

Hampshire County Councillor Update 57

Dear All

I hope the better Spring weather has been lifting your spirits as much as it has mine. Here's the 57th and penultimate County Councillor Update of this term.

Highways Information

Southern Water works across the area to be removed and roads reopened.

Following the concerns [Caroline Nokes](#) and I have raised both via Hampshire Highways and directly with Southern Water about their contractors management of road works around Romsey, I have been informed by Southern Water that they have taken the decision to halt all live works in their water mains replacement programme across our area.

They will now begin demobilising sites in line with the current permit end dates, which are:

Hook Road – 31 March
Holcombe Road – 31 March (no works started)
Dunbridge Lane – 3 April
Old Stoke Road – 8 April
Pound Lane – 21 April

In a small number of cases, short extensions may still be requested purely to complete final reinstatement and make sure roads are left in a safe and proper condition.

These works are intended to improve the resilience of the water network and reduce leaks, but it is clear that the way they have been delivered has caused unacceptable disruption. I have raised these concerns directly, and it is right that works have now been paused while a more coordinated approach is considered.

Southern Water have indicated they will bring forward revised plans in due course, which will need to go through the proper permitting process.

I will continue to keep pressure on to ensure any future works are better managed, properly coordinated, and minimise disruption to residents.

Reporting Highway Problems

Links to report road issues are here:

Potholes: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/highways/report-a-problem/potholes>

Tree/hedge problems: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/highways/report-a-problem/treehedge>

Flooding/drainage issues: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/highways/report-a-problem/flooding>

Pavement problems: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/highways/report-a-problem/paving>

Broken or missing signs: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/highways/report-a-problem/brokensigns>

Faulty street lights: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/highways/report-a-problem/streetlight>

Faded or missing road markings: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/highways/report-a-problem/road-markings>

Problems with rights of way:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/rightsofway/reportaproblem>

When reporting an issue, you'll be sent an email confirming a reference number for the report. If you would like me to follow this up for you then do please forward that message to me and I will chase for you.

Hampshire and the Solent Combined Authority confirmed

The legislation to create the new Hampshire & Solent Combined County Authority has now been laid before Parliament — unlocking £1.3 billion of investment and giving us the powers we need to shape our own future.

This is a huge step forward. For the first time, decisions on things like transport, skills, housing, regeneration, the environment and public safety will be made here, by local leaders who understand our communities — not in Westminster.

From this summer, the new Authority will begin taking on its responsibilities, with a Mayor elected in 2028. In the meantime, councils across Hampshire, the Isle of Wight, Portsmouth and Southampton are working together to get everything ready so we can hit the ground running.

For Hampshire, this is about unlocking our full potential:

- Better transport links
- More opportunities for skills and good jobs
- The right homes in the right places
- Stronger support for our environment and local economy
- A real chance to deliver long-term improvements for residents

I'm proud to be part of this next chapter for our area — and determined to make sure this investment delivers real, tangible benefits for the people and communities I represent.

There had been 8 previous attempts to get this over the line, going back as far as 2016. My thanks to the leaders of our neighbouring councils for all their diligence, pragmatism, hard work and friendship. Steve Pitt (Portsmouth), Alex Winning and Lorna Fielker (Southampton) and Phil Jordan (Isle of Wight) have been outstanding. We represent four different political parties, but have worked collaboratively together to deliver for our area.

If you'd like to read more, the new HSCCA website is now live: hantsandsolent-ca.gov.uk

Local Government Reorganisation Proposals

The Government has now made its decision on Local Government reorganisation for Hampshire. Our job as a County Council is to work together to deliver whatever changes are required safely, effectively, and with as little risk as possible for the people we serve. Residents rely on us for stability and clear leadership, and that remains my priority.

But let me also be absolutely clear: this is a top-down political decision designed to maximise the benefit for the Labour Party, and many communities across Hampshire are understandably worried. I will continue listening to them and making sure their voices are heard.

