

Chronicle

Stevenage Borough Council's residents' magazine

Winter 2024



**STEVENAGE NEWS
ROUND UP**



**TRANSFORMING OUR
TOWN**



**PAVING THE WAY TO A
BRIGHTER FUTURE**



**HOW YOU CAN HELP
WILDLIFE TO FLOURISH**



**MEET THE
MAYOR**



Winter time at Fairlands Valley Park.

Stevenage
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Leader's column



Welcome to the Winter 2024 edition of Chronicle magazine...

I hope you are looking forward to the festive period, which is fast approaching. But, it wasn't that long ago that we were enjoying our annual fireworks display, sponsored by Mulalley at Fairlands Valley Park. Thank you to everyone who came along to watch the fantastic display. I hope you enjoyed it as much as I did.

As a former college tutor, I love to see the council create opportunities for students, so I was delighted to hear that primary and secondary school pupils in Stevenage have been invited to showcase their creative and artistic skills for a brand-new urban design competition - Colour in the Underpass. The winning entries will feature in a large urban artwork display in a Stevenage underpass, which will be unveiled in Spring 2025.

Have you seen the transformation of some of the Stevenage underpasses? The underpass at Sish Lane, part of a key travel route between Stevenage Old Town and Stevenage Town Centre, has been transformed by a new piece of urban artwork.

We asked members of the local community to share their memories so that we could incorporate them into the mural. The artwork now depicts scenes from both the Old Town - celebrating its many years of history - and New Town, showing iconic moments from the past

and the more recent. The underpass is the latest to be improved as part of a collaboration between Stevenage Borough Council and Hertfordshire County Council.

We are delighted with the manner in which all the urban artworks across the town have been received and we look forward to the programme continuing throughout the borough.



Thank you to everyone who attended the Stevenage Together Awards. These special awards allow us to pay tribute, once a year, to a few of our local heroes who are making a real difference to Stevenage life. Congratulations to all the winners.

It is a great privilege to represent this town and support residents, businesses, and community groups. I wish you all a wonderful festive break with friends, family and loved ones.

**Best wishes,
Cllr Richard Henry
Leader of the Council**

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Stevenage Winter Advice

Help with the cost of living

This winter, we want to ensure that advice and practical support is available for every resident to help deal with the rising cost of living.

We continue to work hard with our partner organisations to find ways to lend a hand by helping you to make your income go further.

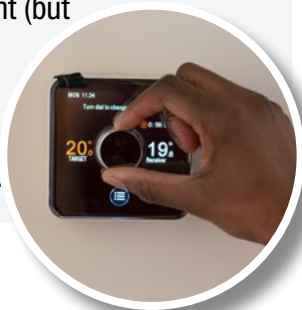
To make sure everyone knows what level of financial and practical support is available, the 'Cost of Living' page on our website outlines exactly what you can access to help with everyday outgoings.

Head to <https://www.stevenage.gov.uk/benefits/help-to-manage-the-cost-of-living>.

Tips to keep warm

Whilst it is cold outside, you can do the following to make sure you stay warm in your home.

- Wear layers of clothing (layers trap warm air), instead of one jumper, sweater or cardigan.
- If you can, keep the temperature in your home to at least 18 °C. For the elderly it might need to be higher.
- Keeping as active as you can will help to keep you warm and improve your mental health.
- Have regular hot meals and hot drinks.
- Use an electric blanket or a hot water bottle during the night (but not both).
- Block out draughts by keeping doors and windows closed.



Pension Credit

Are you aware that if you or someone you know is of State Pension age (66 years or older) and on a low income, you may be able to get extra money and support with heating costs?



Pension Credit is worth, on average, £3,900 per year and unlocks additional support including:

- Winter Fuel Payments,
- Help with Council Tax,
- NHS dental care
- And, for those over 75, a free TV licence.

It is possible to apply for Pension Credit and have the claim backdated by up to three months as long as there is entitlement during that time. The latest date to apply and still qualify for a Winter Fuel Payment is 21 December 2024.

To find out more head over to the Pension Credit website, <https://www.gov.uk/pension-credit>.

Winter Health Advice

There are many things you can do to keep warm during the cold months of the year, and help to prevent serious illness.

If you are concerned about not being able to pay your energy bills, there is help and advice available.

Please visit, <https://www.stevenage.gov.uk/town-and-community/emergencies/keeping-warm-in-winter>.

Look Out for Each Other

The cold winter months can be particularly hard for those that live alone. If you know someone who lives by themselves, give them a visit to find out how they are doing. You could offer to do a little shopping for them in case they cannot get out to buy their essentials.

Meet the Mayor of Stevenage, Cllr Jim Brown

It's been a busy year so far for the Mayor, who has been meeting thousands of people and encouraging them to 'Come Together' and support the work of his chosen local charities and good causes. Time to find out more about him...



Why did you want to become the Mayor of Stevenage?

