retailers move some confrontational thefts into robbery; low baseline districts see large percentage swings from small absolute changes.
 - 4) Seasonal/event-related demand:** Boomtown contributes to a summer spike in drug possession/detections due to planned event policing and search activity.
-

Operational Delivery & Partnership Work (highlights from attached documents)

Retail crime & city centre ASB

- **Op Compile** (ASB/shoplifting, City Centre): 22 arrests, 2 CBOs in place, 166 weeks of imprisonment secured. Joint patrols with CSP and BID Rangers continue on the High Street.
- **Shoplifting performance:** Since April, 555 reports with 231 formal outcomes (41.6% FAT). Demand peaked August–September, managed through enhanced patrols and problem-solving with retailers.
- **Robbery context:** The increase is closely tied to confrontational retail incidents that now meet robbery criteria.

Drugs, supply and harm reduction

- Since April: 354 possession (FAT 326) and 60 trafficking (FAT 22). Continued warrants and active monitoring/disruption of drug lines, aligned with county lines teams.
- Seasonal uplift during Boomtown with planned operations and searches increasing detections, which is reflected in the Q1–Q3 totals.

HMP Winchester – Op Goliath

- 178 crimes/reports recorded; 74 charge/summons; 45 finalised at court, with almost all resulting in additional imprisonment; 50 ongoing investigations.

ASB

- **River Park:** Building secured (CITEX), Code 9 security from Aug 2025. Ongoing issues: break-ins and fires; plan includes extra patrols, improved

response, internal motion sensors/CCTV and evidence capture for investigation, through a multi partnership response.

- **Youth-related ASB:** Continued PC/PCSO work with repeat offenders supported by council online reporting routes.

Business & parcel crime

- Police have received approximately 100 reports of parcel theft linked to Evri deliveries across Winchester and Test Valley, with around 70 reports concentrated in Winchester in early September.

A 31-year-old man from Swindon was arrested, but the case resulted in no further action due to insufficient evidence.

Local investigations identified a series of incidents affecting a small number of clients in the Winchester and Eastleigh areas, causing significant impact on those affected. Victims raised concerns about Evri's operating processes, particularly the way couriers are commissioned and managed. These concerns were shared publicly with partners through a media release.

Police now have a clearer understanding of Evri's courier model, recognising that Evri is not directly responsible for the individual actions of commissioned couriers. Work is ongoing with the company to improve communication, partnership working, and support for police and victims where offences have occurred.

Roads policing & RTCs

- Notable RTCs: Hyde Street, Battery Hill, Worthy Lane, St Cross Road; one fatal on Stockbridge Road. Middle Brook Street: five reported incidents in 2025 (mostly minor; one e-scooter; one dog struck) with no pattern indicating dangerous conditions. Badger Farm Road: review found limited relevant collisions; no current evidence that speed/volume is a contributory factor (speed data not routinely captured). Speed limit changes rest with Hampshire County Council.

Assurance to the Panel & Next Steps

1. **Sustained visibility:** Continued deployment of the extra rural local bobbies and targeted city-centre patrols with CSP/BID partners.
2. **Focused disruption:** Maintain warrants, stop/search and county-lines work; use CBOs to manage the most harmful repeat offenders.
3. **NTE & VAWG:** Keep enhanced weekend coverage and licensing / Pubwatch governance to support victim-focused outcomes.
4. **Data & scrutiny:** Monitor robbery classification trends with retail partners; continue to track event-related demand (e.g., Boomtown) and assess proportionality.

We remain committed to working with our communities and partners so that people in Winchester are safe and feel safe.

Chief Inspector Korine Bishop
Police District Commander, Winchester

District Police Data – contextual summary

Recorded crime figures for the period show several areas of increase which are important to view in the correct context.

Domestic Abuse / Violence Against the Person – Up

The rise in DA-related violence aligns with improved victim confidence, enhanced reporting routes, and a continued positive-arrest policy. Increased police visibility in the NTE and strengthened safeguarding pathways have led to more offences being captured rather than reflecting increased underlying harm.

Serious Violence – Up

Serious violence remains a **low-volume but high-harm** category. The increase of 37 offences (42%) reflects broader national definitions now adopted locally via the Violence Reduction Partnership (VRP). The VRP uses a specific, expanded definition of *serious violence*, which includes a wider range of offences than traditional “most serious violence” categories. This includes categories such as:

- violence with injury,
- certain public order offences,
- knife-related offences,
- and some robbery classifications.

These broader definitions have now been fully adopted locally as part of the Serious Violence Duty under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, meaning more incidents meet the recording threshold for “serious violence” than would previously have been the case. (See business robbery)

This expansion alone means that incidents which might previously have sat in other categories are now counted within “serious violence,” increasing the recorded volume without an underlying increase in harm.

It does not represent a shift in Winchester’s overall safety profile.

Drug-Related Crime – Up

The 33.1% increase in drug offences is a positive indicator of proactive policing. Winchester’s Priority Crime Team has intensified enforcement through warrants, stop/search activity, and County Lines disruption. Planned policing around Boomtown accounts for a seasonal spike in detections, demonstrating successful operational delivery rather than a worsening drugs problem. Alongside this, we have maintained focused Night-Time Economy (NTE) patrols working closely with licensed premises to address illegal drug use at the earliest opportunity. Police teams, supported by licensing officers, PubWatch, and proactive plain-clothes deployments, regularly conduct targeted visits, searches, and engagement with door staff to identify and remove individuals involved in drug use or drug-related disorder. This early-intervention model has a positive downstream impact on reducing VAWG-related offences, as the prompt removal of individuals associated with drug

use prevents escalation later in the evening and reduces the number of high-risk interactions within the NTE. This approach aligns with the broader VAWG safeguarding work highlighted in the Q3 operational activity and the licensing-linked NTE operations delivered with VPO-trained officers.

Anti-Social Behaviour – Down

ASB reports fell by 6.8%, consistent with long-term local trends. This reflects strong partnership work (CSP, BID Rangers, police hotspot patrols) and targeted interventions delivered through OVAL, plus seasonal patterns that recur annually.

Boomtown Festival – Understanding the Impact on Recorded Crime

The annual Boomtown festival generates a predictable and planned uplift in recorded crime, primarily in drug-related detections. It is important for the Scrutiny Panel to note that:

The increase is expected and reflects proactive policing

During Boomtown, policing teams implement an intensive, pre-planned operation including enhanced searching at gates, targeted patrols, and intelligence-led interventions. This results in a deliberate rise in recorded drug possession offences, particularly at ingress points. These detections demonstrate successful enforcement, not increased local drug activity.

1. The rise reflects improved reporting routes and event-specific recording

Festival policing now includes strengthened systems for on-site reporting, safeguarding and evidence capture. The improved capability means more incidents are formally recorded rather than resolved informally by event staff. This drives numbers up in a positive way, ensuring transparency and accurate crime data.

2. Boomtown does not increase year-round local harm

Recorded offences linked to the event are largely self-contained and time-limited, with no sustained increase in community-level drug activity, violence, or ASB during the wider reporting period.

3. Event policing supports local reassurance

Police work closely with event organisers, public health, and partner agencies to safeguard vulnerable attendees, manage missing persons, and coordinate immediate interventions. The uplift in recorded crime therefore represents strong partnership governance and early-intervention safeguarding, aligning with CSP objectives.

In summary:

Boomtown-related crime data should be viewed as an indicator of effective and visible policing rather than increased criminality. The festival's presence leads to a temporary, positive spike in detections due to the scale of enforcement activity rather than any decline in local safety.

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

REPORT TITLE: PLANNING ENFORCEMENT – TASK AND FINISH GROUP
FEEDBACK TO SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

4 March 2026

Contact Officer: Julie Pinnock jpinnock@winchester.gov.uk

RECOMMENDATION:

1. That the Scrutiny Committee notes the recommendations from the Task & Finish group.

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Planning Enforcement – Task and finish Group feedback to Scrutiny Committee

10th February 2026 - Scrutiny Committee

Contact officer: Julie Pinnock

jpinnock@winchester.gov.uk

Background

A task and finish group was established to conduct a focused review of the Councils planning enforcement service, with part of its work to be reminded of the constitution and scheme of delegation and having regard to the updated Local Enforcement Plan adopted in July 2025 and the need for continuous improvement within the service.

Governance

The recommendation was for four Members and the Cabinet Member to participate in the task and finish group.

Two sessions were convened and met on 30th September 2025 and 7th October 2025.

Attached at Appendix 1 are notes of the discussion and recommendations that were agreed at each of the task and finish group sessions.

Attached at Appendix 2 is the results of the Benchmarking work that was requested by the task and finish group.

Recommendation

That the task and finish group discussions and actions be noted with a summary of the key recommendations from both sessions:

1. Communication with Members and Parish Councils at key stages and being realistic on what we can and cannot pursue as early as possible.
2. Consider a mechanism for improving communication between the Enforcement Team and councillors
3. Actively celebrate success and share that across the district so we show we are working on priority cases
4. Make greater use of temporary stop notices noting these are lower risk
5. Introduce a drone policy
6. Continue to engage with the corporate digitalisation programme
7. Councillor briefing post-election on Local Enforcement Plan – 1 year on from adoption

These measures will strengthen the existing service building on trust, communication and responsiveness.

There remains a legacy of older long standing cases which the team are working through utilising an additional budget. Recruitment and retention remain challenging.

Task and Finish meeting - 30th September 2025

Elected Members

Cllr Wallace – Vice Chair Scrutiny – Chaired meeting
Cllr Laming – Scrutiny Member
Cllr Murphy – Scrutiny Member
Cllr Porter – Cabinet Member for Local Plan and Place

Officers

Cheryl Headon – Strategic Director
Julie Pinnock – Corporate Head of Planning and Regulatory Services
Sarah Armstrong – Service Lead: Built Environment

Agenda

Theme A – Effectiveness of Current KPIs

Do the current KPIs give a clear picture of service performance?
Are these KPIs aligned with the objectives of the 2025 policy?
Are there important gaps in what is measured (e.g. quality, timeliness, outcomes)?

Theme B – Data Presentation and Use

Is the data presented in a way Members and the public can easily understand?
How often should Members receive performance updates?
How could existing data be used more effectively to identify trends and risks?

Theme C – Benchmarking

Are we using the right comparator authorities?
What benchmarking data would be most useful for scrutiny?
How could benchmarking help identify best practice to adopt

Key discussion, points arising and agreed actions

Recap of Local Enforcement Plan July 2025 including purpose and principles:

- Protect communities, heritage, and the natural environment from harmful unauthorised development.
- Clear priorities (e.g. Priority 1 for immediate, substantial, or irreversible harm).
- Proportionality, transparency, and consistent decision-making.
- Investigation stages, triage process, and KPI reporting framework.

Outline key changes from the 2025 update (e.g. refined priority system, enhanced parish/member comms, new monitoring indicators).

Round table discussion on the following points:

- Adoption of Local Enforcement Plan 2025 generally positively received;
- Ward Councillors continue receive complaints about Planning Enforcement;

- There is a view that cases drag on and therefore people consider they can do works that require planning permission without first obtaining the necessary consent;
- Perception that cases are not being worked on as they remain on the list each month;
- Recognise recruitment challenging;
- Recognise that the staff and linked services i.e. legal are our biggest asset;
- We will explore apprenticeship opportunities and interim arrangements;
- We need to find a way to keep Ward Councillors and Parish Councils updated without affecting our case.
- Recognised hard to provide detailed update on each case as these are time consuming and can affect the Councils evidence gathering;
- Not about training – we don't expect our Parish Councils to be planning experts;
- Need to identify ways of engaging /collaborating with Councillors and Parish Councils;
- New Local Enforcement Plan is helping to change how new cases are recorded, triaged and dealt with;
- More cases being closed with early intervention;
- Noted that we have a legacy of older long standing cases;
- Required to accept / log cases all new reports, then our Local Enforcement Plan sets out how we deal with those including a triage at receipt to close cases that are;
 - i. Not a planning matter – we receive many enforcement complaints that are not planning matters (i.e. noise, highways, fly tipping)
 - ii. Not a breach of planning – some works may not require planning permission or is not development
 - iii. Some works are County Planning matters (minerals and waste) so re-direct to HCC
 - iv. Some development is minor and does not fall within category 1 or 2 – so will not be further investigated.

National legislation / guidance

Town and Country Planning Act 1990

Case Law

NPPF

NPPG

RTPI / NAPE

Planning Enforcement Handbook for England | Championing the power of planning

Enforcement action is intended to be **remedial** rather than **punitive** and should always be commensurate with the breach of planning control to which it relates.

- Is there development?
- Is there a breach?
- Can the breach be resolved through negotiation?
- Is the breach causing harm?
- Is enforcement expedient?
- Any decisions made should be accompanied by a report addressing all the issues and kept on file.

Majority of cases can be resolved through **negotiation**.

Care must be taken in such cases to ensure that **expediency** remains a planning decision and is not influenced by public opinion.

In addition, care must also be taken to ensure that the issues that were raised and dealt with during the planning application (and appeals) process, are not allowed to be resurrected.

Further pressure can be brought by threats to involve the Ombudsman, a local councillor or MP.

Notwithstanding the nature or the extent of complaints, expediency is still a matter for the Local Planning Authority and if it decides to exercise its discretion and take no action, its reasons for doing so should be explained.

