



Test Valley News

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COUNCIL ROLLS OUT £50K COST OF LIVING GRANT SCHEME

Test Valley Borough Council has created a new £50k Cost of Living Grant scheme to help organisations that are supporting people who are struggling with rising costs.

TVBC chiefs agreed to create the new funding pot at a cabinet meeting on Thursday 29 September. The scheme is now live, and organisations can find out more and submit a bid for a share of the funding at: www.testvalley.gov.uk/costoflivinggrantscheme

The move follows a special meeting of the Test Valley Partnership in August,

which was hosted jointly by the leader of Test Valley Borough Council, Councillor Phil North, and leader of the opposition, Councillor Celia Dowden. The meeting brought together a host of different organisations, including Citizens Advice Test Valley, Hampshire County Council, Department for Work and Pensions, Andover Foodbank and Romsey Community Services.

Following the meeting, the council set up a Cost of Living Support Hub, which provides useful information and signposts people to the various agencies and groups that can offer a range of help, from local food banks to financial advice. The information can be found at:

www.testvalley.gov.uk/costoflivingsupport

The partnership also agreed to take forward various other actions and projects over the coming months that will help organisations to provide targeted aid to residents and make it as easy as possible for people to access the support they need when they need it.

Leader of TVBC, Councillor Phil North, said: *“Many of our residents, and the country as a whole, are facing a particularly tough winter. It is critical that we do everything in our power to support people through what may be one of the most challenging periods they have ever faced. I am pleased to say that there is already a huge amount of help out there and some truly fantastic organisations providing critical support to those in need. And this grant scheme is there to ensure they are in the best position to provide that help and are able*

to increase their capacity to deal with the extra demand.”

Leader of the opposition, Councillor Celia Dowden, added:

“The organisations that will benefit from this funding are very much on the frontline, and so it is important that we do all we can to support them, so they can in turn support those impacted by the rising cost of living. This absolutely needs to be a team effort, to make sure that we can each maximise our impact and help one another to get through this. I welcome the creation of this new grant scheme.”

Help for households

The government is offering help for households.

See what cost of living support you could be eligible for.



Advice if you're in debt

If you're struggling with debt then there is lots of free help and advice available.



Benefits calculators

You can use an independent, free and anonymous benefits calculator to check what you could be entitled to.



Visit: www.testvalley.gov.uk/costoflivingsupport

Council meetings

Members of the public can listen to the meetings live via the specific meeting's page at www.testvalley.gov.uk. Meeting details are correct at the time of printing. For more information, please visit the council's website.

October 2022

26.10.22	Cabinet meeting	Beech Hurst, Andover	5.30pm
27.10.22	Northern Area Planning Committee	Beech Hurst, Andover	5.30pm

November 2022

01.11.22	Southern Area Planning Committee	Crosfield Hall, Romsey	5.30pm
02.11.22	Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Beech Hurst, Andover	5.30pm
16.11.22	Council	Upper Guildhall, Andover	5.30pm
17.11.22	Northern Area Planning Committee	Beech Hurst, Andover	5.30pm
22.11.22	Southern Area Planning Committee	Crosfield Hall, Romsey	5.30pm
24.11.22	Test Valley Association of Parish & Town Councils	Venue tbc	8.30am
24.11.22	Licensing Committee	Crosfield Hall, Romsey	5.30pm

December 2022

07.12.22	Cabinet	Beech Hurst, Andover	5.30pm
08.12.22	Northern Area Planning Committee	Beech Hurst, Andover	5.30pm
12.12.22	Audit Committee	Crosfield Hall, Romsey	5.30pm
13.12.22	Southern Area Planning Committee	Crosfield Hall, Romsey	5.30pm
14.12.22	Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Crosfield Hall, Romsey	5.30pm
22.12.22	Licensing Committee	Crosfield Hall, Romsey	5.30pm

January 2023

05.01.23	Northern Area Planning Committee	Beech Hurst, Andover	5.30pm
10.01.23	Southern Area Planning Committee	Crosfield Hall, Romsey	5.30pm
12.01.23	Licensing Committee	Crosfield Hall, Romsey	5.30pm
16.01.23	General Purposes Committee	Crosfield Hall, Romsey	5.30pm
18.01.23	Cabinet	Crosfield Hall, Romsey	5.30pm
23.01.23	Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Crosfield Hall, Romsey	5.30pm
25.01.23	Council	Crosfield Hall, Romsey	5.30pm
26.01.23	Northern Area Planning Committee	Beech Hurst, Andover	5.30pm
31.01.23	Southern Area Planning Committee	Crosfield Hall, Romsey	5.30pm

Different formats

Different formats of Test Valley News are available for anyone who has difficulty reading this publication. Please call the Chief Executive's office on **01264 368108**.

The aim of Test Valley News is to keep the borough's residents up to date with relevant information about the public services and facilities available to them, as well as other important local news.

Test Valley News is produced and distributed by Test Valley Borough Council.

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What's on in Test Valley

Here's a summary of forthcoming events around Test Valley. More information about many of these events can be found at www.testvalley.gov.uk/events.

