

Rudgwick Parish Council

Weekly Clerk's Update: 27th June – 3rd July 2026 (Agenda July 2026)

To: Parish Councillors

c.c: Colin Minto (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)
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Clerk's announcements/delegated decisions:

- VAT return for £3,266.21 being submitted to HMRC

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 13 th July 2026	
Application No: DISC/26/0203 25.06.2026	Response/Comments:
Applicant: Pennthorpe School, Church Street, Rudgwick	

Reason for Application: Application for Approval of Details Reserved by Condition 3 to approved application DC/25/0239.	
Official Response Date:	

Applications for consideration at Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting

Applications for consideration at Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 13 th July 2026	
Application No: DC/26/1005 22.06.2026	Response/Comments:
Applicant: Hatches, Lynwick Street, Rudgwick	
Reason for Application: Erection of a single storey barn/store (Lawful Development Certificate – Proposed)	
Official Response Date: Not available / Determine 17.08.2026	
Application No: DC/26/0582 01.07.2026	Response/Comments:
Applicant: 26 Furze Road, Rudgwick	
Reason for Application: Erection of a single storey rear extension	
Official Response Date: Not available / Determine 26.08.2026	

Decisions

HDC Council Decisions – Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 13 th July 2026	
Application No:	Response/Comments:
Applicant:	
Reason for Application:	

Official Response Date:	
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Applications going to Committee

Applications going to Committee – Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 13th July 2026	
Application No:	Response/Comments
Applicant:	
Reason for Application:	
Official Response Date:	

Appeals Lodged / Appeals Determined

New Appeals Lodged / Determined – Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 13 th July 2026	
Application No:	Response/Comments:
Applicant:	
Reason for Application:	
Official Response Date:	

New Planning Compliance Issues

New Planning Compliance Issues – Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 13 th 2026	
Application No:	Response/Comments:
Address:	
Nature of Complaint	
Official Response Date:	

Parish Councils Website
 Rudgwick Parish Council's New Website is now live!
<https://rudgwick-pc.gov.uk>

Correspondence

Email dated 03.07.2026 from WSCC

Councils and community help protect nesting swans in Arundel



NEWS RELEASE

Councils and community help protect nesting swans in Arundel



A West Sussex County Council Network Compliance Officer has played a key role in protecting a nesting pair of swans and their young near Arundel Castle, in a positive example of community spirit and partnership working.

While returning from a routine inspection, the officer noticed barriers blocking part of a public footpath and stopped to investigate. He discovered that a pair of swans, named William and Catherine, had built a nest on the verge beside the path and that a local resident was monitoring them to help keep them safe.

Although barriers had already been put in place to discourage pedestrians and dogs from approaching the nest, the officer noticed that drivers stopping by the verge to take photos were unsettling the birds. He contacted Arun District Council, who responded immediately by introducing a temporary parking suspension to the area.

Thanks to this swift and coordinated response, a safe environment was created for the swans during a crucial time. On the evening of 26 May 2026, the first egg hatched, and by the early hours of the following day, five healthy cygnets had arrived.

Councillor Erika Woodhurst-Trueeman, Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport, said: “This is a fantastic example of our officers going above and beyond in their day-to-day duties and of the positive difference that can be made when councils and communities work together.

“Protecting the natural environment is important to us and this heartwarming outcome demonstrates how even small actions can have a lasting impact on the wildlife and communities that make West Sussex such a special place.”

The officer said he felt privileged to have played a role in protecting the swans and supporting the local effort.

The young swans are now beginning their journey as part of the local wetland landscape, adding to the natural beauty that makes the Arundel area so distinctive and highlighting the shared commitment of councils and residents to protect it.

Email dated 02.07.2026 from HDC

Latest News

Latest News



**Horsham
District
Council**



Council to consult on main modifications for its Local Plan 2023-2040



The next stage towards the adoption of a new Local Plan which will get Horsham District back to plan-led development will take place on 6 July when the Horsham District Council Cabinet will meet to recommend main modifications to the draft Horsham District 2023-2040 Local Plan.

Cabinet papers outlining the proposed modifications will be published tomorrow, 26 June, in advance of the Cabinet meeting. Approved recommendations will then go out to a public consultation that will start on 13 July and run for six weeks until 24 August.

[Read more online](#)

Have your say on new-style Local Plan this summer



Horsham District Council is formally starting work on a new-style Local Plan for the District in line with the government's new national plan-making requirements and would like to hear your feedback.

The new-style Local Plan will be called Horsham District 2045. The government introduced significant reforms to the national planning system which came into force in March 2026 with the aim of simplifying and speeding up future plan preparation.

This new planning system dictates that Horsham District Council - along with some 38 other local authorities in England - is required to start work on a new-style plan immediately.

It should be noted that the commencement of the preparation of the new-style Horsham District 2045 Local Plan will be happening at the same time as the Council's consultation on main modifications to its Horsham District 2023-2040 Local Plan that is still undergoing examination by the Planning Inspector.

[Read more online](#)

Council action leads to successful court conviction for unlawful woodland clearance

Horsham District Council has welcomed the successful conviction of a developer who unlawfully destroyed trees within a woodland habitat supporting protected species, on land adjacent to Cowfold Road in West Grinstead.

In March 2022, the Council's Planning Enforcement team was alerted to unauthorised tree felling at the site, which was at that time subject to a live planning application proposing a change of use to a holiday park.

Horsham District Council remains committed to protecting the District's natural environment and working in partnership with enforcement bodies to ensure that breaches of environmental legislation are addressed

[Read more online](#)

Top young talent recognised at Horsham Young Traders' Market competition



Horsham town centre's West Street welcomed a vibrant mix of talented young entrepreneurs on Sunday 28 June, who were competing in the local heat of this year's Young Traders Market.

