

Bracknell Forest Council Conservatives

This community report highlights some of the things your local Conservatives delivered for you in the last four years. You trusted us and we delivered for you.



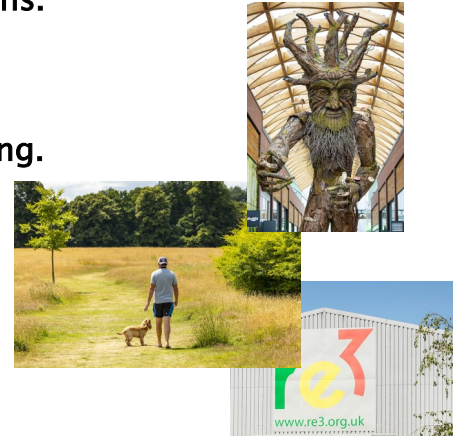
To deliver for you



Check out the facts at www.bracknellforestconservatives.co.uk

Local Conservative led plans have again delivered what you asked for:

- Strong delivery on climate change commitments and actions.
- Well managed finances and low council tax.
- An effective response to Covid.
- Care for our most vulnerable and help with the cost of living.
- Support for your local businesses.
- Helping schools and young people.
- Affordable Housing and home improvements.
- Lexicon + more fantastic shops and cultural events.
- Green spaces, parks, leisure facilities and countryside.



Local Conservatives working closely with our communities

Helping you combat the cost of living

Your Conservative led council has provided many ways to help combat the rise in the cost of living. From providing details about government schemes, supplier support and where to get help to delivering a family cost of living scheme.

Keeping council tax as low as possible and providing an additional £100 discount for those on council tax support.

Household Support Fund giving £30 per child for eligible pupils.

Support for making your home energy efficient to reduce your energy bills.

Working with voluntary and government organisations to provide information and drop-in events at Time Square and on line to help people access advice on debt management, housing advice, job advice.

Warm Hubs were set up in Libraries and other locations to provide a place to go and stay warm.



Please don't be afraid to ask for help. You are not alone, reach out now!

The household support fund between October 21 and March 22 gave all its' funds, that's, £555,468.03, to a total of 6300 homes.

Climate change, actions not just words!

Bracknell Forest is ahead of many areas in terms of addressing carbon reduction. This is because residents have engaged fully with the councils Climate Change Strategy. The Conservative led council is delivering EV charging points. It is moving its vehicle fleet to electric.

Funding to decarbonise schools and council buildings was secured. Funding also secured for decarbonising residents homes.

The councils parks and countryside service has planted 2,795 trees over 20 sites.

Our education service organised our first Schools Climate Change Conference with each school getting £500 to take forward ideas.

Full marks to everyone who has embraced the hugely successful food waste programme. Our recycling rate increased by 13% last year, and our landfill rate has reduced by over half.

The council has been committed to climate change since it signed the Nottingham Declaration in 2007.

All commitments are delivered in a financially sustainably way.



Value for your money

Your Conservative led borough council has balanced its budget every year since we became a unitary council. How does that benefit you? It means all the services provided are well costed and run against strong fiscal policies and, unlike some poorly run councils, your council has not had to make major cuts to services.

All the services are provided against one of the lowest unitary Council Taxes in the country.

To keep down its costs the council works closely with local partners to deliver front line services which also helps local businesses. Grants are provided to local charities and voluntary groups to support the vital service they provide to residents.

Everyone knows it is good to keep some money in reserve to meet unexpected demand which is what common sense Conservatives have always done with your money.



We never forget it's your money.

Conservatives use your money better.

Keeping Bracknell Forest prosperous for everyone

Local Conservatives have promoted an "open for business" approach to dealing with businesses of all sizes.

The Lexicon has been an amazing success, but local Conservatives have not stopped there! The Deck will be built out to provide more choice for you and offer even more employment. We continue to attract household names to the area.

The council has provided funding for local shopping area image improvements.

The New Local Plan focuses on identifying the right places for new businesses and jobs in Bracknell Forest along with the right places for much needed new homes.

We secured government funding for major road improvement schemes to keep traffic moving.



Healthy and thriving communities

Bracknell Forest remains one of the healthiest places to live.

Conservatives introduced a Health in all Policies approach in all its services, especially in Planning so that new homes will be greener and healthier places to live. New developments must have open spaces and be mindful of those with disabilities.

The borough council led local communities and partners in the fight against Covid working with local voluntary, faith and community groups to deliver food and medicines to our vulnerable residents. The Waitrose vaccination centre delivered over 180,000 vaccinations.

New local community centres built at Blue Mountain and Bucklers Park opening soon.

Health initiatives such as Stop Smoking and Healthy Eating have been introduced as part of a commitment to keeping you as fit as possible. We have also introduced winter health and warm hubs.

