

## Update from Hampshire County Council – November 2023

### **Next steps towards an updated Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan**

Hampshire's five minerals and waste planning authorities are entering the next stage in updating the Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan - fulfilling their collective duty to ensure that the whole area can continue to provide a steady and adequate supply of minerals for building homes, schools, hospitals and roads, as well as provide sufficient waste resources and facilities

Over the next two months, an update of the Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan (the 'Proposed Submission Plan') is set to be considered by each of the five authorities (Hampshire County Council, New Forest National Park Authority, Portsmouth City Council, Southampton City Council and South Downs National Park Authority) to determine whether each Authority agrees that further consultation can take place prior to the Plan being submitted to the Government's Planning Inspectorate for examination.

The Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan is evidence-based and is in line with national planning policy. The local policies contained within the Plan guide the decisions that each of the five minerals and waste planning authorities make when determining planning applications for minerals extraction or waste infrastructure and operations.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20231101HantsMinWastePlanSubmission>

### **Voice of Hampshire's youth take to national political stage**

Members of the Hampshire Youth Parliament are set to be the voice of Hampshire's young people on the national stage, after being appointed Chair of the Government's Youth Select Committee and the South-East Youth Parliament Debate Lead

Dmitrijs Meiksans, Hampshire MYP for the North West, has been elected as Debate Lead for the South East region at the UK Youth Parliament sitting at the House of Commons on Friday 17 November.

For the first time ever MYPs will debate a Bill in the House of Commons. Hampshire MYPs will help make history by leading one of the five debates on:

- Holiday hunger
- Quality of food
- Standardisation
- Financing/funding
- Additional pricing

They are currently holding elections for the next round of Youth MPs, with voting beginning on 30 October.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/23102023hypnews>

### **Meals on Wheels – helping you to stay well during the colder months**

To coincide with national Meals on Wheels Week, Hampshire County Council is reminding local residents that Meals on Wheels are available to anyone with a long-term health condition who may struggle to shop for or prepare food for themselves

Meals on Wheels are designed for anyone over the age of 18 living with a health condition who has difficulty shopping or cooking for themselves.

Hampshire County Council's Meals on Wheels are provided by Health and Independent Living Support (HILS) and currently cost £8.50 for a two-course hot meal (a third course is £1.50 extra), with afternoon tea costing £3.95.

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National Meals on Wheels Week is organised by the National Association of Care Caterers to celebrate the service and the vital role it plays in supporting older and vulnerable people living in local communities across the country.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20231030mealswheels>

### **Hampshire's community pantry network grows as more help announced with cost-of-living challenges**

More residents of Eastleigh and Test Valley will soon be able to join the thousands of Hampshire people who use community pantries to stretch their grocery budget each week, with the announcement of a county-wide package of support totalling more than £424,000



Pilands Wood Community Association in Bursledon, and Test Valley charity Unity have received start-up funding from Hampshire County Council's Household Support Fund (HSF) to open community pantries in their areas. The Pilands Wood pantry will operate from the local community centre, while Unity will provide a travelling pantry serving the Stockbridge, West Wellow and King's Somborne areas.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20231011pantries>

### **County Council to consult on proposed changes to School and Post-16 Transport**

Proposed changes to Hampshire County Council's School and Post-16 Transport Policies will be the subject of two public consultations set to run from Monday 30 October until Wednesday 6 December

As required by the Department for Education (DfE), there are two policies in place for the County Council's school transport provision for children and young people: one for children of compulsory school age, and a Post-16 Policy for young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) travelling to further education or training.

The first of the two consultations will seek feedback on a proposal to increase the parental financial contribution to the Post-16 Transport service, annually from September 2024, in line with inflation. As with most Local Authorities, the Post-16 Transport service is discretionary and requires a partial parental contribution, with the majority of the overall costs funded by the County Council. The proposed annual increase comes following ongoing exceptional challenges in the transport market nationally which have seen the County Council's transport costs rise significantly above inflation, from £34 million in the 2021/22 financial year to over £50 million in 2022/23.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20231019transportconsultations>

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