Part of a national competition run by the National Market Traders Federation (NMTF), the event brought together seven talented young traders vying for a place in the Southeast Regional Final in Greenwich, London on Saturday 18 July 2026.

There was a buzzing trading atmosphere accompanied by live music, as residents, visitors and shoppers flocked to the town to show their support for the young fledgling traders, all under the age of 30, showcasing their unique products and ideas. Horsham's competition winner for 2026 was Daniel Scott from Silver Hollow who impressed judges with his custom-made silver jewellery and unique selection of gift products.

[Read more online](#)

Civic Service held in Horsham



Horsham District Council Chair Cllr Joanne Knowles and Reverend Canon Lisa Barnett, Team Rector of Horsham Parish welcomed people to join them as they led the 2026 Civic Service at St Mary's Church, Horsham on Sunday 28 June. The service marked the rededication of the work of Horsham District Council, its Members and Officers, to the service of the local community.

Photographed outside St Mary's Church were: Cllr Chris Franke, Chair of Horsham Town Council, Jane Eaton, Chief Executive of Horsham District Council, John Barclay, Vice Lord-Lieutenant of West Sussex, Reverend Canon Lisa Barnett, Cllr Donna Johnson, Chair of West Sussex County Council, Cllr Joanne Knowles, Chair of Horsham District Council and John Milne MP.

Council to train local businesses on health and safety

Horsham District Council is uniquely placed to provide trusted and authoritative advice on work-place health and safety.

As a result of significant demand, in order to help improve standards within your business, the Council is offering a Level 2 Health and Safety Training Course on Thursday 20 August at its Horsham offices.

[Read more online](#)

Local food outlets warned about unsafe chicken ingredients

Working with information supplied by the Food Standards Agency, Horsham District Council is warning local takeaways, restaurants and cafes of frozen diced chicken products originating from Brazil which is believed to be contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes*.

[Read more online](#)

Local artist creates new mural for Warnham Local Nature Reserve



Horsham District Council is delighted to reveal a new bright and colourful mural to enhance the Attree Hide, which is part of the Discovery Hub, at Warnham Local Nature Reserve.

The mural was created by local artist Lauren Carr who is a Sussex-based scenic artist and prop maker who specialises in mural painting, set building and theatrical fabrication. She has in the past done work for The Capitol theatre.

[Read more online](#)

Stay connected



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



**Horsham
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Email dated 02.07.2026 from NALC
Chief Executives Bulletin

Announcement

We're excited to share that nominations are officially open for our Star Council Awards 2026/27, the only national awards celebrating the incredible contributions of England's parish and town councils. There are six categories, recognising everything from outstanding councillors and clerks to roof-raising parish and town councils and county associations, as well as climate action. It is your opportunity to spotlight the people and initiatives transforming local communities. Do you want to be recognised or know someone who should? You can [find out how to submit your entry](#) by 25 September 2025 on our website.

Campaigns

- As part of the [Civility and Respect Working Group](#), we have [launched a new video](#) featuring real-life examples highlighting how parish and town councils are benefiting from signing up to the [Civility and Respect Pledge](#).

Events

- Local government minister Baroness Taylor of Stevenage outlined the government's vision for devolution and community empowerment, highlighted new opportunities for the sector through neighbourhood governance, community power and local decision-making, reaffirming that parish and town councils will help shape the future of local government. You can [read more about her keynote speech](#) on our website.

- The clear message coming out of our [Annual Conference](#) last week was that parish and town councils have a central role to play in the future of local government. The conference brought together sector leaders, government representatives and councils from across England, exploring devolution, planning reform, climate action and governance, with practical examples of how parish and town councils are already delivering for their communities. You can [read more about the conference](#) on our website.

Meetings

- Our [National Assembly met this week to consider the latest findings from Project Keystone](#), our strategic review of sector support. With almost 1,200 survey responses received, members heard that funding pressures, increasing responsibilities, and building skills and capacity are the biggest challenges facing parish and town councils over the next decade. The assembly also approved a recommendation that 2027/28 affiliation fees should increase in line with inflation, with the final figure to be confirmed ahead of the Annual General Meeting.
- In this week's meeting with county associations, we gave updates on the launch of our [Star Council Awards](#), the upcoming 21st Century Councillor and Clerk report, which we'll launch next week at the Local Government Association Annual Conference, the new [Civility and Respect Pledge video](#), and the forthcoming data survey by the [Improvement and Development Board](#). We also discussed the Employee Assistance Programme, the Certificate in Local Council Administration qualification and our recent [Annual Conference](#).
- The Security Industry Authority joined the sector's Martyn's Law Steering Group this week to give an overview of its role as the Martyn's Law regulator and confirmed next steps after the closure of its Section 12 guidance consultation. The group agreed the next steps in developing sector-specific resources following the recent publication of the Home Office Section 27 guidance. The resource will contain two templates (risk assessment and terrorism policy) as well as an online tree diagram tool, which will explain the route a parish or town council should take to confirm if it has premises or an event potentially in scope of the Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025 compliance.
- We met Level 5 Community Governance students and their tutor, Elisabeth Skinner MBE, this week to answer their dissertations and research questions on several subjects, from how our lobbying influences policymakers and improving standards in the sector to how we engage with parliamentary scrutiny and how different sizes of parish and town council engage with principal authorities. Good luck to all the students!

Resources

- [In this week's blog](#), we mark Disability Pride Month and highlight how parish and town councils can use this month (and beyond) to advocate for residents with disabilities and help create inclusive environments for all.

Email dated 30.07.2026 from HDC

Your Climate Action newsletter from Horsham District Council - July 2026



July 2026

In these newsletters we share with you how Horsham District Council and our partners and communities across the District are working to reduce carbon emissions, enhance habitats and support biodiversity and the local environment.

