



STRATEGY FOR REGENERATION 2026-2029

**STANMORE & CANONS PARK
SYNAGOGUE**



Sunrise over our new solar installation installed in January 2026

HOW TO USE THIS STRATEGY

The Strategy comes in two sizes: 'Front-End' only and the 'Full Document' which includes the Front End, Schedules and Appendix

For Members: Please read the Front-End Document to understand the direction, priorities and how you can help. Please read Schedule 2 of the 'Full Document' if you wish to see the Council's report on progressing the strategy since last year.

For Committee Members and Active Volunteers: Please read the Front-End and also the related sections of the Full Document to guide your plans and priorities.

For Leaders and Council Members: Please read the Full Document to be able to apply the Regeneration Test and monitor progress.

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MESSAGE FROM THE HONORARY EXECUTIVE

Stanmore & Canons Park Synagogue stands at a pivotal moment

This Strategy is a deliberate choice to regenerate and remodel what we do in Stanmore and how we do it, and not to drift - it is our response to the changed landscape in Anglo-Jewry and in Stanmore.

We have chosen to focus not on recovering the past, but on building a stronger, warmer and more sustainable community for the years ahead.

This means pouring our collective efforts into making our Shul alive with activity, connection, learning and meaning — and a Community in which members feel valued, supported and involved, not simply a building they visit.

In writing this strategy, we have again been guided by feedback from the Community and by our shared conviction in Stanmore's enormous potential.

However, this Strategy cannot succeed simply because it is published: Regeneration cannot simply be delivered to the Community – it will only be realised if it is owned, supported and put into practice by the wider membership as well as by the leadership.

Jacqui Rudolph and David Metzger – Co-Chairs

Adam Burr – Vice Chair

Sam Rogoff – Financial Representative

Danny Isman and Peter Kraus – Wardens

SACPS HONORARY EXECUTIVE

16 July 2026

THE STRATEGY ON TWO PAGES

OUR VISION:

A Shul that is alive with activity, connection, learning and meaning
A sociable, welcoming, fun and caring community; where members feel valued, supported and involved – not just a building that people visit.



OUR THREE PRIORITY OBJECTIVES FOR 2026-2029

1. Meaningful engagement with more members across all life stages
2. Securing our financial and future sustainability
3. Excellence in everything we do – reliable delivery, a welcoming experience, timely follow-up, evident pastoral improvements



TO BE APPLIED ACROSS AND DRIVE OUR FIVE CONNECTED FOCUS AREAS

Meaningful engagement • Financial and future sustainability • Excellence in everything we do



1. BEIT KNESSET

Community

Relationships,
pastoral care,
volunteering and
belonging



2. BEIT TEFILLAH

Prayer

Meaningful,
welcoming and
engaging services



3. BEIT MIDRASH

Learning

Relevant,
accessible and
inspiring Jewish
learning



4. YESODOT

Foundations

Leadership,
finances, people,
premises and
sustainability



5. KESHARIM

Connections

Israel, charities,
local partners and
wider communal
links

Turning regeneration from an aim into a programme of action.

WHAT WILL CHANGE BY 2029

- Deeper relationships between SACPS and more members,
- more consistent pastoral care,
- clearer pathways for young families, and
- a Shul building alive with purpose throughout the week

WHAT WILL THIS REQUIRE

- Strong Rabbinic and lay leadership implementing priorities,
- empowered volunteers,
- resilient finances underpinned by professional modelling, and
- the active involvement of members through participation and support

