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Latest News

Horsham District Council



New timetable for changes to councils in West Sussex

The government is expected to decide on the future of councils in West Sussex between now and early 2027, with any new councils due to take over services in April 2029. Current proposals would replace the existing county and district or borough council system with unitary councils, each responsible for all council services in its area.

The updated timetable follows discussions with the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government. Although no final decision has been made on the future council structure for West Sussex, a decision is expected to be based on the proposals that residents and local authorities have already been consulted on.

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Horsham Remembrance Services this year



A respectful act of remembrance will be marked this year at the War Memorial in Horsham's Carfax on Remembrance Sunday 8 November.

Horsham District Council Chairman Cllr Joanne Knowles will lead the wreath laying on behalf of the people of the Horsham District.

The parade will start at the BT Exchange Car Park on North Street at 10am and march into the Carfax.

In addition to the service on Remembrance Sunday Horsham District Council's Chairman, Cllr Joanne Knowles will join members of the Royal British Legion and members of the public including local school children to pay tribute to and remember all those who have lost their lives in conflict on Armistice Day on Wednesday 11 November at 11am.

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Horsham's Poppy Shop declared open



Horsham District Council's Chair Cllr Joanne Knowles went along to the Royal British Legion's Poppy Shop (22 October) to officially declare it open. The Poppy Shop this year is in Swan Walk Shopping Centre outside Superdrug and is doing a roaring trade. Photographed is Cllr Knowles with Horsham Branch Royal British Legion volunteers.

Welcome back to The Capitol!



Horsham’s Capitol theatre is set to reopen - the countdown is on. Horsham’s Capitol theatre is now only days away from reopening its doors following a major transformation of the venue, completed just in time for the panto season.

The Capitol closed in January 2026 as work began on its first major upgrade in more than 20 years. Now that the project has been successfully completed, people across Horsham District can enjoy a refreshed theatre and cinema experience, marking the start of an exciting new chapter for one of the District's most cherished cultural landmarks.

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Council hosts Business Leaders Forum for Horsham District



Some 50 local business leaders and decision-makers attended Horsham District Council's second Business Leaders Forum event, at Leonardslee Wine Estate in Mannings Heath on Tuesday 20 October.

The networking forums have been developed as a result of feedback from the Council's regular visits to prominent local businesses, providing a dynamic networking platform to inform, connect and empower local senior business leaders.

The event, organised by the Council in association with Gatwick Diamond Business, included inspiring insights from keynote speaker Jo Fairley, co-founder of Green & Black's Chocolate.

Alongside this there were thought-provoking discussions during the event's panel sessions, facilitated by MC Tim Fifield, which featured expert speakers from London Gatwick Airport, Pentagon Plastics, Architectural Plants, Tottington Manor Hotel, Chef's Farm and Eshcon Ltd.

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Local Plan reaches major milestone as examination hearing concludes



Horsham District has moved a step closer to securing an up-to-date Local Plan that will help deliver the homes, jobs and infrastructure local communities need, following the conclusion of the examination hearings on 22 October 2026.

Led by the Government’s independent Planning Inspector, Jonathan Bore, the hearings have examined the Council's proposed strategy and site allocations, including the evidence supporting them and comments received through public consultation.

The hearings have involved several stages of consultation, giving residents, parish councils, local groups, developers and other interested parties opportunities to put forward their views. The latest examination hearings followed an earlier stage of the examination in April and a six-week public consultation on proposed Main Modifications during the summer.

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Albery House, Springfield Road
Horsham,
West Sussex,
RH12 2GB

Horsham District Council