

Rudgwick Parish Council

Weekly Clerk's Update: 24th – 30th January 2026 (Agenda February 2026)

To: Parish Councillors

c.c: Christian Mitchell (West Sussex County Councillor)
Richard Landeryou (Horsham District Councillor)

From: Anna Clayton

The weekly update provides information regarding:

- Announcements/delegated decisions by the Clerk
- Planning information
- Correspondence/communications from parishioners
- Correspondence/communications from outside organisations

List of organisations that communicate with the Council on a regular basis.

- AIRS (Action in Rural Sussex)
- APCAG (Association of Parish Councils Aviation Group)
- CAGNE (Communities Against Gatwick Noise Emission)
- CPRE (Campaign to Protect Rural England)
- HALC (Horsham Association of Local Councils)
- HDC (Horsham District Council)
- NALC (National Association of Local Councils)
- WSALC (West Sussex Association of Local Councils)
- WSCC (West Sussex District Council)

Clerk's announcements/delegated decisions:

- **NS&I interest 2025 - £1,182.06**

GENERAL REMINDER: If you wish to speak face to face to a member of staff, please contact the Clerk on 07927 702321 during her office working hours (Monday – Wednesday 9.30 – 15.30).

Applications for noting at Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting

Applications for noting at Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 9 th February 2026	
Application No: DISC/26/0022 23.01.2026	Response/Comments:

Applicant: Pennthorpe School, Church Street, Rudgwick	
Reason for Application: Application for Approval of Details Reserved by Condition 7 to approved application DC/19/2573.	
Official Response Date: Not available / Determine 20/03/2025	
Application No: DC/26/0074 16.01.2026	Response/Comments:
Applicant: Fishers, Cox Green, Rudgwick	
Reason for Application: Demolition of existing outbuilding and erection of new outbuilding. (Lawful Development Certificate - Proposed).	
Official Response Date: Not available / Determine 13.03.2026	

Applications for consideration at Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting

Applications for consideration at Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 9th February 2026	
Application No: DC/25/1923 26.01.2026 Supplementary documents.	Response/Comments: RPC previous observations; RPC believes that there are documents missing from the file which the parish council pointed out on 18th December. The details are as follows: 1. The application form states that a planning statement has been submitted, but there is none shown on file. 2. The application form also makes reference to existing materials being used, but there are no details/elevations of an existing structure shown in the application. If there is one there already it would be useful to compare the existing structure with the proposed one.
Applicant: The Old Stables, Guildford Road, Rudgwick	
Reason for Application: Erection of an implement store for machinery for equestrian use.	
Official Response Date: 11.02.2026 / Determination 27.01.2026 (not updated)	

	RPC asked for the file information to be corrected or missing details to be supplied. As no further details have been forthcoming this application cannot be determined as it stands and RPC will have to object until the situation is corrected and clarified
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Decisions

HDC Council Decisions – Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 9th February 2026	
Application No: DC/25/1928	Response/Comments: Permitted / RPC - No objection. Request for a condition limiting the contractors working hours.
Applicant: 10 Roundabouts Cottages, Haven Road, The Haven	
Reason for Application: Erection of a single storey side and rear extension.	
Official Response Date:	
Application No: DC/25/1929	Response/Comments: Permitted / RPC - No objection. Request for a condition limiting the contractors working hours.
Applicant: 10 Roundabouts Cottages, Haven Road, The Haven	
Reason for Application: Construction of a double garage.	
Official Response Date:	
Application No: DC/25/1965	Response/Comments: Permitted / RPC - No Objection, subject to the Horsham Arboricultural team being content with the details of the application.
Applicant: 32 Summerfold, Rudgwick	
Reason for Application: Surgery 1x Oak tree	

Official Response Date:	
Application No: DC/25/2046	Response/Comments: Prior Approval Required and Permitted / RPC - no need to submit observations.
Applicant: 2 Barnsfold Cottages, Barnsfold Lane, Rudgwick	
Reason for Application: Prior Approval for the erection of a single storey rear larger home extension, which would project 5.00m from the rear elevation, comprising a maximum height of 3.70m and eaves height of 2.40m.	
Official Response Date:	

Applications going to Committee

Applications going to Committee – Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 9 th February 2026	
Application No:	Response/Comments:
Applicant:	
Reason for Application:	
Official Response Date:	

Appeals Lodged / Appeals Determined

New Appeals Lodged / Determined – Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 9 th February 2026	
Application No:	Response/Comments:
Applicant:	
Reason for Application:	
Official Response Date:	

New Planning Compliance Issues

New Planning Compliance Issues – Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 9th February 2026

Application No: EN/26/0026 19.01.2026	Response/Comments: Pending consideration
Address: Land at 507520 129604, The Haven	
Nature of Complaint Alleged: change of use of the land from agriculture to dog walking business.	
Official Response Date:	

Parish Councils Website

Rudgwick Parish Council's New Website is now live!

