

Update from Hampshire County Council

March 2023

Budget: Hampshire County Council's expenditure for 2023/24 includes a £2.6bn annual revenue budget and covers all the services delivered by the council for 1.4 million residents, including supporting its most vulnerable children and adults. Capital budget projects totaling £645.3m over the next three years include:

- £175m investment in new and extended school buildings to provide school places for children in Hampshire, giving a total of 18,874 new school places by September 2025.
- £142m for structural maintenance and improvement of roads and bridges.
- £103m of Integrated Transport Plan schemes including £58m of schemes focused on walking and cycling improvements.
- £0.3m funding towards the County Council's Flood Risk and Coastal Defence Programme as part of our response to the challenge of climate change.

Hampshire County Council's council tax precept for the financial year beginning 1 April 2023, will increase by a total of 4.99%, of which 2% will go specifically towards adults' social care, in line with Government policy.

England's Chief Medical Officer, Prof Sir Chris Whitty visited Hampshire this month to discuss work by the Hampshire Public Health team working alongside the NHS to help support a healthier old age.



Preventing falls, being travel confident, better mental health and connecting through libraries will be part of the Live Longer Better programme launching soon. www.hantsiowhealthandcare.org.uk

Coronation Grants - a new grant window for Hampshire County Councillors will open from 1st to 21st April. Called 'Member's Grants for the Coronation' will offer grants up to £1k for parish councils or community groups to support local events. <https://www.hants.gov.uk/community/grants/grants-list/county-councillor>

Increased police numbers announced The Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire and Isle of Wight, Donna Jones, has presented her budget plan for the years 2023-24. She had previously pledged to increase police numbers by 600 and is on track to recruit these by the end of March. Her new budget has added an additional 50 officers to these numbers, to be funded through the police precept of council tax.

20mph zones in Hampshire Hampshire's Transport and Environment Select Committee discussed the introduction of 20mph zones as outlined in the report of their Task and Finish group. There are several recommendations in the report, which suggest criteria for considering how 20mph zones are introduced more widely. The authority hopes to find a way by which the aspirations of communities wanting 20mph zones can be properly considered. Ensuring there is wide community support for any zone is essential. The ability to enforce them effectively, and the cost of their introduction, are also factors which will need to be considered by the Hampshire Cabinet later this year.

Cllr Jan Warwick

Hampshire County and Winchester City Councillor

Jan.Warwick@hants.gov.uk or jwarwick@winchester.gov.uk

Tel: 07712 695431