

# 2024 Corporate Plan



Questions that must be answered are marked with an asterisk (\*)

1. **Are you responding as...?** \* Please tick one box only

- A resident of the Canterbury district
- A visitor to the Canterbury district
- A worker in the Canterbury district
- A business, organisation or community group, if so, please answer the following:

What's the name of your business, organisation or community group?

\_\_\_\_\_

How many people does your business, organisation or community group represent?

\_\_\_\_\_

- A city, county, parish or town councillor, please specify:  
\_\_\_\_\_
- An MP
- Other, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

## UN Sustainable Development Goals

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) provide a framework for the major global challenges of economic, environmental and social sustainability.

These goals are a universal blueprint for all countries to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure prosperity for everyone.

We'd like to adopt these 17 goals to measure progress and demonstrate our contribution towards long-term sustainability locally.

Our themes and the global goals would correspond as follows:

<b>Protecting our district for future generations</b>	Clean Water and Sanitation Life Below Water Climate Change Life on Land
<b>Feeling safe, secure and healthy</b>	No Poverty Zero Hunger Good Health and Wellbeing Quality Education Gender Equality
<b>Growing our district sustainably</b>	Decent Work and Economic Growth Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure Sustainable Communities Responsible Consumption and Production Affordable and Clean Energy
<b>Listening to our residents</b>	Reduced Inequalities Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions Partnerships for the Goals



## Section 1 - Protecting our district for future generations

### Clean Water and Sanitation, Life Below Water, Life on Land, Climate Change

The SDGs recognise the need to tackle climate change - as reflected in the council's declaration of a climate emergency.

They also recognise the need to protect plants, animals, the sea and the countryside which is reflected in the council's declaration of a biodiversity emergency.

It is widely acknowledged that doing so promotes people's happiness and wellbeing.

Situated as we are in the Garden of England, the district is home to 14 miles of coastline and natural environments that attract national and international protection. You can find more information on where these areas are situated here [mapping.canterbury.gov.uk/webapps/Planning\\_information/](https://mapping.canterbury.gov.uk/webapps/Planning_information/)

### The data

Although there are localised issues and concerns with the release of sewage by water companies, Whitstable and Herne Bay's bathing water quality has been rated as 'good' or 'excellent' from 2018 to 2023 by the government. You can view the latest results here [www.gov.uk/government/publications/bathing-waters-in-england-compliance-reports/bathing-water-classifications-2023](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/bathing-waters-in-england-compliance-reports/bathing-water-classifications-2023)

However, according to Natural England, due to the release of nutrients like nitrogen and phosphorus from farming and sewage, the water in the Stodmarsh Lakes is in an unfavourable condition.

A report by The Kentish Stour Countryside Partnership said the majority of the River Stour is in a moderate condition (75%), but a significant proportion is in a poor condition (17%).

On land, we manage roadside litter picks with Canenco where, in two weeks during October 2023, they collected three tonnes of rubbish in our district along the A2.

Trees and green spaces make people feel better physically and mentally according to the British Medical Bulletin. A study in the Science of The Total Environment tells us that they also have a cooling effect (1-3°C) in the summer, which helps those vulnerable to heat cope with heat waves.

The Woodland Trust say people in our district are closer (more than 4 km) to large areas (20ha) of woodland relative to the rest of Kent (96% vs 60%).

## What we are doing already

We have a comprehensive Climate Change Action Plan ([canterbury.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2023-05/Climate%20change%20action%20plan\\_0.pdf](https://canterbury.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2023-05/Climate%20change%20action%20plan_0.pdf)) to push us ever closer to net zero. That is complemented by an Air Quality Action Plan ([canterbury.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2022-10/Canterbury%20and%20Herne%20air%20quality%20action%20plan.pdf](https://canterbury.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2022-10/Canterbury%20and%20Herne%20air%20quality%20action%20plan.pdf)).

The Canterbury Pollinator Action Plan prioritises actions across the district to benefit pollinators and to support their recovery.

The Canterbury District Tree, Hedges and Woodland Strategy celebrates the importance of woodlands and trees across the district. It assesses current tree cover and then prioritises areas for tree regrowth. It sets out 50 actions that together will increase both tree health and tree cover.

