Annual Report to Parish Councils from your WCC Councillors

Many congratulations to all those members of Kings Worthy and Headbourne Worthy Parish Councils who have been returned to serve their communities again.

It's been another busy year at the City Council, focusing on providing the best services possible whilst also looking towards the formation of the new Unitary Councils. The final set of elections for both the County and City Councils gave the Liberal Democrats a resounding vote of approval, including of course returning Cllr Jackie Porter to both the County Council (representing the Itchen Valley Division which includes The Worthys) and here in the Worthys, at City Council level.

Local Elections 2026 results for Winchester district wards.
Following this election, the political makeup of Winchester City Council is as follows:
Liberal Democrats: 36
Conservatives: 4
Green Party: 4
Independent: 1
The result in the Worthys was as follows:

Name of Candidate	Description (if any)	Number of votes
AINSCOUGH Luke	The Green Party	253
BIDDLE Signe	Local Conservatives	623
HORTON Liam David	Reform UK	431
PORTER Jackie	Liberal Democrats	1542 (E)
TRODDEN Jamie	Labour Party	51

New Local Plan Adopted

Jackie's principal role in the City Council this year has been to steer through to adoption the new Local Plan, which has passed all the necessary checks and amendments and is now adopted Council policy. Councillor Jackie Porter, Cabinet Member for Place and Local Plan, said: *"After so many years of work and public engagement, we have now officially adopted this Local Plan. This is a significant milestone for the district as it puts us in a strong position to defend against speculative development. It means development across the district is not only planned, but that it is held to the highest environmental standards, it gives us more affordable homes, cuts carbon and energy bills and ensures that our green and blue infrastructure and the biodiversity which thrive within them are protected. "I would like to say thank you to everyone who had their say in the consultation process and took part in the public hearings, as this shaped this Plan we have now adopted."*

Weekly Food Waste Collections Successfully Introduced

Steve Cramoysan's main task this year has been to oversee the successful introduction of weekly food waste collections throughout the District. Weekly food waste collections are now available to all homes across the Winchester district, following a staged roll out of the new service since October 2025.

The Biffa crews are collecting around 60 tonnes of food waste per week, which creates enough energy to power six average homes for a year when turned into green energy at the anaerobic digestion plant.

Councillor Steve Cramoysan, Cabinet Member for Recycling and Public Protection said "I'd like to send a huge thank you to our residents. Most of us are really careful not to waste food, but some waste is unavoidable and residents across the district are now using the new service to turn things like peelings, chicken or fish bones, coffee grounds or tea bags into energy. We were really pleased to hear that over ninety percent of those who responded to our recent Recycling: Looking to the Future survey said it is a simple and convenient process."

Food waste collections are weekly on residents' usual bin day. Every household has been provided with a small grey kitchen caddy, an outdoor bin with a locking handle, and a starter roll of compostable liners. Communal properties have shared outdoor wheelie bins in addition to their individual caddies.

The nine specialist vehicles for food waste collections are fuelled by hydrotreated vegetable oil instead of diesel, reducing carbon emissions by up to 94%.

Residents can find out more about the food waste recycling service and how their food waste is turned into green energy and soil improver at www.winchester.gov.uk/foodwaste

District bucks national trend with dramatic decrease for fly-tips

District fly-tipping incidents in Winchester have dramatically decreased, according to the latest government figures.

New fly-tipping statistics released by Defra for 2024/25 show that incidents in the Winchester district are at their lowest level for ten years, reducing from 2,120 in 2020/21 to 735 in 2024/5.

The reduction represents a 65% drop in numbers of incidents - the fifth highest reduction out of over 300 councils in England, with the total number of incidents falling to just 34% of the 2020/21 figure.

So far in 2026, successful prosecutions by Winchester City Council regarding this environmental crime include four prosecutions in a single court day in January and February's conviction assisted by eye-witness evidence from a member of the public.

Four successful prosecutions were achieved in a single day in January

Nationally, for the 2024/25 year, local authorities in England dealt with 1.26 million incidents, an increase of 9%. The most common place for fly-tipping to occur was on highways (pavements and roads), which accounted for 37% of total incidents, and 62% of fly-tips involved household waste.

