

Shaping the future of **Buckskin & South Ham**

Your Community Newsletter - March 2024



Keeping you up to date

Last November we contacted everyone in Buckskin and South Ham to ask you to work with us over the next two years to create a plan for the future, to improve the area and increase opportunities for everyone. We explained that we wanted to bring additional investment to make that plan happen.

To start, we wanted to hear about everyone's views and experiences of living and working in the area, so we can then together identify options for change, these may include refurbishing homes and the regeneration or renewal of parts of the neighbourhoods.

Thank you to everyone who got involved with Shaping the Future of Buckskin and South Ham. Many of you were able to 'have your say', at the listening events and on the website, or spoke to one of the community researchers.

One thing lots of you told us is that you'd like to know more about what's happening locally, so we've started this newsletter to keep you updated.

We plan to send a newsletter every two months to let you know what we're doing, and how you can get involved. It also gives local community groups an opportunity to tell the people of Buckskin and South Ham what they do. Check out the 'Community Notice Board' section for events, local activities and support groups.

Keeping you in the loop and well informed is really important to us. So is working with you as we look to the future of Buckskin and South Ham together.



First impressions - what you told us

Over the last few months, the team were delighted to meet so many of you during the seven events we held in the community and to hear from others through our website.



4,000+

people visited our website to find out more and shared their feedback.



200+

people came to one of our events.



500+

people filled in a survey.



50+

people were interviewed by the community researchers.



100+

people said they'd like to join a working group.

Your enthusiasm and ideas really shone through. Everyone had lots of things to say about housing and the cost of living, getting around the area, your community and how you feel about the neighbourhood, local facilities and services, green spaces, parks and sports facilities. And there were some great ideas for the future!

We are pulling all the feedback we received together and there will be a report that we will share with you all soon.

You said, we're doing...

While it's still early days in this project, we'll be looking at future opportunities with you and using your feedback to help shape investment options for the neighbourhoods.

We heard that you felt that the neighbourhood could be tidier, with an area near Kings Road shops being one place that can be particularly untidy. On 6 January we held a clean-up day. Biffa kindly donated some skips, and the team helped to clear the communal areas of the surrounding flats and enhance the back of the shops.

This will help to reduce fly-tipping and keep the spaces looking better. Local feedback on this was really positive, so we'll be doing more of these days in other places in Buckskin and South Ham.

Many of you shared with us the importance of Westside Community Centre. We've been working alongside Westside Community Association and Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council to keep activities and services running.

We will soon start revamping an empty shop on Kings Road for the community association to run and will support them to explore other ways to raise income, whilst longer term options are worked through.

The shop owners in Burnaby Close have shared their experiences of what it's like to run a business there. We've heard how much they enjoy being part of the community and they've suggested some ideas to improve how the area looks.

We'll be holding some workshops to shape how we can make the shops feel safer and more welcoming. If you live near the Burnaby shops or use them regularly and would like to be involved, we'd like to hear from you.

Look out for the posters in shop windows for further details or email:
yourcommunity@sovereign.org.uk





In the spotlight

What a team - your local Community Researchers

We worked with an amazing team of local people to help us to understand your experience of living in Buckskin and South Ham, and where you would like to see changes. During December you may have met the team when they were out and about in the neighbourhoods, collecting real insight from so many of you. We'd like to thank all of you who took the time to chat with them.

On 1 February the team met again to discuss the findings and give their personal insight on what people had told them, things the community are passionate about and what improvements could be made. The training and experience they gained gave them a NCFE accredited Level 2 Award in Peer Research, which will also help them with their future employment aspirations.

Krissy, Community Researcher, said: "I really enjoyed taking part to gather our communities' thoughts on South Ham and Buckskin. I have lived in my close nearly 6 years, and by taking part in the community research I have now met more of my neighbours whom I had never spoken to before. It's lovely coming out and having a conversation with them."

Stephen, Community Researcher, added: "The online training taught us how to make connections in the community, the different types of residents we would meet, what they want, and how they can contribute to helping fix the problems they have mentioned. I feel that we have only just scratched the surface and would love it if others wanted to get involved."

We're always looking for new local people to get involved and work with us. This can lead to paid work, new skills and training or maybe an opportunity to gain the experience you need to take your career in a different direction. If this is something you would like to know more about, please get in touch.

Email: yourcommunity@sovereign.org.uk



Your community notice board

Your feedback highlighted a real sense of unity and community spirit, but not everyone is aware of what's happening locally. There's so much going on that you can get involved with, so why not add the dates to your diary and pop along.

Basingstoke Community Pantry



Paddock Road, South Ham RG22 6QD.

The pantry is currently running from the blue container in the Westside Community Centre car park:

Tuesday 10am to 1pm

Wednesday 10am to 1pm

The Pantry is a membership scheme aimed at helping people make their money go further. Members will be able to get 12 food items for £5.

St Andrew's Methodist Church



Western Way, Basingstoke RG22 6ER.

Spring Sale

Saturday 9 March from 12pm to 3pm (light refreshments and drinks available)

Weekly activities

Sunday service: All welcome 10.30am

Coffee morning

Tuesday 10am to 11.30am

Mug and Biscuit

Tuesday 10am to 1.30pm
Wednesday 10am to 1.30pm
Thursday 10am to 1.30pm
(hot food served Tue-Thu until 1pm)

Mums and Toddlers

Thursday 10am to 11am

Boys' Brigade (from age 5 to 18)

Friday 6.30pm onwards.



Buckskin Evangelical Church

Buckskin Evangelical Church,
Chiltern Way RG22 5BB.



Buckskin Pantry

Thursday from 11am to 12.30pm

This pantry has been set up in association with the charity, Community Food Link, Basingstoke. They collect food that is near its sell-by date from supermarkets around the town to be shared out among those in need within the community.