Actions from first task and finish group meeting:

Theme A – Effectiveness of Current KPIs

- The only national KPI is the number of enforcement notices served;
- We produce monthly lists to Councillors and Parish Councils;
- Recognise it is difficult to provide detailed updates which takes officers away from work;
- Agreed to follow this up as part of the wider digitalisation programme
-

Theme B – Data Presentation and Use

- Introduce quarterly reporting on:
 - Open / on hand
 - Open and closed at triage
 - Closed
- Profile of the age of the work to show the backlog and how this is reducing
- We will consider how and where to present the quarterly data
- Updates on historic cases

Theme C – Benchmarking

LEP sets out that we will monitor:

- number of new cases received
- The number of cases closed
- Current workload (a running total of live cases)
- The percentage of complaints acknowledge
- Cases closed at point of receipt and through triage
- Immunity dates of ongoing cases
- The percentage of cases closed within the timeframes of:
 - Less than 12 weeks;
 - More than 12 weeks;
 - Less than 6 months;
 - More than 6 months.

From the first task and finish group it was agreed:

- ✓ Review the timeliness of updates
- ✓ Report / celebrate appeal success
- ✓ Changes during the enforcement action /appeal process will be briefed to Ward Councillors and Parish Council
- ✓ Serve more temporary stop notices (TSN) – but recognise that it may not be possible to serve stop notices (SN) noting the risk is lower with TSN than SN.
- ✓ Introduce a drone policy / utilise drones
- ✓ Continue to engage with the Police for shared intelligence
- ✓ Add priority level to the monthly reports
- ✓ Continue to undertake risk assessments to ensure staff safety when visiting and serving notices at sites which have an identified risk to staff safety and wellbeing;
- ✓ Continue with our digitalisation programme

Task and Finish meeting - 7th October 2025

Elected Members

Cllr Wallace – Vice Chair Scrutiny – Chaired meeting

Cllr Laming – Scrutiny Member

Cllr Murphy – Scrutiny Member

Cllr Porter – Cabinet Member for Local Plan and Place

Officers

Julie Pinnock – Corporate Head of Planning and Regulatory Services

Sarah Armstrong – Service Lead: Built Environment

Agenda

Theme A – Access to Information

- Is it easy for the public to report and track enforcement matters?
- Are we providing the right balance of information for transparency without breaching confidentiality?

Theme B – Communication Timelines

- Are updates to Members and parishes timely and consistent?
- Should there be a stated standard for initial acknowledgement or updates?
- How can we explain timeframes realistically, given legal and procedural complexities?

Theme C – Managing Expectations

- How well do we manage public and Member expectations on case progress?
- Are we clear about constraints when delays occur?
- How could we improve understanding of the full enforcement process?

Key discussion, points arising and agreed actions

Started with a recap of how the 2025 policy addresses communication and transparency:

- Acknowledgement of cases within 5 working days.
- Monthly lists of new/live/closed cases to Members and parishes.
- Case updates at key investigation stages (e.g. remedy underway, notice served).
- Clear explanation of planning harm vs perceived harm.
- Limits on setting fixed resolution timeframes due to legal/complex case factors.

Followed by a round table discussion the following points:

- Appetite for a drone policy to support enforcement investigations. Particularly on sites that pose a risk to staff for access. We continue to work with the

Police who have provided drone footage on difficult sites. There are issues with using drone footage as evidence in court (hence need for a policy) as well as GDPR and Data Protection.

- Acknowledge and note that the Council does not have an out of hours service for alleged breaches of planning control. This would require a team of staff to be on call 24/7 including legal resource. Most breaches are not a criminal offence and do not justify an out of hours service which would be difficult to resource. No other local councils have an out of hours enforcement service.
- Discussion around the flow charts in the Local Enforcement Plan, with a commitment to review these to check they were clear on the processes
- Discussion about transparency with the group acknowledging that reports of alleged breaches of planning control are not public information, and only when an enforcement notice is served is there a public record. The discussion was then around who we communicate to and how.
- Sharing monthly lists of new, open and closed cases with Ward Councillors and Parish Councils bearing in mind confidentiality was considered appropriate.
- However discussion on how to keep complainants, Ward Councillors and Parish updated on individual cases remains a concern, and with the council's current software cannot be automated. The group acknowledged that this was linked to digitalisation and whether the council would introduce CRM software which would link to the planning soft for case management updates. It was acknowledged that further digitalisation work is required in this respect.
- The issue of communication with ward councillors about live cases within their wards was discussed and a request that officers consider possible options for improving communication with ward councillors
- It was acknowledged that the appetite for information in some cases exceeds what the council can share.
- We discussed how aware each Parish / Ward Councillors are of other cases (outside their Ward/Parish) that the enforcement team are handling. It was acknowledged that if our efforts are focused on one case in one Ward/Parish we cannot also be working on other cases. We agreed to consider how we communicate wider work across the district, which would dispel the perception that we are not working cases through. Appeals and Prosecutions require significant resources and must follow national process / procedure. A few case studies were suggested.
- We should celebrate success, and consider what success really looks like.

Actions

Theme A – Access to Information

- The reporting tool on the Council web site which directs how to report an alleged breach of planning controls is regularly used and we are not receiving complaints around ease of reporting.
- Accepted that it is not possible to share more information on cases which would undermine the council's case, particularly before we serve notices or take prosecutions.

Theme B – Communication Timelines

- Updates to Members and parishes are timely, sent monthly and consistent but there is a recognised desire for more detailed updates which it is not possible to provide on each open case on a monthly basis.
- There are standards for acknowledge and guiding principles on case updates.

Theme C – Managing Expectations

- Agreed to consider more wider comms for significant cases (to demonstrate that the team are actively working on priority cases).
- Discussed appropriate language to include in monthly updates
- Celebrate success
- Briefing for all Councillors post-election – 1 year on from adoption of the updated Local Enforcement Plan
- Regular briefings for Parish Councils
- A key take away was that we need to be honest about what we can and can't do sooner in the process. This is already underway with new cases which are triaged on receipt and closed when they are not a breach of planning control or we are not going to take action on what is a technical or minor breach.
- Review our statement of community involvement (SCI) – this is a larger piece of work and is linked to wider planning service. It also needs to include drone usage, CRM (if progressed), digitalisation and use of AI.

From the second task and finish group it was agreed:

- ✓ Councillor briefing post-election on Local Enforcement Plan – 1 year on from adoption
- ✓ Regular briefings for Parish Councils and how we use Parish Connect.
- ✓ Be honest on cases we cannot pursue
- ✓ Recognise recruitment challenges and risk to staff at difficult sites
- ✓ Agree a drone policy
- ✓ Communication around strategy and priorities in the team to reduce perception that we are not actively working on cases.
- ✓ Celebrate success

Bench marking

A key pillar of the task and finish group was to engage with other enforcement services. We asked a series of questions of our near neighbours and peers where officer's had contacts which enabled a 70% response rate (5 responses). We asked:

- Whether triage at receipt
- Pro-active compliance monitoring
- Number of open cases on hand
- Number of notices served
- Number of appeals against notices
- Staffing and vacancies
- Key challenges / prioritises were listed as:
 - Protecting trees
 - Gypsy and Traveller sites
 - Agricultural and tourism development
 - Householder breaches of permitted development rights
 - Major development breaches

	Peer Councils (5 responses)						Winchester CC
Triage at receipt	Yes						Yes
Proactive compliance monitoring	2 No			3 Yes			Yes
No of open cases on hand	132	565	397	170	275		386
No of notices served	15	36	26	13	21		17
No of appeal against notices	1	5	16	8	1		13
No of appeals - dismissed	1	4	-	10	0		3
Allowed/split	1	0	-	1	0		1

Bench marking shows that Winchester is working within the range with high numbers of notices being served and a high success rate at appeal. Further work is needed to analyse the bench marking information received.

For Winchester the information is combined with the SDNP to provide overall figure.

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

REPORT TITLE: Q3 2025/26 PERFORMANCE MONITORING

4 MARCH 2026

REPORT OF CABINET MEMBER: CLLR CUTLER – DEPUTY LEADER AND
CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND PERFORMANCE

Contact Officer: Simon Howson Tel No: 01962 848 104

Email: showson@winchester.gov.uk

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Scrutiny Committee raises with the Deputy Leader or relevant Cabinet Member any issues arising from the information in this report, ref CAB3537, which is being presented to Cabinet on the 12 March 2026 and considers whether there are any items of significance to resolve or to be drawn to the attention of Cabinet.

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Finance and Performance Report – October to December 2025

Recommendation

That Cabinet notes the progress achieved during Q3 of 2025/26 and endorses the contents of the report.

Index

Performance Report

Section 1 – Greener Faster

Section 2 – Healthy Communities

Section 3 – Thriving Places

Section 4 – Good Homes for All

Section 5 – Efficient and Effective

Section 6 – Listening and Learning

Finance report.

Section 7 - Financial report

Updates since Q2 25/26 report

This report has been updated to include the Tier 1 project highlight report for Local Government Reorganisation and is included under the Efficient and Effective Council Plan priority.

Red/Amber/Green status

The table below provides a brief explanation of the RAG status used throughout this report to quickly and visually communicate the status of projects and service plan actions.

GREEN	Normal level of attention Project is on track to be delivered on time and within agreed resources
AMBER	Minor concern Some issues, being managed, needs to be closely monitored
RED	Major concern Serious issues, milestone dates being missed, recovery plan required

PERFORMANCE REPORT

Section 1 Greener Faster

Delivery highlights – October to December 2025

- Local Plan Inspector has accepted in her post-hearing note (ED38a) that the emerging Local Plan policies on climate neutrality that go beyond current or planned Building Regulations (Policies CN1 and CN3) are (subject to consultation to Main Modifications, consistent with national policy), justified and effective.
- New tree manager in post. Applied for and secured grant funding for planting disease resistant elms.
- Published an executive summary of Nature Improvement Plan and worked with communications to promote via video, website and social media.
- The Local Nature Recovery Strategy for Hampshire was published on 8th December 2025 with Winchester City Council contributing towards the development of the document in partnership with Hampshire local authorities, Natural England, Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust and other organisations.
- 27 swift bird boxes have been erected as part of property services work in relation to repairs, maintenance and retrofit, creating nesting habitat.
- Usage of council Electric Vehicle Charge Points continues to remain higher than the corresponding period last year. The council's new rapid charging points have now been operational for over a year. The increase in EV charging is primarily due to more electric vehicles on UK roads and the install of other fast vehicle chargers such as at KGV Pavilion and Belvoir House.
- Progressed the Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment to assess ways in which council, residents, businesses, and infrastructure may be affected by climate risks and impacts. Engaged a range of key internal stakeholders to input into the council's Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment (CRVA). Attended HEP committee in December to provide an update on the CRVA.
- The bike bus network in Winchester remains popular during quarter 3. A stall was held at Bishops Waltham Greening event to promote the bike bus. In December, the Winchester Bike Bus project ended, and a report has been submitted to Hampshire County Council highlighting its success.

Our Carbon Neutrality Action Plan (Council)

Lead Cabinet Member: Cllr Kelsie Learney					Project Sponsor: Cheryl Headon							
Programme RAG status	Timeline				Budget				Carbon			
	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
<p>RAG Status update: The anticipated carbon savings attributed to decarbonising corporate assets (Guildhall & City Offices and Winchester Sports and Leisure Park) are at risk. Work is ongoing to identify opportunities for further decarbonisation.</p>												
<p>Progress achieved during the last quarter: Good progress has been made across all pathways for Q3. The following updates are some of the key highlights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval given for the purchase of three additional low carbon vehicles for Special Maintenance fleet; work has progressed with their procurement. • Two electric vehicles for Animal welfare retrofitted and are now in use. • Repair of solar PV panels at Vaultex car park complete. Monitoring shows these panels are now generating as expected. Application for Smart Export Guarantee payments submitted for this site. • PAC board supported development of two Outline Business Case rooftop solar PV projects to Full Business Case. Completed a pre-market engagement exercise for technical work for solar PV projects. • Organised series of engagement sessions to gather updated requirements for Grounds maintenance contract, including exploring efficiencies, changes in priority, and market innovation. Completed a pre-market engagement exercise with interested suppliers. 												
<p>Actions for the next quarter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue Request for Quote and appoint solar PV consultancy contractors to proceed with technical surveys. Outcome of surveys which will help inform Full Business Case for small scale rooftop PV projects. • Finalise plans and deliver tree planting. • Appoint a supplier, through a framework agreement, to order four low carbon vehicle replacements for Special Maintenance fleet. • Instruct contractor to proceed with solar PV rooftop install at Meadowside Leisure Centre. Installation of new, more energy efficient, boilers. • Member Briefing held on 9 February to provide an update on ‘Nature Markets’ 												

Our Carbon Neutrality Action Plan (District)

Lead Cabinet Member: Cllr Kelsie Learney					Project Sponsor: Cheryl Headon							
Programme RAG status	Timeline				Budget				Carbon			
	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
<p>RAG status update Timeline: whilst good progress has been made across the pathways some projects are still in their infancy and will take time to deliver the kilotonnes of CO2e savings required. Carbon: A key continuing challenge for the district CNAP is tracking the carbon saved by the actions/ projects as this is because the government dataset is reported 2 years in arrears.</p>												
<p>Progress achieved during the last quarter:</p> <p>Significant progress has been made across all pathways for Q3.</p> <p>Key progress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Successful bid for HCC Active travel grant. Allocated £40,000 to deliver active travel initiatives in Stanmore. Finalising grant funding agreement. • Carried out five business carbon saving assessments this quarter. Obtained PAC Board approval to develop a Full Business Case for second Solar for Business site. • Local Area Energy Plan (LAEP) – Received draft modelling stages for the LAEP and the Community Led Energy Plan for achieving net zero energy system by 2030, 2040 and 2050. Reviewing and compiling feedback. • Large scale renewable energy scheme – financial modelling outputs reviewed, current options are not financially viable. Drafting report to PAC board to provide an update on financial viability of the scheme for Q4. • Community Solar Support Scheme – successful UKSPF bid, delivery of second phase commenced in October. Scoped and supporting eight buildings (including one school) keen to progress with small scale solar. 												
<p>Actions for the next quarter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCC Active Travel Grant – procuring delivery partner for Stanmore scheme. • Working with Sparsholt College to initiate delivery of Digital Inclusion project. • Local Area Energy Plan – provide feedback on modelling stages and expecting final outputs of Local Area Energy plan by March 2026. • Launch peer-to-peer mentoring scheme, available to businesses in the district. • Completion of second phase of Community Solar support Scheme – reporting on outcomes and carbon savings. 												

