Shaping the future of

Buckskin & South Ham

Your Community Newsletter - Edition 12, November 2026



Sovereign Network Group

Sovereign Hill Partnership

Regeneration update

Our next engagement update will be in early 2027

Over recent months, we've continued to listen to residents and stakeholders about the future of Buckskin and South Ham. We know many people are keen to understand what the plans could mean for their homes, families and neighbourhood, and that the continued uncertainty can be difficult.

We had hoped to provide a further update this autumn. However, having listened carefully to the feedback we have received, we believe it is important to take more time to consider the options and ensure any future proposals are properly informed by what residents and stakeholders have told us.



As a result, we are not yet in a position to share a further update. We now expect to return in early 2027 with a clearer view of the potential way forward.

We understand this may be disappointing, particularly for those who were expecting an update sooner or who are looking for greater certainty about the future.

We do not take that lightly. However, we believe it is better to take the time needed to get this right than to move forward before this work has been completed and all the options have been fully considered.

In the meantime, our conversation with residents continues. Our regular community drop-ins will still take place, giving you the opportunity to speak to the team face-to-face, ask questions and share any concerns or views you would like us to consider. (See page 9).

If you'd like to ask questions, share your thoughts, or stay involved as the conversation continues, we'd really love to hear from you.

Email: yourcommunity@sovereign.org.uk.



Introducing your new local South Ham and Buckskin locality team

We're pleased to introduce our Buckskin and South Ham locality team, a new SNG housing management, rehousing support and property services team dedicated to SNG customers. Colleagues working together locally will help us build stronger relationships with residents, better understand the neighbourhood and respond to local needs.

The team will soon have a regular local base at The Beacon on a Tuesday, making it easier for you to speak to us face-to-face about your home, SNG tenancy, neighbourhood or the regeneration programme. They will also be at our regular community drop-in events at the Ridgeway Centre and the King's Cafe from October, allowing us to have an increased focus on the area and more of a presence in the neighbourhood. See page 9 for details.

One new website for all the latest information

We've also launched a new website bringing together updates for Buckskin and South Ham, Pinkerton Road and Camrose in one easy-to-use place. It replaces the three dedicated Commonplace sites, so you will no longer need to visit separate websites to follow the different projects. If you previously registered for updates through Commonplace, there is no need to sign up again - we'll continue to keep you informed. Visit **https://shapingthefuture.sng.org.uk** to explore the latest news, project information and ways to get involved.

Scan the QR code with your mobile phone

In the spotlight

Kelly's story - how shared equity supported her move to a new home



Kelly is SNG's first shared equity customer in Basingstoke. With our support, Kelly has moved from the bedsit she owned in Pinkerton Road to a modern, more spacious flat that gives her and her three much-loved house cats more room to feel at home.

Moving home can feel like a big step, but Kelly received dedicated one-to-one support throughout her journey. The team was there to guide her through each stage, answer her questions and help make the move as smooth and reassuring as possible.

How Shared Equity works

Shared Equity is designed to help resident homeowners who need support to afford a suitable alternative home. It may be available where a homeowner's property is proposed for redevelopment as part of regeneration.

You use the value from the sale of your current home, together with any Home Loss payment you may be entitled to, towards the replacement property. If there is a gap between what you can afford and the cost of the new home, SNG may provide an equity loan to help bridge it.

"SNG have literally changed my life. I'm so happy." - Kelly

Unlike Shared Ownership, SNG's contribution is provided through an equity loan agreement rather than a leasehold arrangement, so there is no rent to pay on SNG's equity share. Shared Equity will not be right for everyone, but it is one housing option that we can discuss privately with eligible homeowners, taking account of their individual circumstances, affordability and the needs of the proposed regeneration scheme.

Shared Equity can help an eligible homeowner move to a suitable replacement home without needing to fund the full purchase price themselves.

Pinkerton Road Area
Keeping you up to date

How your feedback has shaped the Pinkerton Road area proposals

Thank you to everyone who took part in our summer engagement. Across the two exhibitions, 222 people attended and 106 residents shared written feedback. We heard clearly that people want to be genuinely involved in shaping what happens next, and we'd like to share with you how we've listened and how we are now updating our early proposals.

Your local knowledge, concerns and ideas are valued and important.

Residents also asked us to look carefully at building height and character, privacy, parking and traffic, pedestrian safety, how new green spaces would be kept safe and well maintained, and how construction activity would be managed to minimise disruption to existing residents.

Feedback about the garages and access behind Pinkerton Road to the allotments was also a high priority for many residents.

What you told us has directly shaped the next stage of our proposals.

We have reviewed the 'play on the way' idea and how it relates to roads and crossings; looked again at design features and materials, green space and planting; and considered parking, access and the potential impact on neighbouring homes.

Next steps: We're continuing to develop our plans as part of the wider regeneration of Buckskin and South Ham. As work on the wider masterplan progresses, we are taking the opportunity to consider the Pinkerton Road proposals alongside plans for the surrounding area. This will help ensure that any future development is well connected, responds to local priorities and contributes positively to the wider neighbourhood.

