

Achievements List 2024-25 (Quarter 3 October – December 2024)

Achievement

Service Improvements/Awards/Projects & Initiatives

1. The council and the Welwyn Garden City Business Improvement District were awarded a Silver Gilt at the prestigious nationwide community gardening competition, Britain in Bloom.
2. Officers hosted a visit from a Chinese delegation from Anhui Province who were visiting Welwyn Hatfield as part of a wider four-day trip to the UK.
3. The council joined forces with the Welwyn Garden City Rotary Club and Stanborough School students to plant 400 trees and 4,000 crocus bulbs along Stanborough Road, with project funding from the council and Woodland Trust.
4. In November, work started on the construction of 14 new modern one-bedroom apartments at Ludwick Green in Welwyn Garden City.
5. In December, Cabinet agreed eleven actions aimed at improving grass cutting, managing shrub and hedge growth and establishing new wildflower areas to boost biodiversity across the borough.
6. The Council was awarded £243K from the Government's Brownfield Land Release Fund for the modernisation of the Howlands House temporary accommodation site in Welwyn Garden City.
7. Campus West welcomed Pier Pressure Welwyn Hatfield, new immersive escape rooms.
8. Oak Hill Crematorium, in partnership with the Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management (ICCM) donated £11,600 to the Willow Foundation, which provides special days and breaks for seriously ill young adults and their families.
9. The council and partners collected and delivered over 260 Christmas gifts to 112 local vulnerable families who stayed in temporary accommodation over the festive period.
10. Council Tax and Benefit Service upgrades went live in December, improving service performance and customer experience.
11. Campus West upgraded their ticketing system making the customer experience even more seamless.

Achievement

Campaigns and Engagement

1. Dyed the Coronation Fountain in Welwyn Garden City pink for Breast Cancer Awareness month in October.
2. Celebrated the one-year anniversary of the ONE Welwyn Hatfield Community Lottery with a special prize draw to win a GeoBook laptop.
3. Launched the North-West Hatfield and Sustainability SPD consultations as part of the council's current Local Plan.
4. Launched consultations on the council's new Tree and Woodland Strategy and Landscape Management Plan for the Commons Local Nature Reserve.
5. Supported Orange the World and White Ribbon campaigns, which aims to end gender-based violence towards women and girls and raise awareness.
6. Promoted Pension Credit and Winter Fuel Allowance.
7. Promoted the Home Upgrade Grant (HUG) for eligible homeowners to receive free energy-saving home upgrades.
8. Supported the LGA's recruitment campaign and encouraged people to visit our careers website.
9. Promoted the Community Awards and received over 150 nominations.
10. Launched our 12 Days of Community Safety digital campaign, sharing crime prevention tips and safety advice.

Achievement

Events

1. Celebrated Black History Month in October with a special event at Hatfield Fire Station.
2. During October, in partnership with the Police, held community engagement events in Welwyn Garden City town centre and the Galleria in Hatfield to promote Hate Crime Awareness Week.
3. Held an event in the Howard Centre in Welwyn Garden City to raise awareness about the importance of recycling as part of the 'Rescue me. Recycle' campaign promoted throughout Recycling Week in October.
4. Arranged 'Spooktacular' events for October half term at Campus West, Mill Green, Welwyn Roman Baths, The Hive and Hatfield Town Centre.
5. The council teamed up with BishBashBosh to host a one-of-a-kind Pokémon event in White Lion Square and at Calamity Comics in Hatfield Town Centre on Saturday 9 November.
6. Hosted community event to promote accessibility and inclusivity for disabled people and their families as part of Purple Tuesday on the 12th November.
7. Organised the White Ribbon football tournament to raise awareness of gender-based violence towards women and girls.
8. Three speciality markets; Asian, Vintage and Pre-Loved and Farmer and Craft took place in White Lion Square in Hatfield throughout Autumn/Winter.
9. Held Remembrance Sunday services in Hatfield, Welwyn Garden City and Welwyn Village.
10. Oak Hill hosted its annual Christmas Memorial Service in December.
11. Mill Green Watermill and Museum hosted an event to mark the Winter Solstice, the shortest day of the year, in December.
12. Organised Hatfield's Christmas Light Switch-On.