



PLATFORM 3

# STEWARDING OUR NATURAL RESOURCES



We are seeing a real appetite across our communities for the stewardship and conserving of our beautiful natural environment.



One of the major reasons that people chose to live, work and settle here is our stunning coastal, downland, riverbank and urban park environments.

As Councils we recognise the importance of providing and enabling Platforms for people to do this. This is not for us about entering into climate change debates or protest movements at national or global level. We aim to enable the many individuals and “small platoons” who want to do something to conserve or steward their natural environments and resources at the local community level. Be they parks groups, allotmenters, real food or growing enthusiasts, etc., we are keen to help them create the necessary Platforms and work with those who already do so.

We recognise that this can be contested policy space. At times there will be challenging debates about the respective

trade-offs (between development and conservation for example) and it is the role of the Councils, often wearing Local Planning Authority hats, to make them. We do not shy away from those debates and from seeking the best outcomes possible, balancing the different demands.

As Councils we also recognise that we can and should do more with our own resource use. We have recently undertaken a significant review of what we could and should be doing better and recognise that good principles of environmental stewardship and civic resource management are often one and the same thing.

# THE PLATFORM ELEMENTS

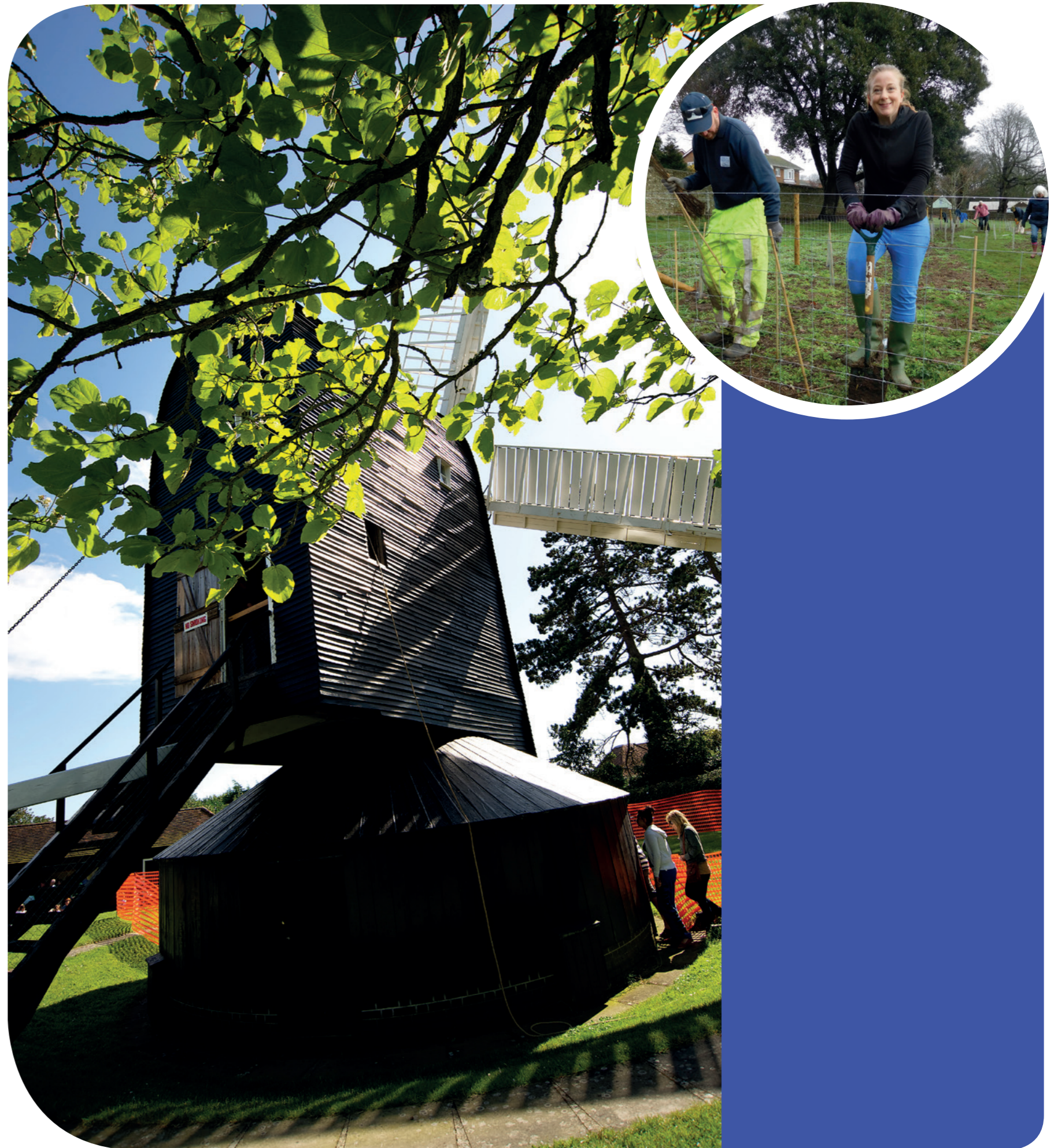
The Platform that we will create, develop and curate (with a range of key stakeholders) will include:

