

Conservative-run Fareham Council: 24 years of outstanding civic leadership

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Fareham South
InTouch

**Local News
& Action**

Spring
2023

Councillor Stephen Ingram Reporting Back

Wise Conservative investment and spending pays off - **Fareham Council excels: Low taxes, Great services**



Upgraded
entertainment,
open spaces,
arts and leisure
facilities



More jobs and
investment
opportunities
for local people
and businesses



In the face of the toughest of financial pressures our Conservative Borough Council has managed to deliver a balanced budget with a tiny increase for the average home in the Borough of just 1p per day, making your tax bill for all of Fareham Council's services just £3 per week. ***Almost the country's lowest!***

While other authorities set record-high tax increases, the average home in Fareham will pay just **one penny per day** more in district council tax... meaning households will receive all of our Borough services & amenities for **just £3 per week**.

Councillor Seán Woodward, Fareham Council Leader, is proud of the Council's achievement in providing excellent services and infrastructure for residents at one of the lowest district council taxes in England.

With a budget of over £50 million per year, the council tax raised by Fareham Council is less than £8 million, which means that 84% of the Council's expenditure is covered by fees, charges and commercial property rents.

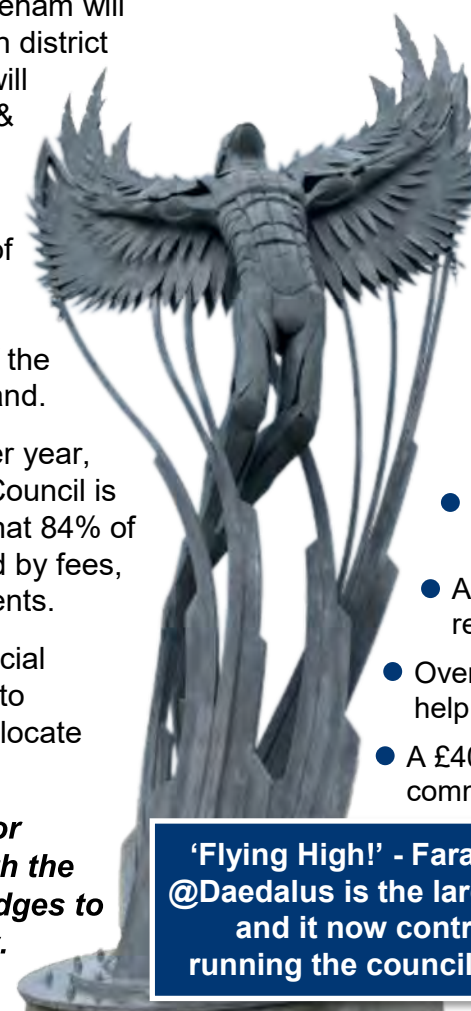
Fareham Council's impressive financial management is evident in its ability to deliver essential services and still allocate funds for ambitious capital projects.

Our local Conservative Councillor Stephen Ingram is getting on with the job and fulfilling his election pledges to keep Fareham's Council Tax low.

So, what does £3 a week get us in Fareham?

Despite the tight costs of service delivery, Fareham Borough Council has an impressive capital programme of £62 million over the next five years, including...

- £25 million for building new council houses and upgrading existing stock.
- Plans to demolish the 50-year-old Osborn Road multi-storey car park and replace it with a modern surface car park, electric car charging points and solar panels to generate power.
- Air-ground lighting at Solent Airport to attract and keep more aviation tenants.
- A £1 million children's playground refurbishment programme across Fareham.
- Over £3 million of disabled adaptation grants to help people make adaptations to their homes.
- A £400,000 programme of works to improve community centres.



'Flying High!' - Faraday Business Park at Solent Airport @Daedalus is the largest employment site in the Borough, and it now contributes significantly to the cost of running the council's services - reducing YOUR tax bill!

COMMENT

Many people have been angered and disgusted by the recent behaviour of Nick Gregory as Councillor for Fareham South.



It's not just the fact he has switched parties more than half a dozen times. It's the total disregard of constituent emails, letters and telephone calls.

Here in Fareham South, it's the failures of Nick Gregory that have led to casework being unresolved and local people being let down. What is the point in a Councillor who is never around and doesn't attend 40% of meetings?

Fareham South residents deserve better than this. ***It's time for a change!*** The Conservatives stand ready to give our area a second voice who works hard all-year and doesn't just make an appearance at election-time.

PETITION



This QR code will take you to Google Forms where you can sign our petition for Nick Gregory to resign as Councillor for our area.

Fareham South deserves better than this!

Action on Inconsiderate Parking

As local Councillors there are still a number of residents continuing to complain about inconsiderate parking in the area, especially on bends of the road, near to junctions, and on grass verges in narrow roads.

It is hoped that Highways will be able to address some of the concerns as roads are resurfaced when the summer programme of works starts.

Our local Hampshire County Councillor Pamela Bryant continues to request local roads to be included in the programme of works for 2023. If you know of any road that is need of repair, please contact Pamela below.



