

initiatives



Community housing project

Local homes celebrated

Fighting fly tipping

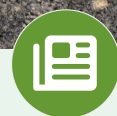
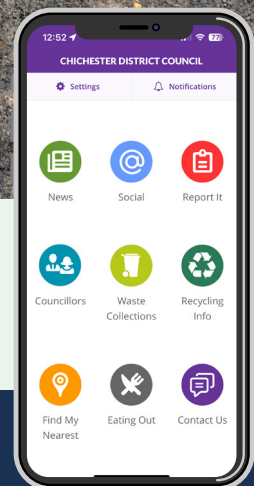
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Supporting You team

There for you

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See p19 for details



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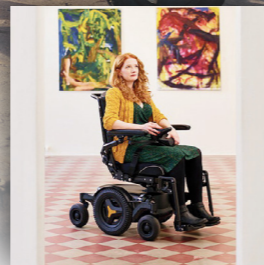
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Welcome to the spring issue of initiatives



Spring is often a time when we start to think about doing a bit of home improvement and DIY, and this often comes with lots of mess that needs to be cleared away.

Many people choose to hire a company or individual to remove our DIY waste, but sadly even though we pay good money, it doesn't always make it to the waste and recycling centre. On page 20 we have lots of tips and information on how to ensure that your waste gets to the right place and not fly tipped in our beautiful countryside, which is what can happen if we don't use the right companies.

Housing is an issue of enormous importance to people right now, and on

page 5 you can read about the work we are doing with landlords in our district to ensure that there is enough private rented accommodation to meet the high demand. In addition, you can also read about new community-led affordable housing that has been launched in Easebourne for local people by Midhurst Community Land Trust, with the support of Chichester District Council.

We also have a feature about our Supporting You Team on page 8 with hints and tips to help you and loved ones ensure you are claiming for any government help that is available.

Many of you will have enjoyed the fantastic laser shows that we held in Petworth and Chichester in February. If you're after more inspiration on what to do in our district over the coming months, then do head to pages 12 and 13 for our What's On listings. On page 6 we also have an update about some of the key events taking place that we as a council are either organising or supporting in some way. Events are not only vital for supporting our local economy, but also an important way to help bring our communities together.

Best wishes,

Councillor Clare Apel,
Chair of Chichester District Council

Sign up to initiatives+

Get all the latest updates and details from our council by signing up to our monthly email newsletter, Initiatives+. To sign up for more news and information from across the council simply go to: www.chichester.gov.uk/newsalerts



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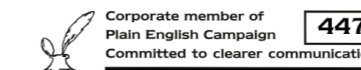
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Front cover: Community-led affordable housing in Easebourne – photograph by Allan Hutchings.

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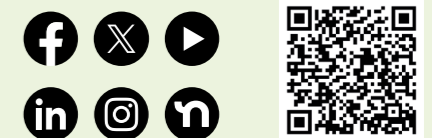
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Community-led affordable housing is launched in Easebourne for local people



Residents of one of the new properties, Chris and Carey.

Chair of Chichester District Council, Cllr Clare Apel, and David and Gordon of Midhurst CLT.

Eight new community-led affordable homes to let in Easebourne, where the average property price is £550,000, are being handed over to local people this month.

The homes, which are for people who live, have been brought up, or who work in the area and cannot afford to buy or rent locally, have been purchased by Midhurst Community Land Trust, with the support of Chichester District Council.

Chichester District Council provided grant funding towards the scheme from its Community Led Housing Fund and Section 106 affordable housing funding. The trust also received grant funding from the South Downs National Park Authority, The Boltini Trust and Friends of Midhurst Community Hospital. The remaining costs are being covered by a commercial loan.

The homes, which the Community Land Trust have bought on a new housing development, will be kept for local people; offer a rent that will be around 70% of the local open market rent; and as long as all goes well, the tenants will have use of the homes for life. The Community Land Trust has also fitted carpets and supplied all of the white goods in the homes, so that they are completely ready for the new tenants to move into.

Two of the homes are being allocated to NHS staff, after local health services have

found it difficult to recruit due to high house prices in the area.

“I really am looking forward to moving in!” says Maxine, one of the new tenants. “I’ve lived in the area for many, many years and work just down the road at the local primary school – my daughter lives in Midhurst too. I’ve seen the flat now and it is absolutely amazing. I just can’t wait to move in now!”

Another new resident, Frances, adds: “I’ve grown up and lived locally since I was five years old, and it means everything to me to be able to live here. It’s a huge privilege and I’m thrilled to have the opportunity to join this new community. I thank everyone who has made it possible.”

“We are incredibly proud of what has been achieved,” says Adrian Moore, Chair of Midhurst CLT. “It is so difficult for local people who have grown up in the area or for local keyworkers to afford to stay here, due to high house prices. Schemes such as this one mean that people can stay in the area where they grew up, or work, rather than move away to another area where it may be more affordable to live.”

Midhurst Community Land Trust already manages two affordable homes in Midhurst, and another Community Land Trust in the district is in the process of building 12 new affordable homes in Westbourne.

“The Midhurst and Westbourne Community Land Trusts have demonstrated what can be achieved when the local community works with the council and other partners to deliver affordable housing. This is why we are so keen for other communities to come forward to work with us in other rural areas,” says Councillor Oona Hickson, Cabinet Member for Housing, Revenues and Benefits at Chichester District Council.

“Housing is a huge issue for the district. Around 2,000 households with a connection to the district – such as people who have been brought up here or who are a key worker in the district – are waiting for a home in our area. We want those who grow up here to have the option to stay here and important key workers to be able to afford to work here. These are important people who we rely on and want to keep close by.

“This is why schemes such as this are so important in our rural villages. As a council, we don’t own housing stock and instead work with local registered housing providers who manage and supply local affordable homes. In rural locations, local housing registered housing providers often find it difficult to take on homes in these locations due to the small number of homes involved. This is why Community Land Trusts are so important, because not only are the affordable homes managed by local people, but they are also protected for the use of local people.”