- **AS COUNCILS ENSURING WE CAN** do more with less, reducing our emissions, efficiently using water and reducing the amount of waste we send to landfill
- **WORKING WITH THE COMMUNITIES** already active in stewardship and guardianship of our natural environments (business, community and individuals)
- **BUYING LESS, BUYING BETTER AND BUYING LOCAL:** Detailed consideration of various elements of our procurement approaches and what we can do to further the circular economy in our local communities
- **SMARTER INFRASTRUCTURE:** Using innovation, planning and design to “future proof” what we build, use and live in
- **ENCOURAGING THE CELEBRATION** and custodianship of nature by developing new walking routes, cycling routes and furthering biodiversity corridors from the South Downs to the sea.

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...AT TIMES  
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COMMITMENT	ACTIVITIES & PROJECTS	LEAD RESPONSIBILITY	PARTNERS INVOLVEMENT	TIMESCALES/MILESTONES
3.1 Reduce emissions and shift to clean energy across the councils' estate	3.1.1 Develop detailed understanding of the Councils' energy, water use and associated carbon emissions, and working with the West Sussex County energy team, produce an invest to save energy strategy.	Strategic Sustainability Manager Head of Business and Technical Services	Team Energy, West Sussex County Council	June 2019 - Establish our carbon baseline and develop a Carbon Reduction Plan
	3.1.2 Retrofit built infrastructure to improve environmental efficiency across corporate buildings and social housing stock.	Head of Business and Technical Services Head of Housing Strategic Sustainability Manager	BEIS (Salix funding) National Grid & Affordable Warmth Solutions (Warm Homes Funding)	Programme of works over next 3 years
	3.1.3 Deliver further clean, renewable energy on council buildings and sites. Develop a programme of solar photovoltaic installations.	Director for Digital & Resources Strategic Sustainability Manager	West Sussex County Council	December 2019 - Solar panels installed at the Shoreham Centre
3.2 Work to deliver sustainable travel initiatives and infrastructure, tackling air quality	3.2.1 Develop an Adur & Worthing Councils Staff Travel Plan, promoting active travel, cycling, walking, public transport use and car sharing. Support staff to adopt these forms of transport for commuting and business travel, and share our learning with other local organisations.	Director for Digital & Resources	West Sussex County Council, Sustrans, Public Transport providers	April 2019
	3.2.2 Help deliver the West Sussex Air Quality Action Plan agreed in June 2018 by promoting active travel, cleaner fuels, cleaner fleets (in house and in taxis) and the use of electric/hybrid vehicles as set out below.	Head of Wellbeing	West Sussex County Council, Districts & Boroughs, Sussex Air Partnerships	From July 2018
	3.2.3 Improve cycling and walking infrastructure across Adur and Worthing and connectivity with neighbouring areas.	Director for Communities Head of Place and Economy Head of Planning and Development Strategic Sustainability Manager	Walking and Cycling Action Group, West Sussex County Council, Sustrans, local cycling and walking groups	June 2019 - Develop a Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan
	3.2.4 Transition to cleaner fuels for council fleet and vehicle rentals through e.g. hybrid and electric vehicles.	Head of Environmental Services Strategic Sustainability Manager	Car Rental Provider (Enterprise)	December 2019 - Develop a migration plan
	3.2.5 Promote and deliver electric vehicle charging points across Adur & Worthing, working with partners and businesses to leverage government and other funding.	Strategic Sustainability Manager Director for Communities Head of Customer and Digital Services		December 2018 - Next phase charging sites plan December 2019 - Plan delivered
3.3 Reduce waste and support the circular economy, partnering with communities and businesses	3.3.1 Develop mechanisms to improve measurement and incentivisation of recycling and circular use of waste resources within Inter Authority Waste Group and Department for Community and Local Government.	Head of Environmental Services	Strategic Waste Officers Group for West Sussex, Registered Social Landlords and community groups	November 2018
	3.3.2 Using learning from our Findon Valley and Sompting Big Local projects to engage with our communities to promote and support to improve recycling rates in line with Government Targets.	Head of Environmental Services	Strategic Waste Officers Group for West Sussex	December 2018