<https://rudgwick-pc.gov.uk>

Correspondence

Email dated 30.01.2026 from WSCC

Highways, Transport and Planning - News and Updates



2025 Parish Briefings Survey

Thank you to everyone who joined our Parish & Town Council briefing sessions throughout 2025. We'd love your feedback on how these sessions are working and what topics you'd like us to cover next.

Please take a moment to complete this short questionnaire so we can ensure we have the right contact details and continue to deliver content that's useful to you:

<https://s.surveyplanet.com/cfkoegsg>

The government have released a new Road Safety Strategy for the UK, the first in over 10 years.

The Strategy outlines the governments vision to "...ensure that people can travel safely on roads in Great Britain...".

Along with a number of safety performance indicators they have set a 65% reduction target for the number of people seriously injured or killed on roads by 2035, using a 2022 to 2024 baseline, with an even more stretching target of 70% for children under 16.

The strategy will help save thousands of lives and deliver on the government's commitment to growth, safer communities and easing pressure on the NHS.

The Strategy places a focus on delivering a Safe System approach, in which everyone has a shared responsibility for road safety. This mirrors the approach taken in the [West Sussex Road Safety Strategy](#).

Additionally, they are undertaking public consultations on 5 themes contained within the Strategy, urging interested parties to respond:

- [Motoring offences](#)
- [Introducing a minimum learning period for learner drivers \(category B driving licence\)](#)
- [Introducing mandatory eyesight testing for older drivers](#)
- [Improving moped and motorcycle training, testing and licensing \(categories AM, A1, A2 and A driving licence\)](#)
- [Mandating vehicle safety technologies in GB type approval](#)

Responses need to be submitted by 31 March 2026.

Downs Link Signage Improvement Project



Sustrans, now known as the 'Walk, Wheel, Cycle Trust', have funded a signage improvement project for specific locations along the Downs Link.

The work will erect new directional signs that meet their specification for the National Cycling Network, including the route number and useful information such as distances to the nearest village.

The new signs are being installed on highways including where the Downs Link meets roads.

Highway Improvement Works

We are undertaking highway improvements across the county, with the following projects starting in the coming weeks.

Jane Murray Way, Burgess Hill

We are starting work on a project to create three pedestrian refuge islands on Jane Murray Way, Burgess Hill starting 21 January to 10 March 2026. This will improve the pedestrian safety when accessing the Green Circle public right of way.

The road will remain open, but there will be temporary lights will be in operation, so please allow extra time for your journey during this time.

You can read further information on the work at One Network - <https://one.network/?GB143054292>



A29 Shripney Road, Bersted

Work will take place on the A29, Shripney, to improve road safety for pedestrians and road users. Near the A29 junction with Shripney Lane we will be reducing the 40mph to 30mph and installing a new uncontrolled pedestrian crossing on the A29. In addition, the 30mph on Shripney Lane will be reduced to 20mph.

The works are due to run from the 16 February till 17 March. The road will remain open, but there will be temporary lights in operation, please allow extra time for your journey during this time.

You can read further information on the work at One Network - <https://one.network/?GB143535989>

Bracklesham Lane, East Wittering

Works to improve the crossing facilities began on the 12 January and will run through until 25 February. We will be updating all crossing points around the crossroads of Bracklesham Lane with Stocks Lane and Beech Avenue.

There will be multi way traffic light in operation, but the road will remain open. Where the foot path is affected an alternative route will be provided.

You can read further information on the work at One Network - <https://one.network/?GB143654911>

Road Safety Improvements in Cuckfield

Work is due take place on Hanlye Lane, Cuckfield to improve safety for everyone using the road. The project running from the 26 January to 20 February 2026 follows concerns about the number of crashes on the road.

The plans include extending the 30mph speed limit to match the Cuckfield Parish boundary, and introducing a 40mph limit on the rest of the lane. Signs along the route will also be upgraded, this includes clearer warning signs, chevrons and verge marker posts on the four bends.