Community Land Trusts are set up and run by local people to develop and manage homes. They also manage other assets important to their local community which could be a local pub or shop that is at risk of closure or providing local workspaces or community facilities. The Community Land Trust acts as the long-term steward of these assets and in the case of housing, ensuring it remains affordable in perpetuity.

Community Land Trusts provide affordable homes in local communities where the cost of housing is high and where it is difficult to bring forward new housing due to the land value being so high. They play an important role in contributing to affordable housing delivery.

Any communities that are interested in setting up their own affordable housing project are encouraged to contact Chichester District Council’s Housing Delivery Team for advice. There are many different ways for communities to set up their own housing project. Examples of projects include community-owned rented housing; low-cost housing for sale; housing co-operatives; self-build schemes; co-ownership; and housing for older people. For more details, people can visit: www.chichester.gov.uk/communityledhousing



Helping to reduce homelessness in our district

As part of our housing priority to reduce homelessness in the district, we are working on several new projects to help address some of the issues that people have been experiencing in the private rented sector.

One initiative is ‘Call Before You Serve’ and aims to assist landlords who are considering serving eviction notices to their tenants. Eviction is often a last resort on the landlord’s part, and the aim of this initiative is to help resolve any tenancy issues and prevent eviction action needing to be taken.

The idea is to develop better relationships with local landlords in order to help bring on more properties that they may have in their portfolio. A number of councils have had success with this approach. The opportunity to intervene at the earliest stage helps to reduce homelessness and improves security for both tenant and landlord.

These schemes can offer a range of support from creating a personalised housing plan with the tenant to resolving issues that may be impacting on their tenancy, to helping tenants to address financial difficulties that have led to getting into arrears with rent payments through support from housing benefit services, the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), local government homelessness prevention funds, charities and money advice services.

“Homelessness is an issue across the country, and we have seen a huge rise in the amount of money that the council has been spending on temporary accommodation,” says Councillor Oona Hickson, Cabinet Member for Housing, Revenues and Benefits at Chichester District Council. “As a council we are being very proactive in looking for solutions to improve the situation and we know from the research carried out that schemes such as these can have a huge impact on helping private landlords stay in the market, knowing that they have support and advice. Unlike private letting agents we can also help support tenants who are struggling or experiencing issues and ensure that they stay in accommodation.”

If you are a landlord and would like help and advice from our Private Rented Support Officer, please email fyates@chichester.gov.uk or call 01243 785166 and ask to speak to Fern Yeates or Tom Polhill.



OUT & PROUD

IN CHICHESTER



The lives and stories of local LGBTQ+ individuals are being celebrated through a new exhibition at The Novium Museum.

'Out & Proud in Chichester' is a collaboration with Chichester Pride and features personal stories, objects, and archival materials contributed by members of Chichester's LGBTQ+ community, which tell a series of unique and powerful stories.

Running until **6 September**, the exhibition marks a significant step toward amplifying LGBTQ+ voices that have historically been overlooked or erased. It also celebrates the journey of Chichester Pride, which has been at the heart of local LGBTQ+ advocacy and visibility since 2018. The objects included represent individuals' milestones, struggles,

and moments of pride along their journeys to self-acceptance and expression.

The exhibition also draws from The Novium Museum and Chichester Pride's archive, showcasing the organisation's history and accomplishments. The contributions from the Chichester Pride committee have been instrumental in making the exhibition a reality, ensuring that the voices of the community are central to the display.

The exhibition has been made possible thanks to the generous support of Barratt David Wilson Homes' and Chichester City Council.

Admission is free, with donations welcome. To find out more, visit www.thenovium.org/pride and also www.thenovium.org/whatson for information on events and activities that accompany the exhibition.



Roman re-enactment returns to Chichester!

Head to Chichester this May half-term as we celebrate all things Roman! The award-winning Chichester Roman Week returns from **Monday 26 May to Saturday 1 June** with exciting events across the district and beyond.

Led by The Novium Museum, history will be brought to life with something for everyone to enjoy including walks, talks, craft sessions and workshops.

This year also marks the return of the popular re-enactment day, which will take place in Priory Park, Chichester, on **Thursday 29 May**. Members of Legio Secunda Augusta, one of Europe's leading Roman re-enactment groups will lead a series of displays including gladiator fights, a slave auction, Roman army demonstrations, and talks about and herbs and medicine.

For a full list of Roman Week events please visit: www.thenovium.org/romanweek or call **01243 816525**.

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Future events in the district – Dates for your diary!



Keep an eye out for more information about the following events in Chichester city centre that are either being supported by or organised by Chichester District Council:

- **21 April:** Vintage/Antiques market
- **18 May:** Distinguished Gentlemen's ride
- **24 May:** Chichester Pride
- **15 June:** Trinity 950 – We are putting together a street food festival using local vendors to support Chichester Cathedral's big 950th anniversary celebrations.

Find out more about these and other events at www.chichester.gov.uk/whatson and also on our events and markets Facebook page: www.facebook.com/ChichesterDistrictEventsAndMarkets

Book a FREE collection of your textiles and small electricals!



Having a spring clean? Let us recycle your unwanted textiles and broken small electricals with our free kerbside collection service.

Find out more and book a collection at:

www.chichester.gov.uk/textileandelectricalrecycling



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Supporting You

If you're struggling with issues such as being in rent arrears, or not being able to pay your household bills, then our Supporting You Team is here to help.

Our team of specialist trained advisors work alongside our other council teams. Their role is to help people access a wide range of help including maximising income; debt signposting; employment advice; budgeting support; food provision, help to pay bills, plus signposting clients to our health and wellbeing team.

