### **POSITION STATEMENT 2019**

### ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT



















#### Introduction - The New Forest

The New Forest is an area of southern England which includes one of the largest remaining tracts of unenclosed pasture land, heathland and forest in the heavily populated south east of England. It covers south west Hampshire and extends into south east Wiltshire and towards east Dorset. It is a unique place of ancient history, fascinating wildlife and stunning beauty and was established as a royal hunting preserve.

The local government administrative area of New Forest District Council (290 square miles) includes the New Forest National Park (206 square miles). Within the district there are 145 square miles of Crown land, managed by Forestry England.

The New Forest is a working forest that has prospered for nearly 1000 years. Many of the agricultural practices conceded by the Crown in historical times to local people are still retained. The most significant of these is the depasturing

of ponies, cattle, pigs and donkeys in the open forest by authorised local inhabitants known as Commoners. These unique agricultural commoning practices are administered by the Verderers.

The district council was created on 1 April 1974 and was a merger of the borough of Lymington, New Forest Rural District and part of Ringwood and Fordingbridge Rural District. The district is one of the most populated non-unitary authorities in England (179,236) and within its boundaries there are 37 active town and parish councils. Hampshire County Council are responsible for upper tier services.

Operating within the heart of the district council area is the National Park Authority established in 2005. The National Park is the planning authority for its area. In other service areas there are shared responsibilities and close collaborative working with the district council. Approximately 70% of the population of the district live in the New Forest

District Council authority area in a number of medium sized towns. To the south and east of the district border there lies 40 miles of coastline.

The broad range of organisations and community groups that exist means that the council works collaboratively with and in the community to deliver solutions.

The New Forest is home to the third largest economy in Hampshire, with a total Gross Value Added of £4.4bn. The district contains just under 8,000 businesses in total, which is more than any other local authority in Hampshire, including the cities of Southampton and Portsmouth. 89% of businesses in the district are micro in size employing fewer than 10 people. Self-employment is relatively high at over 11.6% and unemployment is consistently lower than in the rest of the country. Leisure, tourism and marine along with their associated supply chains are significant employment and economic sectors

within the district. The council works closely with the New Forest Business Partnership and 'Helping local business grow' is a priority.

Average earnings are low with 60% of the working population earning less than the UK average. This, and the high average house price, results in significant cross-commuting between those who work in the forest but can't afford to live there, and those who can afford to live within the district but work elsewhere. The district council is located between the two major conurbations of Southampton and Bournemouth.

The very special nature of the New Forest makes it an extremely attractive place to live; both for those in work and those wishing to retire (28.4% of the population is over 65). Housing development is made more difficult by many of the environmental constraints of the area.

#### **New Forest District Council**

Housing, and particularly affordable housing for local people is a particular issue in the district. The district council manages its own housing stock (5,054 properties) and there are in excess of 3,000 people on the housing waiting list.

The New Forest district local plan review provides the opportunity to shape the district over the next twenty years and this will be an important process for the council to complete. The public examination of the Local Plan Review 2016 – 2036 is underway, with hearing sessions taking place in June/July 2019. The plan provides for 10,500 new homes to be built in the district, whilst protecting the district's unique natural environment and minimising the loss of land from the Green Belt.

The vast majority of services are provided by in-house teams. This includes the operation of five high quality health and leisure centres, a Housing Maintenance team as well as Refuse and Recycling, Grounds Maintenance and Street Scene. The council employs 780 FTE with a small number of services provided by third parties or through shared service arrangements.

This is the last updated position statement aligned to the current Corporate Plan, the priorities of which are:

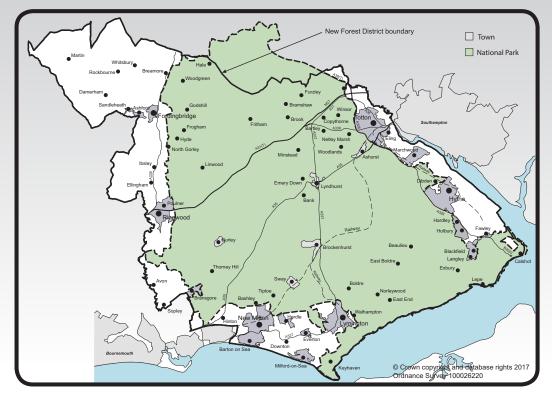
- · Helping local business grow
- More homes for local people
- · Service outcomes for the community
- Protecting the local character of our place.

