

Hampshire County Councillor: Winchester Downlands Cllr Jan Warwick

Annual Parish Meeting Report 2019

Background

Hampshire's population is 1,370,700 (2017) the third most populous county in England (85% is rural and 15% urban). 123,000 live in the Winchester District. Hampshire CC maintains 5400 miles of roads, 4300 miles pavements, 133,000 streetlights, 481 schools, 45 libraries, 16 care homes for older people, 9 residential homes for children and young people, 24 Household Waste Centres and 5 Country Parks. Every year 94% of all household waste is diverted from landfill (40% recycled) and powers 50,000 homes. Hampshire has an 80% employment rate (UKA 73.9%) and 3.5% unemployment rate (UKA 5%).

Budget

The population of over 75 year olds will rise by 30 per cent over the next seven years - an extra 5,500 people a year who may well need social care support, to varying degrees. The 2.99% increase in Hampshire's council tax will generate an additional £18 million. HCC council tax remains the 2nd lowest in England.

HCC's capital programme is a significant investment in Hampshire's infrastructure, delivering schemes totalling £491.6 million between 2019 and 2022 and providing a boost for the local economy:

- £160 million of investment in new and extended school buildings in Hampshire in the period 2019/20 to 2021/22 to ensure there is a school place for every child in Hampshire
- £122 million for structural maintenance and improvement of roads and bridges in Hampshire over the next three years
- £72 million for integrated transport schemes including £9 million specifically focused on walking and cycling improvements
- £94 million for major improvement of school and other County Council buildings over the next three years.

School Admissions

98.4% of children in Hampshire have been offered a place at their top three preferred primary school.

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Road Maintenance and Operation Resilience

Over 5300 miles of road are maintained by HCC. £10m is invested annually on planned maintenance on top of government funding. The first of Hampshire's brand new Dragon Patchers has arrived to help repair the county's roads, damaged by the winter weather. The County Council has bought two Dragon Patchers for exclusive use in Hampshire

Sites of road works and road maintenance are listed on the HCC website where problems can also be reported:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance>

Connect to Support Website

(<https://www.connecttosupporthampshire.org.uk/home>)

Is a useful resource providing information about all aspects of independent living, such as advice about mental and physical health, help and support for carers, and equipment to help people manage at home. The website and app also includes:

- A directory of local services, activities, charities and helplines to supporting individuals with specific needs
- A directory of Care Quality Commission-registered home care agencies that can provide personal and nursing care in people's homes
- A directory of registered care homes and nursing homes in Hampshire.