

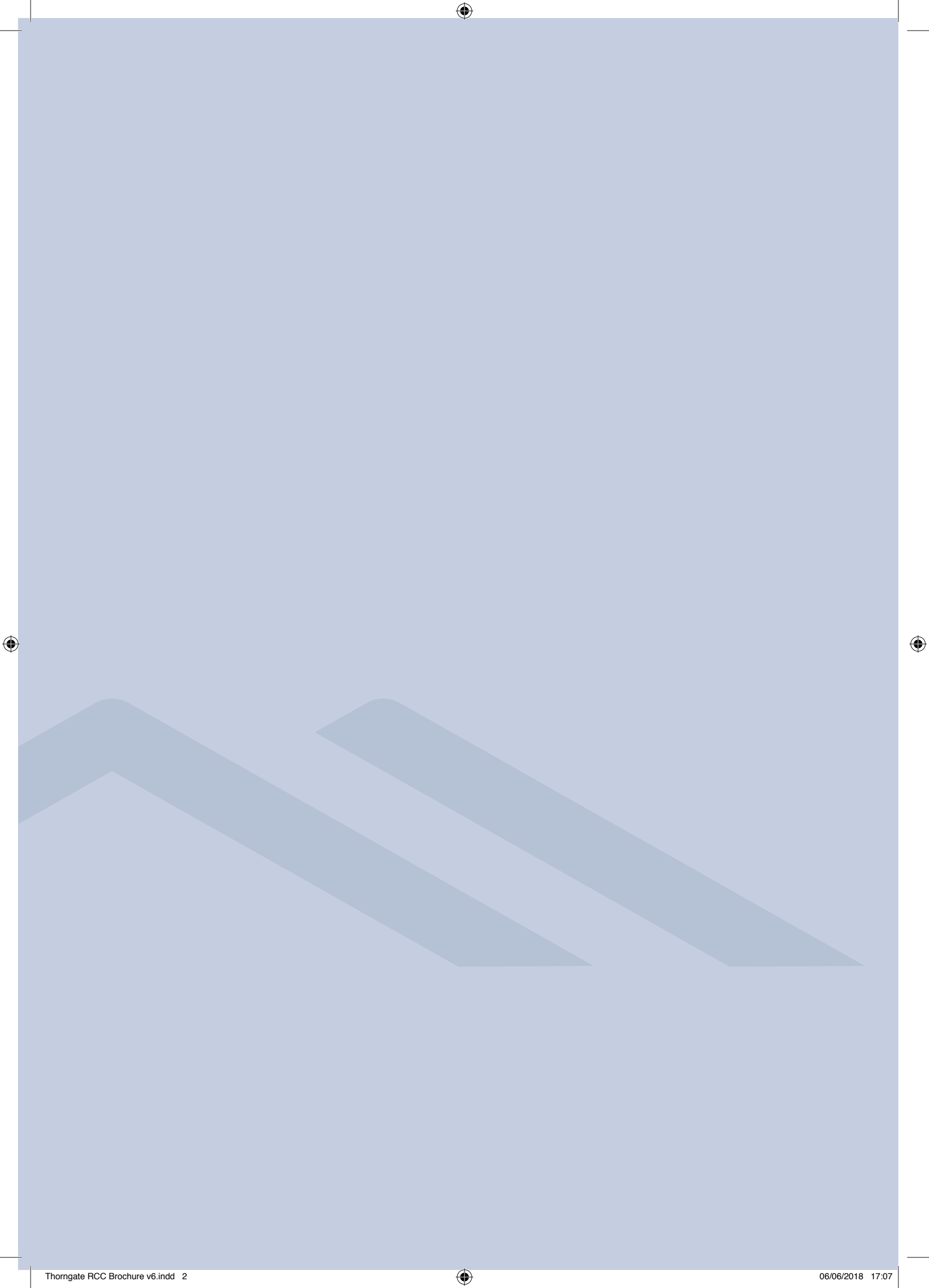
# *Thorngate Living*

*Russell Churcher Court*

Care Home



  
Thorngate Churcher Trust  
HOUSING AND CARE SINCE 1868





# Thorngate Churcher Trust

HOUSING AND CARE SINCE 1868

Providing comfort and security to those  
in need since 1868, and committed to  
developing the highest standards of housing  
and professional care in a supportive,  
respectful and friendly community.

**150** HOUSING AND CARE  
FOR THOSE IN NEED  
*years* 1868-2018





## Thorngate Living at Russell Churcher Court

Thorngate Churcher Trust is a modern and progressive charitable registered social landlord, offering independent assisted living and residential care from three locations in Gosport, Hampshire.

