Our District



News from Horsham District Council March 2023



New skatepark opens

Activities for all abilities

Help with cost of living challenges



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Welcome to Spring 2023 in Our District

In this edition we are showcasing what an exciting place Horsham District is.

We are highlighting leisure and culture with fantastic activities for all – from a brilliant new skatepark, a packed programme at our Museum & Art Gallery, all sorts of free courses to improve your wellbeing and a wonderful range of activities for users with additional needs.

Step into nature with us at Great Barn Farm and take a closer look at some projects which are improving our environment and nurturing wildlife.

We have a selection of schemes supporting fledgling businesses, and we are celebrating life-changing landlords and our wonderful Neighbourhood Wardens.

We are also explaining your Council Tax bill and have brought together various sorts of cost of living help for you.

So, sit down with a coffee at home, enjoy the magazine and on page 23 you'll see that we are making sure your coffee pod can be recycled right from your door.

It's a great time to be part of Horsham District!





GET IN TOUCH

SET IN TOUCH

Send us your feedback on this edition by emailing us at communications@horsham.gov.uk

Cover image: Caelan Mumford trying out new Horsham Skatepark © Ryan Cox (RCXMEDIA)



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Our Sports Development team at Horsham District Council have a great track record of establishing and supporting inclusive activities for users with a wide range of additional needs. These activities also enable essential respite moments for parents and carers.

Activities currently on offer:

Horsham Wheels for ALL, is a weekly inclusive cycling session run in partnership with West Sussex County Council and Bikeability trained leaders. There are a wide range of specialist adapted bikes and trikes including handcycles and wheelchair bikes to get everybody riding.

The Reaching Higher Project offers a diverse range of inspiring arts and sports activities that take place weekly during term time, including athletics, digital video production, DJ'ing, inclusive football, karaoke, rebound therapy (using trampolines for therapeutic exercise) and cricket.

The weekly Ready and Able Disability Sports Club has been running for over 30 years and offers a variety of sports and swimming sessions for people with additional needs aged 16 and over.

Carers are confident that children are safe, properly understood, supported and happy



The Disability Swimming **Programme** is run in partnership with Places Leisure and Christ's Hospital Enterprises. The programme provides a range of disability swimming sessions across the Horsham District.

Our Sports Development Officer, Paul Taylor, speaks passionately about creating the right environment to enable participants to thrive. He commented:

"Carers are confident that children are safe, properly understood, supported and happy.

"All the activities have been developed in close partnership with talented, trained and qualified leaders, suitable accessible venues. funding providers and most importantly, in consultation with parent, carers and participants."

Huge successes achieved

Inclusive cricket was pioneering when we introduced it in our area and has now been mirrored across West Sussex, providing much better options for competitive play, enabling the children and young people with additional needs to play matches and showcase their talent.

Great opportunities to progress

Participants in the inclusive football sessions, run in partnership with Brighton and Hove Albion Football Club, can progress through to impairment specific sessions which enable peer competition. They can then progress further to national league teams which include Deaf, Cerebral Palsy. Amoutee and Powerchair teams playing across the country.

Alazar improves his mobility

Many of our participants have seen fantastic personal health improvements. Alazar, who has Cerebral Palsy was a full-time wheelchair user when he started attending Wheels for ALL. He is now able to arrive trackside at the club walking with aids. His muscle development achieved through cycling has been credited for improving his mobility. He won the 2020 Bikeability Trainee of the Year award and was able to cycle a whole mile unaided at the group's annual sponsored Downs Link ride.



Callum becomes a role model

Some of the participants now act as role models for the next group of participants. Callum who has Cerebral Palsy and was told he would be unable to ride a bike has been through a mentoring programme and is now a support worker at the Horsham Wheels for ALL sessions, inspiring and mentoring the new recruits.

Can you help?

If you are inspired to support our inclusive offer, maybe you would like to donate, or sponsor a piece of equipment that would help users to ignite a passion.

GET IN TOUCH









Ben becomes an all-rounder

Ben has been attending activities for almost 10 years and currently takes part in karaoke, rebound therapy, DJ'ing and cycling. Ben's parents report that his independence as well as his ability to deal with change and challenge has grown since joining the clubs.

They said:

"The Reaching Higher activities have allowed us to have a short break and make us feel good that there are activities that our son can take part in that he couldn't do otherwise, which takes away our own worries and anxieties.

"As well as keeping him fit and healthy the activities have given him confidence and boosted his self-esteem."

Bringing people together

Paul firmly believes every person should have similar opportunities to experience, enjoy and compete in fulfilling and aspirational activities.

He comments:

"The camaraderie and sense of community which comes alongside sharing interests and participating together is really positive. What makes many of these sessions so special is that siblings, family and friends can also take part."

FIND OUT MORE



If you want to find out more about the inclusive activities on offer, please visit our website: www.horsham. gov.uk/inclusiveactivities.





Ramping it up at Horsham's new skatepark

Local skateboarders, BMX enthusiasts, scooter riders and inline skaters can enjoy some of the best facilities in the area thanks to a brandnew skatepark.

The new skatepark, situated in Horsham Park, which has been designed in close collaboration with a local user group, was declared open in December 2022.

The new park contains some of the highest quality features for each of the wheeled disciplines. It has been made from concrete to ensure users have a fast and perfectly smooth ride with plenty of flow lines to choose from.

The technical bit

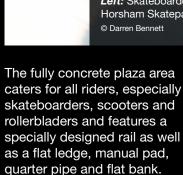
A large open flow section has been expanded in every direction and features a more pronounced hip, extension and jump ramp line which offers a more diverse riding experience for all. Skateboarders

> will benefit from the pump bump in the middle of the open flow bowl,

> > which can be used to retain speed while in the bowl.

Just around the corner is another open bowl which will appeal to BMX riders with ramp heights up to seven foot six inches for experienced riders who want a real challenge.

The much loved two stair in the teardrop area has been extended and now includes more steps. a rail and hubbas.



Overall, each new area of the park can be ridden by all wheeled users, with certain features throughout catering for BMX, scooter, inline skates and skateboard riders.

The facility has been created by the experts at Betongpark who demonstrated an innovative approach to design and strong attention to technical detail.

