

Environment Framework Priorities
2019/2020 and 2020/2021 Council/Financial years.

Town Environment

Environment Framework References 12 & 15.

- **Planting**

Agree options for planting more trees at minimal cost to HHTC using funds from external sources and voluntary labour to plant and maintain.

Agree programme for planting wildflowers and drought resistant bedding to extend wildlife corridor as well as enhancing the environment and neutralising CO2 emissions. Requires review of current practices in Muster Green, cemetery, nature reserve, allotments. Add bat and bird boxes, ponds, edible gardens. Arrange a meeting of relevant Councillors and Clerk to discuss costs and any funds available in this year's budget. In addition, the Town Council will investigate the purchase of tree at nil cost form Carbon Footprint Ltd

Target Date: End of October 2019 with year on year review to implement a phased approach to any changes in the planting regime.

Projected Costs: The annual budget will naturally be reduced by any reduction of planting. Any reduction in the budget could allow for the purchase of bat and bird boxes, ponds, edible gardens.

Staff Resources: Time of Town Clerk, Deputy Clerk and Groundstaff.

- **Litter Cleanups initiated by Councillors with community involvement.**

Include signage clean up and identification of Grot Spots.

Target Date: 2019/2020 onwards – Programme to be agreed.

Projected Costs: Nil.

Staff Resources: None for litter but Groundstaff time for yellow signs.

- **Review Weed Control Practices**

Target Date: End of March 2020.

Projected Costs: £1,550 per kerb side spray. HHTC land undertaken by Groundstaff within existing budgets.

Staff Resources: External Contractor and Groundstaff.

Policy Development and Planning Framework

Environment Framework References 31, 33, 36, 42, 44, 45,52, 57 -58, 61, 71, 73, 79 & 80

- **Planning**

To encourage best practice in plans for new buildings.

Target date: 2019/2020. Being promoted through HHNP and MSDC DP.

Projected Costs: Nil.

Staff Resources: Planning Clerk comments from Members consideration of applications.

- **HHTC actions for own premises.**

Produce an Environment Code of Conduct for the offices.

Target date: End of December 2019.

Projected Costs: Nil. The outcomes of a code of conduct may have minimal admin costs that can be met through existing budgets.

Staff Resources: Audit by Town Clerk to be completed by end of December.

- **HHTC Carbon Offset & Bio Diversity Strategy**

- HHTC to use existing and acquired land to re-forest and increase biodiversity.
- Explore working with <https://www.carbonfootprint.com/plantingtrees.html>
- to create local Haywards Heath Carbon offset strategy.
- Start by using existing land (i.e. Hurstwood) to offer a Carbon Offset as part of Tree Planting strategy.
- Ring fence money to acquire more Land. If necessary, using compulsory purchase.
- Strategy should ensure diversity of native trees and native flowers (no mono-culture).
- Encourage local schools to adapt a ReWilding area and track bio-diversity as part of school project.
- If CarbonFootprint is an appropriate partner (TBD) low effort if HHTC works with an established program.
- Link activity into <https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/land-waste-and-housing/public-paths-and-the-countryside/how-we-support-conservation-and-biodiversity/>

Target Date: TBC

Projected Costs: Unforecastable at the present time. The Town Council would have to consider how much money to ring fence and determine how it would manage its liabilities

Staff Resources: Unknown.

Communication and Signposting

Environment Framework References 4, 6, 46, 47 & 49.

- **Community**
Information, in newsletters and social media, Council stands at Town Day.
School involvement including spreading best practice between schools.

Target Date: 2019 now and ongoing.

Projected Costs: Already in budget.

Staff Resources: Marketing Officer already producing forums to convey the information.

- **Twinning Associations**
Collect information on actions in Bondues and Traunstein. Traunstein are ahead of HHTC on actions so we can learn from them.

Target Date: End of October 2019 and ongoing.

Projected Costs: Nil

Staff Resources: Marketing Officer/Mayor's secretary.

- **General**
HHTC Join Climate Local - <https://www.local.gov.uk/topics/environment-and-waste/climate-local>. HHTC Town Clerk to communicate HHTC activities into the community and highlight activities that HHTC should consider.

Target Date: Immediately.

Projected Costs: Already in budget.

Staff Resources: Marketing Officer already producing forums to convey the information.

Retail and Food Waste

Environment Framework References 3 & 4.

- **Haywards Heath Eco Retailer Award**
To promote local climate awareness and reward eco-friendly retailers:
 - Haywards Heath Annual Eco-Award (HHTC at Town Day).
 - Criteria to be determined - but suggested include - promotion of education, localism, waste/recycling (e.g. participate in togoodtogo), healthy eating/high plant diet, compostable packaging, water-refill etc.
 - A cash award, Retailer can donate to Environmental charity of their choice, profile in local paper and HHTC site.

- Low effort.

Target Date: Launch for implementation April 2020.

Projected Costs: Minimal £250 for admin and sponsorship to be secured for prize fund.

Staff Resources: Minimal - Town Clerk and Events and Community Officer.

- **Recycling Bottle tops, Crisp packets, plant pots.**

Receptacles at HHTC

Target Date: Already Implemented and ongoing.

Projected Costs: Nil

Staff Resources: Reception staff collection, volunteer sorting and private company collection.

- **Food Waste**

Request MSDC to implement a food waste service similar to

Lewes. <https://www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/bins-waste-and-recycling/food-waste-recycling/>

Support Burgess Hill's Maker Initiative.

Low cost / Low effort.

Target Date: End of July 2020

Projected Costs: None to HHTC

Staff Resources: Minimal

Town Council

- **HHTC Rooftop Solar Install**

- WSCC is currently investigating bulk solar purchase for Sussex:
- Ideally part of a WCSS initiative if that progresses. But could be pursued more locally if needed.
- HHTC to actively aid/ promote WCSS initiative in each Ward.
- Up front cost to HHTC ~£15K (guesstimate) - long term energy savings.
- Low Effort.

Target Date: End of December 2020.

Projected Costs: TBC

Staff Resources: Application process for monies to be administered and outcomes monitored by Events and Community Officer.

Transport

Environment Framework References 26, 37 & 49.

- **Traffic**
 - Install bicycle stands on South Road
 - Petition MSDC / WSCC for traffic calming in HH town centre - more cycle friendly environment for HH Town Centre.
 - Low cost / Low effort.

Target date: 2020/2021 – In terms of setting out a policy position for HHTC and capital costs for bicycle stands.

Projected Costs: None for petition. Capital costs to be suggested in budget setting for 2020/2021.

Staff Resources – Town Clerk.

Consider actions to improve air quality, reduce pollution from traffic.

- Destination Haywards Heath

Target Date: End November 2019. Not within HHTC remit, but E and GP via EWG has already resolved to write to MSDC/WSCC on the matter. This will be actioned after Full Council.

Projected Costs: Nil

Staff Resources: Town Clerk.