

initiatives

issue 96 • summer 2024



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Welcome to the summer issue of initiatives



The focus of this edition is the council's Climate Emergency Action Plan. Over the next three months we are inviting residents to help shape our second action plan through a survey. Although many people will do this online, we've also included the survey on pages 11 to 14 which we hope will help those residents who have difficulty accessing the internet.

Over the last year, we have been involved with distributing grants across the district for various business and community

projects. We successfully bid for this money from the UK Shared Prosperity and UK Rural Prosperity funds. You can read more about the difference the grants have made in our feature on pages 4 and 5.

We know that planning is an issue of huge interest to our residents and so on page 20 you will be able to find out the latest news regarding the Local Plan. We also have a piece on page 6 about how we are bidding for government money to improve habitats and help protect Chichester Harbour from flooding.

If you love local history then you may be interested to learn about a new exhibition that The Novium Museum is launching on 13 July, all about the old Selsey Tramway. And as summer is almost in full swing, I just wanted to remind you to check our What's on listings on pages 18 and 19 and also online at www.chichester.gov.uk/whatson for ideas about community events across the district.

Best Wishes

Diane Shepherd,
Chief Executive at
Chichester District Council

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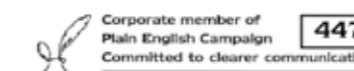
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Supporting businesses and community organisations in our district

Over the last year, we have been pleased to issue more than £400,000 to projects across the district that help support community projects and also the economic growth of our area. The majority of the fund was for external grants to businesses and community organisations while some went to projects directly delivered by Chichester District Council.

The money distributed comes from a share of £1.7 million that we were allocated following our bid to the Government two years ago. We made two separate bids, one to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) and another to the Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF).

Many of the projects funded have helped to make a huge difference to some of the area's businesses and community groups, helping them to expand their customer offer and allowing them more flexibility. This has also helped keep jobs in the district, which helps support the local economy.

As a council, we've also been using the funding to directly deliver a number of our own projects. These include a Culture Spark way-finder project in the Medmerry area of Selsey, the Laser Light shows in Chichester, and the council's Cross, Market & More events.

About the funds

Money from the UKSPF has been made available to help encourage economic growth and improve the quality of life for people across the district.

The REPF supports projects that assist with supporting businesses and community infrastructure to address particular challenges faced by rural areas.

During the first round of funding, 23 projects across the district were approved and in April we approved a further 65 projects after we opened a second and final round of funding last autumn. These are for projects that need to be completed by 31 March 2025.

These are some of the projects that were funded:

Chichester Cathedral Flower Festival volunteers

The funding allocated meant that volunteer groups were able to expand their skills and knowledge for future events. The funding was also used to deliver a demonstration on how to prepare sustainable flower arrangements by using environmentally friendly alternatives to flower foam. A video of the demonstration is now available at: www.chichestercathedral.org.uk/festival-flowers-2024-foam-free-demonstrations-using-sustainable-flower-mechanics



Woodfire Camping

The company has used the funding to install a large events tepee, which means that they can host larger groups and grow their corporate events market. Since introducing the new covered area, they have held several larger events using their new facility and are continuing to increase revenue.

Splash Robe

The Birdham-based business produces a three-in-one outdoor robe made from recycled materials and featuring a magnetic closure as an alternative to zips. Funding has helped the company to secure patent protection, as well as help them create a website where people can view and buy the product.

Chichester Festival Theatre

Funding helped them increase their creative programme for young families by devising Mini Makers and Shakers and delivering 60 workshops from September 2023 to March 2024. The programme has helped to reach out and connect with families who face barriers. They also provided 10 free bursary places for families in need of additional support.

Young People's Shop, Chichester

The project aimed to increase the number of young people in the community accessing art and wellbeing services, by offering a range of free accessible workshops through the year. They offered 33 sessions, including a huge variety of different arts, wellbeing, and fitness activities and reached 179 young people, surpassing their target of 118.



Slow Grown Farm, Graffham

The farm has a small, native herd of cows fed on a 100% grass- diet and makes small batches of artisan cheese. They also produce artisan charcuterie from their own woodland reared pigs. The funding helped them to buy a commercial freezer and display fridge in their new retail base. This has enabled them to display their products, increasing both footfall and turnover and resulted in them employing someone part-time.



Lorama Foods, Bosham

Lorama Foods is a commercial baker / white label manufacturer that specialises in supporting new businesses to bring healthy snack and protein bars to market. The funding helped them to install a new specialist food-grade floor to maximise operational space, increase production capacity and employ more staff.

Billys on the Beach, Bracklesham

As a result of funding, the seaside café and restaurant installed a solar panel to reduce operating costs and reduce their carbon footprint.



Midhurst Vision

An attractive green walkway from the Grange Community Leisure Centre to Midhurst Old Town was created, by redesigning an unused paved square to create a 'pocket park' with natural low maintenance planting and seating.



Petworth Community Garden

Petworth Community Garden operates a thriving community garden on a social housing estate and supports over 100 disadvantaged local people to improve health, nutrition and wellbeing through various projects. Funding has enabled them to install a new greenhouse and replace wood and meshing on raised beds to increase fruit and vegetable growing, as well as repairing their wildlife ponds. If you would like to support the garden's work please go to: <https://localgiving.org/charity/petworthcommunitygarden/>

Refurbishing our public toilets

Work to refurbish key public conveniences across the Chichester District is underway.

Facilities being refurbished are: Priory Park, Chichester; Bosham; East Beach in Selsey and Market Road in Chichester, and we anticipate that work will be completed by the end of this summer. In addition, work to install fully accessible toilets called Changing Places toilets in Midhurst and Selsey has now been completed. A third Changing Places facility was installed in Bracklesham last year. The facilities are specifically designed to meet the needs of disabled children, and adults with complex care needs who need the support of a carer. The facilities have much more space than a conventional accessible toilet, and also include specialist equipment.