Future of Waste and Recycling

Lead Cabinet Member: Cllr Kelsie Learney / Cllr Steve Cramoysan	Project Sponsor: Cheryl Headon							
Programme RAG status	Timeline				Budget			
	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
<p>Progress achieved during the last quarter:</p> <p>Food Waste Rollout</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four collection rounds fully implemented; rollout remains on track. • 318 tonnes of food waste collected from October to December 2025 • No significant complaints reported regarding the food waste service. <p>Procurement of food waste containers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All containers and liners were received by 18th December 2025. <p>Communications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing communications to support rollout of new food waste service, including targeted social media advertising as rounds are introduced. <p>Funding and Budgets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An EPR funding payment for Q1&2 of 25/26 totalling £843,000 has been received. The remaining payments for Q3 and Q4 are expected in January and March 2026 respectively. • Reported our New Burdens Transitional Funding spend to date in October and December 2025 to Defra as required. • Awaiting New Burdens ongoing service delivery funding confirmation (expected by April 2026). • DEFRA have confirmed EPR funding will need to be allocated to improvements in household recycling. This will likely be allocated to Simpler Recycling Implementation, subject to a spending plan and Cabinet approval. <p>Timeline & Simpler Recycling Implementation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCC have confirmed that they will be building a new Materials Recovery Facility to accommodate the full suite of Simpler Recycling materials, which includes pots, tubs, tray, cartons, co-mingled glass and recycling, and separated paper and card. The Project team have started working on a delivery timetable to accommodate these changes by Spring/Summer 2028 when the new MRF is expected to become operational. 								
<p>Actions for the next quarter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare for and implement remaining food waste rollout phases scheduled for completion March 2026. • Simpler Recycling preparation: looking at options to introduce additional recycling streams and reviewing future service delivery options. Engagement activities to educate and support behavioural change, to improve recycling performance. 								

Nutrient Mitigation Solution

Lead Cabinet Member: Cllr Jackie Porter, Cllr Mark Reach	Project Sponsor: Cheryl Headon							
Programme RAG status	Timeline				Budget			
	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
<p>RAG status update</p> <p>The original timelines were ambitious, relying on desk-based research, but detailed site studies, due for completion by the end of 2025, will provide more precise data on site conditions and potential upgrade options.</p> <p>Due to the evolving nature of the scope, the project approach has been adjusted to remain aligned with developing requirements. These changes have affected the original timeline, however once the feasibility studies across the sites are completed and the civil engineering firm is onboarded, a more accurate and realistic delivery timeline will be provided.</p>								
<p>Progress achieved against last quarter</p> <p><u>Housing Revenue Account (HRA)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nitrate and phosphate credit sales for the two completed wastewater treatment work upgrades at Northington Road and The Goodens are ongoing: • Northington Road – three quarters of nitrate credits (50 of 63) and nearly all the phosphate credits (4.9 of 5.3) from Northington Road have been allocated to developers. Prices are £3,250 per nitrate credit and £50,000 per phosphate credit (or part thereof). £224k has been invoiced to date and £325k further is expected to be paid once all balances are settled prior to development starting on site (in line with signed Allocation Agreements). Plant installed at Northington Road cost £68k so the income generated to date represents a good return on investment alongside achieving water quality improvements. • The Goodens – credits are now starting to be allocated following the payment of an index-linked monitoring fee to SDNPA. There are 90 nitrate credits and 10.51 phosphate credits available. An initial 8.59 nitrate credits and 0.77 phosphate credits have been allocated to date. £63k has been invoiced to date and £309k is expected to be paid once all balances are settled prior to development starting on site. Some phosphate credits from this scheme will be sold for £100k (each or part thereof) because the mitigation location is upstream of the Alresford area where there are very few phosphate credits available to mitigate development in this area of the catchment. • Commissioned consultants to undertake surveys and feasibility studies for further four sites at Hobbs Close, Baring Close, The Pastures, and Kiln Lane. Awaiting site investigation reports to inform business case development for viable sites in Q4 2025/26. <p><u>Partnership for Southern Hampshire (PfSH)</u></p>								

- First PfSH WwTW upgrade at Itchen View completed on behalf of PfSH in May 2025 with credits valid for sale from August 2026. LPA pack sent to the council, as host authority, for approval for PfSH to sell the credits as per the Inter Authority Agreement and CAB3459.
- Feasibility studies and CCTV investigations currently in progress across the nine shortlisted sites. Awaiting site investigations to inform business case development for viable sites.
- Note: Due to the evolving nature of the scope, the project approach has been adjusted to remain aligned with developing requirements. The original timelines for the PfSH sites were ambitious, relying on desk-based research. However detailed site studies have been commissioned to provide more accurate data on site conditions and identify potential upgrade options. These changes have affected the original delivery timescales. The feasibility studies are due for completion in Q4 2025/26, and more accurate and realistic delivery timescales will be set out within the individual business cases

Actions for the next quarter:

Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

- Ongoing sale of nitrate and phosphate credits from the two existing wastewater treatment works at Northington Road and The Goodens
- Completion of surveys and feasibility studies for four sites at Hobbs Close, Baring Close, The Pastures, and Kiln Lane. Detailed site studies will provide more precise data on site conditions and potential upgrade options.
- Development of individual business cases for viable sites for approval from the Chief Finance Officer and Strategic Director as per CAB3470.
- Subject to business case approval, commence procurement exercise for a civil engineering contractor to deliver the HRA site upgrades. Proposed that HRA sites will be prioritised within the overall works schedule.

Partnership for South Hampshire (PfSH)

- Completion of surveys and feasibility studies for the nine shortlisted sites. Detailed site surveys will provide more precise data on site conditions and potential upgrade options.
- Commence development of individual business cases for viable sites, in agreement with PfSH. Subject to approval of the business case, the council will seek to appoint a civil engineering contractor to manage, procure, and lead the delivery of this programme.

Greener Faster - Progress against actions in service plans

Ref	Project	Cabinet Member	Delivery Date	Status R/A/G		
				Q1	Q2	Q3
1	Prepare full business case for a large-scale renewable energy project	Cllr Learney	April 2027			
2	Produce a business case for delivery for phase 1 of the small-scale renewable energy generation	Cllr Learney	October 2025			Complete
3	Deliver Air Quality Strategy and Action Plan	Cllr Learney/ Cllr Cramoysan	March 2030			
4	Take steps to reduce carbon from council-owned occupied estate	Cllr Tod	Ongoing			
5	Develop a Local Area Energy Plan	Cllr Learney	March 2026			
6	Create sustainable travel networks and projects in local areas	Cllr Learney	April 2026			
7	Develop an Electric Vehicle Charging Points framework for the district	Cllr Learney	April 2026			
8	Develop a Nature Improvement Plan	Cllr Learney	March 2026			

Red/Amber Status

1 – Reviewed the financial modelling outputs and viability of project. Report to PAC board in Q4.

7 - The LAEP this will inform the level of investments for EVCP. The timing and nature of work on a council EVCP framework has been reprioritised until after that information is available.

Measuring our progress

Long range trackers (Annual – financial year)										
No.	Performance measure	Cabinet member (Cllr)	Lead Director	17/18 (base)	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25	Target & Status 24/25	Target 25/26
GF1	Council total market-based emissions (tCO ₂ e) ¹	Learney	Cheryl Headon	4,251.2	4,260.2	3,970.3	4,090.5	2,252.1	3,700	2,100 Set in July 2025
GF1a	Council market-based Scope 1 & 2 emissions (tCO ₂ e) ²	Learney	Cheryl Headon	1,444.3 ²	595.6	523.4	398.2	57.7		
GF1a	% change relative to 2017/18 baseline year	Learney	Cheryl Headon		-59%	-64%	-72%	-96%		
GF1b	Council market-based Scope 3 emissions (tCO ₂ e) ¹	Learney	Cheryl Headon	2,806.9	3,664.6	3,446.9	3,692.3	2,194.4		
GF1b	% change relative to 2017/18 baseline year	Learney	Cheryl Headon		31%	23%	32%	-22%		
GF3	WCC air quality measure	Learney	Cheryl Headon	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available		NO ₂ 30 µg/m ³ by 2030

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• **Basis of targets:**

GF1 to GF1b - Estimated from the annual Council Carbon Footprint report - based on several interventions with associated carbon savings

GF3 - Target derived from the [‘Air Quality Strategy’](#) for targets achieved by 2030

• **Footnotes:**

¹ Since 2017/18 the council has acquired more assets and reports more activities under scope 3 (this includes WSLP, Chesil Lodge, Home working and staff commuting, council cared for housing schemes); Target of 3,700 is the overall target for GF1 to GF1b as they are sub-sets
Scope 1 = Direct emissions from our activities e.g. gas, council owned cars and vans; Scope 2 = Indirect emission from energy use e.g. electricity; Scope 3 = Indirect emissions from our activities and supply chain e.g. contractor emissions including P&R buses, Winchester Sport & Leisure Park and waste collection.

² Figures for baseline year (2017/18) have been revised and updated. This reflects the reclassification of two sites, which were previously reported under Scope 2, these are now correctly reported under scope 3.

Long range trackers (Annual – calendar year)										
No.	Performance measure	Cabinet member (Cllr)	Lead Director	2017 (base)	2020	2021	2022	2023	Target 2030	Status
GF2a	District territorial GHG (ktCO ₂ e) ²	Learney	Cheryl Headon	953.7	790.5	828.9	796.8	768.6		
GF2a	% change relative to 2017/18 baseline year	Learney	Cheryl Headon		-17%	-13%	-16%	-19%		
GF2b	District carbon emissions under scope of LA influence (ktCO ₂ e)	Learney	Cheryl Headon	669.9	560.1	591.3	556.7	533.0	520.00	n/a
GF2b	% change relative to 2017 baseline year	Learney	Cheryl Headon		-16%	-12%	-17%	-20%		

- Basis of targets:**

GF2a and GF2b – As set out in the Winchester District Carbon Neutrality Roadmap and [Carbon Neutrality Action Plan](#) to achieve zero carbon emissions.

- Footnotes:**

²Data are the overall values for GF2a/b as they are sub-sets. Previously reported figures will/may have been updated as government adjusts its calculation methodology & changes all past data to be consistent / enable direct comparison. Data reported 2 years in arrears; 2024 data from July.

Practical real-time measures (Quarterly)										
No.	Performance measure	Cabinet member (Cllr)	Lead Director	Q3 - 24/25	Q4 - 24/25	Q1 - 25/26	Q2 - 25/26	Q3 - 25/26	Target 25/26	Status
GF4	% of household waste sent for reuse, recycling, and composting	Cramoysan	Cheryl Headon	37.79%	35.70%	40.89%	38.68%	42.27%	40%	
GF5	Residual household waste per household (kg/hh)	Cramoysan	Cheryl Headon	103.91	102.42	103.62	103.38	97.98	<420 kg/hh	
GF6	Energy usage (kWh) – Electricity – City Offices ³	Learney	Simon Hendey	41,260	41,002	24,491	26,743	39,340	Measure only	n/a
GF7	Energy usage (kWh) – Electricity – Guildhall ³	Learney	Simon Hendey	77,890	78,998	62,400	69,509	74,969	Measure only	n/a
GF8	Energy usage (kWh) – Gas – City Offices ³	Learney	Simon Hendey	28,262	62,786	0	0	40,366	Measure only	n/a

GF9	Energy usage (kWh) – Gas – Guildhall ³	Learney	Simon Hendey	82,805	89,345	18,010	7,905	76,683	Measure only	n/a
GF10	Renewable energy generated (kWh) from solar panels ⁴	Learney	Simon Hendey	25,842	43,123	140,117	115,262	34,790	Measure only	n/a

- Basis of targets:**

GF4 and GF5 - Target based on performance improvement against previous years actuals, and ensuring top percentile performance amongst peers

- Footnotes:**

³ *Due to the way metering is set up this includes the whole of each building (less Shoal who are sub-metered) - tenants occupying space including the university (West Wing, Guildhall), CAB and NHS (City Offices) are recharged a percentage for their usage.*

⁴ *Data reported relates to: WCC Sites (City Offices, Cipher House, Vaultex,), Winchester Sport and Leisure Park, Depot and Marwell Zoo.*

Section 2 Healthy Communities

Delivery highlights – October to December 2025

- The Winchester Sport and Leisure Park (WSLP) was announced as the winner of the 'Regional Public Club / Centre of the Year' category for the Southern region at the 2025 UK Active awards during October.
- A lease was completed with Winchester Boxing Club for the former air cadet building at Hillier Way in Winchester, providing the club with a long-term permanent home.
- The draft Community Resilience Strategy was considered by the Health and Environment Policy Committee in November, and community stakeholders in Winchester, Wickham and New Alresford attended sessions to provide their input to the emerging document.
- The bidding round for community applications for Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding attracted 20 bids, totalling nearly £1.4M, from seven different parishes in addition to the Winchester town area. These will be determined by Cabinet in March.
- Three CIL funded community projects were completed at Allegra's Ambition outdoor gym and art installation, at the Garrison Ground by [Winchester Sport and Leisure Park](#); new flooring at Wickham Community Centre and new toilets at Unit 12 in Winnall.
- The first Winchester Aqua Bests event took place at WSLP in October, extending the Personal Bests event to the swimming pool. Led by Active LD, but supported and part-funded by the council, it attracted 34 participants.
- The Live Longer Better programme continued, with 87 new participants joining the programme and new sessions introduced at King Harold Court and Hyde Lodge schemes.
- October half-term football sessions at Wickham, Whiteley, Stanmore and River Park, attracted 92 participants of which 27% met Sport England's definition of inactive.
- 16 community grants were awarded, totalling £16,089, for projects including conservation of Bishops Waltham north pond, storage for 1st Harestock Brownies and a forest school cooking project at The Hornbeam Hideout in Northington Down.
- The first issue of the new Community Connect newsletter was published in October and sent to 378 email subscribers from the community sector.
- Support to Ukrainian guests saw people referred to skills bootcamps on project management, hospitality and data analytics. The Independence Support Grant scheme saw a final 23 awards made before the scheme closed, having supported 546 applications totalling approx. £273k over more than two years.