The Trust's Russell Churcher Court is a comfortable, modern residential care home offering 24 hour care for up to 44 residents. Every resident has their own large, self-contained en-suite room where they are encouraged to have their own furniture and belongings to make themselves at home. Russell Churcher Court welcomes those living with dementia into a safe, protective and caring environment and offers a respite facility.

Russell Churcher Court is purpose built, incorporating the latest technology, modern systems and best practice. Professionalism and care standards are of the highest level and the home provides a welcoming, warm,

happy and friendly environment for the residents who also enjoy a full calendar of varied activities and entertainments.

The Court's own modern kitchens provide tasty, healthy meals made from the best fresh and predominantly locally sourced ingredients. Menus, based on seasonal produce, are prepared by the Trust's professional catering staff.

Russell Churcher Court accepts both privately funded and local authority funded residents. Top up fees are currently not chargeable to local authority funded residents so, in accordance with the aims of the Trust, no individual is excluded on the grounds of their ability to pay.



## Our facilities

Each large bed sitting room is en-suite and is fully double glazed with a small kitchen area to allow those residents who are able to do so to make tea and coffee if they wish. Telephone points and TV sockets are provided. Connections to cable television are also available to residents who wish to pay for this service. All rooms have a pull cord for urgent assistance.

Included in the fees are all meals, care and laundry.

There is also a guest room for the convenience of visitors who wish to stay overnight.

Russell Churcher Court has a good range of communal spaces. The light and spacious

lounge has doors opening onto the garden. The large dining room is used for many of the social activities as is the conservatory. In addition, the gardens on the Melrose gardens complex are a relaxing comfortable space and available to be enjoyed by Russell Churcher Court residents.

Russell Churcher Court prides itself on the varied activities and entertainments it schedules. The activities co-ordinators organise regular interactive pastimes such as crafts demonstrations, flower arranging and quizzes. Entertainers, including singers, perform in the lounge and the annual visit of small farm animals is always very popular with both residents and their family members.





## Respite care

Respite care offers a welcome break for both carer and the person they are caring for. Russell Churcher Court offers a respite room within the care home. This is available for booking in advance and offer those who do not need to move into full time residential care a break from their current home. The respite facilities are also often used when family carers need a break or are going on holiday. The facility offers prospective residents an opportunity to try Russell Churcher Court for themselves and see whether full time care is suited to their needs.

To talk about the possibility of respite care, even if only for a few days at a time, please contact Russell Churcher Court's Registered Manager on 023 9252 7600 or via [reception@thorngate.org.uk](mailto:reception@thorngate.org.uk).

## Food

The Trust employs a professionally trained catering team, led by an experienced catering manager. Each resident's nutritional needs and appetites may be different and



the catering team ensures food is produced not only to the highest standards using fresh ingredients but also that portions are correctly sized and nutritious. The team also caters for special diets.

Russell Churcher Court's kitchen staff like to get into the spirit of special occasions, so Halloween, Valentine's Day etc are celebrated with gusto. Christmas and New Year are special times of year and the catering team ensure that these are well catered for.

## Funding

Many residents' families worry about funding. Those residents who are assessed and accepted for funding by Hampshire County Council currently do not have to pay top up fees beyond the 'Hampshire Rate'.

Funding by Hampshire County Council is determined through an individual financial assessment carried out by Hampshire Adult Social Services, and the level agreed will depend on a number of factors such as savings and pensions.

## Guide to our charges

Thorngate Churcher Trust is a charity originally founded in 1868 to provide housing and care for less fortunate residents of Gosport. Today we are a modern housing and care charity with a similar mission:

*Providing comfort and security to those in need since 1868, and committed to developing the highest standards of housing and professional care in a supportive, respectful and friendly community.*

We demonstrate our commitment to this mission and to charitable public benefit, by not excluding those without the ability to pay. In housing this means we help even those with limited savings to access all the benefits to which they are entitled and in our care home we do not charge top up fees for those residents fully funded by Hampshire County Council, due to lack of capital or income.



### Contract

If you accept a room in Russell Churcher Court as a private resident you will be asked to sign our standard contract. This defines the services we provide and the level of fees charged. If you are fully funded by Hampshire County Council, or another local authority, or the NHS, our contract is with those bodies.

It is not our policy to admit residents without a signed contract or authorisation from Hampshire County Council or the body responsible for payment.

In the case of respite care the same situation applies.

In the case of a local authority loan or a 12 week disregard, the situation appears more complicated. In this case the resident is effectively a private resident, this is because these arrangements usually apply to residents with assets such as a house which may be awaiting sale. In this case a private contract is required and top up fees; i.e. the difference between the local authority rate and the private rate is due.