COME ALONG



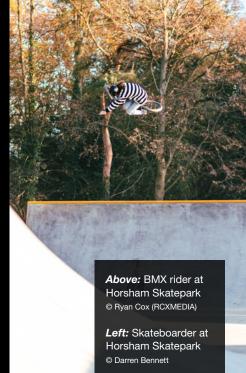


The Council is planning a Skate Jam in the Summer of 2023. This will be a free to attend event for all the family which will include demos. coaching and training. For updates go to: www.horsham.gov.uk/ horshamskatepark.

Also tag us in your content on Instagram and we'll give it a share @horshamskatepark22.

The new facilities support our aims for local people to live healthy and active lifestyles.







Come and see our updated displays

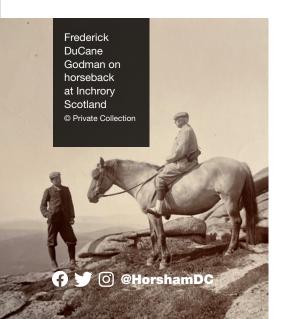
Horsham Museum & Art Gallery has an exciting programme planned this year. Easter will mark the launch of two updated spaces in the Museum. A new Shelley gallery will give insight into the tragically short life of Horsham's famous poet. The Shelley family were prominent in Horsham and his father's political career is likely to have inspired Shelley's views on politics, which were considered radical at the time.

A new gallery space will also launch, showcasing the talent of local artists and makers with a regularly changing line-up of local creatives on display.

Both the Shelley display and gallery will be open from Good Friday.

Family crafts

During the Easter holidays we will continue our £1 craft activities. Taking place on Thursdays and Fridays between 6 and 14 April, we will be joining in with The Wild Escape project led by Art Fund and supported by Arts Council England. Children will be creatively exploring the wonderful wildlife featured in our collections. Their creations will be brought together in an epic collective artwork uniting hundreds





of museums and schools to be unveiled on Earth Day 2023. Visit **www.horshammuseum.org** for details of how to book.

To celebrate the Coronation we will have a children's trail running between Saturday 28 April until Monday 8 May, and themed craft activities on Saturday 6 to Monday 8 May, 11am – 3pm.

Summer exhibition

Our summer exhibition subject is Fredrick DuCane Godman of South Lodge, the famed butterfly, moth, insect, and bird specialist. The exhibition focuses on his involvement in the 1879 publication of the Biologia Centrali-Americana, an encyclopaedia covering the biodiversity and historic architecture of Latin America. In 1882 Godman bought South Lodge in Lower Beeding and created the house and grounds which would remain in the family until the 1980s.

Highlights of the exhibition include photographs and artefacts from the family archive and ceramics from the Godman Collection on loan from the British Museum. Godman collected Iznik, Persian and Spanish ceramics throughout his life and they formed a prominent feature at South Lodge.



Reaching out with memory boxes

Did you know the Museum has a collection of 44 memory boxes and quizzes designed to spark recollections and encourage reminiscence and conversation? The boxes are free to borrow and can be particularly useful for people living with dementia. There are two types of memory boxes available:

- Boxes for care homes, clubs and groups (training is provided to new borrowers)
- Mini boxes to use at home with an elderly friend or relative

All boxes and quizzes are loaned for two weeks.

We will be hosting a series of events in August inspired by Godman and his work in the field of Natural Science.

VISIT US



The Museum is open Tuesday to Saturday, 10am-4pm and all days across bank holiday weekends.

For museum and gallery news and more about upcoming events please visit: www.horshammuseum.org.

Your Council Tax

We collect your overall Council Tax payments for Horsham District Council, Parish and Neighbourhood Councils, the Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner and West Sussex County Council to provide services and amenities to residents.



We understand that it is a large portion of your monthly outgoings, so we want to share openly how we are spending your contributions.

Did you know?

Although we collect all the Council Tax, we only retain 7.9% for Horsham District Council services, that's just £3.21 a week for a Band D property.

The remaining 92.1% of your Council Tax bill is split between:

- West Sussex County Council who receive 77.45%
- Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner who receive 11.4%
- Parish / Neighbourhood Councils who receive 3.25%

So, how do we use your money?

Your Council Tax makes up 27% of Horsham District Council's income.

This contributes towards our total budget for 2023/24 of £42.8million.

Our budget is shared over the services we deliver for you:

- Recycling, Waste and Environmental Services £11.5million (26.8%)
- Revenues and Benefits, Housing and Community Services £6.9million (16.1%)
- Leisure and Culture £4.9million (11.4%)
- Planning, Property, Building Control and Economic Development £8.1million (18.9%)
- Parking £2.4million (5.6%)
- Supporting front line services £9.0million (21.2%)

For more information please visit: www.horsham.gov.uk/council-tax-and-benefits/what-does-my-council-tax-pay-for.



GET STARTED



To get started simply create a new account with a password.

Save time when you pay by Direct Debit

You can register to pay your Council Tax or Business Rates by Direct Debit. It is a safe, reliable and convenient payment method. Once you're set up, payments are taken automatically.

To sign up for Direct Debit you just need a valid email address and your Council Tax or Business Rates account number.

For further information and to find all the links you need to sign up to the portal please visit: www.horsham.gov.uk/counciltax-and-benefits.

Simplify your life with admin online

Managing your Council Tax, Housing Benefit and Business Rates online couldn't be easier.

Did you know you could save time by registering for our self-service portal, where you can manage your Council Tax, Council Tax Support, Housing Benefit, Business Rates and Landlord payment accounts all in one place.

For your **Council Tax and Business Rates** you can:

- View your account balance, instalment plan and payments
- See details of discounts, exemptions, reliefs, or reductions
- Find copies of bills and other notices issued to you

For **Housing Benefit and Council Tax Support** you can:

- View your Housing Benefit entitlement, payment dates and amounts
- View your Council Tax Support entitlement
- View your claim details
- Find any overpayment details
- See copies of letters issued to you

Landlords can:

- View a list of claims you are receiving payments for
- View a summary of each claim
- See details of last and next payments due
- Find copies of letters issued to you

Cost of do living: here to help

We are here to help residents who may be struggling with the rising cost of living.

As well as the £550k of funds dedicated to increased cost of living support in 2022/23, the Council has now made an extra £1.15million of funding available for the 2023/24 financial year.

We have collated lots of support that you can access on our website.