One part of the proposal — Option 1a, would move the Waterside parishes from the New Forest, along with Chilworth, Nursling and Rownhams, out of Test Valley and into a new, expanded unitary authority based around Southampton and Eastleigh. In the east of the county, Rowlands Castle, Clanfield, Horndean and Newlands are moved from East Hampshire and Winchester into a Portsmouth centred unitary council. This is, in my view, deeply flawed and overwhelmingly opposed by local people.

Residents have already described it as illogical, unwanted, hugely disruptive, and a carve-up that ignores local identity. Their daily lives, services, schools, transport links and community ties are rooted in the Test Valley and wider Hampshire — not Southampton.

People are rightly concerned about:

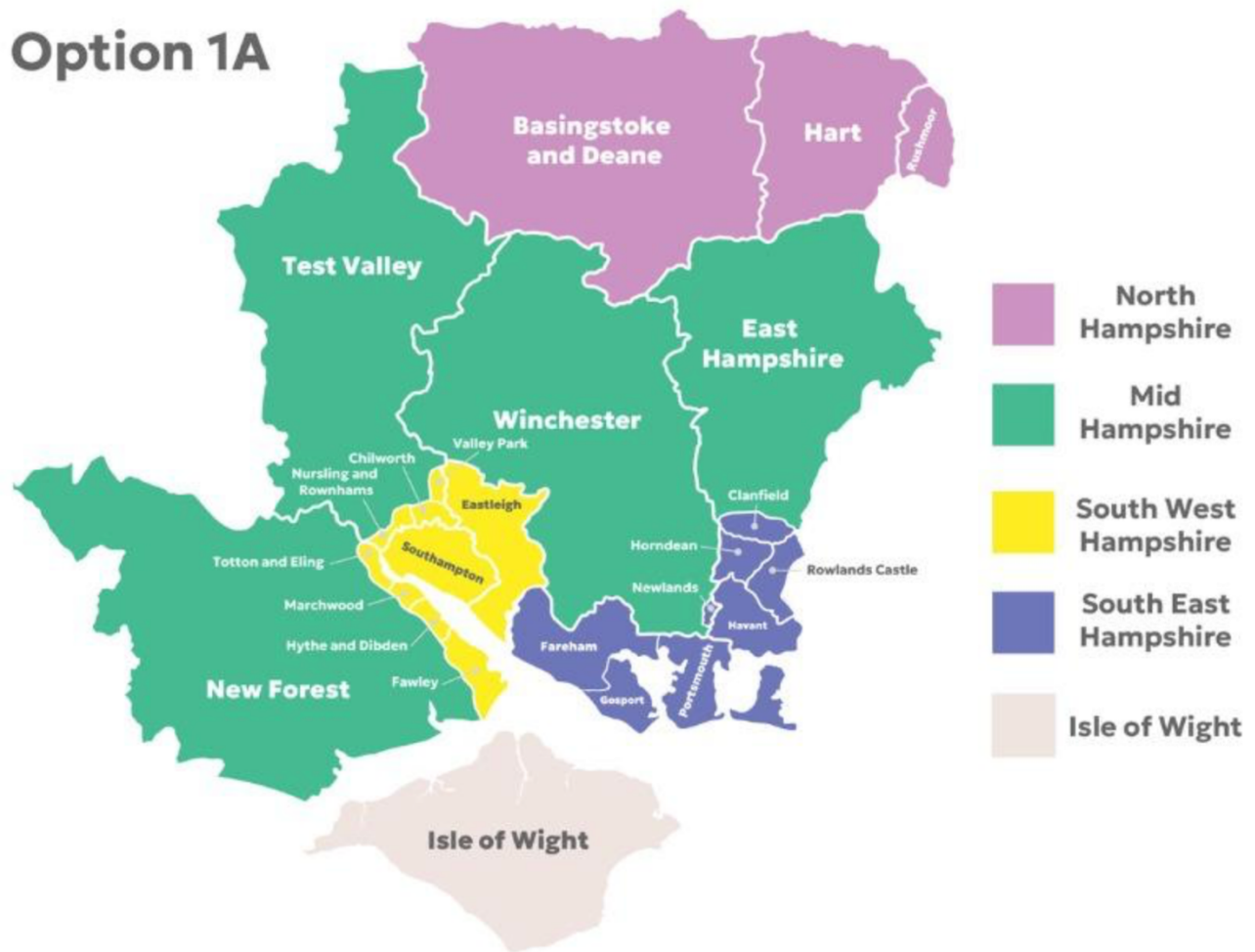
- Losing their local identity
- Disruption to schools, social care, highways and planning
- Higher council tax under a different authority
- Weaker representation for rural and semi-rural communities
- A rushed process driven by administrative convenience, not community need