I was delighted to be given a second chance to be the Mayor. My theme is 'Come Together'. Four years ago, when I was Mayor, we couldn't really get together because of the pandemic restrictions.

Can you tell us more about the projects and charities you are supporting this year?

My theme for the Mayoral year is Come Together, and my three charities and good causes are Herts Sport & Physical Activity Partnership (Come Together with sport and active recreation); Stevenage Arts Guild (Come Together with arts, music and culture) and People for People (social inclusion).

How have you been connecting with the local community?

I have been to over 150 events so far. Usually, it's me going out and about but occasionally people and groups come to the council too.

Art, cycling and running are important to you. How are you encouraging people to get involved in these activities?

As Mayor, I took part in the eighth birthday Stevenage Park Run and probably set an unofficial Mayoral record. I also completed the NHS charity Rainbow Run and ran the Stevenage 10K.

I have been involved in cycling promotions too, including the opening of new links and murals on cycleways; getting involved in the town twinning cycle ride, launching the Beryl Bikes and riding my own bike.

Music and arts are also a strand in my Coming Together theme and in September we had the fantastic Mayor's Garden Party, which included a full brass band and a concert with Woolenwick School. I also get involved with Hertfordshire Music Service and support singing events.

I supported the local pop-up gallery and an exhibition at Stevenage Museum; working with them and the Arts Guild on a Come Together – the Picture Show fundraising project.

What makes Stevenage even better?

Stevenage is a fantastic combination of old town heritage and the success of the new town. We have become more diverse and interesting and less dependent on one employment sector. As Mayor of Stevenage, I've met a lot of local entrepreneurs who have told me some really inspiring business stories.

Also (and this is particularly close to my heart, as a keen cyclist), Stevenage has nearly 50 kilometres of cycleways. That's a huge asset for getting to work, school, for public health and enjoyment, and for the environment.

What has been your highlight of 2024?

So many to choose from. Eid in Hampson Park, the Onam Festival with 600 people in Barnwell School, the Rainbow Run (which was hilarious), and Stevenage Day where thousands of people enjoyed the event.

I also enjoyed the Mayor's Garden Party, even though the weather kept us out of the garden, and the Coptic New Year (Nayrouz) celebration. Other special occasions include running the 40th anniversary Stevenage Marathon.

Paving the way to a brighter future for council housing in Stevenage

There are a number of council housing developments being constructed over the next few years within Stevenage.

Independent living schemes provide the perfect opportunity for older residents to move into a place where they are safe and well looked after for years to come.

Dunn Close is one of the builds currently well underway and due for completion in 2025. It will offer 21, one, two and three-bed apartments, with six further, one-bed apartments in an adjacent building that will be for supported living.

Deputy Mayor, Cllr Nazmin Chowdry and Cllr Ellie Plater both enjoyed having an informative tour of the newly-built development. It was a great opportunity for both to see the progress made so far and find out more about other upcoming projects.

Brodie Court is a completed build that was recently delivered by our Housing Development team. It welcomed the first residents back in August and with the initial few now having settled into their new homes, more council tenants will be moving in over the next couple of months. The building is a high-quality council-let independent living scheme, consisting of 88 one and two-bedroom apartments.

After a celebratory tea party with the 11 residents relocating from Walpole Court, it's gradually being occupied by other tenants, some of which have chosen to downsize from their larger family council houses. The council downsizing scheme is a great option to consider if you're looking to relocate to a smaller property. Doing so makes

larger council properties available to families on the housing list.

Independent living schemes such as Brodie Court are essential to give council tenants over the age of 60 the option to move into somewhere comfortable and safe. They can live independently for years to come knowing that there are support staff available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

It's a place where nobody has to feel isolated with plenty of activities on offer as well as light and spacious communal areas for residents to relax, enjoy, and make new friends.

The demand for more council homes in Stevenage is high, so we



are working hard to deliver housing across every part of the town. In addition to building hundreds of new homes in Stevenage, we are also boosting the local economy by creating new jobs on development sites and offering professional training wherever possible.



Transforming Our Town

Like many others across the country, Stevenage's town centre is changing. The way in which we use such spaces is now different and we are adapting to that change. As well as places to shop, consumers today are also looking for experiences - places to eat, drink and interact socially.

Our town centre, the first pedestrianised shopping development in the country, is changing to incorporate a wider mix of uses to ensure it continues to offer value to local businesses and the public.

The Transforming Our Town programme is about regenerating and

reinvigorating the town centre so that it meets the needs of today.

In addition to a number of schemes already delivered or underway, over the last few months the programme has continued at pace. You can find out more about all of the schemes on our website (stevenage-even-better.com).

Here are some recent highlights

Beryl Bikes hit the streets

A new e-bike share scheme has launched in Stevenage, boosting access to sustainable transport and cutting traffic congestion, while improving air quality and public health.

