

News from Chesterfield Borough Council

Your Chesterfield

Putting our communities first

**Celebrate Christmas
in Chesterfield -
pages 4 to 7**

**An update on our
housing services -
pages 9 to 16**



CHESTERFIELD
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Issue 32 Winter 2023

Welcome

to the winter edition of Your Chesterfield



As we head towards the end of the year, it gives me great pride to reflect on all the great things that we've achieved together for the borough through the course of 2023.

From a bumper summer events programme boasting popular events like Peddler Market and the Festival of Cricket – which drew thousands of people into our town centre and parks – to positive progress across a whole range of priorities within our council plan, many of which are featured in this edition of Your Chesterfield.

But there is still so much to look forward to as we head into the winter months.

At this time of year, our attention begins to turn to all things festive. Our traditional panto will take centre stage at the Winding Wheel Theatre, and there will be a host of family-friendly events happening across the borough. See pages 4 to 7 for a taste of what's happening.

As always, we also ask people to think about how they can support our amazing range of local businesses when planning their seasonal shopping, or festive outings, and we're showcasing our unique businesses and traders as part of our annual Christmas campaign.

In this edition we also put the spotlight on our commitment to provide decent, affordable and energy efficient homes for our tenants.

In an update on our housing services (see pages 9 to 16) we take a look back at our work over the last year and also set out our plans to continually improve and reshape the way we work, to ensure we deliver great services to our 9,000 council tenants. You can also read our full Annual Report to Tenants 2022/23 by visiting our website.

This year has continued to see challenging times in our day-to-day lives, as the ongoing rising cost of living is still having an impact on many people

across the borough – and increasing demand for our services, to help the most vulnerable in our communities.

We want you to know that help and advice is available, and our website is regularly updated with information and support for people in a variety of situations. Please visit our website for information:

www.chesterfield.gov.uk/cost-of-living-support.

Our Staveley Town Deal funded projects are beginning to deliver for our residents and plans have been developing at pace – in this edition you can learn about the investment we are making in the town centre and more details about the restoration of the Chesterfield Canal.

In the spring we will see work begin our multi-million-pound transformation of Chesterfield town centre. Our Revitalising the Heart of Chesterfield project has been planned for some time now, and when complete will help ensure our town centre thrives for generations to come.

Work has already begun on our other key town centre project – the refurbishment of Stephenson Memorial Hall – which will create a new cultural venue in Chesterfield with an enhanced museum, enlarged theatre and new café bar.

We'll of course be sharing much more information about this over the coming months, so please keep an eye on our website and social media channels for the latest information.

Councillor Tricia Gilby



Celebrating a century of the Winding Wheel Theatre

In September we celebrated a century of entertainment at the Winding Wheel Theatre with a Gala Concert, exhibition, behind-the-scenes tours and screenings of some of the most popular films from the last 100 years.

The Gala Concert featured lots of our local theatre companies, performing arts schools and community groups. It was hosted by Tony Rudd, who is also appearing in our pantomime this year, and featured a special performance from local comedy legend Bernie Clifton.

Our century of cinema included a selection of films chosen by our customers and included *The Wizard of Oz*, *Chariots of Fire*, *The Full Monty* and more. Our exhibition showcased images and objects from the building's past and visitors were given the chance to take part in a behind-the-scenes tour.

Originally built as a cinema in 1923 for the Chesterfield Picture House Company, but due to its popularity, a ballroom and restaurant was added in 1930.

The cinema closed in 1981 before being taken over by the council and reopening as an entertainment venue in 1987. Since then, it has hosted live music, conferences, theatre productions and cinema screenings.

In March 2023 Chesterfield Civic Society installed a Blue Plaque on the Grade II listed building to mark its historical importance in the town.

“ We all have fond memories of the Winding Wheel Theatre whether it’s visiting to watch the latest films, dancing the night away in the disco or attending a concert or performance. It was fantastic to bring our town together and celebrate the impact this building has had in our community.”

Councillor Kate Sarvent, cabinet member for town centres and visitor economy



CHRISTMAS IN CHESTERFIELD

We're looking forward to a packed Christmas in Chesterfield this year



Celebrate Christmas in Chesterfield - there's lots happening across the town to keep the whole family entertained. Whether you like to shop locally for your Christmas gifts, enjoy meals out with friends and family or visit an organised event, our guide to Christmas 2023 should help you to plan your festive calendar.

Key dates for your diary are below and full details can be found by visiting our website: www.chesterfield.gov.uk/christmas



Chesterfield Canal Santa cruises

Various dates

The John Varley II will be sailing from Tapton Lock (S41 7JB) and the Madeline from Hollingwood Hub (S43 2PF)

Take to the water this Christmas to meet Santa on Chesterfield Canal. There will be two different boats in operation. Tickets are on sale now, visit the Chesterfield Canal Trust website for details:

www.chesterfield-canal-trust.org.uk



Festival of Christmas Trees

Saturday 18 November to Sunday 3 December

Monday to Thursday from 10.30am to 4.30pm

Friday and Saturday from 10.30am to 5pm

Sunday from noon to 5.30pm

Taking place at St Mary's and All Saints Church (Crooked Spire) you can come and see over 100 colourful Christmas trees decorated by local people, community groups and businesses, including WI, scout and guide groups, schools and high street stores and venues.