We do not currently charge top up fees to fully funded local authority residents because such residents have been assessed



by the local authority as having low levels of savings. (This does not apply to the 12 week disregard or local authority loan residents because they are likely to have the assets.)

In the case of residents with appointed personal representatives, such as a Deputy, the representative signs the contract.

### **What your fees cover**

Fees cover all our services while in our care, such as accommodation in our large en-suite rooms, care, laundry, food, heating and lighting, and most activities. They do not cover some special trips, for example gardens where an entrance fee might apply. Neither do fees cover specialist services such as opticians, hairdressing or podiatry. They do not cover personal items such as toiletries.

Cable television and broadband is a service increasingly requested by residents and this is available at an extra charge from providers.

Changes in fees occur on 1 April for local authority funded residents and on 1 July for privately funded residents.

### **Arrangements for payment**

Fees are due in advance. Payment is by standing order on the 1st of each month and the standing order will be prepared for you to sign. Normally depending on the date of admission, the first month or part month would be paid in advance by cheque.



### **Financial assessments by the local authority**

Local authority funded residents are subject to a financial assessment to determine the level of client contribution. What this means is that most residents, even if funded by the local authority, will have to make some contribution towards their fees. The reason for this is that although capital assets may be below the level of the limit for local authority funding, income from pensions may be sufficient to cover some costs and the local authority will seek to reduce its payments by the assessed amounts. Any amount assessed as being due by the local authority would be payable by the resident to Hampshire County Council or the relevant local authority.



## Hardship and inability to pay

If you think that you may be about to encounter difficulties in payment of our fees you should let us know as soon as possible. This means we can then get in touch with the local authority for a financial assessment so that eligibility for fees to be met by the local authority can be determined. Financial assessments can take a while to process so if you think you may be approaching the level at which you might be eligible for local authority funding you should advise us in good time so we can help get the process underway.

If you have any queries on fees at Russell Churcher Court you should contact our care home manager on 023 9252 7600 or by email at [reception@thorngate.org.uk](mailto:reception@thorngate.org.uk)

## Thorngate Living – sheltered housing

The Trust also owns and manages over 120 self-contained flats for independent assisted living in Gosport. The flats are for single people and couples who are over 50 and of limited financial means.

Uniquely all our flats across our three locations in Gosport benefit from resident warden cover with 24 hour support. We also have our own in-house professional maintenance team ensuring any maintenance or repairs are carried out quickly and to an excellent standard.

Visit [thorngate.org.uk](http://thorngate.org.uk) or call Jill Francis on 023 9253 4999. to find out more about Thorngate Living's sheltered housing.



## Almshouses

Almshouses are a special sort of housing charity, regulated by the Charity Commission. Larger almshouse charities like Thorngate, may also be Registered Social Landlords (also called Registered Providers) and are therefore also regulated by the Housing Regulator, Homes England. If they provide residential care, as does Thorngate Churcher Trust at Russell Churcher Court, they are also registered with, and regulated by, the Care Quality Commission.

The history of almshouses can be traced back to the 10th century where the terms bedehouse, hospital, maison dieu, almshouse and others described the provision of accommodation for those

in need. The first recorded almshouse was founded by King Athelstan in York in the 10th Century, and the oldest still in existence is thought to be the Hospital of St Oswald in Worcester that dates from circa 990. By the middle of the 1500s, there were about 800 mediaeval hospitals spread across the country but following the dissolution of the monasteries, only a handful remained, and these were re-founded on secular lines, and rebuilt in the new domestic collegiate style.

Currently there are around 1,700 groups of almshouse charities in the United Kingdom today, most offer sheltered housing to those in need, but a few like Thorngate, offering both housing and care.



## History

As early as 1794 a William Thorngate is listed as trading as a grocer in Middle Street (the old name of Gosport High Street). William Thorngate's sons, John Batty and his younger brother William, were substantial local landowners. William also owned land jointly with Emmanuel Churcher, a local solicitor who founder 'Churchers' in Gosport High Street. These three gentlemen conveyed land to Trustees of the Thorngate Charities in 1866 and 1867 to enable almshouses to be built to accommodate 'poor women of good character, being spinsters or widows, of not less than 50 years of age'.

Thorngate Churcher Trust was founded in 1868 by the Thorngate family. It was registered as a charity in its current form in 1981.

A redevelopment of the Trust's properties was carried out between 1971 and 1984 with further improvements in 2013 and 2014. A development of ten new homes was commenced in 2017 and the name of the Trust was changed in the same year to better reflect the founding families. Today's accommodation consists of modern well-equipped one bedroom flats for retired single people and married couples.

