



Corporate Priorities:

Sustainability at the heart of everything we do:

- Adopted the sustainability Supplementary planning document
- Leading a food waste reduction communications campaign



Enabling Communities:

- Continued to work on delivering the new Grange Paddocks Leisure Centre
- Worked with community groups to design new play areas (such as Hartham Common Wild Play)



Encouraging economic growth:

- Launched a 3 year business support project for those in the bio-science, airport MRO and social enterprise sectors
- Undertook a 'Shop safe, shop local' campaign to encourage people to buy online from local retailers



Digital by design:

- Continued to support development of Harlow and Gilston Garden Town
- Trialled webchat as a tool for customers whilst our receptions were forced to close



Introduction from Linda Haysey, Leader of the Council

2021-21 has been one of the most challenging in my time as a Council Leader. Responding to Covid-19 has had a massive impact on people's lives across the world and whilst there are some things we may have chosen to do differently with hindsight, I have been hugely impressed with the ability of our partners, from the NHS to the police, our Councillors and our staff to work together in addressing the most significant challenge we have faced in a generation.

As well as playing our part in county, national and global efforts to address Covid we have still managed to deliver much of our core business, continuing to serve our local residents and undertake our community leadership role. This paper highlights some of our achievements over the past 12 months.

Cllr Linda Haysey
Leader

Playing our part in the fight against Covid-19:

- Staff contacted almost 1000 people in the district, known to GPs and classed as vulnerable but whom hadn't yet made contact with the county council or NHS to discuss any support they might need
- Over 500 wellbeing checks made through referrals from social prescribing project
- Hertford Theatre set up as a vaccination centre
- £29.9m given out in grants to 2381 businesses