Visit Santa's Grotto

Sunday 19 November to
Sunday 24 December - various times
Assembly Rooms, Market Hall

Families are invited to visit Santa in his Chesterfield Grotto and share their Christmas wishes. Each child will be given a wrapped gift. Tickets are on sale now and are priced at £7.50.

There will also be six relaxed sessions for those who would like to attend. We want everyone to enjoy a visit with Santa, so the relaxed sessions are for children with learning disabilities or sensory and communication disorders. We will turn off the flashing lights, increase the background lighting and allow a little longer to meet with Santa. Bookings can be made via the Visitor Information Centre or online by visiting Chesterfield Theatres website.

Chesterfield Christmas lights switch on and market

Sunday 19 November,
from noon to 6pm
Chesterfield town centre

Join us to turn on the Christmas lights across the town centre. There will be a stage show to entertain the crowds, market stalls to visit and the opportunity to meet this year's special guest - Paddington™.

Paddington™ will be appearing in Rykneld Square at 12noon, 1pm, 2pm and 3pm.



Revolution House

Thursday 7 to Wednesday 24 December -
from 11am to 3pm (Thursday to Sunday)
Revolution House High Street, Old Whittington, S41 9JZ

There will be a Christmas exhibition titled 'The 12 Days of Christmas' which uses whimsical objects from the museum collection to illustrate the famous Christmas song.

You can also see Revolution House decorated for a 17th Century Christmas with displays of greenery, a kissing bough, and colourful flower arrangements provided by our volunteers.

A Christmas Carol Concert will be taking place outside Revolution House on Thursday 7 December at 6.30pm where you will be able to see the Holymoorside Brass Band in the garden for traditional, festive carol singing.



Peddler Market

Friday 17 to Saturday 18 November
New Square, Chesterfield

Peddler Market is returning to Chesterfield for the third time this year, providing award-winning cuisine, craft drinks, music, and art. You will also find all kinds of makers and creators, including lifestyle brands and fashion, plus sustainable projects – so it's an ideal place to socialise and pick up a few treats for Christmas stockings too. Find out more:

www.peddler.market



This event has now been rescheduled to 22 and 23 March 2024. More details are available on the council's website.



Speciality markets and independent shops

There are also a number of speciality markets taking place in the town, making shopping locally for festive treats simple. You could also pop into one of the many independent retail shops when you are in Chesterfield, all of which will be happy to offer suggestions for Christmas treats for you to pick up for yourself or a loved one.

Record Fair

Sunday 12 November and
Sunday 10 December from
10am to 4pm

Taking place in Main Square, those attending can browse the stalls selling vinyls, CDs, DVDs as well as rock and pop memorabilia.

Vegan Market

Sunday 5 November and
Sunday 3 December from
10am to 4pm

Retailers will be selling a range of goods including cakes, cheese, bread, chocolates, sweets, candles, jams and spices.

Artisan Market

Sunday 26 November and
Sunday 17 December from
10am to 4pm

Looking for a treat for someone special or a unique Christmas present? The Artisan Market is the event to visit if so.

General market

The general market will be trading every day from Thursday 14 to Sunday 24 December

Visit to pick up foods for your Christmas meal, or festive get togethers with friends.

Market Hall

The Market Hall is open Monday to Saturday from 8.30am to 5pm

Visit to buy a range of food or presents ahead of Christmas.

For great ideas for unique gifts, where to source your Christmas dinner, the best places to eat out and details of events and activities taking place in Chesterfield this Christmas visit our website:

www.chesterfield.co.uk/christmas





Magic, mystery and make-believe is on the agenda at the Winding Wheel Theatre this Christmas, as we welcome Aladdin as our pantomime.



With performances from 1 December to 2 January, there are lots of opportunities for you and the family to escape in the shimmering scenery, enjoy the singing and dancing and join in the fun of cheering for your favourite characters.

One of the stars this year is Anne Hegerty from ITV's The Chase. We caught up with Anne to find out a bit more about her character, The Empress, and why she enjoys being in a pantomime.

Anne is well-known for being on The Chase, but her panto character will be slightly different. She explained: "I've played The Empress before, and she was essentially bossy but kind, which I hope is a softer version of The Governess (her TV character), and also just looking out for her daughter's welfare.

"It's rather nice not to be the villain all the time. She's not hostile, she just wonders why her daughter has such apparently awful taste in boyfriends!"