Winchester City Council Cabinet Member for Recycling and Public Protection Cllr Steve Cramoysan said: "Fly-tipping is a serious crime which we do not tolerate as it causes huge concern for our residents due to the damage it causes to wildlife, the environment and our local communities.

"Our robust approach to tackling the issue has helped to lead this significant reduction in incidents across the Winchester district, and we will continue to take action when appropriate against those who commit this crime. I would like to recognise the hard work of the council officers from several teams who help us to investigate, clear and take action regarding fly-tips.

"Members of the public play a key role in helping us to combat this crime as we often rely on reports and statements from members of the public for successful prosecutions. We would encourage anyone who witnesses any incidents of fly-tipping in our district to report it via our website at www.winchester.gov.uk/report, or by calling 0300 300 0013."

Worthys Councillors' Roles

Jane continues to Chair the District's Planning Committee. Jackie and Steve remain in the Cabinet with their existing roles. In addition, Steve retains his position as Chair of the Kings Barton Forum.

Riverpark Pavilion Soon to Open

The new pavilion at River Park in Winchester has been under construction for most of this year – and will be ready for sporting action this summer. River Park Pavilion is a community and sports facility for local residents and clubs, which is getting closer to full completion, and planned to ready for community hire from next month.

Construction began last year after Winchester City Council approved a total investment of £2.3M to deliver the project, including: capital funding from the city council: £1.5M from district Community Infrastructure Levy; and in contributions from the Town Forum, The Pavilion Project and grant funding from Hampshire County Council.

This latest investment forms part of the city council's commitment to increasing participation and opportunities for physical activity for all ages and abilities. Management & Construction Services Ltd (MCS), the city council's construction partner, has nearly finished delivering the vision of local architects, Stride Treglown. Since beginning the works in May 2025, MCS has been committed to using local suppliers for the project, and to date their spend within the local economy exceeds over £691,000.

During the construction period, MCS has also supported the local community through a number of initiatives. The team volunteered their time at the Round Table Bonfire Event at River Park, donated £500 towards planting at St Giles Hill Graveyard - and helped with the planting themselves. They have also donated £750 to Trinity Winchester to support the charity's ongoing provision of practical and emotional support, and donated £750 to Winchester Go LD to assist with the progress of its Skills Development Programme.

Councillor Kathleen Becker, Cabinet Member for Healthy Communities, said: "*What an amazing space this new facility is. River Park Pavilion is set to be a hub of activity - in an accessible, contemporary and well-designed building. This council is committed to supporting residents to live active and healthier lives, and River Park Pavilion offers a new community space in the heart of our beautiful River Park. "MCS has been great to work in partnership with, and I'd like to thank them for not only meeting their commitments to ensure spend is kept local but also for their donation to support the delivery of tree planting locally."*

City Council moves forward with proposals for new parish councils

Winchester City Council's Licensing and Regulation Committee has agreed proposals, which could see the creation of new parish councils for Kings Barton and the Winchester town area from April 2027.

The public meeting considered the feedback presented in the Stage One Consultation Report, prior to agreeing the recommendations and approving the move to the next stage of the council's Community Governance Review, which requires further public consultation.

Last year, over 1400 residents, organisations and businesses responded to the city council's Stage One Community Governance Review consultation, and residents in the Winchester town area and Kings Barton confirmed their support for creating new parish councils where they live.

86% of respondents living in the town area agree with the creation of a new parish council for the Winchester town area, which unlike the rest of the district is currently unparished. Whilst 57% of respondents living in Kings Barton told us that they'd support the creation of a parish council for Kings Barton, which is currently within the Headbourne Worthy Parish Council area.

