MORE SOCIAL, AFFORDABLE & GOOD QUALITY HOMES 2025/26 PRIORITIES

|		Milestones
Building New & Sustainable Homes	☑ Bragbury End	* Planning permission and sale of 500 unit scheme at Bragbury End. * Public consultation * Planning permission submitted * Planning decision * Sales agent appointed
	☑ Brent Court - Independent Living	* Delivery of 96 unit Independent Living scheme on site of former Brent Court Garages. * Gateway 2 submission made * Gateway 2 permission * Demolition of Garages * Foundation work completed
	☑ Burwell Phase Two	* Topping out of 20 homes for affordable rent.
	☑ Cartref	* Delivery of land receipt and affordable homes.
	☑ Courtlands	* Completion of 17 unit private sale scheme.
	☑ Defects	* Ongoing delivery of defects provision
	☑ Ellis Avenue	* Delivery of 11 homes for Council Rent. * Demolition Completed
	☑ Garage Sites Sales	* Cabinet approval for disposal of sites * Appoint architect for scheme development * Initial Design approval
	☑ Kenilworth Phase Two	* Delivery of 24 home Private sale scheme, building on the completion of Phase One of the Kenilworth site. * Demolition of Walpole Court Completed * Foundation work completed * Estate Agent appointed
	☑ Locality Review	* Provision of strategy to meet Locality Review Requirements and design development of initial sites.
	☑ The Oval	* Delivery of mixed used phase neighbourhood regeneration. * Contractor appointed * Demolition for phase 1 completed * Start on Site
Maintaining Good Quality Homes	☑ Building & Fire Safety Compliance	* Delivery of the Building Safety Action Plan
	☑ Decarbonisation (Wave 3.1)	* Procurement of works for a multi year programme linked to a 3 year funding allocation received from Warm Homes - Social Housing Fund * Start delivery of programme once procurement of a contractor has taken place.
	☑ Fair Access	* Housing Transformation Programme - Fair Access to services for residents. * Mapping of customer journey across multiple contact pathways * Delivery of channel shift and opportunities to engage digitally with services
	☑ Housing Asset Review	* Procure consultant support * Produce and provide performance data for input into the model * Staff workshops for perception measures * Data analysis and report * Agree recommendations and produce action plan * Report to EHWG on findings and recommendations
	☑ MRC Refurbishment	* Delivery of the final year of MRC - a refurbishment programme to the council's flat blocks (excluding high rises).

	Milestones	
New Legislation and policy	* Awaabs Law - Alongside changes to HHSRS Legislation will have a phased implementation from October 2025 (damp and mould) and extedended to other hazards during 2026 and 2027. * Consultation on a new Decent Homes standard and implications for Stevenage	
Provider Improvement Plan & Journey to C1	* Delivery of the actions outlined in the Regulator for Social Housing Provider Improvement Plan following inspection in September 2024.	
Repairs (inc Disrepair and D & M) Service Improvement Plan	* Completion of all team process workshops and development of action plans * Easily accessible processes in place for all teams * Implementation of all action plans * Stakeholder mapping/touch points	
Repairs Health & Safety	* To implement all improvments from recent audit and proposals from the H and S team	
Resident Engagement & Scrutiny	* Delivery of the Resident Engagement Strategy and Framework. * Operating tenant panel and scrutiny panel in place	
Service Review Independent Living Service	* Review of service delivery and related charges that considers activity led functions across the wider housing service to create efficiencies and a leaner cost model.	
Service Review Temporary Accomodation	* Review the service delivery of the Temporary Accomodation Service.	
Tenant Profile	* Capture of up to date tenant profile data including household details, vulnerabilities and preferences. * Develop IT system to enable the effective collection and profiling of tenant and household data	
Void Service Improvement Programme	*Delivery of the Voids Improvement Plan * Establishment of a small in-house team to carry out void works	

