

EHDC Monthly report

January 2024

1. Draft local plan published

A Draft Local Plan has been published ahead of councillor consideration and public consultation in the New Year. A Local Plan is a crucial planning document that provides a vision for creating sustainable development in the district as well as proposed sites and planning policies. It says how much development is needed and where it should go, and what business sites are required. The plan will also set out how development can be managed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions as much as possible.

Encompassing all parts of the district outside the South Downs National Park and covering a period stretching to 2040, East Hampshire District Council's Local Plan is still in the draft stage. It was discussed by the council's Planning Policy Committee on Wednesday 10 January and, pending approval there, it will go to a six-week public consultation, starting towards the end of January.

[Agenda for Planning Policy Committee on Wednesday, 10th January, 2024, 6.00 pm | East Hampshire District Council \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)

[Consultation on Draft Local Plan Reg 18 Report PPC 10.01.24.pdf \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)

2. SCF grants

Communities across East Hampshire are benefiting from £322k in funding thanks to our Supporting Communities Fund (SCF). East Hampshire District Council has given grants to 19 separate projects, who applied for funding through the SCF bidding process, to provide essential services for residents. That's over £320,000 of grants which have been awarded to community groups and organisations across the district in the last twelve months.

A new play park in Rowlands Castle, refurbishments to a youth club in Alton and a historical garden in Clanfield were just some of the fantastic new community projects to be picked to receive financial support from East Hampshire's SCF fund.

EHDC is committed to supporting and improving the welfare and wellbeing of our residents, particularly for those who may be struggling. Each year groups and organisations can bid for a share to fund projects to benefit the local community.

The council agreed £322,166.20 of SCF funding in 2023 to support the following projects:

- **Love4Life** – £15,000 for reducing isolation and supporting mental health of people with learning disabilities.
- **Petersfield Community Events CIC** – £30,000 for spring, summer and Christmas festivals.

- **Flip Theatre Workshop Ltd** – £29,400 for inclusive drama therapy workshops for primary aged children to give them vital life skills
- **Rowlands Castle Parish Council** – £25,000 for Recreation Ground Play park replacement
- **Petersfield Community Garden** – £12,000 for circular eco shelter with green roof
- **Pathways to Resilience** – £28,623 a programme to give children and young people the tools to help them cope in times of stress, anxiety and overwhelm
- **The Kings Arms Youth Project (Alton)** – £3,752.50 for improvements to the insulation and flood prevention.
- **Headley Parish Council** – £10,000 for the development of new infrastructure including new changing room provision and community sports facilities.
- **Petersfield Community Radio (Shine Radio)** – £10,089.00 for the purchase and installation of Digital Audio Broadcasting (DAB) equipment.
- **Petersfield Counselling Service** – £20,000 for counselling services.
- **Petersfield Cricket Club** – £7,000 to update the Heath Ground's outdoor net lanes.
- **Headway Portsmouth & Southeast** – £13,805 to support to adults who have acquired a brain injury, and their carers and family members.
- **Butser Ancient Farm** – £28,000 maintenance of the Ancient Heritage Gardens.
- **Four Marks Tennis Club** – £15,000 for the resurface of the tennis courts.
- **Project 94** – £30,000 for youth hub sessions for 11-16 year olds.
- **C M Foundation** – £25,496.70 for courses to older people to give them the skills they need to safely get online and use digital technology.
- **Greatham Parish Council** – £19,000 for a new Greatham village playground.
- **Hollywater School** – £10,000 to purchase a new accessible mini bus.

3. Community Climate Action Fund

EHDC have awarded our second round of Community Climate Action Fund (CCAF) grants and will be providing eight projects with a total of more than £52,000 to help tackle climate change.

This round of grants saw 16 applications for more than double the £50,000 set aside for it.

EHDC were looking for projects that: engage the wider community on climate issues; support carbon reduction in the district; and support adaptation to climate change and encourage behaviour change.

The following grants have been awarded:

- £8,000 to Kingsley Organisation for solar panels on the Kingsley Centre
- £10,000 to Energise South Downs Ltd to provide feasibility studies for community energy projects
- £8,000 to Petersfield Town Football Club to upgrade floodlights to LED to reduce power usage

- £8,000 to Petersfield Rugby Club towards solar panel installation
- £1,778 to St Mary's Bentworth CE Primary School towards a bike shelter
- £10,000 to The King's Arms Youth Project towards heat pumps and air conditioning unit for their Alton site
- £4,129.08 to Whitehill Village Hall to support their move away from gas-powered heating
- £2,099.33 to Medstead Lawn Tennis Club to change their clubhouse lighting to LEDs