This includes how to get help with food and essentials, fuel and heating, money and debt, pets and housing. It also links to Discretionary Housing Payments and help for businesses, charities and armed forces personnel.

Saving money on your energy

Saving energy is good for your pocket and the planet. You can find useful tips for reducing your energy use at home, and a range of schemes and grants that could help you at: www.horsham.gov.uk/climate-and-environment/energy-saving.



Face to face support

We recognise that digital support isn't right for everybody. There are lots of friendly places around the District where you can drop in for advice.

We are continuing to run drop-in sessions in partnership with West Sussex County Council Partnerships and Communities team. These bring together help from a range of organisations all in one place.

Sessions include representatives from Family Support Work (charity), Community Link, Health and Wellbeing, Neighbourhood Wardens, Citizens Advice, Carers Support, Age UK, Horsham Matters, MIND, Relate and Job Centre teams, who can all give expert guidance.

Please find more information at: www.horsham.gov.uk/community/cost-of-living-support

Managing your money

We have funded Citizens Advice to employ two new advisors to support residents.

Citizens Advice can offer advice on money and debt and on what extra help you could get. You can find them online at www. advicewestsussex.org.uk or contact them via email, SignVideo, their website chat function or through their Freephone Adviceline on 0808 278 7969.

Boosting our community partners

They are lots of fantastic charities providing immediate help through foodbanks and community fridges.

The Council provided a total of £40k of funding in the 2022/23 financial year to the charity Horsham Matters to boost their foodbank provision and crisis support throughout 2023.

Emma Elnaugh, Horsham Matters Managing Director, said:

"We have seen a dramatic increase in demand for our services over the past year. We are grateful for the Council's extra funding ensuring that we can keep providing support to Horsham District residents."

ALL tools considered

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Tools Wanted

Do you have unwanted carpentry or engineering tools in your shed, garage, or workshop?

I'll purchase all hand tools and workshop equipment you no longer use or require.

CALL NIGEL ON 01903 816600

Other items of interest: old books, postcards, model toys inc. Dinky & Corgi, watch & clock-making equipment, automobilia, military items, cameras, etc. If it's an entire collection or just a couple of bits, please contact me.



Keeping a spring in your step

With nature popping up and birdsong in the air it's just the right time of year to focus on you and make sure you are flourishing.

We're here to support you make a change

Horsham District Wellbeing is a friendly free service for any adult living or working in the District. We can help you access local services to improve your health and wellbeing, and give you support and advice on how to build changes into your life.

Support tailored to you

Our Wellbeing Advisors can see you face-to-face in a location convenient to you. We help with things like losing weight, getting fitter, reducing alcohol intake, kicking a habit like smoking, or simply improving your general wellbeing.

Improve your health for the future

We also provide NHS Health Checks and Wellbeing MOTs.

The NHS Health Check is a national programme for adults in England aged 40 to 74. Find out your cholesterol, blood pressure and discuss your family history and lifestyle.

During a Wellbeing MOT we use body composition scales to find out your muscle mass, bone mass, fat %, hydration levels and more.

You will have the chance to talk through your results confidentially and decide on any steps to help improve your health and lifestyle.

We have a range of free courses to help you lead a healthier life

Coming up we have Learn to Run, Back to Fitness, Legs Bums and Tums, Pilates and 65+ Back to Exercise courses. These free courses are perfect for those looking to take their first steps to getting active.

We also have our WOW (weight off workshops) for those wanting to create healthier habits. Over 12 weeks, with the support of a small likeminded group, we focus on healthy eating, weight loss, physical and emotional wellbeing, along with making sustainable lifestyle improvements.

What do previous clients have to sav?

Rosemary completed our 12-week WOW programme in Henfield last summer and lost 8lbs. With

> both parents developing diabetes later in life, it was important to her to understand the changes she could make to help prevent this. Here's what she had to say:

"I knew the course would be a really good way to learn more and keep me motivated to lose weight. It has really helped me to become aware of my lifestyle choices and has given me confidence to make healthier decisions.

"Sally, my course leader, was always helpful and very approachable, and the group was never judgemental.

horsham district

"I continue to stay active and make better diet choices as a result."

After some routine tests, David was told by his GP that he was pre-diabetic and was advised to contact Horsham Wellbeing and later met with one of our Wellbeing Advisors for a 1-2-1 appointment. He commented:

> "We discussed my condition and lifestyle but most importantly, they listened to what I had to say. I left the meeting feeling glad that I'd come, and the advice was helpful.

I have adjusted my diet as we discussed. It's surprising how easy it is to do when you understand the reason why.

"I'd advise anyone, who needs advice concerning their health, to talk to Horsham Wellbeing. You'll be surprised at what you can learn."

GET IN TOUCH





All it takes is one call or click

We understand it can be hard, but we can make it easier.

You can check out our website horsham.westsussexwellbeing. org.uk for local activities across all areas of the District. Please email us at info@horshamdistrictwellbeing. org.uk or phone us on 01403 215111.

Could you help shape the future of our **District? We're hiring!**

As a council we deliver services to some 65,000 households that play a major role in contributing to the quality of our residents' lives and the success of local businesses.

We currently have an exciting variety of roles on offer for individuals from all backgrounds and disciplines who care about their local community.

We have a great personal development ethos and a workforce that reflects our District's diversity, providing a supportive working environment which encourages skills development and progression for all.







Meet Lisa

Lisa joined us and initially enjoyed success in our Parking Services team. Then, with support and training she leveraged her legal background to secure a position in our Legal Services team and is now about to become registered as a solicitor.

She comments:

"Studying at university in the last four years was an amazing experience. During my academic path I have always had lots of help and support from my colleagues and senior managers and I am grateful that the Council gave me this great opportunity to develop my skills and my career."

Many of our Recycling and Waste crew members have been supported to gain their HGV licence qualifications to become drivers.

Whatever your background, if you are positive and hard-working we would love to hear from you.

In return we offer:

- A competitive salary
- Enrolment in the generous Local Government Pension Scheme
- 28 days annual leave per year, plus Bank Holidays
- Flexible and hybrid working opportunities and family-friendly policies
- Subsidised gym memberships
- Staff discounts with a number of local businesses.

During my academic path I have always had lots of help and support from my colleagues and senior managers



CURRENT VACANCIES



For more information and details on our current vacancies, please visit: www.horsham.gov.uk/jobsand-careers.