With support of numerous stakeholders we have refreshed the Canterbury Riverside Strategy to ensure objectives and actions reflect current needs and challenges.

Biodiversity is at the heart of promoting positive management and awareness of the Canterbury Riverside.

In response to the declaration of a Biodiversity Emergency, a Canterbury District Biodiversity Plan - A Nature Recovery Strategy, will be launched in early summer 2024.

Councillors and stakeholders are currently preparing biodiversity actions and will support and monitor their implementation.

These important strategies and action plans will inform the delivery of Biodiversity Net Gain and the development of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy (Making Space for Nature).

When it comes to water quality in our seas, we are working closely with a range of partners including the Environment Agency and Southern Water.

With the latter we are working to improve how wastewater is managed and raise awareness of issues that might impact water quality. This means everyone can make an informed decision about when to use our bathing waters.

Southern Water is loaning us a water testing device as part of our citizen science water testing project to carry out water quality testing in the district. Some of our staff and volunteers from Save Our Seas Whitstable will be trained to use the device and carry out tests together for an initial period.

The data is shared with all partners, including the Environment Agency, and there are investigations into any high readings.

We have also worked with Southern Water to install a first-of-its-kind water testing buoy off Tankerton shore.

The buoy uses technology to measure the quality of the seawater every few minutes. The data is then used to populate real-time information on the water.

We have supported Southern Water with their pathfinder projects working with the community in the Whitstable area to find solutions to reduce the amount of rain that runs off roads and buildings into our systems during heavy spells of rain.

This includes a Slow the Flow scheme to install things like water butts or planters on properties with large roofs and down pipes that enter the sewer network to help slow the amount of water entering at one time.

Other options being explored are installing sustainable drainage options like trees, tree pits, and rain gardens.

We have also worked with Southern Water on upgrades at its Swalecliffe wastewater treatment works.

These upgrades will improve the way sewage flows are managed when they are received at the site.

Finally, we are working with water companies to make sure our supply is reliable and safe, including through the creation of a new reservoir at Broad Oak.

### **Actions planned for 2024/25**

We will continue to promote the work of local coastal groups who help reduce the amount of plastic waste entering the sea.

We will update our Air Quality Action Plan and aim to improve air pollution by making it easier to walk, cycle, use public transport, use electric vehicles and by reducing traffic congestion.

With this in mind, we have plans to protect and improve open spaces in the city, coastal towns and villages, including woodland.

We are currently consulting on proposals to establish a climate change fund - half a million This will help us deliver on projects to reduce carbon emissions.

The next draft of the Local Plan will outline a range of measures around sustainable design and push developers towards building net zero homes.

We are working with partners to produce a new Transport Strategy that complements and bolsters the draft Local Plan's green ambitions.

Our new Open Space Strategy will shape our approach to future provision of accessible, high quality and sustainable open spaces across the Canterbury district.

We will promote nature recovery across the district through the delivery of Biodiversity Net Gain and the development and delivery of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy.

Stodmarsh can recover by improving the processing of sewage, reducing the amount of rainwater that enters the sewage system and environmental measures such as the creation of wetlands and managing agricultural run-off.

We have asked the government to help us introduce these changes and are working with Natural England, the Environment Agency and councils across Kent on a catchment-wide answer.

Finally, we will be working with Southern Water to deliver storm water schemes at Cornwallis and Westmeads in Whitstable.

1. **What do you think about this theme? \* Please tick one box only**

Support  Object  Neither

2. **How important is this theme to you as an individual? \* Please tick one box only**

Very important  Not very important  
 Quite important  Not important at all  
 Neither important nor unimportant

3. **How important is this theme to you for the wider district as a whole? \*** Please tick one box only

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Very important                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Not very important   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Quite important                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Not important at all |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Neither important nor unimportant |   |

4. **As a resident of the area you live in, how important are the following goals? \***

Please tick one box for each goal

**Protecting our district for future generations**

	Very important	Quite important	Neither important nor unimportant	Not very important	Not important at all
Clean Water and Sanitation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Life Below Water	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Climate Change	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Life on Land	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

5. **For the wider district, how important are the following goals? \*** Please tick one box for each goal

**Protecting our district for future generations**

	Very important	Quite important	Neither important nor unimportant	Not very important	Not important at all
Clean Water and Sanitation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Life Below Water	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Climate Change	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Life on Land	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Section 2 - Feeling safe, secure and healthy

### No Poverty, Zero Hunger, Good Health and Wellbeing, Quality Education, Gender Equality

The SDGs say we must help those in need and promote fairness so our society improves as a whole and people are not unfairly forgotten or ignored.