This proposal is not in the interests of our residents or our county. The risks are huge, the benefits unproven, and the public opposition overwhelming.

So while we will work constructively to deliver the Government's overall decision, as the County Councillor for Romsey Rural I will oppose the boundary changes proposed in Option 1a every step of the way, with every tool at my disposal. Hampshire's communities deserve stability, continuity, and a real say in their future — not a reorganisation that tears them away from the places they call home.

The residents I represent have spoken loudly and clearly. I stand with them.

Option 1A



Hampshire's Debt: What It Is, What It Isn't, and Why It Matters

You will hear a lot of talk about 'Council's Debt' in Hampshire. It's likely to be a theme as we run up to the election. so here's the simple picture for Hampshire County Council.

Debt vs Deficit — they're not the same

Debt is long-term borrowing for things like school buildings, roads and care facilities.

Deficit is when the annual cost of running services is higher than the annual funding we receive.

Hampshire's financial pressures come from increasing demand and funding issues, not from debt.

Hampshire's debt is low — and falling

Our external debt is now £153 million, down from £162 million last year.

To put that in context:

Hampshire's gross budget is £3.3 billion, so our debt is only around 4.6% of total spending. Many councils carry hundreds of millions or even billions in borrowing.

By private-sector standards, Hampshire's borrowing is extremely conservative.

This is disciplined, responsible financial management.

What we actually borrow for

Hampshire only borrows for long-term capital projects, not day-to-day services. That includes:

- New SEND units and specialist school places
- Modern social care facilities
- Highways and transport improvements, for example the Stubbington bypass.

These are assets that last for decades and benefit residents across the county.

How this investment saves money

Capital investment is one of the few ways we can reduce long-term running costs:

- SEND units in mainstream schools mean fewer expensive out-of-county placements and lower transport costs.
- Modern care facilities reduce reliance on high-cost private placements and cut energy and maintenance bills.
- Better infrastructure prevents costly emergency repairs later.

Borrowing for the right projects helps protect the revenue budget year after year.

Hampshire is managing its finances responsibly and investing wisely to protect services for the future.

Let's Talk About Pensions and Council Tax – With Actual Facts

You may have seen claims circulating from some opposition parties suggesting that half of Hampshire County Council's Council Tax income is swallowed up by staff pensions.

That figure isn't just wrong – it's completely made up.

Here are the real numbers for 2026/27:

- Total employer pension contributions (excluding schools): £63.4 million
- What proportion of our Council Tax income is that? Just 3.4%
- What proportion of the Council's overall budget? Also 3.4%

To put it plainly:

For every £1 of Council Tax, around 3p goes toward staff pensions – not 50p.

Hampshire has one of the most efficient, well-managed pension schemes in the country, and we budget responsibly to protect frontline services. So when you see dramatic claims designed to stir up outrage, it's worth checking the facts.

If anyone tells you pensions are eating half the Council Tax bill, feel free to share this post. The numbers speak for themselves.

Update on Aster sewage treatment plant charges

Here's an update following the recent shock service-charge demands issued by Aster for the sewage treatment plants.

Aster has now responded to the concerns many of you raised — and the representations [Caroline Nokes](#) and I made on affected residents' behalf. They've confirmed that where a resident's final 2024/25 charge is higher than the estimate they originally provided, the charge will now be capped at that estimated level.