Never miss an opportunity

Scan the QR code to sign up to job alerts.







Connecting Parish and Neighbourhood Councils in the call for climate action

We are keen to help local organisations reduce their carbon emissions and are now supporting Parish and **Neighbourhood Councils** (PCs and NCs) on their own journeys to help our District reach its carbon neutral target by 2050.

Supporting carbon reduction in your parish or neighbourhood So far, we have held workshops with 27 different PCs and NCs on how they, and their communities can tackle climate change.

The collaborative sessions focused on how to develop climate change action plans and the most effective ways to reduce carbon emissions, engage their communities, and care for our environment. Actions could include improving energy efficiency, providing opportunities to repair, recycle and re-use items, and reducing waste.

One workshop attendee said:

"Although not shying away from the impacts of climate unpredictability, there was lots to celebrate as so many inspirational people got their

heads together to share ideas about what we as individuals and communities can do."

We are continuing our commitment to support their collaborations by hosting periodic meetings and an online platform to share resources.

Getting involved

Some parishes have already started some great work such as: running bike maintenance workshops, green film festivals, creating single use plastic recycling points, and installing solar panels on their village halls.

KEEP UP TO DATE



Check out our climate change tips at: www.horsham.gov.uk/climate-andenvironment.

You can also keep up to date by signing up to our Climate Change newsletters at: www.horsham.gov. uk/stayconnected.

ADVERTISEMENT



Spotlight on successful Community Climate Fund projects

Above: Rudgwick Youth Centre **Below:** Artist's impression of recycling point © Jane Silk

The Community Climate
Fund is a grant available to
local voluntary or community
groups, that share our
vision of becoming a carbon
neutral District.

Groups such as registered charities, Community Interest Companies, social enterprises, schools, Parish Councils and faith groups providing inclusive projects can apply.

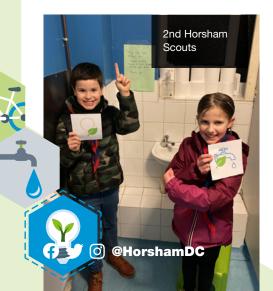
In this edition we look at two schemes that successfully secured funding in the Summer and Autumn 2022 rounds.

Scout hut upgrades

2nd Horsham Scouts previously secured funding for improvements to their scout hut, including water butts and a hot composter. Their recent successful application will provide new motion activated LED lighting units and upgrade taps to reduce water and energy wastage.

Of the recent successful bid, the group said:

"We often find that lights are left on needlessly and taps either leak or are left running. This climate change grant will help our Scouts see how we can all make small changes to benefit our planet."



The hut serves as a safe community space for over 350 regular users. The toilet facilities have not been updated since the hut was opened nearly 30 years ago. These initiatives will help to reduce the impact on the environment, improve the facilities and reduce operational costs.

The group said the changes "will ensure we can deliver activities and services for years to come."

Holy Trinity Church – small changes to make a big impact

Holy Trinity Church, who operate the Rudgwick Youth Centre, collaborated with Go Greener Rudgwick to provide the local community with an accessible recycling point for various forms of plastic. The 12-month pilot run by volunteers used 11 recycling bins outside the building to collect plastics not picked up by other schemes, saving approximately 400kg of waste.

The funding will create a permanent covered shelter to house the bins, providing better access for users with mobility impairments. It will also have a sloping living green roof, showcasing the possibility for individuals to create similar projects at home.

The group wants to inspire others. They commented:

"One small change (building a green roof on a store) can have such a positive impact on biodiversity in different ways: attracting pollinators; reducing carbon emissions; filtering pollutants from the air; retaining moisture etc. It is an ideal location in which to demonstrate how easy it is for individual homes to make a small change that, together as a community, can have a big impact."



Apply for up to £5,000 to make it happen.

The next grant application round opens 3 April and closes 12 May 2023.

The funds must be used for brand new projects, which are self-sustaining beyond Council funding and carry a lasting impact on the wider community to inspire positive climate action. Your organisation can apply once a year, providing you will be implementing a new project in each application.

MORE INFO







Please visit www.horsham.gov. uk/communityclimatefund.

You are welcome to discuss your application with a Sustainability Officer before applying. Please call 01403 215156 or email communityclimatefund@horsham.gov.uk.

Wilder Horsham District is a five-year partnership between the Council and Sussex Wildlife Trust, working to deliver a Nature Recovery Network for our District.

In the first partnership of its kind, we are working with local communities, farmers and landowners to create networks of land that are enhanced to nurture wildlife.

Here we take a look at Great Barn Farm, near the Chanctonbury Ring, whose founder and co-ordinator Greg Valerio MBE is working to create improved environments to benefit wildlife.

Funding to support nature recovery networks

Wilder Horsham District now has a grant available to support farmers, landowners and communities wishing to implement practical projects to expand and improve networks for wildlife across our local landscape. Projects can involve different sized areas of land and be in urban or rural areas.

Introducing the Nature Recovery Award

Launched in November 2020, the Nature Recovery Award funding is already proving popular.

Greg's sustainable community

We recently visited Greg Valerio on the historic 19th Century farmstead on the Wiston Estate. Greg was one of the first recipients of our Nature Recovery Award funding.

At the outset of the project the Wilder Horsham District team carried out an assessment of the entire ecology of the farm site.

Creating a haven for wildlife

One of the first priorities for Greg was to tackle the problem of an old dried out pond. Water in the landscape, such as ponds, streams and rivers is fantastic for supporting a wide range of plants and animals. A full restoration of the pond at the site was key to creating a more thriving haven for wildlife.

The farm as a classroom

Capturing learning at the farm is another key objective for Greg and the community. He is now gearing up to provide more educational visits at the site. His aim is to provide an ecological learning centre for children and interested community groups alike – breeding the next generation of sustainable thinkers.