They say everyone should have the chance to live a healthy life, access the education they need and escape poverty and hunger, no matter their gender or background.

#### The data

In the 2021 Census, most people said they have good or very good health in our district.

While the proportion of people with bad or very bad health is low overall, there tends to be more people with bad health in coastal areas like Herne Bay and Whitstable.

From 2013 to 2021, the rate of people dying is similar to or less than England and Wales. The picture is similar when compared to the rest of Kent.

The life expectancy of males and females in the district is also akin to the rest of Kent, with a male life expectancy at birth of 79 years and a female life expectancy at birth of 83 years.

We have seen a decline in male life expectancy at birth and the greatest increase in female life expectancy at birth relative to the other local authorities in Kent.

Although the district might be seen as relatively well-off, it contains some very deprived areas.

Of the 12 local authorities in Kent, Canterbury is the 8th most deprived. Heron, Barton, Gorrell, Seasalter and Wincheap wards all contain areas that are in the 10% most deprived of Kent.

Some of the areas in Heron, Barton are in the 10% most deprived in England.

The use of food banks in Canterbury city has risen consistently each year and the number of people claiming benefits and children in poverty is higher proportionally in the city and Herne Bay than in the rest of the district.

We have the 19th highest proportion of children in poverty after housing costs, out of 64 local authorities in the south east of England.

The number of people waiting for social housing has increased in recent years and we have also seen rising numbers of homeless people and rough sleeping.

House prices in the district remain high, relative to incomes, and the Housing Needs Assessment, 2021 (HNA) suggests we need 464 new affordable homes every year to meet the level of need.

Generally speaking, people in the district are well-educated. Compared with the local authorities that neighbour us, we have the highest proportion of people whose highest qualifications are Level 3 (A-Levels) and Level 4 or higher (degrees).

The majority of our schools are rated as Outstanding or Good. Around 16% of pupils have Special Educational Needs and there are two Special Educational Needs schools in the district.

People who have experienced domestic abuse continue to need support. The Rising Sun Domestic Violence and Abuse Service supported 496 people in the year April 2022 to March 2023.

### **What we are doing already**

We know that good or bad health is not simply the result of individual behaviours, genetics or medical care.

A large portion of the difference in health outcomes comes down to the social, economic and environmental factors that shape people's lives.

To tackle poverty and help those that are struggling, we have recruited a new officer to work with partners and identify a multi-agency approach.

This Early Intervention Officer has been appointed to help set up initiatives to prevent both private-rented and social housing tenants from becoming homeless.

This early intervention support addresses affordability, employment, food insecurity, fuel poverty and mental health support.

They also work with partners to identify a multi-agency approach to tackling poverty in the district.

In line with this, we are working closely with the Canterbury Society to meet our aims of establishing a multi-agency partnership.

We are part of the Tackling Poverty Forum which includes representatives such as Kent County Council, the Department for Work and Pensions and our universities.

The aim of this is to develop an action-based delivery plan and identify a focus for tackling poverty.

Where we identify that a tenant is struggling and needs some extra support, we offer help and signposting.

The most common types of issues we help with are linked to mental health needs and involve people with vulnerabilities.

Our Tenancy Sustainment team deals with referrals and helps people to move to homes more suited to their needs through our assisted moves project.

We are also providing cost-of-living support for residents with lots of information and signposting available on our website ([canterbury.gov.uk/benefits-and-support/help-cost-living](https://canterbury.gov.uk/benefits-and-support/help-cost-living))

When it comes to education, we recognise we have a more limited role to play when compared to Kent County Council, the Department for Education, individual academy trusts, the further education sector and the higher education sector.

One of our key roles is to ensure enough land is available for new schools through our Local Plan.

