

Hampshire County Council Update: Cllr Robert Taylor JP
Report to RPC
March 2021

Budget HCC approves £2.1 billion spending on local services in 2021/22

Plans for the next financial year focus on the county's ongoing work associated with the pandemic, support for vulnerable children and adults, investment in Hampshire's roads and infrastructure to support economic recovery, as well as climate change mitigation.

The annual council tax charge for a Band D property will be £1,350.45 – an increase of £1.23 per week, equating to 4.99%, of which 3% is for adults' social care – a Government request. The budget includes £13 million for the maintenance of 5,500 miles of roads and an extra £1.2 million in carbon reduction measures across the County Council. HCC's four-year capital programme of £744 million is one of the largest in the country.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/25022021HCCbudgetdecisionFeb2021>

The proposed capital programme includes: • £68 million in new and extended school buildings to ensure there is a school place for every child in Hampshire • £118 million for structural maintenance and improvement of roads and bridges in Hampshire over the next three years • £91 million for integrated transport schemes including over £18 million specifically focused on walking and cycling improvements • £141 million for major improvement of school and other County Council buildings and land holdings over the next three years • £33 million for decarbonisation schemes covering solar PV, single to double glazing window replacements, transition from oil to gas and the implementation of heating controls.

Over £1 million agreed to support children and young people with disabilities

HCC has agreed grants in excess of **£1 million** for voluntary groups and charitable organisations across the county, to support them in providing Short Break activities for children with disabilities and/or additional needs

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20210225ShortBreakActivitiesDecision>

County Council reinforces commitment to tackle fly-tipping

Hampshire County Council is asking residents to focus on two activities that will help reduce the activity of criminal gangs fly-tipping in the county:

1. Always report fly-tipping
2. Ensure you use a licensed company to take away your waste, if you cannot take it to an HWRC yourself.

HCC works with partner authorities to increase prosecutions. Since 2018, local authorities across Hampshire have successfully prosecuted over 100 people and issued 116 fixed penalty notices. Unfortunately increases in fly tipping are down to organised criminal activity, unrelated to waste and recycling services in Hampshire.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/26022021FlyTipping>

Hampshire County Council to seek its next Chief Executive

Hampshire County Council has announced that Chief Executive, John Coughlan CBE will retire this year. As Head of the Paid Service, the Chief Executive is responsible for managing the

Authority's annual budget of £2.1 billion, a workforce of around 37,000 (including staff in over 500 Hampshire schools) and for delivering services to 1.4 million people across the county.

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