The team was established in 2022 in response to the cost-of-living crisis, to help those who were struggling. Since launching, they have helped thousands of people across the district with support and advice through their holistic approach.

Councillor Oona Hickson, Cabinet Member for Housing, Revenue and Benefits at Chichester District Council, says: "We've been able to help many people get back on an even keel and feel more in control of their financial situation. The team often look after cases where several different issues are involved, resulting in a complex and often distressing situation for the resident. This could be a housing problem compounded by financial issues, which can then go on to have a huge impact on their general health and wellbeing.

"The team can take an overview of their situation, helping with all the different issues. Their role means that they have more time to really talk with a client and find out about what they are going through. Most people don't know the level of support they are entitled to and it's amazing how a few changes can transform someone's life and their outlook. People often say they feel more empowered and can breathe easier following our support."

Check what you can claim

If you're struggling, then here are our top five tips to ensure that you or a loved one are claiming what you are entitled to:

1. Use our benefits and budgeting calculator

Use our free benefits and budgeting calculator at www.chichester.gov.uk/benefitsandbudgetingcalculator

Fill in the details then generate an estimate of your benefits entitlement.

You can then use this to:

- save and download information about benefits and how to maximise income;
- see which benefits couples can claim to maximise joint income; and
- use it as a handy benefits and budgeting calculator.

If you need further advice and support, you can choose to share your information with one of our Supporting You advisors who can provide further support and tips on how to make savings in your budget.

2. Check whether you can claim Pension Credit

If you're eligible for the State Pension, then also check to see whether you're entitled to Pension Credit which is one of the most under-claimed benefits. Simply visit: www.gov.uk/pension-credit

The scheme can also provide access to a range of other benefits such as help with housing costs - from housing benefit (if you rent the property you live in), to support for mortgage interest (if you own the property you live in).



It can also help you claim help with council tax, heating bills and for those aged 75 or over, a free TV licence.

Those receiving certain benefits may also qualify for the Winter Fuel Payment, which is designed to help you cover your costs over the winter months: www.gov.uk/winter-fuel-payment

3. Check if you can claim Attendance Allowance

Attendance Allowance is for anyone of state pension age and is not means tested. It helps with extra costs if you have a disability or health condition that requires you to need someone to help look after you.

Find out more at: www.gov.uk/attendance-allowance

4. Check whether you qualify for a reduced tariff on your utility bills

5. Make sure your Council Tax details are up to date as this can affect eligibility for council tax reduction: www.chichester.gov.uk/counciltax

Find out more

Email: supportingyou@chichester.gov.uk

Call: 01243 534860

Visit: www.chichester.gov.uk/supportingyouteam



Your council tax explained

You may be surprised to know that if you are a Band D taxpayer, we charge you just £3.69 a week for our services. Although we collect your council tax, we only keep around 8% of the amount you pay each year. Of the 92% remaining, 77% goes to West Sussex County Council, around 11% goes to Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner and roughly 4% goes to parish councils. Each authority makes its own decisions about any changes.

Offering value for money

You come into contact with our work every day. We provide over 80 services to you, across 303 square miles. We empty your bins, check food hygiene standards, licence taxis, clean your streets, care for our parks and open spaces and provide support and reassurance to our communities.

In order to protect vital services for our residents, we have increased the average tax bill by approximately 10 pence a week for a Band D property. This means that the average council tax payer will pay £3.69 a week for the services we provide each day.

Extra support

We know that for people on low incomes, paying council tax on top of the cost of living can be a struggle. Our local council tax reduction scheme supports those on low incomes with up to 100% of the total cost of council tax. We also have a Discretionary Scheme to assist those disadvantaged by the banded scheme for those in receipt of universal credit and care leavers.

Our dedicated Supporting You Team are also available to help you if you are struggling financially. The service is delivered by a dedicated team of trained

advisors who are able to intensively support people with a range of difficult and challenging issues at once.

You can get in contact with them at: www.chichester.gov.uk/supportingyou; emailing supportingyou@chichester.gov.uk; or calling 01243 534860.

How can I pay my council tax?

You can pay your council tax and business rates by direct debit. As well as being quicker and easier, it ensures that your payments are always on time – and it also helps us to save money too.

You can also pay:

- using your debit card and calling 01243 534880 – and have your council tax reference to hand;
- online at www.chichester.gov.uk/payabill
- at a Post Office or PayPoint facility; or
- by bank transfer.

If you need further help, please email taxation@chichester.gov.uk or call 01243 534501.

Interested in building your own home?

Ever fancied building your own home? Whether you want to manage the construction of your home from beginning to end; to projects where you commission your own home making key design and layout decisions, there are a wide variety of self-build and custom housebuilding options.

Local authorities keep a register of any individual or local community groups who want to obtain land to build their own homes, and they must take this demand into account when preparing local plans. We want to create more opportunities for self-build and custom build in the Chichester Local Plan area.

This is why our register is so important – it enables us to find out where people would like their plot to be and the type of house that they would like to build.

If you are interested in building your own home, then please consider joining our register. If you want to build within the Chichester Local Plan area, then you need to register with us at: www.chichester.gov.uk/article/36087/Register-your-interest-for-custom-and-self-build-housing where it is free to register.

If you are interested in building in those areas in our district based within the South Downs National Park, then please register here: www.southdowns.gov.uk/planningpolicy/self-build-custom-build

You can also find out more here: www.gov.uk/guidance/self-build-andcustomhousebuilding or please email us at: selfbuild@chichester.gov.uk





Up to £8 million set aside for district's leisure centres

We are setting aside up to £8 million to invest in our leisure centres as part of a new leisure management contract.

We own three leisure centres — Bourne Community Leisure Centre in Southbourne; The Grange Leisure and Community Centre in Midhurst; and Westgate Leisure Centre in Chichester. Since 1 May 2016, the day-to-day management of these facilities and our Sports Development Service has been carried out by external company Everyone Active, but the contract comes to an end in April 2026.