Shows at a Glance

The Lights - Andover

Morgan & West: Unbelievable Science	27 October 2:00pm
Andover Music Club: Gold Strings	27 October 7:30pm
The Johnny Cash Roadshow – From the Ashes Tour 2022	28 October 7:30pm
Kathryn Roberts and Sean Lakeman	3 November 8:00pm
The Phonics 2022	4 November 8:00pm
Talon – The Best of Eagles 25th Anniversary Tour	7 November 7:30pm
The Simon & Garfunkel Story 2022	11 November 7:30pm
ABB	12 November 8:00pm
The Hound of the Baskervilles	18 November 7:30pm
Catch Us If You Can	19 November 7:30pm
Andover Music Club – Antoine Preat	24 November 7:30pm
From Gold to Rio	25 November 7:30pm
Torn Off Strips	26 November 8:00pm
AMTC – Footloose	30 Nov – 3 Dec 7:30pm
Be Bop A Lula	9 December 7:30pm
Beauty and the Beast – Ballet Theatre UK	11 December 2:30pm & 7:30pm
Christmas Memories	15 December 2:00pm
Total 90s 2022	16 December 7:30pm
The Big Band at Christmas	18 December 3:00pm
More Christmas Ghost Stories	19 December 7:30pm
Captain Calamity	21 December 2:00pm & 6:00pm
Santa Saves Christmas	23 December 10:30am & 1:00pm
Money for Nothing	7 January 7:30pm
Country Superstars	13 January 7:30pm

The Plaza - Romsey

All Floyd 2022 Tour	29 October 7:30pm
Songs from the Shows and Old Time Music Hall	30 October 7:30pm
Elvis The Legend	4 November 7:30pm
Romsey Comedy Club	5 November 7:30pm
Jeeves and Wooster in Perfect Nonsense	15-19 November 7:30pm
Viva Neil Diamond	25 November 7:30pm
A Tribute to Simon and Garfunkel	26 November 7:30pm
Rules for Living	6-10 December 7:30pm
MSB Xmas Show	12-13 December 7:30pm
Cinderella	13-28 January Various dates & times

Events information

For events at The Lights: Book online at www.thelights.org.uk or contact the box office on **01264 368368**.

For events at The Plaza: Please call the booking office on **01794 512987**.

TEST VALLEY PAYS ITS RESPECTS TO HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II

Residents across Test Valley came together last month to mourn the loss of the country's longest serving monarch, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

The Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Test Valley, Deputy Lieutenants and council staff, laid wreaths in Andover and Romsey and attended services across the borough in memory of Her Majesty. The Queen had deep links to Test Valley, spending her honeymoon at Broadlands Estate in Romsey, and the borough has welcomed many royal visitors over the years.



HUNDREDS GATHERED FOR HISTORIC PROCLAMATION



Hundreds of people filled Andover High Street and the War Memorial Park in Romsey on Sunday 11 September, as the Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Test Valley and Deputy Lieutenants of Hampshire read the proclamation of King Charles III.

Initially read at St James's Palace and the Royal Exchange in the City of



London on Saturday, the proclamation is the official announcement of the new monarch. It was then read in counties, cities, boroughs and districts up and down the country the following day.

Videos of the proclamation ceremonies in Andover and Romsey can be viewed on the Test Valley Borough Council website: www.testvalley.gov.uk

Mayor of Test Valley, Councillor Alan Dowden, said: "It was a great honour to have read the proclamation of the new King and to have taken part in such a historic event. It has been an incredibly moving few days, and

just as people have gathered in grief, we gathered to mark the King's accession to the throne and the start of a new era for each of us. I wish to thank everyone who attended. God save The King."

WAR HORSE ARTIST UNVEILS PUBLIC ART PIECES FOR THE QUEEN

Romsey War Horse artist, Amy Goodman, has unveiled the designs for her new Test Valley public art pieces in honour of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, which are set to be installed next year.

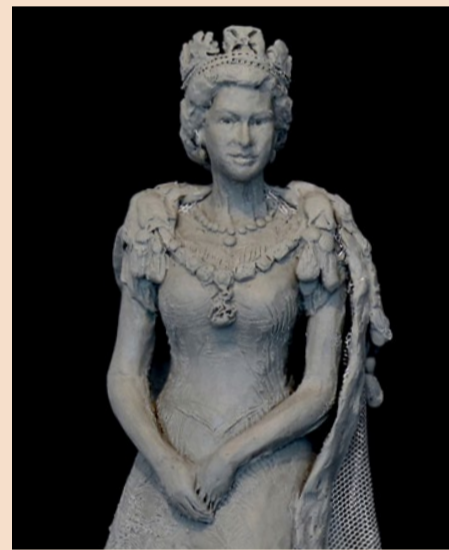
Test Valley Borough Council originally commissioned the sculptures to coincide with The Queen's Platinum Jubilee earlier this year, but the artwork will now take on a new poignancy following Her Majesty's passing last month.

Amy Goodman, who created the spectacular Romsey War Horse for the War Memorial park, won the bid to design the two new artworks for the north and south of the borough to honour Her Majesty's 70 years of service to the people of the United Kingdom, the Realms and



the Commonwealth, as well as The Queen's connections to Test Valley. And now they will also stand as a lasting tribute in memory of the country's longest serving monarch.