In short: you will not be asked to pay the higher retrospective costs they were claiming for 2024/25. Aster is writing to all affected households to confirm the reduction and adjust accounts.

This is a welcome step and reflects the pressure residents have applied. But there are still issues to resolve.

Aster says:

- 2024/25 is the final year of the Willow contract, with a new supplier now in place.
- They're introducing measures to improve forecasting and communication so this doesn't happen again.
- Their Customer Scrutiny Panel will review how service-charge information is presented.

On Oval Road, Lockerley, Aster explained that the temporary hire plant (which has been in place for years) led to substantial extra costs that weren't included in the original estimate. I've made clear this explanation is not good enough — but they have agreed to absorb the entire difference above the estimate.

I know how stressful and frustrating these unexpected increases have been. I'm pleased Aster has agreed to honour the original 2024/25 estimates, but the real test will come when the 2025/26 bills are issued later this year. I will be arguing that the same principle must apply again.

Caroline and I are pushing for a meeting with Aster. This situation cannot continue year after year — they need a permanent fix, and their willingness to absorb costs this year shows they know their processes have fallen short.

If you're still being asked for higher payments, or if anything in your account doesn't look right, please let me know and copy me into any correspondence with Aster.

Proposed Development: Land South of Romsey Road (Adjacent to Wellow Village Hall)

Gladman have now lodged an outline planning application for its proposal for the land south of Romsey Road, next to the Village Hall in West Wellow.

This site (SA27) did appear in Test Valley Borough Council's Draft Local Plan (Regulation 18), but it has not been formally allocated for development. It is also not included in the Wellow Neighbourhood Plan, meaning this remains a speculative application at this stage.

What the developer is proposing:

- Up to 105 homes, with 40% classed as affordable housing

- Vehicular access changes on Buttons Lane
- Additional parking for the Village Hall

Further details are available on the Test Valley planning portal here:

<https://view-applications.testvalley.gov.uk/.../applicati...>

My view on the proposal

This application is likely to be more challenging to resist than the purely speculative sites further along Romsey Road. Its appearance in the Draft Local Plan—despite not being allocated—gives the developer a stronger starting point than others we've seen.

That said, there remain significant concerns about this site, and therefore clear grounds to object, both on the principle of development and on the scale being proposed.

The Wellow Neighbourhood Plan—thankfully developed and approved—will be an important tool in challenging assumptions about suitability, density, and impact.

So while I am less optimistic about stopping this one outright compared with other sites, there is still a real opportunity to challenge it, to push back on scale, and to ensure that—if it does proceed—the community secures the maximum possible benefit.

Another successful fly-tipping prosecution for TVBC

A man has been fined more than £1,400 after refusing to cooperate with a fly-tipping investigation in Andover — and I want residents to know that we will keep taking firm action against this kind of behaviour.

Back in June last year, waste was dumped illegally on Watery Lane. Evidence led officers to an individual in Andover, who was invited to attend an interview under caution. He ignored it. A formal legal notice was then served requiring him to attend a second interview — he ignored that too.

When the case went to Basingstoke Magistrates Court earlier this month, he pleaded guilty and was ordered to pay £1,436 in fines, costs and a victim surcharge.

When people refuse to engage with investigations, it slows everything down and puts extra pressure on the teams who work hard to protect our environment. Fly-tipping affects everyone. We rely on residents to cooperate so we can gather the facts quickly and deal with offences fairly and effectively.




Our communities expect us to tackle waste crime — and cases like this show that we will follow through when someone doesn't meet their responsibilities. We want Test Valley to remain a clean, safe and welcoming place, and we'll keep taking firm but fair action to make sure that happens.

Fly-tipping is selfish, costly and completely unacceptable. Thank you to everyone who reports it and helps us keep our area clean.

£850,000 in new support for Hampshire households facing hardship

The County Council has just approved an initial £850,000 package to help residents through unexpected financial shocks — part of a wider £10.4 million Crisis and Resilience Fund coming to Hampshire this year.