Operated by UK-based shared sustainable transport provider, Beryl, in partnership with Stevenage Borough Council, the scheme comprises 150 e-bikes available to hire from a network of 45 Beryl Bays.

The scheme has been partly funded by monies awarded to Stevenage in 2021 as part of government's Towns Fund, as well as contributions from developers as part of Section 106 agreements

Further information is available on the Beryl website: <https://beryl.cc/scheme/stevenage>.



A bay with bikes in Stevenage

We are:

Increasing the number of people living and working in the town to boost our economy and generate investment.



Maximising our business and educational facilities to provide more job opportunities for local people.



Strengthening our reputation as a major science destination to secure more work for all.



Revitalising our New Town heritage to strengthen our local arts and culture scene.



Delivering easy access to health and public services in the town centre.



Reigniting our night-time economy to attract more visitors.



Modernising transport facilities to encourage alternative ways to travel (walking, cycling and use of public transport).



Introducing new sustainable and attractive green spaces in town.



SG1: Former Swingate House site

Swingate Car Park is now closed to facilitate the development of the nearby former Swingate House site. Work has begun on the first phase of the SG1 proposals, which will deliver new homes, jobs, office and retail space, alongside new public spaces. The site will deliver 261 new homes and a ground floor café unit. It is being developed by Mace, in partnership with Stevenage Borough Council.

The Swingate Car Park is closed throughout the duration of these works.

A growing programme of underpass improvements

The programme of underpass improvements throughout the town continues, with the latest underpass artwork unveiled at the Sish Lane underpass in September. Part of a key travel route between Stevenage Old Town and Stevenage Town Centre, the community were asked to share their memories to form part of the design. The project has been funded by the Stevenage Development Board through Towns Fund, with Hertfordshire-based street artists MurWalls designing and painting the underpass.



Underpass artwork at Sish Lane



Urban artworks

Market Square: Public realm improvements

More people than ever before are now working and living in the town centre, and the council is committed to providing safe, attractive routes for people visiting at all times of day. It includes the area around Market Square, where the council is installing a new and improved footpath with a raised pedestrian crossing, improved lighting and greenery, which will brighten the area to create a safer, better-looking crossing, whilst still providing designated loading bays for businesses who take deliveries and collections. Large scale urban artworks have been introduced to add colour to the area. Work is expected to be complete by the end of the year.

Creating spaces for more local jobs

In 2021, the council converted under-used commercial space into an enterprise centre that provided flexible office space for a range of businesses, from single-person start-ups, to established financial services providers. The facility, managed by Co-Space, brought over 300 jobs into the town centre, and has proved so successful that the council is using Towns Fund money from the Stevenage Development Board to expand into the neighbouring Town Square


Chambers that overlooks Event Island.


It will encourage new business and bring an increase in footfall and spend to the town, creating more than 150 new jobs and rejuvenating an ageing building.

Stay up to date....

You can stay up to date on the latest news about the transformation of the town by visiting our website or following us on social media:

 [stevenage-even-better.com](https://www.stevenage-even-better.com)

 @stevenagebetter

 @StevenageBetter

How you can help wildlife to flourish



Helping wildlife is something that we can all do, whether our garden is big or small, or even if we have no garden at all. It doesn't have to be a big thing, cost a lot of money, or mean turning your garden into a complete wilderness. Here are a few tips to think about this autumn/winter:

- **Feeding the birds:** Try to provide a good mix of seed, peanuts, suet and mealworms so that there is something to attract a wide range of birds. Blackbirds and thrushes also like fruit – bruised apples or pears.



- **Planting:** Now is the perfect time to plant shrubs and trees in gardens, so why not plan for plants that will benefit wildlife? Bees will often emerge from as early as late March, and you can spot bees and butterflies until autumn so it is important to try and provide pollinator friendly plants that will flower for as much of the year as possible. Additionally, a climbing plant can help hide a wall or fence and also provide a wealth of benefits for wildlife, without taking up lots

of space. Birds can roost or nest in them, they provide shelter for insects, and those that have nectar-rich flowers can provide a valuable food source.

- **Don't be too tidy:** Birds feed on the seed heads of many garden plants, and insects can find shelter on the stems and dead leaves. Try not to prune all your plants in the winter.
- **Homes:** Some birds will use nest boxes during the winter months to shelter from the weather. They will often start looking for somewhere to raise their young from as early as January or February. Most birds prefer a box 1-2m off the ground, not in full sun, and away from predators.



- **Wildflower lawns:** Try setting aside areas of your lawn for wildlife. Some wildflower species (such as bird's-foot trefoil, lesser celandine and self-heal) are low growing and spread easily so might be suitable to grow in your existing lawn. Alternatively, you may want to try sowing wildflowers in a corner of your garden. Always try to use UK-sourced, native wildflower seed.
- **Mulch:** Using mulch on your borders helps to retain moisture in the soil during the warmer summer months; suppress weed growth; improve the condition of your soil and encourage worms and other invertebrates.
- **Water:** Birds need somewhere to bathe to help keep their feathers clean and in good condition. Providing a regular supply of clean water for birds to drink is just as important in the winter as any other time of year. You don't need to invest in a bird bath either – a shallow saucer will do the job.