The designs are bronze 'sister' sculptures featuring Her Majesty. The first showing The Queen at her coronation, which will be located in Romsey, and the second, which is destined for Andover, depicts her later in life. They will be unveiled separately as the artist will be making them consecutively, with the first statue expected to be unveiled in late summer 2023, and the second following in the autumn. Subject to securing the relevant permissions, the council is proposing to place the Romsey statue outside the Abbey, and the Andover statue is expected to be located at Vigo Recreation Ground.



Sculptor, Amy Goodman, said:

"Queen Elizabeth II has been a constancy in all our lives, and the outpouring of love, affection and respect from all over the world since she passed has been gratifying to witness. It is such an honour to be sculpting the two statues, and aside from creating two accurate and elegant portraits of her, I will look to the local community, from different generations, in the form of workshops, to help inspire designs I will inscribe on each of her robes that best and most poignantly reflect her reign."

Leader of Test Valley Borough Council, Councillor Phil North, said:

"We commissioned these pieces to mark The Queen's Platinum Jubilee and although they will now also sadly mark her passing, their purpose is still very much to celebrate her unwavering commitment to the country, the commonwealth and to all of us. Reminding generations to

come of her extraordinary place in British history.

"Both statues are similar in concept linking both ends of the borough, but with key differences making the pieces unique. As well as depicting Her Late Majesty at different stages of her life, the designs on the back of her robes and the locations of the artwork will reflect the relationship she had with Test Valley. In Romsey, the Queen will be depicted as a young monarch, reflecting her connection with Broadlands where she spent her honeymoon and as Defender of the Faith and Supreme Governor of the Church of England, making the Abbey the ideal setting. Whereas in Andover, there is an opportunity to reflect her position as Commander-in-Chief of the British Armed Forces, which links perfectly with the town's military connections.

"Amy is an amazingly talented sculptor and I look forward to seeing the finished pieces next year."

Amy's other sculptures include the Florence Nightingale and Gurkha memorials in Aldershot, Arborfield Horses, Pegasus and Bellerophon for the 16 Air Assault Brigade and The Aldershot Airborne Soldier.



MAJOR RECYCLING CHANGES ON THE HORIZON AS TEST VALLEY APPROVES KERBSIDE GLASS, PLASTICS AND FOOD WASTE COLLECTIONS

Households across Test Valley will benefit from the total transformation of local recycling services, with the introduction of brand new weekly food waste collections, as well as kerbside glass and thin plastic collections.

At a Test Valley Borough Council (TVBC) cabinet meeting on 22 June, council chiefs agreed a proposal to introduce new blue bins and food waste caddies for all properties, which would enable households to recycle leftover food, glass, pots, tubs and trays at the kerbside for the very first time.

The council has been lobbying Hampshire County Council (HCC) to upgrade their material recovery facilities for a number of years, which is where the contents of the borough's brown bins are taken for processing, to enable them to collect more materials at the kerbside.

Thanks to the Government's new Environment Act, which aims to level up recycling rates across the country, residents will be able to

recycle the same materials at kerbside, regardless of where they live. In turn, the Government expects all local authorities to achieve a target of recycling 55 per cent of their total waste by 2025.

As a result, HCC is driving forward plans to build a brand new material recovery facility (MRF), which will process the new materials TVBC and other Hampshire waste collection authorities are planning to collect at the kerbside.

In order to boost recycling rates as much as possible, streamline the move, keep collection days the same and keep costs down, the council will introduce "one, two, three weekly" waste collections, which will involve collecting blue bins in week one, brown bins in week two and black bins in week three. They will also collect food waste every week, as well as garden waste for those signed up to the scheme.

The council will bring in the changes as soon as possible once Hampshire County Council has opened its new MRF.

Leader of the council, Councillor Phil North, said: *"This will be incredibly positive news for residents and the environment alike and it's something I have campaigned for ever since I became leader of the council. It will make it far easier for people to recycle and massively reduce the amount of rubbish households currently put in their black bins, which will in turn drive up recycling rates. We know that this is something our communities have wanted for some time and it is a major ambition in our Corporate Plan.*

"While we need the county council to get the infrastructure and facilities in place to support the move, we are chomping at the bit to get things up and running and we want to be one of the first authorities in Hampshire to implement the changes. Though the changes won't be coming in for a little while, planning for them now will enable us to get all of the resources in place and, crucially, to be ahead of the game in terms of ordering new vehicles, bins and food caddies, and recruiting new staff. We know that the Environment Act will lead to changes across the country, so we want to make sure we get our orders in as early as possible.

"We know that some people might be concerned about having their non-recyclables collected every third week - and as someone who has a

dog and a young family, I absolutely get that. But we will be working to support people through the change, and with the new blue bin and food waste caddy there will be a lot less in people's black bins. Ultimately, it is really important that our focus remains on the environment and this really is the very best way to push up recycling rates as high as they can possibly go."

Portfolio holder for recycling and environmental services, Councillor Nick Adams-King, added: *"This is a really exciting opportunity to drive up our recycling rates across Test Valley. With an ever greater focus on climate change and the council declaring a climate emergency, it is vital that we do everything we can to help people to recycle more in their household bins. The changes will also make it much easier for people to recycle the right things in the right way as the messages on packaging will line up with local approaches to recycling as it will be the same across the country.*

"We know that a change of this magnitude will introduce challenges, which is why the council will be engaging extensively with residents between now and implementation. In the meantime, a series of initial FAQs have been developed that are reflective of some of the challenges we envisage."