We look forward to sharing further details as work progresses.



What we're doing in your neighbourhood

The Beacon – a new community space

We're pleased that the new community facility has now been handed over to Westside Community Association. This marks an important milestone for the area, creating a new home for local activities, support services and community events, delivered by an organisation with strong roots in the neighbourhood.



Update on our refurbishment pilot projects

We're continuing our refurbishment pilot projects in Cotswold Close and Winchester Road and wanted to share an update on what is happening next.

We'll be contacting residents soon to arrange any necessary surveys or home visits, which will help refine the refurbishment plans. We want to work with residents and Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council to establish potential local improvement projects that could take place.



Residents whose homes are included in the refurbishment pilots will be contacted directly with more information. We'll continue to keep residents informed as the project progresses and will share further details about the emerging proposals and opportunities in due course.

Summer family fun with Basingstoke Mencap

There was plenty of creativity, colour and fun in our local parks this summer, as we teamed up with Basingstoke Mencap to offer free activities for families. Around 480 people joined us over 16 days at Hill View, Stratton Park, Russell Howard Park and the Tidy Town Throwdown.

Children and families got stuck into mosaic making, plant-pot painting, birdhouse decorating, pebble painting and clay modelling. Alongside the crafts, our pop-up living room offered a friendly place to sit, meet neighbours and enjoy time together.

We loved hearing how much families valued having something fun, free and close to home. One resident described it as “a fun day out of the house for us all”, while others told us how much they enjoyed getting creative and taking their crafts home. A big thank you to everyone who came along and helped make the sessions so welcoming.

Camrose: plans submitted for 99 affordable homes

We’re pleased to share an important milestone for Camrose: Sovereign Hill Partnership has submitted a planning application to create 99 high-quality affordable homes on the former football ground. The proposals include 54 homes for social rent and 45 for shared ownership, helping more local people and families find a home they can afford.

This is an opportunity to bring a long-derelict site back into positive use and create a welcoming, well-designed neighbourhood that feels connected to the wider Buckskin and South Ham community. The revised plans include a generous new central park, additional parking and new one-bedroom maisonettes to help meet local housing need.

Thank you to everyone who shared their views at events and online. Your feedback has helped shape and strengthen the proposals, including the open spaces, parking and mix of homes. The application will now be considered by Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council, and we’ll continue to keep you updated as it progresses through the planning process.



Skills 4 Work - opening doors to new opportunities

A new job can bring fresh confidence, greater independence and a real sense of possibility. Through SNG's Skills 4 Work programme, people across the borough received practical, personalised support to help them take that important next step.

Skills 4 Work was a borough-wide initiative delivered through a partnership between SNG and Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council. Funded by the council through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, it supported residents aged 16 and over who were unemployed and wanted to improve their career prospects. Participants could access one-to-one coaching, training and employability support, including help with CVs, job searches and interview skills.

Here in Buckskin and South Ham, we supported 19 people - helping local residents build skills, confidence and stronger routes into employment.

Real people, real results

Among the fantastic outcomes achieved by participants from Buckskin and South Ham were:

- one person joined Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council's grounds maintenance team
- three people became teaching assistants
- two people moved into full-time security roles after completing our funded SIA security bootcamp
- one person found work in transport
- two people secured administration roles
- one person started work as a care worker in a care home

The support went much further than job applications. Participants also accessed training, digital skills support, financial help and introductions to other useful services. Every achievement represents someone gaining new skills, building confidence and moving towards a more secure future.



Come and have a chat with us

Whether you'd like to talk about the regeneration programme, have a question about your home or tenancy, or simply speak to someone from the team face-to-face, we'd love to see you. The sessions are informal, friendly and open to everyone in the community, with no appointment needed.

There won't be any new regeneration information shared at these drop-ins. Instead, they are a chance to ask questions, raise any concerns or simply catch up with us.

All sessions take place on Thursdays, from 11am to 2pm:

Ridgeway Community Centre - 12 November and 10 December

Kings Road Café - 26 November and 17 December

Can't make it?

If you're unable to attend but would still like to talk to us, email yourcommunity@sovereign.org.uk. We can also arrange a home visit if that's more convenient. Please get in touch and we'll be happy to find another way to speak with you.



Your community notice board

Check out the activities happening locally this autumn. Add the dates to your diary and pop along.

Kings Café

Kings Road, South Ham.

Tuesday to Friday, 9am to 2pm. Great choice of food available from a full breakfast to homemade cakes.

South Ham Seniors:
Mondays 10am to 11.30am
A new social club with a different weekly activity including quizzes, craft, board games and guest speakers. £2 entry - hot drink and biscuits included.

Westside Community Pantry

Running from Kings Café

Tuesday 11am to 1pm

Wednesday 11am 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.

Ridgeway Community Centre

Blackdown Close
Buckskin, RG22 5BW.

