



**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR**

## COUNTY COUNCILLOR ROB HUMBY'S REPORT DECEMBER 2023

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### **New County Council Cabinet Portfolios**

#### **Adult's Health and Care:**

- Executive Lead Member, Cllr Liz Fairhurst; and
- Executive Member, Cllr Jan Warwick

#### **Children's Services:**

- Executive Lead Member, Cllr Edward Heron; and
- Executive Member, Cllr Steve Forster

#### **Universal Services:**

- Executive Lead Member, Cllr Nick Adams-King; and
- Executive Member, Cllr Russell Oppenheimer

#### **Hampshire 2050 and Corporate Services**

- Leader, Cllr Rob Humby; and
- Deputy Leader, Cllr Roz Chadd

#### **HR, Performance, Communications and Inclusion and Diversity**

- Executive Member, Cllr Kirsty North

## **NEXT STEPS TOWARDS AN UPDATED HAMPSHIRE MINERALS AND WASTE PLAN**

Hampshire's five minerals and waste planning authorities are entering the next stage in updating the Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan – fulfilling their collective duty to ensure that the whole area can continue to provide a steady and adequate supply of minerals for building homes, schools, hospitals and roads, as well as provide sufficient waste resources and facilities.

[Next steps towards an updated Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](https://www.hants.gov.uk/news/next-steps-towards-an-updated-hampshire-minerals-and-waste-plan)

## **DON'T FACE MONEY WORRIES ALONE – SUPPORT IS AT HAND**

Hampshire County Council is encouraging residents who are concerned about their financial situation to reach out and get the help they need.

[Don't face money worries alone - support is at hand | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](https://www.hants.gov.uk/news/dont-face-money-worries-alone-support-is-at-hand)

## **PUBLIC TO BE CONSULTED ON NEXT STAGE PLANS FOR HELP MEET FUTURE FINANCIAL PRESSURES**

Proposals around the future of some local services will be among options set to be presented by Hampshire County Council for public consultation in the coming months, under next stage plans to help meet a £132 million budget shortfall faced by the local authority from April 2025

[Public to be consulted on next stage plans to help meet future financial pressures | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](https://www.hants.gov.uk/news/public-to-be-consulted-on-next-stage-plans-to-help-meet-future-financial-pressures)

## **PICK YOUR TOP THREE SCHOOL PREFERENCES WHEN APPLYING FOR SCHOOL PLACES IN YEAR R AND 3**

Hampshire parents and carers with children due to start school in Reception Year or move to Year 3 at a junior school next year, can now apply for their child's school place for September 2024. School applications are open until 15 January 2024. Parents are being reminded to name three schools on their applications, to give them the best chance of being offered a place at one of their preferred schools.

[Pick your top three school preferences when applying for school places in year R and 3 | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](https://www.hants.gov.uk/news/pick-your-top-three-school-preferences-when-applying-for-school-places-in-year-r-and-3)

## **HAMPSHIRE CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION RECOGNISED IN NATIONAL AWARDS**

Hampshire County Council has been recognised nationally for its work with communities to help tackle climate change, after being shortlisted for the Supportive Local Authority Award in the Community Energy Awards

[Hampshire climate change action recognised in national awards | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](#)

## **HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES AND FOOD IN HAMPSHIRE – CHRISTMAS CHEER FOR LOW-INCOME FAMILIES**

While most families anticipate a Christmas filled with socialising, treats and presents, for some on low incomes, the winter season and school holidays can put a strain on already tight household budgets.

[Holiday Activities and Food in Hampshire – Christmas cheer for low-income families | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](#)

## **FOOD RESCUE PARTNERSHIP AIMS TO FEED THE VULNERBLE AND REDUCE WASTE ACROSS HAMPSHIRE**

This month sees the launch of a new partnership aimed at reducing food waste and distributing surplus produce to where it's most needed across Hampshire.

[Food rescue partnership aims to feed the vulnerable and reduce waste across Hampshire | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](#)

## **COUNTY COUNCIL WELCOMES £132M ADDITIONAL MONEY FROM GOVERNMENT TO LONG-TERM ROAD IMPROVEMENTS**

Hampshire County Council has welcomed a funding package to fix potholes and maintain roads.

[County Council welcomes £132m additional money from Government for long-term road improvements | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](#)

## **COUNTY COUNCIL MOVES FORWARD WITH FLAGSHIP PROGRAMME TO SUPPORT CHILDREN WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS**

An ambitious programme to improve outcomes for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) has entered an important new chapter, with the launch of new resources to more than 450 of the county's headteachers and senior leaders. Hampshire County Council's Transforming SEND programme is working proactively with local schools to ensure they have the right expertise, tools and training to best support children and young people with complex needs.

[County Council moves forward with flagship programme to support children with additional needs | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](#)

## **IT'S 2000 AND COUNTING FOR HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S APPRENTICES**

The achievements and commitment of Hampshire County Council's apprentices, trainees, interns and mentors have been celebrated by County Council colleagues at the Chairman's Apprenticeship Awards, on 22 November, with winners across eight different categories.