We also make sure housing developers make payments that help improve existing schools or build new schools so that there is sufficient capacity for all levels of education - early years', primary, secondary and special education needs.

In 2022, we received £589,042 towards improving safety on the city streets. The money comes from the Home Office's Safer Street Fund after a successful bid by the council.

The fund is aimed at preventing violence against women and girls as well as other crimes, such as theft and anti-social behaviour.

Improvements will include extra CCTV, an increased police presence, a walking taxi initiative and the creation of safe havens.

### **Actions planned for 2024/25**

Tackling poverty is not something that we can deliver on our own.

While a wide range of partners have already attended our first Tackling Poverty Forums, we will be running future workshops to establish what partners are already doing and where the gaps are.

We realise that a lot of our information is online so reaching those who are digitally excluded is a challenge.

With this in mind, we are looking to upskill and enable voluntary sector partners to reach those people and support them in moving out of poverty.

The Household Support Fund scheme has been helping low income households already. In total, £388,351 was given to us for the year to distribute through an application process. So far, £188,175 had to be spent by 1 October.

The remainder of this funding is set to be released in two more phases until 15 March 2024.

This will help those in need with costs like food, bills and other essentials such as clothing.

Our new Local Plan will look to deliver more affordable housing for the district and ensure these properties are really energy efficient to reduce bills for tenants.

We are also looking at how we can get contributions from student accommodation developments for us to use to deliver more affordable homes.

It is intended that the Local Plan will provide an important opportunity to rebalance the provision of secondary schools in the district, by providing more secondary schools on the coast.

1. **What do you think about this theme?** \* Please tick one box only

Support                                       Object                                       Neither

2. **How important is this theme to you as an individual?** \* Please tick one box only

Very important                                       Not very important  
 Quite important                                       Not important at all  
 Neither important nor unimportant

3. **How important is this theme to you for the wider district as a whole?** \* Please tick one box only

Very important                                       Not very important  
 Quite important                                       Not important at all  
 Neither important nor unimportant

4. **As a resident of the area you live in, how important are the following goals?** \*

Please tick one box for each goal

**Feeling safe, secure and healthy**

	Very important	Quite important	Neither important nor unimportant	Not very important	Not important at all
No Poverty	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Zero Hunger	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Good Health and Well-being	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quality Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gender Equality	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

5. **For the wider district, how important are the following goals?** \* Please tick one box for each goal

**Feeling safe, secure and healthy**

	Very important	Quite important	Neither important nor unimportant	Not very important	Not important at all
No Poverty	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Zero Hunger	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Good Health and Well-being	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quality Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gender Equality	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



### Section 3 - Growing our district sustainably

#### Decent Work and Economic Growth, Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, Sustainable Communities, Responsible Consumption and Production, Affordable and Clean Energy

The SDGs try to balance the need for jobs, innovation and economic growth with the need to build sustainable communities, limiting the environmental damage of the provision of goods and services and making energy as clean and affordable as it can be.

#### The data

Overall our district has seen an increase in employment rate from 2022. However, we are still slightly behind the rest of the south east for the current year.

The Office for National Statistics shows the most recent employment rate for ages 16 to 64 in 2023 is 71%.

The most common industries across our district are education, wholesale and retail trade, human health and social work activities.

In Canterbury, weekly full-time earnings mirror the national picture at approximately £624.

However, that average doesn't hold true when comparing men and women's wages.

