

## 2019-2023 CORPORATE STATEMENT - PROGRESS UPDATE

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### Introduction

Thanet District Council's Corporate Statement identifies the key challenges faced by the council and how we will respond to them. This retrospective high-level document highlights some of the achievements made in each priority area between Oct 2019 - May 2022.

<h2>Our Core Business Objectives</h2> <h3>How we will deliver them</h3>	
<b>Growth</b>	We will continue to ensure we work to consider new ways to generate income and invest our current resources. Delivering a Council that is financially strong to discharge its services and invest in the growth of the District.
<b>Environment</b>	Having a clean and well-maintained environment remains important to us. We will be clear with our residents on what we will do and what our asks of residents are – cultivating a shared responsibility approach. Delivering a clean and accessible living environment, maintaining an emphasis on prevention but where necessary we will use an enforcement approach.
<b>Communities</b>	Through effective partnership working with both the public sector agencies and the community, we will provide leadership and direction across the district and the region to ensure everyone is working to the same goal. Delivering high-quality housing, safer communities and enhancing the health and wellbeing of our residents.

# Growth



We said	We did
<p><b>Be a strong voice for Thanet at the Kent and Medway Economic Partnership.</b></p>	<p>Officers regularly attended the Kent and Medway Economic Development Officer Group to represent Thanet and ensure input.</p>
<p><b>Contribute to the creation of a Coastal Prospectus which will inform the South East Local Enterprise Partnerships's Local Industrial Strategy.</b></p>	<p>Contributed to the creation of the <a href="#">SELEP An Economic Coastal Prospectus for the South East Coast</a> which was published in March 2020.</p>
<p><b>Encourage the rejuvenation of our high streets by</b></p>	<p>Secured £2.7m funding from the Future High Street Fund for highway works and a creative workspace in</p>



# Growth

**supporting the growth of our creative industries.**

Ramsgate

Secured funding for the [Ramsgate High Street Action Zone](#).

Secured £6.3m Levelling Up Funding on behalf of EKC Group for a Digital Campus in Margate High Street

Delivered a [Free 30min parking trial](#) scheme in Birchington during September 2020.

Submitted a £6m business case summary to the government on [15 October 2021](#) to establish a Creative Land Trust in Margate. This was approved and funding commenced in March 2022.

**We will further support the regeneration of our High Streets by working with partners.**

Secured a number of funding streams including:

- £191,456 from the [Welcome Back Fund](#)
- £22.2m for the Margate Town Deal [www.margatetowndeal.co.uk](http://www.margatetowndeal.co.uk)
- £19.8m Government Levelling Up funding for Ramsgate.
- £6.3m Government Levelling Up funding for Margate.
- £2.7m Future High Street Fund for Ramsgate.
- £500,000 Government funding to make improvements to Ramsgate's town centre as part of the [High Streets Heritage Action Zone](#).

Launched a major [new initiative for Ramsgate](#) to generate and take forward ideas for the town's development.  
- 16 February 2021.

Government confirmed at the Budget statement that the Levelling Up Fund bids were both awarded the full funding amount - [27 October 2021](#):



# Growth

	<p><a href="#">Work commenced</a> on 53-57 High Street: Building set to become MargateDigital centre which was part of the Margate Levelling Up bid - week of 1 November 2021 (completed in May 2022).</p> <p>Published Ramsgate Future's Town Investment Plan, which sets out a vision to transform the town - <a href="#">20 January 2022</a>.</p>
<p><b>Lobby for infrastructure improvements including the Parkway Station, to support inward investment, local enterprise and housing growth.</b></p>	<p>In August 2020, the Government announced that £12 million would be allocated to support the new Parkway high-speed railway station in Thanet. Kent County Council (KCC) passed the plans in September 2020. Work has been progressing and the station is set to open in 2023.</p>
<p><b>Continue to look for a viable future for the Port of Ramsgate and the Royal Harbour for the benefit of the town and the wider district.</b></p>	<p>Commissioned independent consultants to conduct a high-level feasibility study looking at options for the future of Ramsgate Port and Harbour. The resulting report was published in <a href="#">January 2020</a>.</p> <p>Installed nine new Jetski berths at Ramsgate Harbour - <a href="#">July 2021</a>.</p> <p>£9.61m allocated as part of the Ramsgate Levelling Up Fund for the Green Port Project - Investment in the Port to support an increase in employment locally</p>
<p><b>Engage with businesses in the Creative Industries to identify opportunities for growth in the district and promote Thanet through the Thames Estuary Production Corridor ambitious industrial vision.</b></p>	<p>Opportunities for the creative industries are being supported through the Development of the Creative Land Trust as part of the Margate Town Deal and the Workspace Project in the Future High Street Fund.</p> <p>Engagement with the Creative Estuary to identify opportunities for the sector in Thanet, and opportunities in Thanet promoted through the Creative Estuary programme.</p>