We will also be undertaking some drainage work and cutting back vegetation while on site.

For part of the works, Hanlye Lane will need to be closed because the road is too narrow to keep workers and drivers safe. At other times, two-way temporary traffic lights will be used to manage traffic.

You can read further information on the work at One Network - <https://one.network/?GB144102212>

Road Safety Scheme under construction at Washington Roundabout

From 5 January to 13 February 2026, road safety improvements are being carried out at the Washington Roundabout, where the A24 and A283 meet.

Between 2019 and 2023, there were 33 collisions at this junction, 6 resulting in serious injuries, with a disproportionate number of them involving motorcyclists.

These improvements target the main causes of the collisions, which typically involve harsh braking and rear end shunts on the approaches and entry points to the roundabout,

The improvements work will include: -

- A new 30mph speed limit on the A283 through Washington, which includes the roundabout.
- New 50mph buffer speed limits on the A24 to slow approach speeds.
- Visibility fencing on the A24 to discourage early decision-making.
- New road markings on the roundabout to guide traffic flow.
- Enhanced give way signs and markings on the eastbound approach.
- Vegetation clearance to improve visibility of signage.

These measures aim to make the roundabout safer and reduce future collisions.

Follow [Road Safety](#) on Facebook for safety advice and updates on safety schemes in your area.

Zebra Crossing Improvements

Work will take place on Aldwick Road, Bognor Regis, to improve the existing zebra crossing. The project running 12 to 25 February, will add tactile paving to help people with visual impairments and will see the crossing beacons relocated to accommodate this change.

To carry out the work safely, one lane will be closed at times. Traffic will be managed with temporary lights, so drivers should expect short delays.

Apologies for any delay this may cause, these improvements aim to make the crossing safer and easier for everyone to use.

You can read more information on One.Network - <https://one.network/?GB143036168>

Utility Projects Update

This section provides updates on projects being carried out by utility companies across the West Sussex Highways Network.



Gas Works

Bersted

Essential works on North Bersted Street, Bersted, to replace the gas main and its connections to all residential properties has begun until 8 May 2026 with **24-hour road closure** from the Royal Oak pub to the dead end outside number 82. These improvements are critical to ensure the safety and reliability of the gas supply.

Yapton

Southern Gas Network (SGN) has now progressed to phase two, focusing on the replacement of lower-pressure gas pipes. A full road closure is currently in place on Bilsham Road (B2132) in Yapton.

Due to health and safety reasons, Lovey Road will be closed throughout the duration of works.

To help minimise disruption, Power On (responsible for high-voltage cable installation) and Portsmouth Water (focused on leakage detection and consumption tracking) will collaborate with Southern Gas Network (SGN) by utilising the available road space during the closure of Bilsham Road.

Phase three will commence from Monday 20 April to Friday 5 June 2026, with road closure on Yapton Road B2132.

Worthing

Planned works for the gas main replacement on Victoria Road and A2031 Teville Road in Worthing are now progressing to phase two:

- Road Closure on Victoria Road from 27 October 2025 until 20 Feb 2026
- Road closure on Teville Road from Monday 19 January for 14 weeks. This has been pushed back by a week due to emergency works to repair two broken mains on Oxford Road.

Vehicle access to Worthing Train Station (except for buses) All vehicle access to Worthing Train Station will be via Cross Street. Access out will be via Oxford Road onto Teville Road via the diversion route.

Buses running to Worthing station will be operating on a reduced timetable, we'd advise passengers to contact their service provider for the latest updates/changes to service.

Horsham

From Monday 26 January, old gas pipes replacement works will be carried out in the Albion Way area, Horsham. There will be lane closure in both direction and the works will be carried out in phases lasting an approximate six weeks combined. Please click [here](#) if you need more information.

Chichester

Gas works are currently being carried out on the A286 Birdham Road, Chichester and are expected to last approximately 10 weeks under multi-way traffic lights.

We understand that ongoing roadworks can be disruptive, and we truly appreciate your patience and understanding. These upgrades are necessary to ensure the long-term safety and reliability of gas supply.

If you need further information about these works, you can contact SGN Customer Service Team by email Customer@sgn.co.uk or alternatively you can call them on 0800 912 1700. For travel and route diversion, please follow [Causeway one.network](#).

Essential Power Network Upgrades in Crawley:

UK Power Networks is currently undertaking a project to replace underground electricity cables between Three Bridges and Fleming Way as part of their ongoing investment in the local electricity network.