- **Create a hedgehog highway:** Hedgehogs can travel nearly as much as a mile every night. To help them get about you could consider creating a small hole at the bottom of your garden wall or fence, digging a channel so that they can travel underneath the wall/fence, or even plant a hedge to replace a fence. It will benefit other wildlife as well as the hedgehogs.
- **Window box:** Even if you don't have a garden, consider a window box or container to grow nectar-rich plants such as lavender, marjoram, primrose or thyme.
- **Create a pond:** A pond doesn't need to be big to attract wildlife – an old washing up bowl could be re-purposed as a pond, providing a habitat for frogs, dragonflies, pond skaters, diving beetles etc.



There are lots of ideas, guidance and advice available online, including:

- [Wildlifetrusts.org/gardening](https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/gardening)
- [Rhs.org.uk/wildlife](https://www.rhs.org.uk/wildlife)
- [Rspb.org.uk/helping-nature/what-you-can-do](https://www.rspb.org.uk/helping-nature/what-you-can-do)
- [Wildlifewatch.org.uk/things-do](https://www.wildlifewatch.org.uk/things-do)
- [Nhm.ac.uk/discover](https://www.nhm.ac.uk/discover)

CLLR GRAHAM SNELL TRIBUTE

It is with deep regret that Stevenage Liberal Democrats announce the death of Councillor Graham Snell. Graham passed away suddenly and unexpectedly at home on Friday 15 November 2024.

Cllr Stephen Booth, Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group, said, "Graham's death came so suddenly and unexpectedly. It really was a bolt from the blue and left us all struggling to grasp its impact.

"Graham's voice in council affairs was always quiet but authoritative, playing a leading role on the Planning & Development Committee. Behind the scenes he played a much more visible role as Chair of our local party. We shall miss his wise counsel and thoughtful contributions.

"I would like to thank members for the kind words about Graham from members across the chamber and especially from Baroness Taylor. His family will be bereft at this shocking news and especially his triplet girl grandchildren, upon whom he doted. Our thoughts are with them at this time."



Top tips to reduce waste this Christmas



Christmas creates lots of excess waste – from wrapping paper to food and packaging – all of which is linked to climate change. It's easy to go big on Christmas and giving, but small on making an environmental impact.

Festive food waste

A survey of Hertfordshire bins last year found that 24% of our household waste was avoidable food – edible food that was simply thrown away instead of being eaten.

How to avoid wasting food:

- Plan meals and portion sizes to reduce waste.
- Leftovers? Turn them into another meal by using recipes from www.lovefoodhatewaste.com
- Made too much? Freeze it to eat later or use a community food sharing app such as Olio and share your food with your local community.
- Unused non-perishable food can be donated to a local charity or food banks.
- All food waste can be recycled. Put it in your brown bin.

Christmas clothing

Don't forget to shop secondhand on apps such as Vinted and Depop this Christmas. Buying secondhand helps to prevent clothes going to landfill.

Christmas trees

If you're buying an artificial Christmas tree, buy one to last so you can use it year on year. If you're buying a real one, look for a young one in a pot so it can live in the garden year-round.

Don't forget that you can recycle real Christmas trees in your brown bin or place it by the side of your bin on collection day, up until the end of January. Make sure to remove all decorations from the tree.

Christmas cards

Reduce

It's always nice to give and receive Christmas cards but have you ever thought of sending an e-card instead? An e-card is an electronic card, sent via email or an app. It's not made from paper, so it helps to protect trees that are usually used to make a traditional Christmas card.

Reuse

If e-cards aren't for you then why not re-use and upcycle your old Christmas cards by turning them into gift tags?

Recycle

Remember that you can recycle paper or card in your blue container/bag, if they don't have glitter embellishments on them.

Gift wrapping

Help reduce the 277,000 miles of wrapping paper going to landfill each year by avoiding glossy, glittery, or metallic gift wrap which cannot be recycled. Instead, try brown/craft paper tied up with ribbon or string and a nice tag. If you're likely to reuse it, opt for the best quality wrapping paper you can as it won't rip upon opening. Or, ditch the rolls of wrapping paper entirely and go for fabric gift wrap (furoshiki) recycled paper, or a reusable gift bag.

Did you know?

Did you know that 1 in 10 gifts are never used? That's a waste of money and materials. Do you need inspiration on sustainable gift buying? Always use the green gift giver mantra: want, need, wear, read.





Electricals

In the UK we buy 53.5 million electrical items in the weeks between Black Friday and Christmas.

Discarded electricals are one of the fastest-growing sources of waste in the world and in the UK 103,000 tonnes of electricals are thrown away every year. Valuable raw materials such as gold, copper, aluminium and steel are lost to landfill.

