

The council's objectives in 2013 - 14 are to:

### Create a great place for learning and opportunity

- Ensure that every place of learning is rated "Good" or better
- Raise levels of aspirations and attainment so that local residents can take advantage of job opportunities in the local area
- Support families to give children the best possible start in life

### Encourage and promote job creation and economic prosperity

- Provide the infrastructure to promote and sustain growth and prosperity
- Support local businesses and develop the skilled workforce they will require
- Work with communities to regenerate Thurrock's physical environment

### Build pride, responsibility and respect to create safer communities

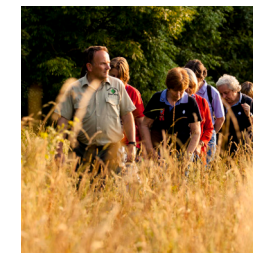
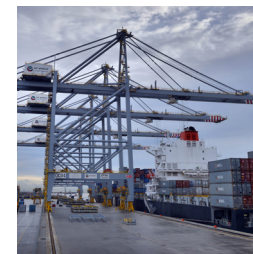
- Create safer welcoming communities who value diversity and respect cultural heritage
- Involve communities in shaping where they live and their quality of life
- Reduce crime, anti-social behaviour and safeguard the vulnerable

### Improve health and wellbeing

- Ensure people stay healthy longer, adding years to life and life to years
- Reduce inequalities in health and wellbeing
- Empower communities to take responsibility for their own health and wellbeing

### Protect and promote our clean and green environment

- Enhance access to Thurrock's river frontage, cultural assets and leisure opportunities
- Promote Thurrock's natural environment and biodiversity
- Ensure Thurrock's streets and parks and open spaces are clean and well maintained



2013 - 14

"Thurrock: A place of opportunity, enterprise and excellence, where individuals, communities and businesses flourish"

Find out more about the council on [thurrock.gov.uk](http://thurrock.gov.uk)  
Sign up for the latest news and information at  
[thurrock.gov.uk/account](http://thurrock.gov.uk/account)



# Achievements in 2013 – 14

Council services have seen a good year of achievement.  
It has been another busy year...

- Planning performance in top 10% nationally
- Council secured £900,000 of external funding to enhance access to and restore Coalhouse Fort in East Tilbury
- Tudor Court and Orsett C of E Primary Schools were named as two of the best primary schools in the country
- Joint best social care services in the country for zero delayed hospital discharges
- Over 900 local businesses supported through £1.6m Low Carbon Grants
- 224 new volunteers were recruited to help support council
- 1,150 fly-tips cleared
- Thurrock has the lowest Council Tax in Essex ... again
- Council achieved Investors in People Gold status
- 27 events and workshops organised for 830 local businesses
- Carer's service rated best in the Eastern region for user experience and support
- Over 2,000 potholes filled
- 9.9 million household wheelie bins collected
- 3,135 tonnes of street litter collected and 15,600 miles of road swept
- Opened 43 Artists Studios on High House Production Park, Purfleet and secured the funding to deliver the Royal Opera House costume store
- Awarded £375K in TIGER loans to local businesses supporting the creation of 66 jobs.
- There were over 600,000 visitors to Thurrock managed natural areas
- Since the South Ockendon Centre opened in March 2013, 7 Hub volunteers have gained paid employment.
- Started refurbishing the Grays Magistrates Court to provide affordable workspace supporting up to 200 jobs
- Independent inspectors said Thurrock Adult Social Care is "strong, ambitious, radical and bold"
- Level 2 qualifications were above national average for the first time ever
- New council website and My Account went live to residents in Autumn 2013
- Council passed the largest Local Development Order in the country
- More than 1,700 homes transformed
- 107 tenants assisted to downsize to more suitable and affordable homes
- Legal services awarded Law Society Lexcel accreditation
- Awarded Smarter Planning Champion status by Department of Communities and Local Government
- Shortlisted for awards, including
  - Most improved Council
  - Driving Growth
  - Innovation in Finance – for Gloriana Housing Company
  - Royal Town Planning Institute award for contribution to employment and growth.
- ... and we managed to deliver £50 million savings over the past 4 years



Opened 43 Artists Studios on High House Production Park

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