**Update from Hampshire County Councillor Andrew Gibson, July 2020**

**Changes to Road Space** -a range of temporary changes have been made across the county to provide more road space to support social distancing in town centres and for people cycling and walking:

* Waiting times at 166 crossings and traffic signals have been reduced to favour pedestrians
* Work has started across town and city centres to give more space to pedestrians.

Over 2500 schemes have been suggested to date. A [new webpage](https://scanmail.trustwave.com/?c=17268&d=2N_q3vFMcewQqa3A5IyfJDk8zsemLu-Cs9OAvbIfPw&s=658&u=https%3a%2f%2fwww%2ehants%2egov%2euk%2fcovidtravel) lists the current schemes and also links to a [map](https://scanmail.trustwave.com/?c=17268&d=2N_q3vFMcewQqa3A5IyfJDk8zsemLu-Cs9DRueIVag&s=658&u=https%3a%2f%2fhantscovidtravelmap%2ecommonplace%2eis%2f) to engage with the community on local priorities, and where organisations and people can make their suggestions, and see what others think.

HCC will bid for further national funding later in the summer and continue to help Hampshire’s residents make healthier, greener journeys and support the economic recovery of Hampshire. Schemes will be reviewed for function and performance and will be altered if necessary. Schemes may also be considered for retention, based on feedback and evidence of effectiveness.

**Climate Change Strategy** One year after declaring a climate change emergency this strategy outlines the actions required across Hampshire County Council to meet the challenging target of carbon neutrality by 2050 and to build resilience to a 2C rise in temperature. A detailed Action Plan will be adopted in September. Three community projects will begin to help reduce **residential emissions** –the Environment Centre will provide telephone and online advice and support for residents, establishing a Community Energy Network and a targeted Solar buying scheme for 125,000 homes. <https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/07072020ClimateChange>.

**HWRCs**: Due to the high volume of users Hampshire County Council have an online pre-booking system for residents to access Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) to manage demand and reduce queuing traffic. You can book online here <https://www.hants.gov.uk/wasteandrecycling>

or call 02380 179 949. You should also register your car number plate/s for access to the sites by 1st August 2020.

**Play to the Crowd (Theatre Royal and Hat Fair, Winchester)**

The Theatre Royal has announced an emergency survival appeal alongside the support package announced this month. Further details can be found here:

<https://playtothecrowd.co.uk/support-us/survival-appeal>

Cllr Andrew Gibson

Hampshire County Councillor

Test Valley Central Division Email:andrew.gibson@hants.gov.uk