This new fund replaces the Household Support Fund and gives us something we've long needed:

-  Multi-year certainty
-  Better planning
-  Stronger, more preventative support

In the meantime, we're making sure help is available straight away:

- Citizens Advice will deliver crisis payments and financial resilience support
- Social workers, charities and partners can refer residents for emergency help
- District and Borough councils can offer support for housing cost shortfalls


This is about more than just emergency payments — it's about building a system that helps people stay out of crisis in the first place.


If you or someone you know is struggling, please reach out. Help is available now, and a stronger long-term model is on the way.


More details on the County Council website — or feel free to message me directly.


More efficient, lower-cost streetlighting coming to Hampshire

From next month, Hampshire will begin rolling out over 26,000 new LED streetlights — and the benefits are huge.

 Around 60% less electricity used

 Lower running costs year after year

 Significantly reduced carbon emissions

 Better, clearer light and a longer lifespan

This upgrade is a major step in cutting energy bills for the County Council while improving lighting quality for residents. The first 9,300 LEDs will be installed this year, with a second phase following through to 2028 — all designed to minimise disruption, with most lights swapped in just 15–20 minutes.

This is exactly the kind of practical, cost-saving investment we need: lower energy use, lower costs, and better lighting for our communities.

If you'd like to see where the new LEDs are being installed, you can find more details on the County Council website here: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/.../streetlighting/led-replacement>

Heating oil support scheme

You may have seen national news about the Government's new £53 million support package to help vulnerable households facing steep rises in heating oil costs following the US–Israel conflict with Iran.

From 1 April 2026, Hampshire County Council will receive £586,000 through the Crisis Resilience Fund to support low-income households who rely on heating oil. More than 22,000 households in Hampshire use heating oil, but this scheme is tightly targeted, so not everyone will be eligible.

We're now working with Citizens Advice to develop a county-wide support scheme that focuses on residents most in need. The detailed eligibility criteria are being finalised to make sure the funding is used fairly and reaches those who need it most.

Full details — including who can apply and how — will be published on the Connect4Communities website when the scheme launches on 1 April 2026.

 <https://www.hants.gov.uk/.../childr.../connectforcommunities>

If you're currently without heating or hot water, or at real risk of losing access, please don't wait.

Contact your local Citizens Advice office, who can talk you through immediate support options before the scheme officially opens.

I'll share more information as soon as it's available.


Test Valley Borough Council – Public Space Prevention Order for Anti Social Behaviour - Public Consultation Now Open

Test Valley Borough Council is asking residents for their views on whether to extend the current Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) for another three years. The existing order, which has been in place since 2020, is due to end in June 2026 unless renewed.

The PSPO is designed to tackle anti-social behaviour that has “a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality” and is “persistent and unreasonable” .

The order covers the whole borough for issues linked to alcohol-related ASB, including powers for police and authorised officers to require people to stop drinking and surrender alcohol when necessary. In Andover Town Centre, it also includes measures relating to harassment, intimidation, public urination, and dispersal powers.

As the document explains, without renewal “the requirements of the PSPO will cease to be in force from 16 June 2026 onwards” .

 How to take part

Residents can submit comments until 17 April 2026 by emailing PSPO@testvalley.gov.uk or writing to the Community Engagement Officer at Beech Hurst, Andover.

This is an important opportunity to have your say on how ASB is managed across Test Valley, so please do take a moment to respond if this affects you or your community.

Do you have lived experience of dementia — personally, as a family member, or as an unpaid carer?

Hampshire County Council is developing a new, countywide Dementia Strategy, and your voice genuinely matters.

This isn't a paper exercise. The whole approach — from early diagnosis and support, to living well, caring well, and planning for later life — is being shaped with the people who know the reality best. If you've walked this path, your insight can help us build something fairer, kinder, and more effective for every family in Hampshire.

 Please take 10 minutes to complete the Dementia Strategy Survey:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/.../consultations/dementia-strategy>

The survey closes 11:59pm on Sunday 12 April 2026, so there's still time to share your experience and influence the priorities going forward.