From 5 January 2026, works are being carried out on Hazelwick Avenue (Northbound) with a road closure in place for approximately 6 weeks. This will be followed by temporary traffic lights from 16 February 2026 to 10 April 2026, operating between 08:00 and 18:00.

If you have any specific concerns, you can contact their customer care team on 0800 028 4587 or care@ukpowernetworks.co.uk.

Keep up to date  

Facebook, X, Bluesky & WhatsApp

Updates on emergency reports are posted every day and project updates are posted frequently on the West Sussex Highways Facebook [@West Sussex Highways](#), X [@WSHighways](#), and Bluesky [@wshighways.bsky.social](#) accounts.

Did you know you can get gritter alerts, grass cutting updates and up to date information on road issues on WhatsApp? You can follow silently or opt for alerts to notify you when we share an update. To find us open WhatsApp and select "Updates"

from the bottom menu, then simply search for WSHighways or click the link
- [WSHighways](#).



Our Care Guide
OUT NOW!

Including information about care
and support services in West Sussex

[Click here to download](#)

Living well in
your community
Your West Sussex Care Guide 2025/26

The banner features a woman wearing a white hat and overalls, smiling while working in a garden. The background is a mix of green and blue geometric shapes.

Email dated 29.01.2026 from HDC

Latest News: Council to roll out food waste collections | Public health warning issued | February half term fun



Latest News

 **Horsham
District
Council**

The banner features a photograph of a green field with yellow wildflowers in the foreground and a line of trees in the background under a clear blue sky. The top half of the banner has a solid blue background with the text and logo.

Council to start rollout of weekly food waste collections for Horsham District residents



Horsham District Council is taking another major step towards a greener, cleaner future for Horsham District as it gears up to start weekly food waste recycling collections across the District from March 2026.

From 19 January all Horsham District households will receive letters explaining how the new service will be delivered.

The food waste collection service will be rolled out in phases, with a starter pack delivered to every household from February to April. The exact collection start dates will depend on where residents live.

[Read More Online](#)

February half term fun in Horsham



Horsham over the February half term holiday will be a fun place to visit with lots of children's events and activities on offer, all brought to you by Horsham District Council. Most activities are free or very low cost but do check out if you need to book.

[Read more](#)

Council adopts new four-year housing and homelessness strategy

Horsham District Council has formally adopted a new forward-looking Housing and Homelessness Strategy for 2026 to 2030.

The new strategy, called Homes for Tomorrow, sets out the aims and objectives of how the Council will prevent and relieve homelessness and deliver more affordable homes for residents of Horsham District over the next four years.

[Read more](#)

Council issues public health warning

Public Health Advice



Horsham
District
Council

Horsham District Council has been made aware of confectionary products on sale nationwide containing mineral oil aromatic hydrocarbons, which is a prohibited ingredient in the UK as it can increase the risk of cancer if consumed in high quantities over a prolonged period.

The affected products are branded as Jolly Rancher and cover all flavours and batches of their Hand Candy, 'Misfit' Gummies, Hand Candy Fruity 2 in 1, Berry Gummies, Filled Pops and Freeze-Dried Candy product lines.

[Read More Online](#)

[Horsham marks Holocaust Memorial Day](#)



Holocaust Memorial Day fell on Tuesday 27 January this year. Horsham District Council, in partnership with the Horsham Branch of the Royal British Legion, marked the day by lowering flags to half-mast and holding a wreath laying ceremony and candlelight vigil in the evening at Horsham's War Memorial in the Carfax.

The theme for the UK's Holocaust Memorial Day in 2026 is "Bridging Generations," a powerful call to action encouraging everyone to connect the past, present, and future by actively learning from Holocaust survivors and victims, sharing their stories, and committing to fighting prejudice and genocide.

Each year people from all backgrounds mark the day with ceremonies of commemoration and solidarity, remembering those who were murdered for who they were and to stand against prejudice and hatred today.

Council leaders reaffirm strong partnership as government considers reorganisation proposals

All council leaders across West Sussex have issued a joint statement, following the government's consultation on local government in West Sussex.

As council leaders across West Sussex, we reaffirm the strength of our joint working as we move towards the next stage of local government reorganisation. Over recent months, all councils in West Sussex have continued to collaborate closely, building on a solid foundation of shared ambition, evidence, and commitment to the people and communities we serve.

[Read the letter in full online](#)

Access Council
services whilst
on the move!