We ask you to remember and thank everyone who helped during Covid. Those in the NHS, Council staff, Councillors, Voluntary organisations, Parish and Town Councils and local businesses. Which demonstrated yet again this is a great place to live.

“Thank you!”

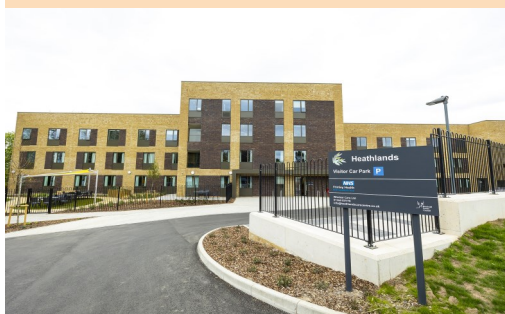


Caring for you and your family

During Covid our social care services maintained a high level of service to families and older residents. Bracknell Forest made sure people coming out of hospital had somewhere safe to go to recover, there was no bed-blocking.

The Conservatives delivered a new dementia and reablement centre at Heathlands by working with NHS and private sector partners.

Recognising the many amazing volunteers, voluntary groups and organisations locally, the borough council added new groups and organisations to its website where all those providing a service to our residents are able to advertise their services. Check it out.



Our Public Health service has provided a wide range of services to keep you and your family fit and healthy such as, smoking reduction, healthy eating, staying active and many more.

A new centre for people with learning disabilities is planned on the former Bridgewell site to support people in family style settings.

Working with the local Business Improvement District underpasses have been improved and more cycleways have been delivered.

We have retained and enhanced all our libraries.

Supporting your children and young people to reach their full potential.

The services from Family Hubs has been adjusted to provide more services within the hubs and more outreach services so those who find it hard to get to a hub can get it delivered to them at home.

Our services for the children we look after have been assessed by OFSTED and found to be Outstanding, with our providers of early years support being assessed as Good.

When we needed to improve services for our children with additional needs and disabilities we moved quickly and decisively to address these families needs.

The Braccan Walk Youth Centre went live in April 2021 and provides a wide range of services for our young people ranging from employment advice, sexual health advice and support for young carers.

The school your child (grandchild) goes to is likely to be a Good or Outstanding school because over 98% of the schools in Bracknell Forest are rated Good or Outstanding.

The Conservatives have pledged to support our schools to all be good or better even though school funding is very tight. Our thanks go to all the dedicated teachers and governors who share our vision for education in all learning settings.



A great place to live!

Bracknell Forest Council Conservatives

Community Report

**Keeping your
Council Tax Low**

Clean, green and safe

You are never more than a short walk from fantastic parks, open spaces and leisure facilities because your Conservative led councils have continued to invest in the things you love.

Our parks and open spaces are well cared for and continue to win awards.

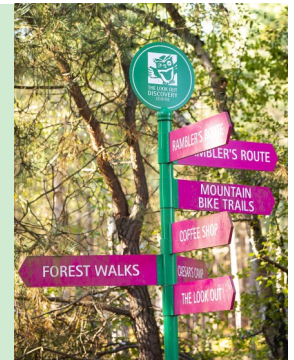
Bracknell Forest is a low crime area and local Conservatives continued to work with local Police to get more visible policing. Where domestic violence occurs the council has effective measures to assist victims, particularly with regard to housing.

We have continued to enhance facilities at The Lookout and Coral Reef.

Play areas have been enhanced.

The council has worked with Parish and Town councils and local land owners to keep community spaces and verges maintained sustainably to avoid damaging our biodiversity.

“The great thing about living round here is everything I need is close by.”



Homes and home ownership

Having consulted widely on a new Local Development Plan we are close to getting our plan approved. This will ensure we get the right homes, including care homes and appropriate infrastructure, in the right place, without impacting on local identity. It will also help us maintain our open spaces and woodland.

In the last 5 years (2018–22) the number of Affordable Homes completed has increased to 543 with 350 of them being for social rented and 193 for shared ownership.

Your council has delivered an integrated Housing Strategy that focuses on preventing homelessness, cutting rough sleeping, and working with the private rented sector to reduce waiting times.

The councils commitment to preventing and responding to homelessness has seen a significant reduction in people sleeping rough with the official count showing 2 people rough sleeping.

The council works closely with local faith and voluntary groups to assist those in need.

The council and the whole community has responded so positively to welcome those fleeing the Ukraine conflict.



LOCAL CONSERVATIVES CONSULT

Local Conservatives are keen to know what you think important local issues are. You can write to us at:

Bracknell Forest Conservatives, c/o 10 Milbanke Way, Bracknell, RG12 1RP.

Email us at: bca@bracknellconservatives.org.uk

or complete the online survey on: www.bracknellforestconservatives.co.uk



Local Conservatives delivering for local people

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