These priorities were underpinned by:

- · Living within our means
- · Working with others to achieve more

Work will be undertaken during 2019/20 by the new administration to develop the Corporate Plan 2020-2024.

In the last two years, significant change has taken place within the organisation and in the way in which the council goes about its business as the council



has set about rebalancing its expenditure and income in light of the significant reduction in central government funding. During this period services have maintained a consistent level of delivery. There is recognition that despite these changes the organisation needs to ensure that it has the capacity to deliver on its priorities.

In February 2019 the council invited the original peer review team to make a follow up visit on the back of the 2017 Corporate Peer Challenge in order to assess progress against the recommendations made. The peer review concluded an impressive pace and extent of change since the original visit, with particular emphasis on the priority given to the Local Plan, the development of housing strategies and the investment made in ICT infrastructure. The team also highlighted the positive working

relationships between members and officers and that Task & Finish groups are used to engage a wide range of members in developing the council's future direction.

#### **Our performance highlights 2018/19**

New Forest District Council remains committed to delivering the priorities set out in the 2016-2020 Corporate Plan: Helping local business grow, More homes for local people, Service outcomes for the community, Protecting the local character of our place, Working with others to achieve more and Living within our means.

Our Economic Development Service continues to work with a variety of partners to deliver a range of information and advice, and has organised and led 35 events during 2018/19. Examples include provision of dedicated 1-1 business clinics, a seminar

on securing purchasing opportunities with the district council and the inaugural Local Business Village at the New Forest and Hampshire County Show.

The new Housing Strategy sets out a vision to create balanced communities with a range of housing options that are affordable and sustainable. Alongside objectives to accelerate market housing delivery and increase services for those in greatest need, the strategy includes council plans to support a strong high quality private rented sector, plus the development and construction of at least 600 new council-owned affordable homes for rent and shared-ownership by 2026.

To improve the wellbeing of our community, we delivered a summer Activity Roadshow to encourage families to play together in their local parks. 1,661 residents took part in activities in five parks around the district. A further 1,260 took part in summer park activities delivered by funded partners in the Waterside area.

The 'leave nothing but footprints' anti-litter drive was continued with the New Forest National Park Authority and Forestry England this year, and the annual community litter pick (annual spring clean) was supported by 1,200 volunteers taking part in 50 events.

£361,500 in community grants was approved this year for 14 local not-for-profit organisations. £86,000 was also awarded to local community organisations for capital projects.

In achieving a balanced budget for 2019/20, savings and improved income generation totalling £2.288m absorbed pay and price increases across the Portfolios totalling some £1.009m. This contributed towards new requirements of £1.359m and have also made an important contribution towards offsetting the reductions in government resources. The residual required increase in council funding to address the net increase in costs and reduction in government funding has been achieved by an increase in council tax.

### **UNDERSTANDING OF THE LOCAL PLACE AND PRIORITY** SETTING

Average earnings (full time) for those who work in the New Forest are £550 per week

People make 13.5m day trips to the New Forest each year generating £120m and supporting more than 2,500 jobs

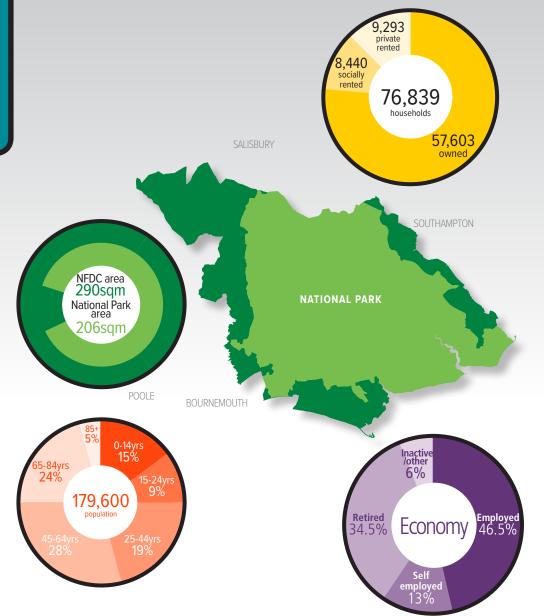
9,000 businesses

We receive 2,000 approaches for housing advice and assistance per year. We rehomed or prevented the homelessness of 321 households

5,054 council houses

142,564 district residents are eligible to vote

9,000 households are supported with housing benefit and/or council tax reduction





Leisure, tourism, care, retirement and marine are significant employment sectors within the district. We work closely with the New Forest Business Partnership to boost the economic viability of the area.