**Horsham
District
Council**



Stay connected



Albery House, Springfield Road
Horsham,
West Sussex,
RH12 2GB



**Horsham
District
Council**

Email dated 29.1.2026 from NALC
Chief Executives Bulletin

Meetings

- In this week's meeting with county associations, we had an update on the recent proper practices consultation. The Surrey Association of Local Councils highlighted the challenges of election costs and spoke about their [report responding to local government reorganisation](#). We also provided updates on our government consultation responses, committees and resources.
- Our chair, Cllr Iain Hamilton (Merseyside representative), joined the County Officers' Forum at our partners CCLA offices. It was a valuable opportunity to engage with county associations and discuss shared opportunities and challenges, including the use of AI, service delivery, communications, and the implications of local government reorganisation. The forum also marked a change in leadership. We want to thank Christopher Wayman (Worcestershire County Association of Local Councils) for his leadership and contribution as chair, and to welcome Mel Woof (Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Association of Local Councils), who was appointed as the new chair.
- Cllr Hamilton also attended the latest [Rural Coalition](#) meeting, which is one of our key national partnerships. The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs confirmed they were continuing to work with other government departments on rural matters and rural proofing. Iain stressed the importance of new mayoralities engaging with rural communities and parish and town councils, especially as they assumed the policing responsibilities of the Police and Crime Commissioners, which might lead to a refocusing of community safety resources away from rural areas.

Parliamentary and political engagement

- We have urged the Office for National Statistics to [improve access to parish-level census data](#) for small communities, warning that current thresholds risk leaving thousands of parish and town councils without the information they need to plan effectively.
- Peers in the [House of Lords raised strong concerns](#) about whether the government's English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill would genuinely pass power down to parish and town councils. The first day of the Grand Committee Stage in the House of Lords focused on Part 1 of the Bill, which establishes new strategic authorities. It prompted a series of amendments aimed at clarifying the Bill's intent and protecting the role of England's most local tier of government.

Resources

- [In this week's blog](#), our partners, Utility Aid, look at the growing energy challenges that parish and town councils face, from volatile prices to complex contracts and limited capacity.

- We issued our latest legal bulletin to county associations, which included updates on our HR templates, whether a council chair can override a request for voting to be recorded, if a committee can accept apologies and approve reasons for absence from a councillor who is not a member of the committee, can councils carrying out maintenance on land they do not own and changes to requesting legal advice.
- We [published our quarterly activity report](#), which covers October to December 2025. The quarterly activity report details progress in delivering our strategic plan and key highlights.

From across the sector

- Following our calls to the government, national and sector media have highlighted the impact of delayed principal authority elections on parish and town councils. [The Times](#) reported that, while parish and town elections will still go ahead, some councils may be forced to raise local taxes to cover the cost of running standalone elections, creating a significant and unexpected financial burden at a time of tight budgets. The [Local Government Lawyer](#) has also reported on these concerns, reinforcing warnings that dozens of councils could be financially affected.