# Growth

<p><b>Through partnership working, promote Thanet's unique selling points to encourage local enterprise and inward investment.</b></p>	<p>Promote opportunities in Thanet through broader networks, including Locate in Kent, Visit Kent, Kent County Council, South East Local Enterprise Partnership, Margate Town Deal Board, Creative Estuary. Also, engaging directly with inward investors and those who are interested in further investment in Thanet.</p>
<p><b>Constructively explore approaches for Community Wealth Building – such as the Preston Model.</b></p>	<p>Backed calls for a <a href="#">Community Wealth Fund</a> that could see deprived areas awarded £2million, which residents will decide how to spend.</p>
<p><b>Refresh the Council's Economic Growth Strategy.</b></p>	<p>Developed a Town Investment Plan for Margate as part of the Margate Town Deal. Developed a Town Investment Plan for Ramsgate as part of the Ramsgate Future initiative.</p>
<p><b>Continue to promote tourism in Thanet and the increase in jobs that this will bring to the District.</b></p>	<p><a href="#">Cabinet Approved</a> the Destination Management Framework 2020.</p> <p>Published a <a href="#">Summary infographic</a> of Thanet's Visitor Economy.</p> <p>Announced 17 new tourist experiences as part of the council's contribution to the Interreg Experience Development Programme, in partnership with Visit Kent- <a href="#">21 January 2022</a>.</p> <p>Published new research data on the initial impact on the Isle of Thanet's visitor economy from COVID-19 - <a href="#">26 January 2022</a>.</p> <p>Launched a new Green Tourism Toolkit to support local businesses in Thanet to become more environmentally friendly and to showcase the district as a responsible tourism destination - <a href="#">7 March 2022</a> Within the Margate Town Deal, the vision identifies that Margate's communities will come together to Thrive 365.</p>



# Growth

## Maximise the return on our assets and services.

Cabinet agreed to cease the current arrangement and procure a new Ramsgate market operator that will operate capably, maximising the benefits for the market traders, consumers and the wider community- [October 2020](#).

The Authority exceeded the benchmark yield on its Treasury Deposits as reported to Council on 10 December 2020, as part of the 2020-21 Treasury Management and Annual Investment Strategy Mid-Year Review.

Transferred the ownership of the freehold of Dreamland in December 2020 to Sands Heritage Ltd- December 2020. Achieved the sale of [Dreamland](#) and settled all Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) compensation claims - February 2021.

Transferred the Oval Bandstand and Lawns, via Community Asset Transfer to the resident's group Gordon Road Area Street Scheme (GRASS) - 8 July, 2021.

Cabinet agreed to dispose of the Granville Cinema, Ramsgate - [29 July 2021](#).

Awarded a new Public Health Act Funerals contract to [WS Cole & Son Funeral Directors](#) in Minster. Achieved a cost-saving of over £100 per funeral, following a competitive tender process by Regulatory Services. The contract will run for three years, with the option of a one-year extension - July 2021.

Cabinet agreed to extend the lease of the Boating Pool at Ramsgate to enable the new tenants to continue to invest and develop the property - [27 January 2022](#).



# Environment



We Said	We did
<p><b>Maintain strong enforcement action in the areas of planning, building control and parking. Strengthening our already tough response to fly-tipping and maintaining the zero-tolerance policy towards littering.</b></p>	<p>Fly-tipping                      Installed eye-catching stickers on bins at beaches and town centres, targeted messages on some of the larger bins in residential areas that have been a target for fly-tipping. CCTV is in place in known hotspots across the district and our Streetscene Enforcement team is working hard to investigate these crimes.</p> <p>As part of the 2021 Beach Management Plan the council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Increased the presence of Civil Enforcement Officers patrolling on foot in the Kingsgate/Broadstairs area.</li> <li>● Prepared static signage to direct visitors to some of the beaches which have more space and available parking when needed.</li> </ul>



# Environment

On 19 March 2021, [Cabinet agreed](#) to amend the current PSPO to last until 2023, adopted in accordance with the Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB), Crime and Policing Act 2014. The amendments provide better management of the coastal areas and support wildlife conservation and wildlife funded projects within the District of Thanet.

