

Pride in Place – Leigh Park

Neighbourhood Board Members Recruitment Pack

About Pride in Place

Pride in Place is a long-term, government-funded programme that helps communities make their neighbourhoods better places to live. This pack has been prepared for the Leigh Park Pride in Place Programme.

Purpose of the programme

- build stronger communities by helping people feel connected, supported and proud of where they live
- create thriving places by improving local spaces, facilities and the look and feel of the neighbourhood
- give local people more say by ensuring residents help decide what matters most and how funding is used

How decisions will be made

Each Pride in Place will have a community-led neighbourhood board chaired by an independent chair and made up mostly of local residents and people who work in the area, alongside elected representatives and the local council as the accountable body. The board will listen to the community, look at local needs, choose priorities, agree how funding is used and create a long-term plan for the area.

Leigh Park summary

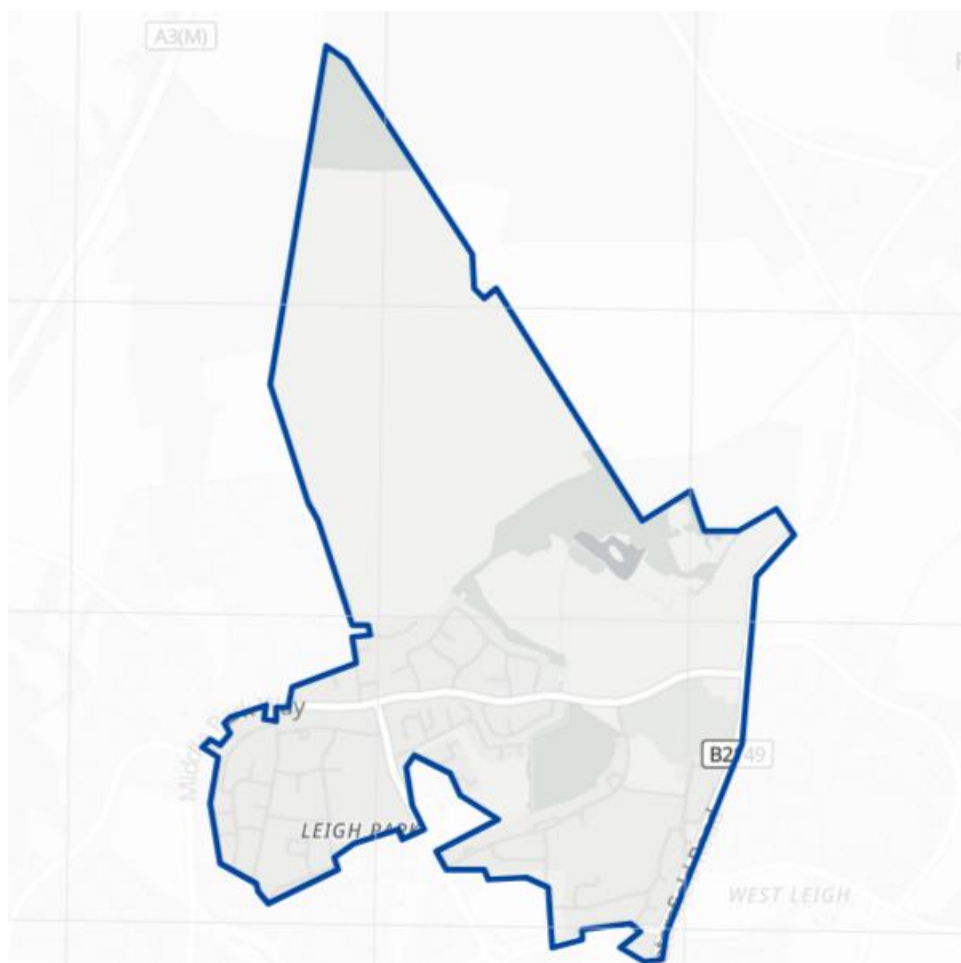
Leigh Park is a distinctive part of Havant with deep historical roots and a strong sense of identity. Once the setting of the historic Leigh Park Estate, with its landscaped grounds and features now linked to Staunton Country Park, the area was transformed after the Second World War into a major new community for families moving from Portsmouth. That history of change, resilience and community-building still shapes Leigh Park today, alongside its schools, local centres, green spaces and active neighbourhood networks.

Leigh Park also faces some longstanding challenges that make focused local action especially important. Parts of the area experience high levels of deprivation, with evidence pointing to poorer health outcomes, barriers to employment and training, and the effects of child poverty and economic insecurity.

Pride in Place is an opportunity to build on Leigh Park's strengths, back local ambition and bring people together around a shared vision for the future. With the right community leadership, it can support practical improvements, greater confidence and renewed pride in Leigh Park.

Leigh Park Area Boundary

The government have designed the boundary of the Leigh Park area. One of the first tasks of the board is to agree the boundary and request a change if necessary.



The Independent Chair

Your independent Chair for Leigh Park is Chris Anders. More information can be found in Appendix A.

Board Membership – Pride in Place Leigh Park

Help shape the future of Leigh Park. We are looking for local residents, workers, community leaders and partners to join the Leigh Park Neighbourhood Board. This is a chance to help shape a long-term vision for the area, influence local investment and ensure the voices of the community are at the heart of decision-making.