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	3.3.3 Reduce use of single use plastics, by launching the 'Refill' scheme, including publishing a map of public drinking water sites, and introducing related initiatives to radically reduce council use of single use plastics.	Strategic Sustainability Manager Head of Business and Technical Services	Worthing Climate Action Network, Transition Town Worthing, Marine Conservation Society, West Sussex County Council, Southern Water.	December 2018 - Deliver council contribution to national Refill campaign December 2018 - Develop wider plan on single use plastics reduction.
3.4 Support delivery of smart infrastructure and clean growth in Adur and Worthing	3.4.1 Ensure delivery of environmental sustainability through planning processes, developing innovative approaches to delivering more sustainable development while balancing the imperative to build.	Head of Planning and Development Strategic Sustainability Manager	Developers, Planning Sector	Autumn 2018 (WORTHING) - Worthing Local Plan consultation. Ongoing (ADUR) - implementation of policies adopted with The Adur Local Plan
	3.4.2 Ensure continuing effectiveness of Building Control advisory service on sustainable design in the built environment and extending influence across the business and domestic network.	Head of Planning and Development		Autumn 2018 (WORTHING) - Worthing Local Plan consultation. Ongoing (ADUR) - implementation of policies adopted with The Adur Local Plan
	3.4.3 Explore and promote opportunities for the use of smart technologies in sustainability such as smart metering, smart energy solutions, environmental sensor technology and smart transport solutions.	Director for Digital & Resources	West Sussex County Council, Business partners	December 2018 - Identify a first experimental project
3.5 Develop the role of communities in stewarding our natural resources	3.5.1 Promote Adur and Worthing as a sustainable place. Work with local communities, businesses and experts to identify opportunities to improve the environmental stewardship and sustainability of Adur and Worthing.	Strategic Sustainability Manager	Local community, business, public and academic sector partners.	December 2019 - Adur & Worthing Sustainability Conference December 2019 - Sustainability Prospectus for Adur and Worthing
	3.5.2 Develop new collaborative and integrated models of management of our parks, public spaces and biodiversity, and engagement of our community.	Head of Environmental Services Head of Wellbeing	The Conservation Volunteers	September 2018 - Completion of review and evaluation
	3.5.3 Improve Worthing's Bathing Water Quality through the implementation of an enhancement programme.	Head of Wellbeing	Head of Environment Services, Southern Water Environment Agency	January 2019 - Completion of Major Works May-September 2019 - measures in place for the 2020 Bathing Season
3.6 Use our natural environment to promote health and wellbeing in our communities, economy and places	3.6.1 Support the Growing Communities Project, to empower our communities to gain health and wellbeing outcomes from our natural environment.	Head of Wellbeing	Community Works, The Conservation Volunteers, Green Spaces Partnership	June 2020
	3.6.2 Supporting the development of our public realm, green spaces and natural environment, including accessing the South Downs National Park to promote and enhance our visitor economy and wellbeing within the Community.	Head of Place and Economy Head of Wellbeing Head of Environmental Services Head of Housing Head of Planning and Development	South Downs National Park Authority, West Sussex County Council	Ongoing
3.7 Improve our sustainability performance across the Councils' services and staff	3.7.1 Strengthen our internal sustainability performance, supporting and extending good practice through council spend and across the directorates.	Strategic Sustainability Manager Chief Financial Officer	Contractors	August 2018 - Establish regular reviews
	3.7.2 Mainstream sustainability across council policy, services and behaviour through personal development, learning and volunteering opportunities.	Strategic Sustainability Manager Head of Human Resources Head of Planning and Development	Business partners, Sussex Wildlife Trust, il	August 2018 - Establish a programme of continuous personal development sessions for staff