On 19 March 2021, [Cabinet agreed](#) to the introduction of the Beaches and Coast Public Spaces Protection Order and Code of Conduct.

Online payment forms were made available for penalty payments.

Secured a [Magistrate Order](#) on 19 April 2021, that ordered the property owner to pay £3,740 for unauthorised work on Grade II listed building in Margate.

Thanet District Council has led a multi-agency operation targeting commercial properties involved in the sale of cheap and illicit tobacco. On 27 [May 2021](#) at Sevenoaks Magistrates' Court, the council was granted a Premises Closure Order for seven premises in Thanet. This is the first time so many closures have been granted for commercial premises in one hearing.

Secured £50k grant as part of a pilot scheme to tackle fly-tipping. The money, distributed by the charity Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP) will be used to target fly-tipping hotspots at Athelstan and Ethelbert Roads in Cliftonville through more enforcement, increased CCTV coverage and raising awareness. Some funding will also be used to create a second community shed project in Ramsgate where volunteers can access tools for litter picking or gardening.

Thanet District Council's Public Protection Team investigated an incident in [August 2021](#) concerning an employee receiving life-changing injuries at the Jewsons Builder's Yard in Margate. Officers served prohibition and improvement notices and the decision was taken to prosecute the company for offences under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974. The company entered an early guilty plea to the



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	<p>charge and a sentencing hearing took place on Thursday 28 April 2022 at the Folkestone Magistrates' Court. The victim who sustained the most significant injuries was in attendance and a moving witness impact statement was read out to the Court. The District Judge handed down a fine of £600,000 which was reduced to £400,000 due to the guilty plea. Full costs of £23,094 were awarded to TDC.</p>
<p><b>Continue the education programmes in schools and the wider public areas to cultivate a shared responsibility approach to waste and littering.</b></p>	<p>Employed an <a href="#">Education Officer</a> whose role is specifically around littering. Included in the wide-ranging role is the design of educational programmes, behaviour change strategies and undertake visits to schools and other locations to advise on environmental issues such as littering, dog fouling, graffiti and fly-tipping.</p> <p>Thanet District Council is approved by AQA to deliver 'The Unit Award Scheme' (UAS). The UAS is a scheme that allows for the unique recording of achievements in line with criteria set by AQA. Whilst, not a qualification, it offers learners the opportunity to have their achievements formally recognised with a certificate each time a short unit of learning is successfully completed. TDC has now awarded over 60 certificates to pupils attending Palm Bay School and the Enterprise Learning Learning Alliance covering 4 Units in Litter Picking.</p> <p>Published 4 issues of the council's <a href="#">Action Against Litter newsletters</a> and launched a webpage for the TDC's <a href="#">Education Initiatives</a></p> <p><a href="#">Educated</a> beachgoers on Byelaws as the temperature rose during 2020.</p> <p>Published a <a href="#">Byelaws Single Page Document</a></p> <p>Established a dedicated Enforcement Twitter account: @EnforcementTdc which the Council uses to appeal for information and educate about the work the council does.</p> <p>In January 2021, the Council installed 12 new 'TidyPac' stations along Margate seafront.</p>



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	<p>Recruited dedicated enforcement officers to educate people on the council's new <a href="#">Beaches and Coast Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) and Coastal Code of Conduct</a>.</p> <p>Thanet District Council was the first council in the UK to sign up for <a href="#">LitterLotto</a>, a new app that actively encourages people to bin litter.</p> <p>Delivered the Anti-Littering &amp; Community Behaviour Change Project Through Art Initiatives (Margate &amp; Cliftonville) 'Rise Up Residency'</p>
<p><b>Protect and enhance where possible our parks, beaches and open spaces for the benefit of current and future residents.</b></p>	<p>The refurbishment of five playgrounds commenced - <a href="#">September 2020</a>.</p> <p>A Multi-Agency <a href="#">Beach Management Plan</a> was drawn up for both the 2020 and 2021 season and in 2021 preparations were put in place 3 months earlier than normal ready for the Easter weekend. The plan included practical steps such as increased staffing, targeted enforcement, later collections and 300 additional bins. Based on learnings and feedback from previous years the Council:</p> <p>Litter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Installed 80 new 1,100 litre colourful bins which are normally reserved for the summer months. These bins were emptied twice a day, seven days a week.</li> <li>○ Ordered 42 new blue recycling bins for its Blue Flag and Seaside Award beaches. These were put out at the end of April and have 'aperture' type tops to accept bottles and cans etc whilst making it more difficult to dispose of non-recyclable waste.</li> <li>○ Extended working hours of its cleansing teams on beaches/promenades for the duration of the school Easter holidays.</li> <li>○ Assigned two mobile litter teams on the coastline. These were in addition to the static cleaners at Margate, Broadstairs, Ramsgate and Joss Bay.</li> </ul>