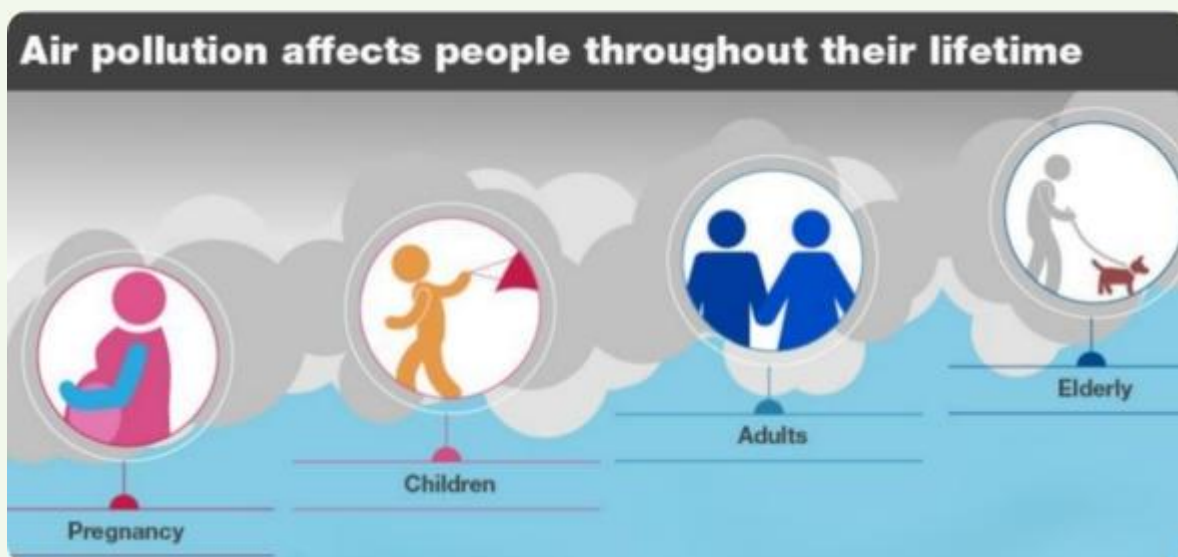
Look out for updates on Council and community initiatives and events, national campaigns, plus suggestions on how you too can make a difference. If you have any comments or suggestions please [email emailcommunications@horsham.gov.uk](mailto:emailcommunications@horsham.gov.uk)

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- Upcoming nature and wellness events at Warnham Local Nature Reserve
- Stay up to date with our Recycling and Waste App



Horsham District Air Quality Action Plan consultation



Please share your thoughts on how we can work to improve air quality across the Horsham District. We want to develop any future plans in partnership with our communities, so do please take the time to complete our survey - your feedback will directly help to shape our actions.

Our draft Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) 2026 outlines the proposed action we will take to improve air quality in Horsham District between 2025-2030, building on progress made under the previous plan. We want to know what issues matter the most to you, where the Council should focus its efforts, and how we can continue improving air quality.

The plan is particularly important for Storrington, which is the only Air Quality Management Area in the District, designated due to previous exceedances of the UK annual nitrogen dioxide objective.

Following this consultation, the Council will review all feedback and produce a revised Air Quality Action Plan which will be valid for up to 5 years.

The consultation closes 20 July 2026.

Share your views on our draft AQAP

Community Energy Fortnight: 1–14 July 2026



Community Energy Fortnight takes place nationally from 1–14 July 2026 in a campaign aimed at highlighting community-led climate action. Read on to see how we have been supporting one local community energy initiative:

Late last year Henfield was chosen to pilot an exciting new Parish Energy Plan (PEP), a hyper-local initiative designed to help communities cut carbon, save money, and embrace cleaner technologies. **This project**, funded by Horsham District Council, has been delivered by Community Energy Pathways (CEP) in partnership with Henfield Parish Council.

Community Energy Pathways is a multi-award-winning social enterprise that is enabling communities throughout the UK to play a leading role in the transition to net zero.

The trial has now concluded with a report currently with Henfield Parish Council. This trial is part of a wider ambition that, if successful, will support similar plans to be rolled out across other parishes, feeding into Local Area Energy Plans (LAEPs) for Sussex.

For individual homeowners, The **Warmer Homes Programme** offers eligible low-income households fully funded upgrades like insulation, air source heat pumps, and solar PV panels to help make their homes warm, safe and with lower energy costs. Check your eligibility via West Sussex Energy.

West Sussex Affordable Energy

Have your say on Active Travel plans in Horsham



West Sussex County Council in conjunction with Horsham District Council is asking for feedback on a Walking, Wheeling and Cycling Improvement plan around Compton's Lane and The Forest Secondary School in Horsham.

These proposals are focused on improving safety along Comptons Lane to the east of Horsham town centre. The proposals will help people travelling on foot or by bike to more easily navigate the area, particularly the high volume of students travelling to and from the school.

By encouraging more walking, wheeling and cycling we can help to reduce congestion on the region's already busy road network. It will also help to improve air quality and create safer, more pleasant places in which to live, work and do business.

The survey is open until Tuesday 4 August 2026

Drop in event

The Forest School, Comptons Lane, Horsham. RH13 5NT

Wednesday, 8 July, 4-7pm

You are also invited to a drop-in event in the main hall of Forest School. Meet the project team, see plans and ask any questions you may have regarding the scheme.

Image: Artist's impression

[Complete the Active Travel survey](#)

Apply for your community tree planting grant now



Grants to support the establishment of trees, orchards and hedgerows on streets, in parks, and in community and educational spaces are now available from the Tree Council, with funding opportunities for communities across the United Kingdom.

Take a look at their Branching Out Fund for small grants (£250 - £2500), or the Network Rail and SP Energy Networks Community Tree Planting Funds for grants over £2,500.