Buckskin Foodbank



Friday 10.30am to 12.30pm

As well as food parcel collections, you can also receive support from Citizens Advice every week, and an Andover Mind wellbeing drop-in every fortnight.

Join your local residents' groups

South Ham Community Action Group

Join them on Facebook:
South Ham Community Group
Email:
southhamcommunitygroup@outlook.com

Buckskin Residents Action Group

Ridgeway Centre, 6 to 7pm
The third Tuesday of every month
Join them on Facebook:
Buckskin Residents Group
Email: Buckskincag@hotmail.com

Cost of Living

If you're struggling with the cost of living, SNG have lots of useful advice to help you to save money.

Find out more here:
www.sovereign.org.uk/cost-of-living-support



Or scan the QR code with your phone camera.

Who is your local bobby and how do you get in touch?

Did you know that local bobbies are back in Basingstoke in a scheme to strengthen community-police relations?

Here's how to get in touch with your local team.

Buckskin - Jan Neumeister
07392289994 - jan.neumeister@hampshire.police.uk

South Ham - Samantha Slade
samantha.slade@hampshire.police.uk

Jan and Samantha will be out and about in their communities, addressing the root causes of crime in their areas. Please remember to still call 111 or 999 in an emergency.

Inspero



Kempshott Village Hall,
Pack Lane, Basingstoke RG22 5HN.

Inspero Food Bank, Community Shop and Fridge:

Tuesdays 9.30am to 12.30pm

(Note: open 3 days per week Monday, Tuesday and Fridays for emergency food parcels upon referral).

Provides a range of food, hygiene items, cleaning products and pet food. A small donation is requested.

Contact Inspero for further information:
Phone: 07950 686614
Email: catherine@inspero.org.uk

Wellness'N'Wellies

Community programme to support good mental, physical and emotional well-being by working together in a community garden, growing organic food for our charity food bank.

Mondays and Fridays - 10am to 3pm,
Charity Community Garden, beside Kempshott Village Hall.

Inspero are looking for more volunteers to help at their food bank, food collectors from supermarkets and gardening help.

We want to hear from other local groups about their forthcoming events, what services they provide, when and where they meet - anything which may be of interest to others.

Use this bi-monthly newsletter to publicise your events and provide details of local support that's available. We'd also love your thoughts about this first edition and what you'd like to see included in the future.

What's next

We're putting together a team of specialists, with a strong track record of working with communities, to support us and you to identify options for change.

We've selected a masterplanner made up of teams from two architect practices: Allies Morrison and Mae. But we didn't do this alone, a group of people who live and work

in the area were part of the rigorous process to find the right specialist. We will introduce them and another specialist we will be working with to you in the next edition.

You'll have lots of opportunities to get involved, and we'll keep you updated in future newsletters about what's coming up.

Local Plan consultation

You may have seen that Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council has been consulting on its draft Local Plan Update (Regulation 18). The consultation documents are available on the council's website at: www.basingstoke.gov.uk/LPU-have-your-say

The Local Plan is a framework that will guide future development and planning decisions in the borough until 2040. It includes a strategy setting out what type of development will take place and where. It also gives details of proposed sites for new homes and employment space. Buckskin and South Ham have again been identified as priority areas for regeneration within the draft Local Plan (as they are in the current adopted Local Plan 2011 to 2029). The Sovereign Hill Partnership is responding to this consultation to continue to support the inclusion of Buckskin and South Ham in the Local Plan update.

Find out more

Do you know someone else who would like to receive this community newsletter? We're using a doorstep distribution company to deliver these newsletters to your home, but you can also find a copy on our website. You'll also find lots of other information to keep you up to date with what's happening.

Anyone can sign-up to receive regular news updates electronically, via our website.

Website: shapingthefuture.commonplace.is

Email: yourcommunity@sovereign.org.uk

Phone: 0300 7771010

Please contact us if you'd like a copy of this information in another language or format.

Or visit our highly accessible website:
shapingthefuture.commonplace.is

Polish

Prosimy o kontakt, jeśli chcieliby Państwo otrzymać kopię tych informacji w innym języku lub formacie. Są one również dostępne na naszej stronie internetowej.

Portuguese

Entre em contacto conosco se desejar uma cópia destas informações noutro idioma ou formato. Ou visite o nosso website, totalmente acessível.

Nepali

कृपया यदि तपाईं यो जानकारीको प्रतिलिपि अन्य भाषा वा ढाँचामा चाहनुहुन्छ भने हामीलाई सम्पर्क गर्नुहोस् । वा हाम्रो पूर्ण रूपमा पहुँच योग्य वेबसाइटमा जानुहोस्।

Hindi

अगर आप इस जानकारी की कॉपी किसी और भाषा या फॉर्मेट में चाहते हैं तो कृपया हमसे संपर्क करें। या हमारी पूरी तरह से ऐक्सेसिबिल वेबसाइट पर जाएँ।

Urdu

اگر آپ کسی دوسری زبان یا فارمیٹ میں اس معلومات کی کاپی چاہتے ہیں تو براہ کرم ہم سے رابطہ کریں۔ یا ہماری مکمل طور پر قابل رسائی ویب سائٹ پر جائیں۔

Arabic

يُرجى الاتصال بنا إذا كنتم ترغبون في الحصول على نسخة من هذه المعلومات بلغة أخرى أو في تنسيق آخر، أو يمكنكم زيارة موقعنا الإلكتروني بكل سهولة ويسر.

Romanian

Vă rugăm să ne contactați dacă doriți o copie a acestor informații într-o altă limbă sau într-un alt format. Sau vizitați website-ul nostru complet accesibil.



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