We grant planning permission to over 1,000 planning applications for new dwellings per year, and around 320 new homes are built here every year, 75 of them being affordable new homes. With 1.800 new applications for social housing each year and over 3,000 people on the Homesearch register, 'more homes for local people' is one of our key priorities.



We provide over 100 local services that our residents value, including refuse, street cleaning, benefits, health and leisure, and housing advice. We regularly review our services to understand how we can improve and what our customers want.



We recognise the area's unique qualities and characteristics - our Local Plan shapes development in the area, and we work to keep the area a clean, green, and safe place. NFDC is responsible for areas outside the National Park, and outside Forestry England Crown Lands.



others to achieve more We have a role to play in protecting and improving the New Forest. We know that we can't realise our ambitions in isolation and work closely with the National Park Authority, Forestry England, town and parish councils, local businesses, and numerous local groups.



We continually review activities and services to identify opportunities for savings and opportunities to generate income to address significant reductions in government funding, whilst at the same time maintaining services that are important to our customers.

### HELPING LOCAL BUSINESS GROW

Our Economic Development Service continues to work with a variety of partners to deliver a range of information and advice, and has organised and led **35** events during 2018/19. Examples include provision of dedicated 1-1 business clinics, a seminar on securing purchasing opportunities with the district council and the inaugural Local Business Village at the New Forest and Hampshire County Show.

We were involved in the New Forest Partnership Awards, and the New Forest Brilliance in Business Awards 2018, celebrating businesses that achieve outstanding results which benefit their workforce, their local community and the New Forest economy as a whole. The overall winner of the awards was Forest Foot and Health Clinic in Cadnam, who have demonstrated an outstanding level of customer care to their patients over the past 23 years.

Our specialist team have been closely engaged with the Solent Local Enterprise Partnership to develop strategies which will seek to deliver business growth, appropriate inward investment and greater access to business support services.

We continue to grow our relationship with Creative England to encourage filming in the district and this project has now delivered just under £3m of local economic benefit to local businesses. This was recognised by the Federation of Small Business in their Most Innovative Programme category at the annual FSB Local Authority Awards.

## MORE HOMES FOR LOCAL PEOPLE

The new Housing Strategy sets out a vision to create balanced communities with a range of housing options that are affordable and sustainable. Alongside objectives to accelerate market housing delivery and increase services for those in greatest need, the strategy includes council plans to support a strong high quality private rented sector, plus the development and construction of at least 600 new council-owned affordable homes for rent and shared-ownership by 2026.

A new Allocation Policy was developed to ensure those in the most housing need were allocated social housing properties in the district. Following public consultation, this was approved and will be implemented in 2019/20. We allocated 372 social housing properties to applicants on our housing register.

The Housing Options service launched a new Homelessness Strategy, aspiring to reduce homelessness, end rough sleeping and the use of B&B accommodation as well as delivering our own emergency accommodation. The service was awarded a grant from central government of £55,000 to provide resources to end rough sleeping. In 18/19 we secured permanent accommodation for 320 households who were either homeless or at risk of homelessness.

The public examination of the Local Plan Review 2016-2036 is now underway. The Local Plan guides future development within the district in the area outside of the National Park, and provides for 10,500 new homes to be built in the district, whilst minimising the loss of land from the green belt.

Around 320 additional homes were built this year, with 75 of these being affordable.

# SERVICE OUTCOMES FOR THE COMMUNITY

To improve the wellbeing of our community, we delivered a summer Activity Roadshow to encourage families to play together in their local parks. 1,661 residents took part in activities in 5 parks around the district. A further 1,260 took part in summer park activities delivered by funded partners in the Waterside area.

995 people with long term conditions were supported back to health through our activity referral programme Active Lifestyles.

In total, over 9.5 million waste and recycling collections were made during the year, with only 2% of waste being sent to landfill. Our public conveniences at Sea Road, Milford-on-Sea are being refurbished, and in order to improve our carparks we are nearing completion of the refurbishment and modernisation of Fordingbridge car park.