[Community Tree Planting grants](#)

Upcoming nature and wellness events at Warnham Local Nature Reserve



From expert-led talks and guided tours, to children's activities and trails, there are events to suit all ages and interests at Warnham Local Nature Reserve this summer.

We invite you to relax, reconnect, and explore with a range of inspiring nature-based and wellbeing sessions, all set against the beautiful backdrop of the lake.

If you are looking to find out more about bird watching you can join a Birding for Beginners walk to learn how to identify local species. A Seasonal Guided Walk is also available, showcasing the Reserve's summer wildlife and flora.

For those looking to relax, you can unwind at the Reserve with an evening class of Yoga, indulge in the deeply restorative experience of ecoNidra Yoga to nurture your relationship with the natural world, or immerse yourself in a soothing Sound Bath to relax your body and mind.

These events are run in conjunction with the Friends of Warnham Local Nature Reserve. Spaces are limited and advance booking is essential.

Events at Warnham Local Nature Reserve

Stay up to date with our Recycling and Waste app

Access Council services whilst on the move!



Did you know that you can get important information about Council services wherever you are and whenever you need it with our recycling and waste app?

The app enables you to check when your next recycling and waste collection day is, search for what can and can't be recycled, find your nearest recycling site and more.

You can also set a notification on the app to alert you at 4pm the night before your bin collection day to make sure you always put the right bin out, and we will notify you if there are any changes to your collection day and time.

[Download our Mobile App](#)

Useful Links

[Read how we are tackling climate change](#)

[Get involved in climate action](#)

Find out about our [Community Climate Fund](#)

[Explore our Wilder Horsham District programme](#)

[Read our latest climate action blog posts](#)

[Visit the West Sussex Climate Action Hub](#)

Stay connected



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**Horsham
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Email dated 30.06.2026 from HDC
Horsham District Local Plan 2045



**Horsham
District
Council**

**Horsham
District
2045**



**Horsham
District
Council**



Horsham District 2045: Scoping Consultation

Dear Recipient,

On 25 June 2026, the Council published a Notice of Intention to commence work on a new local plan, entitled 'Horsham District 2045'. In accordance with the 2026 plan-making system (Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2026) the Council has commenced a Scoping Consultation.

This consultation is the first stage in the process, and we need your views about how you would like to be involved in its preparation going forward, and what the new plan should contain.

Have your say

The consultation will run for a period of four working weeks, starting at 9am on 30 June 2026 and **ending at 5pm on 28 July 2026**.

You are invited to make representations during this period.

Hard copies of the Scoping Consultation Questionnaire are also available during normal opening hours at:

Horsham District Council Offices, Albery House, Springfield Road, Horsham, RH12 2GB (Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm).

Please note

The Horsham District 2045 plan is separate to the Horsham District Local Plan 2023-2040 (HDLP) Examination which re-commenced hearings on 21 April 2026.

For any queries please contact a member of the Strategic Planning Team at horshamdistrict2045@horsham.gov.uk or on 01403 215398.

[View the consultation and submit your response](#)

Stay connected



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



**Horsham
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Email dated 29.06.2026 from West Sussex Carers Support
Your June Update from Carers Support West Sussex



Carers Support West Sussex
for family and friend carers

**Impact Report
2025 -2026**



Embedded in West Sussex:

**A Year of Impact
for Carers**

Working together to support unpaid carers: our Impact Report

Hello and welcome to the June edition of our carer newsletter.

We were delighted to deliver more than 30 events during Carers Week, engaging carers across West Sussex through a mix of in-person and online activities. One of the highlights was our new Getting Ready for Winter in the Summer event, an externally funded marketplace event that brought together a wide range of partner organisations to provide carers with access to information, advice and support in one place.

Topics covered included energy costs, financial support, keeping homes warm, wellbeing, dementia, mental health, hospital services and more, demonstrating the value of partnership working in addressing the diverse needs of unpaid carers.

As Gillian, from Good Life Sorted commented:

"A really great opportunity to learn about other groups and organisations in the community supporting carers. It was also great to meet members of the Carers Support West Sussex team face-to-face. Thank you."

Beyond Carers Week: Building carer-friendly communities across West Sussex

As Carers Week comes to a close, we're reflecting on this year's theme of building carer-friendly communities. Looking back, we realised this commitment extends far beyond the 30 events we delivered during the week itself, which reached more than 400 carers across the county.

During Carers Week, we launched our Impact Report 2025–26, highlighting the difference our services have made to carers across West Sussex over the past year and the progress we've made in strengthening support within local communities throughout the year.

Read our blog on building carer-friendly communities [here](#), and explore the Impact Report here: www.carerssupport.org.uk/impact-report/

You can explore the full range of support available to carers here.

<https://www.carerssupport.org.uk/our-services/>

Supporting carers early makes a difference

Many carers don't recognise themselves as carers until they're already under significant pressure. A simple referral can help identify them earlier, reduce risk, and ensure they are better supported alongside the person they care for.

You can refer quickly via our website [refer a carer](#)

Alcohol Awareness Week: 6–12 July

Alcohol Awareness Week provides an opportunity to raise awareness of the impact alcohol can have on individuals and families, including those in caring roles.

For professionals supporting unpaid carers, this may be a helpful time to consider how alcohol-related difficulties can affect caring situations, and to ensure carers are aware of available sources of information and support.

Further information and resources can be found here: [Alcohol Change](#)

It is also important to recognise the impact this can have on carer wellbeing. Encouraging carers to access appropriate support, take breaks where possible, and stay connected with support networks can make a meaningful difference.

Carers Support West Sussex also offers information, advice and dedicated carer support groups, providing opportunities for carers to connect with others in similar situations.

Find out more here: [Alcohol and Drugs Support](#)

Thank you in advance for your time and support.