If you need the survey in another format or language, you can email: insight@hants.gov.uk

Thank you to everyone who takes part — your lived experience is invaluable, and it will directly shape the support available to others.

Flood Defence boost for Hampshire.

The Environment Agency has announced a huge new investment in flood protection, with more than 600 schemes being rolled out across England. We're talking upgraded barriers, strengthened embankments, natural flood management, coastal protection — the lot.

And it's about time.

After 14 years of decline in the condition of our flood assets, this new programme — worth £10.5 billion between 2024 and 2036 — finally starts reversing the damage. This year alone, £1.4 billion is being pumped into protecting homes and businesses, with £260 million specifically for repairing and maintaining existing defences, including those hammered by Storms Gorette and Chandra.

To put it bluntly: every £1 spent on flood defences saves around £8 in economic damage. That's billions saved — and thousands of families spared heartbreak.



Main focus areas

- Sea & tidal flooding along the south coast
- River flooding in Romsey, Test Valley and the New Forest
- Habitat creation to support long-term resilience
- Maintenance of ageing assets to prevent failures
- Property-level resilience for at-risk homes



Major beneficiaries

- Havant & Hayling Island (multiple major schemes)
- Portsmouth & Southsea (largest single investment)
- Romsey & Test Valley (three schemes including flood alleviation)
- Gosport (two significant coastal projects)

- Plus major investment in natural flood management — tree planting, river restoration, saltmarsh creation — real, long-term resilience

This is the biggest flood defence programme in English history, and it will protect 840,000 properties over the next decade. It will also support thousands of skilled jobs and help unlock new homes and business growth in places that have lived under the constant threat of flooding.

Communities deserve nothing less.

A quick reminder about counterfeit banknotes

Hampshire Police have shared fresh warnings after forces across the country reported a rise in fake notes. It's something our local teams see too — often just one or two counterfeit notes mixed in with genuine ones — so it's worth taking a moment to check any cash you receive.

The Bank of England doesn't reimburse counterfeit currency, so whether you're a customer or a business, please do take a second to look closely at your notes. Their guidance is here:

 bankofengland.co.uk/banknotes/counterfeit-banknotes

If you do come across a fake note, police advice is straightforward:

- If a crime is happening right now, or anyone is at risk, call 999
- For non-emergency reports, you can contact police online:

 hampshire.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime/

- If you have information about someone making or distributing counterfeit notes and want to stay anonymous, contact Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111

A small reminder, but it helps protect both residents and local businesses.

County Councillor Grants

The County Councillor Grant scheme is operating once more, with a lesser amount of £5,000, the window has now closed for applications and I'm pleased to say all that amount has been distributed locally.

Grants made to Sherfield English Netball club, Wellow Lunch Club, Nursling and Rownhams May Fayre, Nursling Village Hall, Lockerley School PTA, West Tytherley Village Shop and Community Hub and Lockerley Scouts.

The scheme will reopen again in June, with a further £5,000 to be distributed by either me or whomever is the new County Councillor for Romsey Rural after the election.

Getting About

I've been to Wellow, Awbridge, Sherfield English, Lockerley, East Dean, East Tytherley, Michelmersh & Timsbury, Chilworth, Nursling & Rownhams and West Tytherley Parish Councils. I've also attended public meetings and visits in Preston Candover, Pennington, Boldre and Hordle.

A huge thank you too to everyone who turned out for @[Wellow Parish Council](#)'s 'Wellow Ways'

Dozens of residents gave up part of their Saturday to help look after our beautiful parish, and the energy, goodwill, and sheer hard work on display were fantastic. Community spirit like that is what keeps our villages special.



[Caroline Nokes](#), Cllr Chris Craig and I spent the morning giving a bit of TLC to road signs around the parish — a small

but satisfying job that makes a real difference to how our lanes and villages look and feel. There's nothing quite like seeing a sign go from green and grimy to bright and readable again. Heading off around Romsey Rural in the next few weeks I think I'll take my bucket, sponge and brush with me to clean off a few more.

Thank you again to everyone who rolled up their sleeves today. Wellow is lucky to have you.