Living in Manchester, Anne is a big fan of the Derbyshire area: "It's certainly a county I'm fond of because I'm always recommending the Peak District to visitors, especially if they're going to be in the Manchester area, where I've lived for nearly 40 years. It may be nice when I'm in Chesterfield to explore that interesting wonky church of yours though."

When asked about why she enjoys taking to the stage, Anne replied: "Panto is great because I get to meet 'real actors', and you know you're doing something valuable as it brings enjoyment to the hundreds of families who come to watch. I've no

doubt the performance will be fabulous at the Winding Wheel Theatre. I don't think I get to fly on a magic carpet, but that would be cool, wouldn't it?"

The story of Aladdin is based around a boy with three wishes and all the adventure they bring. Asked what she would do with three wishes, Anne commented: "I would use my first wish to wish not to have the other two wishes. I don't trust myself with wishes. I'd phrase something badly and it would all go wrong. I was brought up on children's books about unwise wishes, so I'd avoid them!"

The show also stars CBeebies Nigel Clarke from The Baby Club, Jo Osmond from Dhar Mann and a far away galaxy, with Britain's Got Talent's Tony Rudd and Darren Clewlow-Smith and featuring the voice of Brian Blessed as the genie.

Book tickets at:

www.chesterfieldtheatres.co.uk/panto
or call 01246 345 222

Win panto tickets!

Chesterfield residents can bag two free tickets to see a family performance of Aladdin on a date of your choice (subject to availability).

Simply send an email to:

public.relations@chesterfield.gov.uk before Monday 27 November to be in with a chance of winning. Please include your full name and contact telephone number. The winner must register and/or be logged in to their Chesterfield Theatres account to redeem their tickets.

Creating new opportunities for local people

We've launched a new plan to boost skills and career opportunities.

“ We will be working with lots of delivery partners including education providers, employers, voluntary sector organisations and other councils, to ensure the programmes we support over the next four years meet the needs of local people.”

Councillor Tricia Gilby, leader of the council and vice chair of the Skills and Employment Partnership



Our Skills Action Plan (2023 to 2027) includes new projects that are designed to provide training and support, and establishes a new Skills and Employment Partnership which aims to put employers at the heart of local skills development to ensure people are developing the right skills to access new opportunities.

Councillor Tricia Gilby, leader of the council and vice chair of the Skills and Employment Partnership, said: “Everyone should be able to benefit from a growing economy, and by working with businesses this plan aims to give local people the skills they need to access great careers in our borough. We will be working with lots of delivery partners including education providers, employers, voluntary sector organisations and other councils, to ensure the programmes we support over the next four years meet the needs of local people.”

The action plan sets out 12 areas of action across six themes. Within each theme there are a series of activities and commitments. These include the expansion of the Careers Made In Chesterfield programme, delivering a digital inclusion and work readiness programme, and the creation of a workforce upskilling programme focussed on green and digital skills. These are just some of the many actions that we will take over the next five years to realise the ambitious plan.

A pilot Careers Made In Chesterfield programme took place over the last academic year, with workshops to showcase the range of careers available in the construction industry. This concluded with 11 students taking part in work experience placements at businesses in Chesterfield.

Liam, a student at Parkside Community School, had a placement at Henry Boot Ltd. He said: “I really enjoyed the placement. I hadn't really heard of them before, and I didn't know how big the company was. It was really interesting learning about the business and the things they do. But the best bit was going visit to the site in Sheffield!”

The Skills Action Plan is just one of a range of projects and initiatives which is being funded through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF), after we were successful in securing £2.6 million from the Government. It will fund initiatives, until 2025, which are designed to improve life for local people and support local businesses.



Update on our housing services

An introduction from our cabinet member for housing

"I am delighted to have been appointed as the council's new cabinet member for housing and I am fully committed to delivering these essential services to the residents of Chesterfield.

"As a responsible landlord, we understand that a house is much more than just bricks and mortar. That's why we are focused on providing good quality and well managed homes that meet the needs of our residents and help improve quality of life.

"We are fully committed to helping achieve our goal of becoming a carbon neutral borough by 2050 and are already making great progress. This includes working hard to make sure that our homes are as energy efficient as possible, and we are already delivering a number of improvement programmes to help achieve this.

"Not only will these changes help us to meet our climate change targets, but it also helps to reduce your fuel bills, meaning you can continue to stay safe, well and warm in your home.

"We always put tenants at the heart of everything we do and I'm looking forward to working with you and listening to your thoughts to make sure we can provide you with excellent services. There are plenty of ways you can help shape our services – you can read more on page 16."

Councillor Jean Innes, cabinet member for housing.

Every year we publish an annual report for council tenants so you can see how we're performing. We've included some key highlights over the next few pages, but you can read the full report by visiting our website: www.chesterfield.gov.uk/housing-annual-report

“As a responsible landlord, we understand that a house is much more than just bricks and mortar. That's why we are focused on providing good quality and well managed homes that meet the needs of our residents and help improve quality of life.”