More information about the changes, including the FAQs, can be found at www.testvalley.gov.uk/recyclingchanges

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MORE THAN 1000 PEOPLE ATTEND THE BRAND NEW **GANGER FARM SPORTS PARK** OPENING DAY



The brand-new Ganger Farm Sports Park, near Romsey opened on Monday 12 September, with more than 1000 people attending.

The local community enjoyed a busy evening of activities, both out on the pitches and in the state-of-the-art exercise studio, where the Yoga and Pilates trial classes were a hit!

The opening event was host to several

clubs offering demonstrations and free sessions for people to join in and have a go. The clubs involved included Romsey Rugby Club, Braishfield Bees, Romsey Town Youth FC, Romsey Hockey Club, Romsey Road Runners and Romsey Park Run.



Community and Leisure Portfolio Holder, Cllr David Drew, said: *"It was great to see such a hive of activity on the opening day. It is a wonderful*

new community facility that looks set to be popular with families and provide a fantastic hub for a variety of local sports clubs and activities."



Ganger Farm Sports Park is a new facility for the Romsey community that is owned and managed by Test Valley Borough Council. For more information on hiring the rooms or pitches go to www.testvalley.gov.uk/gangerfarm

TAKE FIVE TO STOP FRAUD – THE COST OF LIVING CHALLENGE

We are proud to be supporting Take Five to Stop Fraud with their campaign, the Cost of Living Challenge.

With the increase in the cost of household bills, falling for a fraud or a scam may hit people that much harder, particularly as the potential impact could leave them short on everyday essentials such as their food shopping or utility bills.

Criminals are tapping into people's financial concerns by offering fake energy saving devices or supermarket vouchers (purchase scams), impersonating trusted organisations such as retailers, government departments and utility companies (impersonation fraud), convincing people to move their money into a fictitious fund (investment fraud), and enticing people to pay an upfront fee in order to receive a prize or loan which never materialise (payment in advance

fraud) to name but a few.

We want to ensure people stay safe from criminals who will be taking advantage of the current situation for their own financial gain. With fraud becoming increasingly sophisticated and hard to spot, especially when legitimate organisations are impersonated, everyone needs to be on their guard to ensure that they remember to Stop, Challenge, and Protect to keep themselves and their money safe. Remember, if it looks too good to be true, it probably is.

If you think you may have fallen for a scam, contact your bank immediately and report it to Action Fraud on

0300 123 2040 or via: www.actionfraud.police.uk



Criminals are experts at impersonating people, organisations and the police. They spend hours researching you for their scams, hoping you'll let your guard down for just a moment.

Stop and think. It could protect you and your money.



TO STOP FRAUD

takefive-stopfraud.org.uk

For more information, visit the Take Five to Stop Fraud website at www.takefive-stopfraud.org.uk

Manage your energy bills and your carbon footprint.



Sustainable Warmth is a new Government grant scheme designed to provide **FREE** fully-funded energy-efficiency upgrades and **YOU** could be eligible.

- Designed to support households most likely to be impacted by rising fuel bills.
- Energy-saving tech and upgrades installed by TrustMark-approved installers.
- Creating warmer, healthier homes.
- Helping to cut carbon emissions.
- Funding available for homes on and off the gas grid.

Want to find out if you're eligible for a **Sustainable Warmth Grant**? Use the details below to find out more.

Visit: www.hampshire-applications.co.uk or call City Energy on: 02921 680951



#MANAGEYOURENERGYBILLS

TOP TIPS TO SAVE ENERGY AND REDUCE CARBON EMISSIONS

Almost half the UK's carbon dioxide emissions come from things we all do every day.

Heating accounts for 60 percent of your home's energy use; hot water for 23

percent; cooking for 3 percent; lighting 3 percent; and appliances, consumer electronics and computers account for 11 percent. Any savings that you can make will soon start to add up.

The Energy Saving Trust recommends following its top ten tips to save energy:

1. Switch off standby - turn electrical appliances off at the plug. Save around £65 per year.
2. Draught proof windows, doors and gaps around floors and skirting boards. Professional draught proofing can save around £125 per year.
3. Switch to LED bulbs and spotlights and turn off lights when you aren't using them. Save around £25 per year.
4. Use your washing machine on a 30-degree cycle instead of higher temperatures, and reduce your washing machine use by one run per week for a year. Save around £34 per year.
5. Avoid using a tumble dryer for your clothes: dry clothes on racks inside where possible or outside in warmer weather. Save around £70.
6. Try to limit your shower to four minutes. Save around £95.
7. Some of us might enjoy a long soak in the bath, but swapping just one bath a week with a 4-minute shower could save around £20 a year on your energy bills.
8. In the kitchen – only fill the kettle with the amount of water that you need and save around £13, and consider fitting an aerator onto your existing kitchen tap to reduce the amount of water coming out without affecting how it washes or rinses. Save around £30 per year.
9. Only run your dishwasher when it is full. Reducing usage by one run per week could save £17 per year.
10. Effective insulation of your hot water cylinder is important: even if you have thin spray foam or a loose 25mm jacket, you can benefit from increasing the insulation to a British Standard Jacket 80mm thick. Save around £70 per year.