- Refurbishment of Chaundler Road Play Area completed. It includes a safer ground surface made from over 7,000 recycled training shoes. New equipment, sensory board and communications board also installed.
- Strategic housing contributed towards the cost of funding for the new Legacy Plus programme in Winchester, delivered by Yellow Brick Road. This is to support young people aged 12-25 who are at risk of criminal exploitation and living in or educated in Winchester. This is a multi agency approach and support is based on the young person's individual need, Nominations are provided from the Housing options and Temporary accommodation team, for young people who would benefit from the programme to prevent their homelessness.
- Strategic Housing have implemented weekly briefings including partners from Community safety team, Trinity and Outreach officers, to ensure relevant information sharing, with a multi agency approach to ensure efficient support is provided to any person rough sleeping in Winchester, to manage anti-social behaviour and prevent homelessness.

River Park Cricket Pavilion

Lead Cabinet Member: Cllr Kathleen Becker	Project Sponsor: Cheryl Headon							
Project RAG status	Timeline				Budget			
	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
<p>Progress achieved during the last quarter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site visit with the whole project team, community group, Hampshire Cricket Board and future users to tour the facilities, see the layout and discuss the design, fixtures and fittings and facilities that will be made available. • Roof completed • External cladding completed • External windows and doors fitted • Internal walls completed; plastering has begun • First fix electrical completed 								
<p>Actions for the next quarter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to update key stakeholders at key stages of design • Regular contract meetings with Contractor and Consultants • Regular liaison meetings with internal team • Monitor progress of works against programme • Review ongoing budget • Scheduled for practical completion 								

Healthy Communities – progress against actions in service plans

Ref	Project	Cabinet Member	Delivery Date	Status R/A/G		
				Q1	Q2	Q3
1	Review data and agree scope of the work for community facility audit(s)	Cllr Becker	March 2026			
2	Deliver a programme of engagement and activity sessions enabling residents to live longer better (HCC fund)	Cllr Becker	March 2026			
3	Adopt a Winchester District Community Wellbeing and Resilience strategy, supported by a statement of our health priorities	Cllr Becker	October 2025			
4	Complete the construction to replace the River Park cricket pavilion	Cllr Becker	June 2026			
5	Community Integration programme for overseas guests - deliver the HCC funded support for independent living and community integration	Cllr Becker	Ongoing			
6	Deliver a programme of grants to community and voluntary sector organisations	Cllr Becker	February 2026			
7	Active Travel Networks – bike bus programme with schools	Cllr Learney	April 2026			
8	Roll out programme of training for Spaces of Sanctuary scheme	Cllr Becker	June 2025		Complete	

Red/Amber Status

3 – Draft Community Resilience Strategy was considered by Health and Environment Policy Committee in December and is scheduled to go to Cabinet in March 2026.

Practical real-time measures (Quarterly)										
No.	Performance measure	Cabinet member (Cllr)	Lead Director	Q3 - 24/25	Q4 - 24/25	Q1 - 25/26	Q2 - 25/26	Q3 - 25/26	Target 25/26	Status
HC2	Winchester Sport and Leisure Park - total number of visits	Becker	Cheryl Headon	347,038	358,832	356,284	353,328	334,092	1,455,549	
HC3	Winchester Sport & Leisure Park - number of all concessionary rate visits	Becker	Cheryl Headon	136,816	140,036	137,710	138,069	132,254	570,653	
HC4	Meadowside - total number of visits	Becker	Cheryl Headon	18,892	20,977	19,506	18,511	17,412	83,224	
HC5	Meadowside - number of all concessionary rate visits	Becker	Cheryl Headon	2,631	3,481	3,463	2,936	2,141	11,908	
HC6	Number of housing benefit claimants (rolling total)	Cutler	Liz Keys	2,452	2,301	2,154	2,012	1,925	Measure only	n/a
HC7	Number of Council tax reduction claimants (rolling total)	Cutler	Liz Keys	5,805	5,784	5,767	5,718	5,761	Measure only	n/a
HC8	Average time taken to process new housing benefit claims (days)	Cutler	Liz Keys	16.24	21.38	21.39	19.12	19.35	22 days	
HC9	% Winchester residents claiming out-of-work benefits ¹	Thompson	Cheryl Headon	2.20%	2.10%	2.10%	2.10%	2.00%	Measure only	n/a

- Basis of targets:**

HC2 to HC5 - Target reflects a 5% increase on actuals in 2024/25 and is 11% higher than the projections for 25/26 set out in the original tender

HC8 - Target based on performance improvement against previous years actuals

- Footnotes:**

¹ Data provided by ONS – “CC01 Regional labour market: Claimant Count by unitary and local authority”. Published 17th of the month.

Section 3 Thriving Places

Delivery highlights – October to December 2025

- UK Shared Prosperity Fund programme 2025/2026 programme remains on track to support 24 projects with grants totalling £550k, and eight projects completed this quarter.
- As part of the council's green business support, Arthian were commissioned at the end of the last quarter to deliver a programme of carbon audits. This quarter, four audits have been undertaken and four green grants applications were received.
- 14 local businesses attended the digital support programme workshop on 'Next Steps Artificial Intelligence' workshop in October.
- The Winchester District Tourism Strategy emerging themes and priorities were tested with a newly established Strategy Advisory Group (10 attended the workshop) in October and a further 24 businesses via the Meet in Winchester and Attractions Partnership meetings.
- A paper was taken to the Economy and Housing Policy Committee in November on the Local Visitor Economy Partnership (LVEP) covering the benefit of the LVEP, the council's role in the Executive Delivery Group and emerging themes and priorities of the Hampshire Destination Management Plan.
- The Visit Winchester website page views were up by 31% compared with same period last year with 460k page views. Winchester Cathedral Christmas Market listing was the highest performer of the quarter with 47k views.
- Use of social media channels saw strong growth with views up by 1,388% (1.6m) for Facebook and 154% (461.5k) for Instagram on the same quarter last year. A new weekly what's on round-up was also introduced.
- Discover Winchester achieved 82 pieces of national coverage in the quarter with a combined reach of 539.2 million. Winchester district received over 278 brand mentions and coverage included Daily Mirror, Daily Express, BBC Good Food, London Reviews, Wales Online, London Herald and The Independent.
- The first Plot Lines book of poetry was published as part of the West of Waterlooville Public Arts programme. It was distributed to local residents throughout October and was well received with residents appreciating the gift putting their stories front and centre. Further workshops took place in December to work on the second publication. Over 200 young people have already been engaged.
- A creative education directory was launched which connects schools to creative opportunities and organisations and was circulated and promoted through Discover Creative Careers Month.
- PSPO due to expire Sept 2026 (Alcohol Control Zone) – EQIA drafted and an extension of the current PSPO will be sought via June L & R Committee.
- X2 Criminal Behaviour Orders issued via courts for shop lifting offences.
- 3 Trauma Bleed Kits and subsequent training provided to staff members of Beacon, Trinity and Milford House. Staff on those sites can use the kits, and

any of the 9 kits currently available can also be used by emergency services, the kits are mapped via the police call centre.

- ASB Hot Spot Patrol grant fund (funding for additional patrols outside of normal core patrols) = 18 patrols (152 hours) via the Community Safety Team (ASB Officer) and BID Rangers.
- Active Patrol Engagement
- Community Safety Team (ASB Officer) Active Patrol and Engagement = 69 patrol logs (58 Town Forum and 11 Rural locations).

Bar End Depot

Lead Cabinet Member: Cllr Martin Tod		Project Sponsor: Simon Hendey						
Programme RAG status	Timeline				Budget			
	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
Progress achieved during the last quarter:								
<p>Cabinet approved remarketing of the site on 14th October 2025.</p> <p>Formal Bids were received by the bid deadline on 10th December 2025.</p> <p>Due diligence is being undertaken on the bids. Subject to satisfactory assurances and agreed heads of terms with the successful bidder a report will be presented to Cabinet for their consideration.</p>								
Actions for the next quarter:								
Cabinet to consider the successful bid in quarter 2 of 2026/7.								

Central Winchester Regeneration (CWR)

Lead Cabinet Member: Cllr Martin Tod		Project Sponsor: Simon Hendey / Ken Baikie						
Programme RAG status	Timeline			Budget				
	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
<p>Progress achieved during the last quarter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project team attended a design team meeting, contributing to the development of the emerging proposals and ensuring alignment across partners. The council were notified that GKRL, one of the two partners within the Jigsaw consortium, will be exiting the partnership and withdrawing from the CWR project. Legal and financial advice have been sought to understand the implications of this decision and inform the council's decision on the way forward. 								
<p>Actions for the next quarter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A paper will be presented to January Cabinet to outline and formalise the change in consortium composition. Public engagement will take place in February, led by Jigsaw, who will provide an update to the community on the emerging proposals and how the scheme is developing. 								

Local Plan

Lead Cabinet Member: Cllr Jackie Porter				Project Sponsor: Cheryl Headon				
Programme RAG status	Timeline				Budget			
	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
<p>RAG status update</p> <p>The RAG status remains as an amber for this quarter as public consultation only finished on the Main Modifications on the 16th January 2026. Whilst outside this quarter, the comments and Officers response to this public consultation have now been sent to the Local Plan Inspector. The City Council is now awaiting the Inspector’s Report that will determine the date that that Full Council can consider the Local Plan.</p>								
<p>Progress achieved during the last quarter:</p> <p>Emerging Local Plan</p> <p>During Q3 (October to December 2025) the team have been:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working on the Local Plan Inspector’s note ED38a (Post hearing action points) and agreeing all the Proposed Main Modifications, Additional Modifications and Changes to the Policies Map with the Local Plan Inspector prior to the start of the public consultation Undertaking training on ‘Keystone Objective’ and undertaken public consultation on the Main Modifications using the new Councils new consultation software Organising, with the support of the Coms team, the public consultation material that was needed for the Main Modifications, Additional Modifications and the Changes to the Policies Map which commenced on 21st November 2025 and runs until 11:59pm on Friday 16th January 2026 Processing representations and working through our responses as they arrive Preparing a draft report on the output from the public consultation on the Main Modifications which has been sent to the Local Plan Inspector using the new public consultation software. This is to agree the format and the content of the document with the Inspector prior to the close of the public consultation Holding meetings with Portsmouth City Council, Southern Water Services and a number of other organisations to discuss their draft responses to the Main Modifications; and The Local Plan Inspector has also undertaken an Inspector led public consultation (ED43a) on the Government’s Written Ministerial Statement (ED43b) and the letter from Matthew Pennycook MP (ED43c). This Inspector led public consultation was centred around 								

the Duty to Co-operate. We prepared and submitted a response to this Inspector led public consultation ([ED44](#)).

In between working on the Main Modifications public consultation in accordance with the agreed Local Development Scheme, work has started on the next Local Plan (please note that this work on the emerging Local Plan has been temporarily paused until April 2026 in order to allow Officers time to progress the emerging Local Plan to adoption):

- Entered into a contract with AECOM to undertake the Integrated Impact Assessment/Habitats Regulations Assessment and entering in contracts with Consultants to update Employment and Retail assessments
- Assessing the tenders that have been received for the Water Cycle Study
- Undertaken a new 'Call for sites' for the next Local Plan (which commenced the first week of October)
- Attending Duty-to-Cooperate meetings with neighbouring Local Planning Authorities
- Agreeing with the Cabinet Member for Place and Local Plan responses to the Portsmouth and Basingstoke and Deane Local Plans
- Working on finalising the Authority Annual Monitoring Report (which includes the updated 5-year Housing Supply) and the preparing the Annual Brownfield Register
- Completing the Self Build quarterly return and an updating the Self Build Position Statement
- Assisting at two major Public Inquiries and giving evidence/assisting Consultants at these Public Inquiries on the 5-year Housing Land Supply (Wickham and Lanham Lane in Winchester)
- Working on the Business Case for the Keystone Objective Collaborative authoring software
- Undertaken internal training with Development Management and Heritage/Design Officers on the 5-year Housing Land Supply and the new policies in the emerging Local Plan
- Working with Weblabs to update the Local Plan website (to enable both the emerging Local Plan and the next Local Plan to be shown on the website); and
- Ensuring that the Local Plan websites were kept up-to-date with the latest news

Actions for the next quarter:

Emerging Local Plan

- Continue to process the Main Modifications representations and ensure that all of the responses to this public consultation are sent to the Local Plan Inspector by the end of January 2026; and

- Undertake internal training on the latest 5-year Housing Land Supply and on the Infrastructure Delivery Plan.