Councillor Jean Innes, cabinet member for housing.



Helping people find new homes

As the largest landlord in the borough, one of our top priorities is to help people access affordable housing.

The number of people on the housing register has risen by 14 per cent in the last year and we're working hard to increase the number of properties available. We are both building and buying more council homes to replace those sold through the Right to Buy scheme, and to keep up with the growing demand as more people need affordable housing as a result of the current cost of living.

In late 2022, we bought 12 two-bedroom new build properties at Harehill Mews in Grangewood, and more recently we've purchased a further seven homes on New Hall Road in Brampton. These include four three-bedroom houses and three one-bedroom houses, which have now welcomed new families. This is in addition to the 21 new council homes we built at Badger Croft last year.

As well as buying and building new homes, we also have a dedicated housing team who are on hand

to help prevent people from becoming homeless. Working with our partners, we offer support and help, whether you're homeless or worried about becoming homeless, and will give you confidential advice based on your own situation.

We're always looking at how we can improve our services to make sure we can help people find affordable and accessible housing. One of the areas we need to improve on is how quickly we repair an empty council property, so it is ready for the next tenants to move in.

At the end of March this year, the average number of days a property was unoccupied was around 120 days but we're taking action to improve, including streamlining our processes, working with contractors and increasing staff resource where needed.

“ I just want to take this opportunity to thank you so very much for all your kind words and hard work helping me, you really have saved me. And I can't thank you enough for that.”

A tenant our team helped to secure accommodation



“ Just wanted to say a big thank you. The house is amazing and I wouldn't of known where to start without your helping hand. Keep doing what you're doing as you're brilliant at your job!”

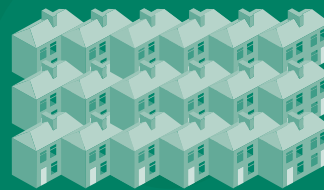
Another tenant praising the service they had received from our team

Key statistics 2022/23



8,797

We manage 8,797 properties across the borough



2,926

Number of households on the housing register



33

New homes added to our stock



90

Properties we've sold under the right to buy scheme



605

Number of new lettings

Investing in council homes

The modernisation and refurbishment of our homes continues to be a priority focus for us this year and will see us deliver further improvements to kitchens and bathrooms, carry out roof and window replacements, and make necessary adaptations to properties to help older people, and people with disabilities, to remain living independently in their homes.



99.7%

Of homes meeting the Government's Decent Homes Standard



£2,690,010

Amount spent on refurbishments to our independent living schemes



£18,873,095

Amount spent on maintenance and improvements to our existing homes



£3,290,426

Amount spent building and purchasing new homes

One tenant, who recently had their windows replaced as part of our improvements programme, said: "I've just had my new windows put in and they are brilliant. I'm just thanking you for how the workmanship has been. I've been round the village and they've all given the team good feedback. I just want to say thank you."





We're committed to ensuring that all our homes are energy efficient – supporting Chesterfield to become a low carbon, resilient and sustainable borough.



Creating greener homes

In line with our climate change strategy, we're already making steps to help increase the efficiency of our existing properties by strengthening environmental standards and supporting decarbonisation by improving insulation and replacing windows.

Flats at Aston Court are some of the latest properties to benefit from energy efficiency improvements, as part of a wider project to help modernise homes in the area.

Working with our main contractor, Fortem Solutions Ltd. we have removed all gas supplies from the properties, replacing them with fully electric heating and hot water units. To further help keep homes warm, we have used insulated plasterboard and increased loft insulation to help reduce the amount of energy that is needed to heat the homes.

We've also installed solar panels to provide renewable energy to each property, which will reduce the energy bills for our residents.

Other improvements include the installation of low wattage LED lighting in corridors that work with motion detection, meaning they are only used when needed.

Refurbishment works are due to be completed at the end of the year. An additional three new town houses are also being built at part of the project, with works expected to be finalised in 2024.

Going electric



It's not just houses where we're making energy efficient improvements as we'll also be updating our fleet of electric vehicles from five to 34, as we work towards decarbonising our transport by 2030. You can find out more about this on page 21.

Maintaining council homes and keeping them safe



As a responsible landlord, your safety is our top priority. To ensure you can remain safe in your property, we'll visit your home to carry our regular inspections.

We'll also visit your property if something needs fixing, and over the last year we've managed to half the average time it takes to complete a repair. It's also important to remember that there are some repairs that you are responsible for as the tenant. You can find out more at: www.chesterfield.gov.uk/repairs-list

You can see our latest performance figures in the infographic below.