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- Completed sand levelling and large scale litter-raking. The beach tractor then followed the normal summer rota from 5 April 2021.

#### Anti-social behaviour, including COVID restrictions:

- Provided four COVID-wardens for beaches and promenades.
- Recruited dedicated enforcement officers to educate people on the Council's new [Beaches and Coast Public Spaces Protection Order \(PSPO\) and Coastal Code of Conduct](#). They worked and patrolled alongside Kent Police Officers and COVID wardens.

#### Toilets:

- Opened all of the toilets around the district from Monday 29 March.
- Installed portaloos at Margate Main Sands and Botany Bay.
- Increased security around our toilets.

#### Parking:

- Increased presence of Civil Enforcement Officers patrolling on foot in the Kingsgate/Broadstairs area.
- Prepared static signage to direct visitors to some of the beaches which have more space and available parking when needed.

In 2021, further enhancements were made to the Council's [Beach Management Plan](#)

In October 2020, TDC and Friends of Ellington Park awarded the major contract to BJJ Group, resulting in; a new cafe and toilets, restored bandstand, renovated terrace, new playground, new planting scheme, repairs to pathways and lighting and interpretation panels.

Carried out the planting of 67 new trees and soft landscaping in [Ellington Park](#) - March 2021.

The Ellington Park bandstand was unveiled, and the new café, run by the Friends of Ellington Park opened for a trial period and training along with the new playground - [16 August 2021](#).



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Appointed Alan Baxter Ltd, a leading design and conservation consultancy, to complete the appraisal of the Conservation Area in Ramsgate - January 2021,

Following an investigation by the Coastal team, the railing was extended to the end of the slipway behind the Winter Gardens to prevent people stepping off the edge into the deepest part of the pool - 6 March 2021.

Cabinet agreed to approve the proposed trial change in grass cutting regimes based on the 4 levels of management for Open Spaces as described in the Cabinet report - [18 March 2021](#).

Summary as follows:

1. Regular amenity cut in areas that need to be cut short
2. No Mow May in parks and some squares
3. Reduced cutting for pollinators in specific areas to create wildflower meadows.
4. Continue cut and collect, hay meadow management at Westbrook Undercliff and Foreness Point.

[Options for the long term strategy for the Edwardian Lift Ramsgate and the Viking Bay Lift Broadstairs](#) decision due 29 July 2021 by Cabinet. [TDC Press Release](#) Opened the Viking Bay lift in July 2021.

Thanet received 5 International Blue Flags and 5 Seaside Awards in 2021 - [May 2021](#).

Thanet received 7 International Blue Flags and 3 Seaside Awards in 2022 - [May 2022](#).

TDC was one of the first Local Authorities to join the Beach Check UK app. The app works in real-time, on a traffic light system, assigning a red, orange or green colour to the beaches depending on the number of visitors it has. Visitors (and residents) can check the status of a beach before leaving home and avoid the hotspots, which helps social distancing - [July 2021](#).

[Thanet Coast Project](#) marked its 20th anniversary in 2021.



