

Rudgwick Parish Council

Weekly Clerk's Update: 15th – 21st August 2026 (Agenda September 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)
-

Clerk's announcements/delegated decisions:

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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 14 th September 2026	
Application No: DC/26/1211 14.08.2026	Response/Comments:
Applicant: The Kings Head, Church Street, Rudgwick	

Reason for Application: Erection of an enlarged decking area, installation of external decorations, internal repairs and alterations. (Listed Building Consent).	
Official Response Date: 08.09.2026 / Determination 09.10.2026	
Application No: DC/26/1210 14.08.2026	Response/Comments:
Applicant: The Kings Head, Church Street, Rudgwick	
Reason for Application: Erection of an enlarged decking area, installation of external decorations, internal repairs and alterations. (Full Application).	
Official Response Date: 08.09.2026 / Determination 09.10.2026	

Applications for consideration at Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting

Applications for consideration at Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 14 th September 2026	
Application No:	Response/Comments:
Applicant:	
Reason for Application:	
Official Response Date:	

Decisions

HDC Council Decisions – Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 14 th September 2026	
Application No: DC/26/0939	Response/Comments: Permitted / RPC – No objection
Applicant: Fairlee, Bucks Green	

Reason for Application: Demolition of existing greenhouse and erection of pool house and excavation of swimming pool with associated landscaping works.	
Official Response Date:	

Applications going to Committee

Applications going to Committee – Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 14 th September 2026	
Application No:	Response/Comments
Applicant:	
Reason for Application:	
Official Response Date:	

Appeals Lodged / Appeals Determined

New Appeals Lodged / Determined – Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 14 th September 2026	
Application No:	Response/Comments:
Applicant:	
Reason for Application:	
Official Response Date:	

New Planning Compliance Issues

New Planning Compliance Issues – Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 14 th September 2026	
Application No:	Response/Comments:
Address:	
Nature of Complaint	

Official Response Date:	
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Parish Councils Website

Rudgwick Parish Council's New Website is now live!

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

Community Governance Review 2nd Consultation

Have your say on proposals that may affect your parish



“have
your
say”

from 24 July
to 7 September 2026

.....
www.horsham.gov.uk/consultations



Correspondence

Email dated 20.08.2026 from SOSCA

URGENT - LINK TO RESPOND

Dear Parish Councils, We are in touch with you as a matter of urgency because the future of your drinking water and of all the people across West Sussex is about to change. Southern Water have put forward a planning request to create a system where they will use recycled effluence from their Budds Farm Sewage works to fill the UK's newest spring fed reservoir (the only one in the world) in order to provide drinking water to their customers. The infrastructure will impact not only Hampshire but also the whole of West Sussex but there has been no consultation with any of the residents across the County. You can read more of the details from the web sites of both Havant Matters and SOSCA but unfortunately there is very little time left – we have to send the submission with all the names to the Planning Inspector THIS SUNDAY. Because it is a very complicated and many layered project it requires a certain format for the government to take notice. As a result we

have worked together with Havant Matters who have simplified the whole procedure in order for as many people as possible to take part.

All that has to be done is to **go to their LINK and complete the form** as found below and your name will be part of a unified and official response. There will also be an official SOSCA reply to this link AND we will also send our individual names. We urgently request you to forward this to your Committee and Parishioners to give them the opportunity to take part. The Planning Inspector has indicated this could well be the last opportunity for the public to have their say which places a huge pressure upon the residents of West Sussex. So far the e mail has cascaded out across social media which will reach over 250,000. The MPs now involved are Jess Brown Fuller, John Milne, Damian Hinds, Alan Mak, Suella Braverman, Caroline Dinenage and Joe Robertson. Alison Griffith has been in touch so hopefully she will also take part. This is about the safety and health of the future of your drinking water.

With Many Thanks, Libby

Libby Alexander
On Behalf of SOSCA.org.uk
Save Our South Coast Alliance
07769 700 669
www.sosca.org.uk



Coming to a tap near you – recycled effluent

Southern Water have submitted their DCO planning application to recycle the final effluent from the Budds Farm sewage works to treat and put into the Havant Thicket Reservoir, that will then be used to supply our drinking water (both Portsmouth Water & Southern Water customers).