Next Local Plan:

- Understand what is involved with the Government's new 30-month timeframe for preparing a Local Plan and once the regulations have been published, prepare a Project Management Plan
- Review the briefs for the different commissions that will need to be undertaken for the next Local Plan, review any lessons learnt and go out to tender
- Appoint Consultants to undertake various commissions
- Engage with the statutory agencies (Natural England, Environment Agency and Historic England) to discuss and agree the IIA framework and the 'reasonable alternatives'
- In consultation with other department undertake desktop assessments of the SHELAA sites and then start to consider which sites might be suitable to be allocated for development
- Review reports that have been prepared by Consultants and incorporate the findings into the next Local Plan
- Work on reviewing the Local Plan policies in light of the Government's draft National Development Management policies and identify any local specific policies that need to be included in the next Local Plan
- Review the NPPF/National Development Management policies when they are published in their final version and prepare the next Local Plan; and
- Continue to liaise with neighbouring Local Plan authorities and attend Duty-to-cooperate meetings

Winchester Movement Strategy

Lead Cabinet Member: Cllr Kelsie Learney				Project Sponsor: Cheryl Headon				
Programme RAG status	Timeline				Budget			
	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
RAG status update:								
<p>Funding for transport related schemes will now be via individual CIL applications, and central government bids, therefore development of schemes rely on successful bids.</p>								
Progress achieved during the last quarter:								
<p>Work on the ten next step proposals continues.</p> <p>City Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) Plan to be consolidated by HCC into one document</p> <p>District Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) Approved City Plan to be collated into one document.</p> <p>Micro-Logistics Hub Trial – Consultancy Agreement with hub management company signed, and Licence to Occupy signed and Grant Funding Agreement with Solent Transport processed. Installation works of Hub commenced.</p> <p>A number of LCWIP active travel schemes are still being progressed or have been installed by HCC in the city including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A modal filter on Hyde Church Lane completed, • TRO to permit cycling on the pedestrianised section of Middle Brook Street implemented • Upgrading the crossing at Friarsgate / Middle Brook Street – review of additional tactile paving to the scheme undertaken • Hillier Way, walking and cycling improvements – Topographical survey undertaken, on site engagement with the groups, liaison with the rugby and football club <p>Fulford Liveable Neighbourhood Pilot HCC engineers reviewed potential options based on feedback in preparation for engagement.</p> <p>CIL Funding CIL bids for transport schemes considered</p>								
Actions for the next quarter:								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of any further transport schemes to pursue from City & District LCWIP. • Engagement of potential schemes for Fulford Liveable Neighbourhood Pilot. • Development of potential options for Hillier Way • Implementation of upgraded crossing at Friarsgate • Production of a Freight Study, engagement with independent businesses, appointment by Hub Management Company of an Operator and preparation for launch of the trial 								

Thriving Places - progress against our actions in service plans

Ref	Project	Cabinet Member	Delivery Date	Status R/A/G		
				Q1	Q2	Q3
1	Deliver a programme of events to mark the 250th anniversary of Jane Austen's birth	Cllr Thompson	December 2025			
2	Manage the delivery of UKSPF programme	Cllr Thompson	March 2026			
3	Produce a Winchester District Tourism Strategy	Cllr Thompson	March 2026			
4	Deliver a programme of green business support and investment in renewable technologies (Green Economic Development Strategy (GEDS) Carbon Neutrality Action Plan (CNAP))	Cllr Thompson	March 2026			
5	Deliver the West of Waterlooville Public Arts programme	Cllr Thompson	March 2026			
6	City Street Market Development Programme	Cllr Thompson	December 2025			
7	Deliver the actions in year 1 Action Plan of the Cultural Strategy	Cllr Thompson	March 2026			
8	Contribute to and engagement with the creation of a Local Visitor Economy Partnership (LVEP). Deliver the actions in year 1 Action Plan of the Cultural Strategy	Cllr Thompson	March 2026			
9	Future of former Leisure Centre: Market the site for sale and find a new investor	Cllr Tod	September 2026			

Measuring our progress

Long range trackers (Annual)										
No.	Performance measure	Cabinet member (Cllr)	Lead Director	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25	Target & Status 24/25	Target 25/26
TP1	% of economically active people in employment (aged 16-64)	Thompson	Cheryl Headon	77.4%	83.7%	75.1%	81.5%	83.6%	Measure only	Measure only
TP2	Business counts (micro, small, medium, large enterprises– source: NOMIS)	Thompson	Cheryl Headon	8,035	8,110	8,165	8,225	8,095	Measure only	Measure only
TP3	No. of unemployed (source: ONS)	Thompson	Cheryl Headon	1,800	1,700	1,235	1,900	1,600	Measure only	Measure only
TP4	% of addresses with Gigabit availability	Thompson	Cheryl Headon	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	62.2%	Measure only	Measure only

Practical real-time measures (Quarterly)										
No.	Performance measure	Cabinet member (Cllr)	Lead Director	Q3 - 24/25	Q4 - 24/25	Q1 - 25/26	Q2 - 25/26	Q3 - 25/26	Target 25/26	Status
TP5	Number of reported fly-tips (actual incidents) ¹	Cramoysan	Cheryl Headon	183	210	102	162	182	Measure only	n/a
TP6	% of fly-tips cleared within contract deadlines/days	Cramoysan	Cheryl Headon	85%	82%	75%	75%	80%	80%	
TP7	Number of reported graffiti incidents (online form totals)	Cramoysan	Cheryl Headon	9	12	11	15	7	<150	
TP8	"Public Space" issue reports ²	Cramoysan	Cheryl Headon	121	163	110	118	109	<570	
TP9	% of WCC revenue spend with local suppliers	Cutler	Gareth John	28.39%	18.80%	23.30%	23.00%	35.10%	25%+	
TP10	City centre high street footfall ³	Thompson	Cheryl Headon	2,792,881	2,930,567	2,779,719	2,660,538	2,780,565	Measure only	n/a
TP11	Market Towns high street footfall	Thompson	Cheryl Headon	n/a	n/a	n/a	tbc	tbc	Measure only	n/a

- Basis of targets:**

TP6 - Target based on viable baseline of numbers that fall within contract timescales (to accommodate where a proportion of fly-tips are more complicated or take longer to clear due to content, e.g. asbestos)

TP7 and 8 - Target based on performance improvement against previous years actuals

TP9 – Notional target to monitor and encourage value of spend in district to support local business in conjunction with our contract procedure rules.

• **Footnotes:**

¹ Figures are net total of 'actual' reports received (less any that have been identified as duplicates, out of district, private land etc.)

² Figures based on total form reports received for 'Clean my Street' relating to bins/bring sites, street mess – human, syringes, spilt waste, street sweeping, overflowing litter/dog waste bins etc.-- glass, litter, alongside report forms submitted for Park Areas and Public Conveniences.

³ Provided by the Winchester BID Place Informatic reports

Commentary where practical real-time KPI not on target:

Fly-tip clearance breakdown:

	Q3 24/25	Q4 24/25	Q1 25/26	Q2 25/26	Q3 25/26
Total fly tips confirmed cleared	156	187	85	144	171
Fly- tips up to 1 metre cubed in size	31	27	13	16	10
<i>Number of which cleared in time (5 working days submission to clearance)</i>	21	16	7	8	6
<i>Percentage of up to 1 metre cubed cleared in time</i>	68%	59%	54%	50%	60%
Fly-tips size 1 metre cubed and above	125	160	72	128	161
<i>Of which in time (15 working days submission to clearance)</i>	111	137	57	100	131
<i>Percentage of 1 metre cubed and above cleared in time</i>	90%	86%	79%	78%	81%
Overall percentage of all fly-tips cleared in time	85%	82%	75%	75%	80%

- The completion targets of 5 and 15 working days include 3 to 5 days for evaluation of fly-tip to assess if any enforcement action can be taken and 2 to 10 days for clearance (depending on size of up to a metre cubed / 1 metre cubed and above)
- Q2 figures are revised from previous report as further clearance data has been received since it was published and is now slightly below target, as the later clearance dates took longer due to sites needing investigating (e.g. oil found, asbestos, access issues)

Section 4 Good Homes for All

Delivery highlights – October to December 2025

- The Preventing Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2025 – 2030 was published which sets out the council's approach to tackling homelessness and supporting the vulnerable members of our community locally. A working group has been set up to deliver on the ambitious action plan.
- Strategic Housing launched a Tenancy Ready Programme delivered to residents on Hampshire Home Choice and in Temporary Accommodation to provide them with the skills and knowledge to sustain a long-term housing tenancy.
- The new Disabled Facilities Grant Policy was adopted at cabinet, which will allow a more equitable offering of grant funding to disabled residents and those who are most vulnerable. The policy also introduced more strategic options of discretionary funding which better align with the core principles of the better care fund and the ethos of the funding stream.
- Since the self-referral to the RSH, good progress is being made to ensure compliance against the Safety and Quality Consumer Standard, supported by regular monthly meetings with the RSH, from which we have received positive feedback about progress to date.
- The Landlord Service restructure has been delivered, within existing budget and enabled creation of a Building Safety team, alignment of resources to improve the tenant experience and journey, supported by the creation of more Housing Officers to be the 'single point of contact' for tenants.
- At Kings Barton, 10 affordable flats (6 affordable rent and 4 shared ownership) were completed by Cala and handed over to WCC Housing.
- Construction continues on 10 affordable units at Hazeley Road, Twyford.
- Cabinet approved the Final Business Case for the construction of 5 new social rent homes at Woodman Close in Sparsholt.
- Updated Housing Development Strategy 2025-2032 approved by Cabinet in November 2025.
- Multi-agency professionals met to agree process standards for managing the impact of the street attached on the city centre including rough sleeping, waste and tenants not using their accommodation.
- Legacy Plus Project launched in October (aimed at putting in place opportunities that impact on behavioural change and tenant readiness) via an application to WCC Strategic Housing, OPCC ASB Task Force and Yellow Brick Road Projects. The combined applications achieved a total of £37K.

New Homes Programme

Lead Cabinet Member: Cllr Mark Reach					Project Sponsor: Simon Hendey			
Programme RAG status	Timeline				Budget			
	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
<p>RAG status update</p> <p>There is an increase in programme confidence due to the recent S106 acquisition negotiations, but the RAG status remains Amber due to the lack of control over the pace of delivery by the private developer market. Continued commitment to commissioned schemes to mitigate S106 acquisitions risks.</p>								
<p>Progress achieved during the last quarter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Market engagement with SME and volume housebuilders is ongoing, with the aim of securing new build units for use as council housing. • Contracts have now been exchanged with Cala for the acquisition of 146 S106 units at Kings Barton, Winchester. The first 10 units were handed over to the council during autumn 2025. • Construction continues on the 10 affordable units at Hazeley Road, Twyford. • Cabinet approved the Final Business Case for the construction of 5 new social rent homes at Woodman Close in Sparsholt. • Feasibility studies are underway on a number of pipeline council commissioned schemes with the aim of making them financially viable against a challenging economic backdrop. • The finalised accounts and lessons learned for Southbrook Cottages, Micheldever were reviewed by Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet in November 2025. • The updated Housing Development Strategy 2025-2032 was approved by Cabinet in November 2025. 								
<p>Actions for the next quarter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kings Barton, Winchester - completed units to be handed over from Cala to the council for allocation to tenants on the council's housing register and for sale as shared ownership homes. • Hazeley Road, Twyford – attend site progress meetings alongside Employer's Agent and liaise with housing colleagues regarding build progress and handover. • Continue feasibility work on the suitability of various council-owned sites for development as affordable housing. • Continue engagement with SME and volume housebuilders with the aim of securing new build units for use as council housing. 								

Housing Compliance Improvement Plan

Lead Cabinet Member: Cllr Mark Reach	Project Sponsor: Simon Hendey					
Programme RAG status	Timeline			Budget		
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q1	Q2	Q3
<p>Progress achieved during the last quarter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All compliance activities tracking above 99% • Positive feedback from Regulator • Building safety manager appointed to permanent role • Building safety team structure appointed • True compliance system Gas and Electric live • Heating contract tender live • Electric contract tender live • Building safety cases 2 complete • Stock condition survey tracking against programme • Policies approved and disseminated 						
<p>Actions for the next quarter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 remaining building safety cases to complete and implement recommendations • Phase II True compliance Asbestos, water, Loler • Appoint and mobilise Heating and Electrical contracts • Induct new starters • Continue with block inspection regimes 						

Housing procurement of Repairs, Maintenance, Voids, Compliance and Retrofit

Lead Cabinet Member: Cllr Mark Reach	Project Sponsor: Simon Hendey							
Programme RAG status	Timeline				Budget			
	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
<p>Progress achieved during the last quarter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire Risk Assessment (FRA) consultant tendered and appointed • FRA remediation contractor tendered and appointed • Repairs & Maintenance / Voids contract tender live • Positive regulator feedback • FRA programme / upgrades in flight with holistic whole block approach • Satisfied Fire brigade with Winnall remediation work in conjunction with contractor. 								
<p>Actions for the next quarter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appoint / demobilise incumbent repairs contractor • Mobilise new repairs contractor • Interface with MRI asset management system 								

Good Homes for All - Progress against our actions in service plans

Ref	Project	Cabinet Member	Delivery Date	Status R/A/G		
				Q1	Q2	Q3
1	Procurement of major repairs and maintenance contract for council homes. Inclusive of tenant engagement.	Cllr Reach	August 2026			
2	Council housing retrofit carbon reduction programme. Focus on lowest EPC properties to achieve more energy efficient homes to meet the carbon neutral 2030 target. Establish a Retrofit Carbon Reduction Strategy	Cllr Reach	Ongoing			
3	Review and refresh the Preventing Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy	Cllr Reach / Becker	March 2026		Complete	
4	Achieve regulatory requirements to address damp and mould cases. Ensuring cases are identified and dealt with promptly / effectively when raised by council and private rented tenants	Cllr Reach / Becker	March 2026			

Red/Amber status

2. Council Housing retrofit carbon reduction programme this is amber due to having to adjust targets in consideration of the time required to complete the required documentation under SHF Wave 3. With the new Resident Liaison Officer in post, to support tenants, the team is accelerating the work programme where possible to ensure targets are achieved by year end.