New Changing Place facility in Bracklesham

We understand that having high quality, accessible public conveniences is extremely important, especially for visitors to our district and people with health conditions. We've organised the work so that there is minimal disruption, and we really appreciate people's patience and understanding while this important work takes place.

All the sites will have new disabled facilities that meet modern legislation, while new flooring, tiling and sanitary ware will be installed. LED lights — which

are much more efficient and better for the environment — will be installed while suitable sites will have solar panels.

In addition, work will also be carried out as part of the project to demolish the Facilities in Tower Street, Chichester as a result of severe structural and subsidence issues that would require extensive and costly work. A number of options on the future use of the site are in the process of being considered.

Bid for Government money to improve habitats and help protect Chichester Harbour from flooding

We are bidding for government money so that our coastal engineering service can develop a plan for the Chichester Harbour area to help communities prepare for flooding and coastal change. The plan will also help to protect and restore the harbour's habitats and ecosystems.

In March, our Cabinet agreed that a business case should be submitted to the Environment Agency. If successful, the money will help us to develop an Investment and Adaptation Plan for the harbour up to the year 2100 and beyond.

Everyone in the district understands what a special place Chichester Harbour is, and what an internationally important site it is for migrating birds, and other wildlife. Unfortunately, with rising sea levels and coastal change, the risk to communities and property from tidal flooding and erosion will only increase over time.

One of the major issues that we need to address is 'coastal squeeze'. This is where important habitats are literally squeezed

up against coastal defences as a result of rising sea levels, and means that these habitats are at risk of being lost.

People were really shocked three years ago when Natural England classed the harbour environment as being in an 'unfavourable, declining' condition as a direct result of the pressures within the harbour. They estimate that the harbour has lost over 58% of its saltmarsh habitat since 1946 and continues to lose an average of 2.54 hectares of saltmarsh annually.

In order to reverse this decline, and protect these vital habitats for the future, we really need to include them as an integral part of how we manage coastal flood and erosion risk in the future. This is where this plan is key, as it will take account of all these issues and how the different habitats interact with each other and the important features of each different habitat.

If the funding bid is successful, then Coastal Partners – our specialist coastal team – would lead on preparing the plan in partnership with both our council and Havant Borough Council; regulators, other partner organisations; landowners and the affected communities.

Although it's not one of the council's statutory duties, managing future coastal flooding and erosion is a key priority for us and we have permissive powers to undertake such works. Key to the success of this, will be working in partnership with all of those who have an interest and involvement in the harbour.

We have to stress that there is no guarantee that we will be successful with the bid for funding, but it is important that we are looking ahead and identifying solutions and possible funding opportunities. If we are successful, our communities and partners will be at the heart of decision making at all stages of the plan.



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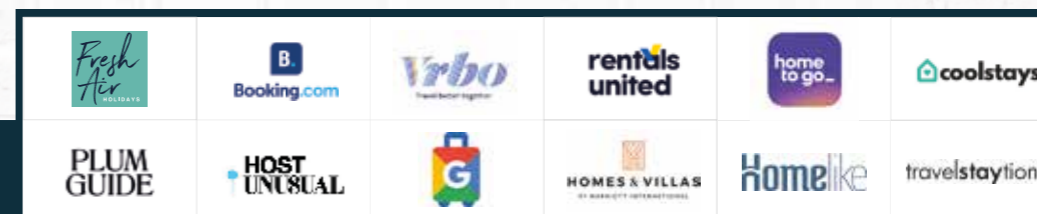
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The River Lavant

Schoolchildren put their 'Ideas into Action' to help tackle climate change

Children at Kingsham Primary School in Chichester have been turning their ideas around tackling climate change into positive community actions thanks to our popular 'Ideas into Action' scheme.

They worked with our Youth Engagement Officer and formed three groups, bringing together their ideas on addressing climate change at a local level, while encouraging other young people and their communities to help.

Their ideas included encouraging students to walk, cycle, scoot or skate more; stopping people parking on the

green close to the school; helping protect hedgehogs and providing more food and homes for them; and helping biodiversity by planting wildflower areas around the school and local area.

Each group presented their ideas to the rest of the school in their own 'election' in May, complete with ballot box, polling

booth, and special voting slips, enabling pupils to vote for their favourite idea.

'Ideas into Action' has been running since 2014 and encourages young people to get involved with local democracy and community projects. The project involves students forming different groups to come up with ideas for what they would like to see happen in their local community in response to different issues.

You can find out more about 'Ideas into Action' at: www.chichester.gov.uk/article/25879/Support-for-young-people

Funding agreed for vital river restoration projects

We are spending £180,000 over the next three years, as part of two projects being led by the Western Sussex Rivers Trust (WSRT), formerly known as the Arun and Rother Rivers Trust (ARRT), to help restore the River Lavant and also the Ems and the Hambrook.

The money will part-fund two posts. One post will work on furthering a restoration plan for the Ems and the Hambrook and the other will begin work on a similar plan for the Lavant, to support the Western Sussex Rivers Trust in their critical work and help fund these key projects. The trust approached us for help, and we felt that it was crucial to support them in this way because our contribution will in turn help them to unlock further potential funding from other sources.

Many people may not be aware, but the rivers Ems, Hambrook and Lavant are among only 283 chalk streams and rivers in the world. These are globally significant, but very rare habitats and are almost exclusively found in the south of England. None of these rivers have official protection but we are seeking to gain better protection for them through the Chichester Local Plan and its Strategic Wildlife Corridors policy. We appreciate that this isn't enough on its own and that significant recovery work also needs to take place.