Thorngate Churcher Trust is run by a Board of Trustees and an executive management team. The Trust is registered with the Charity Commission, Homes England (as a social landlord) and the Care Quality Commission (for Russell Churcher Court).





## Contact details

To discuss whether you or somebody you care for might benefit from Thorngate Living at Russell Churcher Court, get in touch today:

Registered Care Home Manager

Russell Churcher Court

Melrose Gardens

Gosport

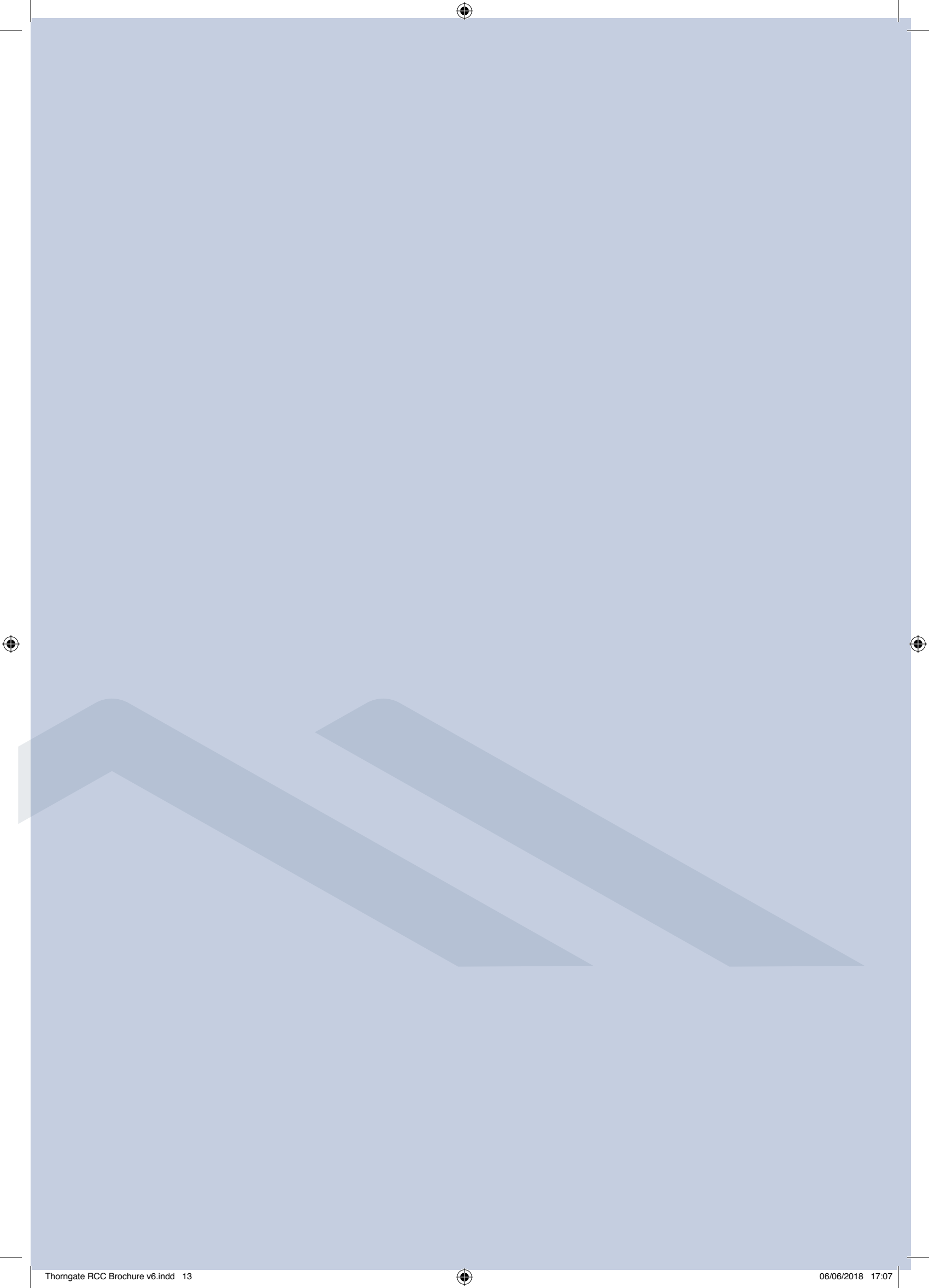
Hampshire PO12 3BE

Telephone: 023 9252 7600

Email: [reception@thorngate.org.uk](mailto:reception@thorngate.org.uk)







**Ah!** Hillier Consulting  
Corporate Communications

  
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