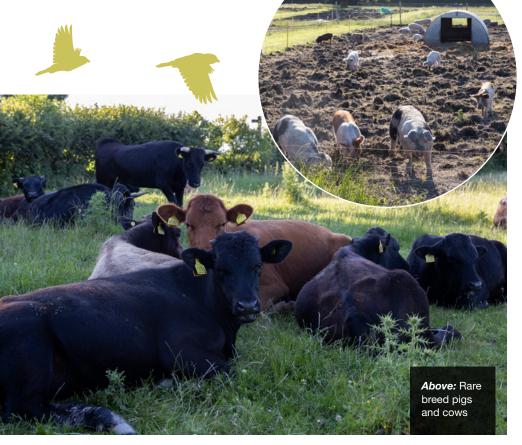
Right top:

Greg Valerio MBE

Right: The dried out pond at Great Barn farm before restoration

Far right: The pond after restoration

Nature Recovery
Networks create green
corridors and stepping
stones to allow wildlife to
move from place to place
through a mosaic of habitats.
They provide plants and
animals with places to
live, feed and breed.





"If you showcase best practice more people will want to know more and only then does change start to happen"

Creating a self-sustaining ecosvstem

The community's plan includes creating a forest garden by planting mixed fruits and nurturing traditional woodland trees to improve biodiversity.

The creation of a wildflower meadow will support bees and other pollinators, and the development of a woodland tree corridor for bats and birds will contribute greatly to an improved nature recovery network system.

Greg's main watchwords:

- Go slow
- Be regenerative
- No pesticides

Supporting the local economy food chain

Areas of land are being kept as pasture for sheep, cows and pigs, as the promotion of animal welfare is another major feature of the work ethic here. Rare breeds are the main focus. This is agriculture on a small scale. As Greg says: "It's a value chain, not a volume chain."

Greg will look to supply local butchers and farmers' markets to feed into the local food chain, supporting the local economy. Any leftover crops or food will be given to local people.

What does success look like?

We will see the main fruits of all this labour in around nine to ten years' time - so it's very much a long term turnaround.

The Wilder Horsham District project and Nature Recovery Award scheme is directly funded by the Council with the grant scheme being £30,000 a year.

Henri Brocklebank, Director of Conservation at Sussex Wildlife Trust said:

"Horsham District Council should be really proud of what they have set up here with the Wilder Horsham District project - it is very much the envy of other areas."



Get involved and apply now for **funds**

Do you have a scheme in mind that could help get our landscapes teeming with more wildlife?

Applicants can apply for funding for projects of any size up to a maximum of £5,000.

APPLY TODAY



To submit an application go to the Nature Recovery Award's webpage at www. sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/getinvolved/community-projects/ wilder-horsham/naturerecovery-award.

Applications will be judged by a professional panel and funding will be awarded quarterly.

You can also find out more about Wilder Horsham District at www.horsham.gov.uk/ wilderhorshamdistrict.





Hot competition showcasing up-and-coming traders

West Street Entrepreneurs'
Market in Horsham Town
Centre will be the venue for
a local heat of this year's
National Market Traders
Federation (NMTF) Young
Traders Market competition
on Sunday 30 April.

Organised by Horsham District Council in association with the NMTF and our local market operators, this will be a great event for visitors and traders alike as we showcase a wide range of up-and-coming younger businesses. The competition is free to enter but traders must be under the age of 31 on 26 August 2023.

Horsham's winners will be invited to compete in the SE Regional Final at London's Broadway Market in Hackney on 16 July 2023.

FURTHER INFO



More information can be found online at www.nmtf.co.uk/ytm23appform.

Set up your stall

In parallel the Council have launched a District-wide campaign with local market operators and the NMTF to make starting market stall trading in the District easier than ever.

So, if you run a local business and want to meet more customers and build your business via outdoor market trading, please check out our business web pages at www.horsham.gov.uk/business/district-markets.

Fresh vibe for Horsham's weekly market scene



WEST STREET ENTREPRENEURS MARKETS

HORSHAM CARFAX LOCAL MARKET

New distinct branding marks a new chapter for the flourishing market scene in Horsham.

Fresh this year, new signage promoting two of Horsham's Saturday markets better sets out what is on offer for customers at each location.

The Horsham markets

West Street Entrepreneurs'
Market (previously known as
Horsham General Market or
Bishopric Market) provides a
platform for many types of stalls

ranging from traditional fruit and veg, to antiques, and small local businesses normally only found online. Whilst **The Carfax Local Market** by Food Rocks features local produce, street food and crafts.

A fantastic experience

Coden Events manage the West Street Entrepreneurs' Market on behalf of Horsham District Council and spoke to us about the new name:

"This better identifies the ethos and location of the market and its eclectic traders. We are very excited to be able to grow the market while working with existing traders to maximise the area's potential, as well as encouraging new and young market traders – the future of markets!"

Simon and Amy at Food Rocks, the operator for the Carfax Local Market are excited about plans for 2023 and beyond: "As well as the rebranding of the markets expect to see more pop up sellers and special events as well as a series of initiatives designed to further improve our sustainability and reduce our environmental impact."

FURTHER INFO



Find out more about our weekly markets

The latest information can be found on Visit Horsham's expanded Markets section at www. visithorsham.co.uk/category/markets and on the Visit Horsham Facebook page.

Please visit www.horsham.gov.uk/buylocal for more on supporting our local business community.



Boosting local small businesses and start-ups

We are delighted to feature local businesses benefitting from the Local **Enterprise and Apprentices** Platform (LEAP) Small **Business Grant Scheme.**

The scheme, launched by Horsham District Council and funded by the West Sussex County Council Economic Recovery Fund, has already supported a wide range of projects for different business types locally.

One LEAP funding recipient, Lynda Vowles - from Pulborough based organisation Mary How Trust, who offer a screening service to detect the early signs of many lifethreatening illnesses, commented:

"We are thankful to have received a grant from Horsham District Council to purchase clinical equipment for an extra consulting room. This new equipment means we can offer preventative healthcare services to more people in the community. The equipment will help us triple our screening capacity to our financial year end 2025."

Mary How Trust © Emily de Silva

Sarah Shelley from home-based Shellev's Venue Decoration said:

"The grant enabled us to purchase blossom trees which are still in high demand within the industry. We now have uniform for all staff members with our logo proudly displayed on the front and the back."

Can we help your business grow?

We are launching a new round of LEAP small business grant funding on Monday 3 April. £86,000 worth of funding is available to support businesses. If you are hoping to set up a new business, wanting to grow your existing small business, or to take on an apprentice, you can apply.

Grants of up to £2,000 each will be available for District-based businesses, with fewer than 20 full-time employees and who are registered with Companies House or HMRC. Applicants need to submit a business plan with a financial forecast as part of their application, and are required to match fund the grant by contributing towards 25% of their total project cost.