Sadly, these rivers are now suffering from the effects of a number of activities including: pollution; habitat loss; drought; and, interruptions to their natural processes and flow. In addition, the River Ems is also suffering the effects of over-abstraction, a process where water is

removed for domestic, industrial uses and agriculture. These chalk streams also feed into the internationally protected Chichester Harbour Special Protection Area and so it is absolutely vital that as a council we do all that we can to support their protection and restoration for future generations. These projects will safeguard the future of three of the most significant rivers and streams in our district which will then also have a positive effect on our harbour.

Working with our partners on projects such as these is key. Our role is to help facilitate other organisations who have the expertise to enable results that the council wouldn't be able to achieve on its own. The projects will look not only at the rivers and streams, but also the whole landscape area that feeds into them.

The work will focus on restoring the natural function in the river channels; tackling invasive non-native species; and river re-meandering. This is work that creates a new meandering course or reconnects cut-off meander. This can slow down river flow and is also known to have a positive impact on sedimentation and biodiversity.

Alongside this work, the project officers will also work with landowners and the local community to carry out citizen science, which will include a range of activities such as monitoring water quality, biodiversity and encouraging people to report incidents.

Getting the public and local community involved is key to gathering good statistics in order to gain good outcomes. The officers will also run public events to build community engagement and understanding of the issues affecting

the rivers — this will feed into finding potential solutions.

The Western Sussex Rivers Trust (WSRT) is one of a national network of river trusts that aim to protect and restore our rivers and streams. The Trust's area covers nearly all of Chichester and Arun Districts. The trust has been working on a series of catchment-based plans for the restoration of rivers and their tributary streams within Chichester District. You can find out more about them at: wsrt.org.uk

As part of the projects the council will meet regularly with the river trust to monitor progress.



The River Ems



Support local – Support 'Sussex Six'

Food and beverage businesses across Chichester District are being encouraged to join the 'Sussex Six' Food and Drink campaign to help support our wonderful food producers and encourage more people to 'choose local'.



As part of the campaign, the district's shops, pubs, restaurants and cafés are being encouraged to stock and use at least six products or ingredients from the local area and to highlight this with customers through their menus, shelves, websites and social media channels.

The 'Sussex Six' campaign launches in July and will include a dedicated Chichester directory for local food and drink businesses at www.sussexfoodanddrink.org

And if you're eating out or buying from local shops and food businesses, then look for the Sussex Six logo. By supporting our amazing food businesses and producers you are really helping our local economy.

Chichester District Council is supporting the campaign with money obtained as part of our bid to the government's UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF).

Find out more about the campaign at: www.sussexfoodanddrink.org/sussex-six-campaign



love your district protect our world



In 2019, Chichester District Council declared a climate emergency. This led us to create an action plan to reduce our carbon footprint and help others in the district reduce their carbon footprint too. As the plan is coming to an end in 2025, we're consulting on the next plan, which will run from 2025-2030.

We've created a survey to gather your views on our proposals for the plan, which cover options for cutting carbon emissions across the district through projects related to energy, housing and our natural environment, among others.

We cannot guarantee that we will deliver projects even if they are well-supported as this will depend upon the council's resources and external funding.

The easiest way to complete the survey is online at: letstalk.chichester.gov.uk/climatechange/participate where you will find videos that explain each question. However, we recognise that not everyone has access to a computer and so a copy is included within this magazine, which can be posted to us. The deadline is 5pm on **Monday 30 September 2024**. By taking part, you'll be in with a **chance of winning a prize worth up to £500** (find more details, including terms and conditions, at: letstalk.chichester.gov.uk/climatechange)

We will be attending community events across the consultation period and have also organised a range of different consultation events including:

- **Wednesday 3 July:** 3-7pm – Leconfield Hall, Market Square, Petworth, GU28 0AH
- **Wednesday 17 July:** 3-7pm – The Grange Community & Leisure Centre, Bepton Road, Midhurst, GU29 9HD
- **Thursday 25 July:** 3-7pm – The Assembly Room, Chichester City Council, The Council House, North Street, Chichester, PO19 1LQ.
- **Tuesday 13 August:** 3-7pm – Selsey Centre, Manor Road, Selsey, PO20 0SE.

You can find out more about these by visiting letstalk.chichester.gov.uk/climatechange

If you have any questions, please email letstalk@chichester.gov.uk. Thank you in advance for your feedback!

What are we consulting on?

In our survey, we're asking your views on the council's emissions target.

As a council, we can only control the emissions that relate to our own operations and these account for less than 0.5% of the district's emissions as a whole. Even though most large-scale reductions will come from international and national actions, local actions are also really important and there are many things we can do by working together. So, we are putting forward potential projects that can help our communities, including ones that focus on the home and travel. These will be assessed against the Government's national target of net zero by 2050.

We have split our proposals into high-cost; medium-cost; and low-cost projects and estimated the emissions savings they potentially offer.

The council is currently delivering projects to reduce its own emissions – including focussing on the biggest sources, such as Westgate Leisure Centre and our vehicle fleet – and so we're not currently consulting on this area of work. You can find out more about this at: letstalk.chichester.gov.uk/climatechange



Low-cost projects less than £5,000 per project

Expand support for the network of community Climate Champions

We're setting up a network of Climate Champions, which will involve parish councils and community groups coming together to share ideas, knowledge, and to inspire new climate projects across the district.

This proposal is for a second phase, which would significantly increase the impact of the network and potentially provide support for some of the ideas that will come out of the initial set-up phase. **Carbon savings: equivalent to the annual footprint of over 100 people.**

Work with a school on a climate change project

This would involve the council's Youth Engagement Officer working closely with a local school to deliver a project that engages with pupils about climate change. **Carbon savings: equivalent to less than one person's annual footprint.**

Promote measures to reduce the environmental impact from our homes

Our homes are the second biggest source of emissions in the district, accounting for 30%. By helping people to make their homes more energy efficient and replacing fossil fuels with renewable energy, a process known as retrofit, we can significantly reduce carbon emissions.