# Environment

	<p>Commissioned Fourth Street Place Consultants to carry out a feasibility study on the redevelopment of Westbrook Loggia at Westbrook Bay - <a href="#">14 September 2021</a>.</p> <p>Undertook major replacement and improvement works at Ethelbert Crescent play area in Cliftonville using the allocated Community Parks funding - <a href="#">16 December 2021</a>.</p> <p>Invited business owners to register their interest in securing a beach concession for the 2022 summer season and beyond - <a href="#">21 April 2022</a>.</p>
<p><b>Continue to progress the Local Plan to adoption.</b></p>	<p>Local Plan adopted 9 July 2020. Continue the momentum agreed the proposal for the new <a href="#">Local Development Scheme</a></p> <p>Cabinet agreed a new Local Development Scheme (LDS) (the Local Plan work programme), which set out the scope for a partial update of the Local Plan, together with a timetable for the preparation of the Plan update - 17 December 2020.</p> <p>Launched the Statement of Community Involvement <a href="#">Public Consultation</a> which ran from 25 February 2021 - 9 April 2021.</p> <p>Decided to establish a new Cabinet Advisory Group for the Update of the Local Plan- <a href="#">9 March 2021</a> Modified the Terms of Reference for the Cabinet Advisory Group - <a href="#">14 June 2021</a> .</p> <p>Launched a 'Call for Sites' in which developers, landowners and members of the public were invited to put forward potential sites for development. The purpose of the Call for Sites was to establish what land is potentially available in the district and to identify potential sites - 25 March 2021.</p>



# Environment

	<p>Launched a call for views on a number of studies that were put together as part of the process to complete a 'partial update' of Thanet's Local Plan - <a href="#">10 December 2021</a>. Cabinet agreed on the proposals for the revised Local Development Scheme, as detailed in the Cabinet report. The report set out the proposed amendments to the work programme for updating the adopted Local Plan and related documents - <a href="#">16 December 2021</a>.</p>
<p><b>Undertake a full and thorough review of our public toilet facilities including providing incentives for businesses to make good quality facilities available to the public.</b></p>	<p><a href="#">Cabinet Decision</a> November 2020, confirmed that toilet facilities serving Thanet beaches would be reviewed by officers and members over the winter season. The review and recommendations were to be reported back to Cabinet in March 2021.</p> <p>As part of the 2021 Beach Management Plan the council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Opened all of the toilets around the district from Monday 29 March 2021.</li> <li>● Installed portaloos at Margate Main Sands and Botany Bay and Palm Bay.</li> <li>● Increased security around the toilets.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Improve collaboration with KCC around relevant services and explore opportunities for introducing a park and ride scheme in Thanet.</b></p>	<p>Review transport routes into/parking in the District in relation to the Margate Town Deal. Improve communication with TDC and Kent Highways to improve ways of working.</p>
<p><b>We will review the recycling service and continue engaging with the community to increase the district's recycling rates and further improve the efficiency of emptying schedules –</b></p>	<p>Purchased 11 new waste open-back collection vehicles to improve the efficiency of collections across the district. New collection service commenced <a href="#">29 March 2021</a>.</p> <p>No change to Christmas and New Year Waste and Recycling Collections - <a href="#">December 2021</a>.</p>



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<p><b>including maximising the use of smart bins.</b></p>	<p>Launched a new real-time digital information system that allows residents to report any issues quickly without needing to complete a form. As well as, check bin collection calendars and pay subscriptions to the council's garden waste services - <a href="#">February 2022</a></p>
<p><b>Extend the use of mechanical street sweeping equipment.</b></p>	<p>Operational Services continued to deliver statutory services throughout the pandemic despite the significant impact from COVID related absence. During the last 18 months, it has been necessary to prioritise the household waste and recycling service from a business continuity perspective in response to both the pandemic and EU exit which was the catalyst for the continued HGV driver shortage. As a result of this strategy and the hard work of operational staff, we have not dropped a single planned waste and recycling round. This is something to be proud of with most other Kent districts suffering some form of service disruption of varying impact.</p> <p>During this same 2 year period, we have seen an unprecedented number of visitors to the district's coastline and beaches in the 2020 and 2021 seasons and have had to react by increasing the standard and duration of cleansing to meet demand and pandemic requirements. In September 2021 we published statistics on the summer season and the scale of the successful seasonal cleansing operation.</p> <p>As a result of the significant efforts by the service, the number of complaints received regarding street cleansing remains very low which is an excellent indicator of the standard of service provided.</p> <p>It is agreed that this is an important element of the service but the issue with the current mechanical plant has been well communicated and plans are in place for a permanent solution to the issue which is a result of unanticipated vehicle failure.</p>
<p><b>Having agreed on a climate emergency we will work to be carbon neutral by 2030 and</b></p>	<p>Recruited a Climate Change Officer, who coordinates the Council's response to the climate emergency - 1 September 2020</p>



# Environment

**promote awareness of our local wildlife, habitats and the wider environment.**

A Comprehensive Climate Emergency Action Plan was presented to Cabinet- March 2020. A [comprehensive list](#) of actions and information was developed and published on thanet.gov.uk.