- **If you are concerned about this, you must act now as the application has been submitted.**
- **If you want to find out more and support the Water Matters community response click the link**

LINK - [Will you support the Water Matters Community response?](#)

The **Water Matters Community objects to the application** and is asking the Planning Inspectorate to examine whether the scheme is necessary, whether better alternatives were properly considered, and whether its risks can be adequately assessed, controlled and importantly independently verified throughout its operational life.

This last point is very important given the lack of trust in Southern Water, who have shown through their pollution record that they cannot be trusted to self-regulate. A summary is provided in the table below.

You only have until the 23 August at midday to register your support for the Water Matters Representation.

(please share the link asap with your colleagues, friends & family)

I hope you will support the community in asking for these important matters to be thoroughly examined

Tracey Viney

Retired Drinking Water Inspector, Environmental Regulator & Havant Thicket Reservoir Project Manager

Email dated 20.08.2026 from WSCC

Better Roads, Shaping a greener future, 'Best possible start in life,' exam results, summer bus fares and more!



Stepping up action for Better Roads



Head of Local Highway Operations Michele Hulme, two Highway Rangers, Cllr Erika Woodhurst-Trueman

[We're stepping up the way we maintain highways](#) across West Sussex to reduce the impact of extreme weather.

Our teams have repaired more than 13,200 potholes since April and are already preparing the roads for this coming winter.

[We launched our Highway Ranger pilot](#) in Worthing this month (pictured) to take action for cleaner and better-maintained streets in communities across the county.

Cabinet member Cllr Erika Woodhurst-Trueman said: "As a new administration we are determined to listen and act... and our teams are working throughout the year to actively maintain our roads."

[Discover Better Roads](#)

Shape a greener future



Now is your chance to help shape a greener, more resilient future for West Sussex.

Together with district and borough councils, we've launched a new consultation on plans for tackling climate change.

The plans focus on mitigation and adaptation and include proposals on improvements for buildings, greener travel, solar energy, and drainage systems.

Cabinet member Natasha Davie said: "Climate action cannot be delivered by councils alone. Success will depend on strong partnerships and the involvement of communities... So, I encourage everyone to have their say."

The climate change consultation is open until 27 September 2026.

[Have your say](#)

'Best possible start in life'



The team at the Adur West Family Hub in Lancing

Thousands of families are benefiting from free support provided by our Best Start Family Hubs across West Sussex.

A growing number of people are visiting the centres, which are for all families and which are managed by the council in partnership with health services.

Our Best Start teams have also strengthened their community visits, ensuring everyone can access the help on offer.

Cabinet member Cllr Sam Raby said: "By providing families with the right support at the right time, we are helping children get the best possible start in life."

[Best Start: watch and find out more](#)

Food hub making a real difference



[Residents and community partners came together at Shoreham Fire Station](#) this month to celebrate the success of its Community Food Hub.

Launched in May, the hub is a partnership between West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service, West Sussex County Council and UK Harvest.

Cabinet member Cllr Natasha Davie said: "The hub is making a real difference by helping residents access affordable, nutritious food while reducing food waste."

Community Food Hub events

Go All In at our libraries



Dungeons and dragons, manga workshops and live-streamed author events are on the cards for young people at our libraries this autumn.

They're just some of the activities we're planning as part of our Go All In Festival for teenagers.

Starting in September, the festival is aimed at young people aged 13 and over.

It's made possible thanks to National Lottery grant money from Arts Council England.

[Explore festival events](#)

Powerful voice for Sussex businesses



Members of the Sussex & Brighton Strategic Authority Board in Lewes

Businesses will have a powerful voice in shaping decisions on the region's economy.

A new Business Advisory Board has been approved by the Sussex & Brighton Strategic Authority.

Leader of West Sussex County Council Cllr Jay Mercer (pictured second left) is a Joint Vice-Chair of the authority.