This proposal would use existing council resources to build on our current work to promote home energy efficiency grants to low-income households. It would use specialist housing data to deliver a targeted campaign that would help eligible householders to improve the energy efficiency of their homes.

Carbon savings: equivalent to the annual footprint of 10-100 people.

Organise climate action networking events for public sector organisations and other not-for-profit organisations

This proposal would offer an opportunity for staff who work on projects to reduce the carbon footprint of not-for-profit organisations to exchange ideas and information on climate projects. **Carbon savings: equivalent to the annual footprint of over 100 people.**

Take further steps to reduce emissions from taxis and private hire vehicles

Our Licensing Team currently license over 490 private hire and taxi vehicles. They have rules in place that reduce the environmental impact of the vehicles they license. This proposal is to review these rules when the current licensing policy is renewed. **Carbon savings: equivalent to the annual footprint of 10-100 people.**

Provide template climate policies for community organisations

We believe community organisations want to incorporate climate change policies into their work, but smaller organisations may not know where to start and how to do so cost effectively. This would address this gap. **Carbon savings: equivalent to the annual footprint of 1-10 people.**

Produce guidance on street tree planting schemes for new developments

This would advise on how to use the policies that encourage greater tree planting in new developments in the Chichester Local Plan, which we have recently submitted to the planning inspector for consideration. These policies ensure that major developments in the district include tree lined streets and retain existing trees wherever possible. **Carbon savings: equivalent to the annual footprint of 1-10 people.**

Explore options for green travel plans for new developments

Green travel plans are used to identify and promote ways to encourage sustainable or green forms of transport to reduce the impact of traffic on the local environment. We will ensure that transport policies included in the recently submitted Local Plan are used to deliver effective travel plans that include ambitious targets and monitor journeys switched from cars to other forms of transport. **Carbon savings: equivalent to the annual footprint of 10-100 people.**



Medium-cost projects estimated to cost £5,000-£50,000 per project

Employ a Tree Strategy Officer to increase tree planting across the district

In 2019, we used government funding to employ a project officer to launch our 'Tree Chichester District' scheme. Through this initiative, we have been testing different ways to boost the numbers and health of trees outside woodland areas, leading to around 50,000 trees being planted across our district. This is a simple and effective way to help reduce carbon emissions and restore natural ecosystems. This project proposes to employ a Tree Strategy Officer after the current government funded project finishes in 2025. They will help landowners take advantage of the many grants that are available from the government and other organisations to support tree planting initiatives. **Carbon savings: equivalent to the annual footprint of 10-100 people.**

Fund a study to explore options for part of a new cycling, wheeling and walking route through Oaklands Park in Chichester

We recently created a Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan. This identified travel routes in and around Chichester city that could be made safer and easier for people who cycle and walk, including those using wheelchairs, pushchairs and mobility scooters. As part of this plan, a possible route through Oaklands Park in Chichester was identified. This proposal is for a study to explore how part of this route on council land could be delivered, although it won't cover the costs to deliver the path. **Carbon savings: equivalent to less than one person's annual footprint.**

Fund secure cycle storage units

The aim of this proposal is to encourage more cycling and less car travel. This project would look at potential locations and costs for two locked bike storage units in the district. **Carbon savings: equivalent to the annual footprint of 1-10 people.**

Place a greater focus on work to help the district better cope with changing weather patterns

Climate change is expected to lead to warmer and wetter winters, hotter, drier summers and more frequent and intense weather events. This proposal is about helping us and our environment to adapt to those changes (also known as 'adaptation').

As a council, we are already working on projects related to adaptation, however, this work isn't included in the current Climate Emergency Action Plan. This proposal would put greater emphasis on projects and policies related to this area such as:

- reducing flooding by slowing the flow of water. This could be done by creating ponds and reedbeds, and allowing rivers to meander.
- replacing habitats that are lost as a result of tackling coastal erosion and flooding.
- producing more detailed guidance for developers and designers around adapting to climate change.
- developing strategic wildlife corridors and restoration projects.
- our continued contribution to multi-agency emergency planning for heatwaves, coastal flooding, and surface water flooding.

Carbon savings: equivalent to the annual footprint of 1-10 people.

High-cost projects estimated to cost more than £50,000 per project

Produce a Local Area Energy Plan

To reach net zero, we need to cut the amount of fossil fuels that we use and instead use more low-carbon electricity. This means fewer petrol and diesel vehicles and more electric ones. We also need to use electricity more to heat our homes and workplaces. This will put extra demand on the electrical grid and some buildings may need to use hydrogen supplied by the gas grid. A Local Area Energy Plan looks at how these changes can be factored into new development, as well as identifying priority areas for improving energy efficiency of existing buildings. It would also help energy network operators plan improvements to their networks. These changes will require a lot of investment from national government and private investors, but if we have a smart and efficient plan, the amount of investment needed may be reduced, which might make this more achievable. **Carbon savings: equivalent to the annual footprint of over 100 people.**

Deliver a strategy to make homes in the district warmer, cheaper to run and better for the planet.

