

Winchester City Councillor Monthly Report January 2019



_____ Cllr Lisa Griffiths

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If you have any comments or questions on the content of this report, please do not hesitate to get in touch. And of course, on any matter relating to WCC responsibilities where I will help.

Firstly, I'd like to wish you all a happy, healthy and prosperous 2019. I have started the year by downloading the NHS' 'Couch to 5k' App and am actually surprised how easy it is to start to run – wish me luck in getting to a 5k run by week 9! There is also an 'Active 10' App (no lycra required!) which is about brisk walking every day – everyone's brisk walk is different, you are only challenging yourself, so give something a go which gets your heart going a little faster. If you'd like to walk with a regular group, there are Health Walks starting in Alresford, Kings Worthy and Winchester – info can be found on WCC website, or call me and I'll let you know.

Doorstep Glass Recycling Collections to commence

At the December Cabinet meeting, it was confirmed that doorstep glass collections will commence in Autumn 2019, during a 1 year extension to our existing waste contract. At the start of this contract it would have cost us £1m extra per year, the price negotiated is less than 1/3 of that cost and we won't add any cost to your council tax to pay for this. (Please note the EHDC residents may have glass collected, but they pay for household garden waste collection – you don't).

WCC will begin to re-procure the next 8-9 year contract during 2019, so watch out for opportunities to comment on what your priorities are. There are a number of Government initiatives which we are expected to look at to improve our District recycling and waste management.

£1m CIL funding available

WCC would like groups from across the District to apply for a share of £1m funding to help support essential infrastructure projects, in areas outside the South Downs National Park. The opportunity to request finance projects, to support or fund entirely, will initially run from 2019 to 2022. The first round of bids will run between January and March 2019 and the Council is inviting groups to apply for between £10,000 and £200,000 of funding for suitable schemes. Project must meet at least one of a range of criteria and the more criteria a project meets, the higher the chance it will successfully secure funding. Link here : <http://www.winchester.gov.uk/planning/community-infrastructure-levy-cil/apply-for-cil>. CIL bids will be evaluated in April, by an informal panel who will decide which schemes to recommend to Cabinet for a final decision.

Grants for £000s at WINnovation funding event

Up to £4,000 could be available to groups and charities in the District if they can convince a Dragon's Den-style to invest in their projects. This is a one-off funding event on **5 February 2019** and grant decisions and awards will be made on the evening. The council has a pool of grant funding reserved for community activities or projects that specifically benefit local residents. Innovative projects that are delivered in an entrepreneurial way, are engaging, or enhance the organisation's strategic development, are more likely to succeed. **Applications to pitch should be submitted online by noon 15 January**

Winchester Movement Strategy moves to next stage

The second phase of consultation to improve traffic and transport in and around Winchester, and inform future funding bids, closes on **13 January 2019**. Make sure you have your say, as Alresford & Itchen Valley residents will be impacted. Full details and the online survey available at:

www.hants.gov.uk/aboutthecouncil/haveyoursay/consultations/winchestermovementstrategy.

Citizens Advice Bureau

During January 2019, the Winchester branch of the CAB will move into WCC's premises on Colebrook Street. The Alresford branch will continue to work from the GPs surgery – times and how to contact on their website.

Cash kiosks to open at WCC Colebrook Street offices

WCC will introduce two self-service cash kiosk, available 08.30-17.00, as part of the refurbishment of its customer service centre, which will re-open early in the new year. The machines will replace the existing cash office allowing customers to carry out a range of transactions quickly and easily, reducing queue times and improving customer experience. Customer support will be provided during the transition to help customers use the machines.