He said: "The board will give [businesses] a direct line into the Authority's thinking on investment, and growth and I'm delighted we are moving quickly to get it in place."

New Business Advisory Board

Get involved



[What are your thoughts on the future of adult social care?](#) The Big Conversation on Care is open now nationwide. Share your views and help shape the future of care.

[Help us prevent wildfires.](#) By taking a few simple precautions, you can help protect communities, local wildlife and our firefighters.

For you



Well done to all students getting their results this summer! [Explore careers guidance and advice on emotional wellbeing.](#)

[Looking for affordable summer days out?](#) Take the bus! Children aged 5 to 15 can travel for free on participating bus services this August.

[Our Fire & Rescue Service visits around 5,000 homes in West Sussex every year](#) to help prevent fires. Request a free Safe and Well visit.

[Know Your Numbers!](#) Check your blood pressure at home with a free-to-borrow monitor from your local library in West Sussex.

[Call the Shots on Alcohol](#) whether you want to cut back, understand your drinking or make a few small changes, find free, practical support to help you at your own pace.

[A MenB vaccine is available to eligible young people.](#) Book a free vaccination online or find a participating pharmacy walk-in service for a limited time.

[Activate with Joe Wicks](#) Children are being inspired to move more with an animated series for kids from fitness coach Joe Wicks. Find it on [BBC iPlayer](#) and [YouTube](#).

More news



[94 tonnes of waste diverted.](#) A total of £50,000 was awarded to 10 groups across West Sussex for innovative repair, reuse and waste prevention projects.

[£166,000 invested in bus shelter improvements](#) between Littlehampton and Chichester.

[Thousands attended Chichester's Emergency Services, Armed Forces and Community Day.](#) The family-friendly event welcomed visitors of all ages.

[Fairer funding for West Sussex schools](#) County councillors have backed action to call on national government to address the financial pressures on our schools.

[The Sussex & Brighton Strategic Authority has secured £564,000](#) to explore how bus services across the region could be improved.



NEWS RELEASE



West Sussex Council leader goes for growth in Crawley



Left to right: Steve Sawyer, BID CEO; Leader Jay Mercer; Cllr Lauren Lloyd; Cllr Yvonne Gravely; Nick Burrell, WSCC; Amanda Smith, WSCC

The Leader of West Sussex County Council, Cllr Jay Mercer, along with WSCC Cabinet Member for Economy and Skills, Cllr Yvonne Gravely, met the CEO of Manor Royal Business Improvement District (BID) to discuss opportunities for growth.

In light of the on-going Local Government Reorganisation, the county council and BID leaders focused on the importance of maintaining their close relationship and working in partnership to attract investment and drive improvements in the area for businesses and employees.

Topics of discussion ranged from the success of the Crawley Growth Programme - which included extending a bus lane to provide a dedicated route connecting the A23 London Road with Gatwick Road - to the progress being made on Re-Energise Manor Royal. The latter has been established to invest in renewable energy projects and make the energy supply more secure, sustainable and lower cost for businesses in the district.

Cllr Jay Mercer said: *"Economic growth is crucial for West Sussex. Creating new, varied and better-paid job opportunities, attracting public and private sector investment, upgrading public infrastructure – these are all things that drive the Sussex economy and improve people's lives. The Manor Royal district is an important economic area in our county and the BID plays a vital role in co-designing and co-delivering projects that boost our regional productivity."*

Steve Sawyer, Executive Director of Manor Royal BID, said: *"We are grateful for the time Councillors Mercer and Gravely took to visit us in Manor Royal. We enjoyed a lively and engaging meeting where we discussed the numerous ways we can work together to deliver many notable improvements to the Business District since the creation of the Manor Royal BID. We also reflected on the challenges ahead and we look forward to continued close working with the County Council to ensure Manor Royal remains competitive, for the benefit that brings to businesses and residents alike."*

The Manor Royal business district is home to over 600 businesses, generates roughly 30,000 jobs, sits just south of London Gatwick Airport and is one of the South East's major employment hubs.