4. Damp and Mould process in place in readiness for the implementation of Awaabs Law on 27th October 2025 to ensure reports are managed and responded to within required timescales. To further support this work, we have an independent consultant reviewing our approach to ensure it is robust whilst recruitment is underway for two Damp and Mould Case Officers to enable good case management and oversight for council tenants.

Measuring our progress – Good Homes for All

Long range trackers (Annual)										
No.	Performance measure	Cabinet member (Cllr)	Lead Director	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25	Target & Status 24/25	Target 25/26
GH1	% of all WCC homes achieving energy efficiency rating of C or above	Reach	Simon Hendey	62%	63%	65%	70%	70%	70%	73%
GH2	Total new home completions across the district (rolling total)	Reach	Simon Hendey	n/a	121	139	276	322	1,000 by 2032	1,000 by 2032
GH3	Homelessness – numbers recorded as rough sleepers ¹ (as at year end)	Reach	Simon Hendey	n/a	n/a	2	3	5	0	5

- Basis of targets:**

GH1 - Derived from Council Plan priorities and HRA Asset Management Policy

GH2 - Derived from affordable housing target laid out in Housing Strategy

GH3 - Derived from Preventing Homelessness Strategy, Government National Housing Priorities and annual homeless survey assessments

- Footnotes:**

¹ Figures are updated from an annual MHCLG rough sleeping count annual snapshot, which takes place every November

Practical real-time measures (Quarterly)										
No.	Performance measure	Cabinet member (Cllr)	Lead Director	Q3 - 24/25	Q4 - 24/25	Q1 - 25/26	Q2 - 25/26	Q3 - 25/26	Target 25/26	Status
GH4	Avg time for homeless household to receive offer of a permanent home (days)	Reach	Simon Hendey	332	310	256	348	279	365 days	Green
GH5	Retrofit adjustments – total number of houses (running total)	Reach	Simon Hendey	223	247	0	37	101	256	Yellow
GH6	Retrofit adjustments – total number of adjustments made (running total)	Reach	Simon Hendey	424	486	0	37	135	772	Red
GH7	Percentage of planning decisions upheld at appeal (WCC / SDNP)	Porter	Cheryl Headon	n/a	n/a	100% / n/a	61% / 100%	80% / 67%	70%	Green

- Basis of targets:**

GH4 – Reflects council allocation policy

GH5 and 6 - Derived from maximum number of homes funded in housing annual capital programme.

GH7 – Government target is for at least 2 out of 3 cases to be dismissed at appeal., so target based on improving above government targets

Commentary

GH3 - Several local challenges are currently contributing to an increase in rough sleeping numbers including the reduction in stage 1 supported housing accommodation available for those sleeping rough or at risk of rough sleeping and a lack of suitable accommodation, particularly one-bedroom accommodation. Westview House, previously the district's Stage 1 accommodation provider, closed in April 2025 following A2's termination of their support contract. This decision was prompted by the county council's announcement to withdraw all funding for Stage 1 accommodation from March 2026. The closure resulted in the loss of 29 bed spaces.

In response, the council is actively collaborating with alternative accommodation providers to mitigate the impact. Plans include:

- Increasing capacity at Trinity, The Beacon, and Emmaus House
- Exploring the potential to bring Westgate back into use

The council has secured county funding to establish an in-house Housing First scheme, which will offer 7 beds dedicated to supporting the district's most complex and vulnerable individuals who are homeless or at risk of rough sleeping

We are constantly working with those found rough sleeping through our outreach work. It should be noted that the figure of 5 rough sleepers in the table above is from the annual rough sleeping count which is undertaken in November each year and is not a quarterly figure.

GH5 and GH6- Council Housing retrofit carbon reduction programme this is amber due to having to adjust targets due to the time required to complete the required documentation under SHF Wave 3. With the new Resident Liaison Officer in post, to support customers, the team is accelerating the work programme where possible to ensure targets are achieved by year end whilst recognising that delivering the Retrofit programme faces a number of challenges due to the complexities of the sector and targets may need to be adjusted.

Measuring our progress – Housing TSM

Practical real-time measures (Quarterly)										
No.	Performance measure	Cabinet member (Cllr)	Lead Director	Q3 - 24/25	Q4 - 24/25	Q1 - 25/26	Q2 - 25/26	Q3 - 25/26	Target 25/26	Status
GH8	Proportion of homes for which all required gas safety checks have been carried out	Reach	Simon Hendey	n/a	n/a	99.91%	99.89%	99.93%	100%	
GH9	Proportion of homes for which all Electric Checks have been carried out	Reach	Simon Hendey	n/a	n/a	98.30%	98.81%	99.21%	99.84%	
GH10	Asbestos Inspections % of Reg 4 Surveys	Reach	Simon Hendey	n/a	n/a	66.78%	98.29%	100%	100%	
GH11	Proportion of Lifts with 100% of valid Loler Certificates	Reach	Simon Hendey	n/a	n/a	97.50%	97.50%	100%	100%	
GH12	Proportion of homes with a 100% of Working Smoke Detector checked	Reach	Simon Hendey	n/a	n/a	99.70%	99.56%	99.60%	100%	
GH13	Proportion of homes with a 100% of Working Carbon Monoxide Detector checked	Reach	Simon Hendey	n/a	n/a	99.70%	99.62%	99.70%	100%	
GH14	Numbers of Damp and Mould open cases inspected, and resolution agreed within 14 days	Reach	Simon Hendey	n/a	n/a	71%	75.33%	98.00%	95%	
GH15	Number of outstanding High Risk Fire Risk Assessment actions	Reach	Simon Hendey	n/a	n/a	3	0	0	0	
GH16	Number of outstanding Fire Risk Assessments	Reach	Simon Hendey	n/a	n/a	76	0	0	0	

- **Basis of targets:**

GH8 to 16 - Targets based on regulatory standards

Commentary

GH8 – 2 voids, the meter has been capped and will be uncapped and serviced at the end of the void works. This is done to ensure there is no gas safety issues while the property is being prepared ready for a new customer. We have one property that is going through the eviction process so no access has been granted and when the eviction takes place it will then go through the void process

GH9 - 4 voids (EICR is carried out at the end of the void to ensure no works have damaged the electrics); additionally, 22 inspections booked, and 15 being chased to allow completion of inspections.

GH12 & 13 - 7 and 5 voids respectively (meaning will be done as part of all the void process, as for GH8); 3 each for GH12 and 13 awaiting fuel upgrades, which have been booked in and the checks are booked at the same time, with additional properties (11 and 6) being chased and again trying to gain access to properties where we haven't got legal backing to force entry we go through our no access process

Section 5 Efficient and Effective

Delivery highlights – October to December 2025

- Digital Customer Experience business case prepared with one-off funding proposed in the General Fund Budget 2026/27 that will be considered in February. Approval will enable the council to move forward by procuring a CRM and digital telephony platform to improve council customer's experience, modernize core customer-facing systems and prepare our systems and workforce for a smooth transition to the new Unitary Authority.
- Project is building relationships with neighbouring councils to form an effective network of ideas and support, ahead of the LGR decision.
- Business case approved to introduce automation of Housing Income annual Universal Credit (UC) checks, which currently relies on significant manual effort to complete each year.
- The Planning Digitalization project has focused on scoping potential improvements within current systems, with the option of a new system dismissed as this would disadvantage the council as it transitions to the new Unitary Authority. Working with officers of the Planning, Built Environment and Enforcement teams, the project is investigating the potential to adopt automation to reduce manual, repetitive admin tasks with the aim of taking pressure off teams and helping them to become more efficient and improve customer experience.
- My Council Services (MCS) forms on WCC website completely refreshed to coincide with MCS upgrade which contributes to improved digital customer journey.
- Updated web pages include Environmental Health and Animal Welfare, Parking, Housing Repairs, Tenant Involvement, and Air Quality (to promote new Air Quality Strategy).
- Guildhall Events has switched to a fully digital booking and payment system (Lemon) which simplifies the booking journey and makes payment easy and quick. This could work very well for other services, including Pest Control.
- Phase 1 of the M365 SharePoint Online project has successfully completed, delivering modernised sites and simpler ways of working for the teams involved. Early benefits include easier access to information, clearer document management, and more streamlined collaboration, helping services work more efficiently and effectively.

Local Government Reorganisation (LGR)

Lead Cabinet Member: Cllr Neil Cutler		Project Sponsor: Laura Taylor	
Programme RAG status	Timeline	Budget	
	Q3	Q3	
Progress achieved during the last quarter:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launch of “Close enough to be local, big enough to stay strong” website and statutory consultation. • A rapid assessment was undertaken against the MHCLG suggested list for preparedness and internal teams have started work in recommended areas. • KPMG commissioned to support development of a countywide data hub and standard service taxonomy structure. • LGR Programme established as a Tier 1 project, governance arrangements agreed and PMO initiated. • Establishment of the principles of our unitary ready transition plan. • LGR all staff and all member briefings continue. • Began developing a two-year service plan covering 2026–28, extending the planning period to support effective preparation for LGR and continued high quality service delivery for residents. 			
Actions for the next quarter:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First LGR Programme Board meeting to be held (February 2026) • Government decision on the future structure for Hampshire and the Solent area is expected in March 2026 • Standing up and defining scope of the LGR workstreams across local authority partners • Development of a county wide data hub • Voluntary joint committee governance arrangements to be agreed • Internal systems and data review in preparation to ensure LGR preparedness • Establishing the internal LGR Programme Plan and risk register 			

Efficient and Effective - Progress against actions in service plans

Ref	Project	Cabinet Member	Delivery Date	Status R/A/G		
				Q1	Q2	Q3
1	Further promotion of self-serve and digital services including the increased take-up of electronic billing (rollout of “Digital by Default”) and notifications for Council Tax, Business Rates and Housing Benefits services, and the further roll out of SMS for the issue of electronic payment alerts and reminders.	Cllr Cutler	Ongoing			
2	Support TC25 transformation and digital agenda by supporting digital innovation and digital initiatives across the Council.	Cllr Cutler	Ongoing			
3	Digitalisation and review of the Planning Service (linked to this, other services that use the IDOX platform).	Cllr Porter	TBC			
4	Review of website to improve digital customer experience.	Cllr Cutler	Ongoing			
5	Customer focused digital improvements of Housing & Landlord services.	Cllr Reach	April 2026			
6	Development of Cyber Security and Resilience Strategy to increase cyber resilience and awareness across the council.	Cllr Cutler	April 2025	Complete		
7	Lead on the review and refresh of strategic key performance indicator set that align to the new Council Plan priorities.	Cllr Cutler	June 2025		Complete	

Red/Amber status

3 Pace of digitalisation within Planning services has been impacted by operational pressures however work is underway to seek opportunities for automation which could significantly improve efficiency and customer experience. The project’s discovery was extended, and deliverables are now actively being replanned due to the constraints of LGR and existing, widely used systems.

5 The customer focussed digital improvements for landlord services has a number of strands and we are investing further in MRI housing management systems to support the digital journey for the service and customers. We are recruiting temporary resource to support this significant project work to ensure its successful delivery.

Measuring our progress

Practical real-time measures (Quarterly)										
No.	Performance measure	Cabinet member (Cllr)	Lead Director	Q3 - 24/25	Q4 - 24/25	Q1 - 25/26	Q2 - 25/26	Q3 - 25/26	Target 25/26	Status
EE1	% complaints responded to within 10 working days	Becker	Liz Keys	86%	90%	88%	90%	97%	90%	
EE2	% of upheld and partially upheld complaints	Becker	Liz Keys	45%	68%	60%	70%	59%	Measure only	n/a
EE3	Number of digital resident interactions with the council (online reports)	Becker	Laura Taylor	6,706	16,616	7,564	7,049	7,021	42,000	
EE4	% of major planning applications decided within time or agreed extension (WCC / SDNP)	Porter	Cheryl Headen	100% / ~	94.3% / ~	91.67% / ~	100% / ~	100% / 100%	80%	
EE5	% of non-major planning applications decided within time or agreed extension (WCC / SDNP)	Porter	Cheryl Headen	82% / 81%	93% / 88%	93.67% / 84.67%	94% / 81%	89% / 95%	80%	

- Basis of targets:**

EE1 - Target based on achievable outcome times, aligned with customer expectation and common target used by other authorities

EE3 - Target based on performance improvement against previous years actuals (also allowing for plateau in new garden waste sign-ups as limited number of properties are viable for garden waste, i.e. have gardens)

EE4 & 5 - Government targets are 60%, WCC target based on performance being above government targets

Commentary

EE3 – Currently interactions by form are projected to be just under target for the year, however Q4 generally more than doubles in numbers (as can be seen by the number Q4 24/25) so totals may well reach target; Additionally, Q3 is also higher than for the same period 24/25

Section 6 Listening and Learning

Delivery highlights – October to December 2025

- The council undertook the stage 1 consultation for the Community Governance Review with targeting key stakeholders and including engagement with all town and parish councils. This was achieved through a dedicated web page, public notices, drop in events and widespread distribution of an initial consultation document.
- Launch of the 8-week consultation on the Main Modifications, Additional Modifications and Changes to the Policies Map which is one of the final stages in the Local Plan development.
- The district Social Inclusion Partnership was relaunched in December and attended by 18 people from a range of organisations.
- The Stanmore community network met in November, with 17 people in attendance from a variety of organisations representing the community, faith, housing and education sectors. They discussed how to improve communication, collaboration and awareness of services.

