

## Freedom of Entry Parade..

On Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October, the Adjutant General Corps celebrated their 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary by marching through the City of Winchester in a Freedom of Entry Parade. Led by the Band of the Rifles, representatives of the Adjutants General's Corps marched through Winchester before the parade finished with the troops forming up for an inspection outside the Guildhall.

Hosted by the Mayor of Winchester, it was attended by the Lord Lieutenant and High Sheriff of Hampshire and the High Steward of Winchester in the presence of Her royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester and the Deputy Colonel in Chief of the Adjutant General's Corps.

The right of Freedom of Entry is an ancient privilege and allows the Corps to parade through the city to the beat of the drums, with swords drawn, bayonets fixed and colours flying. It comes from a period in history when only trusted military units would be allowed to carry arms within city boundaries.

## Winchester City Council

Winchester City Council is launching a new programme to help tenants reduce their energy costs and make their homes greener

Retrofit Ready will allow any council tenant living in a house or bungalow with an energy rating of EPC Band D or below, to opt onto the new programme. It will include an energy assessment and a range of energy efficient measures including loft insulation, cavity wall insulation, the replacement of energy efficient doors and windows and upgrades to extractor fans to remove damp from their homes.

The new programme complements the Council's existing ambitious Retrofit programme which is already underway. This focuses on a fabric approach given the disruptive nature of the work, such as installation of internal wall insulation into council properties with the lowest energy rating, and properties that are waiting for new tenants

The measures identified as "Retrofit Ready" can be completed while people remain in their homes and in advance of any major retrofit work.

The programme will also help the district move forward with its green faster ambitions, reducing fuel consumption and carbon emissions from its housing stock.

## Draft Local Plan

Following a meeting of Cabinet, Winchester City Council has confirmed that its draft Regulation 18 Local Plan will go out for consultation on November 2<sup>nd</sup> 2022 and will run until midnight on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2022.

The council is encouraging all residents, businesses and organisations, in the Winchester District to once again have their say. The draft plan sets out the council's vision for future development across the Winchester District - outside the South Down's National Park. It covers Winchester city itself, the market towns, villages countryside.

This local Plan addresses some major challenges, including new development management policies against which planning proposals will be assessed. Some key themes include:-

The Climate Emergency and Cutting Carbon.

The biggest challenge of all is Climate Change and this draft plan is setting the highest possible standards for environment and design for homes and commercial development - its policies designed to cut carbon and ensure development is safe and easy to walk, cycle and use low carbon methods for transport.

Affordable Homes.

The draft plan takes a new approach to affordable housing targets - replacing an expectation for affordable housing with requirement for truly affordable homes that developers must achieve.

The Natural Environment.

The local plan takes the approach of "brownfield first" - both in prioritising the use of previously developed land over green field, but also in the phasing of development. The sites proposed are those which have the best sustainability, can deliver affordable homes and have the least environmental impact on our district. Over 90% of the sites developers put forward have not been included in this plan.

We cannot emphasise enough how important your feedback is in developing this plan. Your feedback to date has helped shape it into the plan you see before you. This is not the final plan, the feedback that you give us now will help us make it better and stronger. We look forward to hearing your views.

The consultation is open from 2<sup>nd</sup> November until 14<sup>th</sup> December 2022 and can be found by visiting [www.localplan.winchester.gov.uk](http://www.localplan.winchester.gov.uk) from these dates.

On this site visitors will also find the draft Regulation 18 Local Plan document and can sign up for further updates.

Queens Green Canopy Initiative.

We were very pleased to attend Knowle Village to celebrate the Queens Green Carbon Initiative.

This initiative was created to mark the Platinum Jubilee. The Queens Green Canopy was due to conclude in December the end of the Jubilee year. However the official tree planting season in the United Kingdom is from October until March so the initiative will now be extended to include the full tree planting season beginning now in October 2022 and concluding in March 2023.

The Queens Green Canopy is proud to be creating a living legacy with over a million trees planted in Her Majesty's name across the nation during the first planting season October 2021 to March 2022.

The extension of the QGC initiative will build on the legacy and serve as a lasting tribute to Her Late Majesty's extraordinary service to her country and her people.

Trees also benefit our natural wildlife, provide cleaner air, slow the impact of climate change and improve general health and wellbeing.

So well done Knowle for contributing to a greener United Kingdom that will benefit future generations.

As always please do not hesitate to contact us with any queries or concerns you may have.

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