APPLY TODAY



For more information please visit www.horsham.gov.uk/leap or email businessdevelopment@ horsham.gov.uk.

Plate Up Local – a taste of the **District!**

Last year we brought together hospitality businesses and producers in the District, exploring how to get more local food and drink onto menus, working with **local food experts Natural** Partnerships CIC.

Now we are supporting a special directory dedicated to food and drink producers from across Horsham District on the popular food finder website www. sussexfoodanddrink.org.

Discover delicious regional food and drink

There are already a whole host of fantastic local food and drink producers to discover. With delicious offerings like baked goods, beers, wines, small batch spirits and liqueurs, butters and cheeses, coffees, smoked fish and game, we are blessed with a great range of high-quality treats on our doorsteps.

We want the directory to include as many Horsham District producers as possible, as well as the great cafés, pubs, restaurants, and independent shops which serve and sell local produce.

GET LISTED

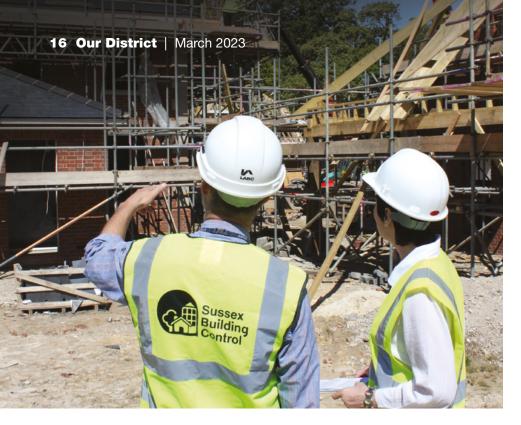


Get your fantastic foodie business listed!

You can get a free listing on the interactive map and be included in the local directory launching later this year. Just click the 'Get Listed' button at www. sussexfoodanddrink.org.

More on this soon, as we prepare a campaign to promote the fantastic food and drink in Horsham District.





Creating your dream home

Horsham District Council can help you build your dream home

When you think about creating a beautiful new extension, building a conservatory, home office or converting your loft - possibly one of the last things you consider is contacting your local council's Building Control team.

Watching Sarah Beeny's Little House Big Plans, browsing design magazines or Googling ideas are probably your first port of call for inspiration.

But when planning any improvements to your home, one of your first considerations should be just what building regulations need to be adhered to before you make a start.

We are impartial, independent, local professionals and not for profit. Our experienced surveyors have the best knowledge of local ground conditions and will provide the reassurance that your project is on track.

We believe all new buildings, conversions and extensions can be delivered to the right standards by coordinating the design, specification, construction, assisting from the start of the project through to completion. Our surveyors care about the health and safety of people, energy conservation, security, and access to buildings.

But what are building regulations?

To put it simply, building regulations are a set of standards that ensure a property is safe to live in, and also that it's comfortable, energy efficient and reducing its contribution to carbon emissions.

When do I need building regulations approval?

No matter what your project is, most construction work will require building regulations compliance to some degree - of course, if you're building a new home from scratch, you'll be required to meet a lot more than if you're just undertaking some minor remodelling to your home.

The regulations will apply if you are:

- Putting up a new building
- Extending or altering an existing building
- Converting a loft, a garage, or part of a garage, into habitable space
- Extension of a roof, adding a balcony or a roof terrace
- Adding a basement or extending a basement
- Providing services and/or fittings in a building
- If you are replacing/renovating more than 50% of your roof

Some work can be carried out without informing Building Control if you're using a registered installer from a competent person scheme.

The regulations may apply to some outbuildings, garden office accommodation, porches, and conservatories. In doubt? It's best to check with us first if the work meets the necessary requirements.



Want to talk about a project?

HERE TO HELP





You can call us on 01403 215151 and speak to our Duty Surveyor from 3pm – 5pm. We also have some handy guidance on our website:

www.horsham.gov.uk/ building-control/guidanceand-case-studies/buildingcontrol-guidance.

www.horsham.gov.uk



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1&2 bedroom apartments.



Our Neighbourhood Wardens – the eyes and ears for our communities

We are fortunate to have seven Neighbourhood Warden teams based across 11 villages and towns throughout the District.

Our Wardens work alongside partner agencies as a reassuring, uniformed patrolling presence reducing the fear of crime, improving quality of life and promoting a stronger community. Their focus centres around engaging and educating their local community and using their enforcement powers when needed, to prevent issues at source. Wardens are CSAS (Community Safety Accreditation Scheme) accredited from Sussex Police to enable them to use some enforcement powers.

We hit the streets recently with Mike and Paul, our Steyning, Bramber and Upper Beeding duo. Both have been patrolling that patch for over 10 years and have a fantastic bond with each other and the community.

We met at The Hub, an inclusive warm space café with a food bank based in a Baptist Church in Upper Beeding. Mike and Paul can often be found here offering drop-in sessions.

What they do and why

Day to day our Wardens offer a reactive service responding to calls about things like environmental crime issues such as dog fouling and littering, anti-social behaviour, neighbourhood and domestic issues, as well as concerns about vulnerable people.

Mike commented:

"When we receive these calls we can adjust our patrols, go and make visits, disperse groups, and generally increase our visibility to discourage antisocial behaviour, working with a network of other services to solve problems."

Farmers markets - not just gin and jam!

Alongside reactive work they also have a busy proactive programme, regularly holding community drop-ins at local events such as their stand at the Steyning Farmers Market. They also support other regular events like the Steyning Festival, the summer Skate Jam, and late-night shopping.

They pay regular visits to vulnerable people, work with groups such as Age UK, host events like race nights and hold education sessions within community groups, youth clubs, and schools.

An integrated safety net of services

Operating in one of our more rural patches, Mike and Paul really know their residents well and therefore have a wealth of stories to tell.

Working with the Council's Environmental Health team, they helped one vulnerable resident struggling with health issues and financial difficulties to access a local food bank and get financial support that helped them get essential home improvements.

They commented: "We connected them with The Hub befriending service, and ongoing foodbank access. All of this strengthens their support network, improves their social confidence and their ability to independently access help going forward."