We're also making additional investment to help tackle damp and mould in homes - you can find out more about how to prevent this issue in your home at: www.chesterfield.gov.uk/damp-and-mould



100%
Annual gas services completed



37,393
Responsive repairs carried out



12.3
Average number of days for a repair to be carried out



98%
Properties with a satisfactory Electrical Installation Condition Report. The remaining 2% are in the process of being updated



96%
Tenants satisfied with routine 30 day repairs service (from our routine customer surveys)

Improving people's quality of life

We want to make sure that as many people as possible can continue living independently in their own homes, feeling confident and safe.



To help check you are happy and well in your home, we carry out tenancy visits. This is your opportunity to have an informal chat with a member of our team in the comfort of your home and share any thoughts you may have. We also work in partnership with community safety, environmental health and police colleagues to deal with any anti-social behaviour or neighbourhood problems reported to us.

Here's how we performed last year (2022/23):



151
Major adaptations carried out



245
Minor adaptations carried out



3,422
Careline call outs



£950,853
Total spend on adaptations

To help improve the lives of our tenants, we're committed to making adaptations where we can, to make sure their home meets their needs. This could include changing their bathroom to a wet room, or simply just improving access to the home. Sometimes just a minor adaptation can make a big difference.

In some cases, it may be more suitable for a tenant to move into a more suitable home, rather than making adaptations. We will always consider each tenant's individual needs and work with them to find the best solution.

For more information on the options available, contact our housing and health team on **01246 345700**.



Listening to our customers

We are always keen to hear the views of our tenants and make sure that you can have a say on how we can improve our services to meet your needs.

In recent months our tenants have done just this – helping us to review the ‘sign-up packs’ that tenants receive when taking on a new tenancy.

A survey was conducted with tenants who had recently gone through the process to get their views on how we could simplify the amount of information they received.

Over 90 per cent of those surveyed said that they would like to see the information provided online and we now have a dedicated group of tenants who are advising us what information they would like to see on a new dedicated section on our website – meaning all the information you need will be in one place.

This is just one of the many ways that we continue to involve our tenants in what we do. Having the opportunity to come together and share their views is also a great way to build community spirit and help people to feel more valued. For more information on how to get involved, visit: www.chesterfield.gov.uk/chat

Tenant engagement is about giving you a real say in how your housing service is run.

How are we doing?

We're also encouraging our tenants to take part in a new satisfaction survey to help shape our housing services - and there's a chance of winning a £50 shopping voucher too!

As part of the new tenant satisfaction measures introduced by Government, we are required to collect and share data on how we are doing at completing repairs, keeping homes safe, and engaging with tenants – and we need your help with this!

We'll be inviting a random sample of council tenants to complete a satisfaction survey throughout the year - designed to get honest feedback and help our housing service to identify any areas for improvement. If you receive a letter asking you to complete the survey, please do take part.

Results from this survey will be used to calculate annual tenant satisfaction measures which will be published in spring 2024.



Office investments prove popular with businesses

Over the last year we have opened two new flagship office developments – and both have proved a hit with businesses looking to start or grow in Chesterfield.

One Waterside Place opened in January 2023 and within six months all six floors of office space had been let.

Northern Gateway Enterprise Centre opened in July 2022 and by the one-year anniversary, 80 per cent of the 32 office suites had been let. A wide variety of businesses are based at the centre, working in sectors including professional services, technology, energy and more.

Councillor Tricia Gilby, leader the council, said: “It’s fantastic to see businesses move in and create new opportunities for local people. We made the bold decision to invest in these developments and they have formed a key part of our economic recovery from the pandemic.

“The two developments are very different, with the Enterprise Centre supporting new and growing businesses, whilst One Waterside Place offers established businesses space to expand into, within sight of the railway station. The businesses based in these developments can create new jobs and opportunities for our residents but the revenue raised from these buildings also helps ensure that the council can continue to invest in the services our residents need.”

Northern Gateway Enterprise Centre includes 32 office suites in a range of sizes, all of which are fitted with the latest hi-tech features that are now standard requirements for modern businesses. It has meeting facilities allowing businesses to host hybrid meetings, and secure cycle parking and shower facilities to allow tenants to bike to work – supporting low carbon transport options. There are also features like the breakout room where businesses can network and find out how they can work together.

The 35,000 sq.ft. One Waterside Place delivers Grade A, large floorplate office accommodation, which doesn’t exist elsewhere in Chesterfield. The building incorporates two passenger lifts, raised access flooring, air conditioning, LED lighting, a high-quality entrance foyer, showers, on-site cycle parking facilities as well as attractive public realm and landscaping.

“It’s fantastic to see businesses move in and create new opportunities for local people. We made the bold decision to invest in these developments and they have formed a key part of our economic recovery from the pandemic.”

Councillor Tricia Gilby,
leader the council



Both buildings have been designed with energy efficiency in mind to support our climate change commitments.

To find out more about available commercial space in Chesterfield please contact our economic development unit by calling **01246 903 900** or emailing: enterprise@chesterfield.gov.uk

Revitalising the Heart of Chesterfield



Town centre regeneration to start

Our multi-million-pound project to revitalise Chesterfield town centre is set to begin on site in spring 2024.

