

Hampshire County Council Divisional Report for Hambleton Parish Council

County Commitment to Net-Zero Carbon

The County Council is committed to establishing a clear action plan to embed carbon reduction measures across the Authority and make Hampshire more resilient to the impact of a changing climate. This strategy sets out targets on both mitigation and resilience, for both the County Council's own operations and the wider Hampshire area. The action plan covers all direct and indirect carbon emissions from the County Council's own activities – such as fuel, energy and waste. These activities account for around one per cent of all carbon emissions for the county of Hampshire. Therefore, the plan sets a target for Hampshire as a whole, which aligns with the national Government target for 2050. The Cabinet has agreed all recommendations in the report, including revoking the policy prohibiting consideration of wind turbines on County Council land, and establishing a programme of tree and wildflower planting on highways land and verges.

All the County Council's services need to contribute to reducing emissions and building resilience – replacing transport fleets with electric vehicles, reducing carbon from street lighting, and maximising the use of recycled materials in highways maintenance, to name just a few areas. The County Council's activities account for just a small proportion of the overall carbon emissions in Hampshire – the majority of which come from transport and domestic energy. As the highway authority, the County Council has a key role to play around transport, and it is clear that we all need to make changes to tackle energy consumption – building on the many instances of successful community energy projects, for example, which demonstrate what can be achieved by direct community action. Over the past decade, over £30 million has been made in carbon savings from the County Council's estate and operations - reducing the County Council's carbon consumption by 43%.

Plenty of time to register your vehicle for ongoing free access to Hampshire's Household Waste Recycling Centres

Over 150,000 Hampshire residents' vehicles have already been registered online over the last two weeks, ahead of the launch of a new permit system later this year by Hampshire County Council – giving Hampshire residents continued, automatic free access to Hampshire Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs)

The new system will be controlled by Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) and will ensure continued free access for Hampshire residents to any of Hampshire's 24 HWRCs to dispose of household waste, while access for non-Hampshire residents (excluding Dorset Council residents) will be for a fee of £5 per visit. There is still plenty of time to register, and once Hampshire residents have done this, they will see no change when they next visit a Hampshire HWRC. This system is being brought in because of the need to find a way that provides effective and environmentally practicable options for residents who live close to Hampshire's borders, to continue to access the HWRCs, but in a way that is fairer to Hampshire residents who actually pay for the cost of the service through their council tax. An update on Hampshire County Council's work around access to Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) across county borders will be considered on 14th January. This report: <http://democracy.hants.gov.uk/documents/s43062/Report.pdf> includes a recommendation for a start date of 1st April for the new system to become operational.

Neighbouring authorities began to put in place plans to ban people not living in their administrative areas from using their HWRCs. HCC advocated a position of maintaining access for all residents to their nearest HWRC, regardless of where they lived. It was not possible to come to an agreement in a way that recognised the costs borne by the council dealing with the waste and some have already implemented a ban on Hampshire residents using HWRCs in their areas. This is not HCC's intention in Hampshire – instead, a charge of £5 per visit for non-Hampshire residents will be introduced from the spring to offset the £500,000 annual cost of dealing with waste from non-Hampshire residents visiting our sites. This will contribute to the drive to manage costs across all services to help bridge the shortfall in the budget due to reductions in funding from Government, rising costs and inflation, and growing demand for council services. Hampshire

residents, including those who live in Southampton and Portsmouth, are able to register for free access to any Hampshire HWRC here. There is no registration required for access to the Paulsgrove HWRC in Portsmouth. Hampshire residents who already hold a van or trailer permit do not need to re-register that particular vehicle. For residents without internet access, please call 0300 555 1389 to register.

Cervical cancer prevention – know what you can do?

Hampshire County Council staged a Cervical Cancer Prevention Week (20th – 26th January). Councillor Judith Grajewski, Executive Member for Public Health said, “Simply knowing that cervical cancer is preventable empowers us all to take steps for ourselves or to educate others in how to lower the risk. For example women can protect themselves by attending their cervical screening when invited by the GP surgery – you only have to go once every three to five years depending on your age and it’s five minutes that could save your life.”

Women are encouraged to be familiar with the symptoms of cervical cancer and seek medical advice if experiencing any. Girls aged 11 to 18 can also take up the HPV vaccination which offers protection against most types of cervical cancer.

Two women die every day from cervical cancer in England. It is estimated that cervical screening (for women aged 25 to 64) saves around 5,000 lives each year and yet one in four women in the UK is not attending their test. It is carried out by a GP practice nurse who is trained to make it as comfortable and embarrassment-free as possible.

The screening is not a test for cancer but can help identify potentially harmful cells which can usually be treated to stop them from developing.

For more information, visit www.nhs.uk/cervicalscreening.

Reminder to have your say on respite support for adults in Hampshire

Hampshire residents have until midnight on Sunday, 9th February to provide views on potential ways to reduce the running costs of providing respite support for adults with learning disabilities in the County Council’s residential respite accommodation

The Local Authority opened a public consultation in December containing proposals to:

- Reduce the number of beds at Orchard Close respite service on Hayling Island from 13 to 10. This would ensure that current users of the service would continue to have access to the respite support they need, while at the same time reducing the number of occasions that the respite beds were empty
- Open up the County Council’s three other adult respite services - Hindson House (Basingstoke), Jacob’s Lodge (Totton) and Newcroft (Locks Heath) - for use by other local authorities and the NHS. While Hampshire County Council customers would be prioritised, any spare capacity could be used by key partner organisations, and they would be charged for the beds they utilise.

If adopted, these proposals would enable the Authority to continue to operate a respite service at the four centres, at the same time as saving an estimated £285,000 per year.

Hampshire residents wishing to respond to the consultation can do so at www.hants.gov.uk/respit-consultation. The proposals put forward by the adult social care service are designed to ensure we are able to continue to provide respite support to all those who are eligible and need it, both in our own residential accommodation and other settings. The views of those who use our services, as well as the public, are important, and will be taken fully into account when a final decision is made on how the respite service operates this Spring. Respite support is provided to individuals who are cared for full time at home by a parent or unpaid carer and is designed to provide carers with a break from their caring responsibilities.

Hampshire Library Service Consultation

A consultation on changes to Hampshire’s Library Service opened on 9th January and closes on 18th March. Views can be shared online at hants.gov.uk/library-consultation or by post having requested a paper copy

from insight@hants.gov.uk or calling 0300 555 1387 and then mailing to: Freepost HAMPSHIRE. Your nearest Tier 1 library is Fareham and that is not one of the ten identified for potential closure.

Cllr Roger Huxstep
Member for Meon Valley Division

3rd February 2020