

Appendix A: Council Achievements List 2016-17 (Quarter 1, April-June 2016)

Corporate Priorities:

One – Maintain a safe and healthy community

Two – Protect and enhance the environment

Three – Meet the borough's housing needs

Four – Help build a strong local economy

Five – Engage with our communities and provide value for money

Achievement	Source	Corporate Priority
April 2016		
The ever-popular cream teas returned to Mill Green Museum over Easter, helping to raise money for its education and exhibition programmes. The Easter holidays also saw a wide range of family-based activities at the site.	Press release (U)	One
A strategic review of the Affordable Housing Programme Delivery Plan for the period 2016-21 was completed, and a Delivery Plan was approved by the Cabinet.	Business Plan	Three
A newly established Business Forum devised a vision, objectives and action plan for 2016/17. This included a business website, business directory and plans to update the Economic Development Strategy.	Business Plan	Four
The council's Single Equality Scheme Action Plan for 2016-17 was agreed by the Social Overview and Scrutiny Committee and published. It is now on the council's website.	Business Plan	Five
Two new play areas were unveiled in the Peartree and South Hatfield wards as part of a wider redevelopment programme to update play equipment across the borough.	Press release (U)	One
Two fire beacons were lit at the Campus West tower to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday as part of a national ceremony of over 1,000 beacon lightings across the UK, Channel Islands, Isle of Man and the Commonwealth.	Press release (U)	Five

Achievement	Source	Corporate Priority
Freddie's Den, a new soft play venue for children aged 0-8, opened at the Jim McDonald Centre, Hatfield, funded by the Community Housing Trust.	Press release (U)	One
May 2016		
The Welwyn Hatfield Youth Council joined the Mayor and Cabinet Members to officially unveil the borough's first ever purpose built council chamber.	Business Plan Press release (U)	Five
Around 10 tonnes of compost was given away to budding gardeners at Stanborough Park. Donated by Agrivert, which composts the organic waste collected from brown bins in the borough, the giveaway helped raise awareness of recycling food waste.	Press release (U)	Two
The sixth Welwyn Garden City World Food Festival returned to the town centre, featuring over 25 food stalls and a world music stage. The following weekend saw Healthfest delivering important health and wellbeing information in the town centre.	Press releases (U)	One, Four
The Hatfield Housing Office and Hatfield Hub moved to temporary locations releasing pivotal space in White Lion Square for the continued progress of the town centre revitalisation programme. They will relocate permanently to White Lion House later this year.	Press release (U) Business Plan	Three, Four
A rapid response team was established to fast-track the clearance of illegally dumped waste on council owned land and fly-tipping hotspots, and taking enforcement action where possible.	Business Plan Press release (U)	Two
Extended noise patrols took place throughout the borough as part of Operation Balsam. The partnership between the council, police and University of Hertfordshire put additional noise patrols in place for two weeks from 10pm to 3am every weekday to coincide with the end of the University's academic year.	Press release (U)	Two
Mill Green Mill and Museum took part in this year's National Open Mills Weekend, which saw mills open their doors to the public to introduce them to the traditional craft of milling.	Press release (U)	Five

Achievement	Source	Corporate Priority
The Welwyn Hatfield Dementia Action Alliance was launched in Welwyn Garden City, to coincide with the national Dementia Awareness Week.	Press release (U)	One
Four Civic Awards were presented at the Annual Council Meeting. The awards recognise and pay tribute to the people of the borough who have shown commitment, courage and dedication in overcoming personal difficulties or in helping the community.	Press release (U)	Five
Mears New Homes were appointed to deliver 22 new flats on a disused brownfield site in Garden Avenue, Hatfield. They are set to be the first new homes built for the council in a generation.	Press release (U)	Three
The council hosted its first ever Women and Girls Sports Summit, a precursor to the borough's This Girl Can campaign which will run in early October.	Business Plan	One
Stanborough School officially open the Stanborough Netball Centre, part-funded through Section 106 money from a WGC development. The Executive Member for Policy and Culture officially open the centre in front of students, staff and governors of the school as well as England Netball, councillors and others involved in the development.	Business Plan	One
The local borough council elections and the county Police and Crime Commissioner elections were delivered with an overall voter turnout of 34%.	Business Plan	Five
June 2016		
Approximately 250 residents attended a special recycling event for the safe disposal of unwanted electrical items in Welwyn Garden City, collecting nine tonnes of equipment.	Press release (U)	Two
The Hatfield 'Have A Go' event hosted free activities for all the family, from carpentry to beauty and animal care in the town centre. Face painting and craft activities kept younger visitors entertained.	Press release (U)	Four
The Cabinet and Housing Planning Panel agreed which sites to include in the council's Draft Local Plan, allocating sites delivering over 12,000 new homes by 2032.	Press release (U)	Three

Achievement	Source	Corporate Priority
Welwyn Garden City Housing Association was selected to deliver 21 new affordable homes for rent on former council garage sites.	Business Plan Press release (U)	Three
36 schools attended the annual 'Crucial Crew' life skills events for all Year Six pupils in the borough. Feedback from the event has been very positive.	Business Plan Press release (N)	One
Residents were invited to have their say on plans for The Lawn Cemetery in Hatfield, including designs for the borough's first crematorium. Developed to address an increasing demand for cremations in the borough, it follows a review of the changing needs of the bereaved and their families.	Press release (U)	Five
The EU Referendum vote in the borough was delivered with an overall voter turnout of 75.05%.	Business Plan	Five
A Roman Day was held as part of the annual Welwyn Festival attracting an estimated 600 visitors throughout the day to the Roman Bath House and adjoining fields.	Business Plan	One
Planning Solutions Ltd, trading as Vertigo Adventures, took on a 10 year operating lease for the high ropes course in Stanborough Park and opened to the public.	Business Plan Press release (U)	One
10 people attained Level 2 and 10 attained Level 3 in food hygiene courses run by the council for people who own or manage food premises in the borough.	Business Plan	Two
A Hatfield resident was ordered to pay nearly £3000 and carry out 90 hours of unpaid work by St Albans Magistrates' Court following a council investigation into a fly-tip on Holwell Hyde Lane, Welwyn Garden City.	Press release (U)	Two

* **Press releases:** U: Used by local media, N: Not used by local media, x: not yet published.