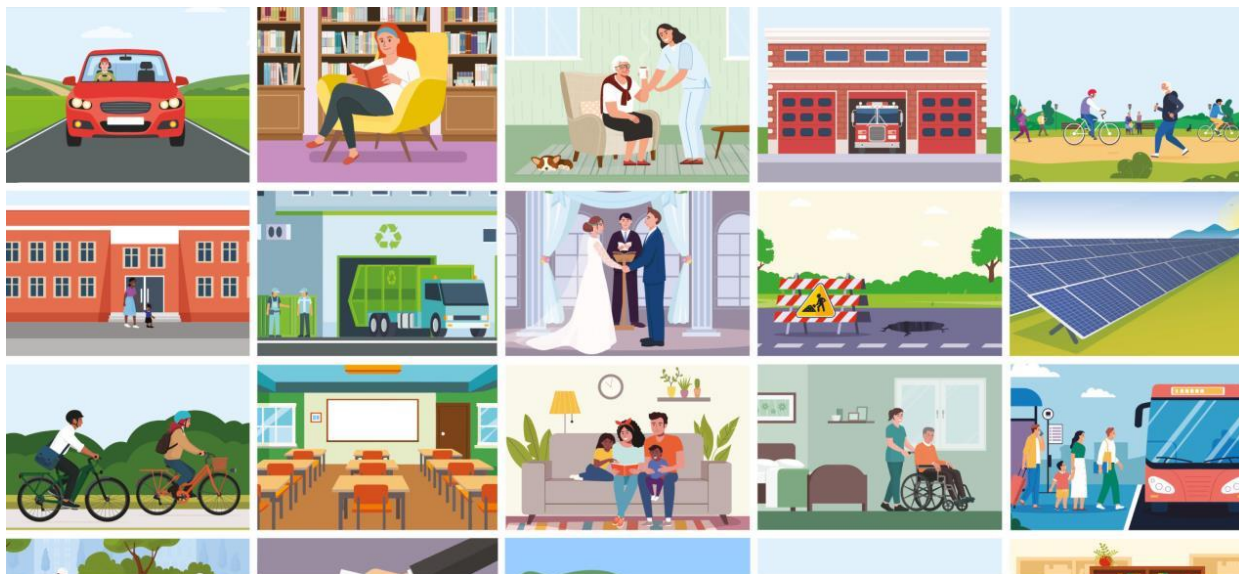
Email dated 28.01.2026 from WSCC

Next steps for West Sussex County Council budget set out following scrutiny committee meeting

NEWS RELEASE



Next steps for West Sussex County Council budget set out following scrutiny committee meeting



Budget 2026-2027 update

West Sussex County Council's proposed budget for the year ahead is expected to be endorsed by its Cabinet next week, before going to Full Council for final approval.

Proposals to address a previously reported budget gap of £16.3m and balance the budget were today (Wednesday 28 January) set out at the [Performance and Finance Scrutiny Committee](#).

The draft budget will now go to a meeting of the Cabinet on Tuesday 3 February before going to Full Council on Friday 20 February. Both meetings will be held in public at County Hall, Chichester, and can be viewed online via a [webcast](#).

Leader of West Sussex County Council, Councillor Paul Marshall, said: "The county council is continuing to face a significant financial challenge, with rising demands, escalating costs, and increasingly complicated needs - particularly in social care and special educational needs and disabilities.

"It's becoming increasingly difficult to balance the budget, and we know these challenges will continue in the years ahead.

"We've managed our finances sensibly and have thankfully been able to successfully balance the budget for the coming year. This is despite the added pressure of the government reducing our funding by £30m over the next 3 years and redistributing elsewhere in the country as part of its fairer funding settlement.

“It’s therefore more essential than ever that our limited resources are carefully aligned with the priorities in Our Council Plan to ensure we provide effective services which offer maximum value for our residents.”

The county council is expected to spend £2.3 billion on day-to-day services in 2026-27. This includes a net revenue increase of £34.7m compared to the previous year to meet increasing demand pressures and costs, particularly in social care and home to school transport.

Councillor Jeremy Hunt, Cabinet Member for Finance and Property, said: “As the pressures facing the county council outweigh the funding we receive, balancing the budget has been extremely challenging and has only been possible by introducing the government’s presumed 4.99% increase in council tax alongside budget reductions of £30.4m.

“Not increasing council tax by the full 4.99% would mean we would lose out on funding the government assumes is available to deal with pressures.

“Our proposed budget includes an additional £16.9m for service pressures and £26.8m for pay and price inflation as well as a proposed £142.3m of capital expenditure.”

The proposed 4.99% council tax increase is made up of 2% for Adults’ Social Care and 2.99% for other services.

With the Government’s proposed Local Government Reorganisation across Sussex, to establish new unitary councils by 2028, the county council is extending the current Council Plan until 2028, with an additional fifth priority added to reflect the importance of maximising benefits from devolution and local government reorganisation.

The five key priorities for 2026-27 are therefore:

- Keeping people safe in vulnerable situations;
- A sustainable and prosperous economy;
- Helping people and communities fulfil their potential;
- Making best use of resources;
- Maximising the benefits of devolution and local government reorganisation for residents and communities.

The five priorities are all underpinned by the cross-cutting theme of ‘protecting the environment’.

To support the delivery of the Council Plan the county council has launched several new transformation programmes, collectively known as Connected Council to further improve how the council operates, make services more efficient, and more responsive to the needs of residents. This work builds on past successes and existing strengths which are evidenced by recent very positive inspections of adults, children’s and Fire & Rescue services.

Cllr Hunt added: “While 2026-27 shows a balanced position, there remains a budget gap of £72.5m between 2026-27 and 2030-31 assuming a full 4.99% council tax increase in these years.

Local government reorganisation is expected to come into effect in April 2028 and will see efficiency savings through the local consolidation of services. However, we will need to continue to prudently manage and deliver balanced budgets until new local government structures are in place.