Listening and Learning – Progress against actions in service plans

Ref	Project	Cabinet Member	Delivery Date	Status R/A/G		
				Q1	Q2	Q3
1	Community Governance Review – creation of a Winchester Town Council	Cllr Becker Cllr Cutler	April 2027			
2	Local Government Reorganisation and Devolution	Cllr Tod	2027/28			
3	Transfer of assets to parish councils – public conveniences	Cllr Becker	April 2026			
4	Parish Council engagement – planning	Cllr Porter	September 2025		Complete	
5	Review and refresh EDI Policy, Strategy and Action Plan	Cllr Becker	February 2025	Complete		
6	Prepare a consultation policy and charter for adoption and use across the council	Cllr Becker	March 2026			

Red/Amber status

3. Discussions underway with parishes to offer transfer of assets. Whether transfer takes place will be dependent upon decisions by Town and parish councils.

Long range trackers (Annual)										
No.	Performance measure	Cabinet member (Cllr)	Lead Director	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25	25/26	Target & Status 24/25	Target 2026
LL1	% of residents satisfied with the way the council runs things (LG Survey) ¹	Becker	Laura Taylor	No survey	75% (SE 62%)	No survey	69% (LG 55%)	n/a	> LGA average	> LGA average
LL2	Resident's satisfaction with local area (LG survey) ¹	Becker	Laura Taylor	No survey	96% (SE 74%)	No survey	87% (LG 75%)	n/a	> LGA average	> LGA average
LL3	Housing Satisfaction survey scores TSM	Reach	Simon Hendey			78%	76%	tbc	n/a	82%

• **Basis of targets:**

LL1 & 2 - Target based on outperforming scores from LG surveys to provide better satisfaction for our residents

LL3 – Target agreed with the TACT board based on benchmarking similar housing providers so as to aim for top quartile performance

• **Footnotes:**

¹ Previous year's data relates to past resident survey responses for equivalent questions.

Practical real-time measures (Quarterly)										
No.	Performance measure	Cabinet member (Cllr)	Lead Director	Q3 - 24/25	Q4 - 24/25	Q1 - 25/26	Q2 - 25/26	Q3 - 25/26	Target 25/26	Status
LL4	Number of respondents to consultations	Becker	Laura Taylor	1,332	112	98	1,745	1,526	Measure only	n/a

Section 7 Financial Report

Financial Position

This section presents a summary of the council's financial position as of 31 December 2025 regarding the General Fund (Revenue and Capital) and Housing Revenue Account budgets.

General Fund Revenue

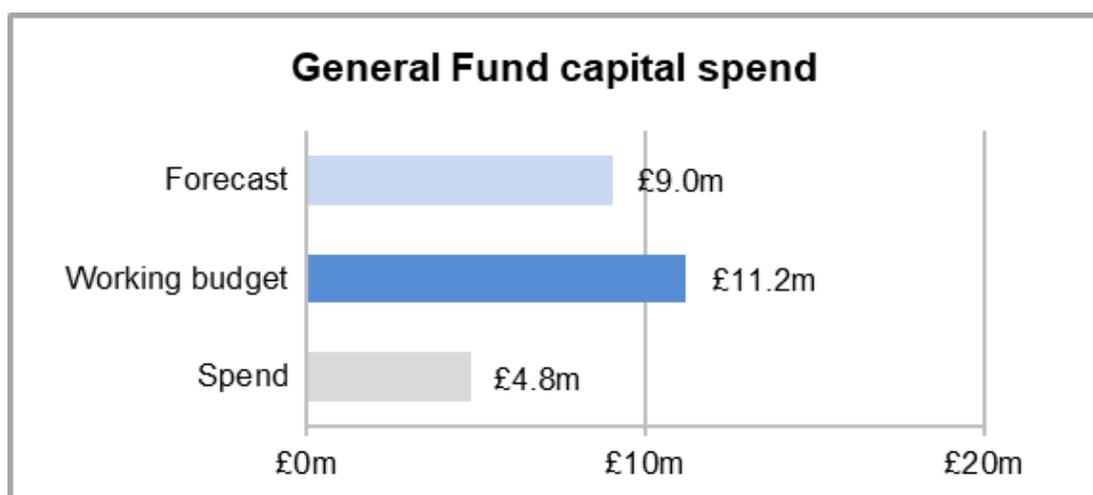
Summary

1. A balanced budget was set by Council in February 2025 (CAB3494 refers).
2. Inflation is currently 3.4% as at December 2025 (CPI). This remains within the original budget forecast.
3. An employee underspend of £0.4m is forecast, which is made up of higher than anticipated vacancy management savings (originally budgeted at £0.3m) and a lower than budgeted for pay settlement.
4. The ongoing TC25 project has identified further budget savings of approximately £0.310m per annum in 2025/26. The total achieved by TC25 to date is £1.67m (56%).
5. Interest receivable has been reviewed and a total net interest receivable of £0.792m is now forecast, which is £0.3m higher than budget.
6. Extended Producer Responsibility grant was confirmed at £1.680m for 2025/26, which was £0.846m higher than the provisional figure of £0.834m which was used in the budget.
7. Guildhall income is forecast at £60k lower than budget, mainly due to the temporary closure of the Bapsy Hall.
8. Parking overtime budgets are forecast to be £30k overspent for the year, this is under review for 2026/27.
9. The latest NNDR pool forecast is £195k below the original budget.
10. Utility costs are forecast to be £150k above budget.
11. HVO costs for waste vehicles are forecast at £40k for 2025/26, which is £160k below the £200k annual budget.

<u>General Fund Budget Forecast 2025/26 (£000)</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Forecast</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Greener Faster	8,783	8,453	330
Healthy Communities	4,108	4,258	(150)
Good Homes for All	1,378	1,378	
Thriving Places	2,920	2,980	
Efficient and Effective	7,209	6,499	710
TOTAL before funding	24,396	23,566	830
TOTAL funding	(24,396)	(25,447)	1,051
FORECAST BUDGET UNDERSPEND			1,881

General Fund Capital

1. General Fund capital expenditure to the end of June was £4.8m the majority of which relates to the following projects: Food Waste including the purchase of vehicles (£1.51m), River Park Cricket Pavilion (£1.18m), CIL funded community projects (£0.44m), Disabled Facilities grants (£0.68m), Resurfacing of St Catherine's car park (£0.1m), and the refurbishment of public conveniences (£0.17m). There have also been smaller amounts of expenditure on several other projects.
2. Capital budgets for 2025/26 were revised for brought forward balances and other changes, such as reforecasting, as part of the General Fund 2024/25 outturn reported to September cabinet (CAB3514 refers), and this is reflected in the working budget below. The forecast of full year spend is lower due to some forecast slippage such as Energy Management projects (£0.3m) and CIL funded community projects (£0.4m) and forecast savings with the largest being the acquisition of vehicles and containers for food waste (£0.3m). Due to the nature of capital expenditure, there is always a risk of programme slippage particularly in respect of projects that have yet to commence.
3. The full year budget and forecast below excludes £4m in respect of the Strategic Asset Purchase scheme (SAPS). This budget will only be spent if suitable assets are identified. There have been no SAPS purchases to date in 2025/26.



4. Key items of expenditure in Q1-Q3 2025/26:

River Park Cricket Pavilion

Total Budget: £2.3m

Exp: Prior years £0.039m

Q1-Q3 £1.178m

Total

£1.217m

Work on the new pavilion is substantially complete and is expected to open in Spring 2026. The new pavilion will be a valuable additional asset in River Park, which is already a hub for sporting, community and social activity and recreation. It will provide the required standard of changing rooms, umpire facilities, toilets and accessibility to enable a wide and diverse range of people to participate in

cricket. By providing high quality facilities, increased community sport outcomes can be achieved across a wider demographic and the pavilion can be used to support users of River Park, not just cricket, by provided changing and club house facilities to support their events or sports. The current variance is at 31 December 2025 and reflects the timing of payments to contractors as per the agreed schedule.

Food Waste

Total Budget: £1.8m

<i>Exp: Prior years £nil</i>	<i>Q1-Q3 £1.51m</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>£1.51m</i>
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The council has completed its purchase of the food waste vehicles and containers; the collection of food waste commenced in October. Food waste recycling has the potential to reduce the district's carbon footprint by an estimated 1,900 tonnes of CO2e per year by recycling this waste to generate clean green energy and nutrient dense soil improver.

Disabled Facilities Grants

Total Budget: £1.53m

<i>Expenditure: recurring annually</i>	<i>Q1-Q3</i>	<i>£0.68m</i>
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During the period 1 April to 31 December £678,000 of grants were paid over. In addition to the grant allocation, the council holds £0.6m of unapplied grant from prior years which can be applied to DFG expenditure should it exceed grant received in year.

Such grants enable residents of private and/or social housing who are disabled or have a mobility or other limiting condition to apply for adaptations to be undertaken in their home. Adaptations can include the installation of stair lifts, level access showers, kitchen adaptations or ramping etc. and enable residents to remain in their homes rather than having to move, go into hospital, or into residential care.

Housing Revenue Account summary

Summary

1. A deficit budget of £2.03m was set by Council in February 2025 (CAB3490 refers).
2. The inflationary uplift budget forecast for salaries, as with the General Fund, was 4.0% for 2025/26. The final uplift was 3.2%, which will reduce pressure on staffing budgets but will be offset by low government grant for increase in Employers NI.
3. An overall deficit of £0.578m is forecast for 2025/26.

Housing Revenue Account Budget Forecast 2025/26 (£000)	Expenditure	Income	NET
Housing Management - General	6,752	(258)	6,493
Housing Management - Special	4,123	(3,083)	1,039
Repairs & Repairs administration	12,762	(182)	12,580
Debt management & interest income	5,800	0	5,800
Contribution to Major Repairs costs (Depreciation)	10,917	0	10,917
TOTAL	40,353	(3,524) 	36,830
Rent, Service Charges & Other income			(34,236)
FORECAST BUDGET OVERSPEND			2,593
AGREED BUDGET OVERSPEND			2,016
Forecast movement:			578
Of which (net):			
Baseline			887
One-off			(309)

4. In total there is a forecast adverse variance of £0.578m which is made up of a number of variances which offset one another as follows.
5. There were a high number of vacancies in the first half of 2025/26. Much of this vacancy has been offset through the use of interim staff in quarter 2 and quarter 3 to cover vacancies, which has now largely offset any savings from

vacancies. Most vacant posts have now been filled and the use of agency staff is expected to fall in Quarter 4.

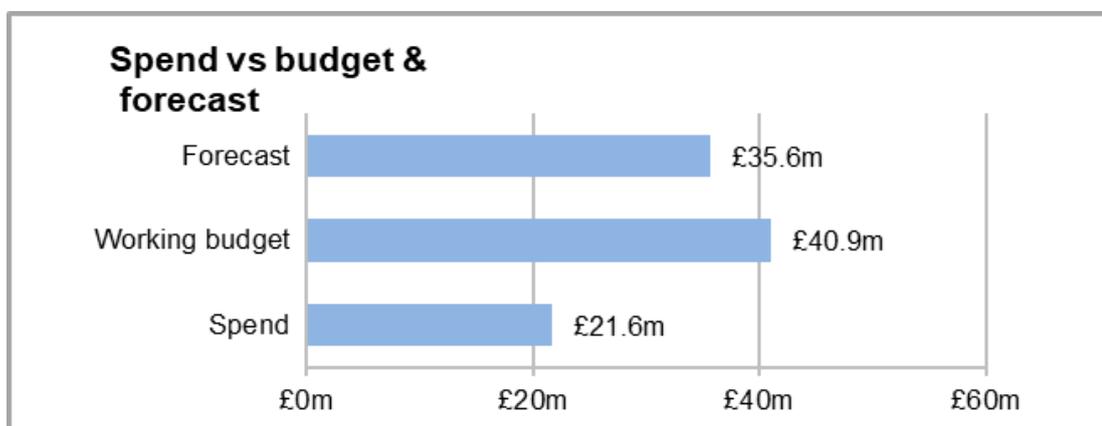
6. The 2025/26 budget included a one-off investment budget for software upgrades, stock condition survey, and repairs procurement. It is expected that £0.15m of the budget set aside for software development will not be spent in 2025/26 and will be returned to the working balance to be reprofiled over future years.
7. So far in 2025/26, there has been a trend demonstrating both an increase in void properties, and an increase in the associated average cost of repairing void properties to bring these back into use. On current trend, the likely overspend on void properties is likely to be approximately £1m. Additional void costs are also reflected in a forecast adverse variance of £0.03m on empty property council tax charges.
8. Adverse variances on reactive repairs arise due to a waking watch, which was in place at Winnall flats while fire safety issues were resolved, generating an adverse forecast variance of £0.07m. In addition, the continuing stock condition surveys are identifying HHSRS repairs that are being dealt with which, in the short term, are adding pressure of £0.2m to reactive repairs budgets. Compensation payments in respect of complaints and disrepair are also forecast to exceed budget by £0.1m.
9. The depreciation charge is notoriously difficult to estimate accurately, as the actual charge for the year is calculated based on both component cost of assets and valuation of properties. However, based on the 2024/25 outturn, the projected depreciation forecast has been increased by £0.3m. Whilst depreciation is a notional figure, the council is required to transfer a sum equal to depreciation to the major repairs reserve which is restricted to capital expenditure only.
10. Following the changes to the Right to Buy legislation in November 2024, making RTB sales less attractive, the business plan included an assumption that RTB sales would peak in 2025 due to high demand in applications immediately prior to changes. However, the business plan assumption of 20 sales has been surpassed, with over 30 sales as at quarter 3, virtually all of which relate to applications made in November 2024. This has resulted in a reduction in forecast rental income of £0.1m.
11. Adverse variances are offset by a reduction in the net interest cost forecast for 2025/26. The interest cost of external borrowing is based on known PWLB debt and the rates at which the loans were taken out. Interest income on internal balances, and internal borrowing costs are based on estimated cashflow in and out of the HRA and an assumed interest rate based on short term PWLB rates. The rate achieved to date on interest on balances has been

significantly better than assumed which, combined with a slower spend on capital throughout 2025, has generated a favourable variance of £1.3m.