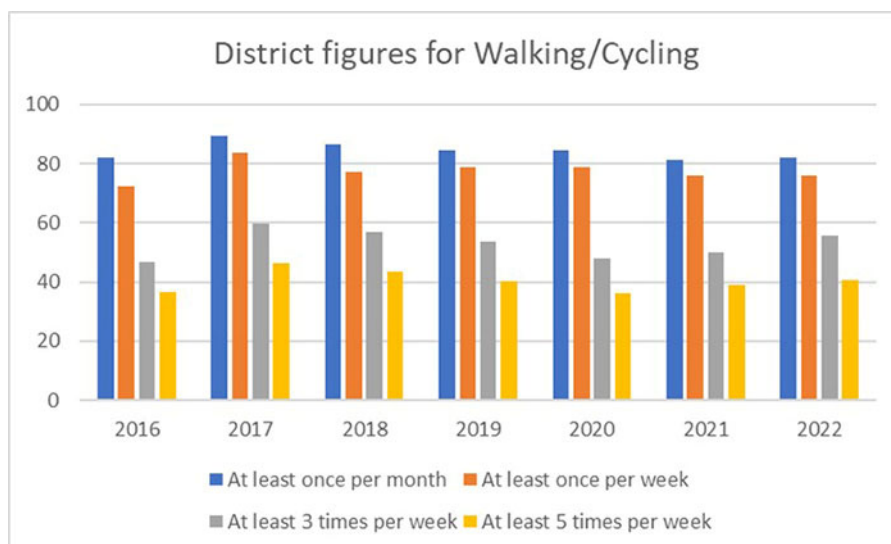
The weekly median full-time residential earnings are men at £694 and women at £574.

The Economic Development and Tourism Study in 2020 showed that 29.7ha of new business space is needed to support the district up to 2040.

We must also consider the needs of different businesses and factor in transport links and ease of access for commuters.

With more people trying to use greener alternatives for travel, more investment is needed in safe and accessible places for these activities to be carried out.

Annual walking and cycling statistics tell us that over the last seven years, out of a UK sample size of approximately 175,000, our district figures are as follows:



Ensuring we meet the future needs of the district plays a big part in any strategy or plan we form.

The council's EV and Infrastructure Strategy 2021 - 2030 tells us that in January 2021, there were 38 charging points available for public use. This means one charging point per 12 electric vehicles (EVs), which is close to the UK average of one point for every 9.6 EVs.

We have seen that the highest number of resident requests for charge points are to the south of Canterbury city centre where there is currently no on-street or off-street provision nearby.

Charger type	Low scenario	Medium scenario	High scenario
<b>Workplace and commercial (7-11kW)</b>	125	210	435
<b>Public car parks (22kW)</b>	56 (28 dual socket)	94 (47 dual socket)	196 (98 dual socket)
<b>On-street residential (7-11kW)</b>	100	112	136
<b>Taxis (50kW)</b>	8	12	18
<b>Total</b>	<b>291</b>	<b>431</b>	<b>789</b>

The table above illustrates the scenarios to meet requirements for approximately 7,000 EVs, a realistic goal for 2025.

It's important that new communities have a mix of homes, accessible jobs, facilities like schools, healthcare and shops as well as a clean, safe environment.

Communities also need opportunities for active travel like safe walking and cycling, access to public transport, and open spaces where they can relax and exercise.

The Housing Needs Assessment, 2021 (HNA) identified that our communities need a wide variety of housing types and sizes, to meet the needs of people at every stage of their lives.

Housing for older people is a particular challenge and we need to provide more specialist accommodation to meet the needs of our ageing population.

It's important that new communities have a mix of homes, accessible jobs, facilities like schools, healthcare and shops, and a clean, safe environment.

Our district data for waste shows a fairly consistent trend over the years. With waste steadily increasing for domestic and recycling but dropping for green and food waste.

### **What we are already doing**

Our Electric Vehicle and Infrastructure Strategy aims to achieve the 'high scenario' as this would keep us in line with the wider country's average.

Housing is always an important focus for us and our current Local Plan strategy is focused on delivering a number of strategic sites, generally with 800+ homes and onsite infrastructure and community facilities.

In 2022, we received £589,042 towards improving safety on the city streets. The money comes from the Home Office's Safer Street Fund after a successful bid by the council.

The fund will be aimed at preventing violence against women and girls as well as other crimes, such as theft and anti-social behaviour.

Improvements will include extra CCTV, an increased police presence, a walking taxi initiative and the creation of safe havens.

We have also teamed up with Kent County Council (KCC) to offer more affordable options for a solar panel scheme.

This scheme, Solar Together Kent, saw 100 households using their combined buying power to secure a discount on panel costs while taking into account the installation for the properties as well.

We also built 16 new green homes in Kingfisher Close, five of which were immediately made available for families on the housing waiting list.

Carbon emissions for hot water in those homes have been cut by 65% and the cost to run is lower than conventional gas boilers.