- **Donate it.** If you don't want it, pass it on. Charities can raise vital funds by selling your old electricals or giving them to low-income households.
- **Sell it.** Use second-hand online shops and apps, such as eBay and Vinted to turn your junk into extra money for Christmas.
- **Fix it.** Ask the original manufacturer for a list of their authorised repair networks and see if you can repair or refurbish your damaged electricals.

- **Recycle it.** 75% of the materials in old electricals can be recycled and turned into new equipment. Put your old batteries in a battery recycling tub. They can be found at shops across the town and at Stevenage Recycling Centre.

You can recycle your unwanted electricals and cables at Stevenage Recycling Centre and other locations around the town such as B&Q, Currys and Tesco Extra. Have a look on www.recycleyourelectricals.org.uk for more information or check in stores for their policies.

Dispose of your old batteries responsibly- don't put them in your general bin. 20,000 batteries end up in landfill each year! Batteries contain hazardous chemicals that harm the environment. They can become damaged from crushing during the collection and sorting process and start fires.



Changes to bin collections over the festive period

Scheduled Day	Revised Day	
Monday 23 December	Saturday 21 December	Two days early
Tuesday 24 December	Monday 23 December	One day early
Wednesday 25 December	Tuesday 24 December	One day early
Thursday 26 December	Friday 27 December	One day late
Friday 27 December	Saturday 28 December	One Day late
Monday 30 December	Monday 30 December	Normal collection day
Tuesday 31 December	Tuesday 31 December	Normal collection day
Wednesday 1 January	Thursday 2 January	One day late
Thursday 2 January	Friday 3 January	One day late
Friday 3 January	Saturday 4 January	One day late

Collections return to normal from **Monday 6 January 2025.**

Make sure everyone in your household is registered to vote

You need to be registered to be able to vote in any election or referendum for which you are eligible. Every year we run a canvass to ensure the electoral register is up to date.

From September to December, a form is sent to every household in the Borough so that we can gather accurate information about who lives in each property and who is eligible to vote.

Some households are required to respond, so please check your form and use this to tell us who is eligible to vote, even if there are no updates to the printed details.

If the information printed on the form is correct, text your security codes and "No Changes" to 07860 017106 (your standard network charges apply).

If the information printed on the form is correct, call 08000 488682 and when prompted enter your security codes (freephone number).

If the information printed on the form **is correct or changes are required**, visit www.stevenage.gov.uk/electoral-canvass and enter your security codes and postcode.

Alternatively, if the information printed on the form **is correct or changes are required**, complete the form and post it back to us in the envelope provided (postage is paid for by the council).

For further information please contact us on:
Telephone: 01438 242213
Email: electoral@stevenage.gov.uk

Funding community climate projects

The Climate Change Community Fund (CCCF) was launched in 2023. The grant is available to all local community groups, organisations, and residents to address climate change and its effect through their own community-led projects.

Last year, the CCCF supported eight community projects within seven wards, delivering benefits such as reducing waste by repairing, enhancing biodiversity, conservation of water, and improving cooling and shading. Here's a closer look at a couple of the established projects funded by the CCCF:

Repair Cafe

Stevenage Repair Cafe is run by a community-based group that aims to reduce waste by encouraging people to repair broken household items instead of throwing them away.

The Repair Cafe has been held on the first Saturday of every month since August 2023 and takes place at Bedwell Community Centre. In the past 14 months, the skilled volunteers have repaired over 150 items, including small household appliances, gardening tools, clothes, toys, bikes and even jewellery!



Follow the Stevenage Repair Cafe Facebook page to find out more.

Coventry Close Community Garden

CCCF supported the establishment of a new community garden at Coventry Close, led by the charity group Waste Not Want Not in partnership with residents, forming a new gardening group. The new garden gives an opportunity for individuals and groups to come together to cultivate fruits, vegetables, herbs, flowers and other plants. A diverse species of plants has been planted not only to make it more appealing to people all year round but also to help attract pollinators like bees and butterflies, promote biodiversity and be more resilient to future changes in climate.

Message from Kevin Bonavia, MP FOR STEVENAGE



Dear Stevenage residents,

It is an honour to be writing to you as the newly elected MP for the town that I am proud to call home. I see my duty clearly - to serve you.

I made a number of personal promises to our town and I'm proud to report that I'm starting to make progress.

I've focused on three themes, staying local, being accessible and standing up for Stevenage.

I know that you can't understand a community unless you immerse yourself in it. That's why I'm proud to live nearby our high street in Old Town.

One of the things that makes our town so great is our thriving businesses. My office has started a programme of reaching out to every local shop and business to schedule a visit so I can stay in touch with their priorities.

I've focused intently on building strong links with our local schools. I've launched a school trips to Parliament programme to provide tours to our kids, started a primary school Christmas card competition and offered a personal visit to all Headteachers to take questions from pupils and staff.