66 Working to reassure individuals, reduce isolation and initiate that community support safety net

Help with rogue traders, advice on personal safety and use of personal alarms via our Community Link service also feature heavily on the list of support they can offer.

"We can provide authoritative advice sensitively, exactly when it is needed. Working to reassure individuals, reduce isolation and initiate that

The team can also assist if there is a major incident to manage those essential services for displaced residents while emergency services can complete their work.

community support safety net."

We think our Wardens are really special teams with incredible skills in understanding the needs of local communities.

FURTHER INFO



The Warden schemes are funded by Neighbourhood and Parish Councils and managed by Horsham District Council. Find out more information about our Wardens at: www.horsham.gov.uk/wardens including all their contact details.

You can also keep up to date with the activity of all warden schemes via Twitter @HorshamWardens and on Facebook at Horsham District Neighbourhood Wardens.

Crime and anti-social behaviour should be reported to the police on 101. In an emergency, always call 999.

Play our community lottery, support the District!

The Horsham District Community lottery has been running since 2019 to help fund local good causes.

Tickets are priced at £1 each, with 60p in each pound going to a good cause that will benefit the community - double what the National Lottery gives!

Each ticket has a 1 in 50 chance to win a prize each week - offering a better chance of winning than the National Lottery or the Health Lottery!

And you get the chance to win the £25,000 jackpot every week!

A flying start

The community lottery has continued to prove popular with some 308,000 tickets sold. This reflects the real enthusiasm of our residents to help support causes that are close to their hearts.

We now have over 225 local causes supported and the lottery has raised over £184,000 for them so far.

TAKE PART



How do I take part? Sign up and choose your cause at www.horshamdistrictcommunity lottery.co.uk.

Everyone buying a ticket can choose which community group they want to support. There are many different types of

HORSHAM DISTRICT COMMUNITY

Noke good things

organisations from sports clubs, school associations and amateur dramatic societies, to local environmental groups, community projects and those helping vulnerable people in our community.

Get a lottery page for your cause With no set up costs or admin fees, groups can complete a simple online form to take part. Once we've checked everything over, we'll set you up with your own customisable lottery page.

www.horshamdistrictcommunity lottery.co.uk/good-causes.



Supported by



Horsham District Council



Looking for extra support with your day to day living?



The Connect to Support website is for anyone in West Sussex who is looking for additional help or support to maintain their independence.



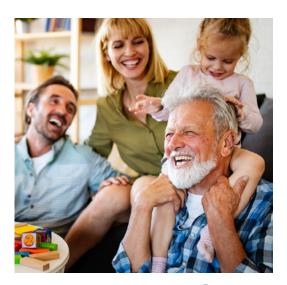
westsussexconnecttosupport.org

Visit our website to:

- **DISCOVER** tips on improving your health and wellbeing
- VIEW equipment to help you stay independent
- FIND support for carers
- LEARN about options for extra care and support

Do you need help to use the website? Email: socialcare@westsussex.gov.uk or phone: 01243 642121

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Expert advice on paying for care

Long-term care in your own home or in a residential care home is expensive, but with expert advice from independent financial specialists, Carewise can help you to make informed decisions on choosing and paying for the right care.

The Carewise care fees specialists are regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and members of the Society of Later Life Advisers, so you can have peace of mind when discussing your finances.

Contact Carewise to find out how you could benefit.





🖭 carewiseadvice.com | 🙍 carewise@westsussex.gov.uk | 🔊 0330 222 7000



Community Link a real lifeline





Our District went to visit Mrs Sledge, a Community Link service user for 15 years.

Mrs Sledge uses a SEVEN Lifeline Unit with a wearable button which she attributes to saving her life on more than one occasion.

I wouldn't be without it

Recently Mrs Sledge felt chest pains at home, as the pain intensified, she realised that it was getting more serious and pressed her device.

The alarm alerted the central Alarm Receiving Centre where operators were able to dispatch paramedics who attended in minutes, shortly followed by the ambulance team. The Receiving Centre also alerted Mrs Sledge's daughter to come over.

Paramedics, with the support of the Receiving Centre team, were able to enter the property via the key safe outside Mrs Sledge's door saving valuable minutes in getting to her safely.

It gives me and my family peace of mind

Another time after a hip replacement Mrs Sledge slipped in the bathroom and thought 'press your alarm' again paramedics were able to come and support.

Mrs Sledge said she feels these types of devices are 'essential for anybody living on their own'

She described both helpline and Community Link team staff as 'kind, helpful and tremendously reassuring'.

The assistive technology is unobtrusive (the wrist sensor that Mrs Sledge uses looks like a smart watch) - and the devices are simple to use. The user is prompted to perform regular tests which serve to remind wearers how to use the equipment and reassure them to press the button in an emergency.

All Lifeline Units include a free smoke detector which we link to the Alarm Receiving Centre. Mrs Sledge told us about her smoke detector installation

by the West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service - who also complete a safe and well visit.

Devices can be invaluable in giving users the confidence and independence to continue their daily activities, knowing they can summon essential help should anything happen.

These devices can be there to help a whole range of people - from the vulnerable, those living or working alone, living with various health needs, or wanting additional safety measures for instance joggers or children walking to and from school.

GET IN TOUCH



You can find more information on the full range of products at www. horsham.gov.uk/communitylink.

Speak to our trained team members who will recommend devices based on your current needs on 01403 215230 or email us at community. link@horsham.gov.uk.





Our life changing landlords!

Could you make a positive social impact with your property?

It's easy to see the appeal of our leasing and letting schemes, which offer private sector landlords in the Horsham District stress-free letting with reliable, consistent, continuous income.

We offer management and maintenance services, and you can be sure you will be helping those who most need it in your community.

But what does that mean to our local landlords and tenants?

Jess has decided to let her property in Steyning under the new private sector letting scheme. She tells us her story:

My home represents far more than a place to live, it is where hope begins!

"I moved from Brighton 23 years ago. As a single parent, I struggled financially which resulted in us having to move homes frequently. My children found it very unsettling; and it was a very stressful time for me too. In 2005 I managed to buy my own flat in Steyning, which meant that we did not have to keep moving every single year. This was a turning point, and the start of a much happier, calmer and more settled life.

"We were welcomed into the community with open arms; my children thrived and so did !!