The project was designed and completed by local contractors and architects.

There is also the potential of a 20% discount for electric and hybrid plug in vehicles at all main car parks.

### **Actions planned for 2024/25**

Our Levelling Up Fund scheme in Canterbury includes improvements to the city's bus station and car parks, with new electrical vehicle chargers and docking for bikes as well as additional investment in cycling and walking routes.

Our new Transport Strategy will focus on major improvements to the public transport networks in the district, including buses, to reduce the need to travel by car and to support a shift to low-carbon and healthy journeys.

Elsewhere we will use our UK Shared Prosperity Fund allocation to develop a green retrofit model that can be applied to future council housing upgrades and help projects that have biodiversity and ecological goals.

We will also support local businesses so they can offer staff the latest training to develop their 'green' skills (e.g. housing retrofit). These skills will be vital for the future.

We plan to reintroduce the Canterbury market in April 2024.

We want to work with traders and the local community to make sure the market is a vibrant and inclusive space.

Consultation on this proposal is live until early January 2024 so considering feedback received, we hope to make a clean and varied experience for our residents and visitors.

Our Park & Ride sites remain a vital part of getting in and out of the city.

Our Park & Ride fleet is now fully Euro 6 compliant, offering the most economical fleet we can at this time.

We will be reopening Sturry Road Park & Ride in spring 2024 to ensure visitors and commuters have strong, reliable alternatives for entering the city instead of relying on private transportation.

1. **What do you think about this theme?** \* Please tick one box only

Support

Object

Neither

2. **How important is this theme to you as an individual?** \* Please tick one box only

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Very important                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Not very important   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Quite important                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Not important at all |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Neither important nor unimportant |   |

3. **How important is this theme to you for the wider district as a whole?** \* Please tick one box only

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Very important                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Not very important   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Quite important                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Not important at all |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Neither important nor unimportant |   |

4. **As a resident of the area you live in, how important are the following goals?** \*

Please tick one box for each goal

**Growing our district sustainably**

	Very important	Quite important	Neither important nor unimportant	Not very important	Not important at all
Decent Work and Economic Growth	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sustainable Communities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Responsible Consumption and Production	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Affordable and Clean Energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

5. **For the wider district, how important are the following goals?** \* Please tick one box for each goal

**Growing our district sustainably**

	Very important	Quite important	Neither important nor unimportant	Not very important	Not important at all
Decent Work and Economic Growth	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sustainable Communities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Responsible Consumption and Production	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Affordable and Clean Energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## **Section 4 - Listening to our residents**

### **Reduced Inequalities, Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, Partnerships for the Goals**

The SDGs say we will only be able to build better, safer communities by understanding the problems of those who live, work and study in the district.

They say everyone should have an opportunity to get involved in decision-making that affects them and help to create positive change for themselves and others.

#### **The data**

According to the Office of National Statistics, in Canterbury, 10% of the population was described as having low income or no income in 2019.

Of the 316 local authorities in England, Canterbury is ranked 182 for most income-deprived.

Of the 90 neighbourhoods in the district, 11 were among the most income deprived in England.

We can see that the most deprived 20% in our district have a life expectancy that is around seven years lower than the least deprived 20%.

The total recorded crime for Canterbury for the period of June 2022 to June 2023 is 14,732 incidents, according to figures published by the ONS.

In the year ending June 2023, there were 14,732 incidents of crime, this is a decrease of 1,056 in incidents when compared to the previous year ending June 2022.

There were 4498 violent crime incidents in Canterbury in the year ending June 2022.

There were 4,038 incidents of theft in Canterbury in the year ending June 2023.

A breakdown from Lumbplot, using public source data from ONS, Kent Police and others, shows that of 99 postcode areas Canterbury currently places 15 for violent crime stats although we have seen a 15.9% decrease in this crime area.

The violent crime category includes offences from sexual assault, assault with weapons to murder according to the Crown Prosecution Service.

Recently we have seen an increase in some offences for Canterbury. Shoplifting has increased 10% and crimes involving drugs have also seen a 10% rise.

However many other categories of crime are lower for this year anti-social behaviour has dropped 16%, vehicle crime has dropped more than 20% and bicycle theft has dropped 9%.