Kind regards, Caroline Pope, CEO

Email dated 26.06.2026 from Sussex Police

Honouring the dedication and sacrifices of our Armed Forces



**Sussex
Police & Crime
Commissioner**

KATY BOURNE OBE





Tomorrow is Armed Forces Day - a time to show public support, gratitude and appreciation for the entire UK military community.

Our armed forces personnel and veterans make enormous sacrifices and it is only right that we recognise and support them on this day and after their service ends.

I have always been incredibly proud of the strength, resilience and sense of duty that runs through the Armed Forces community here in Sussex. That pride is not just professional; it is deeply personal. My husband served during the Falklands conflict and continues to serve today as an Army Reservist so I have seen first-hand the demands and challenges that service life brings, not only for those in uniform but for their families too.

Over the years, as Police and Crime Commissioner, I have invested in a wide range of local projects that make a real difference to our Armed Forces community – from grassroots organisations providing wellbeing and mental health support for veterans, to community hubs tackling isolation among ex-service personnel and initiatives helping families make the transition to civilian life.

I have also supported initiatives that create welcoming spaces for veterans to share experiences and access help, alongside youth programmes that build awareness of Armed Forces values and community-led schemes that help former service personnel find purpose through volunteering, skills and employment.

Sussex has a strong Armed Forces network and I believe it is our collective responsibility to stand behind those who have stood up for us. I hope you will join me in doing so.

Celebrating our Youth Ambassadors – and looking ahead

It was a real pleasure to join some of my new Youth Ambassadors at Seaford Head School this week, as we look ahead to our celebratory event on 30th June, which will recognise the achievements of our first cohort of Youth Ambassadors and officially welcome our second.

I am incredibly proud of what this programme has already built in Sussex thanks to the dedication of the Breck Foundation and particularly Project Coordinator Giselle Wild.

In just one year, our Youth Ambassadors have made a remarkable impact. We have recruited 88 Ambassadors across the county, reaching over 6,500 young people to date, through assemblies and awareness sessions focused on online safety. They have represented Sussex at major events and even developed new lesson plans now being embedded into school curricula - helping to reshape how we approach safeguarding in education.

What has been most inspiring, however, is the confidence and leadership these young people have developed. They are not only learning vital skills themselves but are also standing up for their peers and helping to create safer communities.

To our first cohort: you should feel incredibly proud. You have set a powerful example for others to follow. To our new Ambassadors: welcome and I hope you feel inspired to begin your own journey in September and build on this fantastic legacy.

At the heart of the programme is the memory of Breck - a young man whose story continues to educate and protect others. Through the work of our ambassadors, Breck's legacy lives on in the most meaningful way. You can find out more about the Breck Foundation on their [website](#).

My thanks go to every young person involved. Your commitment and determination are making a real difference across Sussex. I look forward to celebrating with all my Youth Ambassadors, current and new, next week.



Katy Bourne OBE
Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner

FRIDAY FOCUS

No Favourites, No Fear

Last week, in my monthly performance and accountability meeting with Sussex Police chief officers, I raised a concern I know many residents share - whether policing is always applied fairly and consistently?

I asked directly about claims of "two-tier policing" - a phrase that has gained traction amid recent unrest across the country. When people feel justice may not be applied

evenly, trust in policing can suffer. It's my role as Police and Crime Commissioner to challenge this on your behalf.

The question was timely. Sussex Police had just overseen a major public order operation in Brighton, where thousands attended rival protests on 13 June. A "Stop the Boats" demonstration drew several hundred people, while a much larger, counter-protest attracted several thousand. It was a complex, dynamic and potentially volatile situation.

Deputy Chief Constable Court rejected the idea of "two-tier" policing in Sussex, pointing to the Brighton response as an example of balance. Officers managed between 3,000 to 4,000 people, made eight arrests and, thankfully, prevented any major incidents - no small achievement.

He emphasised that policing protests requires difficult, balanced decision-making, guided by clear principles - human rights, impartiality and fairness.

Asking the question was essential. Public confidence relies on transparency and accountability. My role is to test assurances, not simply accept them - and to ensure your concerns are heard.

Sussex Police recognises the scrutiny it faces and the need to demonstrate fairness and impartiality in practice. I will continue to press on this, including examining how national work, like the Race Action Plan, is applied locally.

In a time of rising tensions and more frequent protests, it's vital that policing is - and is seen to be - fair, proportionate and impartial. While I welcome the reassurances given, I will keep asking the tough questions and continue scrutinising. There must be no favourites, no shortcuts - and absolutely no double standards. Everyone is equal.



SHARE WITH A FRIEND

Highways, Transport and Planning



Salt bins reminder

You can now submit your salt bin refill requests in readiness for the 2026/27 winter season. If you need any help setting up or using your single sign on, please contact the parish council email address for support - parish-town.enquiries@westsussex.gov.uk

Salt bins are refilled ahead of the winter season to support local resilience, and all community requests will be reviewed once the window closes on 15 July 2026.

*****Please note we cannot accept requests after this date *****

Community highway schemes – how to apply

Have an idea to improve a road, crossing, or local area? You can apply for a community highway scheme (CHS) through West Sussex County Council.

These schemes allow communities to put forward small-scale highway improvements such as traffic calming, speed limit changes, crossings, and accessibility upgrades to make areas safer and easier to use.

Important deadline

To be considered for the 2027–2028 programme, you must apply by: 31 July 2026
Applications received after this date will be considered in the following year's programme.

Key things to know:

- Applications can be submitted at any time, but are only assessed once a year, [following the application cut-off date](#)
- You'll need to obtain the support of your local county councillor before submitting

- Schemes are assessed against set criteria, including safety, deliverability, and community support
- Only a limited number of schemes are taken forward each year, so early preparation is important

[Apply and find out more](#)

HVO fuel - A low-carbon commitment



VolkerHighways and West Sussex Highways Team operates a fully sustainable fleet as part of its commitment to reducing its environmental impact and supporting the transition to a low-carbon future. The contract's fleet primarily runs on Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) fuel, alongside an increasing number of fully electric vehicles to significantly cut emissions across our operations.