Contact

Do please get in touch if I can ever be of any help. For those of you using social media, I post very regular updates on many local issues including roadworks and planning applications on my Facebook page here: facebook.com/nickadamsking

Contact me:
t: 07771 727402
e: Nick.Adams-King@hants.gov.uk
 facebook.com/nickadamsking

CLLR NICK ADAMS-KING
Caring for Romsey Rural



General Updates from HCC:

Advance notice given of planned traffic management to support Botley Bypass construction

As work progresses on the Botley Bypass, road users and residents are being given advance notice of traffic management measures that will be needed from the end of March until late April.

[Advance notice given of planned traffic management to support Botley Bypass construction | Hampshire County Council](#)

Hampshire's School Library Service shortlisted for national award as World Book Day celebrations begin

Hampshire County Council's School Library Service (SLS) has been shortlisted for a prestigious national Libraries Connected Award, recognising the team's innovative work to tackle book poverty and inspire children to read for pleasure

[Hampshire's School Library Service shortlisted for national award as World Book Day celebrations begin | Hampshire County Council](#)

Apply on time for School and Post-16 Transport

Hampshire parents who would like their children or young people to be considered for School Transport or Post-16 Transport from September 2026 must apply on time to make sure their applications are reviewed before the new academic year starts

[Apply on time for School and Post-16 Transport | Hampshire County Council](#)

Funding approved for future adult day services

Funding for services that help Hampshire residents stay independent, active, and socially connected has been approved today

[Funding approved for future adult day services | Hampshire County Council](#)

Step into Spring Smokefree: Hampshire residents urged to quit on No Smoking Day

With the lighter days and signs of spring emerging across the county, Hampshire County Council is encouraging residents to make this season a fresh start and take a positive step towards better health on National No Smoking Day

[Step into Spring Smokefree: Hampshire residents urged to quit on No Smoking Day | Hampshire County Council](#)

Hampshire County Council to consult on first specialist SEN unit in the county

Hampshire County Council is set to ask for people's views on a proposed new specialist unit for children with social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) needs in Lymington

[Hampshire County Council to consult on first specialist SEN unit in the county | Hampshire County Council](#)

Plans progressed for a further 116 special needs places

There's good news for parents and children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) this week, as the County Council has today progressed plans for an extra 116 special needs school places across south Hampshire

[Plans progressed for a further 116 special needs places | Hampshire County Council](#)

Hampshire County Council celebrates incredible staff during Social Work Week 2026

Hampshire County Council is celebrating Social Work Week (16 to 20 March) by sharing real stories from social workers who support children, families and adults across the county

[Hampshire County Council celebrates incredible staff during Social Work Week 2026 | Hampshire County Council](#)

Special needs support takes to the road with new 'Local Offer Discovery Days'

Parents of children with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND) are being invited to find out more about SEND support in Hampshire through a series of in-person events running this spring

[Special needs support takes to the road with new 'Local Offer Discovery Days' | Hampshire County Council](#)

Still time to register to have your say in May's Hampshire County Council election

Hampshire residents are being encouraged to check they are registered to vote ahead of the County Council elections on Thursday 7 May 2026, an important opportunity for people across the county to influence decisions that shape everyday services – from roads, schools and social care for vulnerable children and adults, to country parks, libraries and tips

[Still time to register to have your say in May's Hampshire County Council elections | Hampshire County Council](#)

Winchester dog fields due to open this spring, offering the 'paw-fect' place for worry-free walks

Dog owners will soon have a new place to explore with their four-legged companions - complete with purpose-built activity courses - as two new fenced dog fields open near Winchester this spring, operated by Hampshire County Council

[Winchester dog fields due to open this spring, offering the 'paw-fect' place for worry-free walks | Hampshire County Council](#)

Hampshire and the Solent Combined County Authority set to deliver transformative changes across the region

The Hampshire and the Solent region has secured a major investment fund of £1.3 billion — making it one of the largest allocations ever received by the area

[Hampshire and the Solent Combined County Authority set to deliver transformative changes across the region | Hampshire County Council](#)