A list of current and former BID projects can be found here:

[Our Projects - Manor Royal Business District - Crawley and Gatwick](#)

YOU'RE INVITED



Help shape SSEN's ED3 Business Plan

14 September 2026

Earlier this year, we held a series of stakeholder events where we shared our initial thinking on the opportunities and challenges facing the electricity network as we prepare for the forthcoming ED3 price control (April 2028-March 2033).

Since then, we've continued to engage with customers, communities and stakeholders across our licence areas to understand what matters most, test priorities, and refine our thinking.

The feedback received throughout has already helped shape the development of our ED3 Business Plan, influencing how we think about affordability, resilience, decarbonisation, local communities and the future role of the network.

Now, we'd like to share how that feedback has shaped our proposed commitments and seek your views on whether we're focusing on the right areas, setting the right level of ambition, and delivering value for the customers and communities we serve.

That's why we're inviting you to join our next stakeholder engagement session on 14 September 2026.

We're bringing our customers and stakeholders together again because we value your expertise and believe your insight can help us strengthen our Business Plan before it is finalised.

This isn't a presentation of a finished plan, but an opportunity to continue the conversation. We'll share how stakeholder feedback has shaped our proposals so far, explore our proposed ED3 commitments, discuss the choices and trade-offs we face, and invite open discussion on where we should go further and where our priorities should lie.

Your feedback will help influence the final development phase of the plan and the commitments that will ultimately form part of our ED3 Business Plan.

Event details

Date: Monday, 14 September 2026

Time: 10:00am – 3:15pm

Location: Microsoft Teams

What we'll explore

Throughout the session we'll seek your views on our proposed commitments across four key areas:

Investing for the Energy Transition

How we prepare the network for increasing demand, support electrification, enable new connections and plan for the future.

Resilient Networks

How we deliver a safe, resilient, and reliable network that can respond to increasingly severe weather events and changing customer needs.

Responsible and Sustainable Business

How we support local communities and supply chains, deliver a fair and inclusive transition, and create wider social and environmental value.

Smarter Networks

How data, digitalisation, innovation and flexibility can help deliver better outcomes for customers, communities and management of the network.

Continuing the conversation

One of the strongest messages from our engagement so far has been that stakeholders support action but want to understand the value it delivers.

During the webinar we'll be asking:

- Do our proposed commitments focus on the issues that matter most?
- Are we ambitious enough?
- Will these commitments deliver meaningful value for customers, communities and stakeholders?
- Where should we prioritise investment and effort?
- What should we focus on first, and what may be less important?

We know there are still areas where views differ and important trade-offs need to be considered. That's why your input is particularly valuable at this stage, while it can still shape the outcome.

The conversations we have now will help shape the investments, services and commitments that customers and communities will rely on throughout the ED3 period.

Register your interest

If you would like to attend, please register using the link below:

Register now

We very much hope you'll be able to join us as we continue to develop our plan together.

Many thanks,

Graeme

Director of Corporate Affairs and Stakeholder Engagement



Email dated 21.08.2026 from NALC Chief Executives Bulletin

Announcements

- We welcome the [government's announcement](#) that the Minister for Local Government, Devolution and Regional Growth role now has an explicit reference to parish and town councils as one of the key responsibilities. This is another win for the sector and shows we are making our voice heard.

Meetings

- Our [Management Board](#) met on Tuesday to focus on [Project Keystone](#), which will help shape the future support system for parish and town councils. The board considered some principles to underpin this and next steps, including further workshops and discussions at National Assembly meetings, and they also discussed shaping our budget strategy for the next three years.
- We held our first [Artificial Intelligence \(AI\) Network](#) meeting last week, where we explored how parish and town councils are beginning to put AI into practice, from making everyday tasks more efficient to finding new ways of analysing information and supporting council communication, and where it could take us next. The network discussed the importance of using AI responsibly, with data protection,

accuracy and human oversight remaining key. We provided updates on our upcoming AI tool, NALC's Online Resource Assistant (NORA), which we'll launch later this year.