Our strong community spirit is also at the heart of what makes Stevenage so great. To stay connected to local residents, I've met you where you are - at

numerous local events, religious services and community meetings.

I'm also working towards opening a constituency office to strengthen my local presence. My office inherited a significant backlog of serious casework. That's why I hired a full-time team of staff to support me in providing a high-quality service to support residents. I've held 8 residents advice surgeries so far, processing over 200 cases.

But I can't stand up for residents properly unless I stand up for Stevenage Parliament. That's why I delivered my maiden speech early, to raise all the issues that are important to you - from housing to local transport to apprenticeships. I've spoken in debates on SEND provision to lobby ministers for more support, asked open questions on behalf of our thriving local defence sector and met with campaign groups to support carers, local breweries and much more.

If you want to get in touch, please contact me on kevin.bonavia.mp@parliament.uk. You can also scan the QR code to subscribe to my free monthly online newsletter, which updates you about the work I'm doing to stand up for you.



Councillors and ward surgeries

Almond Hill

Labour & Co-operative

Lin Martin-Haugh
01438 351467
lin.martin-haugh@stevenage.gov.uk



Labour & Co-operative

Tom Plater
07986 543762
tom.plater@stevenage.gov.uk



Labour & Co-operative

Jeannette Thomas
01438 721258
jeannette.thomas@stevenage.gov.uk



Ward Surgeries:

14th December 2024 10.00-11.00
11th January 2025 10.00-11.00
8th February 2025 10.00-11.00
8th March 2025 10.00-11.00
Hampson Park Community Centre,
SG1 5QU

Bandley Hill & Poplars

Labour & Co-operative

Jim Brown
07939 687509
jim.brown@stevenage.gov.uk



Labour & Co-operative

Kamal Choudhury
07949 983822
kamal.choudhury@stevenage.gov.uk



Labour & Co-operative

Jade Woods
07596 867018
jade.woods@stevenage.gov.uk



Ward Surgeries:

14th December 2024 11.00-12.00
25th January 2025 11.00-12.00
22nd February 2025 11.00-12.00
29th March 2025 11.00-12.00
Roundmead Centre, 101A Roundmead,
SG2 9PH

Bedwell

Labour & Co-operative

Nazmin Chowdhury
07517 938985
nazmin.chowdhury@stevenage.gov.uk



Labour & Co-operative

Conor McGrath
07535 497811
conor.mcgrath@stevenage.gov.uk



Labour & Co-operative

Ellie Plater CC
07814 539194
ellie.plater@stevenage.gov.uk



Ward Surgeries:

8th December 2024 14.00-15.00
26th January 2025 14.00-15.00
23rd February 2025 14.00-15.00

23rd March 2025 14.00-15.00
Sherma Batson Centre,
10-12 Exchange Road, SG1 1PZ
AND

15th December 2024 12.30-13.30
12th January 2025 12.30-13.30
9th February 2025 12.30-13.30
9th March 2025 12.30-13.30
Rockingham Way Café SG1 1SJ

Chells

Liberal Democrat

Julie Ashley-Wren
Daneshill House
Danestrete
SG1 1HN
07932 696065
julie.ashley-wren@stevenage.gov.uk



Liberal Democrat

Stephen Booth
Daneshill House
Danestrete
SG1 1HN
07970 900126
stephen.booth@stevenage.gov.uk



Liberal Democrat

Tom Wren
Daneshill House
Danestrete
SG1 1HN
07786 517218
tom.wren@stevenage.gov.uk



Ward Surgeries:

12th December 2024 19.00-20.00
Chells Manor Community Centre,
Emperor's Head
9th January 2025 19.00- 20.00
St Hugh & St John's Church,
Mobbsbury Way
13th February 2025 19.00-20.00
Chells Manor Community Centre,
Emperor's Head
13th March 2025 19.00-20.00
St Hugh & St John's Church,
Mobbsbury Way
10th April 2025 19.00-20.00
Chells Manor Community Centre,
Emperor's Head

Longmeadow

Labour & Co-operative

Peter Clark
07951 594961
peter.clark@stevenage.gov.uk



Labour & Co-operative

Akin Elekolusi
07886 370899
akin.elekolusi@stevenage.gov.uk



Labour & Co-operative

Lynda Guy
07805 184848
lynda.guy@stevenage.gov.uk



Ward Surgeries:

25th January 2025 12.00-13.00
Longmeadow Evangelical Church,
Broadwater, SG2 8LT
22nd February 2025 12.00-13.00
Longmeadow Evangelical Church,
Broadwater, SG2 8LT
29th March 2025 12.00-13.00
Longmeadow Evangelical Church,
Broadwater, SG2 8LT

Manor

Liberal Democrat

Andy McGuinness
Daneshill House
Danestrete
SG1 1HN
07801 658239
andy.mcguinness@stevenage.gov.uk