Our homes are the second biggest source of emissions in the district, accounting for 30%. By helping people to make their homes more energy efficient and replacing fossil fuels with renewable energy, a process known as retrofit, we can significantly reduce carbon emissions. This proposal will enable the council to implement a strategy to reduce carbon emissions from homes across the district. This would include specialist advice, greater engagement with homeowners and address barriers to home energy improvements. It would also establish a network of volunteer Energy Champions to promote home energy efficiency. **Carbon savings: equivalent to the annual footprint of over 100 people.**

Explore options for a land-based carbon offsetting scheme

Of all the greenhouse gases, carbon dioxide is the biggest cause of climate change, but it can be removed from the atmosphere. When plants grow, they take in carbon dioxide, release oxygen, and store carbon as leaves, stems, trunks, and roots. This traps the carbon until the plant dies. The soil is also an important store of carbon. As a council, we have already planted around 50,000 trees in partnership with communities and landowners. This proposal would build on this by working with other organisations to explore tree-planting funded by a carbon offset project. This involves quantifying the amount of carbon dioxide stored by the natural habitat. For every tonne of carbon dioxide stored, an offset can be created. The offsets can then be sold to organisations or individuals who want to reduce their carbon footprint, providing an income for participating landowners and managers. **Carbon savings: equivalent to the annual footprint of over 100 people.**

Explore options for a marine-based carbon offsetting scheme.

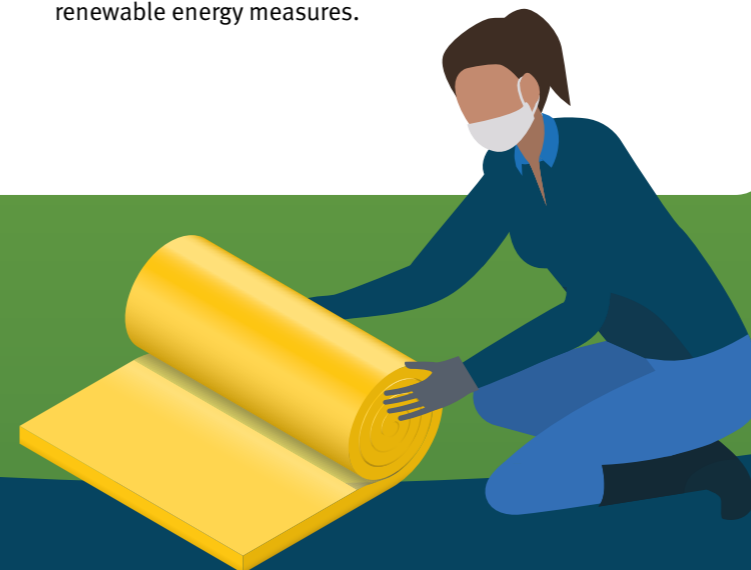
The second type of carbon offset scheme is sea or marine-based. Marine habitats such as salt marshes, sea weeds and sea grass are important stores of carbon dioxide and research has shown that these habitats can be more effective at storing carbon dioxide than trees. Marine-based offset schemes are not as well understood as their land-based equivalent, so more investigation is required. The scheme would be designed to cover its own costs but may need government funding to get started. **Carbon savings: equivalent to more than 100 people's annual footprint.**

Increase provision of pay-as-you-go community car hire

This would involve purchasing a further ten electric vehicles, which could be based in the council's car parks. **Carbon savings: equivalent to the annual footprint of 10-100 people.**

Low Carbon Chichester Fund

We are due to receive around £250,000 from the developers of the Graylingwell housing development in Chichester. This is known as the Low Carbon Chichester Fund. In our survey, we are asking for your views on how this money should be used. This funding could be used to reduce carbon emissions from buildings by making them more energy efficient or introducing renewable energy measures.



We want your views!

The easiest way to complete the survey is online at: letstalk.chichester.gov.uk/climatechange/participate

If you do not have access to a computer, please fill in the survey below, **using a separate sheet to answer questions where there are not tick-box options** or to add further comments (please note the question number so we can match your answer with the right question).

Send your completed survey to: Communications Team, Chichester District Council, East Pallant House, East Pallant, Chichester, PO19 1TY to reach us by 5pm on 30 September 2024.

Our council emissions target

1. We're aiming to reduce council emissions to net zero by 2050. This is in line with the Government's national target. Do you agree with this approach?

- Yes, I agree with this approach
- I think the target should be later than 2050
- I think the target should be earlier than 2050
- I don't agree with the council setting itself a target
- The council should set a different type of target

Low-cost projects

The following low-cost projects could be included in our new plan and are estimated to cost less than £5,000 per project.

2. Please number the following projects in order of importance to you from 1 (being the highest priority) to 8 (being the lowest).

- To expand support for the network of community Climate Champions
- To work with a school on a climate change project
- To promote energy efficiency measures to reduce the environmental impact from homes, making them warmer, healthier and cheaper to run
- To organise climate action networking events for public sector organisations and community groups
- To take further steps to reduce emissions from taxis and private hire vehicles
- To provide template climate policies for community organisations
- To produce guidance on street tree planting schemes for new developments
- To explore options for green travel plans for new developments



Medium cost projects

These projects could be included in our new plan and are estimated to cost between £5,000 and £50,000 per project.

3. Please number the projects in order of importance to you from 1 (being the highest priority) to 4 (being the lowest).

- To employ a Tree Strategy Officer to increase tree planting across the district
- To fund a study to explore options for part of a new cycling, wheeling and walking route through Oaklands Park in Chichester
- To fund secure cycle storage units
- To place a greater focus on work to help the district better cope with changing weather patterns

High-cost projects

These projects could be included in our new plan and are estimated to cost more than £50,000 per project.

4. Please number the projects in order of importance to you from 1 (being the highest priority) to 5 (being the lowest).

- To produce a Local Area Energy Plan for the district to reduce carbon emissions from our homes and businesses
- To deliver a strategy to help reduce the environmental impact from homes, making them warmer, healthier and cheaper to run
- To explore options for a land-based carbon offset scheme in the Chichester District
- To explore options for a marine-based carbon offset scheme in the Chichester District
- To increase provision of pay-as-you-go community car hire (car club)

Your home

5. Are there any organisations that you feel the council should be working with to help improve the energy efficiency of people's homes?

6. Are there any factors that put you off installing energy efficiency or renewable energy measures in your home? E.g. installing insulation in the roof and walls, heat pumps, or electricity-generating solar panels.