Eco-food Market Pantry:
Wednesday and Friday
10am to 1pm
12 food items for £5, bring your own containers and boxes.

Parent Toddler Group:
Tuesday 10am to 12pm
£1.50 per child,
(includes refreshment).

Ridgeway Ravers:
Wednesday 10am to 12 noon
Over 55's club, new members welcome.

Lunch Club:
Thursday 12 noon to 12.30pm
All ages, £6 for dinner and pudding, tea/coffee.
To book call 01256 470665

Cosy Corner Café:
Monday to Thursday 9am to 2pm. Friday 9am to 1pm
(Great choice of food available from a full breakfast to baked potatoes).

Seniors Well-being Walks:
Tuesday, 9.15am (free 45 minute gentle walk around the local area).

Table Tennis:
Every 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month. 1.30pm to 3.30pm (lively community sessions - all abilities welcome and equipment supplied. £5 per session incl. refreshments).

Buckskin Evangelical Church



There's lots happening at Buckskin Evangelical Church between now and Christmas, with something for all ages.

Community Christmas | Saturday 19 December, 1.30pm to 4.30pm
Come and celebrate Christmas with the local community! Enjoy crafts, Pop-Up Play, Christmas market stalls, meet Santa, a performance from Chiltern Primary School Choir and refreshments. Most activities, including meeting Santa, are completely free, although there will be opportunities to purchase items from the market.

Stepping Stones | Wednesday, 10am to 11.30am
A friendly mother and toddler group with plenty of toys, time to socialise and a chance for both little ones and grown-ups to make new friends. Hot drinks and snacks are provided.

Allstarz | Wednesday, 4pm-5pm
A free children's club with crafts, games, a snack and a Bible story. A fun and welcoming space for children to come along and enjoy themselves.

Coffee Morning | Thursday, 10.30am to 12pm
Come along for a relaxed morning of good company, coffee and treats. Everyone is welcome.

Buckskin Food Pantry | Thurs, 11am to 12.30pm
The Food Pantry provides an opportunity to collect food that would otherwise go to waste, while enjoying a cuppa and a sweet treat in a friendly environment.

Lunch Plus | Every other Friday, 11am to 2pm
Come along for coffee and a biscuit, followed by a delicious lunch and pudding. A voluntary donation of £3 is welcomed.

Carols by Fairy Light | Sunday 13 December, 6.30pm to 7.30pm
Come and enjoy an evening of traditional Christmas carols in a beautiful, relaxed setting.

Blue Christmas | Thurs 17 December, 7pm to 9pm

Christmas can be a difficult time for many people. This service offers a space for anyone experiencing loss, loneliness or other challenges during the festive season. A light meal will be provided.

Basingstoke and Deane

Important changes to waste collections

Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council is introducing changes to waste collections from Monday 12 October to help meet government waste reduction targets.

Under the new arrangements, residents' rubbish bins will be emptied fortnightly on the opposite week to their recycling bins. Food waste caddies will continue to be collected weekly, and glass collections will remain fortnightly.

People are being encouraged to look out for important information arriving by post, explaining the changes to their bin collection days. The envelope includes a cut-out-and-keep collection calendar tailored to each property, showing new collection dates for all waste and recycling containers over the coming months.

The calendar also includes collection dates over the festive period, when schedules temporarily change.

People can also check their collection dates at any time using the council's online lookup service at www.basingstoke.gov.uk/bincollections.

Further information about the changes can be found at www.basingstoke.gov.uk/waste-collection-changes

Basingstoke Carnival Dance Club

Basingstoke Carnival Hall, Council Road, RG21 3DH

Tuesdays 2pm-4pm (£5 non-members and £4 for members, which includes tea and biscuits).

A social group - to learn: Ballroom, Latin, and Sequence Dance.

For further details Email: banterharris1968@gmail.com Phone: 07890 028669

CGHB Surgeries - News from the Patients Participation Group (PPG)

For details of what's on and to get a copy of the latest newsletter visit: www.cghppg.weebly.com/news or Email: cghb.surgeryppg@btinternet.com



Buckskin Foodbank

Basingstoke foodbank

Buckskin Evangelical Church, Chiltern Way, RG22 5BB.

Friday 10.30am to 12.30pm.

The Foodbank provides food parcels for those who need them. Support from Citizens Advice is also available every week, alongside an Andover Mind wellbeing every fortnight.

For more information about any of our activities, please get in touch with Buckskin Evangelical Church. We look forward to welcoming you!

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 view and sign up to receive regular news updates electronically, via our website. You'll also find lots of other information to keep you up to date with what's happening.

Website: **https://shapingthefuture.sng.org.uk**

Email: **yourcommunity@sovereign.org.uk**

Phone: **0300 5000 926***

*Calls from UK landlines are charged at local rates. Charges from mobile telephones vary. The charge for your call will depend on your mobile phone provider and the contract that you have with them.

Please contact us if you'd like a copy of this information in another language or format. Or visit our highly accessible website:

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 connosco 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 फ़ॉर्मेट 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.