

TOWN AND PARISH NEWS

Working together on behalf
of our communities



Issue 36 | December 2021



Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a safe, healthy and Happy New Year.

Looking ahead to 2022, we'd love to hear from you with any requests, ideas or comments you have for this eNewsletter.

Please send your feedback to the following email

TownandParishCouncilNews@westsussex.gov.uk

Community Hub support continues

The [West Sussex Community Hub](#), which has been operating throughout the pandemic, continues to be available to provide support for your residents, including food and essentials for those who need them.



Please remind your residents that the Community Hub can be contacted through the website below or by calling 0330 222 7980. Opening hours are 8am to 8pm from Monday to Friday and 9am to 5pm at weekends and bank holidays.

During Christmas and New Year, the Hub will be operating on shorter hours. [Find the festive season opening hours here.](#)

Local info and support on Covid-19



Christmas and New Year opening times

Your residents can check out what county council services they can access online 24/7, plus our opening hours and out of hours telephone contact numbers during Christmas and New Year.

You can also find other information on this webpage including dealing with extreme weather, preparing for emergencies, keeping healthy and well, and consumer advice.

Contact information over the festive season

Safe driving campaign this Christmas

Please be aware and help us spread the word that Sussex Safer Roads Partnership (SSRP) are campaigning to ensure road users think of a safe and legal way to travel during this year's festive celebrations.



Throughout December, SSRP has been working with Sussex Police to prevent and detect incidents of drink and/or drug driving, providing motorists with thought-provoking information on the risk and impact of driving whilst under the influence.

Road users are being encouraged to think about alternative modes of travel during the festive period, such as nominating a designated driver, booking a taxi, or walking home with friends.

Motorists are also being reminded of the effect of alcohol or drugs the morning after, and are encouraged to consider the impact if stopped or involved in a collision whilst over the limit.

Support the 'Under the Influence' campaign



Views wanted on GP services

Encourage your residents to share their experiences of using GP (General Practice) services in the last six months.

Covid-19 has changed the way we access GP services and [Healthwatch West Sussex are carrying out a short survey](#) which is anonymous and confidential.

Please pass this survey invitation to your residents so they can take part.

More news

To help you keep your residents informed:

- Our firefighters are urging residents to [take extra care when using electrical items this Christmas](#). Last year West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service attended over 180 fires involving electrical items. Therefore, the service is issuing a timely safety reminder as the use of electricals is set to increase over the festive period.
 - More than 1,500 victims of domestic abuse in West Sussex have been helped this year. There's ongoing support over the Christmas and New Year period, [details can be found here](#).
 - Please spread the word that batteries must not go in rubbish bins, as they pose a fire risk. There are battery recycling points throughout the county, [with further details available here](#).
 - West Sussex is in [urgent need of more people to foster teenagers](#). Currently 541 of the 845 children in care (64%) are aged 11 to 17. Over half of these young people are already in foster care but many others are waiting to be fostered.
 - More than 200 packets of illegal cigarettes were seized from a shop in Worthing – with help from man's best friend. The illicit haul was part [of an operation led by West Sussex Trading Standards officers targeting rogue retailers](#), assisted by tobacco detection dog Yoyo. Trading Standards Officers visited 3 shops in Worthing supported by Sussex Police following a tip-off claiming they were selling illegal tobacco.
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Keeping in touch

Please share the information in this eNewsletter widely within your communities.

We welcome any comments or suggestions about the eNewsletter - email townandparishcouncilnews@westsussex.gov.uk.

For daily updates, residents can follow us on social media [@WSCCNews](#) and [@WestSussexCC](#).

We are also now on [Nextdoor](#), the app designed with communities in mind. Your residents can follow the link and join the conversation.

Thank you for your support. Keep safe.

Is this the right eNewsletter for you?

This eNewsletter is for Town and Parish councillors and clerks in West Sussex. If you are a resident, we recommend you sign up for our Residents' eNewsletter, which has information targeted to you. Sign up for our eNewsletters [here](#).



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