#### **What we are already doing**

We are working to close the gap for inequality.

Through plans such as our RISE grants we help support organisations which are already achieving good outcomes for the community but need support to deliver even better services.

As the cost of living continues to rise, we are doing what we can to provide advice and support on claiming benefits, improving job-hunting skills, promoting active lifestyles and supporting young people by tackling early anti-social behaviour to create a greater sense of belonging.

We are committed to promoting equality and diversity in everything we do and foster good relations among our communities.

We take a strong stance on crime and work with partners to prevent and educate wherever possible.

Our Community Safety Partnership plays a huge part in supporting the district's stance on crime.

Canterbury's Purple Flag status was awarded for the 10th year in 2022. This means that, in partnership, we surpassed standards for managing the evening and night-time economy.

We continue to maintain a strong relationship among those working in the evening and night-time economy – relationships which have strengthened through the pandemic.

We promote safety campaigns including:

- Ask Angela - a safe way of asking for help from specially trained bar staff.
- Student SafeTaxi scheme - a taxi scheme for students in emergency situations.
- Connected Routes and the SafeZone app - a network of safe walking routes and an easy method for students to contact security staff.

We also enforce policies around anti-social behaviour because of the impact it can have in our communities.

Usually anti-social behaviour leads to areas becoming degraded or neglected which in turn can adversely affect the quality of life for people living in these places.

The council supports and promotes good neighbour campaigns.

We are exploring 'amnesty skips' to allow people to hand in weapons and illegal items without judgement or repercussions.

We run targeted operations and tackle graffiti to try and keep our district safe and clean.

Every year we review a plan to help protect our district from crime and make people feel safer in a group called the Canterbury Community Safety Partnership.

This group aims to disrupt crime, make enjoying nightlife safer, protect vulnerable people and support young people.

Our Neighbourhood Management team also works to tackle anti-social behaviour experienced by tenants.

The team investigates all allegations and works with the residents to try to resolve the issue in the first instance.

Thanks to the expertise and experience of our partners we can hugely magnify the positive impact of our work.

We give financial support (£185,042 from 2021-2022) to different local charities and groups and foster partnerships that bring together many distinct organisations.

We know how important our parks and culture are to people's wellbeing. We work with English Heritage and Kent Wildlife Trust to manage Reculver Country Park, and with Friends of Westgate for Westgate Parks, both of which were awarded the prestigious Green Flag award this year.

Our Museums and Galleries service joined The Kent and Medway Museum Partnership, which was awarded £748,524 by the Arts Council England investment programme.

This year we have worked with the Active Life charity to make sure people with disabilities have the right washing and changing facilities to join the inclusive swim sessions at Herons Leisure Centre. Active Life offers a wide range of programmes aimed at supporting the different needs of our community.

We joined a group with five local authorities which was awarded money by the Local Government Association to help build more new social housing.

To help small businesses grow, we became an FSB Local Leadership Partner.

We work with Kent Police to confiscate illegal vapes and counterfeit goods, and gained a £590,000 grant to make our streets safer in the city centre, which benefits both businesses and residents.

We were also awarded the Armed Forces Covenant Employer Recognition Scheme Gold Award for our support of veterans and reservists who work for us and who live in the community.

We hold quarterly Armed Forces Covenant meetings to link local organisations and other armed services charities to make sure we are effectively helping those who serve or have served in the Armed Forces.

### **Actions planned for 2024/25**

We want to know what people living, working and studying in the district think about our plans and proposal so we can feed them into the policy and decision making process.

We also want to engage and work in partnership with all of the key stakeholders in the district.

We are committed to ensuring local democracy works for the good of those it serves and keep our procedures and processes under review.

A good example is the petition we have received calling for a town council for Whitstable which has sparked what is known as a Community Governance Review which will involve extensive consultation before a final decision is made.

We are producing a new draft Local Plan too and as part of this statutory process, we will continue to listen carefully to your feedback via public consultation and engagement.

We are also working on a series of other important strategies such as the Transport Strategy, Open Spaces Strategy, Air Quality Action Plan and our Climate Change Action Plan.