12. Issues with the quality of retrofit work to void properties undertaken in 2023/4 have been identified. Engagement with the contractor responsible has taken place and a sample of 30 properties has been selected to determine the extent of retrospective work required. At this stage it is prudent to make provision for the gross cost of works of £ 0.5m in 2025/6 and £ 0.5m in 2026/7 until the extent and nature of works is confirmed, as well as the proportion of the cost that may fall back to the Council.

Housing Revenue Account Capital Spend

1. Housing capital expenditure to the end of December was £22.48m, of which:
 - £3.29m was on major works.
 - £0.21m improvements & upgrades.
 - £17.09m on the New Build programme; and
 - £1.89m on other schemes.
2. Capital budgets for 2025/26 have been revised for carried forward balances and other changes following the approval of the HRA outturn report in September 2025. (report CAB3465). Due to the nature of capital expenditure, there is always a risk of programme slippage, particularly in respect of the unallocated new builds budget that is largely pending decisions to proceed with specific projects.
3. Capital expenditure in quarter 4 is expected to continue to include expenditure on the acquisitions at Kings Barton, with further stage payments expected, and will account for nearly half of the overall capital forecast by March 2026. Furthermore, contracted retrofit works on 125 properties are expected to commence in Quarter 4.



4. Key items of expenditure in Q3 2025/26 includes:

• **Major repairs** *Total Budget £8.21m*

Exp: Recurring Annually *Q1-Q3 £3.286m* *Total £3.286m*

The major repairs programme reflects the planned major repairs to the council's housing stock, and includes investment in doors, windows, wall structures, kitchens and bathrooms, roofing and other similar major works. Expenditure on planned programme works doubled between Quarter 2 and Quarter 3, and major works contract are expected to be largely complete by 31st March, with the exception of block works of £1m, which is currently being scoped and anticipated to be carried forward to 2026/27. Expenditure on reactive major repairs is demand led and, as at quarter 3, was forecast to be £0.25m below budget. The forecast spend for 2025/26 is currently £6.6m against revised budget of £8.21m.

• **Climate Emergency** *Total Budget £5.336m*

Exp: Recurring annually *Q1-Q3: £0.744m* *Total £0.744m*

The HRA Business plan includes a £45m investment into energy efficiency measures across the housing stock, and includes expenditure on insulation and ventilation measures, and significant energy investment measures at the Swedish Cottages. The current programme for 2025/26 is anticipated at £3.22m. The main variance relates to the termination of the contract at Swedish Cottages, which was considered by Cabinet at its October meeting. In addition, the programme is being reviewed following the decision by DESNZ to withdraw grant funding within the SDHF programme, and this is covered in detail in the 2026/27 HRA budget report. Forecast spend for 2025/26 has been revised downwards to £3.2m as a result.

• **Fire Safety Improvement works** *Total Budget £6.00m*

Exp prior years: None *Q1-Q3: £0.26m* *Total £0.26m*

The HRA Business plan included a budget of £6m, phased between 2025/26 and 2027/28, to cover potential fire safety upgrade works, such as compartmentation, in blocks. Since the beginning of the year, a dedicated fire safety manager has been employed, relevant survey work completed and reviewed, and work is now commencing with compartmentation works at one block currently underway. The majority of spend will take place in 2026/27.

• **Improvements & Upgrades** *Total budget £0.68m*

Exp: Recurring annually *Q1-Q3: £0.2119m* *Total £0.21m*

The budget for improvements and upgrades relates specifically to Sheltered Housing upgrades and Estates improvements. The Estates improvements programme expected spend for 2025/26 is £0.35m, against budget of £0.46m.

• **Victoria House Sewerage Connection** *Total Budget £0.516m*

Exp: Prior years - None *Q1-Q3 £0.00* *Total £0.00m*

The budget included £0.5m for potential remedial upgrades to the sewerage connection at Victoria House. However, the work has been undertaken at no cost to the Council and the budget will therefore not be spent.

- **Sewage treatment plant upgrades** Total budget £1.58m

Exp: Prior Years – None Q1-Q3 £0.23m Total £0.23m

The budget includes £1.5m for upgrades to sewage treatment plants across the HRA stock. This is divided into works to reduce costs where running costs are high and works to generate nutrient credits. Sites are currently being surveyed, and one site currently expected to be upgraded by the end of the year. As a result, forecast spend in 2025/26 is expected to be £0.3m and a carry forward request made for the remaining budget.

New build:

- **Local Authority Housing Fund Round 3** Total budget: £0.530m

Exp: Prior years None Q1-Q2 £0.51m Total £0.51m

The Council was successful in securing £0.9m in Round 3 of the Local Authority Housing fund. No properties were identified in Quarter 1; however, two suitable properties were subsequently identified for purchase during July 2025. Both properties completed during Quarter 3. Two further properties have been identified within the Kings Baerton development, and, subject to decision record, remaining funding will be applied to the completion of these units.

- **Buyback of former Council Houses** Total budget: £1.36m

Exp: Prior years £0.312m Q1-Q3 £0.20m Total £0.512m

In September 2024 the Cabinet approved the spend of up to £1.36m on the repurchase of former Council properties. To date, one property has been purchased at in 2024/25, and one further acquisition made in 2025/26.

- **Kings Barton Property Acquisition** Total budget: £33.927m

Exp: Prior years £0.03m Q1-Q3 £16.45m Total £16.48m

The acquisition of 146 units at Kings Barton was agreed during 2024/25. The deposit and advance works payments have now been made. Build at the scheme is progressing and 10 units were completed and handed over during Quarter 3.

- **Woodman Close New Build** Total budget: £2.16m

Exp: Prior years £0.00m Q1-Q3 £0.06m Total £0.06m

The construction of five units at Woodman Close was agreed during Quarter 3, and construction is due to commence in early 2026.

- **Unallocated budgets New Homes** Total budget: £6.43m

Exp: Prior years £0.00m Q1-Q3 £0.00m Total £0.00m

The capital programme includes £6.43m of budgets subject to approval of expenditure. During Quarter 2, Cabinet agreed in July 2025 to dispose of Cornerhouse and return the budget to unallocated, and subsequent delegated decisions have been made to allocate £0.5m to match fund the purchases of LAHF properties, and in quarter 3 agreed to proceed with a development at Woodman Close, which reduced the unallocated funding to £6.43m.

WINCHESTER CITY COUNCIL – THE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

	Item	Lead Officer	Date for Scrutiny	Date for Cabinet
Meeting 4 March 2026				
1	Community Safety Partnership Performance Review	Sandra Tuddenham	4 Mar 2026	
2	Task & Finish Group (Planning Enforcement) Reporting Back	Julie Pinnock	4 Mar 2026	
3	Q3 Finance & Performance Monitoring	Simon Howson	4 Mar 2026	12 Mar 2026
Items To be Confirmed				
Meeting 17 March 2026 (Provisional)				
4	Local Plan Adoption (Provisional)		17 Mar 2026	18 Mar 2026

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Forward Plan of Key Decisions

1 March 2026 – 31 May 2026

This document sets out key decisions to be taken within the next 28 days, together with any key decision by individual Members of the Cabinet and officers. It also includes potential key decisions beyond that period, though this is not comprehensive and items will be confirmed in the publication of the key decisions document 28 days before a decision is taken.

Key Decisions are those which are financially significant or which have a significant impact. This has been decided, by the Council, to be decisions which involve income or expenditure over £250,000 or which will have a significant effect on people or organisations in two or more wards.

The majority of decisions are taken by Cabinet, together with the individual Cabinet Members, where appropriate. The membership of Cabinet and its meeting dates can be found [via this link](#). Other decisions may be taken by Cabinet Committees, Cabinet Members or Officers in accordance with the Officers' Scheme of Delegation, as agreed by the Council.

Whilst the majority of the Cabinet's business at the meetings listed in this document will be open to the public, there will be occasions when the business to be considered contains confidential, commercially sensitive or personal information. The items of business where this is likely to apply are indicated on the plan.

This is formal notice under The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 that part of the Cabinet meetings listed in this document may be held in private because the agenda and reports for the meeting will contain exempt information under Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) and that the public interest in withholding the information outweighs the public interest in disclosing it.

If you have any representations as to why the meeting should be held in private, then please contact the Council via democracy@winchester.gov.uk . **[Please follow this link to the Council's Constitution](#) which includes a definition of the paragraphs** (Access to Information Procedure Rules, Part 4 paragraph 8.4) detailing why a matter may be classed as exempt from publication under the Local Government Acts, and not available to the public.

Anyone who wishes to make representations about any item included in the Plan please contact the Democratic Services Team prior to the meeting to make your request. Copies of documents listed in the Plan for submission to a decision taker are available for inspection on the Council's website. Where the document is a committee report, it will usually be available five days before the meeting. Other documents relevant to the decision may also be submitted to the decision maker and are available on Council's website or via email democracy@winchester.gov.uk.

Please note that the decision dates are indicative and occasionally subject to change.

If you have any queries regarding the operation or content of the Forward Plan please contact David Blakemore (Democratic Services Team Manager) on 01962 848 217.

	Item	Cabinet Member	Key Decision	Wards Affected	Lead Officer	Documents submitted to decision taker	Decision taker (Cabinet, Cabinet Member or Officer)	Date/period decision to be taken	Committee Date (if applicable)	Open/private meeting or document? If private meeting, include relevant exempt paragraph number
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Section A

Decisions made by Cabinet & Cabinet committees

1	Future of Waste and Recycling	Cabinet Member for Recycling & Public Protection	Yes	All Wards	Campbell Williams	Cabinet report	Cabinet	Mar-26	12-Mar-26	Part exempt 3
Page 1213	Tourism Strategy	Cabinet Member for Business & Culture	Yes	All Wards	Susan Robbins	Cabinet report	Cabinet	Mar-26	12-Mar-26	Open
	Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Funding Allocations for Community Projects	Cabinet Member for Place & Local Plan	Yes	All Wards	Steve Lincoln	Cabinet report	Cabinet	Mar-26	12-Mar-26	Open
	4	Risk Management Policy 2026/27	Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation	Yes	All Wards	Gareth John	Cabinet report	Cabinet	Mar-26	12-Mar-26

	Item	Cabinet Member	Key Decision	Wards Affected	Lead Officer	Documents submitted to decision taker	Decision taker (Cabinet, Cabinet Member or Officer)	Date/period decision to be taken	Committee Date (if applicable)	Open/private meeting or document? If private meeting, include relevant exempt paragraph number	
	5	South Downs Agency agreement	Cabinet Member for Place & Local Plan	Yes	All Wards	Julie Pinnock	Cabinet report	Cabinet	Mar-26	12-Mar-26	Open
Page 122	6	Q3 Finance & Performance Monitoring	Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation	Yes	All Wards	Simon Howson	Cabinet report	Cabinet	Mar-26	12-Mar-26	Open
		Community Resilience Strategy	Cabinet Member for Healthy Communities	Yes	All Wards	Steve Lincoln	Cabinet report	Cabinet	Mar-26	12-Mar-26	Open
	8	Central Winchester Regeneration (CWR) - delivery options	Cabinet Member for Regeneration	Yes	All Wards	Ken Baikie	Cabinet report	Cabinet	Mar-26	16-Mar-26	Part exempt 3

Section B

Decisions made by individual Cabinet Members

	9	Winchester Sports Facility Assessment and Playing Pitch Strategy 2025-2040 (DD89)	Cabinet Member for Healthy Communities	Yes	All Wards	Steve Lincoln	Cabinet member decision report	Cabinet Member for Healthy Communities Decision Day	Mar-26	20-Mar-26	Open
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	Item	Cabinet Member	Key Decision	Wards Affected	Lead Officer	Documents submitted to decision taker	Decision taker (Cabinet, Cabinet Member or Officer)	Date/period decision to be taken	Committee Date (if applicable)	Open/private meeting or document? If private meeting, include relevant exempt paragraph number
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Section C

Decisions made by Officers

Page 123	10	Treasury Management - decisions in accordance with the Council's approved strategy and policy	Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation	Yes	All Wards	Designated HCC Finance staff, daily	Designated HCC Finance staff, daily	Mar-26	Mar-26	Open
		Core Funding Grants 26/27	Cabinet Member for Healthy Communities	Yes	All Wards	Steve Lincoln	Officer decision report	Corporate Head of Economy & Community	Mar-26	Mar-26

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Notification of addition to the March 2026 Forward Plan

On 5 February 2026, the following additional item was notified for inclusion for the March 2026 Forward Plan

Item(s)	Cabinet Member	Key Decision	Wards Affected	Lead Officer	Documents submitted to decision taker	Decision taker	Date/ period decision to be taken	Open/ private meeting or document If private meeting, include relevant exempt paragraph number
CAB3528 Amendment: Procurement of Grounds Maintenance and Street Cleansing as Two Contracts	Cabinet Member for the Climate & Nature Emergency / Cabinet Member for Recycling & Public Protection	Significantly effect on 2 or more wards	All Wards	Campbell Williams	Cabinet Member decision report	Cabinet Member for the Climate & Nature Emergency or Cabinet Member for Recycling & Public Protection Decision Day	Not before 6-Mar-26	Open

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