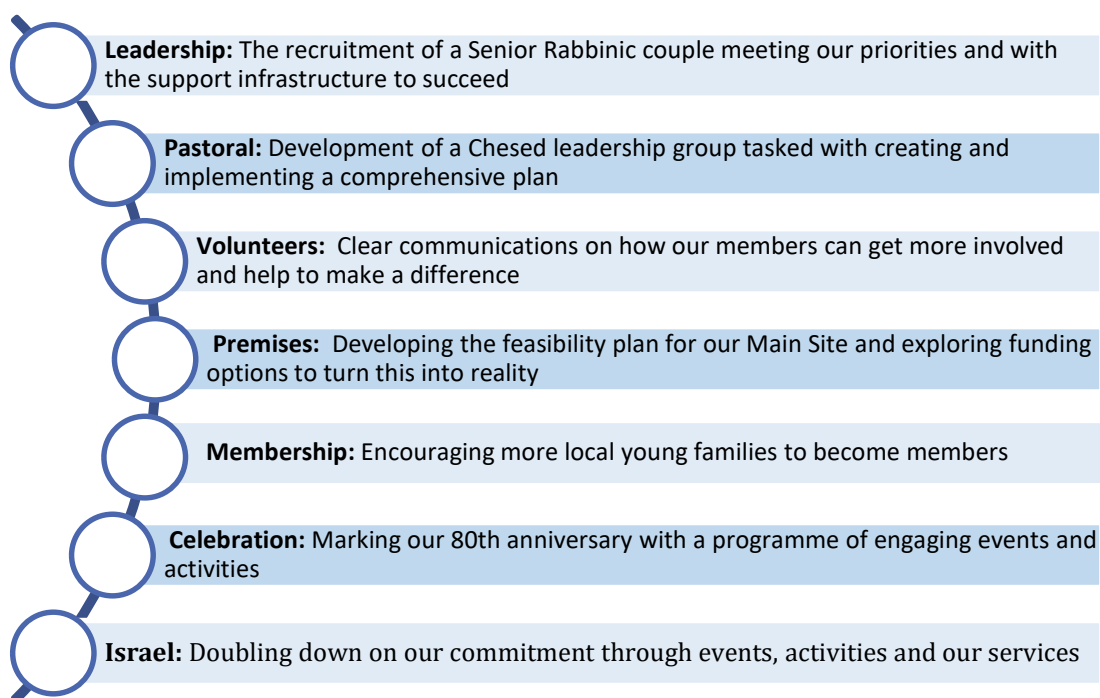
HOW WILL IT BE MEASURED

We have asked our Council to apply a **'Regeneration Test'** to both check proposals are strategic and to measure progress.

This test looks at what we do and asks whether:

1. It builds relationships (and not just attendance);
2. It increases leadership or volunteer depth;
3. It improves the sustainability of our Community (financial, people/or and space)
4. It strengthens Jewish belonging, learning or meaning; and/or
5. It reflects our strategic priorities

TOP SEVEN INITIATIVES FOR 2026-2027





FOCUS AREA 1 – BEIT KNESSET: COMMUNITY

Community Relationships Events and Engagement • Pastoral and Welfare • Women • Young Families • Youth and children • Seniors • Young Adults • Communication

Positioning SACPS as a central part of more members' lives, with a focus on relationships, pastoral care and connection.

Why this matters

Without strong relationships and a sense of belonging, even excellent services and facilities cannot sustain a thriving Shul. Members have made clear that feeling known, valued and supported is central to meaningful engagement.

Where we are now

- Attendance and engagement have increased across many events and activities.
- Pastoral care is improving but still needs stronger coordination and Rabbinic leadership.
- Some groups, especially young parents and young adults, remain under-engaged.
- There is goodwill towards the Shul, but volunteering and ownership need deepening.

What success looks like

- Consistent and comprehensive pastoral services. Members feel known, supported and valued at key moments.
- Increased participation across services, events, clubs and learning.
- More volunteers and community-led initiatives.
- Greater pride, advocacy and sense of belonging.

Our priorities, 2026–2029

- Establish a Pastoral/Chesed Committee led with the new Rabbinic Couple.
- Deepen engagement with women, young families, seniors, children, youth and young adults, whilst prioritising those groups who are fundamental to our future sustainability.
- Create clearer pathways into volunteering and shared responsibility.
- Build a stronger culture of welcome, follow-up and connection.

Strategic emphasis

This focus area supports meaningful engagement and excellence by helping members feel that SACPS is not only a place they visit, but a community to which they belong.



FOCUS AREA 2 – BEIT TEFILLAH: PRAYER

Main Shabbat Services • Friday Nights • Young Services • High Holidays • Weekly Minyanim

Making services meaningful, welcoming and engaging across generations.

Why this matters

Services remain the most visible expression of synagogue life. Attendance patterns have changed and we cannot assume they will return. SACPS must ensure that services feel accessible, uplifting and purposeful for regular attendees, occasional attendees and those less confident in services.

Where we are now

- Shabbat attendance has stabilised, with encouraging growth in some areas.
- Service length and flow have improved.
- Alternative services are valued but not yet fully embedded.
- Less confident service-goers can still find services intimidating.
- Women's experience of services remains inconsistent.

Our priorities, 2026–2029

- Make all services as welcoming and engaging as possible without increasing duration.
- Develop a range of service styles for different spiritual needs.
- Strengthen accessibility, inclusion and participation.
- Reintroduce a learning service
- Continue to build pathways from children's services into the Main Shul.
- Continue evolving High Holy Day services.

What success looks like

- Members report greater connection, confidence and understanding in services.
- More members participate and lead across a wider cross-section of the community.
- Services feel uplifting, purposeful and welcoming.
- Young people and families see a clear route into Main Shul life.

Strategic emphasis

This focus area supports meaningful engagement by making our services a gateway into belonging, learning and participation. This focus area also creates alternative pathways for different demographics.



FOCUS AREA 3 – BEIT MIDRASH: LEARNING

Religious Education • Non-religious education and cultural activities

Learning that is relevant, accessible and inspiring.

Why this matters

Jewish learning is central to a vibrant community, but it must feel relevant, accessible and energising. SACPS should meet members where they are, whilst offering deeper opportunities for growth, confidence and Jewish meaning.

