

Report To:	COUNCIL
Date:	15 APRIL 2024
Heading:	ASHFIELD DISTRICT COUNCIL GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY
Executive Lead Member:	NOT APPLICABLE
Ward/s:	ALL
Key Decision:	NO
Subject to Call-In:	NO

Purpose of Report

1 April 2024 marked the 50th anniversary since the creation of Ashfield District Council. The purpose of this report is for Council to note Ashfield District Council's Golden Anniversary and reflect on the achievements and service delivery of the Council over the past half century, while looking forward to what can be achieved over the next 50 years.

Recommendation(s)

Council is recommended to:

- a. Note Ashfield District Council's Golden Anniversary, marking 50 years of serving Ashfield residents and businesses.

Reasons for Recommendation(s)

Ashfield District Council is celebrating its Golden Anniversary since being formed in 1974. Council is asked to note this substantial milestone and reflect on the past 50 years of achievements and service delivery.

Alternative Options Considered

Council could choose not to note and reflect on the Council's Golden Anniversary. However, due to the significance of the milestone, it is deemed more appropriate to mark the milestone formally through Council.

Detailed Information

Ashfield District Council was formed following the introduction of the Local Government Act 1972, which saw the four district authorities of Hucknall, Kirkby-in-Ashfield, Sutton-in-Ashfield, and parts of Basford Rural District Authority, namely the parishes of Annesley, Felley, and Selston merged into one.

Since formation in 1974, Ashfield District Council has been proudly serving residents and businesses of Hucknall, Kirkby-in-Ashfield, Sutton-in-Ashfield and its rural areas.

In the last 50 years, in addition to delivering vital day to day services to Ashfield residents, the Council has also been at the forefront of delivering exciting initiatives and key projects that have become a part of everyday life. These include, but are not limited to:

- Building of Hucknall Leisure Centre in 1984
- Opening of Sherwood Observatory in 1986
- Opening of Brierley Park in 1994
- Opening of Lammas Leisure Centre in 2008
- Jacksdale Multi-Use Games Area opening in 2018
- Extensive refurbishment of the Idlewells Indoor Market in 2018
- New Council homes built for the first time since 1974
- The opening of Kirkby Leisure Centre in 2022

Marking the Golden Anniversary

The Council will be recognising the Golden Anniversary throughout 2024, and several steps have already been implemented to do so.

Ashfield Matters – Spring Edition 2024

The Spring 2024 edition of Ashfield Matters included a double page feature in recognition of the Council's Golden Anniversary. The double page feature includes a detailed timeline of major Ashfield milestones over the past 50 years.

Golden Logo

In recognition of the Golden Anniversary, a golden Ashfield District Council logo has been designed and is being featured prominently on the Council's website, intranet, and on the Spring edition of Ashfield Matters.

Flowerbed Planting and Banners

The flowerbeds at the front of the Council Offices will feature an anniversary banner surrounded by a themed flower boarder.

Main Entrance Display

A display has been created and placed in the main entrance of the Council Offices in Kirkby. The display features the same timeline included in the Spring edition of Ashfield Matters, as well as a display case of civic items and memorabilia relating to the creation of Ashfield District Council including a 1974 rates book, the Ashfield Coat of Arms and the Councils commencement notice from 1974.

School Poster Competition

Key Stage 1 and 2 pupils from schools across the District will put their artistic skills to the test and create a poster to celebrate Ashfield District Council turning 50 years old. Students are being asked to design a poster around Ashfield District Council turning 50 years old and can include drawings of landmarks/areas of Ashfield.

There will be multiple winning entries (one from each area: Kirkby-in-Ashfield, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Hucknall and the Rurals). The winning entries will be displayed on the Council's website, at the Council Offices and will also feature at the 2024 Ashfield Show in August.

Ashfield Show

A display stand at the Ashfield Show in August 2024 will showcase some of the key achievements of the Council over the last 50 years.

Chief Executives Newsletter (Video)

Ashfield District Council's Chief Executive, Theresa Hodgkinson, will mark the 50-year anniversary celebrations in next Chief Executives update video.

Social Media Posts

An ongoing programme of social media posts celebrating the Council's Golden Anniversary.

Any further opportunities to celebrate and mark the Council's golden anniversary, including working with other authorities also marking the milestone, will be explored throughout the rest of the year.

Implications

Corporate Plan:

The achievements and proud service delivery of the Council over the past 50 years align to the priorities and objectives as set out in the Corporate Plan, both current and previous editions.

Legal:

There are no legal implications resulting from the recommendations included within this report.

Finance:

There are no financial implications resulting from the recommendations included within this report. All activities to mark the Council's 50-year anniversary are being undertaken within existing budgets.

Risk:

There are no risks associated with the recommendations included within this report.

Human Resources:

There are no HR implications resulting from the recommendations included within this report.

Environmental/Sustainability:

There are no environmental/sustainability implications resulting from the recommendations included within this report.

Equalities:

There are no equalities implications resulting from the recommendations included within this report.

Other Implications:

There are no other implications resulting from the recommendations included within this report.

Reason(s) for Urgency

None.

Reason(s) for Exemption

None.

Background Papers

None.

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