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Tackling climate change in the Horsham District

July 2024

In these newsletters we share with you how Horsham District Council, partners, and communities across the District are working to reduce carbon emissions and improve the local environment.

Look out for news on local community initiatives and events, national campaigns, plus suggestions on how you too can make a difference. If you have any comments or suggestions please [email the communications team](#).



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Take the Plastic Free July Challenge!

Take the Plastic Free July challenge by refusing to use single-use plastics for just one month. In fact, choosing to **buy just one less piece of single use plastic** packaging this month will make a huge difference as you will be joined by millions of others doing the same in this global campaign.

By signing up to this challenge you will receive tips in weekly emails during July to help keep yourself motivated during the challenge. You will also hear stories from other participants and news from the Plastic Free July global movement. Find out more by clicking on the links below.



[Why go Plastic Free this month \(YouTube video\)](#)

[Take the Plastic Free Challenge](#)

Businesses: Get involved in Plastic Free July

Looking for ideas on how your business can reduce plastic waste? Explore tips on how to engage staff and customers, push to remove plastics from supply chains and support a move to serve food without single-use plastics.

[Inspiring tips for businesses](#)

[How and where to recycle your plastics](#)

A new Greenspaces Strategy for the District



Last week Cabinet approved a new Greenspaces Strategy 2024-2029 for the District.

The Strategy supports the Council's commitment to tackle climate change and aims to ensure that our green spaces are protected for future generations. Our vision is to manage our land to

maximise its biodiversity value, nature recovery, climate mitigation and adaptation, and for the land to be managed to provide good quality public greenspace for amenity and leisure use.

Horsham District Council owns and manages approximately 400 ha (988 acres) of green space across the District, including formal parks and recreation grounds, woodland, heathland, allotments, playgrounds and more.

[Read the Cabinet Report](#)

Our growing Climate Action Network supports community climate action

Did you know that we have established a **Parish and Neighbourhood Climate Action Network** to support us in achieving our Net Zero target for the District? We are grateful for all the great work local communities, businesses, schools, residents and third sector organisations are already doing, which is essential for delivering positive climate action.

For example, **Storrington & Sullington Parish Council** (who has also received funding from our [Community Climate Fund](#)), has been championing a number of schemes and initiatives in the parish. These include reducing the energy use in their buildings, supporting nature recovery and building bird boxes, and supporting community recycling and local food hubs.

Storrington & Sullington Parish Council Clerk said:

“Active participation in Horsham District Council's Climate Action Group has proved invaluable, offering insights from other councils and serving as a source of inspiration.”

Contact your local parish to see what actions they are taking and visit our [Get Involved webpage](#) for some great ideas and opportunities to support climate action in your local area. If you need further advice please contact climatechangeaction@horsham.gov.uk



Resources and advice to help you support a Wilder Horsham District

We established the Wilder Horsham District project with the Sussex Wildlife Trust in 2020 to help deliver a Nature Recovery Network to help wildlife thrive. We could not do this without local communities and volunteers keen to improve their local natural environment.



Get involved

- **Seeking funding** for a conservation project? [Apply for our Nature Recovery Award](#).
- Help the Sussex Wildlife Trust with practical habitat management tasks as a **Wilder Horsham District Volunteer!** [New volunteers](#) are always welcome.
- **Create space for wildlife in your garden.** Wherever you live, your garden can become a vital part of connecting habitats and helping to form our District-wide Nature Recovery Network. Have a look at these [wildlife-friendly gardening resources](#) and pick an idea that takes your fancy!
- If you are a **landowner or land manager**, [get in touch](#) for **site visits and ecological advice**.
- **Become a part of our social media community** for regular project updates! You can find us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

Our Community Climate Fund warms up Horsham Eco Churches

Recently St Mary's Church in Horsham was awarded over £1000 from our Community Climate Fund for a project to install intelligent thermostats across five community buildings in Horsham.

These actions are expected to save 10% on gas usage across those buildings, prevent seven tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent gas emissions each year, and save around £2,560 per year (based on October 2023 prices).

If your community has an idea on how to reduce your carbon emissions, **our Community Climate Fund**, offering grants of up to £5000, **reopens for applications on Monday 1 July**.



[Apply for a Community Climate Fund](#)

Love Parks Week is back!

26 July - 4 August

Love Parks Week is back, giving people the chance to appreciate and shout about their wonderful green spaces. **Did you know that our parks act as natural filters, improving air and water quality while mitigating climate change impacts?**



Last year Horsham Park was awarded the coveted [Green Flag Award](#) as it was officially recognised as one of the country's best parks for the fourth year in a row. We are hoping for similar success this year, as well as in the South East in Bloom awards with our new wildflower planting schemes, after scooping two awards last year.

Visit our website for details of all our [parks and countryside sites](#), and there are also plenty of volunteer opportunities across the District if you would like to get involved.

[Volunteer opportunities in our parks and open spaces](#)

A series of special events in Horsham Park are planned to help us celebrate Love Parks Week. See what's on by clicking on the link below.

[Horsham District celebrates Love Parks Week](#)

News in brief

Storrington Refill Service Chanctonbury Leisure Centre

Every Friday, 8am - 2pm

This refill centre offers a sustainable solution for residents to refill their bottles with a variety of household essentials, including shampoo, washing up liquid, washing machine detergent, body wash and more, so reducing plastic waste and often saving you money too!

[Find out more](#)

The Climate Ambassadors Scheme needs you!

Are you a keen climate action supporter? Volunteers are being sought nationwide to **become a Climate Ambassador** and put their sustainability expertise to work. All volunteers will receive training on Climate Action Plans and advice on applying their knowledge and skills in an education setting.

[Find out more](#)

Why not share this with your friends

Have you enjoyed reading this newsletter? Please email communications@horsham.gov.uk with your thoughts and ideas.

Please pass this newsletter on to anyone you think may like to receive it. They can [sign up to receive their own newsletter here](#).



Useful Links



[Read how we are tackling climate change](#)

[Apply for a Community Climate Fund](#)

[About our Wilder Horsham District project](#)

[Read our latest climate action blog posts](#)

Explore our Parks and Countryside sites

[Sustainable Henfield 2030](#)

[Sussex Green Living EVENTS calendar](#)

[Greening Steyning EVENTS calendar](#)

[Get involved in climate action](#)