We completed food hygiene inspections for over 380 (98%) of our high risk food businesses. 72% of food businesses in the New Forest now have the highest food hygiene rating of 5.

Over 8,000 fitness and swim members use one or more of our five Health and Leisure Centres. Recent improvements to our centres included a new studio at Applemore and a dedicated free weights area at New Milton, with **Virtual group fitness** introduced at three of our sites (Applemore, Totton and Ringwood). All five of our Health and Leisure Centres have achieved and maintained the CIMSPA Pool Water Quality Award for the third consecutive year.

# PROTECTING THE LOCAL CHARACTER OF OUR PLACE

The 'leave nothing but footprints' anti-litter drive was continued with the NPA and Forestry England this year, and the annual community litter pick (annual spring clean) was supported by 1,200 volunteers taking part in 50 events.

Work to deliver the Hurst Spit defence project alongside the Environmental Agency has continued, and the **coastal protection scheme** is set to benefit communities in the local area.

We continue to work hard to remove abandoned vehicles, with 100 being removed this year compared to 54 last year.

In February, we received confirmation that the Air Quality Final Plan had been approved by the Secretary of State. The plan details how compliance with the EU Ambient Air Quality Directive for nitrogen dioxide will be delivered in the New Forest in the shortest possible time.

The Milford-on-Sea beach hut replacement project has been successful in receiving a number of awards, including a British Construction Industry Award for Climate Resilience Project of the Year.

# WORKING WITH OTHERS TO ACHIEVE MORE

£361,500 in community grants was approved this year for 14 local not-for-profit organisations. £86,000 was also awarded to local community organisations for capital projects.

The first **Safer New Forest** conference was held in November 2018, where over 200 local professionals with a shared interest in community safety gathered. Delegates were from a wide variety of organisations including New Forest District Council, Hampshire Fire & Rescue, housing associations, secondary schools, Hampshire Constabulary and charities. Guest speakers and workshops covered a wide range of topics such as drugs and alcohol education and modern day slavery.

The New Forest Healthy Walks programme is run in partnership with New Forest National Park and Community First New Forest. In 2018, we saw over 400 walkers taking part across the year with 654 volunteer

walk leader hours recorded.

We continue to work with the charity **Energise**Me to encourage people to become more active.
We have run a number of targeted programmes including a Boxing Satellite Club which engaged **27 young people** at risk of offending.

We have an ongoing partnership with the National Parks Authority and Forestry Commission and work together on initiatives such as litter picking, and were recently involved in a multi-agency approach to improve safety and licensing of local vehicles

# LIVING WITHIN OUR MEANS

In achieving a balanced budget for 2019/20, savings and improved income generation totalling £2.288m absorbed pay and price increases across the Portfolios totalling some £1.009m. This contributed towards new requirements of £1.359m and have also made an important contribution towards offsetting the reductions in government resources. The residual required increase in council funding to address the net increase in costs and reduction in government funding has been achieved by an increase in council tax.

The council utilised its available cash balances and increased Treasury Management Investments to £1.148m in 2018/19, an increase of £478k from the equivalent figure in 2016/17.

During 2019/20, the council will continue to implement its commercial and residential property strategies, set to provide employment opportunities and homes within the district for rent, whilst making a valuable return to the council to support front line service delivery.

Net savings, efficiencies and improved income in services in the year were £1.039m and a one-off business rates refund of £720,000 was received. Retained business rates were £602,000 ahead of the original budget. Overall the net savings enabled a transfer into the Capital Programme Reserve of £1.044 million (a difference of £1.748 million from the £704,000 originally anticipated to be utilised from the Capital Reserve).

# FINANCIAL PLANNING AND VIABILITY

#### **Current position**

The Capital Programme delivered for 2018/19 totalled £22.617m. This included major repairs to New Forest District Council's housing stock, over £11m spent on additional council houses, the replacement of vehicles and plant, accommodation and ICT changes in line with the Smarter Working project and coastal monitoring.

Treasury Investment income totalled £1.148m, £478,000 up on 2016/17.

#### 2023 position

Further anticipated funding reductions and pay and price increases currently exceed £4m, however, there are plans in place to deliver a balanced budget.