"Recently I made the difficult decision to relocate to Birmingham. The thought that I could be helping another family is what motivated me to lease my flat to the Council. It is my hope that someone will find the happiness and stability in my home, just as I did.

"My home represents far more than a place to live, it is where hope begins!

"Working with the Council team was an absolute pleasure, right from the start. I am grateful to all of them. But the thing that amazed me the most was just how dedicated, transparent, and highly professional they all are.

"I would recommend letting or leasing your home through the Council if you wish to make a difference in your community. It allows families to afford decent housing. It could change someone's life!!"

Landlords play an important part in meeting our District's housing need – we house local families registered on the housing waiting list in urgent need of accommodation. Many are families with children in desperate need of a secure home.



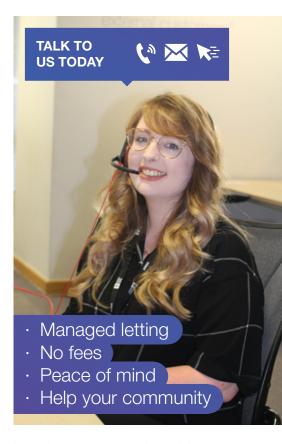
We offer two tiers of service:

Leasing

You lease your property to us for three to five years. We pay you rent at 20% below the current Local Housing Allowance Rates and take care of everything else: tenant management, inspections, and some maintenance.

Lettings

We find you a tenant for your property and they pay you rent at Local Housing Allowance Rates.



If you have a property that might be suitable please call Victoria Thompson on 01403 215572, email us at horshamPSL@horsham.gov.uk or visit www.horsham.gov.uk/letwithus.



An ever-better recycling offer for residents!

Have you heard about our new service which makes it even easier to recycle your coffee pods?

Adding to the great range of existing services which help make recycling easier for our residents, we have introduced a fantastic new free collection service enabling you to recycle your coffee (tea and hot chocolate) pods from your doorstep.



How does it work?

It's easy to get involved, simply follow the steps below:

- 1. Register and order your free recycling bags on the Podback website www.podback.org
- They will send you two rolls of bags along with an instruction leaflet
- 3. Once you have your bags and have filled them, simply book your free collection at www. horsham.gov.uk/recycling and put the sealed bag out on your collection day.

Which pods can I recycle?

There are currently 16 brands in the scheme including Nespresso, NESCAFÉ Dolce Gusto and Tassimo. The full list can be found on the Podback website. All pods from the listed member brands can be recycled.

What else can I recycle?

You can already recycle your unwanted textiles and broken small electricals with our free bookable kerbside collection service.

And you can also recycle your used batteries, which can simply be popped in a clear plastic bag and placed on top of your green-top refuse bin or your blue-top recycling bin on your normal collection day.

BOOK TODAY



For more details on all our recycling schemes and to book your collection, please visit: www.horsham.gov.uk/recycling.

Residents in Horsham District achieve some of the best recycling rates in the UK, so we are sure coffee pod recycling will be a great success.











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Cllr Claire Vickers (Conservative)

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Cllr lan Stannard (Conservative) Vice Chairman

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Cllr Bob Platt (Green)

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Deputy Leader and Cabinet
Member for Recycling & Waste

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Cllr Jack Saheid (Conservative) Telephone: 01798 813007 jack.saheid@horsham.gov.uk

Disclaimer: Contents of this magazine were correct at the time of going to print.

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Economic Development businessdevelopment@ horsham.gov.uk

Electoral Services elections@horsham.gov.uk 01403 215126

Environmental Health publichealth.licensing@ horsham.gov.uk 01403 215641

Leisure facilities Billingshurst Leisure Centre 01403 787500

Blackbridge Community Centre www.horsham.gov.uk/community/ rooms-for-hire/blackbridgecommunity-centre

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Steyning Sports and Swimming Centre 01903 879666

The Bridge Leisure Centre 01403 211311

The Pavilions In The Park 01403 219200

The Capitol, Horsham 01403 750220 www.thecapitolhorsham.com

Horsham Drill Hall 01403 211436

Horsham Park Barn bookings 01403 756088

Horsham Museum & Art Gallery 01403 254959 www.horshammuseum.org

Rookwood Golf Course 01403 252123

Southwater Country Park 01403 731218

Warnham Local Nature Reserve 01403 256890

(7) 🏏 🗿 @HorshamDC

Licensing

licensing@horsham.gov.uk

Alcohol licensing 01403 215578

Hackney carriage private hire licensing 01403 215471

Housing

Homeless enquiries housing@horsham.gov.uk

Housing application enquiries housing.applications@ horsham.gov.uk 01403 215204

National Benefit Fraud Hotline 0800 854 4400

Council Tax, business rates and benefits 08081 648610

.....

Parking

parking@horsham.gov.uk 01403 215379

Planning Services
Development Management
General enquiries
planning@horsham.gov.uk
01403 215187

Building Control General enquiries and helpline building.control@horsham.gov.uk 01403 215151

Recycling and Bins Including trade waste, litter, garden waste, cleansing and dog fouling yoursay@horsham.gov.uk 01403 733144

For all other general enquiries 01403 215100

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Stay Connected

Sign up to receive updates on topics that are important to you at www.horsham.gov.uk/ stayconnected

The Electoral Commission



Are you ready to vote?

On **Thursday 4 May 2023**, local elections are taking place in the Horsham District. To vote in these elections you must:

- Register to vote by 17 April, and
- · Bring Photo ID on the day

A wide range of photo ID will be accepted, including passports, driving licences and cards with a PASS Mark.

If you don't have an accepted form of photo ID, you can apply for a free voter ID document known as a Voter Authority Certificate.

You can find full details of accepted photo ID, where to apply for a free Voter Authority Certificate, postal or proxy vote along with a timetable of the key dates on www.horsham.gov. uk/2023elections.

If you need any help with applying for free ID or want to request a paper application form, you can contact us by emailing elections@horsham.gov.uk or calling 01403 215126.

FAMILY FUN

HIGHLIGHTS







Sat 29 & Sun 30 Apr TWIRLYWOOS



Sat 10 Jun
MILKSHAKE! LIVE



Tue 20 & Wed 21 Jun
THE TIGER WHO CAME
TO TEA



Wed 26 & Thu 27 Jul
DRAGONS AND MYTHICAL
BEASTS



Sat 5 Aug HASBRO STARS LIVE ON STAGE

