

County Councillor Report for Parishes November 2019
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As the General Election 'gun' has now been fired, my report is very general this time and includes notice of **Current Consultations**

1. **Wheelabrator** Consultation (second round) is in swing this month. The meeting in my division is at Victoria Hall, Sutton Scotney on the 20th November from 2.30 to 6.30pm
2. The new **WCC Council strategy** is online at www.winchester.gov.uk.
3. SHELAA sites cause consternation across the division. I also urge you to sign up to **Local Plan news** www.winchester.gov.uk/no-listing/local-plan-newsletter
4. I have the notes from the **Minerals and Waste Review** meeting last month. If you would like a copy, please contact me.
5. The review of **Flooding Strategy** for Hampshire is expected to be out for consultation from Nov 12th until just after Christmas. I will inform you of the link asap.

The County is expecting to agree its strategy to reduce revenue costs by £80million by April 2021 on Thursday 7th November. There is also a deputation on Plastic Recycling in Hampshire.

Savings and Likely pressures on Spending include:

1. HCC expects to reaffirm the Council's intention to work in partnership on Recycling and Waste Management but has already sent WCC notice to reduce recycling credits paid back to WCC by £0.5 million: where is the spirit of co-operation here?
2. LI last year, asked for additional funds for Children Looked After last year- and was refused. It is now necessary to agree another one of payment of £4.6 million is being approved to fund the growth of 'Children Looked After' (children in care) due to the growing number of cases to be investigated and children to be protected.
3. Investment of £70m in Older Persons and Younger Adults Extra Care to be approved to provide high quality living environments, and ultimately reduce cost of care. This is good news!

There are extensive reductions outlined in the Council's appendix pages and the impacts of detailed proposals from p147 of the Council's report. One example is the change of Practice in supporting Adults with Learning Disabilities, leading to a cost reduction of 7% (£2m) . A number of these proposals will go through consultations but all are expected to take place by 2021.

You can read the paper on the website or watch the debate on Hants.gov.uk TV on Council Day (7th November) and for 6 months afterwards. Go to the 'Your Council' icon, and follow links.

I am able to refer people to the Food Bank, and do so from time to time. Please be aware that there is now a **Healthy Start Voucher (plus a vitamins voucher)** for children (from 10weeks into pregnancy until 4 years old) whose families receive financial support or benefits of any type from the Government, and which mums can get from their Doctor/ health Visitor or Midwife. Voucher value ranges from £3.10 to £6.20 per child per week, according to age.

Citizens Advice would appreciate your support. A locally funded charity, it does amazing work. Please consider the value of their support for your community in your 2020-21 budgets. Thank you.

Finally, Good news: **The Watercress Way** has just received notice of the opening up of two lengths of the old line that were previously not on the footpath network. This is a good result for 2019, and wouldn't have happened if Trustees hadn't taken up the cause. I look forward to giving you more news in 2020!



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Winchester Council 5 Year Plan at <https://winchester.citizenspace.com/policy/council-plan-2020-2025/>

The draft plan sets out Winchester City Council's key ambitions and focuses on five priority outcomes which are:

- Tackling the climate emergency and creating a greener district
- Homes for all
- Vibrant local economy
- Living well
- Your services, your voice

I would appreciate copies of your comments, and would be grateful if you could put this consultation link on your website.

Bins. The vast majority of waste is being collected on time now; the new teams have found where we all live. But we still have some persistent problems, assisted collection seems to be a common theme. All need to be reported please, and contact me if not collected some days after reporting.

Some small areas were deemed unsuitable for glass collection, you can check if a house is one of these by entering the postcode and house name at <https://www.winchester.gov.uk/bins> Then downloading the calendar and checking for a bottle sign. We are reviewing these areas, please let me know if you are affected.

I am grateful to residents for continuing sympathy for the Bin Men, they are doing an essential job in all weathers; and it is not their fault.

As part of our **Climate Emergency** plans Winchester Housing are intending to pilot new build of Passivhaus standard Council Housing and I attended a presentation for Officers and Councillors. The principles are applicable to both domestic and commercial buildings; 58% of the Winchester District emission in 2017 were from commercial and domestic energy use.

The Royal Institute of Surveyors Whole Life Carbon Assessment of built structures shows that only 22% of our carbon is in the 'use for purpose' of buildings; 73% is used in the raw materials, transportation and manufacture; and 5% in end of life management. Thus, retrofitting energy conservation measures to existing buildings is of the essence, and that is on the agenda for Winchester Council as well.

The **RIBA 2030 Carbon Challenge** shows a need to reduce Operational Energy use by 80%, Embodied Carbon by 70%, and Potable Water use by 32%.

It was a very technical presentation, surveyors and planners were the target audience, but I am happy to share it with any of you that are interested.

Our next **Councillor Surgery** is 0930-1045 Friday 6th December, at Alresford Community Centre, by kind permission of the Trustees. Cllr Russell Gordon-Smith will take this as I am at a Treasury Management seminar.

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