

**Hampshire's Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) Permit Scheme.** Householders using pick-ups, vans, or 'large trailers' to dispose of domestic rubbish will have to pay from June. Residents who use vans, pick-up trucks or tow 'large trailers' to take their household or garden rubbish to the tip will have to pay in future. The County Council has decided that from 1<sup>st</sup> June 2019, residents wishing to use 'larger vehicles' to transport their domestic waste to Hampshire's household waste recycling centres will have to make sure they are registered and pay for a permit. The permit will cost £15 and will be valid for 12 months or 12 visits and provides access for vans and larger vehicles at any of the 24 HWRCs across Hampshire.

**School Meals Price Increase.** It has been agreed that the price for a two course, hot school meal will rise by 4.3% in September 2019, from £2.30 to £2.40. The revised charge reflects inflationary pressures associated with food costs and staff pay which rose by 6.4% in April 2019, when the hourly pay rate for catering assistants was increased nationally. Over 90% of the cost of a school meal covers food and staff costs, with related overheads accounting for the remainder. Supplying school meals at cost, keeps the price as low as possible for Hampshire families and ensures they receive value for money."

**Campaigners look to Quiet Lanes.** Campaigners fighting plans for 100 homes in the green belt are investigating whether their quiet neighbourhood could be protected with special status. Residents in Pennington are looking at gaining Quiet Lanes designation in response to New Forest District Council proposing to allocate land for major housing development between Ridgeway Lane and Lower Pennington Lane. The status, available under government regulations, cannot bar vehicles from using the route but would instead prioritise local policy to protect the peaceful character of the area. If approved by Highways Authority, Hampshire County Council, it could introduce speed limits.

**Get vaccinated to protect and save lives.** Raising awareness of the importance of vaccines in saving lives and protecting health was the focus of European Immunisation last month. Hampshire County Council is urging people to protect themselves, their families and the wider community by taking up their routine vaccinations when invited to by their GP. At a time when some countries in Europe and worldwide are witnessing measles outbreaks, the campaign, led by the World Health Organisation, aims to drive home the message to "prevent, protect and immunise" amongst parents and caregivers, health care professionals, policy and decision-makers, and the media. Since the introduction of vaccinations, they have saved millions of lives.

**Council issues warning about ticks.** Residents are urged to be "tick aware". Hampshire County Council is warning residents over the dangers of ticks and urging residents to be careful especially when walking in wooded areas. The tiny insects, which can transmit bacteria, such as Lyme disease, can be found throughout the year but are most active between spring and autumn. They are typically found in woodland, grassland, moorland or heathland but are also found in urban parks and gardens. Now HCC has issued a series of advice to walkers in areas known to have a high tick population such as the New Forest. Residents are urged to wear appropriate clothing (long-sleeve shirt and trousers tucked into your socks) and use an insect repellent.