HVO plays a key role in the council's and VolkerHighways' carbon reduction strategies, offering up to a 90% reduction in fuel-related greenhouse gas emissions compared to conventional diesel. By adopting this alternative fuel, operational performance is maintained while making meaningful progress towards net zero targets.

All vehicles operating from West Sussex highways depots are compatible with HVO, allowing for a seamless switch without compromising reliability or efficiency. This includes its full fleet of 19 winter service vehicles, ensuring that even critical operations such as gritting and snow clearance are delivered sustainably.

Making the switch to LED

Streetlights are the third biggest contributor to the county council's energy use and carbon emissions. That's why, over the next four years, we're replacing all 65,249 of West Sussex County Council (WSCC) owned streetlights that are not already LED. This will significantly reduce their energy consumption and lengthen their lifespan, saving both money and carbon.

We've replaced over 2,200 lanterns, mostly in the South Downs National Park, to target light more effectively where it's needed and reduce light pollution to help deliver the [Dark Sky Policy Plan](#).

In March 2026 the project to cover the rest of the county began. We have now installed a total of 4,925 replacements, 6.43% of the overall project.

A central management system (CMS) will also be installed to control the lanterns remotely, reducing maintenance time and costs.



Major path improvements open up West Sussex's great outdoors



Residents across West Sussex are enjoying the county's coast and countryside like never before, thanks to major upgrades to public paths that are making them safer, more accessible and more enjoyable to explore.

The improvements, delivered over the last financial year, covered more than 4,000km of footpaths, bridleways, boardwalks and byways and include:

- More than 1,200 new or upgraded signs to help people explore with confidence

- 230km of paths cleared to keep routes open and accessible
- 20 tonnes of new surfacing laid to improve path quality
- 100 metres of boardwalk installed in wetter areas
- Around 200 bridges repaired or replaced

[Read more](#)

Ash dieback survey notification



Ash dieback is a serious disease affecting ash trees across the UK, which can cause structural weakness and increase the risk of falling branches or tree failure.

[Learn more about Ash dieback on our website](#)

Summer surveys are now underway on remaining A and B roads to identify affected trees, assess risks to public safety, and plan future maintenance. WSCC is raising works for trees we are responsible for, while private landowners are notified if their trees pose a risk to the highway.

All landowners in West Sussex should check their boundaries for ash trees with reduced canopy cover and arrange an inspection by a qualified professional over the next 2–3 months while leaves are present

Find an approved contractor

Any recommended works should be carried out in winter unless advised otherwise. Check for tree preservation orders, conservation areas, or felling licence requirements.

Other useful links:

Guidance for homeowners and those with ash trees on their land - <https://treecouncil.org.uk/science-and-research/ash-dieback/public-guidance/>

Tree Health Pilot Scheme - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tree-health-pilot-scheme-2024/grants-for-ash-with-ash-dieback>

Remember

If you are a landowner, check your boundaries and check your trees. You are responsible for trees on your land, ensuring they do not pose a danger to the public. If in doubt, seek the advice of a qualified professional.

Zebra crossing installed as countywide improvements progress

A new zebra crossing was recently installed outside Worthing High School on St Lawrence Avenue, Worthing. The new crossing forms part of a programme of countywide improvements funded by Active Travel England.

The scheme provides a significant upgrade to pedestrian safety, creating a safer and more welcoming route for pupils, families, and the wider community.

You can give us your views on the new zebra crossing by [completing our short feedback survey](#).

You can find out more about our active travel projects [on our website](#)



Reported Killed and Seriously Injured (KSI) casualty data

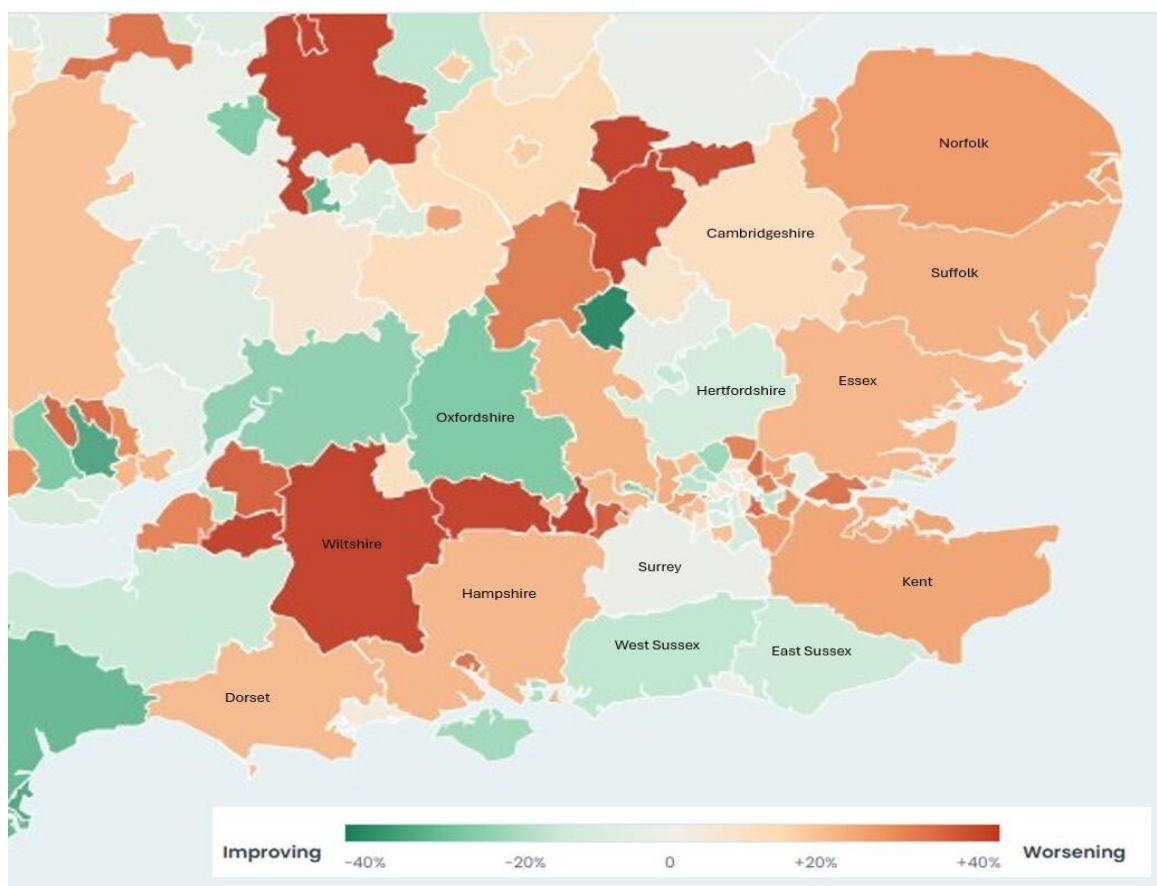
Following the Department for Transport's publication of provisional STATS 19 injury collision data for 2025, road safety company [Agilysis](#) has produced a map illustrating how the latest Killed and Seriously Injured (KSI) casualty figures compare with each 2022–2024 Local Highway Authority average.