We have been working with specialist leisure consultants, Cabinet Members, council officers and external stakeholders to develop a procurement strategy that sets out the council's preferred approach to procuring the new leisure contract. We expect that the contract will be awarded in January 2026, following approval by Cabinet and Council.



Vital funding extension agreed for theatre and gallery

Cultural grants for Chichester Festival Theatre (CFT) and Pallant House Gallery (PHG) will continue for a further year after the current funding agreement ends next spring. Councillors agreed that Chichester Festival Theatre should receive £187,500 for the period 1 April 2025 – 31 March 2026, while Pallant House Gallery would receive £130,000 for the same period.

The decision was made in order to help CFT and PHG while the government undertakes its spending review. The huge cultural, economical, and social contribution that they make to our district was recognised by councillors, who wanted to ensure that they receive support over the next year. Our funding also enables CFT to unlock further crucial funding of over £1.7 million each year from Arts Council England.



Tourism funding in the Chichester District to continue for the next year

Councillors have demonstrated their commitment to the area's tourism sector after agreeing that an annual grant should continue for the next year.

'The Great Sussex Way' (TGSW) market and manage the tourism offering across the whole of the district on behalf of Chichester District Council to increase footfall, dwell time and spend to our local businesses. They also liaise with, and promote, more than 700 businesses and organisations.

The £130,000 funding that has been agreed is an interim arrangement. This will provide continuity and enable TGSW to carry on their important activities for the next financial year until Visit England finalises its new destination management structure.

Tourism plays a vital role within our district's economy and supports many jobs within the area which is why this funding is so important.



Improvements to community shops

Local residents and business tenants at The Ridgeway parade in Sherborne Road, Chichester are benefiting from major improvements that we have carried out.

The property, which we own and lease out, needed significant improvements and over the last couple of years our Building Services Team have completed a range of works.

This included work to prevent water ingress on the top of the canopy, repairing the concrete, repairing and repainting the canopy and replacing the entrance doors, updating signage and installing environmentally friendly bespoke lighting to the entire parade. The entrance doors were funded using a contribution from tenants while lighting and signage were funded with money secured from the UK Government.

The project has helped make this locally listed building and key local landmark pride of place again, and the council has received lots of positive feedback from both businesses and residents.



Local Plan update

The examination of our Local Plan is still underway. To find out the latest updates, please visit: www.chichester.gov.uk/localplan

Devolution and local government reorganisation

You may have seen in the media that the government have outlined plans for both devolution and the reorganisation of local government.

Devolution and the reorganisation of local government are two different things.

Devolution involves introducing strategic authorities with an elected mayor across England, so that government can hand more powers down from Whitehall. Elected mayors will oversee areas representing two or more current county council geographical areas and will be handed more power over things such as strategic housing and planning; transport; environment; support, business and research; and public safety. A strategic authority would represent a population size of at least 1.5 million residents.

In December, the government invited upper tier (county and unitary) authorities to submit bids for devolution by 10 January for a place on their fast-track scheme. In our area, West Sussex County Council, East Sussex County Council and Brighton and Hove Council requested to create a strategic authority based on their combined footprint, which covers around 1.7 million residents.

The bid was given the green light by the government. The consultation for Sussex and Brighton devolution is open until 13 April – you can take part at: www.gov.uk/government/consultations/sussex-and-brighton-devolution/sussex-and-brighton-devolution-consultation

The aim is to agree a new strategic authority by September and if approved, this will be created in March 2026 with mayoral elections being held in May 2026.

Local government reorganisation is separate to devolution, but links with the government's overall aims. The government wants all areas to have unitary councils across the country, with each serving a minimum of 500,000 residents. For the Sussex area, this is likely to mean the creation of three new unitary councils. This would mean all of the existing councils merging into the new unitary councils. Our detailed business case has to be submitted by 26 September and we are working with all councils in Sussex to put forward a proposal that best serves our community.

As Sussex has been accepted onto the fast-track devolution route, the new authorities will have shadow elections in May 2027, and they are expected to come into effect in April 2028.

We want to assure you that regardless of these proposed changes, our services will still be provided to you, and we will make the transition as smooth as we possibly can. We will also keep you closely informed as we receive more information.

You can find out more, including frequently asked questions at www.chichester.gov.uk/devolution





What's on?

Services we offer at Dovecote View Residential Care Home:

- Long-term Care
- Respite/Convalescence Care
- Day Care

For more information on our services, please call us on **01243 779080** or www.dovecoteview.com



Venue codes and useful numbers

CC
Chichester Cathedral
www.chichestercathedral.org.uk/events

CCC
Chichester Chamber Concerts
www.chichesterchamberconcerts.com

CFT
Chichester Festival Theatre
www.cft.org.uk

CHIBID
Chichester BID
01243 773 263
www.chichesterbid.co.uk

DS
Discover Selsey
www.destinationseley.co.uk

GC
The Grange Community and Leisure Centre, Midhurst
01730 815 285
www.everyoneactive.com/centre/the-grange-community-leisure-centre

ME
Mulberry Marine Experiences
01243 601000 or
www.mulberry-me.co.uk/marine-ecology/beach-cleans.html

NOV
The Novium Museum
01243 7775888 or
www.thenovium.org

WD
The Weald & Downland Living Museum
01243 811363 or
www.wealddown.co.uk

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.

Car boot sale
Every Sunday from 11am in Cattle Market car park.

Farmers' Market – 4 April, 18 April, 2 May, 16 May, 6 June, 20 June, 4 July
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

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

Until November 2025 Religion, Rebellion & Reformation:
Nine centuries of the Christian Faith in Sussex. Exhibition as part of Chichester Cathedral's 950 years celebrations. CC

5 & 6 April Chichester Camera Club Spring Exhibition. Tangmere Village Centre, PO20 2HS. Saturday, 10am-5pm, Sunday, 10am-4pm. Free.