“We will continue lobbying with local, regional, and national partners to ensure the government understands the needs of West Sussex residents, businesses, and communities.”

Read more about the budget setting process at www.westsussex.gov.uk/budget

[Sign up to receive updates from the county council via email.](#)

Email dated 27.01.2026 from HDC

Your new food waste recycling collection service

Bin calendar updates



Horsham
District
Council



Your new food waste recycling collection service

From March to April 2026 we will be introducing a new weekly food waste recycling collection. You can now [view your collection dates online](#) and soon we will be delivering new containers to your home with instructions on how to use them.

Your refuse and recycling collections will continue as usual every other week: these new food waste collections are an additional service.

Find out more about the new service below and when to expect more information.

Your starter pack delivery

To enable you to recycle your food waste easily we will provide you with:

- A small caddy to collect food waste in the kitchen
- A roll of caddy liners to start you off
- A lockable outside food waste bin which we will empty weekly (pictured).
- If you live in a flat, a 140L bin will be delivered to your bin store to share with your neighbours. Visit our [Food waste collections in flats page](#) for more details about collections in flats.



We will be delivering starter packs from 5 February 2026.

Before your first food waste collection

Your new collection dates

Please check your online bin calendar to see when your food waste collection will start, and [download our free app](#) to receive personal notifications when your bin is due to be collected.

Collections are due to start from March - the exact date will depend on where in Horsham District you live. We will collect your food waste weekly on the same day as we collect your other waste and recycling.

Your refuse and recycling collections will continue as usual every other week; these new food waste collections are an additional service.

[Check your bin calendar](#)

How to use the new service

To use your weekly food waste collection service, all you will need to do is empty any food waste you have, such as plate scrapings, peelings and tea bags into the new small kitchen caddy. When your kitchen caddy is full, empty it into your new outside food waste recycling bin with the orange lid, ready for collection.

By recycling your food waste, you will help cut down the amount of waste that ends up in landfill or other disposal sites. More than 40% of the rubbish in an average Horsham District bin is food waste which, when collected separately, is taken to an anaerobic digestion facility where it is used to generate natural forms of energy such as biogas, an excellent alternative to fossil fuels, and a bio fertiliser which can be used in farming.

For more information and top tips on how to use your caddy, visit our website.

[Find out more about food waste collections](#)

Stay connected



Albery House, Springfield Road
Horsham,
West Sussex,
RH12 2GB



**Horsham
District
Council**

Email dated 26.01.2026 from WSCC

Formal proposals to close Twineham C of E School published



news release

Formal proposals to close Twineham C of E School published

Formal proposals on the closure of Twineham CofE Primary School in Haywards Heath have been published by West Sussex County Council.

A decline in the number of children enrolling is putting significant pressure on the school's ability to plan ahead and manage and secure finances.

This in turn is affecting the education outcomes for all pupils.

The county council has been working with the school on the proposals.

If these are approved, the school would close with effect from 31 August 2026, with a plan in place to sensitively manage the process and ensure everyone affected is supported through the transition.

Demand for places at the 105-capacity school has been declining, with fewer than 50 pupils on roll in the summer term 2025. This is now fewer than 20.

An initial public consultation was held in September and October 2025 giving pupils, parents and carers, staff, governors, the local community and other interested parties the chance to ensure their views were heard throughout the decision-making process.

We would like to thank everyone who took part for their valuable contributions.

A decision on the proposals will be made by West Sussex County Council's Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Learning and is expected later this year following the latest period of public consultation.

We appreciate how communities can be affected by proposals to close a local school and the council will continue to engage with staff and governors, neighbouring schools, councillors, district council colleagues, the local MP and other stakeholders as the work progresses.

Members of the public also have until 26 February 2026 to make further representations on the statutory proposals by letter or email.

Visit [Consultation on the proposal to close Twineham CE \(Voluntary Controlled\) Primary School | Your Voice West Sussex](#) for more information about the proposals and how to submit representations.

Email dated 26.01.2026 from HALC
HALC Date Change

I'm writing to advise that the date of the upcoming HALC meeting has changed to **Wednesday 25th February at 7pm on Zoom**.

WSALC apologises for any inconvenience caused and we hope to still see you there.

Please let us know if you will be able to attend the newly rescheduled meeting, and I will ensure you receive the agenda and link to join.

