



Andover Town Council

Item No.

20a

To **note** the report.

That the date of 20 June 2026 be **approved** as the date for Andover Pride 2026 *(there are currently no other Pride events in the area on that date)*

That a budget line of £7,500 be **approved** for Andover Pride 2026 when considering budgets at the end of the year.

Produced for: Full Council

By: Acting Town Clerk

Date of Report: 1 July 2025

Overview

Andover Pride 2025 was a resounding success, building on the momentum of its inaugural event in 2024. Held in the heart of the town at Pocket Park, the celebration brought together the LGBTQIA+ community, allies, and supporters for a vibrant day of inclusion, joy, and unity.

Attendance and Atmosphere

The event drew a large and diverse crowd, with hundreds attending throughout the day (the gate tickers indicated that an estimated 2000 people attended the event throughout the day). The atmosphere was warm, welcoming, and celebratory, reflecting the spirit of Pride and the strength of community in Andover.

Highlights

- **Entertainment:** A lively lineup of performers kept the energy high throughout the day. Local acts, drag artist, and musical groups delivered engaging performances that were met with enthusiastic applause.
- **Food & Drink:** The Town Mills hosted a special Pride BBQ, offering delicious food and a wide selection of drinks. The venue also provided gender-neutral toilets, ensuring accessibility and inclusivity for all attendees.
- **Community Engagement:** Numerous local organisations and vendors participated, offering information, merchandise, and support services. The event served as a platform for education, awareness, and celebration of diversity.
- **Inclusivity:** The event was family-friendly and designed to be accessible to all. The presence of gender-neutral facilities and a welcoming environment underscored the organisers' commitment to inclusivity.

Feedback

Initial feedback from attendees, performers, and vendors has been overwhelmingly positive. Many praised the event's organisation, the quality of entertainment, and the strong sense of community. Comments highlighted how meaningful it was to see such visible support for the LGBTQIA+ community in Andover.

Conclusion

Andover Pride 2025 successfully delivered on its promise to be bigger and better than its debut. It not only celebrated diversity but also strengthened community bonds and set a high standard for future events. The organisers, volunteers, and supporters should be proud of what was achieved.

Special thanks goes to our sponsors Simply Health and the many Councillors and volunteers that gave up their day in considerable temperatures. Without them the event would not have been possible.

Costs:

	Pride costs – budget £8500	Income from Sponsorship
Infrastructure total	4695.1	
Performers total:	1609.77	
Entertainment total:	1057.72	
Food and drinks	140	
Total	7502.59	1000

Relevance to Business Plan (approved at Full Council C408/03/25):

Community First: Help make Andover a great place to live and work.

1. Help make Andover a welcoming, safe, and well cared for town
 - 1.3 Other events – Pride 2025

Legislation giving power to undertake:

Local Government Act 1972 s137¹

Recommendations:

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- That a budget line of £7,500 be **approved** for Andover Pride 2026 when considering budgets at the end of the year.

¹ [Local Government Act 1972](#)