The local environment

7. If we employ a Tree Strategy Officer to increase tree planting in the district, should we...? Please tick one option.

- Prioritise farmers and larger landowners to maximise the amount of trees planted
- Fund a larger number of smaller grants that would be open to all property owners, even if it means that fewer trees are planted overall

8. Marine-based carbon offsetting schemes are newer and more complex to set-up than land-based offsetting schemes. Do you have any suggestions about how the council can support partners in setting up marine-based schemes?

9. If a decision is made to place a greater focus on projects that help the district to better cope with changing weather patterns, should we prioritise...? Please tick one option.

- Flood and coastal erosion risks
- Resource a wider ranging action plan
- Not sure

Planning for the future

10. How can we encourage developers and management companies to introduce and maintain high quality tree planting schemes for new roads?

11. If you were moving to a new development, what would encourage you to use your car less? You can choose as many options as you like.

- Good walking and cycling routes
- Good public transport connections
- A car sharing scheme
- Less parking provision
- Other
- Nothing

Community involvement

12. We are due to receive funding from the developers of Graylingwell in Chichester to develop a Low Carbon Chichester fund. Do you think we should...? Please tick one option.

- Spend this money in Chichester as the development is in the city
- Distribute the funding across the district

13. Are you interested in finding out about becoming a Climate Champion? Please provide your name and contact details on a separate piece of paper stating Q13.

14. Do you have any suggestions of public sector or not-for-profit organisations that we should be working with on climate change? Please include any contact details, if possible.

Do you have any further comments? Please attach a separate sheet and include question numbers.

About You

15. Please select the answer(s) that best represents you.

- Resident
- I work in the Chichester District
- I regularly visit the Chichester District
- I am studying in the Chichester District
- Community group
- Charitable organisation
- Parish council
- Business
- Public sector organisation
- Other, please specify

16. Which area of the district are you based in or visit the most?

17. Please select your age group

- Under 16
- 16-24
- 25-34
- 35-44
- 45-54
- 55-64
- 65+
- Prefer not to say

18. Which of the following best describes your gender

- Man
- Woman
- Non-binary
- Other
- Prefer not to say



Business Food Waste Recycling Service

Businesses urged to get ready for new rules on recycling

Local & reliable service

Cut waste costs



Help the environment

Businesses are being urged to make sure that they are prepared for the introduction of new government rules on the way businesses and organisations dispose of their waste, which will come into force in March 2025.

The 'Simpler Recycling' reforms mean that businesses must have separate food waste and recycling collections in place. This is being introduced to maximise use, minimise waste and drive-up recycling rates.

Key points business owners should be aware of include:

1. Separate collection of food waste for recycling.

Starting from 31 March 2025, food waste generated from a business cannot go in the general waste bin and a separate collection will need to be in place, regardless of the amount of food waste produced.

2. Separate recycling collection.

Recyclable materials that are required to be separated from general waste include:

- glass such as drinks bottles and rinsed empty food jars.
- metal such as drinks cans and food tins.
- plastic such as rinsed empty food containers and bottles.
- paper such as old newspapers and envelopes.
- cardboard such as delivery boxes and packaging.

These items can be mixed in one bin and do not have to be individually segregated.

Those businesses with fewer than 10 full-time employees have until 31 March 2027 to meet these requirements.

3. Collections of plastic film and soft plastics across all premises will also need to be implemented by 31 March 2027.

Whilst these changes represent a major shift in how businesses need to manage their waste, the reforms provide an opportunity for businesses to reduce their environmental impact. As a council,

we are here to support businesses and organisations and help them prepare for this change in the most cost-effective way.

We have successfully provided a business food waste recycling service for some years now, and so we can help businesses to make this change very quickly and simply. Not only do we provide the collection service, but we also provide extra support to help educate businesses and their employees on what needs to be recycled. Our mixed recycling service also helps to maximise the amount of material a business can recycle as we accept a range of different materials in the same bin. Whether you are an existing or new customer, we can offer support every step of the way to ensure your business is compliant.

To find out more about the council's business food waste and recycling services, please visit: www.chichester.gov.uk/businessfoodwaste email: wasteandrecycling@chichester.gov.uk or call 01243 534617.

Green light is given to introduce weekly food waste recycling collections for households

We have also started work on a major project to introduce weekly household food waste recycling collections across the district.

The government has made it a legal requirement for all councils across England to introduce weekly food collections and confirmed in October 2023 that this must be provided by the end of March 2026.

Councillors have approved a plan for the work and have given the go-ahead to

acquire the specialist vehicles, containers and other equipment that will be needed for the collections.

Introducing a new service like this across the whole of the district is a major undertaking and will require a significant amount of preparation work before the physical roll-out of collections can take place. This is why we will be keeping you closely informed of our progress over the next two years and will make sure that you are well prepared for the change when it arrives.

If you would like to be in with a chance of winning a prize worth up to £500, please provide your contact details on a separate sheet, with Prize Draw written on it, and return to us with your completed survey. Personal details collected will only be used in relation to the prize draw and will be deleted from our system once the winner has been selected and notified. To read our terms and conditions and find out more about the prize, please visit: letstalk.chichester.gov.uk/climatechange





Enjoying our coastline

We are so lucky to have such a beautiful coastline within the Chichester District, with so many beaches to enjoy.

You may not be aware, but as a council, we are responsible for nine miles of foreshore between the opening to Pagham and Chichester Harbours. We look after the beaches at Selsey, Bracklesham Bay and East Wittering. There's also the stunning West Wittering beach, which is managed by the West Wittering Estate.

We want all beach users to have fun and stay safe. The coastline is used for many different activities including swimming, sunbathing, surfing, windsurfing, walking and running, and so it's important that everyone is considerate to one another when taking part in their chosen activity.

