

Fully Charged

There are now more than two million electric cars in the world, and in May this year a record 4.4% of new cars sold in the UK were hybrid or electric models. Hampshire County Council is driving forward plans to expand the number of electric vehicle charging points across the County, and converting its small vehicle fleet from diesel to electric as part of a £2.7 million investment in energy saving technology.

After saving £29.9 million in energy costs and cutting carbon emissions by 35.8% since 2010, the County Council recently published plans to invest £2.7 million in to the next phase of its Energy and Carbon Management Programme which includes:

- Installation of approximately 40 new electric vehicle charging points at sites to be finalised, in addition to the 14 already owned by the County Council
- Investigating the feasibility of converting its 156 small vehicle fleet and 23 staff pool cars from diesel to electric on a phased basis
- Replacing up to 75% of existing inefficient light fittings with LED lights in the County Council's corporate buildings

Road Improvements

Hampshire's residents can expect to see a 40 % increase in investment into major road improvements over the next three years. Investment is set to increase from £34 million (spent in 2016/2017) to a projected £48.2 million in 2018/2019.

The seven major schemes completed in 2016/2017 were:

1. A30 Winchester Road Roundabout, Basingstoke
2. A340 Aldermaston, Basingstoke
3. Whitehill and Bordon Relief Road phase one
4. St Margaret's Roundabout, Fareham
5. Peel Common Roundabout, Fareham
6. Asda Roundabout, Havant
7. Queens Roundabout, Farnborough

Four other major schemes are currently underway: two to improve journey times and reduce congestion on the A27 Fareham; one on Newgate Lane South in Fareham; and the fourth to support the regeneration of Whitehill and Bordon, by building a new relief road. In addition, major improvements to Crockford and Great Binfields Roundabouts in Basingstoke will begin in the next month. For more information on all of Hampshire's major highways schemes visit <https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport>

Help for Young People - Traineeships

Do you know a young person who lacks confidence and skills, is not yet ready to do an apprenticeship, but does want to get on the career ladder? Traineeships are supportive programmes that provide training in core skills such as maths and English, together with an extended period of well-planned work experience, and support with career-building skills, such as CV-writing and interview techniques. Traineeships often lead directly to apprenticeships.

Hampshire County Council offers traineeships in many of its services, led by highly-skilled tutors in a supportive environment. A traineeship is also a great option for someone who has dropped out of sixth form or college, and is unsure where to turn next. Many of Hampshire County Council's trainees go on to get an apprenticeship or a full-time job at the County Council. Find out more about traineeships by visiting <https://www.hants.gov.uk/traineeshipplus>

Obesity

Almost 7 in 10 of Hampshire adults are overweight or obese and the cost to the NHS in Hampshire in managing diseases related to obesity is estimated at almost £340 million per year! The County Council has commissioned a new self-referral service for people aged 18 years and over. If you are a resident in the administrative county of Hampshire, or are registered with a Hampshire GP and have a Body Mass Index [BMI] of 30+, or don't know what your BMI is but think you might qualify for this **free service**, call 0345 602 7068. People who qualify will be offered a free tailored service and will aim to lose not less than 5% of their body weight.

Shingles Vaccination for Older People

Public Health at HCC are reminding residents of the shingles vaccination for older people. Who's eligible? Residents who are aged 70 years, plus anyone in their 70s who was born after 1 September 1942 and has not yet had the vaccine. Protect yourself from the pain of shingles – speak to your GP surgery about having your vaccine today!

Dementia – Tracker

A personal safety device with a GPS tracker is being offered to people with a diagnosis of dementia who are in the middle stages of living with the condition, but who still want to remain living independently in their own homes. The device, an Oysta Pearl, helps family or loved ones locate a person quickly, if they are prone to wandering or getting lost while out and about. The scheme is being led by Hampshire County Council, Hampshire Constabulary and the PA Consulting Group-led Argenti Care Technology Partnership.

Every year, Police Officers are asked to search for approximately 120 of Hampshire's most vulnerable adults who are reported missing. Many are elderly, living with some form of dementia, and get lost unintentionally. The tracker device is linked to the internet, which enables a person's movements to be tracked. An alert can also be set to trigger an alarm if the person leaves their pre-set 'safe zone'. For further information about equipment, adaptations and Telecare, telephone 0300 555 1386 or visit the website – <https://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/adultsocialcare/equipment>

Service Personnel, Veterans & Families

Did you know that there are 20 wooden camping Pods which are free for service personnel, veterans and their families to use during holidays and at weekends, in the heart of the New Forest, near Brockenhurst. The demand has been so great that the Poppy Pods are fully booked until September 2017. Visit <https://www.hants.gov.uk/thingstodo/outdoorcentres/ourcentres/tilebarn/poppypods> The pods are there in perpetuity to recognise and remember the sacrifices made and faced by the Armed Forces community. The Pods provide residential/respite facilities for Service personnel, veterans and their families. The Pod village has been designed with accessibility in mind.

Grants

A reminder that I have a budget which I can allocate to help community projects in Soberton and Newtown. Any organisation can apply, but it must have a Treasurer and a Constitution/Terms of Reference. To find out more visit <http://www3.hants.gov.uk/grants/county-councillor-grants.htm>. If you think your organisation would benefit, please contact me and discuss before submitting your online application.

Patricia Stallard
Executive Member for Public Health,
Supporting Troubled Families and Emergency Planning
County Councillor for Winchester Southern Parishes

pgstallard@aol.com 02392251484