What is the Neighbourhood Board? The board brings together residents, businesses, community organisations, elected representatives and other local partners to guide Pride in Place activity in Leigh Park. It will help identify priorities, shape a neighbourhood plan and oversee delivery of projects that make a visible difference locally. More than half of board members must live or work in the area.

We are looking for people who:

- care about Leigh Park and want to make it an even better place to live
- can work positively with others and listen to different views
- want to help shape priorities and support practical local action
- can make time for regular meetings and occasional additional activity

What you will do:

- help develop a neighbourhood plan for Leigh Park
- bring local insight, ideas and community connections
- work with others to agree priorities and review progress
- champion open, fair and community-led decision-making

Role details: This is expected to be a voluntary role, similar to serving as a school governor or charity trustee. Reasonable expenses may be covered. Board members will usually serve an initial term of three years and will be expected to declare interests and sign up to a code of conduct.

How to apply: If you are interested in helping shape the future of Leigh Park, please complete the expression of interest form which can be found on the website at www.havant.gov.uk/pride-in-place-programme and send to prideinplace@havant.gov.uk by 22nd June. Please outline your interest in Leigh Park, any relevant skills or experience, your capacity to undertake the role, and any support requirements. Shortlisted applicants may be invited to an informal discussion.

Appendix A – Chair Biography

Chris Anders

I have been proud to serve as Headteacher of Park Community School since 2008 and to call Havant Borough my home for more than twenty years. Over that time, I have come to know Leigh Park and its people extremely well through working with generations of local families, young people and colleagues. Leading one of Leigh Park's largest employers has given me a deep understanding of both the opportunities and the challenges within the community, and it has strengthened my commitment to creating lasting, generational change. I have worked hard to develop a school that is outward-looking, inclusive and ambitious for its young people, while also playing a practical and supportive role in the wider community. Alongside my work in school, I have chaired a number of education committees and collaborated with public, voluntary and community organisations across the area. My long-standing connection to Leigh Park, collaborative approach and genuine passion for helping the community thrive are what I will bring to the role of Neighbourhood Board Chair.

Appendix B - Code of Conduct (Draft)

Introduction

Being a member of the Leigh Park Neighbourhood Board is a public role. You are expected to act with the same high standards as a councillor and represent the interests of local residents.

Purpose

This Code helps you to:

- understand the behaviour expected of you
- act with integrity and accountability
- protect yourself, others and the board
- maintain public trust and confidence

Key Principles

As a board member, you will:

- act with **honesty and integrity**
- treat everyone with **respect and fairness**
- make decisions in the **best interests of the community**
- avoid **conflicts of interest**
- use resources **responsibly**
- lead by example

When the Code Applies

This Code applies from when you take on the role and covers:

- meetings, whether in person or online
- emails and written communication
- social media and public behaviour in your role

Expected Standards

You must:

- **show respect** to everyone
- **not bully, harass or discriminate**
- **keep confidential information private**
- **not damage the reputation** of the board
- **not misuse your position** for personal gain
- **use board resources properly**
- **follow the Code and cooperate with any investigations**
- **declare any relevant interests**

- **avoid inappropriate gifts or hospitality**

Appendix C - Registering Interests

Within 28 days of becoming a member of the Leigh Park Neighbourhood Board, or of being reappointed, members must register with the accountable body any interests that fall within the categories of disclosable pecuniary interests or other registerable interests. Members must also keep their register of interests up to date and notify the accountable body within 28 days of becoming aware of any new interest or any change to a registered interest.

If a matter arises at a meeting that directly relates to one of a member's disclosable pecuniary interests, the member must declare the interest, must not take part in the discussion or vote on the matter, and must leave the room unless a dispensation has been granted. Similar principles apply to other registerable interests and non-registerable interests where a reasonable member of the public would consider that the interest could affect the member's view of the wider public interest.

Table 1: Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

Subject	Description
Employment, office, trade, profession or vocation	Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.
Sponsorship	Any payment or financial benefit received in connection with board member duties during the previous 12 months.
Contracts	Any contract between the member, or certain connected persons or bodies, and the neighbourhood board that has not been fully discharged.
Land and property	Any beneficial interest in land within the area of the neighbourhood board.
Licences	Any licence to occupy land in the area of the neighbourhood board for a month or longer.
Securities	Any beneficial interest in securities of a body with a place of business or land in the area, where the relevant statutory threshold is met.

Other Registerable Interests

In addition to disclosable pecuniary interests, members should also register the following other interests:

- any unpaid directorships
- any body of which you are a member, or in a position of general control or management, and to which you are nominated or appointed by your authority

- any body that exercises functions of a public nature, is directed to charitable purposes, or has as one of its principal purposes the influence of public opinion or policy, including any political party or trade union, of which you are a member or in a position of general control or management

Appendix D - The Seven Principles of Public Life

These principles set the standard for anyone serving in a public role and should guide the conduct of all board members.

- **Selflessness** - Holders of public office should act solely in the public interest.
- **Integrity** - Holders of public office must avoid placing themselves under any obligation to people or organisations that might seek to influence them improperly.
- **Objectivity** - Holders of public office must act and take decisions impartially, fairly and on merit, using the best evidence and without discrimination or bias.
- **Accountability** - Holders of public office are accountable to the public for their decisions and actions and must submit themselves to appropriate scrutiny.
- **Openness** - Holders of public office should act and take decisions in an open and transparent way.
- **Honesty** - Holders of public office should be truthful.
- **Leadership** - Holders of public office should demonstrate these principles in their own behaviour and actively promote them.