Where we are now

- Learning opportunities take place on most days of the week.
- Attendance is committed but often small outside services.
- Practical Judaism sessions have proved popular.
- Women, young adults and less confident learners remain under-represented.
- Cultural activities are successful when run, but not yet strategically planned.
- An increasing amount of content is recorded and uploaded to the website or YouTube.

Our priorities, 2026–2029

- Actively engage women, young adults and less confident learners.
- Develop learning that connects Judaism with modern life and practical questions.
- Use recorded and online content to broaden access.
- Develop cultural and informal education as legitimate forms of learning.
- Support members who can become informal educators.

What success looks like

- Participation grows across a wider demographic range.
- Members recommend learning opportunities and return regularly.
- SACPS becomes attractive to those seeking thoughtful Jewish growth.
- Participants feel more confident in Jewish literacy and identity.

Strategic emphasis

This focus area supports meaningful engagement by helping members find Jewish learning that is relevant to their lives and strengthens belonging.



FOCUS AREA 4 – YESODOT: FOUNDATIONS

Lay and Religious Leadership • Office and Facilities Teams • Membership and Finances • Premises

Leadership, finances, people and premises for the future.

Why this matters

Yesodot underpins every other part of the Strategy. SACPS can only achieve the aim of regeneration if it has strong leadership, sustainable finances, clear roles, committed volunteers and premises that support modern community life.

Where we are now

- Finances now affected by membership trends and pressure on key income sources.
- Younger age groups smaller in number than past generations
- Leadership is committed but stretched.
- Volunteering is lower than it once was.
- The site has potential but parts are under-used or in need of refurbishment or upgrade.

Our priorities, 2026–2029

- Recruit Rabbinic leadership aligned with the regeneration strategy and provide support to enable them to flourish.
- Stabilise membership and return to a sustainable budget with alternative income streams.
- Empower volunteers through clearer roles and expectations.
- Strengthen succession planning for lay leadership.
- Develop a realistic, phased premises plan.

What success looks like

- Dynamic Rabbinic and lay leadership working in partnership to engage existing members and attract new members.
- A balanced budget and improved financial resilience.
- Increased volunteer participation and leadership depth.
- Premises used more frequently, effectively and sustainably, generating revenue.

Strategic emphasis

This focus area supports our financial and future sustainability by ensuring SACPS has the people, resources and infrastructure needed to deliver the strategy.



FOCUS AREA 5 – KESHARIM: CONNECTIONS

Israel • Other Local Synagogues • Societal Progress Initiatives • Volunteering • Our locality

Our relationships with Israel, local partners, charities and the wider community.

Why this matters

SACPS does not exist in isolation. Our identity is strengthened by our relationship with Israel, neighbouring synagogues, charities and wider society. For many members, a community's values are demonstrated by outward connection as well as internal life.

Where we are now

- The community remains strongly Zionist in outlook.
- Israel engagement has increased, but active support is uneven outside major events.
- Collaboration with neighbouring synagogues and local organisations is improving but ad hoc.
- External volunteering and partnerships are under-developed.
- Members want focused impact rather than constant appeals.

Our priorities, 2026–2029

- Embed meaningful Israel engagement beyond crisis response.
- Develop strategic partnerships with neighbouring synagogues.
- Build deeper relationships with selected charities and local partners.
- Reduce appeal fatigue by focusing on impact and engagement.
- Create clearer routes for members to contribute beyond SACPS.

What success looks like

- Stronger participation in Israel-related learning and activity.
- Regular collaboration with synagogues, charities and communal bodies.
- SACPS recognised locally as a community that contributes positively beyond its walls.
- Members feel pride in SACPS's values, voice and outward engagement.

Strategic emphasis

This focus area supports excellence and meaningful engagement by connecting SACPS to causes, communities and partnerships that give members pride and purpose.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

The Strategy is also an invitation to every member to help shape the next chapter of Stanmore. However much time you have, and whatever stage of life you are in, there is a way to be part of it. What matters is that we all play some part in building the future of our Community together.

FIVE SIMPLE WAYS TO HELP

- **Come a little more often**, when you can, and help strengthen the life of the Shul through your presence.
- **Bring someone with you** to a service, club, event or activity, so that others can discover what Stanmore has to offer.
- **Connect with a group** that interests you, whether by joining a WhatsApp group, club or activity, or simply staying in touch with what is happening.
- **Offer some practical help**, whether a few hours of your time, a professional skill, a pair of hands for a one-off project, or support with an event.
- **Take on a greater role** if you are able, by joining a committee, helping to lead an initiative, sponsoring a project, or using your experience to support the Community more regularly.



Helping does not need to mean taking on a formal position. Some of us will be able to give a little. Others may be able to give more. It may be as simple as introducing Stanmore to others and speaking about the Shul with pride.

If you would like to help but are not sure where you fit, please get in touch. We would be delighted to talk it through and help you find something practical, meaningful and manageable. Please contact volunteering@stanmoresynagogue.org

FEEDBACK

The Strategy Feedback Form can be found at

<https://stanmoresynagogue.org/our-story-our-vision>