

# HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL UPDATES

May 2025

## Andover West



Please find below an outline of current programmes of work and public information from Hampshire County Council. I hope that this is useful.

If you have any further questions, then please don't hesitate to contact me at [cllrc.donnelly@hants.gov.uk](mailto:cllrc.donnelly@hants.gov.uk)

Kind regards

Chris

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## County Council Updates

### VE Day 80<sup>th</sup> Celebrations

It has been a real privilege to attend so many of the VE Day celebrations held across the division over the past week. I vividly recall the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 1995, when we had a school street party in Edinburgh. Unfortunately I couldn't attend all of them and am now having to go on a crash diet ahead of the summer, but I know how much time and effort go into them, and was really pleased to see how well supported they have been. A huge well done and thank you to everyone involved.



## Charlton Road resurfacing

You may have noticed that we are now in better and warmer weather, which means we can get on with the backlog of road repairs. The first candidate in Andover West has been Charlton Road.

The work takes two stages, with sealing then resurfacing.

The crack sealing is preparatory work for resurfacing of the road, the principle being that by sealing the cracks in the current surface (often where there have been utility repairs) then once the new surface is laid it makes it less likely that there is damage to the undersurface of the road due to water ingress or movement during cold weather. This therefore reduces the likelihood of potholes forming in the new surface and thereby elongates the life of the road surface. So far we have applied this treatment to Saxon Way, Goch Way, Churchill Way and Charlton Road in my division.



Many of our roads were laid directly onto chalk surfaces back in the 1940s and 50s, when traffic levels and weights were nothing like they are today. This means that the road is liable to shift and react to wet weather and the weight of vehicles far more than a modern road laid with robust foundations. We do not have the resources to excavate them all and rebuild them to modern standards, so we are left to make the best of what we have, which throws up bumps and cracks needing to be repaired, including the dreaded P word.

The surface immediately west of the railway bridge on Weyhill Road has also been marked out for repair, Hundred Acre Roundabout is scheduled between 16<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> July and Foxcotte Lane to also be done this summer.

Milton Avenue has also been completed, but the work on Shakespeare Avenue has been delayed. I am trying to establish why!



## Local Government Reorganisation

We have had a response from the Government to our interim submission on Local Government Reorganisation in Hampshire. It contains nothing of any detail, but does approve our process of appointing KPMG to run viability investigations onto which configurations work.

Key points to note are:

- The Government are now minded to be more flexible on population sizes. Previously this was 500,000 but we may now be able to propose authorities with fewer with justification. This may be in an effort to encourage whole district mergers.
- The Government have also shifted on their demand that whole districts merge. They will now entertain division of existing areas “where justified.”

Our policy at Test Valley remains that we wish the borough to remain intact in any new authority.

We also passed a motion at TVBC Full Council to establish a body which will investigate which services could potentially be transferred to parishes where appropriate and where there were a will to do so. I spoke during the debate to remind members that parishes come in all shapes and sizes, and that what works for a larger town council may not work for some of our smaller parishes. We must not assume that one size will fit all.

### **Connect Transport on Demand - Northern Test Valley**

The Andover area is the first in Hampshire to trial HCC's new demand responsive transports system which, I hope, will begin to provide connectivity for our rural areas where bus services are so few and far between.

#### **Where does it run?**

Transport on Demand operates to and from various bus stops in the Northern Test Valley area. The service covers most bus stops with postcodes SP10 and SP11 and the Wallops, Stockbridge, Chilbolton, and Barton Stacey areas.

#### **The service covers four zones:**

Zone 1: The service can pick up and drop off passengers at Andover bus station, Andover railway station, and Andover War Memorial Hospital

Zone 2: Specified bus stops in the SP10 Postcode area south of Weyhill Road and London Road, where other buses don't run

Zone 3: Specified bus stops in the wider SP11 postcode area

Zone 4: Specified bus stops in the Wallops, Chilbolton, Stockbridge and Barton Stacey areas

#### **When does it run?**

7am to 7pm Monday to Saturday, excluding bank holidays. All journeys must be completed by 7pm.

#### **How do I book?**

Journeys can be requested up to three days in advance using the Book a Journey app. Children under 16 and those without app access can call 0333 015 1271 to

book. Phone lines are open 9am to 4pm, Monday to Friday.

#### **How much will it cost?**

Single tickets range from £2 to £5. See ticket prices below. Up to two children under 5 years travel free with one farepaying passenger. Concessionary and scholar bus passes are not accepted on this service.

#### **Accessibility**

Minibuses are wheelchair accessible and folding pushchairs are permitted. Please book a wheelchair seat when booking.

### Getting ready for a spring clean?

Don't be tempted to engage with people on social media who offer to remove your waste, unless they are licensed waste carriers.

It is your duty of care to dispose of your waste correctly. You could be fined an unlimited amount if your waste ends up fly-tipped.

Check your waste carrier is licensed here: <http://bit.ly/2Hn8ygE>

### Deadline reminder for parents applying for School Transport

Hampshire parents who would like their children to be considered for School Transport from September 2025 must apply on time to make sure their applications are reviewed before the new school year starts.

### Reporting Highway Problems

Links to report road issues are here:

**Potholes:** <https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/potholes>

**Tree/hedge problems:**

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

**Flooding/drainage issues:**

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

**Pavement problems:** <https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/paving>

**Problems with rights of way:**

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/rightsofway/reportaproblem>

When reporting an issue, you'll be sent an email confirming a reference number for the report. If you would like me to follow this up for you then do please forward that message to me and I will chase for you