Parliamentary and political engagement

- We have written to Jim McMahon OBE MP, urging the government to deliver long-awaited reforms allowing parish and town councils to hold remote meetings. We reiterated our call for urgent reform of the councillor standards regime, stressing that parish and town councils must remain central to the government's devolution agenda. You can [read the full letter](#) on our website.
- In our response to the Public Accounts Committee inquiry on devolving power in England, we have called for parish and town councils to have a stronger role in devolution, including meaningful involvement in strategic decision-making, investment programmes, scrutiny and neighbourhood governance. You can [read the full response](#) on our website.

Resources

- [In this week's blog](#), we explore how parish and town councils can successfully lead change despite the complex challenges facing the sector. Read the blog to discover the practical principles that can turn ambition into lasting change.

Support

- A new Corporate Peer Challenge report has praised St Ives Town Council's ambition, strong leadership and partnership working following a challenge delivered by NALC and the Local Government Association earlier this year. You can [read more about the challenge](#) on our website.
- The [Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments](#) (SAAA) has recently launched a new Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system as part of their preparations for the transition to the digital Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR). Parish and town councils are advised that emails now being issued from the new system are genuine and contain important information about the transition. Please check junk or spam folders and add SAAA to your safe senders list to ensure you continue receiving updates, guidance and invitations about the digital AGAR programme.

Email dated 20.08.2026 from WSCC

Helping West Sussex students take their next steps after GCSE results

news release

Helping West Sussex students take their next steps after GCSE results



Thousands of young people across West Sussex are receiving their GCSE and vocational qualification results today.

Councillor Sam Raby, West Sussex County Council Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Learning, said: "Congratulations to everyone receiving their results today. You should be proud of the hard work, determination and progress that have brought you to this important milestone.

"I would also like to thank schools, teachers, parents and carers across West Sussex for the vital role they have played in supporting students throughout their studies.

"Whatever results you receive, they are just one part of your journey and there are many different routes available. Whether you are planning to move on to sixth form, college, an

apprenticeship, training or employment, support is available to help you explore your options and choose the path that is right for you.”

A breakdown of grades by region can be found on the Ofqual [website](#).

Careers advice and support

Students who have questions about their results or what to do next should speak to their school, which can provide advice about sixth-form places, college courses and other available options.

The West Sussex County Council Careers Team can also provide free information, advice and guidance to eligible young people aged 16 to 24 who live in West Sussex and are not in education, employment or training.

The team can help young people explore opportunities including further education, apprenticeships, employment, training and volunteering.

For more information, email careersadvice@westsussex.gov.uk or call 033 022 22700.

You can also visit the [careers guidance webpage](#) for further advice.

Supporting your wellbeing

Whether you have received GCSE results today or A-level and vocational results last week, it is normal to experience a range of emotions.

Young people who are feeling stressed, anxious or low can find information, advice and emotional wellbeing support on the e-wellbeing [website](#).

Email dated 19.08.2026 from HDC
Sussex Sounds Festival 2026

Sussex Sounds Festival 2026



**Horsham
District
Council**



The Sussex Sounds Festival is a fantastic celebration of our local music talent, now in its third year. Venues across the town centre will play host to an array of local music talent in a series of free performances. There will also be an array of market stalls across the town for shopping, food and drink.



SUSSEX SOUNDS
FESTIVAL

CARFAX

THE FOUNDING
11am
THE GOLGIS
12pm
THE JUKEBOX 6
1pm
SOULSTICE
2pm
SCARAMOUCHE
3pm

SUNDAY 30 AUGUST
11AM TO 4PM

SUSSEX SOUNDS
FESTIVAL

MARKET SQUARE

JACKSON MEDLOW
12.30pm
PAUL ANTHONY
1.30pm
EMMA OLSEN
2.30pm
DIGGERS
3.30pm

SUNDAY 30 AUGUST
11AM TO 4PM



The Carfax

11am | The Founding | A dynamic cover band dedicated to bringing you the best of rock, disco, and popular hits from the last 50 years.