For more information visit www.energysavingtrust.org.uk

Romsey Future- Our Town, Our Future Community Event

A showcase of the vision for Romsey Future

HUNDREDS TURN OUT TO HAVE THEIR SAY ON THE FUTURE OF ROMSEY!

Hundreds of people descended on Romsey Town Hall on 8 October, to have their say on the future of Romsey.

The event was a chance for the Romsey Future team to showcase some of the projects that are underway and talk to people about their aspirations for the town.

The Romsey Future partnership, which is formed of community organisations, including local groups and Test Valley Borough Council, also launched its updated vision for the town earlier this year. The document can be viewed on the Romsey Future website at www.romseyfuture.org.uk

The vision's main aims include ensuring the town

is well connected, environmentally responsible with a sense of strong community, while the economy continues to thrive.

Last summer, Romsey Future ran a public consultation around the town to find out what mattered most to residents. These views were then put into a new vision document, refreshing its aims for the next 20 years.

Some of the partnership's projects include revamping the area south of the town centre and increasing cycling and walking links through the town.

The vision, titled A Vision for Romsey has also been endorsed by Hampshire Constabulary, Unity and the NHS's local clinical commissioning group, as well as the Romsey and District Society.



SP BAR OWNERS TO TAKE OVER LOWER GUILDHALL



The owners of Andover's SP Bar are set to take over the town's Lower Guildhall and transform it into a vibrant new eatery.

Stephanie and Ricky Pledge will take on the lease for the ground floor of the town's iconic Grade II Listed building, which is owned by Test Valley Borough Council.

They will offer all day refreshments including brunch, light bites and a daytime menu, before transforming the venue into a cocktail bar in the evening with a varied menu of drinks accompanied by new and exciting

dishes from a variety of guest chefs and independent food traders.

They will soon begin minor refurbishment work ready for their planned opening later this year.

The Lower Guildhall has been empty since its previous tenants went into administration and the council has been working to regain vacant possession to enable the new letting so they could bring it back into use.

Stephanie Pledge said: *"We are absolutely ecstatic to be taking on the challenge to bring the lower Guildhall back to the town!*

"It's always been central to the town and we believe we can create an inviting and vibrant space inside to match what you see on the outside! We look forward to bringing the SP cocktails across whilst offering a truly fantastic array of menus and collaborations! The future of the town is being truly invested in and we are really proud to be part of Andover's change for everyone."

Leader of Test Valley Borough Council, councillor Phil North, said: *"This is such fantastic news and I am absolutely delighted that Stephanie and Ricky, who are so passionate about the town, will breathe life back into the Lower Guildhall and*

bring something fresh and new to Andover. The SP Bar has been such a huge success, and with their new Riverside Café now open in Town Mills Riverside Park, it is clear to see that they are keen to invest in Andover and can see just how much potential our town has to offer.

"We, like so many of the local residents, have been desperate to bring the Lower Guildhall back into use. It has involved a great deal of work and I am so pleased that we are finally in a position to let the building once again.

"So much of what we are seeking to do through the Andover masterplan involves creating really great spaces in the town centre for people to relax and socialise, and having such an amazing new eatery in the Guildhall will do exactly that."

NEW HAIR SALON A CUT ABOVE THE REST WITH COUNCIL GRANT

A new hair salon called 'Knightwood Hair' at Knightwood Leisure Centre has scooped a £750 Business Incentive Grant from Test Valley Borough Council.

Rebecca Curtis used to run a hair salon called The Hair Hut with her sister in a unit at Abbey Park Industrial Estate, but now they both work individually in smaller spaces and Rebecca has taken

the opportunity to set up on her own in Valley Park.

The council's business incentive grants are available to anyone looking to set up their own business in Test Valley. Anyone who successfully applies for the grant will receive £750 if their business is still going strong six months later.

These funds have become available to the community as a consequence of the council's prudent investments, financial management and the use of the New Homes Bonus.

Rebecca said: *"Knightwood Leisure Centre is the perfect location for my new hair salon as it already has a regular footfall of potential customers. It is great news that my application for the Business Incentive Grant has been accepted to help get the new business off the ground."*

Ward councillor, Alan Dowden, who recently presented the cheque to Rebecca, said: *"The grant schemes are a great opportunity for those wishing to set up new businesses in Test Valley. I am delighted that Rebecca has been successful in her grant application and wish her every success."*

For more information about the council's grant schemes, visit www.testvalley.gov.uk



Harrow Way Community School

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Harrow Way is widely acknowledged as a very successful school dedicated to the achievement and well-being of all its students. Ofsted recognised us as a 'good school' with many strengths, a judgement of which we are understandably proud.

Our commitment to achieving exemplary standards has been recognised and praised by the Teacher Development Trust, which awarded the school its prestigious Silver Award.

We are also a CAS (Computing at School) Lead School, a Centre of Excellence for Geography and History and hold the SMSC Gold Award. We also have the 'Big Award' which recognises the work we have done around anti bullying.

