

Winchester District Councillor January 2020

Report from Councillor Weston (Independent)

Carbon Neutrality Action Plan

Winchester City Council sets out actions to achieve ambitious carbon neutrality targets

The Council's Cabinet has formally adopted a Carbon Neutrality Action Plan, following its declaration of a Climate Emergency in June this year. The plan commits the council to review its own activities to reach carbon neutrality by 2024 - and sets the same ambitious goal for the wider district by 2030.

The aim is to reduce the carbon emissions that cause climate change and to support environmental improvements in the district. The focus is on the biggest sources of carbon emissions – transport, property and energy. Progress will be measured and reported publicly.

View the plan: <https://www.winchester.gov.uk/news/2019/dec/winchester-city-council-sets-out-actions-to-achieve-ambitious-carbon-neutrality-targets>

Fly-Tipping

Fly-tipping incidents in our area have increased on the run up to the festive season. Just a reminder that it is illegal to fly-tip with a potential of up to £50,000 in fines in addition to a maximum prison sentence of five years. Please remember that if you are having any material removed from your property you have a duty of care to dispose of all waste correctly, this includes checking that any companies or individuals that are contracted to dispose of the waste are registered with a Waste Carriers License and that the householder receives a copy of the Waste Transfer Note. Be careful as if your property is fly tipped - you can be held responsible.

Fly-tipping is removed from public land and highways by our contractors. We cannot accept responsibility for fly-tipping on private property - it is up to the land owner to arrange removal.

To report an incident of fly-tipping please contact the Customer Services Team on 0300 300 0013 or report it online

Registration for continued free access to Hampshire Household Waste Recycling Centres

Hampshire Household Waste Recycling Centres come under the responsibility of Hampshire County Council but I feel that it is important to flag this up in my article to residents. Hampshire residents are being asked to register their vehicles for continued automatic free access to Hampshire Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs). Hampshire council taxpayers contribute to the £100million annual costs of dealing with Hampshire's household waste, so a fee for non-Hampshire residents of £5 per visit is to be introduced. A new resident permit system will begin operating this year and will be controlled by Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR). This will ensure continued free access for Hampshire residents to any of Hampshire's 24 HWRCs to dispose of household waste, but for non-Hampshire residents a fee of £5 per visit will be charged. Charges for non-household waste, including soil and rubble, plasterboard and asbestos remain. Hampshire residents can register up to three vehicles via the Hampshire County Council website. The introduction of this system will allow those living outside Hampshire to continue to use Hampshire HWRCs by making a contribution towards the costs of disposal of their household waste in Hampshire. Hampshire residents, including those who live in Southampton and Portsmouth, will be able to register for free access to any Hampshire HWRC from 19 December 2019 at www.hants.gov.uk/vehicle-registration-hwrc

Check Ground Water Levels

Following the wettest autumn for 100 years, and subsequent rising water table levels, Hampshire County Council is urging residents to be prepared for ground water flooding in vulnerable areas

More information about flooding and flood management in Hampshire can be found via the following Hampshire County Council webpages:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/community/emergencyplanning/whattoplanfor/floodingadvice>.

You can also visit:

- The GOV.UK website to see the current flood warnings, view river and sea levels or check the five-day flood risk forecast: <https://flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk/warnings>;

- The Environment Agency's webpages to sign up for local flood alerts:

You can also call the 24-hour Environment Agency Floodline service on 0345 988 1188 and follow @EnvAgency and #floodaware on Twitter.

Surveys from Winchester City Council

Parking Access Strategy 2020

Winchester city, Whiteley and several market towns and villages across our district are experiencing growing demand for limited numbers of parking spaces. We must also take urgent action to improve air quality and cut the carbon emissions that are causing climate change.

The strategy seeks to manage demand, balancing the need for environmental action and easing congestion to help our economy thrive. The measures will support investment into initiatives that encourage greener ways to travel into our popular centres.

The plan proposes a range of changes to parking management including new charges in Winchester city centre, alongside the development of detailed parking plans for New Alresford, Bishop's Waltham, Wickham and Whiteley.

Survey closes on 6th February

<https://winchester.citizenspace.com/major-projects/parking-strategy-2020/>

Winchester City Council Budget/Medium Term Financial Strategy

Please note there was also a survey on the above, which opened on 18th Dec and closes on the 13th Jan. Not enough time in my view for residents to be able to make their points felt due to the Holiday period. Suggestions in the survey included increased council tax and parking charges.

To access the survey: <https://winchester.citizenspace.com/policy/wcc-budget-consultation/>

Contact your councillors:

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