

# OUR FIVE YEAR PLAN Proposed actions for 2024/25 and beyond

Our vision: to enhance the Malvern Hills District as a destination to explore and an outstanding place to live and work



# **Our Health & Wellbeing**

## **Our Environment**

#### Continue to invest to support and enable our communities to become healthier, safer and stronger

- Work with health and strategic partners to transform our leisure and community facilities into community hubs for wellbeing by:
  - o Upskilling the leisure workforce.
  - o Introducing an exercise referral scheme.
  - o Connecting residents to other community health and wellbeing services and support.
- Support more villages to achieve SmartWater status to discourage organised and opportunistic crime.
- Continue to facilitate investment of at least £20million in new open space provision, play areas, playing pitches and communities facilities across the district in the plan period.

### Tackle the root causes of poverty and help residents to prevent, survive and recover from financial hardship

- Establish the first district council led Poverty Truth Commission with residents who have experience of poverty by 2025, directly involving them in decision making through telling their own stories.
- Increase investment in welfare support in 2024/25, to directly support those most in need of help with household basics.

#### Prevent homelessness and rough sleeping or ensure it is rare, brief and non-recurring

- Work with housing partners to maximise delivery of affordable housing, to meet local needs.
- Reduce our use of B&B accommodation by increasing the provision of suitable temporary accommodation in the district, by March 2027.

#### Give young people the opportunity to have a say in public services

- Visit all secondary schools and at least 50% of primary schools and hold a Democracy event by March 2026, to listen to and consider the things that matter to them.
- Deliver an enhanced Youth Forum and ensure young people's priorities are incorporated in Council services, including our youth activities programmes.

#### **Create a vibrant arts community that** delivers social, economic and health benefits for our residents

- 10. Deliver our £20million improvements to Malvern Theatres by December 2026, to create life enriching opportunities for our residents from all backgrounds.
- 11. Continue to support and develop community led arts across the district through an independent arts network and small grants programme.

#### **Enable economic growth through** increased provision of suitable commercial premises

- Work with all partners on the Malvern Hills Science Park Board to deliver Phase 6 of the Science Park as a low carbon development as early as possible and by 2027 at the latest.
- 13. Work with partners to deliver investment in new workspace and key employment sites, increasing overall stock by at least 10% on the 2023 baseline by 2028.

#### Support vibrant town centres and an attractive tourism offer

- 14. Return footfall in our towns to at least pre-Covid levels by 2026 and grow it by a further 10% by 2030.
- Develop a masterplan for the sympathetic redevelopment of the area bound by Church Street and Edith Walk in Great Malvern.
- 16. Enable the tourism sector to build a workforce of over 4,000 by 2030.

#### **Ensure Malvern Hills District is** recognised as a leading location for highly productive, high growth businesses

- 17. Achieve 65% of the workforce in higher skills employment by 2030.
- 18. Workplace pay at or above Worcestershire average by
- 19. Support businesses to create 100 new apprenticeships by 2026.
- 20. Support at least 100 businesses per year to innovate and grow through business support programmes.
- 21. Secure £3million private sector investment in low carbon technology across the district by 2030.
- 22. Building on the strengths of our rural businesses and communities, deliver a £500,000 Rural England Prosperity Fund capital grants programme by March 2025.





# **Lead Malvern Hills District Council and** the wider district to become carbon

- Reduce the Council's own greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2030.
- 24. Lead the district by example, to become carbon neutral as soon as possible and by 2050 at the latest.
- 25. Progress options to decarbonise Malvern Splash and Malvern Theatres, including improving energy efficiency and the implementation of renewable energy and low carbon heating technologies.
- Achieve 100% Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) usage in suitable vehicles at our depot by 2025.

#### **Encourage low carbon development,** design measures and infrastructure to improve resilience and adaptation to climate change

- 27. Prepare and adopt a Sustainable Buildings Supplementary Planning Document by the end of
- 28. Promote and support sustainable travel solutions, including low carbon, community transport and active travel.
- 29. Support major flood alleviation schemes including Tenbury Wells and Severn Stoke through Council funding.
- 30. Launch an awards scheme to promote excellence in sustainable activity including buildings, biodiversity and community initiatives during 2024.

#### Reduce the amount of non-recyclable waste sent to the Energy from Waste Plant from the district's households

Reduce non-recyclable waste collected at the kerbside by at least 10% over the 2023 baseline by 2029 through programmes and enforcement campaigns.

