

## Update from Hampshire County Council – December 2022



### **Hampshire Highways boost for greener highways maintenance**

Hampshire Highways' ability to increase its recycling capacity, for highway maintenance operations, has been boosted with the addition of a specialist vehicle to its fleet

A new mobile Volumetric Concrete Mixer enables concrete to be made completely from the gravel and tarmac taken from previous road repairs and for it to be delivered to work sites right across Hampshire. The mixer's green credentials are further enhanced in that it is fuelled by low carbon hydrotreated vegetable oil (HVO) fuel.

Hampshire Highways is an established collaboration between Hampshire County Council, Milestone Infrastructure and OCL regeneration. This is the partnership behind the cutting-edge Roads Materials Recycling Facility in Micheldever – a first for Hampshire. Here, network waste, including concrete and other aggregates removed during highway repairs, are re-processed cleanly and quietly ready for re-use as road repair materials.

It is from this facility that the 100 per cent recycled raw material for the Volumetric Concrete Mixer will be supplied. Specific concrete mix designs have been created and rigorously tested to ensure they meet the quality standard and specification requirements for use across the highway network.

As a next step, Hampshire Highways will be conducting an assessment of clinker free cement for inclusion in the concrete mix. This emits only 180 kgCO<sub>2</sub>e in its manufacture compared to 900 kgCO<sub>2</sub>e emitted by the manufacture of traditional Portland cement. This will be another effective innovative solution to combatting the impacts of climate change.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20221128HantsHighwaysVolumetricMixer>

### **Free activities and food for Hampshire's most vulnerable children this Christmas**

An exciting programme of free activity schemes is set to lighten the additional pressures that Christmas brings for low-income and vulnerable families

Hampshire County Council is funding more than 100 fun and engaging schemes for eligible children over the Christmas school holidays, as part of its Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme.

Using the funding provided by the Department for Education, the County Council - with the support of local providers - has secured a programme of activities and healthy meals during the school holidays for children who receive income-based free school meals during term time.

In total, the County Council has awarded more than £600,000 to 49 providers. Schools, childcare providers, community groups, and sports activity providers are among those delivering 127 schemes across the whole of Hampshire this Christmas. Over 22,000 free places have been made available for children who receive income-based free school meals, and for children of other vulnerable families.

Parents and carers wishing to find out what is on offer in their area should search the Family Information and Services Hub and contact their local providers directly to sign up to schemes.

<https://fish.hants.gov.uk/kb5/hampshire/directory/advice.page?id=XRITDNF8hhM>

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20221125HAFChristmas>

## **Update from Hampshire County Council – December 2022**

### **Millions more to be spent on help for vulnerable households this winter**

Hampshire's most vulnerable residents will not be left out in the cold this winter, thanks to a range of measures to help people with the costs of food, fuel and other essentials

Using its latest round of Household Support Funding from the Department for Work and Pensions, Hampshire County Council will be investing more than £7 million in a wide variety of schemes and initiatives targeting households facing hardship, between now and March 2023.

The initiatives will expand on what was offered in the previous funding round to include support for foster carers registered with the County Council, unpaid carers, care leavers, and people with disabilities. It will also widen the support available to reach out to those who may not be eligible for other assistance but are nevertheless in need.

The schemes will be delivered across Hampshire via the County Council's 'connect4communities' programme and will include:-

- discretionary grants to schools, colleges and early years settings – these may be used to help families with costs relating to food, energy, water, school uniform and other wider essentials, and do not need to be limited to children whose families receive certain benefits;
- food vouchers – these will be made available to eligible Hampshire residents including foster carers registered with the County Council, individuals known to the Care Leavers team, families open to the Disabled Children's Team, residents who receive council tax support, and residents who receive Housing Benefit but are ineligible for other forms of support;
- support for unpaid carers – funding will be made available to organisations working with unpaid carers, to be directed to those in greatest need;
- grants for community and voluntary organisations to help meet needs within their local communities;
- funding for Citizens Advice to provide help with fuel and utility bills.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/childrenandfamilies/connectforcommunities>

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20221123HSFWinter>

### **Nearly 100,000 of Hampshire's historic records now available on Ancestry® - and free to access in Hampshire's libraries and record office**

Probate records are now available to search online at Ancestry®, spanning 500 years of Hampshire and Isle of Wight history

Hampshire County Council is collaborating with Ancestry, the global leader in family history, to make nearly 500 years of Hampshire Wills and Probates available online for the first time.

The probate records include wills, inventories, and administrations from the church courts of Winchester diocese dating from the 14th Century to 1858. Local people can now access the records on Ancestry free of charge from any Hampshire library or record office.

Ancestry and the County Council have worked together to make these historic documents accessible on Ancestry.co.uk. This is the first time the entire collection of Hampshire Wills and Probates records have been digitised and put online. What's more, if you live locally in Hampshire, you can access Ancestry free of charge at Hampshire public libraries and record office.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20221122ancestrywillsprobates>

## Update from Hampshire County Council – December 2022

### **Local Government's looming financial crisis: County Leaders rally to press for urgent Government action**

The Leaders of two of the largest upper tier councils in the country, Hampshire County Council and Kent County Council, are calling on the Prime Minister and Government to take urgent action to address the looming financial crisis facing upper tier local government over the next few years

In a letter sent to the Prime Minister, Chancellor and Secretary of State, Hampshire County Council Leader, Councillor Rob Humby, and Kent County Council Leader, Councillor Roger Gough outline the drastic budget implications facing the two authorities, and the need for Government's immediate help and a clear plan for long-term financial sustainability, if the two County Councils are to avoid filing bankruptcy notices within the next year or two.

Councillor Humby explained: "Both Hampshire and Kent are high-performing, financially well-run and long respected County Councils. However, we face budget deficits over the next few years of a scale that has never been seen before – but not of our own doing.

"We have experienced more than 12 years of national austerity and cuts to our core budgets. Inflation continues to grow, along with demand for services such as social care for vulnerable adults and children. We are also constrained by outdated laws created in the 1940s and 1960s and have no autonomy to be able to introduce initiatives for some local services to help generate our own revenue. As a result, our budgets are now at breaking point. We have gone as far as we can to close the budget gaps we have faced to date, and there is nowhere left to go in future without severely impacting some of the most vulnerable people in our society.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/14112022LGFinancialcrisis>

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