Kind regards, Susannah Finch, DALC Secretary

Email dated 23.01.2026 from Sussex Police
Protecting the safety of young people in Sussex





Two major national reports published in December provided the most comprehensive picture yet of child sexual abuse and exploitation (CSAE) recorded by police across England and Wales.

These new analyses bring into focus the worrying scale of CSAE and the growing threat children are facing online. The data reveals a 6% increase in CSAE crimes (in 2024), alongside a surge in online exploitation, which now accounts for 42% of all offences. 50% of CSAE offences are committed by children aged 10-17 years.

I was shocked to hear during one of my recent Performance and Accountability Meetings with Sussex Police chief officers, that children as young as 11 years old have been involved in 'non-contact offences' - relating to taking, making or distributing indecent images.

Here in Sussex, a project delivering specialist interventions on CSAE and online safety is pioneering a new approach to how agencies respond to young people suspected of offences involving child sexual abuse material.

Where previously a criminal justice approach would have been taken, I have partnered with two charities to deliver bespoke interventions that educate children about online dangers and ensure they have access to support.

Project SOLAH (Safer Online at Home), which is funded by my Office, is delivered by children's charity Barnardo's and YMCA DownsLink Group, across Sussex.

Through Project SOLAH, specially trained case workers conduct face-to-face interventions with the child. The content of these sessions varies based on engagement and complexity and may cover tools to help the child understand the risks that the online space can present, guidance on what content is illegal, the law and the consequences of breaking it.

The practitioners also support young people to manage peer pressure and help build their confidence to talk openly about their online activity.

Between April – December 2025, 63 children were referred to Project SOLAH by Sussex Police's Online Child Abuse Team (OCAT). OCAT subsequently monitor the cases that

have been referred to see if children come to notice again. So far, no repeat referrals have thankfully been made.

Feedback from the children and families who have been supported through Project SOLAH show that children are more aware and better equipped to deal with online issues and feel confident to raise concerns appropriately.

Project SOLAH is vital because it tackles harmful behaviours at the earliest possible stage, before they escalate into serious, prolific offending. By educating young people and supporting families, we are not only protecting children from exploitation but also breaking the cycle of harm. This proactive, partnership-led approach is exactly what Sussex needs to keep our communities safer online and in real life.

Sussex Youth Ambassadors lead conversations about the dangers of online grooming



In 2025, with funding support from my Office, 48 Youth Ambassadors were recruited by the Breck Foundation from 14 schools in Sussex. They received training to tell the story of Breck Bednar who, tragically, was killed in 2014 after being groomed online.

After completing their training the Youth Ambassadors delivered online safety awareness sessions in schools across the county.

In 2025, they reached almost 4,000 children and young people across Sussex, delivered 20 assemblies in local schools, engaged with 191 students at the Crawley Junior Citizen Event and delivered 6 awareness sessions at BHASVIC during their student conference season.

As well as raising vital awareness of online dangers, the Youth Ambassadors have learnt important skills such as public speaking - boosting their confidence and ability to convey important safety information to their peers.

I joined forces with the Breck Foundation to help protect future generations. The continued success of our Sussex Youth Ambassadors is not just a testament to their own passions - it is the direct result of the Breck Foundation team's unwavering commitment to empowering young voices. The Ambassadors have sparked a movement that has the power to shape the future of education. This is more than a programme - it's a catalyst for changing the school curricula to ensure every young person receives an education that truly prepares them for life.



Katy Bourne OBE
Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner

FRIDAY FORCE FOCUS

Man jailed for child abuse images and online exploitation of young women

A man from Worthing has been jailed for 2 years and 4 months after being convicted of possessing child abuse material and carrying out a sustained campaign of online deception and abuse against young women and teenage girls.

The court heard that he went to extreme lengths to deceive and exploit his victims, creating a fictitious online persona and posing as a teenage girl named 'Riley'.

Using this persona, he amassed a substantial following on social media platforms including TikTok and Instagram, as well as dating sites. To further the deception, he used a voice changing application to impersonate a young female voice, the audio then being used to communicate with his victims. The voice-changer videos were played in court and the judge described them as chilling.

The conviction constituted multiple offences under the Online Safety Act, including sending false communications with intent to cause harm and sharing intimate images without consent.

The offender pleaded guilty to all charges. As well as his jail sentence he was also given a Sexual Harm Prevention Order which will last 10 years. The court also ordered that all his devices be destroyed.

This is another unwelcome reminder of the dangers posed to children online.
You can find out more about how to stay safe online on the [Sussex Police website](#).



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