

Hampshire County Council report

July 2021

1. Waste Less

Applications for the Hampshire Waste Prevention Community Grant Fund are invited from now until 6 September 2021. The fund is open to community, neighbourhood, voluntary groups, parish, and town councils. Applicants should discuss their ideas with the County Council's Waste Prevention Team before applying - email waste.prevention@hants.gov.uk to arrange an informal discussion.

Grants are available for community projects which will introduce a new waste prevention, reuse or repair service to the local area - to help build a network of waste prevention services across the county.

Full details of what can and cannot be funded, as well as how to apply, are available online at: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20210628CommWastePrevGrnt>

2. Climate Change

Hampshire County Council's Cabinet are proposing a one off £1.2m spend on internal climate change pilot projects with a strong educational focus. These include decarbonisation of fleet vehicles (switching to electric or vegetable oil), additional tree planting, landscape regeneration, expansion of LED and solar PV installations; a number of local schools will be benefiting from this. Many of these will be public facing to include the Sir Harold Hillier's Climate Change Frontier Garden, the climate positive carbon negative River Hamble Country Park, and the food waste station at Royal Victoria Country Park.

3. Public Health Consultation

A consultation is being carried out by Hampshire County Council on a potential re-focus of its public health budget. The consultation focuses on a series of potential changes within the four service areas, including reducing the number of premises from which services are delivered, staffing levels in commissioned services, a reduction in behaviour change campaigns and a digital-only offer for some elements of support. The consultation is open from midday on 14 June 2021 and closes at 11:59pm on 9 August 2021. https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/15062021_healthconsultation

4. Queen Elizabeth Country Park

Queen Elizabeth Country Park's new Bike Base project will deliver a package of cycling improvements including:

- a mountain bike skills area will introduce riders to the different features and surfaces they will experience on the park trails.
- a mini-wheels track
- a new 'green' cycle trail for mountain bikes

5. HWRCs

Hampshire County Council want to return the waste and recycling centres to pre-pandemic arrangements once national restrictions are eased. However, the booking system enabling residents to choose and secure a time period for taking their bulky household waste to their nearest centre has been extended. Originally introduced to manage the number of visitors on-site at any one time and ensure social distancing rules could be adhered to, the system has also successfully eliminated queuing, congestion and pollution on surrounding roads.

The easing of restrictions and reduced need for additional space between parked vehicles will mean that the number of booking slots available for each site can be increased.

A recommendation to trial allowing people to take waste, on foot, to selected HWRCs (to assess the feasibility of pedestrian access) has also been approved.

6. Parliamentary Boundary Change Proposals

The Boundary Commission have published proposals for a reorganisation of Parliamentary constituencies, so that they are all more even in voter numbers. Their latest proposal has suggested breaking up the Meon Valley constituency with it being added to other areas, one partly within Fareham District Council, another in Eastleigh and the third added to Winchester.

It will be a shame if the Meon Valley constituency does disappear. But if it is to go, residents should think about which conurbation they look towards and feel part of. It is therefore worth reviewing the proposals and feeding in views.

You can see and comment on the proposals at www.bcereviews.org.uk, the consultation currently closes on 2nd August.

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