

TUNBRIDGE WELLS BOROUGH COUNCIL – KEY PRIORITY OBJECTIVES

1 Safeguarding our environment

Aim:

To conserve and enhance the environment of Tunbridge Wells borough both for ourselves and for the benefit of future generations

Priority 1:

Protecting and enhancing the natural environment and landscape

Priority 2:

Conserving and improving the built environment including public spaces, and particularly local heritage

Priority 3:

Reducing the local contribution to climate change through the efficient use of resources

2 Maintaining a thriving economy

Aim:

Promoting and maintaining a thriving and diverse local economy

Priority 1:

Encourage the continued development of a wide range of enterprises in the borough

Priority 2:

Enhance the attractiveness of towns and other centres in the borough as thriving places to visit, shop and establish new enterprises

Priority 3:

Support the sustainable economic development of the more rural areas

3 Enabling people to take part in and enjoy leisure activities

Aim:

To ensure that a wide range of high quality and enjoyable leisure opportunities is available

Priority 1:

Focusing on providing activities and facilities for children and young people

Priority 2:

Encourage people of all ages and abilities to participate in a good variety of leisure opportunities and activities

Priority 3:

Providing appropriate places for people to pursue their leisure interests

4 Increasing community safety and reducing the fear of crime

Aim:

Develop partnership activity to achieve safer and stronger communities

Priority:

To reduce crime, fear of crime and anti-social behaviour

5 Transport – getting around the borough

Aim:

To ensure that residents and visitors can get to work, school, health and leisure facilities in Tunbridge Wells borough in a safe, convenient and sustainable way

Priority 1:

Reduce traffic congestion and pollution by increasing responsible travel options and enhancing accessibility to key destinations

Priority 2:

Pursue improvements to key transport routes and public transport to promote the role of the Tunbridge Wells/Tonbridge Transport Hub, as defined in the South East Plan

Priority 3:

Improve travel safety for all – in towns, villages and rural areas

6 Meeting the need for housing

Aim:

To meet the housing and related support needs of local people of all ages

Priority 1:

Provision of affordable homes (including social rented homes, low-cost home ownership and housing for key workers)

Priority 2:

Supporting independence for all vulnerable people (including older people, young people and those with disabilities)

Priority 3:

Preventing homelessness

Priority 4:

Improving the quality of existing homes and housing-related services

Priority 5:

Promoting safe, sustainable communities through housing-related initiatives

7: Promoting health and improving well-being

Aim:

To enable people to access healthy lifestyle choices and provide the right health care facilities to meet the community's needs.

Priority 1:

Promoting healthy lifestyles

Priority 2:

Improving access to health services

Priority 3:

Improving hospital cleanliness and performance

8 Encouraging social inclusion by supporting independence

Aim:

To give everyone an opportunity to lead a fulfilling life

Priority 1:

Encouraging volunteering and empowering local communities to participate in decision-making and delivery of service

Priority 2:

Promoting the physical, emotional, social and intellectual development of children and young people

Priority 3:

Engaging with, helping realise the potential of, and meeting the diverse needs of older people, people with disabilities and Black and Minority Ethnic groups

9 Learning for all

Aim:

To raise educational achievement across the borough and develop the opportunities for everyone to acquire the lifetime skills needed to find and remain in work

Priority 1:

To improve literacy, numeracy, behaviour and school attendance in early years, primary and secondary education, and ensure that collaboration between agencies continues to improve services for those with additional education and welfare needs

Priority 2:

Increase the number of students leaving schools and colleges that have skills and academic and vocational qualifications which meet business needs.

Priority 3:

Further develop the wider role of schools and colleges within their community and increase their focus on community and adult learning