Liberal Democrat

Robin Parker CC
8 Cameron Close, SG2 OHG
01438 724746
robin.parker@stevenage.gov.uk



Liberal Democrat

Vacant seat
Ward Surgeries:
12th December 2024 19.00-20.00
Chells Manor Community Centre,
Emperor's Head
9th January 2025 19.00- 20.00
St Hugh & St John's Church,
Mobbsbury Way
13th February 2025 19.00-20.00
Chells Manor Community Centre,
Emperor's Head
13th March 2025 19.00-20.00
St Hugh & St John's Church,
Mobbsbury Way
10th April 2025 19.00-20.00
Chells Manor Community Centre,
Emperor's Head

Martins Wood

Labour & Co-operative

Myla Arceno
07476 968208
myla.arceno@stevenage.gov.uk



Labour & Co-operative

Lloyd Briscoe
01438 229795
lloyd.briscoe@stevenage.gov.uk



Labour & Co-operative

Carolina Veres
07482 488528
carolina.veres@stevenage.gov.uk



Ward Surgeries:

14th December 2024 11.00-12.00
11th January 2025 11.00-12.00
8th February 2025 11.00-12.00
8th March 2025 11.00-12.00
12th April 2025 11.00-12.00
The Oval Community Centre, SG1 5RD

Old Town

Labour & Co-operative

Coleen Houlihan
07939 193095
coleen.houlihan@stevenage.gov.uk



Labour & Co-operative

Mason Humberstone
07760 642109
mason.humberstone@stevenage.gov.uk



Labour & Co-operative

Nigel Williams
nigel.williams@stevenage.gov.uk



Ward Surgeries

21st December 2024 11.00-12.00
18th January 2025 11.00-12.00
15th February 2025 11.00-12.00
15th March 2025 11.00-12.00
26th April 2025 11.00-12.00
Outside Costa Coffee, High Street, Old Town, SG1 3HR

Roebuck

Labour & Co-operative

Alistair Gordon
07450 747804
alistair.gordon@stevenage.gov.uk



Labour & Co-operative

Anne Wells
07485 094939
anne.wells@stevenage.gov.uk



Labour & Co-operative

Forhad Chowdhury
07365 272042
forhad.chowdhury@stevenage.gov.uk



Ward Surgeries:

7th December 2024 10.00-11.00
St. Peter's Church, The Willows, SG2 8AN
4th January 2025 10.00-11.00
The Four Seasons Café, Roebuck Shops, SG2 8EE
1st February 2025 10.00-11.00
St Peter's Church, The Willows, SG2 8AN
1st March 2025 10.00-11.00
Crossroads Community Hub, Broad Oak Way, SG2 8QL (behind Roebuck shops)

Shephall

Labour & Co-operative

Rob Broom
07960 915130
rob.broom@stevenage.gov.uk



Labour & Co-operative

Sarah Mead
07519 183500
sarah.mead@stevenage.gov.uk



Labour & Co-operative

Simon Speller
01438 239459
simon.speller@stevenage.gov.uk



Ward Surgeries:

7th December 2024 11.00-12.00
Peartree Shops SG2 9XH
25th January 2025 11.00- 12.00
The Hyde Shopping Precinct, SG2 9SE
22nd February 2025 11.00- 12.00
Shephall Green Wishing Well, SG2 9XR
22nd March 2025 11.00-12.00
Peartree Shops, SG2 9XH

St. Nicholas

Labour & Co-operative

Sandra Barr
07714 955941
sandra.barr@stevenage.gov.uk



Labour & Co-operative

Richard Henry
01438 242330
richard.henry@stevenage.gov.uk



Labour & Co-operative

Claire Parris
01438 726119
claire.parris@stevenage.gov.uk



Ward Surgeries:

4th January 2025 10.00-11.00
1st February 2025 10.00-11.00
1st March 2025 10.00-11.00
Shopping Parade St Nicholas, SG1 4LJ

Symonds Green

Labour & Co-operative

Loraine Rossati
07928 737816
loraine.rossati@stevenage.gov.uk



Labour & Co-operative

Jackie Hollywell
07471 041742
jackie.hollywell@stevenage.gov.uk



Labour & Co-operative

Ceara Roopchand
ceara.roopchand@stevenage.gov.uk



Ward Surgeries:

7th December 2024 10.00-11.00
4th January 2025 10.00-11.00
1st February 2025 10.00-11.00

1st March 2025 10.00-11.00
5th April 2025 10.00-11.00
The Scarborough Centre, next to 9 Scarborough Avenue, SG1 2HJ AND
10th December 2024 10.00-11.00
14th January 2025 10.00-11.00
11th February 2025 10.00-11.00
11th March 2025 10.00-11.00
8th April 2025 10.00-11.00
Tea at the Green Coffee Bar, Symonds Green Community Centre, SG1 2JW

Woodfield

Conservative

Phil Bibby CC
01438 316955
philip.bibby@stevenage.gov.uk



Ward Surgeries:

Any issues or questions you may have I am happy to answer. Please use the contact details above.