Half a million meals served: Hampshire's Meals on Wheels reaches major milestone

Hampshire's Meals on Wheels service has reached a major milestone, delivering over half a million meals to residents across the county in just over two years

[Half a million meals served: Hampshire's Meals on Wheels reaches major milestone | Hampshire County Council](#)

More than 20,000 young people respond to youth wellbeing survey

More than 20,000 young people from Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Portsmouth, and Southampton have shared their views on the health and wellbeing issues that matter most to them through a large-scale survey of Year 7 and 10 pupils

[More than 20,000 young people respond to youth wellbeing survey | Hampshire County Council](#)

Hampshire County Council publishes update on safety improvement scheme at Pulens Lane and Durford Lane

Plans are entering the final stages for safety improvements at the Pulens Lane and Durford Lane junction in Petersfield

[Hampshire County Council publishes update on safety improvement scheme at Pulens Lane and Durford Lane | Hampshire County Council](#)

Hampshire County Council powers ahead with LED streetlighting expansion

Over 26,000 energy-saving LED streetlights will be introduced across Hampshire from next month, helping to cut electricity use, reduce carbon emissions and deliver long-term savings

[Hampshire County Council powers ahead with LED streetlighting expansion | Hampshire County Council](#)

New funding to help Hampshire households facing hardship

Hampshire County Council has unveiled an initial £850,000 support package to help low-income households during unexpected financial shocks

[New funding to help Hampshire households facing hardship | Hampshire County Council](#)

County Council secures prosecution of rogue trader caught with illegal and underage-sold e-cigarettes

Hampshire County Council has welcomed the successful prosecution of a rogue trader who has been sentenced for the possession and underage selling of illicit electronic cigarettes, commonly known as vapes, at a business in Aldershot

[County Council secures prosecution of rogue trader caught with illegal and underage-sold e-cigarettes | Hampshire County Council](#)

Ramping up long term action for Nature

Hampshire County Council has published its first-ever Biodiversity Report, showcasing the wide range of work underway across the county to protect, restore and enhance the natural environment

[Ramping up long term action for Nature | Hampshire County Council](#)

New green space in Bordon successfully supports communities and wildlife

Local councillors have visited Hollywater Meadows in Bordon to see for themselves how a transformed green space is supporting local wellbeing while contributing to wider efforts to restore biodiversity

[New green space in Bordon successfully supports communities and wildlife | Hampshire County Council](#)

First Best Start Family Hub launches in Hampshire

Leigh Park has become the first place in Hampshire to welcome a Best Start Family Hub, a one-stop shop supporting families from pregnancy and early years through to starting school and beyond

[First Best Start Family Hub launches in Hampshire | Hampshire County Council](#)

Milestone reached for A326 upgrade as Hampshire County Council progresses with submission of funding bid to Government

Hampshire County Council has approved proposals that will be submitted to the Department for Transport for major improvements to the A326, marking a significant milestone for one of south Hampshire's most important transport projects

[Milestone reached for A326 upgrade as Hampshire County Council progresses with submission of funding bid to Government | Hampshire County Council](#)

Hampshire County Council confirms construction to begin this spring on new state-of-the-art recycling facility

Construction is set to begin this spring on Hampshire's new, state-of-the-art Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) in Eastleigh - a major milestone that will enable residents to recycle a wider range of household materials at the kerbside in future

[Hampshire County Council confirms construction to begin this spring on new state-of-the-art recycling facility | Hampshire County Council](#)

Your vote, Your County Council – Notices of Election published for 2026

The statutory Notices of Election for the Hampshire County Council elections have been published today (25 March 2026), marking the start of the official timetable ahead of polling day on Thursday 7 May 2026

[Your vote, Your County Council – Notices of Election published for 2026 | Hampshire County Council](#)

Government announces new model for councils across Hampshire and the Solent area

The Government has today announced its decision on the future of local councils across Hampshire and the Solent area

[Government announces new model for councils across Hampshire and the Solent area | Hampshire County Council](#)