

Corporate Strategy, Year 1 plan 2025/26

A High Quality Place Adapted for a Changing Climate				
Action	Lead Cabinet Member	Revenue ongoing	Revenue one-off	Capital
Refresh the Integrated Transport Strategy (with citizen engagement) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bespoke plans for Town and Rural areas 	Cllr Harwood		£50,000 for Integrated Transport Strategy	
Nature Recovery through Community partnership and action <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce a grant scheme focussed on river and land restoration to promote landscape beauty, biodiversity, flood mitigation and support rural employment and community engagement and ownership New local nature reserves for example Banky meadow River restoration Beult, Len, Loose stream, Teise etc on climate change, adaptation and nature recovery 	Cllr Summersgill	£55,000 Enhance Action Plan by delivering mitigation and adaptation projects using a dedicated project management resource	£500,000 Establish Nature Recovery Fund using one-off resources in Local Government Finance Settlement 2025/26	
Refresh and Deliver the Climate Change and Biodiversity Strategy to focus on actions that are in our control including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> open spaces, increasing waste minimisation, re-use and recycling including our own buildings, increasing information and advice to businesses and residents Inform and engage residents and businesses to manage and protect green spaces 	Cllr Summersgill	£25,000 Initiative to introduce subsidised home composting bins and water butts as part of measures to improve waste management		Infrastructure Delivery Including New Green Spaces £2,500,000 Climate Change and Biodiversity Projects £2,500,000

		to be funded from the extended producer responsibility (EPR) funding.		
Biodiversity Net Gain Identify from our own sites land suitable for Biodiversity net gain	Cllr Summersgill	Use current resources	Use Nature Recovery Fund if necessary to bring land up to standard	
Help residents make their homes more energy efficient and their money go further including seeking opportunities for innovation in local energy supply	Cllr Wales and Cllr Summersgill	Use current resource ie £49,000 growth already included in budget to support property decarbonisation		
Take Action to improve Air Quality	Cllr Summersgill		£25,000 for updated Air Quality Management Plan	
Ensure responsible and sustainable landscape management of our own land and increase green spaces	Cllr English	Use current resources		Infrastructure Delivery Including New Green Spaces £2,500,000

Enhanced interpretation of historic buildings and places	Cllr Thompson	Use current resources		
Attain Green Flag for Brenchley Gardens	Cllr English	Use current resources		
Deliver an Exemplar heritage Strategy	Cllr Thompson	Use current resources		
Support bid for Kent Downs national Landscape extension onto Greensand Ridge	Cllr Harwood/Cllr Summersgill	Use current resources		
Continue the delivery of a review of the local plan including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - developing design and sustainability documents - innovative landscape character area assessment 	Tony Harwood	Use current resources		
Resilient Communities				
Action	Lead Cabinet Member	Revenue ongoing	Revenue one-off	Capital
Introduce a voluntary and community services grant scheme to support resilient communities	Cllr Naghi	£60,000 ongoing grant programme		
Deliver two pump tracks	Cllr English			£200,000 (assumes use of existing MBC land)
Develop and widely promote a directory of community facilities, spaces and events across the Borough	Cllr Naghi	Use current resources		
Investigate and promote funding streams/sources to support community facilities across the Borough	Cllr Naghi	Use current resources		
Initiate a study into leisure options	Cllr Thompson			Use existing provision in capital programme for feasibility

				work on new leisure centre
Strengthen communication with our Parish Councillors and community organisations	Cllr Naghi	£5,000 for annual parish conference		
Introduce a programme of citizen engagement on key topics including violence against women and girls and transport	Cllr Naghi	£100,000		
Deliver a healthier borough through health in all policies	Cllr Thompson	Use current resources		
Undertake Gypsy Romany Traveller community engagement and outreach	Cllr Naghi	Use current resources		
Quality Homes				
Action	Lead Cabinet Member	Revenue ongoing	Revenue one-off	Capital
Work with private sector landlords and providers to support a quality local rental market and accommodation portfolio	Cllr Wales	Use current resources		
Deliver the homelessness strategy and action plan	Cllr Wales	Use current resources		£30,000,000 TA property purchases.
Improve and continue delivery of quality homes for life for local people	Cllr Wales			£172,000,000 Quality Homes for Life programme
Open the Housing Revenue Account	Cllr Wales			Use Quality Homes for Life programme expand portfolio to HRA

				threshold of 200 homes
Deliver a high quality, well landscaped public Gypsy, Romany, Traveller site	Cllr Wales			£4,000,000
Deliver a HMO SPD	Tony Harwood	Use current resources		
Initiate a study into leisure facilities options in the borough (see also under Resilient Communities)	Cllr Thompson			Use existing provision in capital programme for feasibility work on new leisure centre.
Fairer Economy for People and Planet				
Action	Lead Cabinet Member	Revenue ongoing	Revenue one-off	Capital
Explore options for café and toilet facilities in or around Maidstone Museum	Cllr Thompson			£100,000
Making use of our spaces including Coronation Square and Jubilee Square for events and markets throughout the year.	Cllr Thompson			Included within £500,000 funding for Lockmeadow ongoing investment.
Develop a strategy to champion and deliver increased access to further, higher and lifelong learning in the borough	Cllr Thompson	Use current resources		
Work with the local history gallery at Maidstone Museum on community outreach to celebrate and promote local heritage, history and culture	Cllr Thompson	Use current resources		£480,000 Museum Development Plan will fund

				capital works at Museum
Deliver a new Economic Development Strategy	Cllr Thompson		Use Kent Business Rates pool funds earmarked for economic development	
Commence work on a Town Centre vision	Cllr Thompson	Use current resources		
Deliver the Arts and Culture strategy	Cllr Thompson	£30,000 Ongoing Creative Community grant programme To be funded by UKSPF		
Deliver the Creative Maker Space in the Town Centre	Cllr Thompson	£28,000 Funding to cover opportunity cost of commercial income from unit in Gabriels Hill	Staffing costs for year one funded by UKSPF £50,000	