

## **Climate Change**

Hampshire County Council are working in partnership with The Environment Centre (tEC); Community Energy South and iChoosr UK to deliver three new energy projects to help residents and communities reduce carbon emissions and be prepared for the impact of climate change.



To find out more and sign up for news on climate change action in Hampshire visit <https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/environment/climatechange>

## **Vehicle Registration for HWRCs**

The County Council has decided postpone the start of the scheme requiring HWRC users to register their vehicles, in order to access HWRCs. The scheme had been due to come into force on 1st April 2020. The new start date will be publicised in due course. Residents are encouraged to take the opportunity to register their vehicles at <https://www.hants.gov.uk/wasteandrecycling/recyclingcentres/vehicle-registration/register>.

## **Coronavirus Information and Resources**

The [Connect to Support Hampshire](https://www.connecttosupporthampshire.org.uk/s4s/WhereILive/Council?pageId=3491) website provides a wide range of useful links and information to assist older and vulnerable Hampshire residents during the Coronavirus pandemic. Visit <https://www.connecttosupporthampshire.org.uk/s4s/WhereILive/Council?pageId=3491>

## **Support for Businesses**

For information about the financial support and advice available for businesses in Hampshire from our Economic Development service, Business Hampshire visit [Covid-19: Support for businesses](https://businesshampshire.co.uk/support/covid-19-support/) at <https://businesshampshire.co.uk/support/covid-19-support/>

## **How GCSEs, AS & A levels will be Awarded in Summer 2020**

[Ofqual has set out details for schools, colleges, students, parents and carers on how GCSEs and A levels will be awarded following the cancellation of this year's exams. See <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-cancellation-of-gcses-as-and-a-levels-in-2020/coronavirus>](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-cancellation-of-gcses-as-and-a-levels-in-2020/coronavirus)

## **Hampshire Libraries Re-open**

Libraries re-opened from Monday 6th July 2020 but to reduce waiting times and allow as many people as possible to visit our libraries, people are asked to limit their visits to a maximum of 30 minutes and to keep browsing to an absolute minimum. Reserved items can also be collected at this time. Newspapers and magazines are not available for the time being. Please bring your library membership card with you when you visit the library.

- Toilet facilities will remain closed to the public for the time being.
- Shared computers - Computers are free of charge to use for all library card holders, to secure a session **you must book in advance** by calling 01962 454747
- A place to study - study places are available from 13th July: to secure a session **you must book in advance** by calling 01962 454747
- Library self-service app - Customers are asked to use self-service machines to borrow or return items where possible or download the new [Libraries mobile app to check out books by mobile phone](https://www.hants.gov.uk/librariesandarchives/library/mobile-app). <https://www.hants.gov.uk/librariesandarchives/library/mobile-app>
- Returning books - we are accepting returned library books. Our current opening hours are slightly different to normal and you may be asked to queue outside the library. If your local library has a book return slot you can use that at any time. All returned books are quarantined for 72 hours before they go back into circulation.
- Overdue loans - [pay outstanding fines online](#) at

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/librariesandarchives/library/aboutus/termsofmembership> or by using contactless kiosks inside the library.

- Ready Reads: We Select You Collect - Library staff will handpick a selection of books for customers who call 01962 454747
- For elderly or disabled residents who cannot attend a library or arrange for a carer to collect library books, you can telephone 0300 555 1387 and the books will be delivered to your home.

## **Country Parks and Outdoor Spaces**

Car parks at the following Country Parks are open: Royal Victoria, River Hamble, Queen Elizabeth and Lepe – normal hours and parking fees apply. Toilets are accessible too. Visitors should continue to follow the [social distancing guidelines](#) in place to protect everyone from Coronavirus.

## **Hampshire Local Outbreak Control Plan**

In line with the next phase of the UK's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Hampshire County Council is required to produce and implement a [Local Outbreak Plan](#). See <https://documents.hants.gov.uk/corprhantsweb/HCC-Outbreak-plan.pdf> The Plan details how the local authority and its partners will respond to further outbreaks of infection to protect the public's health. Through the actions set out in the Plan, the aim is to reduce the transmission of COVID-19, protect those who are most vulnerable, provide consistent advice to places and communities to prevent the spread of coronavirus, and coordinate testing across the county. A [summary of the plan](#) is also available at <https://documents.hants.gov.uk/corprhantsweb/HCC-COVID-19-Local-Outbreak-Control-Plan-Summary.pdf>

## **Fostering**

We urgently need more specialist respite carers to provide care for children with emotional, physical and behavioural needs. If you have a spare room, care experience and can offer some time, whether that be one weekend a month or more, please consider fostering. Learn more by calling 01489 587052 or come along to one of Fostering Hampshire Children's free virtual information events. Details at [hants.gov.uk/fostering](https://hants.gov.uk/fostering)

## **Investment in Staff Apprenticeships**

More than half a million pounds has so far been invested in employment training in Hampshire in the first half of 2020, under a Hampshire County Council scheme that aims to create more apprenticeship opportunities in the County – with care homes by far the biggest beneficiary.

The funding forms part of a £900,000 transfer from the County Council's Apprenticeship Levy made available to help fund new apprenticeships until 31st March 2021. Of the 120 transfers approved by the end of June, 91 went to applicants in the care sector. Priority has also been given to small and medium enterprises, public bodies such as local councils, the emergency services and construction companies.

## **County Councillor Grants**

A reminder to community centres, churches, schools, parish councils and community groups such as playgroups, scouts, parent/teacher associations, social clubs, lunch clubs, church groups etc that you are all entitled to apply for a small grant from me. The group must have a named Treasurer and a separate bank account, I cannot give funds to individuals. In the past I have funded bench seats, club outings, defibrillators, new equipment for clubs and much more. The project must be discussed with me before an application is submitted. Visit <https://www.hants.gov.uk/community/grants/grants-list/county-councillor>

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