



Healthier Hertford

On this stall we are considering ways in which our environment can help us all to be healthier. We hope you will find the following information and links useful to you in using your local environment to support your own health or taking action to improve it. Please check our website out for further information on related topics <https://www.hacc-herts.org/>

The bigger picture why are Healthy Towns Green?

Healthy Towns will facilitate:

1. Encourage Active Travel by:
 - a. Increasing pedestrian paths by creating new routes, linking up existing routes and improving pavements
 - b. Increasing cycle paths by creating new off road routes, looking at opportunities for segregated cycle paths on roads or cycle friendly back streets and linking up existing routes to form a viable network
 - c. These will look at networks that serve important locations such as schools, travel hubs and shopping areas
 - d. Improve availability and pricing of public transport
2. Improve Air Quality by:
 - a. Reducing the number of cars on local journeys by increasing active travel opportunities
 - b. Protecting existing and creating new carbon sinks
 - c. Planting trees near busy roads to screen out pollutants
 - d. Reducing number of cars on longer journeys due to availability and pricing of public transport
 - e. Reduce speed limits on non A roads to 20 mph to reduce emissions
2. Increase local sourcing of food to:
 - a. Reduce travel to buy food
 - b. Reduce the carbon footprint of food deliveries
 - c. Providing the opportunity to grow your own food in allotments or your garden
2. Improving and extending green spaces
 - a. By allocating Local Green Spaces and Green Fingers into towns providing tranquil travel routes and carbon sinks
 - b. Allowing people to escape from urbanisation

Why Neighbourhood Plans?

Because they provide the opportunity to identify methods locally to achieve a Healthy Town and also work on the longer term issues like decarbonising energy.

Just replacing a car with an electric car is not sufficient; we need to radically reduce the number and usage of cars by providing viable alternatives

Neighbourhood Plans

The following wards make up the town of Hertford: Bengeo, Castle, Kingsmead and Sele. Neighbourhood planning was introduced in 2011 under the Localism Act. Neighbourhood planning provides an opportunity for local communities to produce a planning document that shapes and influences future development within their local area. Neighbourhood plans are often initiated by Town or Parish Councils and their formulation is a community led exercise in which a steering group, in consultation with the local community and other stakeholders, can set out planning policies which cover issues such as housing development, community infrastructure, protection and provision of open spaces, etc.

Bengeo and Sele have Neighbourhood Plans which were agreed by referendum by the local communities in May 2021. Kingsmead is currently developing a Neighbourhood Plan. Currently there are no plans to develop a Neighbourhood Plan in Castle Ward.

<https://www.hertford.gov.uk/bengeo-neighbourhood-plan/>

<https://www.hertford.gov.uk/sele-neighbourhood-plan/>

<https://www.knphertford.org/forum>

Once a plan is adopted, some Steering Groups will continue to implement Action Plans and to submit comments on planning applications that the Neighbourhood expressed an interest in during the plan development process. Or it may happen via your local residents' association. The majority of this ongoing work is carried out by volunteers. It is vital for the continuing work to be effective, that residents support it by volunteering and by voicing their concerns to their Steering Group or Residents' Association. There is also an obligation on developers once a plan is adopted to consider any planning policies that have been agreed in the plan.

Over the page find a list of useful local numbers for issues that are often raised by local residents.



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Local problems? Where can I find help?

	Bins, flytipping and recycling	01279 655 261
 <small>by Unknown Author is licensed under</small>	Street lights, potholes, highways (eg20mph) overhanging hedges and roads, rights of way, oversees bus routes.	0300 123 4040
 <small>by Unknown Author is licensed under</small>	Housing	01279 655 261
	Planning permission	01279 655 261
	Money/benefits advice	0300 123 4040
	Social services	0300 123 4040
	Antisocial behaviour	01279 655 261
	Green spaces and dog mess	01279 655 261

If there's an issue you need to raise, the quickest way to get the problem sorted out is to contact the councils directly using the numbers above, or you can email customer.services@eastherts.gov.uk or Hertfordshire County Council via their website. An alternative option is <https://www.fixmystreet.com/>.

If you're having a problem with council services with contact any of your local County, District or Town Councillors for support. An alternative option is <https://www.fixmystreet.com/>.

Ramblers are running a "Don't lose your way campaign". There are miles of lost footpaths that need to be restored before they are lost forever.



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