We believe that by listening to and learning from all our residents, we can build a fairer community where everyone feels more connected to where they live, work and study and the people they do that alongside.

1. **What do you think about this theme? \* Please tick one box only**

Support                       Object                       Neither

2. **How important is this theme to you as an individual? \* Please tick one box only**

Very important                       Not very important  
 Quite important                       Not important at all  
 Neither important nor unimportant

3. **How important is this theme to you for the wider district as a whole? \* Please tick one box only**

Very important                       Not very important  
 Quite important                       Not important at all  
 Neither important nor unimportant

4. **As a resident of the area you live in, how important are the following goals? \***  
Please tick one box for each goal

**Listening to our residents**

	Very important	Quite important	Neither important nor unimportant	Not very important	Not important at all
Reduced Inequalities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Partnerships for the Goals	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

5. **For the wider district, how important are the following goals? \*** Please tick one box for each goal

**Listening to our residents**

	Very important	Quite important	Neither important nor unimportant	Not very important	Not important at all
Reduced Inequalities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Partnerships for the Goals	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Section 5 - Final questions**

1. **Please rank the below themes in order of importance (1 = most important / 4 = least important) \***  
Each number can only be used once.

**Corporate Plan themes**

**Ranking**

Protecting our district for future generations	<input type="text"/>
Feeling safe, secure and healthy	<input type="text"/>
Growing our district sustainably	<input type="text"/>
Listening to our residents	<input type="text"/>

2. **Please outline any other groups/organisations you think we should be working with**



3. **Is there anything else you think the council should be considering as part of the 2024 Corporate Plan?**

### Corporate consultations

**We have several corporate consultations coming up soon and we would like to hear from you. Which of the following corporate consultations would you like to be informed about? \*** Please tick those that apply

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Canterbury District Local Plan | <input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality Action Plan   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Transport Strategy             | <input type="checkbox"/> None                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Levelling Up Fund projects     | <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please state below |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Climate Change Action Plan     |  |

**If you'd like to be informed, and are happy for the council to contact you about corporate consultations, please tick the box to indicate your consent to us contacting you:**

I consent to being contacted by the council

**How would you like to be contacted? \***

By email       By post

Please provide your email address: \*

Please provide your details:

Title \*

First name

Surname \*

Address \*

Address

Town \*

Postcode \*

**How did you find out about this consultation?** \* Please tick those that apply

- Email from the council
- Council Facebook post
- Council Twitter post
- Council LinkedIn post
- Council website
- Word of mouth
- Other, please state below

### About you

The council has a legal duty to consider the needs of its diverse range of customers. As well as questions about our services we ask questions about you. Although you do not have to answer these questions, without this information the council will be limited in understanding whether views differ among different groups of people.

Canterbury City Council is the data controller and the only recipient of your personal data. Your personal information is processed under General Data Protection Regulations Article 6.1 (e) in the performance of an official duty. Your personal data will be stored for two years.

You have the rights to:

- Access your personal data
- Rectify or correct your personal data
- Restrict the processing of your data
- Complain to the Information Commissioner’s Office

You also have the right to object to our processing of your personal data.

The appointed Data Protection Officer is Canterbury City Council’s Head of Corporate Governance, who can be contacted by email at [dataprotection@canterbury.gov.uk](mailto:dataprotection@canterbury.gov.uk), by phone on **01227 862 175** or at the address below.

Canterbury City Council, Council Offices, Military Road, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 1YW.  
Phone: **01227 862 000**. Web: [www.canterbury.gov.uk](http://www.canterbury.gov.uk)

**Please provide your postcode:**

**What age are you?** Please tick one box only

- |                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Under 18 | <input type="checkbox"/> 55 to 64          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 18 to 25 | <input type="checkbox"/> 65 to 74          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 26 to 34 | <input type="checkbox"/> 75 to 84          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 35 to 44 | <input type="checkbox"/> 85 and above      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 45 to 54 | <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to say |

**What gender are you?** Please tick one box only

- Male
- Female
- Prefer to self-describe (for example, non-binary, gender fluid etc), please provide further details below if you wish

- Prefer not to say

**Do you consider yourself to be disabled?** Please tick one box only

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

Thank you for taking the time to respond to this consultation.