TRANSFORMING OUR TOWN 2025/26 PRIORITIES

MSEB Sub Priority	Project	Milestones
Enterprise & Skills	Apprentice Programme	* Begin the delivery of new Apprenticeship & Leadership Development programmes, aligned with the new Workforce Strategy.
	Business Technology Centre Contract Renewal	* Explore options for Business Technology Centre Contract Renewal.
	Pioneering Young STEM Futures - P2	* Secure Phase Two of the Pioneering Young STEM Futures programme with funding from M44. Begin delivery of Year One.
	Stevenage Works - Health & Social Care Expansion	* Establishment of supporting Governance Framework. * Establishment of a pilot cohort of care providers alongside partners. * Review of initial pilot cohort of care providers.
	Stevenage Works - Social Value & Procurement	* Continue to leverage social value on contracts through Stevenage Works and deliver a similar approach across the organisation. * Create and publish the Stevenage Works impact Report. * Manage and deliver the Stevenage Works Community Chest Fund.
	Sustainable Technology Centre - SITEC Phase 2	* Delivery of the second phases of both the Stevenage Innovation & Technology Centre (SITEC) & Enterprise Centre, in partnership with North Herts College.
	UK Shared Prosperity Fund	* Deliver the 2025/26 extension of UKSPF. Establish plans for 2026/27 UKSPF replacement.
Regeneration	Country Park Handover	* The handover of the Country Park as part of the new Forster Park development in Woodfield.
	Cycling & Pedestrian Connectivity - Arts & Heritage Trail	* Design and implementation of an Arts & Heritage Trail.

MSEB Sub Priority	Project	Milestones
	☑ Cycling & Pedestrian Connectivity - New Leisure Centre	* Design and implementation of pedestrian connectivity to the new Leisure Centre. * Implementation of new at-grade crossing * Public realm complete
	☑ Cycling & Pedestrian Connectivity - Underpass Improvements	* Improvement works and installation of artwork on nine underpasses within the Arts & Heritage Trail.
	☑ Diversification of Retail	* Utilising towns fund money to catalyse the diversification of retail in the town centre. * Successful relocation of the Indoor Market * Finalise scheme for new gateway to retail core * Retail Action plan agreed
	☑ Gunnelswood Road Infrastruture	* Introduction of new infrastructure to a key roundabout to support the GSK development.
	☑ Indoor Market Move	* Move of current indoor market tenants to the units along Park Place in the Town Centre.
	☑ Local Plan Review & Partial Update	* Partial update and review of the council's Local Plan.
	☑ Regeneration Comms & Marketing	* Regeneration communications and marketing strategy agreed for 25/26, including engagement and consultation.
	☑ SG1 - Plot A	* Phase 1A of the SG1 Programme - previous Swingate House site. * Completion of early works and drawdown of site * Design and procurement complete (SG1 Plot A)
	☑ SG1 - Public Sector Hub	* Partner engagement and design of a civic hub offering a one stop location for public services in the heart of the town centre, including the new Museum
	☑ Sports & Leisure Centre	* Finalisation of design, submission and approval of planning permission and construction to start on site.
	☑ Station Gateway	* Activating the Station Gateway area by working with a developer to create a viable scheme. * Initial masterplan complete * Cabinet decision to enter into a Development Agreement * Enter into Development Agreement

THRIVING NEIGHBOURHOODS 2025/26 PRIORITIES		
MSEB Sub Priority	Project	Milestones
Clean Neighbourhoods & Green Spaces	☑ CCIN Policy Lab	* Two-year, £13,000 initiative led by Stevenage and Brent Councils, partnering with five other authorities, to strengthen community leadership and innovate local service delivery through cooperative, place-based approaches
	☑ Green Space / Tree & Woodland Strategy	* Development of Green Spaces Strategy and Tree & Woodland Strategy.
	☑ Play Area Improvements	* Deliver capital programme of improvements to remaining sites and an options report to support future funding.
	☑ Social Inclusion Partnership Formalisation	* Work with the Social Inclusion Partnership, made up of our key voluntary sector partners to formalise as a multi-stakeholder cooperative.
Community Safety TN	☑ ASB Services Delivery Review	* Review of ASB case management, escalation procedures and partnership working, in line with Ombudsman spotlights, Crime & Policing Bill 2025 and Tenancy Standard. * Development of recording and case management framework and escalation procedures * Realignment of ASB patches with neighbourhood patches and identify what sits with housing officers and ASB officers
	☑ Evolve	* Work with domestic abuse perpetrators through the Evolve programme. Explore potential funding opportunities to expand this provision into young people.

MSEB Sub Priority	Project	Milestones
Culture & Leisure TN	☑ Operation Educ8	* Educate young people around the impact of Grafiti on the local community.
	☑ SADA Safe Accomodation	* Obtain properties to use as dispersed accommodation for family dynamics that would not fit refuge provisions.
	☑ Active Communities	* Everyone Active's AC programme brings physical activity to community venues such as community centres , pavilions and schools.
	☑ Arts & Culture Programme	* An ambitious programme of activity delivered in partnership between Junction 7 Creatives and Stevenage Museum.
	☑ PlayZone Programme	* Create an inclusive and accessible 3G pitch within King George V Playing Fields. As part of the PlayZone initiative, led by the Football Foundation, aims to create an inclusive, and accessible outdoor 3G pitch within KGV Playing Fields.
	☑ Review of Cultural Strategy	* Undertake a review of the council's Cultural Strategy in line with council's current ambitions.

TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE 2025/26 PRIORITIES

MSEB Sub Priority	Project	Milestones
Tackling Climate Change	☑ Climate Action Street Plans	* Develop street plans led by Councillors, with the support of officers to deliver community projects
	☑ Climate Change Community Fund	* Assess, support and advise on community-led climate projects, review alternative schemes of delivery.
	☑ Low Carbon Skills Funding Application	* Submit an application for Low Carbon Skills Fund (LCSF) grant aligned with the Council's climate targets. This will assist with decarbonisation projects such as retrofitting public buildings.
	☑ Simpler Recycling (including Flat Block Pilot)	* Review of kerbside collections in accordance with new government legislation and deliver programme of change. Deliver schemes to improve recycling rates at flat blocks.
	☑ Sustainability Business Support	* Deliver workshops, mentoring, coaching and supply chain support activities for Stevenage businesses across three projects: 1. Green Business Start Up Scheme. 2. Sustainable X Business Support Programme 3. Action Zero Programme (Wenta)
	☑ Tree Planting	*Micro Woods - Deliver new micro woods. * Canopy Cover - Plant new trees to support increasing tree canopy cover in areas of the town with deficiency.
	☑ Warm Homes Local Grant Scheme	* Identify and support eligible households to improve energy efficiency, combat fuel poverty and reduce energy costs. Coordinate delivery of the Solar Together scheme in Stevenage.

BALANCING THE BUDGET 2025/26 PRIORITIES

MSEB Sub Priority	Project	Milestones
Balancing the Budget	☑ Business Change & Transformation	* Community Advice & Support - Service Improvements to embed the activity-led Community Advice and Support (CA&S) team. * Localities - Service improvements for Business Units working in the local community. * Revenues & Benefits - Deliver service improvements and efficiencies jointly with East Herts.
	☑ Commercial Culture Development	* Operating the Council in more of a business-like way by equipping staff with the right skills and engendering commercial behaviour.
	☑ Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)	* Adopt a CIL spending protocol to bring together commitments made and provide a structure around future spending decisions.
	☑ Fees & Charges	* Review of fees and charges
	☑ General Fund & HRA Savings 2025/26	* Approve balanced budgets for 2026/26 for HRA in January 2026 and GF in February 2026.
	☑ HRA Business Plan	* Undertake a review of the HRA Business Plan to help ensure a sustainable picture for the HRA going forward.
	☑ Review Insourcing Options	* As per the Insourcing Roadmap 2023-26, review of all services provided to or on behalf of the council by external supplier or third party.

CROSS CUTTING 2025/26 PRIORITIES

MSEB Sub Priority	Project	Milestones
Equality, Diversity & Inclusion	☑ EDI Action Plan, Annual Report & EDGG	* Deliver on the 18 actions highlighted as part of the EDI Action Plan, report these through EDGG and the councils Equalities Annual Report.
	☑ Stevenage Equalities Commission Legacy Group	* Support the development of the Stevenage Equalities Commission Legacy Group, including its formalisation as a Multi-stakeholder Cooperative.
Health & Wellbeing	☑ Age Friendly Communities	* Age-Friendly Communities is a collaborative programme with HCC and Age UK to deliver projects and events to support older residents in Stevenage.
	☑ Dementia Friendly Communities	* Dementia Friendly Communities is delivered in collaboration with local organisation to support those living with dementia in Stevenage.
	☑ Healthy Hub	* Funding received for a further two years of delivery through HCC Public Health.
	☑ Healthy Stevenage Strategy Revision	* A revision of the councils current Health Stevenage Strategy delivered in cooperation with HCC Public Health and other partners.

MSEB Sub Priority	Project	Milestones
Technology & Innovation	☑ Digital Strategy	* Our digital strategy focuses on enhancing customer experience, boosting efficiency, and increasing self-service use through three key pillars: 1) Improving the website to meet rising expectations and retain users online; 2) Expanding digital tools to enable self-service, automation, and efficient case management; and 3) Promoting online services through targeted messaging, updated communications, and triage methods.
	☑ ICT Strategy & Assurance	* Cyber First: Ensuring security, data-driven decisions, and adaptability. * Data-driven Decision-Making: Utilising data for strategic planning. * Innovate, Adapt, and Empower: Encouraging innovation and continuous learning.

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