

Residents' eNewsletter



Welcome to the January 2024 edition of our Residents' eNewsletter!

Featuring the latest news and updates from your county council.



Our Council Plan and budget 2024/25

Thank you to everyone who gave their views on [Our Council Plan](#) and proposals for the 2024/25 budget.

The responses we received highlighted your preferences including:

- increased funding in highways and transport
- an emphasis on community support and a sustainable economy

- a focus on achieving a balanced budget.

The results of the consultation have been considered by our [Performance & Finance Scrutiny Committee](#) and shared with Cabinet ahead of its meeting next Tuesday, 30 January.

[Cabinet](#) will review the refreshed Council Plan, the 2024/25 revenue budget and capital programme. Their recommendations will then proceed to [Full Council](#), which takes place on Friday 16 February.

At Full Council, the proposals and any amendments proposed by other political groups will be presented and debated, followed by a vote.

You can find agendas for each meeting, watch the meeting webcast live or watch again at a later date in the links above.

[More information](#)

How to become a local councillor in West Sussex



Be a councillor

Next year West Sussex County Council will hold a whole-council election, giving you the chance to vote for your representative.

So now is a good time to think about whether you would be interested in representing your local community and becoming a county councillor.

Local councillors come from all walks of life and with varying backgrounds, experiences, and family lives. The most important thing is a desire to make a difference for your community.

We are organising events across West Sussex between February and June for anyone wanting to find out more about becoming a councillor.

[Join us](#)



"Book to Recycle" scheme expands across West Sussex

From Monday 12 February you will need to book a slot to visit all our Recycling Centres.

You can book on the day you want to visit, or up to 14 days beforehand.

The "[Book to Recycle](#)" system launched in 2021 and since then over 1.8 million visits have been booked via the system.

A review showed that most sites with the scheme recycle more materials, reducing the overall amount of waste processed, making the sites more efficient and helping to lower the cost of disposal.

[Find out more](#)



Free "Book-a-Bus" travel for a month

"Book-a-Bus" has so far helped over 2,000 passengers in rural areas in the county stay connected with their communities and access key services.

If you haven't tried it, we are offering **FREE** "Book-a-Bus" journeys during the month of February!

Find out more about the "Book-a-Bus" zones and experience a new way to travel.

[Book-a-Bus](#)



Staying healthy in West Sussex

- Measles, mumps and rubella can be serious. Make sure your child is up to date with their [MMR](#) vaccinations. Older children and adults who haven't had both doses of the vaccine could be at risk. Two doses are needed for lifelong protection – it's never too late to catch up! Book an appointment with your GP.
- Take part in our [Your Health Matters](#) survey for the chance to win a cash prize! Tell us about your health and wellbeing to help us improve services in the future. The survey will be sent by post to a random selection of residents. If you do receive a survey, please fill it in and return it by 4 March.
- Children's Mental Health Week runs from 5 to 11 February. Help empower the children and young people in your life. We have resources available that can help you support them with their emotional wellbeing and mental health – visit [Your Mind Matters](#).
- If you're looking to lose weight and maintain a healthier lifestyle, [Gro Health](#) is a free digital weight management service that offers personalised support for up to 12 months.

[More on keeping healthy](#)



Get creative - help turn old fire helmets into art

West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service is looking for 25 design concepts to be painted on decommissioned fire helmets.

The helmets will be displayed and auctioned to raise money for The Fire Fighters Charity.

Send in your design ideas to FRSMedia@westsussex.gov.uk.

Deadline for submissions is next Friday 2 February.

[Learn more](#)

More news

Head to our [Newsroom](#) to find all the latest news:

- West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service is encouraging everyone to [register new, old, and second-hand appliances](#) from 22 to 27 January. Registering an appliance is free and gives you peace of mind knowing that you will be notified of any safety repairs or product recalls.
- A local businessman has failed in his bid to have his shop's alcohol licence reinstated following a [long running series of investigations](#) by our Trading Standards Service.

- [Worth Services is proudly celebrating 20 years](#) of supporting victim-survivors of domestic and sexual violence and abuse in the county.



You can get the latest updates on road closures due to severe weather on our [webpage](#).

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