Our exciting and innovative curriculum offers a wide range of opportunities for students to succeed. Harrow Way is a popular, thriving establishment successfully serving the needs of the wider community as well as the school population.

Come and discover what makes this school so special and join in our success. Visitors are always welcome.

"Observations of lessons during the visit showed that teaching was consistently outstanding and there were high levels of student motivation in lessons." History Gold Award Assessment

"From the moment I stepped onto your grounds, I was struck by the warmth and camaraderie of the teacher/ pupil relations. My visit was a resounding success where you showcased and demonstrated how committed you all are as a community to SMSC and I left on a real high!" SMSC Assessor

harrowway.hants.sch.uk | 01264 364533




TEST VALLEY BIDS FOR LEVELLING UP FUND

Test Valley Borough Council (TVBC) has submitted a bid for a share of the government's £4.8 billion Levelling Up Fund to help accelerate the authority's plans to regenerate Andover town centre.

Launched in March this year, the money aims to improve infrastructure across the country, with a particular focus on helping to regenerate town centres and high streets, as well as cultural and heritage assets and transport.

At a special council meeting on 23 June, members agreed to submit a bid for up to £20 million to help towards accelerating delivery of the Andover masterplan and improving the lives of those who live in and around the town centre as a result.

The money will be used to deliver a stunning riverside park along Western Avenue, transform the riverside footpath south of Bridge Street, demolish the former magistrates' court building, and create a spectacular new cultural hub in the town centre which would include the relocation of The Lights theatre.

The total cost of the project is expected to be around £20.3 million, with the ambition to secure £18.5 million from the Levelling Up Fund and up to £2 million provided by the council in match funding from existing budgets.

The council will find out in the coming weeks if it has been successful, and if it secures the money, the authority will need to begin the project by April 2023 and complete it by 31 March 2025.

Leader of Test Valley Borough Council, councillor Phil North, said:

"We have huge ambitions to transform Andover town centre, and this money would enable us to rapidly accelerate those plans."

"But while we're progressing the physical changes, regeneration is already very much underway with a focus on transforming the town centre through cultural regeneration with a jam-packed, high quality event programme."

"The overarching goal of the Levelling Up Fund is to improve quality of life, and creating a vibrant and thriving town for the benefit of businesses and residents alike, can help to do exactly that."

"There's no question that it's an incredibly competitive process but we are confident that we have made a compelling argument for Andover and we have done everything we possibly could to give us the very best chance of securing the funds."

TEST VALLEY SCOOPS SILVER AWARD FOR MILITARY COMMUNITY SUPPORT



Test Valley Borough Council scooped a silver award from the Defence Employer Recognition Scheme at an awards ceremony in Portsmouth in September, in recognition of its work to support military personnel, their families and veterans.

In December 2019, the council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSCOM) requested a review of the authority's commitment to the Armed Forces Community Covenant. They set up a dedicated panel to undertake the work, led by Armed Forces Champion, Councillor Nick Matthews.

Over the past few years, the council has boosted its support for the Armed Forces, and in 2021 the authority picked up a bronze award for its work.

Since then, it has focused on enhancing communication with partner organisations and leading a more inclusive approach to supporting the armed forces community, which helped to propel it into the silver award position.

On 7 September 2022, organisations from across the country gathered for the ceremony at HMS King Alfred in Portsmouth, with Councillor Nick Matthews collecting the award on behalf of TVBC.

Armed Forces Champion, Councillor Nick Matthews, said:

"Our OSCOM working panel conducted significant research into the intricacies of the Armed Forces Covenant, and indeed what obligations were being met by TVBC. Whilst we established TVBC was fulfilling its obligations, there was more that could be done, and we wanted to go above and beyond. There were many areas we identified, including health and mental health support, business and resettlement engagement networks, community engagement, education for service children and, of course, housing."

"To achieve and fulfil such

aspirations, we needed to form a Civilian Military Forum (CMF). This was the first and main recommendation we put to the council. This forum would be the enabler, so required forming the right team."

"Since its formation, all members and partners have assisted us in these achievements. From the RBL's Brew, Banjos and Banter Club, to our mental health support, health partnerships and business networks."

"I am genuinely thrilled and proud of the team's efforts, and this award is testament to all members of the Civilian Military Forum."

According to the Government website, the Defence Employer Recognition Scheme encourages employers to support defence and inspire others to do the same.

The scheme encompasses bronze, silver and gold awards for employer organisations that pledge, demonstrate or advocate support to defence and the armed forces community, and align their values with the Armed Forces Covenant.

**HIGH STREET, ANDOVER
10AM-4PM**

**SECOND SUNDAYS
ANDOVER**

STREET FOOD | CRAFT DRINKS
DESIGNER MAKERS | ORIGINAL ART
MUSIC | WORKSHOPS

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ROMSEY CHRISTMAS EVENTS



26 November - 6pm

Light Switch On, Winter Carnival and Lantern Parade

Romsey Christmas Lights Switch On, Winter Carnival and Lantern Parade - it's that special time of year when Romsey really starts to twinkle!