Labour

Robert Boyle
07887 098143
robert.boyle@stevenage.gov.uk



Ward Surgeries

4th January 2025 10.00-11.00
1st February 2025 10.00-11.00
1st March 2025 10.00-11.00
Shopping Parade St Nicholas, SG1 4LJ

Labour

Leanne Brady
07887 098143
leanne.brady@stevenage.gov.uk



Ward Surgeries

4th January 2025 10.00-11.00
1st February 2025 10.00-11.00
1st March 2025 10.00-11.00
Shopping Parade St Nicholas, SG1 4LJ



You can watch our public meetings which are listed here - www.stevenage.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/decision-making-and-meetings.

The meetings are broadcast live via our YouTube channel.
www.youtube.com/user/SBCComms

How to get in touch

You can access our services online at www.stevenage.gov.uk

Information and advice about all our services is available to help you save time and go online.

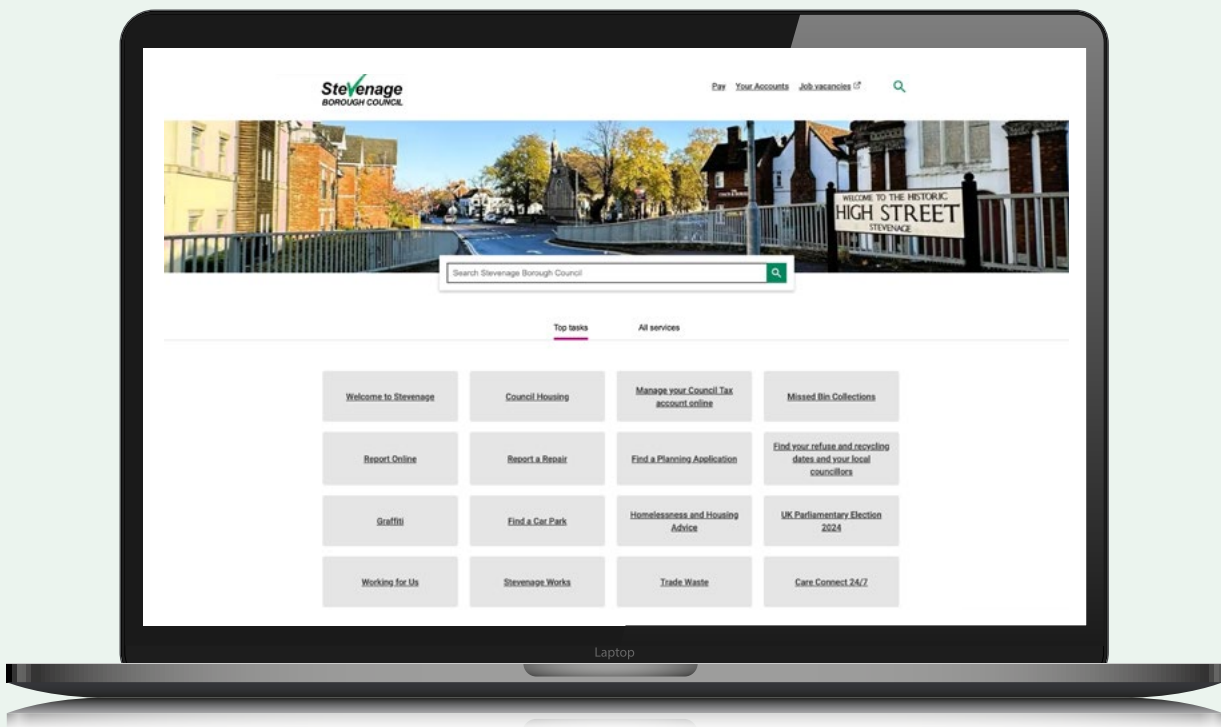
Our most popular web services are:

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www.stevenage.gov.uk/housing/council-housing

www.stevenage.gov.uk/housing/council-housing/repairs/report-a-repair



Out of hours

For emergencies: Monday to Friday between 17:00-08:00, weekends and bank holidays contact **01438 314963**. Our phone and face-to-face services are for the most complex and urgent requests. You can help keep our urgent services available by going online, it's quicker and easier and available 24/7.

Please contact Hertfordshire County Council for:

Highways – potholes, road/works and streetlights **0300 123 4047**

Libraries **0300 123 4049**

Schools **0300 123 4043**

Adult social care (including Meals on Wheels and Bus Passes) **0300 123 4042**

Recycling Centres **0300 123 0451**

General Enquiries **0300 123 4040**

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Stevenage Borough Council,
Daneshill House, Danestrete, Stevenage, SG1 1HN
Telephone: 01438 242242 web: stevenage.gov.uk

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