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Tackling climate change in the Horsham District

October 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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One Planet: A new online platform to map the District's climate action

We are delighted to say that some 16 parish and neighbourhood councils and eight environment-based community groups are supporting our climate action work by joining us in using a new online climate action platform known as One Planet.

This tool will enable us to not only manage, track, and report on our own Climate Action progress, but also allows communities taking action on climate change to see what others are doing and explore options for collaboration.



This first training event was a great success and the groups have already started mapping their actions.

The development of this technology is at an early stage but it should offer a really powerful way of showing how actions by stakeholders, community groups, and businesses can contribute to a shared vision of climate action for our District.

[Take a look at One Planet via our Climate Strategy page](#)

New stage lighting at The Capitol reduces energy use

The Capitol has recently upgraded its stage lighting to help reduce the venue's carbon footprint.

102 high-end professional lights were fitted as well as a new state of the art lighting rig and a new dimming system. This new system not only reduces energy usage during a show by about 80% but it also increases flexibility in lighting options for visiting productions.



The fixtures were put to immediate use on last year's pantomime *Beauty and the Beast*, which meant that we didn't need to hire any lights which would have eaten into our panto budget! You can look forward to seeing them all in use later this year for [Jack and the Beanstalk](#), our 2024 pantomime, running throughout December, directed by and starring John Partridge.

Our Community Climate Fund goes from strength to strength



Each year we offer grant funding to local volunteer and community groups. The fund supports new projects that reduce carbon emissions, increase climate resilience, and benefit the wider community. In the past 3+ years we have distributed over £162,000 to support 49 community projects across the District that meet our six key priorities, namely:

- **Carbon Emissions** – Reduce carbon emissions and other climate warming gases.
- **Energy** – Reduce consumption of energy and install low carbon or renewable forms of energy.
- **Water** – Reduce consumption of water and reduce threats from flooding.
- **Waste** – Minimise waste, reduce, reuse, and recycle.
- **Biodiversity** – Increase biodiversity and wildlife in the district.
- **Transport** – Reduce the need to travel and increase cycling, walking and use of public transport.

[See examples of successful fund applicants](#)

Grant applications are open from 1 - 31 October.

[Apply for a Community Climate Fund](#)



Take part in Recycle Week

14-20 October 2024

This year's Recycle Week theme is '**Rescue Me**', focusing on rescuing recyclable items from ending up in the rubbish bin.

Here in the Horsham District we have an impressive track record in recycling thanks to the great work residents have done to improve their recycling. In fact we currently have the highest rate of recycling in West Sussex!

Find out in the link below what, where and how you can recycle in the District. And why not download our **new mobile app** to help you access Council services whilst on the move?

[Recycling in the Horsham District](#)

[Discover and download our new mobile app](#)

NOTE: Remember to recycle your plastic bags and wrapping!

Items like carrier bags, crisp packets, bread bags, and other soft plastics can be recycled at your local supermarket.

[Find your nearest participating supermarket](#)



International Repair Day

19 October 2024

While recycling is great, preventing waste in the first place is even better! There are plenty of simple ways to start reducing waste today, such as replacing single use plastics such as bags or drink bottles for more reusable options.

And let's celebrate International Repair Day by finding out where your nearest Repair Cafe is. There are more and more repair cafes popping up and Sussex Green Living has prepared a list of them to make life even easier for you.

Horsham Library will have a display on repairing items for two weeks from 19 October, with a smaller display in Steyning, Storrington, Henfield and Billingshurst libraries for one week.

[Find your nearest Repair Cafe](#)

Sustainable Energy at Home event in Horsham

26 October, 1pm-3pm, FREE

St John's Roman Catholic Church
3 Springfield Rd, Horsham RH12 2PJ

The **Transition Horsham Energy Group** will host this free event. The first part will include short talks by local insulation, solar and heat pump installers, and also by Energy Group members (all Horsham residents) on their experience of having these technologies installed.



All the speakers will then be available to answer questions, based on their knowledge and experience. They will also try to identify other sources of help if they do not immediately have answers. The event is open to all so why not pop along to find out more?

[Read more](#)

Applications reopen for our Nature Recovery Award

If you missed the last round of funding, applications are open once again for our Wilder Horsham District's Nature Recovery Award.

This award, set up with support from the Sussex Wildlife Trust, focuses on support for landowners and community groups intending to implement practical schemes that expand and improve wildlife connectivity in the Horsham District landscape.



Grant applications are open from 1 October to 29 November.

[Read more](#)

News in brief

National Vegetarian Week 1 - 7 October

National Vegetarian Week focuses on the positive impact that simple changes to our food choices can make to help tackle the climate emergency. Deciding to eat less meat is such a simple, personal and positive step to helping the environment.

[Read more](#)

Retrofitting your home

Like and follow our social media channels **@HorshamDC / #ClimateActionHD** throughout October 2024 for a special campaign offering top retrofit tips to help you reduce your energy use and keep your costs down.

[Find out more](#)



Share our latest updates with friends

Have you enjoyed reading this newsletter? Do you want to share your enthusiasm with friends and family? Please pass this newsletter on. They can also [sign up to receive their own newsletter here](#).

If you have any projects, initiatives or events that you would like to share with subscribers of this newsletter, please send the details to communications@horsham.gov.uk

Useful Links

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

[Apply for a Community Climate Fund](#)

[The Wilder Horsham District project](#)

[Visit the West Sussex Climate Action Hub](#)

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

[Sustainable Henfield 2030](#)

[Sussex Green Living EVENTS calendar](#)

[Greening Steyning EVENTS calendar](#)

[Get involved in climate action](#)



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