300 -

 January

 Corporate Overview
 Panel
 2014/15
 2015/16
 2016/17
 2017/18
 2018/19
 2019/20

 Council Tax per Band D - £
 155.76
 155.76
 158.36
 163.36
 168.36
 173.36

 Annual % change
 0.0%
 0.0%
 1.7%
 3.2%
 3.1%
 3.0%

#### General fund budget - £m **Government Determined Resources** Transition Grant 10000 -New Homes Bonus Revenue Support Grant 8000 -Business Rates Above Baseline Business Rates Baseline 6000 -**February** Budget & Council Tax Set 2000 -**Decmber April Financial** Financial Monitoring Monitoring July November **Annual Report** MTFP Band D Council Tax: Hampshire Districts & Parish/Town

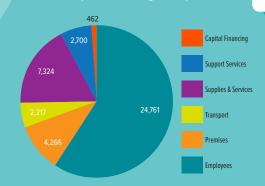
Summary Balance Sheet 31/03/19				
	£'000			
Council Dwellings	370,038			
Other PPE	84,028			
Investment Properties	5,181			
Other Long Term Assets	30,154			
Current Assets	43,244			
Total Assets	532,645			
Current Liabilities	-18,420			
HRA Settlement	-135,708			
Other Long Term Liabilities	-94,876			
Net Assets	283,641			
Usable Reserves	55,137			
Unusable Reserves	228,504			
	283,641			

Summary Usable Reserves 31/03/19							
	GF	HRA	Total				
	£'000	£'000	£'000				
Working Balance	3,000	1,000	4,000				
Earmarked	4,439	20,719	25,158				
Capital Programme	12,558		12,558				
Capital Receipts	3,730	2,071	5,801				
	23,727	23,790	47,517				
CIL / DCs			7,620				
			55,137				

September
Financial
Monitoring

August
Initial MTFP

Budgeted Expenditure 2019/20 £'000 (Exc. Housing Bens)



	Savings New Req. Rephasing				
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
Original Budget April 2018/19				17,243	
Variations agreed in September	-577	102	606	131	
Transfer from Reserves in Septer	mber 0	0	-606	-606	
Variations agreed in December	-351	50	240	-61	
Variations agreed in April	-1,418	1,299	-814	-933	
Transfer from Reserves		-102		-102	
Transfer to Reserves		75	814	889	
Provisional Outturn 31/3/19				16,561	

October
Budget Task &
Finish Group

Parish & Town

**September**Corporate Overview
Panel

# CAPACITY TO DELIVER

#### **Current position**

Staff turnover 26%

**84%** of vacancies are filled first time

**5** apprentices and **17** management development apprenticeships

Training spend per employee £205

Organisational strategy

#### **Future position 2022**

Aligning future organisation with delivery of the corporate plan

Increased partnering and

**collaboration** with others to reduce costs and transform service delivery

Continuing on our path to act more business-like with targeted additional income generation

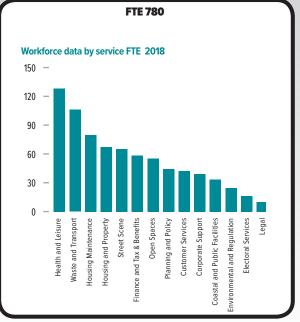
Aiming to **maximise income** from local government finance reform

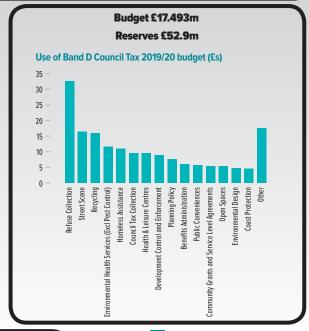
Encouraging Smarter working and the use of digital interaction, transforming our approach to customer services

# Opportunities for improvement identified by the LGA Corporate Peer Challenge

- Clarity on what the council of the future looks like
- 2 Identifying the next steps for ICT and smarter working arrangements
- 3 Ensuring council priorities reflect those of the local community through engagement with residents
- 4 Performance management framework and approach
- **5** Commercial and residential property investment strategy
- 6 Staff engagement

#### **Organisation 2018/19**







Technology Risk/Opportunity

**Customer Expectations** 



#### **Organisation 2022**

Varied

FTEs less than 780

mix of service delivery

Budget requirement 10% less









### **ORGANISATIONAL LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE**

Member Task & Finish groups report to Overview & Scrutiny panels on significant projects and processes **Budget (annually) Coastal Customer Leisure Review Citizens Advice** 