12 noon | The Golgis | Original comedy folk/rock 1pm The Jukebox 6 2pm Soulstice Female fronted six-piece soul, funk, and pop covers band

3pm | Scaramouche | A range of Rock and Pop Party covers

West Street

11am | 3Times7 | A funky soulful blues and rock four piece

12 noon | Quiet Storm | Piano/vocal duo, performing chilled laid back pop and soul classics

1pm | Cola Sounds | Acoustic duo 2pm Last Orders Timeless rock covers and original music, from the 60s to present

3pm | De Rosa Music School

Market Square

12.30pm | Jackson Medlow | Soloist performing rock and pop covers

1.30pm | Paul Anthony | Frank Sinatra, Rat Pack, Swing style soloist

2.30pm | Emma Olsen | Popular covers from 60s to modern day

3.30pm | Diggers | Lively upbeat musical tribute to the best decades and genres of music

The Forum

11.30am | Karen Whittingham | Sussex Sounds regular Karen opening The Forum stage

12.30pm | Les Elvin | Contemporary acoustic folk

1.30pm | Tom Payne | A mix of country, rock, pop from 17 year old soloist

Festival updates



Sign up for parks and
countryside news and
events



Click here for more
news from Horsham
District Council



Stay connected



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



**Horsham
District
Council**

Email dated 14.08.2026 from HDC

Latest News: Save the date for Horsham's Big Nibble event this September | Council is now White Ribbon Accredited

Latest News



Horsham
District
Council



New Learn to Bowl Course Launches in Ashington and Horsham Returns

Learn to Bowl Course

Ashington Community Centre

Wednesdays from 12.30pm - 2.30pm

9 September - 7 October 2026

Horsham District Sports Development

horsham district wellbeing

 Horsham District Council



Book your place today

£25 for 5 sessions

The Horsham District Sports Development Team is partnering with Ashington Bowls Club to deliver a new Learn to Play Short Mat Bowls course in Ashington. In addition, following the success of the first four programmes, Horsham District Indoor Bowls Club will be running another Learn to Bowl course, offering more opportunities for local residents to get involved in the sport.

Council thanks Friends of Warnham Local Nature Reserve for £250,000 of support



The Friends of Warnham Local Nature Reserve marked a major milestone at their annual Volunteers' BBQ last week, celebrating more than £250,000 donated to Horsham District Council since 2017 to support the Reserve and its ongoing development.

[Read more online](#)

Council opens new maintenance depot to support food waste collections



Horsham District Council has opened a maintenance depot in Hurst Road, Horsham. The newly refurbished facility provides the space needed to service and repair the Council's expanded fleet of collection vehicles, introduced as part of the district-wide food waste recycling service.

[Read more online](#)

[Council is now White Ribbon Accredited](#)



**WORKING TOGETHER TO
END MEN'S VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN**

Horsham District Council has achieved White Ribbon Accreditation, recognising its commitment to preventing harassment, abuse and violence against women and girls.

The accreditation reflects the Council's pledge to help end men's violence against women and its support for the work of White Ribbon UK.

[Read more online](#)

Council warns food businesses about unsafe chicken products

Acting on intelligence received from the Food Standards Agency (FSA), Horsham District Council is warning residents and local food businesses, about poultry products that may be unsafe to eat.

The warning relates to products supplied by Alpha Food Distributions Ltd, based in Dudley. The company is not approved to cut or produce chicken products and has not met the necessary food hygiene and food safety requirements.

As a result, all poultry products supplied by the business may be unsafe and should be withdrawn from sale immediately.

[Read more online](#)

Council to improve doorstep recycling collections service



Horsham District Council is changing how it will collect textiles, small electrical goods and coffee pods from residents' doorsteps in the future. From 4 September 2026 the Council will partner with Anglo Doorstep Collections, a national reuse doorstep collection organisation, to continue its free of charge doorstep collection service of small electricals, textiles and additional reusable items from residents.

[Read more online](#)

Council urges caution over barbecues during extreme heat



With extreme hot and dry weather continuing, we are urging residents to not use barbecues in parks and public open spaces. This appeal follows a recent increase in outdoor fires and concerns about the heightened fire risk posed by barbecues during prolonged periods of hot weather.

