

Residents' eNewsletter



Welcome to the July 2023 edition of our Residents' eNewsletter.



Our West Sussex county councillors have passed a motion for the Leader of the Council Paul Marshall to write to the Secretary of State for Levelling up, Housing and Communities on behalf of the whole authority, to state its concerns over a proposed Infrastructure Levy and the possible impact it could have on funding.

The proposed levy would remove the county council as a statutory consultee on planning development applications, which would allow planning authorities to ignore our requests for funding contributions for things like new education facilities, new roads, public transport and active travel schemes – all things our growing communities need.

[More information](#)



Brand new fire station and training centre opens

Our West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service reached a huge milestone when its new state-of-the-art training centre and fire station in Horsham became operational last week.

The multi-million-pound site is the first of its type in the county.

Named Platinum House, it replaces the previous fire station in Hurst Road, which was built in 1968.

The training centre has been designed to support the county council's aims to become carbon neutral with features including:

- a live fire training facility that emits smoke back into the environment as clean air
- solar panels and electric vehicle charging points
- air source heat pumps that provide heating.

Pictured: West Sussex County Council Leader, Paul Marshall, Chief Fire Officer, Sabrina Cohen-Hatton, Group Manager, Jim Mackay and Horsham Red Watch.

[More information](#)



‘Think Before You Throw’ to increase recycling in West Sussex

We'd like to say a big thank you to the reducers, reusers, recyclers and think before you throw-ers of West Sussex!

Last year you helped us reuse or recycle over 200,000 tonnes of waste, helping us reduce the amount of general waste produced in the whole of the county.

We're asking people to continue to 'Think Before You Throw', and help us recycle as much as we can, especially materials such as black plastic pots, tubs and trays, empty aerosols, and other items that can go in special collections at home such as small electricals.

In a recent survey 48% of respondents admitted to throwing items in the general waste bin because they were unsure if they could be recycled or not.

We're trying to help combat this by sharing a new animation series which you can view on the link below. They explain what items can and can't be recycled in West Sussex.

As well as this the series will show what happens after your bin is collected and how recycling and waste is processed.

Remember recycling should be:

- **CLEAN** - free from food and drink leftovers - a quick rinse will often do.
- **DRY** - keep your recycling bin lid shut – soggy paper and cardboard can't be recycled and can stick to other items or clog up machinery when sorted.
- **LOOSE** – not tied up in plastic bags, as the machinery cannot sort these.

[More information](#)



Hop on a bus - for free!

There will be [free bus travel every day next week, on Stagecoach's new number 500 bus](#) service between Chichester, Shopwhyke, Barnham, Yapton and Littlehampton.

The free bus travel will be available, as an introductory offer, from 23 to 29 July inclusive.

The new service, a partnership campaign with the county council and the Department for Transport, provides a half-hourly bus frequency, Monday to Saturday. Buses run hourly every Sunday.

And remember, if you are a permanent West Sussex resident who has reached state pension age, you can get a [free five-year bus pass for travelling off-peak all over England](#).

This means you can catch a bus to anywhere in the county – and beyond, weekdays between 9.30am and 11pm and all day on weekends and bank holidays, free of charge!

If you haven't reached state pension age, the government has also [extended the bus cap fare of £2 until 31 October 2023](#).



Catch up on your child's vaccinations

Summer holidays are here! This is a great time to make sure your child's vaccinations are up to date and it's never too late to catch up on vaccinations they've missed.

Making sure your child has their vaccinations at the right time, and before they start school, gives them the best protection against unpleasant and often serious diseases.

Check the NHS vaccination schedule on our website and if you think your child has missed any of their vaccinations contact your GP practice.

[More information](#)

FREE DIGITAL GROWTH SUPPORT



BE EFFICIENT, BE PRODUCTIVE, GROW!

Help to grow your business

Businesses in West Sussex are invited to benefit from new in-person digital growth support that will be touring the county from September.

Workshops and mentoring will be provided free to businesses, with the aim of helping small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to increase their efficiency, reduce costs and win new customers.

The Grow Digital West Sussex programme will provide businesses with expert guidance on improving digital capabilities, give people an opportunity to connect with other business owners and enable them to opt in to one-to-one mentoring.

[More information](#)



Get scam savvy this summer

Residents in West Sussex lost a total of just over £3.5 million to criminals using different types of scams in the first three months of the year.

The majority of victims were aged 60 or over and just under half of the reports came from people living alone.

To stop individuals becoming victims of fraud and blackmail, we are running two 'Are you scam savvy?' events in August, both online and in person at Horsham and Bognor Regis libraries.

The sessions are for anyone who wants to keep themselves, or friends and family, from falling foul of different types of scams, including telephone, courier and romance fraud, which have all become an increased concern in West Sussex.

[More information](#)

More news

Head to our [Newsroom](#) to find all the latest news. Below are some highlights:

- Let us know what you think of proposed [locations for more electric vehicle chargepoints in West Sussex](#).
- The [£29.5million Angmering and Littlehampton A259 road scheme](#) has officially opened.
- There are two Discovery Days coming up at [Littlehampton Library on Thursday 17 August](#) from 10am to 3pm and at [Willowhale in Bognor Regis on Monday 11 September](#) from 10am to noon. The events showcase what

libraries have to offer - from family-friendly toddler time to reading groups, author events, audiobooks, free Wi-Fi and lots more.

- The final phase of the [Burgess Hill Place and Connectivity Programme is now underway, with works taking place in the Civic Way roundabout area](#). There will be a number of overnight closures between now and early September.
- Our Trading Standards teams are taking firm action in their efforts to [eradicate the sale of cheap and illegal tobacco](#) continues across the county.
- Buchan Country Park, which is just outside Crawley and is run by the county council, has again been [honoured with a prestigious Green Flag Award](#), the internationally recognised mark of quality for parks and green spaces.



We want to hear from you if you currently provide unpaid care for a family member or friend, if you have previously cared for a loved one or if you expect to in the future.

[Take part in our Carer Support Service Review here](#) before the closing date of 27 July.

Did you receive this eNewsletter from a friend? [Sign up here.](#)

We have more than 40 eNewsletters on a wide variety of topics including West Sussex Recycles, Extreme Weather Alerts and Staying Safe Online. [View all topics here.](#)

Thanks to you, last year we reused and recycled over

200,000

tonnes of waste!

Click here to find out what happens when you #ThinkBeforeYouThrow