Spirits are expected to be high on Saturday 26 November 2022 as Romsey begins its countdown to Christmas with the Winter Carnival, Lantern Parade and switch on of the town's Christmas lights. The lighting up of Romsey town never fails to draw crowds and gasps of wonder from onlookers soaking up the magical seasonal atmosphere.

2, 9 and 16 December – 11.30am to 12.30pm

Romsey Country Market and Community Café

Held inside Romsey Town Hall, this is a wonderful opportunity to buy homemade Christmas food and gifts and to make new friends over a cup of tea and a mince pie.

4 and 18 December – 10am to 2pm

Hampshire Farmers' Christmas Market

Held in the Alma Road car park, this market focuses on Christmas items and is a lovely chance to purchase fresh, local, seasonal foods.

4, 11 and 18 December – 10am to 3pm

Romsey Makers' Market

Held in the Market Place and Corn Market, there will be stalls selling handmade Christmas gifts and food from local crafters, makers and bakers.

9 December - 5.30pm

Saving Santa

A highlight for many at Christmas, Romsey shops will open into the evening offering an extra special seasonal welcome to customers. We hear Father Christmas is expected to visit at 6.45 pm and we have Romsey Fire Station standing by in case he makes his usual navigational error, lands on a roof and needs rescuing.

19 December - 7pm

Carols in the Market Place

Gather around the Christmas tree in the Market Place for a festive evening of carol singing and live music

CHRISTMAS COMES TO ANDOVER AT FESTIVE FAMILY EVENT!

Andover residents are invited to attend a very special event this November, as the Andover Christmas Festival launches the start of the festive season.

Taking place on Friday 25 November, 3pm until 8pm, the event which has been organised by Test Valley Borough Council, In Andover from Andover BID and Andover Town Council, will see the town centre packed with Christmas treats for all ages to enjoy.

Andover High Street and Bridge Street will be filled with live music throughout the evening with performances from local choirs, brass bands and musicians. There will be a fantastic opportunity to start Christmas shopping at the special Christmas market featuring stalls from local businesses, and visitors can enjoy tucking into delicious street food, and sipping mugs of spiced mulled wine, craft drinks and hot chocolate.

Fairground games will be popping-up along the High Street, giving friends and families the chance to try their hand at traditional stalls and games such as a 'Christmas pudding shy'.

Light projection shows and installations will illuminate the town as the sun goes down, including Andover's Christmas Lights which will be officially switched on at around 6:30pm as part of the

night's celebrations.

Riverside Park at Town Mills will host a special theatre tent, featuring a magical production of Thumbelina, using traditional glove, rod and shadow puppets suitable for all the family. Places for these shows will be limited and details for advanced booking will be announced soon.

Free face painting and glitter tattoos will also be on offer during the event, helping little ones to get into the festive spirit.

Inside the Chantry Centre the Christmas Grotto will open its doors once again, welcoming families and giving them the chance to meet Father Christmas and receive a special festive gift. The Grotto will also reopen on select dates in the lead-up to Christmas and details can be found at www.thechantrycentre.com

For more details about Andover Christmas Festival, visit: www.testvalley.gov.uk/events

For details of the Grotto opening dates and prices, visit: www.thechantrycentre.com

MUSIC | STALLS | THEATRE | FOOD | ATTRACTIONS

ANDOVER
Christmas
FESTIVAL

ANDOVER'S
OFFICIAL
TOWN LIGHTS
SWITCH ON

FRIDAY 25 NOVEMBER, 3PM TO 8PM
ANDOVER TOWN CENTRE

Test Valley
Borough Council

IN
ANDOVER
From Andover BID

CHANTRY CENTRE
ANDOVER

Andover
Town Council

COME AND MEET

Father Christmas

AT THE CHANTRY CENTRE

£5 PER CHILD, INCLUDES A FESTIVE GIFT

FIND OUT MORE AT THECHANTRYCENTRE.COM

Test Valley Borough Council

CHANTRY CENTRE ANDOVER



Celebrating the one-year milestone since the venue re-opened after lockdown, this autumn/winter marks the start of a cracking new season of shows.



Santamime Adventure (ages 5-12) on 21 December. If you can't wait this long to enjoy the pleasure of bringing your children to the theatre then in the autumn half-term come and enjoy **Morgan & West's Unbelievable Science**. Expect explosive thrills, chemical thrills and phenomenal physics. Science never used to be like this! Plus for adults we have **Beauty and the Beast** from Ballet Theatre UK, **More Christmas Ghost Stories** for a spooky start to Christmas, and the **Big Band at Christmas** for a toe-tapping afternoon of swing and big band music.

Theatre is enjoying a resurgence, with the return of the indefatigable **Pantaloons** with their comedic twist on **Great Expectations**, the classic tale of **Pygmalion** from Black Box Theatre Company, and the much loved Sherlock Holmes thriller, **The Hound of the Baskervilles** starring Colin Baker (Doctor Who) and Terry Molloy (The Archers for 40 years). We haven't forgotten the little ones either with theatre inspired by Janet and Allan Ahlberg's beautiful picture book - **Burglar Bill**.

All of this against a backdrop of music, comedy, ballet and more, with a mix of auditorium shows, intimate seated arena events and lively standing gigs. There really is something for everyone!