Many of our staff are involved in making sure that our beaches continue to be safe, clean and tidy for residents and visitors to enjoy. Our cleansing staff litter pick down at the beaches and there are several community volunteer groups that also support us by organising community litter picking events. If you are using one of our beaches, please keep our beaches clean by placing your litter in one of the bins provided or taking it home with you to recycle.

One of our Foreshore Officer's key priorities is to carry out regular

beach inspections and safety checks of public rescue equipment – for example life buoys and throw lines – along the district's coastline. This includes liaising with other council services who can assist with any hazards or issues that arise on the foreshore.

While we do our very best to remove hazards from the foreshore, the sea itself can be unpredictable and dangerous. This is why we would always urge you to check the weather and tidal information on the Foreshores section of our website before heading out. We have also included lots of frequently asked questions at: www.chichester.gov.uk/article/38633/Contact-foreshores and you can ask us any other questions you may have through this page.

Raising awareness of beach safety is also a key area that we are focused on. Our Foreshore Officer is planning to visit local schools to provide key tips on how to keep safe at the beach, and they've even shared their top tips with you on this page. The RNLI also provides safety advice in the sea, which you can find at: www.rnli.org/safety

Staying safe along the coastline



In the water

- Always swim parallel to (along) the shore.
- Do not swim or play on or near groynes, rocks or breakwaters.
- Children near water should always be supervised.
- Try not to panic if in difficulty in the sea. Lie on your back, keep still, raise one arm and shout.



Near water

- Go with a friend if possible.
- Tell someone where you are going and when you will be back.
- Read and obey notices and never cover them.
- Report missing lifesaving equipment (and anyone taking it or breaking it).
- Do not touch strange objects, tell the coastguard or police about them.
- Do not go out on air beds or other inflatables unless it is tethered to the shoreline and watched by an adult.



Going sailing

- Check weather conditions with the coastguard/weather centre and listen to the weather forecast.
- 'Sign On' with the Coastguard Yacht and Boat Safety Scheme.



Board sailing

- Never try to teach yourself.
- Wear a wetsuit.
- Do not go out too far and be considerate of other water users.
- Keep your rig in good condition and do not leave it unattended.
- Never leave your board and attempt to swim ashore.

In an emergency, call 999 or 112 and ask for the Coastguard.

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What's on?

Venue codes and useful numbers

- CC**
Chichester Cathedral
www.chichestercathedral.org.uk/events
- CCC**
Chichester Chamber Concerts
chichesterchamberconcerts.com
- CFT**
Chichester Festival Theatre
www.cft.org.uk
- CHIBID**
Chichester BID
01243 773 263
www.chichesterbid.co.uk
- DS**
Discover Selsey
www.destinationselsey.co.uk
- NOV**
The Novium Museum
01243 775888 or
www.thenovium.org
- TM**
Tangmere Military Air Museum
01243 790 090
www.tangmere-museum.org.uk
- WD**
The Weald & Downland Living Museum
01243 811363 or
www.wealddown.co.uk

Don't forget that you can find details of many more events in the district at: www.chichester.gov.uk/whatson

Tickets for a variety of events are available from Chichester Tourist Information Centre at The Novium, Tower Street. For more information contact 01243 775888.

While every effort has been made to make sure the accuracy of this information is correct, Chichester District Council cannot accept responsibility for any errors, omissions or inconvenience caused. We would advise you to check the details with the organiser before attending any of the events published.

Apologies to those people who will get the magazine after some of the events listed. The list runs from when the first deliveries of 'initiatives' are made, but delivery to all properties normally takes two weeks.

Every week or seasonal

City centre market
Every Wednesday in North Street and East Street, Chichester. Weekly Saturday market in Cattle Market car park, Chichester. Car boot sale – every Sunday from 11am in Cattle Market car park.

Chichester Farmers' Market
19 July, 2 and 16 August, 6 and 20 September, 4 and 18 October, 1 November
North and East Street, Chichester City Centre. 9am – 2pm, 1st and 3rd Friday of each month (including bank holidays).

New Park Community & Arts Centre. Offering a wide variety of arts, sports, community events and activities. See more at www.newparkcentre.org.uk/WHATSON or email facilities/booking enquiries to operations@newparkcentre.org.uk

Midhurst Farmers and Artisan Market. First Saturday of the month, 9am-2pm. Market Square.

Petworth Farmers Market. Fourth Saturday of the month, 9am-1pm. Market Square.

8 July – 7 September
Oliver! Matthew Bourne directs and choreographs the classic musical. CFT

From 10 July
Watercolour Classes. Wednesdays and Fridays, 12.30pm–3.30pm. Roussillon Park Community Hall, Chichester. 01243 538304.

10 – 27 July
Petworth Summer Festival. www.petworthfestival.org.uk

13 July
Talk: Italian Neo-realism in Cinema. Chichester Cinema at New Park. 10.30am–12.10pm. www.chichestercinema.org.

13 and 14 July
Stansted Summer Festival. 10am–6pm. www.stanstedpark.co.uk/whatson

14 July, 11 August, 29 September, 27 October
Indoor car boot. The Grange Centre, Midhurst.

18 July
The Horshamosaurus: An evening talk with George Graham. Part of 'Dinosaurs: Hungry Hatchlings' exhibition. £8.50. NOV

19 July, 30 August, 27 September
Primal Warrior men's campfire talks. Men's support group promoting mental health. £5 per session. www.primal-warrior.co.uk/events

20 July
Daimler/Lanchester Club meet. TM

20 July, 17 August, 21 September, 19 October
Monthly Market. The Grange Centre, Midhurst. 8.30am–2pm.

22 July – 30 August
Summer Holiday activities. Storytelling, family activities, crafts, games, and scarecrow trail. WD

25 July
Warriors in Scarlett – Talks at Six. Ian Knight on history of the Victorian army. 6pm–7pm, Bassil Shippam Centre, PO19 7LG. www.talksatsix.co.uk