We'll be enhancing public spaces across the town centre and the connections between them – as we aim to create a vibrant town centre with new opportunities for events and markets whilst also honouring our heritage.

Councillor Kate Sarvent, cabinet member for town centres and visitor economy, said: "This is an exciting opportunity for our town, it's about enhancing what we have but also being innovative to ensure that we have a town centre that will flourish for generations to come.

"Together the package of works we have developed will help us to re-imagine the town

centre ensuring it is a place where visitors and residents want to spend time, which in turn will help support local businesses and market traders."

The proposals include significant works to the Market Place, with a new stall layout, a flexible central space. It also opens the area around the town pump as a place to meet and relax.

It will also include relaying and re-pointing of the cobbles to both maintain them as a heritage feature whilst also ensuring that all visitors can navigate the market.

New Square will be opened up to create a flexible events space that can also accommodate additional traders on busy market days. The edge will be enhanced with new seating and planting.

Rykneld Square will be upgraded to enhance the visitor experience at the Church of St Mary and All Saints (Crooked Spire).

High Street, Burlington Street and Corporation Street will all have new seating, planting, lighting, and wayfinding signage – together these will improve the journey to the market from the railway station.

Funding for the project has been secured through the Government's Levelling Up Fund with additional match funding provided by the council.

We're currently developing a transition plan with local businesses and market traders to minimise the impact of these works. More details about the project and the phases of work can be found on our website: www.chesterfield.gov.uk/revitalise

"This is an exciting opportunity for our town, it's about enhancing what we have but also being innovative to ensure that we have a town centre that will flourish for generations to come"

Councillor Kate Sarvent,
cabinet member for town
centres and visitor economy



Work on new theatre and museum begins

Work to transform Stephenson Memorial Hall, home to the Pomegranate Theatre and Chesterfield Museum began in October.

The works will create a modern visitor experience in the heart of the town centre with a single entrance to both facilities, an expanded theatre, a reconfigured museum, community spaces and a new café bar.

Councillor Kate Sarvent, cabinet member for town centres and visitor economy, said: "We've been working behind the scenes to turn our ambitions for the hall into a plan that can be delivered. Since closing in 2022 we have been working on the designs whilst also undertaking ground investigations and enabling works to allow work to proceed at pace. It is fantastic to have our main contractor on site and we cannot wait to reopen this iconic building."

The extensive refurbishment will create a contemporary visitor attraction which celebrates our history, whilst also securing the future of the building.

New lifts will help ensure all areas of the building can be accessed, while enhanced back of house facilities will ensure performers have a more modern space. An enlarged theatre auditorium will maintain the original features and atmosphere and an expanded museum with interactive technology will help everyone connect with our history.

As well as investment from the council, around £11 million of levelling up funding will be used to support the refurbishment of the Grade II listed building. A further £695,000 has been provided from the Arts Council England's Capital Investment Programme.

You can find out more about the project and keep up to date with the latest news on our website:

www.chesterfield.gov.uk/revitalise

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UK Government



Taking climate action now!



Climate change is one of the biggest challenges facing today's world. But together we can take action – now – to create a brighter and more sustainable future.

We're playing our part – changing the way we do business to meet our target of becoming a carbon neutral organisation by 2030, while working with our communities to create a carbon neutral borough by 2050.

Our climate change strategy (2023 to 2030) focusses on where we can make the biggest difference, and since we declared a climate emergency in 2019 our organisational emissions have fallen by 36%.

This includes switching to cleaner energy, using greener vehicles, making our homes and buildings more energy efficient and changing the way we manage our green spaces. But we know there is more to do.

Below are some of the highlights from our climate change annual report (2022 to 2023) and you can find out more about our future plans, by taking a look at our climate change strategy. Both can be viewed at: www.chesterfield.gov.uk/climate-action-now



Council homes

- We're continuing to raise environmental standards and support decarbonisation by improving insulation and replacing windows. This builds on the £3.3 million already invested in council home energy saving measures in 2022 / 23.
- All new build properties with off street parking are fitted with electric charge points as a standard planning requirement.
- The refurbishment project at Mallard Court, Leander Court, and all other projects to refurbish our independent living flats, have been designed to standards that exceed the minimum as set out in current building regulations.



Our buildings

- We opened two new flagship office developments which have been built to high environmental standards. The Northern Gateway Enterprise Centre is rated 'excellent' and One Waterside Place has a 'very good' rating under the BREEAM industry standard.



Tree planting

- Community volunteers have supported our annual tree planting programme, with over 6,000 trees planted since 2019.
- Work is underway with Derbyshire Wildlife Trust to develop a 'Plan for Nature' which identifies the best local spots to create new wildlife habitats.



New climate change forum – together we CAN!