The new season also encompasses Christmas, which wouldn't be the same without the Santa Shows with **Santa Saves Christmas** – the best pre-Christmas treat for ages 2-7 on 23 December, and where every child has a meet, greet and treat from Santa! For slightly older children the venue is delighted to welcome **Captain Calamity and the**

Check out the new brochure or online listings at www.thelights.org.uk

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Test Valley Borough Council

www.testvalley.gov.uk/MOT

PRISON SENTENCE AND FINE FOR FLY-TIPPER WHO DUMPED INDUSTRIAL WASTE

A Romsey man has been handed a suspended prison sentence and ordered to pay full costs after pleading guilty to fly-tipping waste including industrial kitchen appliances.

Test Valley Borough Council took Mark Hilden of Scallows Lane, West Wellow, to court after they received a report of a fly-tip near Roman Road, Broughton on 21 October 2021.

The waste was blocking access to the Southern Water Services Ltd site and also a footpath, which leads to the Clarendon Way.

The waste included industrial-sized fridges, an oven and an ironing board, together with a large number of blue plastic vegetable crates. The appliances displayed the PAT testing labels which allowed them to be traced back to The Concorde Club in Eastleigh. The club confirmed that they had paid £300 cash for the waste to be removed and the removal had been captured on CCTV.

A DVLA enquiry confirmed that the vehicle in the CCTV footage was registered to the defendant. The stills from the CCTV were also sent to Hampshire Constabulary who identified Mr Hilden in the images.

At Southampton Magistrates' Court on 7 September 2022, Mr Hilden was disqualified from driving for three months and sentenced to 12 weeks in custody, reduced to eight weeks for an early guilty plea, suspended for two years

He was also ordered to undertake 120 hours of unpaid work, reduced to 80 hours for an early guilty plea.

He will pay Test Valley Borough Council £133 in compensation to cover clean-up costs, plus full costs of £1,041.

Portfolio Holder for Environmental Services, Councillor Nick Adams-King, said:

"I would like to say a massive thank you to all those involved in bringing Mr Hilden to justice.

"Thanks to the breadcrumb trail that started with the PAT testing labels, through to the CCTV that

placed the defendant at the scene in his vehicle, we were able to track down the person responsible.

"Fly-tipping is a terrible crime with terrible consequences, and I hope this sends a message to those criminals who think they can get away with it, that they absolutely won't."



RESIDENTS HELP SHAPE BOROUGH'S FUTURE

Around 120 residents from across the borough will be taking part in special workshops throughout November to help Test Valley Borough Council to consider its top priorities over the next four years, with everything from town centres and community facilities, to the countryside and green spaces in the mix.

TVBC is running the workshops in partnership with Involve, one of the country's leading public participation organisations.

The sessions will involve exploring people's experiences, hearing from experts in a range of areas, testing new ideas and shaping recommendations. They will also look at the 1,500 responses to the public survey TVBC

ran earlier this year, to get people's initial thoughts on what they would like the council to focus on.

Earlier this month, the council and Involve invited people across the borough to register their interest, and they are now selecting 40 people for each session who are representative of the local area, to ensure that each group includes a mixture of residents.

Leader of Test Valley Borough Council, Councillor Phil North, said: *"First of all, I would like to say a massive thank you to the 1,500 people who responded to the initial survey. It's really important to me that we involve our local communities in helping us to decide our priorities over the coming years as it means that we can make sure that what we're doing will have the greatest impact on our*

residents and their quality of life.

"There aren't many councils out there that take this approach, so it's something I'm really proud of and passionate about.

"These workshops are a brilliant opportunity for those people who filled in the initial survey to join us as we progress to the next stage, and for those who didn't take part to share their thoughts and experiences."

Free telephone advice to Test Valley residents

Pest Control

at Test Valley Borough Council

-  • Affordable pest control services for rats, mice, wasp nests, bed bugs, fleas and a range of other insect pests
-  • Free rodent treatments for people in receipt of Council Tax support
-  • All treatments are carried out in accordance with good practice to avoid the risk of harm to non-pest wildlife

For more information or to book:

Andover: 01264 368000
Romsey: 01794 527700
www.testvalley.gov.uk/PestControl

Test Valley
Borough Council 

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR BIN COLLECTION DAYS

DECEMBER 2022 TO JANUARY 2023

Normal collection day		Revised collection day	
Monday	26 December 2022	Tuesday	27 December 2022
Tuesday	27 December 2022	Wednesday	28 December 2022
Wednesday	28 December 2022	Thursday	29 December 2022
Thursday	29 December 2022	Friday	30 December 2022
Friday	30 December 2022	Saturday	31 December 2022
Monday	2 January 2023	Tuesday	3 January 2023
Tuesday	3 January 2023	Wednesday	4 January 2023
Wednesday	4 January 2023	Thursday	5 January 2023
Thursday	5 January 2023	Friday	6 January 2023
Friday	6 January 2023	Saturday	7 January 2023



Garden waste collections will NOT take place between **Monday 19 December 2022** and **Monday 2 January 2023**. You can check all your collection days online at www.testvalley.gov.uk/bins

Christmas office opening hours

During office opening hours you can contact the Council on **01264 368000**. When the office is closed this number is connected to the Council's emergency service line.



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