[Worked in partnership](#) with Kent County Council on Solar Together - offering Thanet households the opportunity to purchase high-quality solar photovoltaic (PV) panels at a competitive price as part of a group-buying scheme.

Environmental Health secured £19k DfT funding for a Cycling & Walking Audit to be undertaken in the Air Quality Management Area ([AQMA](#)) in Thanet to identify the top cycle routes, walking zones and junction improvements for further Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan funding streams.

A further two, new rapid electric vehicle charging points were installed in council car parks - January 2021.

The council has taken advantage of interest-free lending from Salix Finance, which provides Government funding to the public sector to improve energy efficiency, reduce carbon emissions and lower energy bills. Additionally, assessments have been completed on two buildings, grant-funded by Salix, for low carbon measures installation. A full grant application has been progressed for one building.

Cabinet agreed, in response to declaring a Climate Emergency in 2019, to change the management of the district's open spaces to create a beautiful native wildflower corridor throughout Thanet for the benefit of pollinators, wildlife, residents and visitors - [18 March 2021](#).

Cabinet adopted the KCC Energy and Low Emissions Strategy - [14 April 2021](#)

In 2021, as part of our response to the Biodiversity and Climate Emergency, Thanet District Council launched a project to [create wildflower meadows](#) across the district. In the first year, a total the council developed seven sites for wildflower meadow creation.



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In 2022 the Council developed [a map](#) that identifies the wildflower meadows and the project was shortlisted in the Customer Engagement category in the ESRI customer success awards. TDC was the only council shortlisted and made it to the top 3 out of over 60 entries with companies such as EDF and Vodafone.

Launched a new and more effective approach to planting in council-maintained flower beds - transforming traditional flower beds towards more sustainable planting- [Sept 2021](#).

Cabinet established the Climate Emergency Cabinet Advisory Group made up of eight members whose composition and terms of reference are detailed in the document attached to the decision- [10 Sept 2021](#).

Cabinet endorsed the Kent and Medway Energy and Low Emission Strategy. And in alignment with this endorsement, the following paragraph is added to the Council's climate change pledge:  
*'Do what is within our powers and resources to support KCC, the Government, business, industry and the community to make Thanet, as a whole, net zero by 2050.'* - [22 February 2022](#).

# Communities





# Communities

Established a [Housing Cabinet Advisory Group](#) (HCAG), to support the Cabinet in progressing these objectives.

Signed a [Help to Heat](#) Local Authority Flexible Eligibility Statement of Intent and promoted the Green Homes Grants and the Warm Homes Scheme, as part of the Kent-wide scheme on behalf of the Kent and Medway Sustainable Energy Partnership.

Cabinet approved the letting of contracts for fire safety works to council-owned residential buildings, covering: a) Passive fireworks, and b) Fire alarms - [8 August 2020](#).

Secured £1.618m in funding for the pre-tender costs relating to the removal and replacement of external wall insulation systems, fitted to the council's residential tower blocks.

Cabinet approved a contract, valued at £1.865m for the full refurbishment of passenger lifts in seven of the council's residential blocks of flats - [17 September 2020](#).

Pursued prosecution for unlawful evictions in breach of the Protection from Eviction Act 1977- [July 2021](#).

Published tender to convert Foy House into 8 flats to provide supported housing managed by the council. - July 2021.

Residential high-rise buildings in Thanet became the first in Kent to be fitted with new information plates to help navigate firefighters in an emergency - [21 October 2021](#).

Secured over £76,000 of funding from the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) for a project to enforce minimum energy efficiency standards in privately rented properties across