5 – 21 April Easter holiday activities. WD

6 April – 7 June Seal Safari Boat Trips. Special expert-led trips around Chichester Harbour to observe seals. Adults £27, Children £13.50. www.boattripschichesterharbour.co.uk

9 April Lavant Horticultural Society. Richard Ramsey on Dahlias. Lavant Memorial Hall. 7pm. www.lavanthortsoc.org.uk

12 April Spring/Easter seasonal market, inside The Old Library and outside in Market Square, 9am-2pm. midhurst-tc.gov.uk/seasonal-market

12 & 13 April Easter Through the Ages. WD

13 April Antique and Collectors Fair. Up to 80 stalls at Westgate Leisure centre. 10am-4pm. Admission £2.

13 April, 11 May, 8 June Chichester District Society of Model Engineers. Open Days. Rides on model trains and traction engine. Light refreshments available. Blackberry Lane, Chichester, PO19 7FS. 1pm-5pm. Admission free, rides £1.50 each or four for £5.

17 April Chichester District Gardens Allotments Association. talk Ian Everest – Shepherds of the Sussex Downs. St George's Church Hall, Whyke. 7.30pm. Free. barbandvic@sky.com

17 April Chichester Historical Association. – Leaders of the French Revolution. Friends Meeting Room, Chichester. 7.30pm. chihistoricalassociation@gmail.com or 07860 119137

18 April, 29 June Toy Fair at The Grange. GC

19 April Guided Walk: Spring Into Pagham. Guided walk from RSPB Pagham harbour to Church Norton. From 10am. £8 per person/£5 members.

19 April, 17 May, 21 June Monthly Market at The Grange. GC

21 April Teddy Bears Picnic at Stansted Park. Join for a gathering of teddy bears with a big picnic on Stansted House front lawn. Free. www.stanstedpark.co.uk/whatson

24 April Talks at Six – Investing in art and antiques. Talk by Rupert Toovey on art and antiques and his life as an Auctioneer. Bassil Shippam Centre, Tozer Way, PO19 7LG. 6pm. Free – suggested donation £5.

25 April, 30 May, 27 June Primal Warrior Men's mental health community group monthly meet. Goodwood Education Centre. 7pm-9pm. www.primal-warrior.co.uk

26 April Midhurst Rother College Community Day. 10am-2pm.

26 April Flower Show - 'A Day at the Seaside'. North Mundham Village

Hall. 12-4pm. Admission £5, refreshments included.

27 April, 25 May, 15 June Indoor Car Boot at The Grange. GC

3 May Guided Walk: Loving the Lichen. Guided walk around RSPB Pagham Harbour, focusing on the different forms and structures of lichen found around the Harbour. From 10am. £7 per person/£5 for members.

4 & 5 May Turn Back Time: A Family Weekend. WD

From 7 May Watercolour classes with John Hill Every Wednesday and Friday. Rousillon Park Community Hall, Chichester. 12.30pm-3.30pm. johnhillwatercolour.com

10 & 11 May Sussex Art Fair. Goodwood Racecourse. 11am-5pm. £5 advance / £7.50 on door. www.sussexartfair.co.uk/tickets

11 May Lavant Horticultural Society Annual Plant Sale. A chance to bring extra colour to your garden. Lavant Memorial Hall. 2pm. www.lavanthortsoc.org.uk

11 May Victory 80 Commemorative Street Party. Tangmere Military Aviation Museum.

11 May Antique and Collectors Fair. Up to 80 stalls at The Grange, Midhurst. From 10am-4pm. Admission £2.

15 May CDGAA talk. William Avenell - What's in a View. St George's Church Hall, Whyke. 7.30pm. Free. barbandvic@sky.com

16 May Petworth Area Churches Together. Spring Lecture. Talk by His Grace the Duke of Norfolk at St Mary's Church, Petworth. 7.30pm. geraldgreshamcooke@gmail.com

22 May Talks at Six – Indestructible Lee Miller. Talk by Antony Penrose about the life of his mother – from artist, to war correspondent and photographer. Bassil Shippam Centre, Tozer Way, PO19 7LG. 6pm. Free – suggested donation of £5.

24 May – 1 June Saxon Week: Half term activities. WD

30 May Outdoor Theatre at Stansted Park. The Three Inch Fools present The Most Perilous Comedie of Elizabeth I. 6pm-8.30pm www.stanstedpark.co.uk/whatson

31 May – 14 June Chichester Fringe. Multi-arts festival with programme of events including live music, stand up comedy, theatre, and more! www.chichesterfringe.co.uk

11 June Lavant Horticultural Society Annual Summer Social. Lavant Memorial Hall. 7.30pm. www.lavanthortsoc.org.uk

14 June St Wilfrid's Hospice Moonlight Walk 2025. Complete either a 5 or 10 mile walk around Chichester for a great cause. Tickets and setting up fundraising page available here: www.stwh.co.uk/moonlight

14 June – 20 July Festival of Chichester. A range of events, from music, talks, to exhibits and walking tours. festivalofchichester.co.uk

19 June CDGAA talk. Ian Burton – Wey and Arun Canal. St George's Church Hall, Whyke. 7.30pm. Free. barbandvic@sky.com

19 June Chichester Historical Association – Eighteenth Century Women's Legal Disabilities and how they got around them. Friends Meeting Room, Chichester. 7.30pm. chihistoricalassociation@gmail.com or 07860 119137

25 June – 26 July Marie and Rosetta. The true story of American singer and songwriter Rosetta Tharpe and her protégé Marie Knight. CFT

26 June Talks at Six – Coastal Plains: Past, present, and future Mark Roberts on the coastal landscape from Portsmouth to Brighton. Bassil Shippam Centre, Tozer Way, PO19 7LG. 6pm. Free – suggested donation of £5.