Whilst KSIs nationally rose by 4%, West Sussex bucked this trend with a 9% reduction in 2025, placing us in the top 25% of local authorities for KSI reduction in the UK.

STATS 19 refers to injury collisions reported to the police within 30 days, occurring on the adopted highway and involving one or more vehicles.

Reported Killed and Seriously Injured (KSI) Casualty Data:

Comparison of 2025 Outcomes with 2022–2024 Local Highway Authority Averages



How to report abandoned vehicles and parking issues

District and borough councils are responsible for dealing with abandoned vehicles and parking enforcement (where civil parking enforcement is in place).

This means they handle:

- Investigations into abandoned vehicles
- Removal and disposal of vehicles where appropriate
- Parking enforcement, including issuing Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs)

How to Report an Abandoned Vehicle

You should report abandoned vehicles directly to your local district or borough council.

When reporting, please include:

- Vehicle make, model, colour and registration (if known)
- Exact location
- How long it has been there
- Photos (if safe to take them)

This helps officers assess and act as quickly as possible.

How to Report Parking Issues

Parking concerns should also be reported to [your district or borough council](#), usually via their website or contact centre.

If a vehicle is causing an immediate danger or obstruction, it should be reported to the police.

Highway improvement works

Carriageway and footway works

We are undertaking surface treatments across the county, with the projects below representing some of the key works scheduled for the coming weeks.

Work	Where	Location	Est Start	Est Finish
Carriageway Resurfacing	A259 Worms Lane	Felpham	26 June 2026	04 July 2026
Carriageway Ironwork Adjustment	Connaught Avenue	Shoreham	29 June 2026	03 July 2026
Carriageway Surface Dressing	Peppering Lane	Burpham	30 June 2026	06 July 2026
Carriageway Ironwork Adjustment	Lodge Lane	Hassocks	30 June 2026	03 July 2026
Carriageway Surface Dressing	The Splash	Burpham	01 July 2026	07 July 2026
Carriageway Surface Dressing	Clay Lane	Lyminster & Crossbush	02 July 2026	08 July 2026
Carriageway Surface Dressing	Burpham Road	Burpham	02 July 2026	08 July 2026
Carriageway Surface Dressing	Blakehurst Lane	Warningcamp	03 July 2026	09 July 2026
Carriageway Stud Replacement	Harbolets Road	West Chiltington	04 July 2026	09 July 2026
Carriageway Microasphalt	Hudson Close & Drummond Road	Worthing	06 July 2026	10 July 2026
Carriageway Microasphalt	Longlands Spinney	Worthing	07 July 2026	13 July 2026

ou can read more about what happens during each of the road and footway surface treatments here - [Maintaining roads, verges and pavements - West Sussex County Council](#)

Further information on each of the works can also be found via [one.network](#)

Pedestrian crossing refurbishments

Worthing Road, Horsham - May 2026

We have upgraded the pedestrian crossing on Worthing Road in Horsham to make it safer and easier to use.

The new crossing includes modern sensors that help the lights change at the right time. Tactile cones and audible beepers have also been added to support people who are visually impaired.

New LED lights are being installed too. These are brighter for drivers, use less energy and last longer, helping the Council reduce carbon emissions.

The footpath around the crossing has also been resurfaced, creating a smoother and safer area for everyone.

These improvements mean a safer, more reliable and more environmentally friendly crossing for the whole community.



Grinstead Lane – 22 June to 17 July

As part of our continuing efforts to improve the highway, works are also being undertaken to fully refurbish the existing puffin crossing at Grinstead Lane, Lancing. As part of these works, the site will be brought up to the latest standards.

The scheme started on 22 June and will run through till 17 July. There is a temporary crossing in place during the works, and appropriate traffic management will remain in place until the works are complete. Multi way traffic lights will be in place as needed for some of the duration; traffic management will be reduced as the works progress and if conditions allow.

You can view further details at: <https://one.network/?GB148388802>

Utility projects update

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



Gas works

Chichester Road, Bersted, Bognor Regis

The existing gas pipes in this area were originally installed in the 1940s and are now deteriorating rapidly. These essential upgrades are being carried out to ensure long-term safety, maintain a reliable gas supply to the community, and prevent further leaks.