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	<p>the district. During the seven-month project 185 Compliance Notices were served, 8 financial penalties imposed and 75 homes were improved.- <a href="#">8 November 2021</a>.</p> <p>Procured a contract for the provision of security patrols and waking watch services within the council's tower blocks- <a href="#">18 November 2021</a>.</p> <p>Cabinet approved the recruitment of additional Housing Response Officers to improve the management of the council's residential Tower Blocks - <a href="#">16 December 2021</a>.</p>
<p><b>Work with our partners to deliver a range of community safety initiatives across the District, taking tough action to tackle anti-social behaviour.</b></p>	<p>The council produces an annual Community Safety Action Plan which sets out the themes for the partnership. This is part of the wider three year <a href="#">Community Safety Plan</a>.</p> <p>Secured a share of the Safer Streets Fund awarded to Kent's PCC for projects to focus in the Central Harbour and Eastcliff wards in Ramsgate - June 2021</p> <p>Supporting the <a href="#">Best Bar None (BBN) Accreditation Scheme</a> with National Awards supported by the Home Office and the drinks industry. The scheme is being led by Kent Police and is aimed primarily at promoting responsible management and operation of licensed premises by rewarding best practice and raising standards; with a particular focus on the night time economy. Businesses who wish to apply will need to complete an online application form. On receipt of BBN scheme applications from licensed premises in Thanet, designated Police and TDC Licensing &amp; Community Safety 'Assessors' will review applications, inspect the licensed premises and award locally determined ratings to successful establishments. Scheme launched 3 May 2022.</p> <p>Led a multi-agency operation targeting commercial properties involved in the sale of cheap and illicit tobacco. At Sevenoaks Magistrates' Court, the council was granted a Premises Closure Order for seven</p>



# Communities

	<p>premises in Thanet. This is the first time so many closures have been granted for commercial premises in one hearing - <a href="#">27 May 2022</a>.</p>
<p><b>We will work with our communities to foster a shared responsibility and increase our community engagement.</b></p>	<p>Thanet District Council and Friends of Ellington Park appointed specialists Lost Art Limited to refurbish the 110-year-old MacFarlane bandstand in Ellington Park, Ramsgate - September 2020,</p> <p>Conducted the council's <a href="#">Annual Residents' Survey 2020</a>  Conducted the council's <a href="#">Annual Residents' Survey 2021</a></p> <p>Cabinet approved a new Beaches and Coast Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) following a public consultation which ran from 25 January 2021 to 21 February 2021. Following a similar public consultation exercise, where 256 responses were received, Cabinet approved extending its district-wide Dog Public Spaces Protection Order.</p> <p>The Leader held a live public online briefing and Q&amp;A session, where plans for the coast and beach management were discussed - 18 March 2021.</p> <p>Surveyed residents, businesses and third sector to seek views on the community vision for Ramsgate. The council also held virtual and COVID-secure face to face events- <a href="#">May 2021</a>.</p> <p>Consulted on feedback on improvements to some roads (Harbour Parade, Albion Hill, Harbour Street and Madeira Walk) and pedestrian areas in Ramsgate- <a href="#">October 2021</a>.</p> <p>Consulted on <a href="#">Ramsgate Conservation Area Appraisal</a> as part of the HAZ project 1 Nov - 13 Dec 2021.</p> <p>Overall, 200 members of the public got involved in the Future High Street Fund's Ramsgate highways improvement scheme consultation. Comments were made either by completing an online survey,</p>



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	<p>attending a drop-in session or by emailing the project team. Over 81% of people who took part agreed or strongly agreed with the proposed scheme. Over 75% agreed or strongly agreed that the scheme will enhance the environment, create a more inviting character for the harbour area, and reduce speed limits.</p> <p>- January 2022</p>
<p><b>Subject to following procedures the council's intention is to take back direct control of its housing stock.</b></p>	<p>Cabinet decided that the management of the council's housing stock would be brought back in-house - with effect from 1 September 2020 - <a href="#">17 February 2020</a></p> <p><a href="#">Council tenants and leaseholders</a> were invited to give feedback on the new service - January 2021</p> <p>The Regulator for Social Housing agreed to remove the statutory notice that had been served on the council whilst the housing stock was managed by East Kent Housing. The removal followed significant improvements in the management of tenant and leaseholder health and safety - <a href="#">23 February 2022</a>.</p>
<p><b>Plan to set up a housing development company, to work towards building the necessary high quality and energy-efficient housing to meet the needs of existing and future communities.</b></p>	<p>Cabinet agreed to remove this project from the capital programme. Its viability was adversely affected by changes to Public Works Loan Board lending arrangements - 19 November 2020.</p>
<p><b>Promote the formation of a Margate Town Council to devolve decision making to a local level.</b></p>	<p>The Mayor and Charter Trustees of Margate agreed that a plan for a Town Council for Margate should be actively pursued. <a href="#">Proposal Website</a> - May 2021</p>