[It's 2000 and counting for Hampshire County Council's apprentices | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](#)

## **FREE SKILLS BOOST FOR HAMPSHIRE AND SURREY**

Free, fast-track training is now being offered to Hampshire and Surrey residents and employers, enabling both those in work and job seekers to gain further training and secure higher paid roles, with employers benefitting from upskilled employees.

[Free skills boost for Hampshire and Surrey | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](#)

## **COULD YOU GIVE THE GIFT OF A LOVING HOME THIS WINTER?**

Hampshire residents keen to make a difference are being urged to consider fostering a vulnerable child in need of a loving home this winter and beyond.

[Could you give the gift of a loving home this winter? | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](#)

## **PARTNERS FORMALLY COMMIT TO REDUCE FLOOD RISK TOGETHER**

In recognition of the joint responsibility to minimise the risk of flooding for Hampshire's residents, Hampshire County Council, the Environment Agency, Coastal Partners, the Southern Regional Flood and Coastal Committee and Southern Water have signed a 'Joint Leadership Statement' – detailing the intent to work together to reduce flood risk and increase community resilience across Hampshire.

[Partners formally commit to reduce flood risk together | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](https://www.hants.gov.uk/news/partners-formally-commit-to-reduce-flood-risk-together)

## **COUNTY COUNCIL SECURES £100,000 TO PLANT MINI-FORESTS AND COMMUNITY ORCHARDS IN CORONATION TRIBUTE**

Thousands more trees are set to be planted across Hampshire as a permanent reminder of His Majesty King Charles III's Coronation following a successful bid by the County Council for £100,000 from a national funding pot to mark the historic occasion.

[County Council secures £100,000 to plant mini-forests and community orchards in Coronation tribute | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](https://www.hants.gov.uk/news/county-council-secures-100000-to-plant-mini-forests-and-community-orchards-in-coronation-tribute)

## **HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S HIGHWAYS SERVICE READY FOR COLD SNAP**

With the chance of overnight frosts and even some snow, the County Council's highway teams remain ready, day and night, to keep Hampshire's main routes gritted, and to respond to surface water flooding and fallen debris on the roads.

[Hampshire County Council's highways service ready for cold snap | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](https://www.hants.gov.uk/news/hampshire-county-councils-highways-service-ready-for-cold-snap)

## **FUNDING BOOST FOR CHILDCARE PROVIDERS IN HAMPSHIRE**

Childcare providers in Hampshire are to receive a cash injection of more than £6 million from Hampshire County Council between now and March 2024. The funding comes from the Government's new Early Years Supplementary Grant which is designed to increase the amount that early years providers receive for delivering free childcare to eligible children aged between two and four-years-old.

[Funding boost for childcare providers in Hampshire | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](https://www.hants.gov.uk/news/funding-boost-for-childcare-providers-in-hampshire)

## **EXCITING DEVELOPMENT PLANS FOR WINCHESTER'S HISTORIC GREAT HALL AND CASTLE**

Exciting plans for investing Winchester's cultural offer are on the horizon as Hampshire Cultural Trust could be set to take on responsibility for running The Great Hall with a vision to bring the city's historic castle back to life as an integrated visitor destination for tourists and residents.

[Exciting development plans for Winchester's historic Great Hall and Castle | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](#)

## **HAMPSHIRE SCHOOL CHILDREN VOTE FOR THEIR FAVOURITE BOOK FROM THE PAST 21 YEARS**

Local children have chosen The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins as their top book from among the winners of the Hampshire Book Awards from the last 21 years.

[Hampshire school children vote for their favourite book from the past 21 years | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](#)

## **TACKLING LONELINESS AT CHRISTMAS WITH HAMPSHIRE LIBRARIES**

In the run up to Christmas, residents are being reminded about the many activities on offer through Hampshire County Council's Libraries Service, where people can meet others, develop new skills and improve their wellbeing.

[Tackling loneliness at Christmas with Hampshire Libraries | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](#)

## **Services provided by Hampshire County Council include:**

- [Education and Learning](#) including supporting Hampshire schools. (excluding privately run Academy Schools)
- [Services for children and families](#) including adoption and fostering, safeguarding, and support for young people.
- [Maintenance of Hampshire's roads](#) (except motorways and trunk roads which are the responsibility of National Highways), [licensing](#) for providers who need to work on the highway, and support for operators of [public transport](#).
- [Planning](#) applications for mineral extraction, waste management and public buildings.
- Provision of [social care and health](#) in Hampshire.
- The [Hampshire Library Service](#).
- The [Countryside Service](#), looking after [rights of way](#), and many of the county's [important green spaces](#)
- [Household Waste Recycling Centres](#) where residents can dispose of unwanted items. (District, borough or city councils manage kerbside household waste collections)
- [Trading Standards](#), ensuring fair trading in Hampshire, by supporting the county's businesses and protecting Hampshire consumers.

## **District, borough and city councils**

District, borough and city councils provide services such as:

- Household waste collection
- Domestic planning applications
- Council Tax collection
- Housing

[Find your local district or borough council](#)

## **Parish, community and town councils**

These councils operate at a level below district and borough councils and in some cases, unitary authorities.

They are elected and can help on a number of local issues, like providing:

- allotments
- public clocks
- bus shelters
- community centres
- play areas and play equipment
- grants to help local organisations
- consultation on neighbourhood planning