27 July – 11 August
Southern Ceramic Group's Ceramic Exhibition. Great Kitchen, Bishop's Palace. 10am–5pm.

28 July – 1 September
Outdoor theatre. From family shows to Shakespeare. WD

31 July
Open Air Theatre: The Merry Wives of Windsor with The Pantaloons. 7.15pm. £16 Adult, £10 Child. CC

During August
MADhurst festival of events. In and around Midhurst. www.madhurst.co.uk

3, 4, 10, 11, 17 and 18 August
The Loxwood Joust. loxwoodjoust.co.uk

3 August
Lavant Horticultural Society Annual Show. Lavant Memorial Hall. From 2pm. www.lavanthortsoc.org.uk.

3 – 10 August
Chichester Camera Club Annual Exhibition. 10am–5pm excluding Sunday. Free entry. The Assembly

Room, Chichester. chichestercameraclub.org.uk/annual-exhibition/

4 August
Family Fun Day. TM

9 – 11 August
Open air festival screenings in Priory Park. Enjoy a selection of films.

9 – 25 August
The 32nd Chichester International Film Festival. Chichester Cinema at New Park. www.chichesterfilmfestival.co.uk

11 August
Vintage sale. St Wilfrid's Hospice Retro and Vintage shop. 11 Eastgate Square, PO19 1JH. 10am–2pm. <https://stwh.co.uk/events/vintage-fashion-sale/>

16 August
UK Queen under the stars. Dance the night away. www.stanstedpark.co.uk/queenunderthestars

19 August
'The British Airliner Collection at Duxford'. Air Aces Talks. £10, Boxgrove Village Hall. www.airaces.org.uk

24 August
Midhurst Summer Street Party. midhurst-tc.gov.uk/event/summer-street-party

26 August
Free Pony Petting Open Morning. Lavant Equestrian. www.lavantequestrian.co.uk

7 September
Binocular and Telescope Open Day. RSPB Pagham. <https://events.rspb.org.uk/events/71259>

8 September
Antique & Collectors Fair. The Grange, Midhurst. 10am–4pm. £2. www.grandmasatticfairs.co.uk

9 September
Chichester Creative Textiles meeting. Lavant Memorial Hall. newslettercreativetextiles@gmail.com

10 September
Chichester Legal Walk. Sponsored 10km walk. 4.30pm for 5pm start. londonlegalsupporttrust.org.uk/our-events/walks-in-the-south-east/chichester-legal-walk-2024

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WEST DEAN

Selsey Tramway Exhibition at The Novium Museum

The fascinating but ill-fated story of Selsey Tramway will be featured in a new exhibition at The Novium Museum, Chichester.

Opening on 13 July, the exhibition recounts how a railway line was proposed to link the then remote and isolated village of Selsey with Chichester. By August 1897, the Selsey Tramway was born, operated by The Hundred of Manhood and Selsey Tramway Company.

The line linked the outlying villages south of Chichester, known as the Manhood Peninsula, and consisted of approximately seven-and-a-half miles of track, with 11 stops in total, including Chichester, Hunston, Sidlesham, and Selsey, as well as privately owned farms, and the Selsey Golf Club.

On 27 August 1897, the tramway was officially opened at the Chichester station, while the Selsey station was still under construction. Crowds were disappointed when the first train arrived an hour late, setting the standard for the rest of its run. The tramway was possibly the most problematic railway of the area. Delays were expected, with drivers seldom sticking to schedules and frequent breakdowns occurring. However, in 1916, annual passenger numbers peaked at 105,169.

By the 1930s, bus services were more reliable and there was only one daily service on the tramway by November 1934.

Sadly, after thirty-eight years of operation, the tramway's last service ran on 19 January 1935.

The free exhibition can be found on the first floor of The Novium Museum. Find out more at: www.thenovium.org/selseytramway



Chichester District Council has submitted its new Chichester Local Plan to the Planning Inspectorate for examination.

This announcement follows careful consideration of the 2,500 comments and other feedback received last year. A great deal of work has been done by the council's planning policy team to finalise critical evidence, including examining the impacts on the A27 and local highway network. We have now submitted the plan, alongside a range of supporting documents and a list detailing proposed modifications aimed at addressing consultation feedback.

The Local Plan identifies development areas for economic growth and locations for new homes in the Chichester plan area over the next 15 years. There is a separate plan for areas located in the National Park and this is produced by the South Downs National Park Authority.

Submitting our plan for examination is a huge milestone. Since our most recent consultation closed last year, our officers have been working very hard to get the plan into shape and ready for submission. Due to the large number of comments we received, and the complex nature of the issues, this has taken time to review and assess. It was critical that every comment was properly considered. The feedback we received led to us suggesting a series of modifications, which have been listed alongside the plan.

This has been a critical piece of work, which has involved addressing some very difficult challenges, including complex issues around roads, air quality, wastewater and water neutrality. We'd also like to thank everyone who took part in our consultation and took the time to comment.

You can keep up-to-date on the Local Plan in several ways:

- Through our dedicated web pages: www.chichester.gov.uk/localplan
- By signing up to our dedicated Local Plan email newsletter at: www.chichester.gov.uk/localplannewsletter
- Following our council social media channels
- Visiting our news page: www.chichester.gov.uk/latestnews



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The Carewise care fees specialists are regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and members of the Society of Later Life Advisers, so you can have peace of mind when discussing your finances.

Carewise could also help to protect your finances for the future. Contact Carewise to find out how you could benefit.



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**The political make up of the council
as of May 2023 is:**

**25 Liberal Democrats
6 Green and Local Alliance Group
5 Conservatives.**



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