**Council Tax Reduction Community Grants (annually)** Private Sector Housing **Recreation Management Strategy** 

#### Communications

Regular Chief Executive messages to all staff, staff briefings, communications bulletins and employee forum

#### **Important documents and** links

Strategic Risk Register

**Annual Governance Statement** 

Constitution

**Medium Term Financial Plan** 

**Annual Audit Letter** 

**Organisational Strategy** 

**Organisational Structure** 

**Democratic Structure** 

#### **MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE** (as of May 2019)

#### **Chief Executive**

Bob Jackson

#### **Executive Heads**

Colin Read – Operations and Deputy Chief Executive Grainne O'Rourke – Governance & Regulation & Housing (Monitoring Officer) Claire Upton-Brown - Chief Planning Officer

Manjit Sandhu - Resources

#### **Head of Finance**

Alan Bethune

#### **Service Managers**

Steve Jones (Open Spaces) Steve Cook (Building & Coastal Services) Rob Lane (Street Scene)

Chris Noble (Waste & Transport)

Joanne McClay (Environmental & Regulation)

Ritchie Thomson (Housing Maintenance)

Louise Evans (Policy & Strategy)

Matt Wisdom (Democratic & Member Support)

Rebecca Drummond (Elections & Business Improvement)

Andrew Kinghorn (Legal)

Andrew Smith (Estates & Valuation)

Brian Byrne (Estates Mgmt & Support)

Richard Knott (Housing Options)

Joanne Bailey (Health & Leisure)

Heleana Aylett (Human Resources)

Rob Beere (ICT)

Ryan Stevens (Revenue & Benefits)

#### **DEMOCRATIC STRUCTURE (as of May 2019)**

**Council 60 members** 

#### **Cabinet**

### **Overview & Scrutiny Corporate Overview &**

#### **Committees**

Leader and Corporate **Affairs Cllr Barry Rickman** 

**Deputy Leader and** 

Portfolio Holder

Planning & Infrastructure

**Cllr Edward Heron** 

CIIr Alexis McEvoy

**Scrutiny Panel** Chairman:

**Community and Leisure Overview & Scrutiny Panel** Chairman:

Cllr Geoffrey Blunden

**Portfolio Holder Housing Services Cllr Jill Cleary** 

**Environment Overview** & Scrutiny Panel Chairman:

**CIIr Steve Rippon-Swaine** 

Portfolio Holder **Community Affairs** 

**Cllr Diane Andrews** 

Informal Engagement Cabinet/EMT

**Housing Overview & Scrutiny Panel** Chairman: **Cllr Steve Davies** 

Portfolio Holder Finance, Investment & **Corporate Services Cllr Jeremy Heron** 

Member Task & Finish Groups

**Appeals Committee** Chairman: Cllr Alan Alvev

**Audit Committee** Chairman:

Cllr Alan O'Sullivan

**HR Committee** Chairman: **Cllr Barry Rickman** 

**General Purposes & Licensing Committee** Chairman: Cllr Steve Clarke

**Planning Committee** Chairman: **Cllr Christine Ward** 

Portfolio Holder Leisure & Wellbeing **Clir Mark Steele** 

Portfolio Holder **Environment & Regulatory** Services

**Cllr Alison Hoare** 

Portfolio Holder **Economic Development Cllr Michael Harris** 

### **LEADERSHIP OF PLACE**

#### PARTNERSHIP ARRANGEMENTS

Provided to HR (NPA) Financial **Services and Internal Audit (NPA) Customer Services (Hythe PC) Traffic** Management (HCC) Grounds Maintenance (various)

Provided from Treasury Management (HCC) **Customer Services (Totton TC.** 

Fordingbridge PC, Fawley PC) Internal Audit (Southern

Internal Audit Partnership)

**Planning Trees and** Conservation (NPA)

Private/public **Dibden Golf Centre** 

**Shared projects** 

Based at the channel coastal observatory we are the lead authority for the regional coastal monitoring programmes. Directly managing the south east region and co-ordinating the programmes for the entire English coastline (six regions) including funding bids of £23 million to 2021. Key partners include **Environment Agency, Canterbury, Worthing & Havant Councils to deliver** the programme.