We're working even more closely with local people, businesses and community groups to help tackle the climate emergency together, following the launch of a new climate change forum.

Forum members act as a sounding board, comment on current projects, suggest new ideas and help us to raise awareness about climate projects happening either through the council or locally. We want to create a wide consultative process that will help future planning.

It's part of our new seven-year climate change strategy (2023 to 2030) which was launched earlier this year and is based around several key themes where our actions can have the biggest impact on carbon reduction.

The climate change forum will help us to build and shape our future plans, while giving us an insight into how community groups or organisations could get involved in climate projects.

Councillor Martin Stone, cabinet member for climate change, planning and environment, said: "We always welcome new ideas and community views. Taking action on climate change is a collaborative process, and we are working together to find new ways of making changes locally - together we can make a difference and create a more sustainable future."

“ We always welcome new ideas and community views. Taking action on climate change is a collaborative process, and we are working together to find new ways of making changes locally - together we can make a difference and create a more sustainable future.”



Councillor Martin Stone, cabinet member for climate change, planning and environment

Going electric

We'll also be updating our fleet of vehicles

The changes to our vehicles will allow us to make positive progress towards decarbonising our fleet as part of our climate change commitments.

The mayoral car was upgraded to electric last year and with the new additions, we will have a total of 35 vehicles that are better for the environment.

We are entering a long-term lease for 34 electric vehicles and will have short-term hire contracts in place for the remaining ones. This means we can transfer to electric in stages, with a view to updating the full fleet in advance of the 2030 target.

There are lots of added bonuses to updating the fleet, including fewer breakdowns and repairs, spreading out the fleet management workload over time and reducing the amount of carbon per mile.

The new electric vehicles will be used for building cleaning, environmental protection, Careline and neighbourhood projects predominantly from 2024.



Tackling underage drinking

A new partnership that highlights the risk of underage drinking and alcohol-related harm has launched.

The Chesterfield Community Alcohol Partnership (Chesterfield CAP) has seen us team up with Derbyshire Constabulary, local schools and retailers, neighbourhood groups and health providers to highlight the risks of underage drinking, reduce anti-social behaviour, and improve the health and wellbeing of children and young people.

Working closely with local schools, the Chesterfield CAP will ensure that young people have the

knowledge needed to make sure they can make the right decisions around issues including alcohol misuse, drugs and associated anti-social behaviour.

The Chesterfield CAP will also work closely with local retailers to raise awareness on how they can avoid making sales of alcohol to those who are underage, as well as reducing the number of proxy sales - where adults purchase alcohol on behalf of under-18s.



Creating safe spaces

A new multi-agency initiative has launched - designed to help keep residents and visitors safe on nights out and take pressure off the emergency services.

The Safe Space project has seen the introduction of a welfare unit located outside the Visitor Information Centre most Saturdays, from 10pm until the early hours of Sunday morning, to provide support to anyone who may become vulnerable on a night out.

The welfare unit is staffed by a team of volunteers who can provide first aid, help people who have become separated from their friends, or simply just offer a listening ear from anyone who may need it.

More information on the support that is available can be found on our website: www.chesterfield.gov.uk/safe-space

The initiative is a partnership initiative between us, Chesterfield Community Safety Partnership, Derbyshire Constabulary, Derbyshire County Council, and voluntary organisations.

Improving night-time safety

A national scheme which aims to reduce alcohol-related crime and disorder has been launched here in Chesterfield.

The Best Bar None accreditation scheme, supported by the Home Office and drinks industry, has been rolled out in the town to help provide a safer night out, and reduce crime and disorder.

The scheme, which we've launched in partnership with Chesterfield Pubwatch and Derbyshire Constabulary, is open to all licensed premises in the town centre and is designed to build positive relationships between the licensed trade, police and local authorities. It also champions improvements in venue management and encourages best practice to be shared.

Businesses not already signed up can contact our licencing department to register their venue by emailing licensing@chesterfield.gov.uk or calling **01246 936354**.

Councillor Jonathan Davies, cabinet member for health and wellbeing, said: "Chesterfield has many great pubs, restaurants, bars and clubs. It is a great place to enjoy an evening out.

"Chesterfield is also a very safe place to live, socialise and visit. However, like towns and cities around the country, alcohol-related crime and disorder can sometimes be an issue.

"We want to ensure Chesterfield is even safer and even more welcoming at night. That's why we are really pleased to launch Best Bar None here.

"The scheme will strengthen relationships between the licensed trade, council and police to reduce alcohol-related disruption. It's also a great opportunity for the many fantastic licensed businesses to showcase where their work is helping keep people safe.

"Over 85 per cent of pubs and clubs in the town centre are already signed up to the scheme, in addition to others across the borough – including several in Hasland, Brampton and on Sheffield Road."

