

Achievements List 2022-23 (Quarter 1, Apr – Jun 2022)

Corporate Priorities

- One – Attractive and accessible green spaces supporting the borough’s wellbeing
- Two – Evolving, vibrant town centres and a growing economy
- Three – Quality homes through managed growth
- Four – A sense of community where people feel safe
- Five – A well run council which puts our customers first

(Press releases: U: Used by local media – print or online, N: Not used by local media)

Achievement	Source	Corporate Priority
April 2022		
The award-winning Splashlands switched on the water feature in time for the Easter holidays. The paddling river, water sprays and jets are surrounded by a nautical-themed adventure playground providing fun for children of all ages. The splash pad is open every day from 10am to 6pm through to the last Sunday in September, weather dependent. Entrance remains free.	Press release (U)	One and Four
The museum service opened Mill Green Museum and The Watermill, and the Roman Baths for the Spring/Summer season.	Press release (U)	Four
The car park at Campus West temporarily closed for improvement works – a first step in wider regeneration plans for Welwyn Garden City town centre. The addition of 156 spaces to the car park through the construction of a single deck will help reduce the impact on town centre parking when Campus East closes for redevelopment. Visitors to Campus West can still use the drop off and pick up point at the entrance to the building.	Press release (U)	Two, Three and Five

Achievement	Source	Corporate Priority
May 2022		
Artists of all ages and abilities were invited to join local artist Dagmar Louw at Mill Green for an all-day workshop at which participants were invited to paint their own interpretation of The Watermill.	Press release (N)	Four and Five
Covid vaccinations began being offered to children aged 5-11 at Queensway Health Centre in Hatfield, continuing the council's partnership with the local NHS to offer vaccinations to younger children as well as adults at the pop-up clinic. The sessions take place in a welcoming and stress-free environment to ensure that children, along with parents and carers, feel comfortable, and ensure a positive experience.	Press release (U)	Four
Local elections took place in 16 wards across the borough with the results declared the following day in record time. The overall turnout was 35.2 per cent.	Press release (U)	Five
Operation Balsam, an out-of-hours service designed to tackle neighbourhood noise nuisance, returned for the Easter holidays. Funded by the University of Hertfordshire and run jointly by the council and police, additional noise patrols run between 10pm and 3am. The aim is to improve understanding within the community, including students, of the impact that antisocial noise can have on their neighbours.	Press release (N)	Four
The remodelled Anniversary Gardens in the heart of WGC town centre were officially reopened, coinciding with the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Work includes a new path, benches, and planting inspired by founder of the Garden City movement Ebenezer Howard and time he spent working in Chicago, USA.	Press release (U)	Two
June 2022		
The inspirational achievements of local people were celebrated with the 16 th annual Civic Awards. New Mayor of Welwyn Hatfield, Councillor Barbara Fitzsimon, invited her predecessor Cllr Peter Hebden to announce the awards, which celebrated achievements in mentoring, supporting, and helping others.	Press release (N)	Four and Five

Achievement	Source	Corporate Priority
<p>Nearly 50 official street parties took place in Welwyn Hatfield over the Platinum Jubilee Weekend, with hundreds more taking place in pubs, parks and private gardens across the borough. To help people celebrate, the council put together a special jubilee toolkit and organised a number of special events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A celebratory lunch at The Hive (in partnership with Jimmy Mac's) • The lighting of the Jubilee Beacon at Campus West • Mill Green hosted Platinum Jubilee-inspired Family and Vintage Days. • The Coronation Fountain and Clock in WGC and the canopy of lights in the Hatfield Town Centre Arcade were lit red, white and blue for the weekend. 	Press release (U)	Four and Five
<p>This Girl Can returned to Welwyn Hatfield with the council encouraging local sports clubs, organisations and schools to sign up and be part of the popular week-long event. The successful Sport England campaign aims to inspire women and girls to get more active. Now in its seventh year, This Girl Can has had an impact on changing female attitudes towards sport and exercise.</p>	Press release (N)	One
<p>Two new defibrillators were installed at White Lion Square in Hatfield Town Centre and at Guessens Grove sheltered scheme in Welwyn Garden City.</p>	Press release (N)	Four
<p>The council was successful in prosecuting a local landlord for safety breaches which put his tenants at potential risk of harm. St Albans Magistrates Court imposed fines for six breaches of the HMO regulations. This included obstructions to the fire escape route at the property, a loose stair carpet causing a trip hazard, and failure to maintain the credit to both the gas and electric meters, leading to a lack of lighting, heating and hot water. The fine, which encompassed a victim surcharge and court costs, totalled over £15,000.</p>	Press release (U)	Four