28 June St. Peter's Festival. St. Peter's Church, Selsey. 11am-3pm. www.stpetersselsey.com

29 June Open Cockpit Day. Tangmere Military Aviation Museum.



Expert dementia care

care UK

Guided by the latest academic evidence, our dementia specialists support each resident to live every day to the full.

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Chichester Grange care home Chichester

trinity fest on the green

Sat 15 June
11 - 4pm

Celebrating Chichester Cathedral's 950th anniversary

A free event with activities for all of the family, delivered by the cathedral team and special guests



CHICHESTERCATHEDRAL.ORG.UK/CHICHESTER950

chichester wellbeing

Time to focus on you

Looking after yourself has never been more important and a few small changes can make a big difference to your health and wellbeing.

The Chichester Wellbeing programme provides free support for adults who live or work in the district. We aim to help people make healthy lifestyle choices to reduce their risk of heart disease, stroke, Type 2 Diabetes and some cancers.

Our experienced Wellbeing Advisors can help with weight management; healthy eating; stopping smoking; alcohol reduction; falls prevention; and becoming more active.

If you're looking to cut down on the amount you are drinking, then our alcohol wellbeing advisors can help. The service is available to anyone aged 18 or over, living or working in West Sussex. Our sessions are over the phone or in person.

Anyone can self-refer by calling 01243 521041 or emailing wellbeing@chichester.gov.uk. You can also visit our website www.chichesterwellbeing.org.uk



THE CHEESE & CHILLI FESTIVAL
Oaklands Park
21st & 22nd June
CHICHESTER
WWW.CHEESEANDCHILLIFESTIVAL.COM

KIDS GO FREE

SCAN ME

Join us at our Selsey Coastal Scheme public events!

Come along to one of our events and find out more about our multi-million pound project, which is investigating options and designs for new Selsey sea defences.

Our Coastal Management Team is keen to hear about your thoughts and explain about the sea defence options for the area.

Location: **The Selsey Centre PO20 0SE**

Thursday 24th April 10am – 2pm
Friday 25th April 2pm – 7pm
Saturday 26th April 10am – 2pm



© Coastal



SCAN FOR MORE INFO!



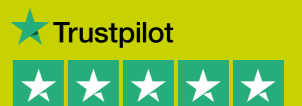
To join our mailing list, please email selsey.coastal@havant.gov.uk

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www.mayowynnebaxter.co.uk

Book your MOT online with us today!



Did you know that we offer a trusted and independent MOT service, which can be carried out within the hour? Our specialist centre can test cars, vans, minibuses, light commercial vehicles and motorhomes and is conveniently located just off the A27 in Stane Street, Chichester.



All you need to do is book online at: www.chichester.gov.uk/mot and our friendly experts will do the rest, helping to keep you safe on the road!

Our MOT Test Station Team have highlighted some of the most common MOT failures and tips on how to beat them below. While we do not undertake repairs or servicing, there are a number of simple checks that you can carry out before an MOT test to make sure your car is ready. These are also checks that are useful to carry out all year round.



Lights

Broken lights are one of the most common reasons for MOT failure. Are they all fully working? Get a family member or friend to sit in the car while you walk round checking every light. This should include front, rear, headlights and dipped, hazards and indicators and number plates.



Tyres

Ensure your tyres are fully inflated. You can do this by using a tyre pressure checker and measuring the results against the outlines in your car manual.



Windscreen, wipers and washers

These are one of the easiest areas to look over before your MOT. Check your windscreen for any damage or cracks. Damage in the driver's central view should be no larger than 10mm. In the whole of the swept area, it should be no larger than 40mm. If it is, make sure you get it fixed in advance of the MOT test – often this will be covered by your car insurance. Also, check that your front windscreen wipers clear the windscreen in conjunction with the washers.



Exhaust, noise and leaks

To check if the exhaust is leaking, start the engine and from the rear of the car listen for any unusual noises and look for any abnormal smoke. These indicate a leak, which should be fixed before the MOT. If you have a diesel car, with a diesel particulate filter and there's smoke of any colour coming from the exhaust, it will fail – so check it out beforehand.



Final checks

Make sure that the fuel cap is secure, and your mirrors are in good condition. Also check that the doors, horn, and seatbelts,

are all fully functional. Check that there are no warning lights on and check the brake fluid, windscreen washer and oil reserves.

Other helpful information

Get MOT reminders

You can sign up to get free reminders by text message or email when your MOT is due at: www.gov.uk/mot-reminder

Driving standards

The DVSA have produced a series of videos covering basic car safety checks which can be found at: www.youtube.com/@dvsagovuk

Booking an MOT in April and May?
Visit www.chichester.gov.uk/mot and get £5 off using discount code: **SAVE5MOT**

*Promotional offer applies to MOT tests only when booked online until 31 May 2025; terms and conditions apply.

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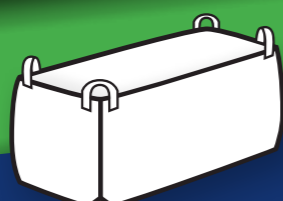
BULKYBAG

It's as easy as 1,2,3



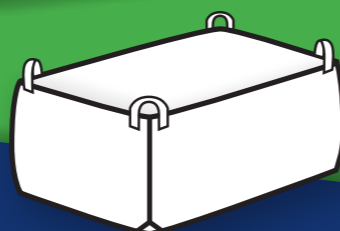
1. Buy the Bag

Order online and we'll deliver your bag straight to you



2. Fill the Bag

With your non-hazardous waste



3. Contact Us

When you're ready request a collection and we'll come and collect it

Taking on a DIY project?

Our BULKY BAG service provides a cost-effective and convenient waste removal solution for your home or business.

- Three different bag sizes available
- Ideal for house and garden clearances
- DIY waste
- Commercial waste

Terms and conditions apply. Service may not be available in all parts of the district. Please check online for full details

Special Offer! Use discount code SPRING15 and get 15% off your order.