**NPA Partnership Plan** 

Ringwood Gateway

**Community Grants awarded** £447,000

**Government partnerships** Disabled facility grant and community housing funding

#### **HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

Responsible for education, children and adults services, highways

78 elected members, 10 members representing the New Forest area 7 NFDC Members

#### **NEW FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Responsible for planning, housing, waste collection, tax and benefits. coast, health and leisure, environment and regulation

60 elected members

#### **37 TOWN AND PARISH** COUNCILS

Responsible for representing communities and delivering services and facilities, not provided by the county or district councils that meet local needs

320 elected members

NFALC attended by Chief Executive

**Governance of the New Forest** 

#### **NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY**

Responsible for ensuring that the national park is safeguarded for people to enjoy now and in the future

**Partnerships** 

22 elected or appointed members

4 NFDC Members

**Partnership** 

for Urban

South

Hampshire

#### THE COURT OF VERDERERS

Responsible for managing the traditional activity of communing (the right for landowners to let their ponies, donkeys, cattle, pigs or sheep run free) 10 elected or appointed verderers

1 NPA Member

#### **FORESTRY ENGLAND**

Responsible for looking after nearly half of the New Forest national park area including its trees, landscapes and the natural environment

Hampshire **Brockenhurst County Council New Forest** CCG & Totton Hampshire **Business** College Fire & Rescue Safer **Partnership New Forest** Go New **Board SMEs Partnership** Hampshire **Forest** Constabulary HCC **New Forest District Council** Solent others to **Local Economic Partnership Local Economic** 

**Forestry** 

**England** 

Working with achieve more

Hampshire

**County Council** 

**Project Integra** (waste)

Hampshire & Isle of Wight local authorities

Hampshire **Alliance Rural** Housing

CAB

**Supporting** families

Safeguarding children

> Health & Wellbeing

Voluntary Other & Community **Services** Community

**National Park Natural England Authority** 

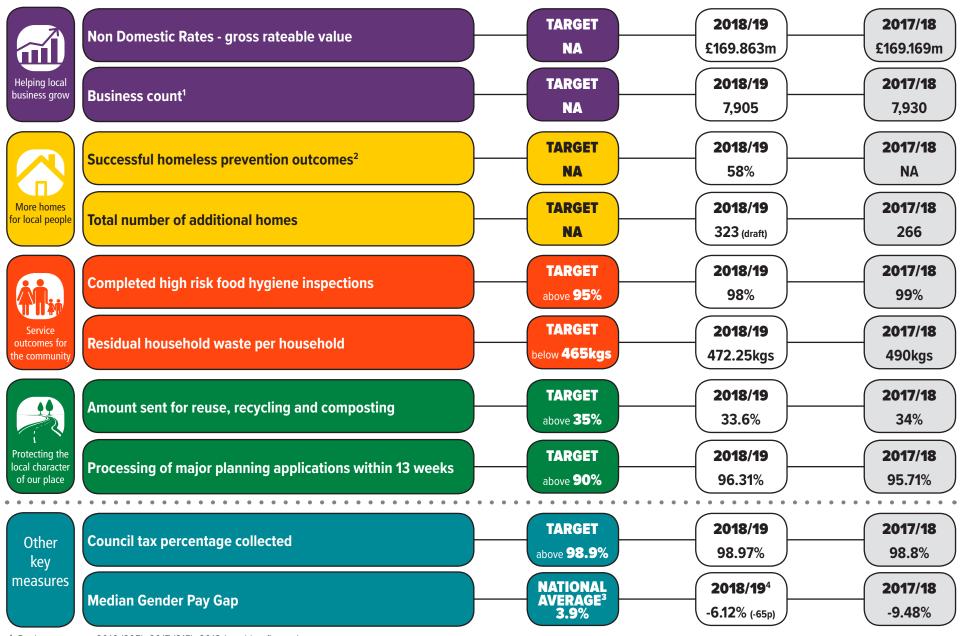
**New Forest** 

Leadership

Group

**First** 

### Key performance measures



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Business start up 2016 (805), 2017 (815), 2018 (awaiting figures)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> First year of measurement, 50% working target which will be increased year on year

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Figure based on average of all local authorities in England

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Percentage represents the difference between the average of men and women's pay. A negative figure represents the female average being higher