

Hinckley & Bosworth's Rural Strategy 2024 to 2028

Hinckley & Bosworth
Borough Council



Introduction - The Rural Strategy sets out the high level priorities that are aligned to the Council's Corporate Plan 2024 to 2028 for rural areas of the borough, underpinned by key actions, with the impact and outcomes presented at the annual Rural Conference.

Purpose of our Rural Strategy

- To enable Parish Councils to have a voice in informing rural priorities for the borough
- To ensure issues of importance for rural communities are given equal opportunity for promotion, support and action
- To ensure further growth and development strengthens the wellbeing and prosperity of the borough's rural communities
- To maximise opportunities to enable access to services and facilities



The Vision for our Rural Borough

To secure distinct, diverse and prosperous rural communities in Hinckley & Bosworth

our Strategic Aims

- Inclusive, sustainable rural communities, where everyone has the opportunity to participate, and can access the services and facilities they need
- An environmentally and economically sound rural borough where the needs of farming, conservation and development are appropriately balanced
- Residents feel supported to take ownership and drive improvements in their own communities
- Ensure our rural communities can be safe and welcoming for residents, visitors and businesses

Our Priority Themes and Focus:

1 Access to services, facilities and well being

- Engage with our rural schools to support students in providing advice and guidance on future career aspirations, democracy related activities and deliver key messages on a range of topics such as healthy relationships, exploitation, anti-social behaviour, drugs and alcohol, diversity mental health and health and wellbeing
- Promotion of health and well-being pathways to uplift healthy living in our rural population, including key health preventative interventions around mental well-being, loneliness, social isolation and physical activity
- Continue to provide welfare support and guidance to those most in need in our rural communities, which will include the promotion of social prescribing platform JOY allowing us to raise awareness of services & support on a neighbourhood level
- To support the ongoing development, delivery and access to services and facilities at a local level, such as Mobile Community Hub, welfare support outreach and neighbourhood mental health work
- Align relevant HBBC rural grant funding to support priority parish and community initiatives



2 Facilitation of transport solutions

- To enable parishes to work with Leicestershire County Council in the identification and implementation of local community transport solutions ensuring their voices are heard
- To work with the voluntary and community sector to map and promote community transport opportunities

3 Promoting Neighbourhood Planning

- Support parishes in developing Neighbourhood Development Plans under the neighbourhood planning process, or the development of Community led Parish Plans
- Ensure effective engagement of parishes and seek their views in the development of the Borough Council's Local Plan
- Continue to ensure new development makes provision for local facilities and infrastructure to enable communities to continue to thrive and be sustainable through the planning process



4 Rural housing delivery

- Housing development in our rural communities includes the community, particularly in the development of rural exception sites and community led housing schemes
- Rural housing development that supports and is supported by appropriate infrastructure improvements
- Affordable housing provision to be informed by local evidence of need, including tenures such as affordable homes for rent and home ownership need and property types such as bungalows

Our Priority Themes and Focus:

5 Protection and enhancement of the rural environment



- Continue to work with parishes in identifying and adopting Public Space Protection Order sites
- To support parishes and their communities to deliver on climate change initiatives and improvements, including enabling access to appropriate grant funding, which will underpin the Council's Climate and Biodiversity Strategy
- Continue to manage and deliver a comprehensive environmental health, protection and inspections programme including premises food hygiene rating, food hygiene inspections, infectious disease investigation, pest control and licensing



6 Economy, Farming, Enterprise and Tourism

- Enhance rural enterprise and tourism utilising the capital grants programme from the national Rural England Prosperity Fund
- To direct rural businesses to appropriate business advice and services
- To support our Rural Town Centres by offering support and guidance
- Support the delivery of the Tourism Strategy 2024 - 2030, to enable tourism growth across all parishes in the borough and continue to support the Hinckley & Bosworth Tourism Partnership
- Ensure the effective engagement of the farming community and seek their views in the development of countryside planning and development policies in the Local Plan, including green energy production, non-agricultural diversification and food production
- Support the agricultural and forestry sectors to make a positive environmental impact

7 Community Safety and Rural Crime



- To continue to support and enable parishes to take enforcement actions in relation to environmental nuisance issues e.g. planning breaches, noise nuisance and dog fouling
- Work with partners, volunteers and parishes to help tackle and reduce speeding and parking related issues
- Continue to promote 'neighbourhood' link in rural communities and other timely reporting mechanisms for crime and disorder
- Raise awareness through parishes of the funding opportunities available to volunteers to support community activities
- Work with our partners to tackle rural crime



8 Community empowerment and action through partnership working

- The overall aims and outcomes of this Strategy will be achieved through joint working with all our key partners – statutory, business, and voluntary & community sector, with delivery plans aligning to relevant national, countywide and local plans
- Support the delivery of regular Parish Forums and the hosting of annual conferences that address key rural topics

The Rural Strategy compliments wider local strategies such as:

- Health & Well Being Community Plan 2023
- Tourism Strategy 2024 to 2028
- Climate & Bio Diversity Strategy 2024 to 2026
- Community Safety Strategy 2023 to 2026
- Economic Regeneration Strategy 2012 to 2025



A Rural Strategy for the Borough of **Hinckley and Bosworth** encompasses 53 settlements divided into 24 parished areas

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|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| ● Atterton | ● Dadlington | ● Newbold Heath | ● Sheepy Parva |
| ● Bagworth | ● Desford | ● Newbold Verdon | ● Shenton |
| ● Barlestone | ● Earl Shilton | ● Newtown Unthank | ● Stanton-under-Bardon |
| ● Barton in the Beans | ● Far Coton | ● Norton Juxta Twycross | ● Stapleton |
| ● Barwell | ● Fenny Drayton | ● Odstone | ● Stoke Golding |
| ● Bilstone | ● Field Head | ● Orton on the Hill | ● Sutton Cheney |
| ● Botcheston | ● Groby | ● Osbaston | ● Thornton |
| ● Brascote | ● Higham on the Hill | ● Peckleton | ● Twycross |
| ● Bull in the Oak | ● Kirkby Mallory | ● Pinwall | ● Wellsborough |
| ● Burbage | ● Merry Lees | ● Ratby | ● Witherley |
| ● Cadeby | ● Lindley | ● Ratcliffe Culey | ● Upton |
| ● Carlton | ● Market Bosworth | ● Sibson | |
| ● Congerstone | ● Markfield | ● Shackerstone | |
| ● Cross Hands | ● Nailstone | ● Sheepy Magna | |

Further information please contact:

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