Discount applies to online orders made between April and May 2025.



Order online today!

www.chichester.gov.uk/bulkybag

Council updates direct to your phone

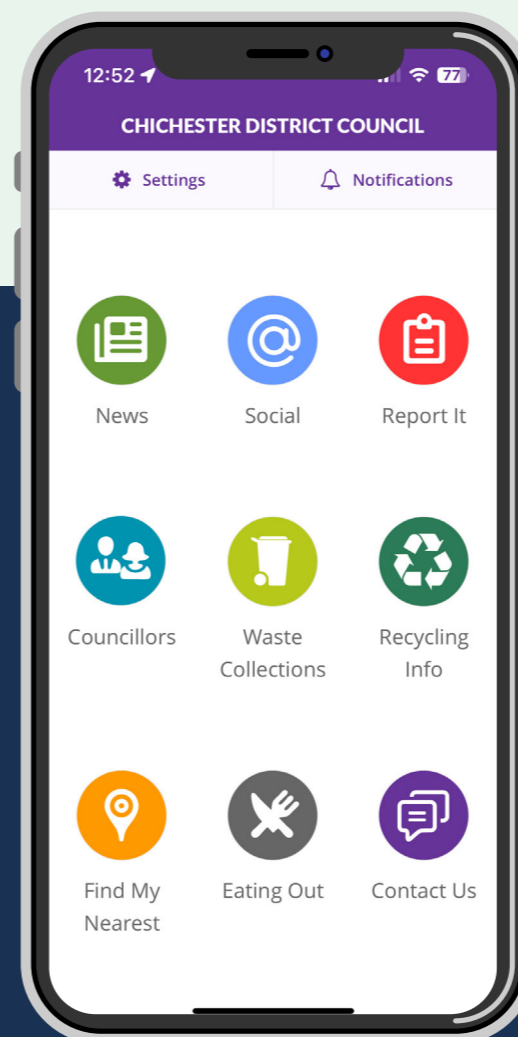
Finding out information about local council services – including receiving recycling and waste collection day reminders – has never been easier, thanks to our free Chichester District Council app, which is available from the Apple Store and Google Play Store.

As long as you switch your notifications on, we will be able to let you know if our recycling and waste crews are running late, and if we have any planned changes to collections. You can also find out about other council services and keep up to date with all of the latest council news and information.

You can find out more at: www.chichester.gov.uk/chichesterdcapp

'Step by Step Guide' to downloading the Chichester District Council app

- 1 Head to the Apple Store or Google Play Store on your smartphone device.
- 2 Type in 'Chichester District Council' into the search bar. Our free app will pop up in the results.
- 3 Click to download it onto your mobile device. You can now exit the app store. The app should now show up amongst the icons on your home screen.
- 4 Open the app, type in your postcode and select your address from a drop-down list. You will also be prompted to enter your contact details, so you can receive important updates when reporting incidents to us.
- 5 Don't forget to click 'allow notifications' in the notifications tab to ensure you don't miss out on important reminders and announcements.



The app enables you to:

- News** – read council news stories on important local issues.
- Report it** – complete 'Report it' forms for issues such as street cleaning, fly-tipping, or to request a new bin.
- Councillors** – access the details of your local district councillor.
- Waste collections** – find out when your bin is due to be collected and sign up for notifications on waste collection updates.
- Recycling information** – sign up to receive weekly bin collection day reminders for recycling and waste collections, including our garden recycling service.
- Find my nearest** – find your nearest facilities, such as recycling centres, car parks, leisure centres, libraries, recycling centres and public toilets.
- Eating out** – view local hygiene ratings for restaurants and cafes.
- Contact us** – access our address details, opening hours and contact information.

AGAINST LITTER, AGAINST FLY TIPPING

WE'RE AGAINST FLY TIPPING, ARE YOU?



Fly tipping is an offence that we take very seriously. Not only does it ruin the landscape of our beautiful district, but it also poses an environmental risk. During 2023 – 2024 we experienced 888 fly tips, with fly tipping costing us more than £350,000 to clear up every year. We are working hard to tackle this issue, but we need your help.

Your rubbish, your responsibility

One of the most important roles you can play in the fight against fly tipping is to make sure that anyone you employ to remove and dispose of your excess household waste is licensed as a waste carrier with the Environment Agency.

By law, **you are responsible for any waste produced on your property**. This is known as your 'duty of care', and means that whether you have finished a DIY project; been clearing out unwanted household items; or have been busy sprucing up your garden, it is down to you to make sure that your waste is disposed of safely and legally.

If you ask someone to remove your waste, it's vital that you use a licensed waste carrier and ask for a waste transfer note as evidence. If you don't do this, and your waste is fly tipped, you could be held responsible and face a fine. This could also result in a prosecution.

Use our Bulky Waste or Garden Recycling services

We have a range of services that can help you dispose of large, unwanted items or garden waste. You can find out more by visiting www.chichester.gov.uk/bulkywaste and www.chichester.gov.uk/gardenwaste. For larger volumes of waste our Bulky Bag service provides a cost-effective and convenient waste removal solution and is perfect for house clearances, DIY or garden waste. See

page 18 for our Spring discount offer and visit www.chichester.gov.uk/bulkybag

Donate unwanted items to charity

Many charities, such as the British Heart Foundation, will take furniture.

WHAT ARE WE DOING?

We regularly carry out stop and search type initiatives in partnership with the Environment Agency and Sussex Police. These operations involve stopping vehicles that can carry waste and checking that they meet all the legal requirements in order to disrupt potential fly tipping activities.

In addition, we also issue Fixed Penalty Notices to people who give their waste to non-registered waste carriers.

We are also working with local tradespeople to raise awareness of the importance of registering as a licensed waste carrier. As part of this, we are providing a marketing pack to those who are licensed, which includes a sticker to put in their van or premises, and a logo for their website to show that they are licensed.