Phase 2	Dates & Duration	Work Location	Access Arrangements
Phase 2a	From 22 June 2026 for approximately 2 weeks	Chichester Road: The Boulevard to Newbarn Lane	The Boulevard junction closed; vehicle access via Elbridge Avenue
Phase 2b	From 6 July 2026 for approximately 2 weeks	Chichester Road: Newbarn Lane to Bucksham Avenue	Newbarn Lane open from east side; Bucksham Avenue open from west side; Lethaby Road closed
Phase 2c	From 20 July 2026 for approximately 2 weeks	Chichester Road: Bucksham Avenue to Brazwick Avenue	Bucksham Avenue open from east side; Brazwick Avenue open from west side; Lethaby Road closed
Phase 2d	From 3 August 2026 for approximately 2 weeks	Chichester Road: Brazwick Avenue to Loats Lane	Access to Brazwick Avenue, petrol station, and ASDA still being planned; updates to follow; Lethaby Road closed



Phase three: from 24 August to 25 September 2026

Road closure on Chichester Road from the junction of Fairlands to North Bersted Street.

Businesses will be open as usual and pedestrian access will be maintained at all times.

Market Avenue and Basin Road, Chichester

Following several gas leaks linked to the condition of the ageing gas main on Market Avenue and Basin Road, SGN undertook trial holes in late April to assess the requirements for a full mains replacement. This work is urgently required to ensure a safe and reliable gas supply to the community and to prevent further leaks.

WS Highways arranged for SGN works to be undertaken early to avoid delaying road resurfacing and to prevent the new road from being dug up again. At the same time, Southern Water will carry out sewer lining works on Canal Wharf during the road closure. Please see the work programme below:

Location	Phase	Dates & Duration	Works	Access Arrangements
Market Avenue, Chichester	Phase 1 (Completed)	From 15 June 2026 for approximately 10 days	Lane closure on Market Avenue	24 hr Lane Closure on Market Avenue.
	Phase 2	From 29 June 2026 for approximately 3 weeks	Eastbound closure on Market Avenue	No eastbound vehicle access; signed diversion route in place
Basin Road, Chichester	Phase 3	From 13 August 2026 for approximately 8 weeks total	Road closure from Canal Wharf to Railway Crossing	Full closure of this section
	Phase 4	After Phase 3 completion	Lane closures on Basin Road (Railway Crossing to Market Avenue)	Road reopened with lane closure on the one-way section of Basin Road between Market Avenue and the railway crossing. Pedestrian access maintained at all times

These works will have impact on bus timetables. Please check your local bus service provider for routes and timetable.

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](#).

Electrical upgrades

Manor Royal, Crawley

UKPN will be installing a new underground cable within the public highway at Manor Royal, Crawley. Please see the work programme below:

- 11 to 22 May, Manor Royal (completed)
- 1 June to 17 June, London Road/Junction of Martyrs Avenue (completed)

- 10 August to 3 September, Martyrs Avenue, Junction with Garage Access Road: A full Road closure on Martyrs Avenue will be required from 10 to 20 August.

If you have any questions, please contact UKPN customer care team on **0800 028 4587** Monday to Friday 8:30am – 5pm, care@ukpowernetworks.co.uk and reference 260010910.

Water infrastructure upgrades

Bull Hill, Rake

Due to several leaks and bursts in and around Rake area, South East Water with their contractors, Clancy, will be working to replace around 1.15 kilometres of water pipes from Monday, 27 July 2026, for approximately 6 months. The work will take place on London Road, Bull Hill and Canhouse Lane. A road closure will be in phases on Bull Hill, heading down towards Canhouse Lane, where the works will continue.

Find out more and sign up at [Priority Services | South East Water](#). If you have any questions or concerns before the work starts, please call our advisors on 0333 000 0018 (Monday to Friday 8:00am to 5:30pm) or via email @ [Wholesale Contact Us | South East Water](#).

Beyond compliance: a community and wildlife success story

The role of a Network Compliance Officer is already diverse, but every so often it presents truly unexpected scenarios.

While returning from a defect inspection in South Stoke near Arundel Castle, one of our newest Network Compliance Officer noticed some unusual footway barriers blocking pedestrian access. This wasn't something he was aware of in the area, so he stopped to investigate further.

To his surprise, he discovered a local resident sitting nearby, carefully monitoring the situation. She explained that a pair of swans affectionately named *William and Catherine* had made a nest on the verge right beside the footway. Wanting to protect them during this sensitive incubation period, she had taken it upon herself to watch over them and document their progress.



To prevent disturbance from passing pedestrians and dogs, someone had installed barriers and cordoned off the area with red-and-white tape. After speaking with the resident, the Compliance Officer recognised the need for additional support.

He contacted the Arun District Council parking team to request a temporary parking suspension in the area which was approved.

On the evening of 26 May 2026 at 9pm, the first egg hatched. By the early hours of 27 May, there were five beautiful cygnets.

Now that Compliance Officers oversee their own designated areas, it has become easier to build meaningful connections within local communities. This experience highlights the importance of those relationships, not only with residents but also with local councils.



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](#).



**WEST SUSSEX
RECYCLES FOOD**

West Sussex recycles  WEST SUSSEX WASTE PARTNERSHIP

HOW ARE THE NEW BINS DESIGNED TO KEEP PESTS OUT?

HOW WILL I KNOW WHICH BIN TO PUT OUT?

HOW IS FOOD WASTE DIFFERENT TO COMPOSTING?

WHAT HAPPENS TO THE FOOD ONCE IT'S BEEN COLLECTED?

WHAT CAN GO INTO MY FOOD WASTE CADDY?

**YOUR
QUESTIONS-
ANSWERED.**

westsussex.gov.uk/FoodWaste

