

**Bracknell Forest Borough Local Development  
Framework Fact Pack  
June 05**



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## **INTRODUCTION**

The Bracknell Forest Borough Local Development Framework Fact Pack is a document that organises and presents a range of different information, statistics and trends relevant to the borough. It will be used as part of the robust evidence base to support the production of the Local Development Documents in the Bracknell Forest Local Development Framework. The LDF system is based upon a rolling programme of reviewing its documents and therefore the Fact Pack will be reviewed periodically to keep pace of change.

This document will also be used as a basis to fulfill annual monitoring requirements.

This fact pack is split into six main sections:

1. BRACKNELL FOREST - IN GENERAL
2. BRACKNELL FOREST – HOUSING
3. BRACKNELL FOREST – MOVEMENT
4. BRACKNELL FOREST - ITS ENVIRONMENT
5. BRACKNELL FOREST - ITS ECONOMY
6. BRACKNELL FOREST - ITS SOCIAL MAKE-UP

Each of these sections has a summary statistic sheet for a quick glance profile of Bracknell Forest Borough



## **1.2 Where is Bracknell Forest Borough?**

Bracknell Forest Borough is located in Berkshire in the South East Region of England covering approximately 110 square kilometres with a population around 110,000 people. It adjoins other local authorities in both Surrey and Hampshire.

The Borough is in a prime location at the heart of the Thames Valley, just 40 kilometres to the west of London. It has a high quality local environment, and an excellent communication network, with direct access to the M3 and M4 motorways and good links to the region's airports, in particular Heathrow. The Borough also enjoys direct rail connections to Reading and London Waterloo, where the home of the Eurostar service is accessible in under an hour, and to Guildford and Gatwick Airport.

<b>Railway Stations in Bracknell Forest</b>	
Station	Line
Bracknell	Reading to London Waterloo
Martins Heron	
Crowthorne	Reading to Guildford to Gatwick Airport
Sandhurst	

The whole of Bracknell Forest is also within the Western Corridor and Blackwater Valley Sub Region as identified in the emerging South East Plan.

Bracknell Forest is directly bordered by six other authority areas:

- Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead (Unitary Authority)
- Wokingham District Council (Unitary Authority)
- Hampshire County Council
- Surrey County Council
- Hart District Council (in Hampshire)
- Surrey Heath District Council (in Surrey)

## **1.3 The Administration of the Borough**

Bracknell Forest Borough Council (BFBC) is a Unitary Authority comprising eighteen political wards and six separate parish/town councils. The major urban area of Bracknell is situated in the centre of the Borough, with the settlements of Sandhurst and Crowthorne to the south, Binfield to the north and North Ascot to the west. A number of these settlements cross boundaries with other authorities, in particular Crowthorne and North Ascot. Sandhurst has strong connections to Camberley in the adjoining authority of Surrey Heath.





## Home, industry and leisure

- The aims of Bracknell New Town were based around the above three terms.
- Home – providing decent, quality and spacious homes for all.
- Industry – ensuring there are enough jobs and employment for the new population.
- Leisure – ensuring that there is a quality environment to live in which included:
  - lots of open space;
  - plenty of trees and other greenery;
  - accessible countryside; and
  - various facilities such as shops, schools and libraries.

## Neighbourhood concept

- The new town was developed using a neighbourhood concept.
- This was to concentrate new local shops, churches, schools and so on, in a single area as a neighbourhood centre.
- The neighbourhood centre's were surrounded by a sea of houses which were to use these local facilities.
- Nine such neighbourhoods were constructed:
  - Priestwood, Easthamsptead, Bullbrook, (1950's);
  - Harmans Water, Wildridings, Great Hollands (1960's);
  - Hanworth, Birch Hill, Crown Wood (1970's and early 80's).

The following table shows the number of dwellings built during the new town phase:

Approximate Number of homes resulting from Bracknell New Town					
Year	Running total number of Privately Built Homes	Running total number of homes built by the Bracknell Development Corporation	Total	Population	Jobs
1951	1500	0	1500	5000	2000
1961	1500	4500	6000	20000	8000
1971	2500	8000	10500	34000	16000
1981	6000	12000	18000	49000	27000

Source: Bracknell: The making of our New Town (Bracknell Development Corporation 1981)

## Bracknell town centre

- A town centre was developed at the core of all these neighbourhoods providing a larger concentration of shops, employment, facilities and municipal buildings.
- Today Bracknell town centre follows the same layout but is subject to major redevelopment plans.

## Three separate employment zones

- Factories, offices and other employment uses were concentrated in 3 large industrial zones with in Bracknell, all with in easy reach of the new neighbourhoods and their populations.
- The new town designation ended in 1982 but Bracknell and its surrounding settlements have continued to grow rapidly.

















































