[Read more online](#)

Stay connected



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



**Horsham
District
Council**

Email Dated 14.08.2026 from Sussex Police
Help Protect Sussex this Summer



**Sussex
Police & Crime
Commissioner**

KATY BOURNE OBE



**Enjoy the
Sunshine, Respect
the Risk**

Following the derailment near Lewes yesterday, my thoughts remain with everyone impacted by the incident, especially the two people who have sustained serious injuries and the many others who were hurt. I know how deeply unsettling this must have been for those affected, their families and the wider community.

For many, the shock of what happened will take time to process and I encourage anyone who needs emotional or practical support to come forward.

My office will continue working closely with the police and local partners - including our commissioned victims' service providers - to ensure people get the help they need.

I want to thank our emergency services, council teams and volunteers for their tireless work throughout the night in what has been a complex and challenging multi agency response. I also want to recognise the emotional and physical impact on the emergency personnel who responded so professionally in very difficult circumstances - their wellbeing matters too.

Thank you also to everyone running the Landport rest centre - your care for those affected has been invaluable and is greatly appreciated.

Specialist investigators are now working to understand exactly what happened. Understandably, people will have questions but we must allow the relevant authorities the time and space they need to complete their enquiries and investigations.

Please continue to follow official updates and advice from our emergency services, rail networks and local councils.

Sussex has always shown remarkable resilience during emergencies and I know the community will continue to support one another in the days ahead.

Keeping Sussex Safe in the Summer

This week, like many of you, I was saddened to see the devastating wildfire in Hampshire's New Forest, where hundreds of acres of precious heathland have been damaged after a vehicle fire spread rapidly through the dry landscape. It is a stark reminder of just how vulnerable our countryside becomes during periods of prolonged hot and dry weather.

Sussex is blessed with beautiful heathland, woodland and open spaces facing these risks. A thoughtlessly discarded cigarette, disposable barbecue, campfire or even a vehicle parked on dry grass can be enough to start a fire. Our local fire and rescue services are urging residents and visitors to take extra care, avoid using disposable barbecues in open spaces, dispose of litter responsibly and report any signs of fire immediately by calling 999.

The hot weather can also affect our health, particularly for older people, young children and those with existing medical conditions. NHS Surrey and Sussex is reminding people to stay hydrated, keep homes cool, avoid the sun during the hottest part of the day and check in on vulnerable neighbours, friends and relatives.

A little extra caution can make a big difference. By looking after ourselves and our environment, we can all help Sussex stay safe during this spell of very hot weather.



Katy Bourne OBE
Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner

FRIDAY FOCUS

Police seek victims of luxury car fraud

I want to share an appeal that may be relevant to residents in Sussex. Police are seeking to trace victims of a luxury car fraud committed by Ravinder Randhawa, who was jailed for nine years in 2021 for fraud and money laundering offences. He operated a fake website claiming to sell luxury vehicles, including Porsche, Mercedes-Benz and Range Rover models, on behalf of non-existent dealerships. Victims paid large sums of money for cars that never existed.

The fraud affected more than 150 people across the UK, with losses exceeding £1 million. Following further financial investigations, funds have now been recovered and efforts are underway to compensate victims. More than 30 people have already received compensation but officers are keen to identify others who may be eligible.

If you believe you were affected by this scam between May 2018 and February 2021, I would encourage you to come forward. While any compensation may only cover a small proportion of losses, police are determined to return recovered funds to those impacted by the fraud.

Anyone who thinks they may have been a victim should complete the South West Regional Organised Crime Unit's **Compensation Registration Form**.



SHARE WITH A FRIEND

Email dated 15.08.2026 from HDC Older Persons Forum
Soon be the 1st September (2)



And our free-to-attend public meeting is being held at and kindly hosted by Broadbridge Park Care Home. Are you intending to come, to learn something new from our guest speakers and support the Forum in being the ears and voice of local older people? If so, please let us know so our hosts know how many to cater for. When & where? **10 am to noon on Tuesday, 1st September**, Broadbridge Park Care Home, Chantry Court, Broadbridge Heath, RH12 3XY. In person or via Zoom.

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