However, it is important that you check the Environment Agency website for an up-to-date list of licensed waste carriers before employing anyone to dispose of your waste.

For more information on this, visit www.chichester.gov.uk/licensedwastecarrier



SEE IT. NOTE IT. REPORT IT.

You can also help us by reporting incidents of fly tipping. If you witness a fly tip or wish to report an area which has been fly tipped, please make sure that once you see it, you note it and report it, by visiting www.chichester.gov.uk/flytipping

CHECK IF YOUR WASTE CARRIER IS LICENSED

1. Check their waste carrier licence number on the Environment Agency's register of waste carriers visiting: environment.data.gov.uk/public-register/view/search-waste-carriers-brokers or call 03708 506506.
2. If they do not have a licence, do not use them.
3. If they do, ask to see their waste carrier licence and make a note of their vehicle registration number.
4. Ask what will happen to your waste.
5. Make sure that you get a waste transfer note and receipt for your waste and keep these as proof.

TAKE YOUR WASTE TO A REGISTERED SITE

Book an appointment at your nearest site – find out more at www.westsussex.gov.uk/RC

Confused about recycling?



60% of West Sussex residents want to learn more about what can and can't be recycled at home. The Think Before You Throw campaign helps turn confusion into confidence!

The animated series takes the guesswork out of recycling for everyone. From takeaway food containers to batteries, these bite-sized videos answer your most common recycling questions and show exactly what happens once your bins have been collected.

Watch the videos on the West Sussex Recycles website to find out more.

#ThinkBeforeYouThrow

westsussex.gov.uk/ThinkBeforeYouThrow



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Let's talk

Over the past few months, we've asked for your thoughts on a number of important projects, and we'd like to thank everyone who has taken part in our consultations and shared their views. We've already started to take your feedback on board!



Climate change consultation

We all have an important part to play in helping to combat climate change. Last summer, we asked people for their opinions on potential projects that could help individuals and communities to reduce their carbon emissions.

1,382 people visited our online survey, almost seven times the number of the previous consultation in 2020, and over 1,000 of these completed the survey. This was one of the best responses that the council has ever seen – so thank you! This feedback is being used to help shape our new climate emergency action plan, which will be discussed by Cabinet and Full Council later this year.

To keep up to date on climate change initiatives, sign up to our designated email newsletter: www.chichester.gov.uk/climatechangenewsletter

Housing consultation

At the start of this year, we launched our 'Let's Talk: Housing' consultation and invited you to have your say on the aims and actions that we're considering including in our new Housing, Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2025-2030.

Housing is one of the council's top priorities and this strategy is crucial because it sets out how we can support all our residents. This includes working with our partners to prevent people from becoming homeless; creating and retaining affordable housing for young people and families; addressing the housing needs of older people; and improving housing standards for everyone.

Over 600 people have visited our consultation and we're busy reviewing all your feedback, which we'll take this into account before presenting the final strategy to Full Council for consideration later this year.

Play areas consultation

We've also been really pleased to see the positive response to our recent play areas consultation! We spoke to the children, parents, and carers who use our play parks in Sherbourne Road; Whyke Oval; the Amphitheatre; Priory Park; Florence Park; and Oaklands Park, to find out what improvements they would like to see. Their ideas then helped to shape the final designs, which we consulted on back in February.

We're investing £800,000 to enhance these play parks and work is due to begin over the next few weeks.

To keep updated on all of these projects, visit: www.chichester.gov.uk/latestnews; follow us on social media; or sign up to our email newsletter: www.chichester.gov.uk/newsalerts. You can find links to our live consultations at: www.chichester.gov.uk/letstalksurveys

Evening and night-time economy consultation

We're incredibly proud of our city and want to help ensure that it offers something for everyone. That's why we created a dedicated Chichester Evening and Night-time Economy Working Group, which includes the University of Chichester, Chichester College, and local businesses, event organisers, and organisations.

Last year, the group commissioned specialists to conduct a survey to better understand the experiences of people who use – and those who don't currently use – the city between 5pm and 5am. Over 3,000 people shared their views, including what they would like to see or experience in the future. Your feedback is now being used to help inform the group's work.

Be the first to know about new consultations

Don't miss an opportunity to have your say on the issues that matter most to you. Join our Let's Talk Panel and you'll be the first to hear about any consultations that we're running: www.chichester.gov.uk/letstalkpanel. There's no commitment – you can get involved as much or as little as you want to.



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What we do for you

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Increase rental income

Some of our clients are making up to 3 x as much by using our holiday let system compared to conventional long-term rentals.

Hands off management

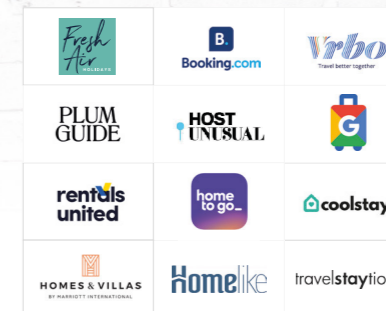
Our professional management service does the work for you. Liaising with guests, handling check-ins, cleaning, laundry and more.

We work around you

Some people only want to rent their homes at specific times in the year. That's fine with us; we have no fixed contracts.

Exclusive use of our App

Our unique management app brings the landlord, management company and guest together in one easy place.



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Expert advice on paying for care

Long-term care in your own home or in a residential care home is expensive, but with expert advice from independent financial specialists, Carewise can help you to make informed decisions on choosing and paying for the right care.

The Carewise care fees specialists are all members of the Society of Later Life Advisers, and can give you peace of mind that you've explored all your options. Contact Carewise to find out how you could benefit.





carewiseadvice.com

carewise@westsussex.gov.uk

0330 222 7000



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 Charlwood Street, Bognor Regis, PO21 2PQ