Contact your local Fareham South Councillors



Stephen Ingram

Stephen Ingram

Borough Councillor for Fareham South
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Pamela Bryant & Peter Latham

County Councillors for Fareham Town
Tel: 01329 281427 E-Mail: pamela.bryant@hants.gov.uk
Tel: 01329 843267 E-Mail: peter.latham@hants.gov.uk



Pamela Bryant & Peter Latham

Local Fareham South news - see inside...

An update from Suella Braverman KC MP



Suella Braverman writes:

As Fareham's MP and Home Secretary, my goal is to have more police, less crime, and safer streets.

By the end of March, 600 new police officers will join

Hampshire's police force, part of our national programme to recruit 20,000 new officers.

We've also invested in Fareham's safety with millions of pounds for new CCTV cameras and street lighting through the Safer Streets Fund.

We're committed to tackling domestic burglary and anti-social behaviour, and our excellent PCC, Donna Jones, is leading the way in making Hampshire safer for everyone.

5,000 new apprentices in Fareham since 2015

Since 2015, over 5,000 new apprenticeships have been created in Fareham, thanks to the Conservative government's focus on improving skills and productivity.

As Fareham's MP, I've hosted annual apprenticeship fairs that have connected talented young people with businesses. My most recent fair was extremely well-attended at the Fareham Job Centre with Mayor & Mayoress Anne & Mike Ford below.

These apprenticeships provide students with paid opportunities to gain industry knowledge and build new skills.

I'm proud to have contributed to this effort and to see so many people choosing apprenticeships as a viable career path.



Local News & Action from your Conservative Councillors...

Working for Fareham South all-year-round

Depression in our children

Councillor Stephen Ingram writes:

I feel compelled to share this important information with the residents of Fareham, especially those who are parents like myself. As adults, we understand that our most important responsibility is our children. However, over the past two years, their lives have been drastically altered due to circumstances beyond their control.

Recently, many Fareham South residents have contacted me, seeking advice on how to deal with the changes in their children's lives. To better understand the problem, I approached Austen Pearl, who runs a local fostering agency called Tenja Care. With over 40 years of experience in childcare, Austen is one of the most qualified individuals to advise on this subject. Austen's insight into the situation was invaluable, and he explained that the past two years have had a negative impact on our children.

Austen's advice was straightforward: as parents, we need to be vigilant and notice any changes in our children's behaviour. He emphasised the importance of recognising symptoms of depression in children, which can be challenging to identify. For example, in adolescents, sulkiness, irritability, antisocial behaviour, negativity, and withdrawal may be signs of depression. Meanwhile, in younger children, a morbid preoccupation with death and dying or extreme fear of being separated from parents and friends may indicate depression.

One of the biggest issues, according to Austen, is that many parents are not trained to recognise the signs that their child may be depressed.

Therefore, it's crucial that we learn to observe and understand our children's behaviour to identify potential problems and take appropriate action.

As parents, we need to prioritise our children's mental health and do everything we can to support them during these challenging times.

Getting treatment for your child

It's crucial to take action and not wait for the symptoms of depression to go away on their own. Depression can have a severe impact on a child's life if left untreated. If you notice the warning signs of depression, it's essential to seek professional help.

Make an appointment with your family physician for a depression screening. Be prepared to provide specific information about your child's symptoms, how long they've been present, how much they're affecting their daily life, and any patterns you've noticed.

If you need further advice or information, please don't hesitate to reach out to me using my contact details overleaf.

Remember, seeking help is a sign of strength, and there is no shame in reaching out for help when you need it.



Success! £800,000 for improved local facilities

Fareham Borough Council has announced that it has been awarded £1 million from the Government's Shared Prosperity Fund.

Following this successful application for funding, the Council has allocated £800,000 to deliver improved community facilities in two areas in Fareham that experience comparatively higher levels of deprivation.

The second community focused project is the provision of a greatly enhanced recreational and play facilities at Crossfell Walk in Fareham South.

The allocation of these funds has been eagerly awaited for some time, and will be welcomed by local resident Lorraine Driver. Lorraine has campaigned for the play area to be improved for some time and greeted the news enthusiastically commenting: "Thank you so much Councillor Stephen Ingram for your help and support on this journey".



Stephen & Lorraine at the Crossfell Walk play area.

The next stage of the project is to agree on the design for the new play area and choose the play equipment that will be incorporated.

The UK Shared Prosperity Fund is a central pillar of the UK government's Levelling Up agenda and provides £2.6 billion of funding for local investment. The Fund aims to improve pride in place and increase life chances across the UK investing in communities and supporting local business.

Our local Councillor Stephen Ingram says: "I cannot wait to see the smiles on the children's faces once the project is completed. This is just the good news that Fareham South needs!"

The King's Coronation

Residents may well be planning events to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III which will take place on Saturday 6th May.

Fareham Borough Council has produced a web page to help with ideas and guidance to hold an enjoyable and safe event.

Just scan the QR code!

Additionally, Hampshire County Councillors have a grant fund available to help with events.

If you are interested in knowing more about the grants, which will be available during April, please do contact our local County Councillors, Pam Bryant and Peter Latham overleaf.



We look forward to hearing of all the local events happening to celebrate the King's Coronation!