On **Wednesday 13 May 2026**, we launched our second public consultation in this Community Governance Review and we're asking residents to help shape proposed new parish councils for the Winchester town area and Kings Barton. You can have your say by going to the CGR page on the City Council website: https://www.winchester.gov.uk/elections/community-governance-reviews/cgr-winchester-town-area

Got a question? Why not come along to one of our upcoming drop-in events:

Monday 1 June 2026; The Courtyard, Guildhall, Winchester; 4-7pm

Wednesday 3 June 2026; Cala Sales Office, Monarchs Mead, Granadiers Road, Kings Barton, SO22 6GR- 3-5pm

If you would like a paper copy of this questionnaire you can collect one from the City Offices, Colebrook Street, Winchester, SO23 9LJ. Alternatively, if you have questions you can email: CGR@winchester.gov.uk or if you need support in completing this questionnaire, you can do this by calling *Public Perspectives on Freephone: 0800 865 4898 (please leave a message and we will call you back).

*Public Perspectives is an independent research organisation who are supporting Winchester City Council with this Community Governance Review consultation.

Government chooses five council model

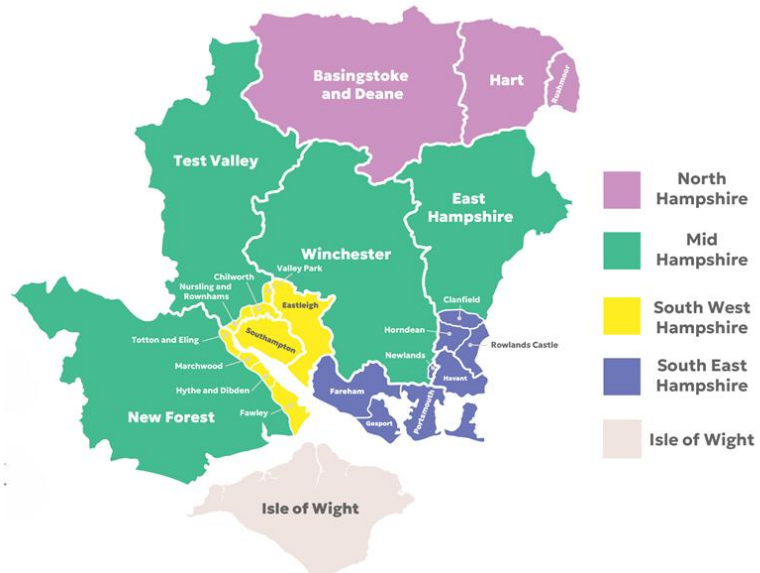
Thank you to everyone who took part in our summer engagement last year and the recent government consultation on Local Government Reorganisation. The Government has announced its decision on the structure of new councils across Hampshire and the Isle of Wight and has opted for **Option 1a.**

There will be four new mainland councils, keeping the Isle of Wight as a separate unitary council. It means there will be a new mid-Hampshire council created from the footprint of the districts of Winchester, East Hampshire, Test Valley and the New Forest, including the relevant services from Hampshire County Council. This is the option that has boundary changes.

The Government has decided on option 1A which is made up of five unitary councils

The new councils

The five new councils in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight are:



- North Hampshire: Basingstoke, Hart and Rushmoor
- Mid Hampshire: New Forest, Test Valley, Winchester and East Hampshire
- South West Hampshire: Eastleigh and Southampton
- South East Hampshire: Portsmouth, Havant, Gosport and Fareham
- Isle of Wight

Option 1A includes the following boundary changes:

- Move the parishes of Totton and Eling, Marchwood, Hythe and Dibden, Fawley

(currently under New Forest District Council) and Chilworth, Nursling, Rownhams and Valley Park (currently under Test Valley Borough Council) to the South West unitary council.

- Move the parishes of Newlands (currently under Winchester City Council) Clanfield, Horndean and Rowlands Castle (currently under East Hampshire District Council) to the South East unitary council.

What this means for residents

At the moment, everything remains the same for you. Winchester City Council, will continue to deliver your services, and while we're doing this, we'll be working closely with our confirmed partner councils to create a new unitary council, responsible for all your services in one place.

The new council is planned to be up and running on 1 April 2028. We'll keep you up-to-date as things progress. In the meantime, you can find some more information on the City Council's website.

Subscribe to the City Council's Residents' Newsletter

The residents' newsletter is published fortnightly and features council news, useful information for residents and updates on council services. You can subscribe via the City Council's website.

Jane Rutter, Steve Cramoysan and Jackie Porter

14.05.26