# Communities

<p><b>Work with Town and Parish Councils, exploring the potential for devolving services where possible.</b></p>	<p>Westgate Town Council took on ownership of the War Memorial Recreation Ground on Lymington Road and two shelters on Sea Road (one opposite Palm Court and the second opposite St Mildreds Road) following the completion of an asset transfer from Thanet council - May 2021.</p>
<p><b>Work to prevent homelessness and increase housing options including additional social housing.</b></p>	<p>Between 2019 and 2022, the council completed 59 new affordable homes for rent.</p> <p>Cabinet approved the New Build Phase 4 Affordable Development Programme - <a href="#">23 October 2020</a>.</p> <p><a href="#">Empty Homes Plan 2020-23</a> was approved - December 2020.</p> <p>Housing Options ring-fenced a proportion of the discretionary housing payments to ensure the council could maximise the potential of homeless prevention work and this continued throughout lockdown. The service has managed to prevent 602 households (figure correct as at 25 February 2022) from becoming homeless.</p> <p>The Allocations Policy was reviewed in April 2020 and in March 2021. <a href="#">Allocation Policy approved March 2021</a>.</p> <p>Temporary Accommodation has been a council priority and whilst there was not a reduction in this area it has remained within budget and still looks to move people on as soon as possible.</p> <p>Households that the council would not normally have a duty to, were kept in accommodation. This was to adhere to the no eviction ban but also to safeguard vulnerable households. This cost the council an additional £35k and work continues to find a housing solution for these households.</p> <p>Cabinet established a <a href="#">Housing Cabinet Advisory Group</a> - 14 July 2021.</p>



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	<p>Secured £175,000 of Contain Outbreak Management Funding to support the prevention of homelessness of private rented sector tenants and homeowners who may be struggling to pay their rent and mortgages as a result of COVID-19 - <a href="#">November 2021</a></p> <p>Agreed to a decision to create a Local Lettings Plan to cover all West Kent Housing Association units across two sites - <a href="#">24 January 2022</a>.</p>
<p><b>Aim to reduce the number of rough sleepers on our streets.</b></p>	<p>Secured <a href="#">£1.3million</a> to fund rough sleeper support services. This includes accommodation and funding of a multi-agency team to deliver all services such as outreach, inreach, drug and alcohol services, and mental health - February 2020.</p> <p>Provided accommodation to 56 rough sleepers with the 'Everyone In' directive from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG - now DLUCH).</p> <p>Secured £96,400 from Next Steps funding to ensure we could offer a Winter Shelter provision. This 24/7 support shelter opened its doors on Monday 23 November 2020 in one multi-purpose location, giving rough sleepers access to a shelter that was open 24 hours. Breakfast and dinner, and support were offered within the setting.</p> <p>Secured £10,000 Cold Weather Fund to ensure we could accommodate as many rough sleepers and newly homeless people throughout the coldest months.</p> <p>Secured £146k to enhance rough sleeping work, provide adequate cover at drop-ins and purchase set home packs for those that have a successful housing pathway after supported housing.</p> <p>Thanet Winter Shelter delivered life-changing outcomes during the pandemic. Newsroom <a href="#">Release</a> - May 2021.</p>



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	<p>Secured £1.7million funding boost from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) for the RISE Team to continue its award-winning work into 2021-22. The funding, which was applied for by the council, was the highest amount given to any district local authority in the country - June 2021.</p>
<p><b>Work in partnership with the community and Public Sector Agencies to seek new ways of working to improve or jointly deliver services.</b></p>	<p>The Margate Task Force (MTF) rebranded as the Thanet Multi-agency Task Force (MTF) - to reflect that the MTF expanded its reach to cover the entirety of Thanet - 2020.</p> <p>The Thanet RISE team, based at Thanet District Council, was highly commended in the category 'Homelessness project of the year' at the prestigious UK Housing Awards 2020.</p> <p>Cabinet agreed to engage with KCC on options available to accommodate all those who need access to disabled parking bays - <a href="#">16 December 2021</a></p> <p>Public Protection Team secured grant funding for COVID-19 lateral flow testing kits to be provided to local food banks, for use by Thanet residents on a low income or claiming a means-tested benefit such as Universal Credit. <a href="#">TDC Testing</a> - March 2022.</p>
<p><b>Work with the Boundary Commission to ensure that the number of councillors is appropriate to the district size and needs.</b></p>	<p>Despite work to progress this, this is now not deliverable within this plan's timescale due to the Boundary Commission timescale requirements.</p>

