

GOSPORT'S 2026 VISION



GOSPORT'S SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY



The Gosport Partnership
" Working Together For The Gosport Community "

Gosport's Sustainable Community Strategy

Introduction

A Sustainable Community Strategy describes a unique shared vision for a sustainable future in a geographical area.

Gosport's Sustainable Community Strategy sets out Gosport's 2026 Vision: an aspirational picture of the future. This Vision provides a common goal for public organisations, businesses, schools, and everyone who works and lives in the Borough to aim towards.

The Gosport approach

Gosport's 2026 Vision was developed by the Local Strategic Partnership¹ in 2007 in parallel with the Local Development Framework (which sets out future land use in the Borough).

As a first step, extensive data was collected on a range of quality of life issues which provided a statistical picture of the Borough. Then a large scale community consultation, 'Make your Mark', allowed residents, businesses and visitors to comment and prioritise the key issues. Over 1200 people took part in this highly successful participation event and views were also sought from key service providers. Other consultation/research findings, local and regional plans and strategies were assessed and all this information was then used to produce:

Gosport's 2026 Vision

Gosport's local economy will be thriving and diverse with increased investment. There will be a good choice of jobs on the peninsula and people will have the opportunity to work close to home. The economy will build on its strengths in the tourism and marine sectors whilst maximising its high-tech manufacturing base. Business start-ups will have increased and released Ministry of Defence land will provide opportunity for maximising business development and growth.

Local people will have improved skills and qualifications. Schools and colleges will, by working with pupils and parents, have increased numbers of children and young people in school and improved qualification levels. There will be more educational opportunities including vocational courses (especially for those aged 16-19 years old) and greater participation in tutored life-long learning. Literacy skills and numeracy skills amongst adults will be improved.

The town's waterfront will be re-developed, taking advantage of the fantastic harbour location. There will be a mix of shops, pubs, restaurants, homes and leisure facilities. Priddy's Hard will be linked to the Town Centre by the popular Millennium Promenade. Gosport will be a place that

¹ This partnership was the overarching partnership for the Borough. Its Board brought together key service providers in the public, private, community and voluntary sectors to take a strategic overview and lead.

tourists want to visit. Heritage facilities will be celebrated with historical sites providing unique and popular attractions.

There will be plenty of high quality and affordable leisure and recreational opportunities in the Borough. The proportion of adults taking part in organised competitive sport (especially athletic, running and aquatic activities) will remain high. Open space for recreational and amenity purposes will be retained and sport pitches and play areas improved. The coastline and waterfront will be accessible and enjoyed by many. Leisure facilities will be of a high standard and will provide activities for all age groups. The Alver Valley Country Park will offer a countryside haven providing green open space and lakes with opportunities for nature walks, fishing, picnicking, horse riding and walking.

Gosport will have a good community spirit which will be supported by an active community and voluntary sector. People will continue to see that community activities are improving and there will be plenty of opportunities to participate in voluntary work and projects. The Borough will be a fair and tolerant place and its residents will have a strong sense of pride in where they live. People from different cultures, backgrounds and beliefs will be respected and diversity will be valued. The needs of the ageing population will be taken into account. Disabled people will have full opportunities and choices to improve their quality of life and will be respected and included as equal members of society. Children and young people's aspirations and expectations will be raised and their health and wellbeing improved. Poverty and social exclusion will be reduced especially in the most deprived areas of the Borough.

There will be a variety of housing types that meet the needs of the local community, taking into account Gosport's population and its changing population structure. There will be a range of affordable housing on offer, people will have more opportunity to access housing and there will be less homelessness. Housing will be of a high quality and new dwellings will be well designed and built to eco-friendly standards with good access to public transport and services. Some of the housing areas in need of improvement will be regenerated. Sustainable communities will be promoted and people will have a sense of belonging to a local neighbourhood as positively contributing citizens.

There will be a good range of high quality, easily accessible health services. Local health providers, working with the community and agencies, will improve health through preventative measures. Life expectancy will have increased and there will be a reduction in heart and respiratory disease, strokes, cancer and infant mortality. There will be a reduction in low birth weights, obesity (for children and adults), smoking, teenage pregnancies and improvements in dental health (in particular amongst five year olds).

People will feel safer as levels of crime and anti-social behaviour will have decreased. Theft, arson, criminal damage and domestic violence will be

reduced. Drug related crime will no longer be a problem and there will be much less anti-social behaviour (such as vandalism, graffiti, large groups gathering and noisy neighbours). Community safety will improve by positively involving local people, good partnership working and targeting of resources.

Traffic congestion (especially that related to out-commuting) will be reduced. There will be increased use of public and community transport, people will be appreciating the benefits of local goods and services and reducing their reliance on the private car. Cycling will continue to be a significant form of transport and the number of people walking to work will remain high.

Gosport's environment will be clean, well maintained and attractive. Nature conservation sites will be protected and biodiversity encouraged, in particular along the coast. The attractive character of the coast, parks and open spaces will be protected.

The community will be taking positive action to reduce their use of natural resources and minimise climate change. Local people, services and businesses will be helping to reduce their carbon footprint.

In 2026 people will be proud of Gosport – a fantastic place to live, work and visit.



Falkland Gardens, Gosport Ferry

If you need this document in large print, on CD or tape, in Braille or in other languages, please ask.



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