If successful, the scheme will be expanded into other areas of the town in 2024. Find out more about the Best Bar None Scheme on our website: www.chesterfield.gov.uk/best-bar-none

“ Chesterfield is a very safe place to live, socialise and visit. However, like towns and cities around the country, alcohol-related crime and disorder can sometimes be an issue.”

Councillor Jonathan Davies, cabinet member for health and wellbeing



Honorary titles given to former councillors

Three former councillors have been honoured for the service they have given to the borough of Chesterfield.

Former councillors Alexis Diouf, Terry Gilby and Christine Ludlow received the honorary title of Alderman and Alderwoman at an extraordinary council meeting in September.

Alderman Diouf served as a councillor for 16 years and during this time held a place on many of the council's committees. He was also Mayor in 2014 and had a very successful year raising money for his chosen charities.

Alderwoman Ludlow was first elected as a councillor in 1991 and served until 2023. During her time as a councillor, she was a member of many committees, was a cabinet member, most recently for housing, and also held office as Mayor in 2007.

Alderman Gilby was first elected to the council in 1987 and served until 2023. He held many roles during this time, including as cabinet member for economic growth and also deputy leader of the council. He served as Mayor of Chesterfield in 1999.

Councillor Judy Staton, cabinet member for governance, said: "It is fantastic to be able to recognise the work that these former councillors have done for Chesterfield. They have all spent a long time serving their community, representing our borough and helping to improve the area for future generations."

Honorary Alderman or Alderwoman status is the second-highest honour the council can bestow, after the freedom of the borough.

At the ceremony, each was presented with a scroll and commemorative badge and signed the roll of honorary Aldermen and Alderwomen.

Their names have also been added to the board displayed outside the Council Chamber in Chesterfield Town Hall.

Pictured below from left to right: Alderwoman Ludlow, Alderman Diouf and Councillor Tricia Gilby who collected the scroll on behalf of Alderman Gilby.



The customer service centre is moving to the town hall



Our Customer Service Centre (CSC) is relocating to the Town Hall - creating a one-stop-shop for a wider range of public services.

The move will allow you to access more public services in one location.

Due to take place in autumn this year, it will also reduce our carbon emissions and energy use, supporting our ambition to become carbon neutral by 2030.

All other services currently available at the Town Hall will remain accessible.

Councillor Gavin Baldauf-Good, cabinet member for customers and business transformation, said: "Providing excellent, value for money customer services is a key priority for us as a council, and this move brings more public services under one roof.

"Residents and businesses can access a wide range of council services, alongside other functions provided by partner organisations.

"The relocation comes with wider benefits - including a reduction in our energy use and carbon emissions, and lower building and maintenance costs.

"The relocated customer service centre will be based on the ground floor of the Town Hall. The building is accessible by bus, there are a number of local car parks nearby and it's easily accessed by foot from the town centre too."

The cash payment machines won't be relocating to the Town Hall, so if you have used these previously to pay for council services you have a range of other options to consider for your future payments:

Via our website: www.chesterfield.gov.uk/pay

Use our automated telephone payment line:
0345 6020214

Pay by Direct Debit - ask the customer service team by calling **01246 345 345**, or you can set this up online

Standing order or online banking - ask our team for more information or find our bank details on our website

You will still be able to pay cash or use your bank card by using PayPoint facilities in local shops or by using the post office network. If you are visiting the town centre, there are five locations which can be used and there are more shops and post offices which offer the PayPoint service near to your home. You can find your nearest PayPoint store by visiting:

www.consumer.paypoint.com

If you intend to use the PayPoint service, you will need a barcode. This is usually found on your bill, letter, or invoice. A barcode can also be downloaded from our website:

www.chesterfield.gov.uk/barcode

Contact the customer service team if you need help with this.

85 New Square, the current home of the CSC, is being marketed for alternative uses and any future redevelopment of the site will be considered as part of the overall town centre regeneration plans.

For more details about the changes, visit our website:

www.chesterfield.gov.uk/csc

Funding boost for Staveley



Additional funding has been secured for Staveley 21 – a town deal project that aims to revitalise and regenerate Staveley town centre.

“ We must look to the future and develop town centres that are not only fit for today but will remain attractive in the future”

Councillor Tricia Gilby, leader of the council and vice chair of the Staveley Town Deal Board



The funding will be used to ensure the project can be delivered to its full potential. The plans include improvements to the public realm, tree planting, play and events space, enhanced lighting, modern wayfinding signage, a shop front grant scheme, and a new building that will bring a renewed focus to the centre with the aim of creating more footfall.

Councillor Tricia Gilby, leader of the council and vice chair of the Staveley Town Deal Board, said: “We must look to the future and develop town centres that are not only fit for today but will remain attractive in the future. Investing in placemaking and the public realm can help boost business confidence and attract both visitors and entrepreneurs. We are also considering how best to support local events which can again drive footfall and create a much-needed buzz about the town.”

Plans have been progressing behind the scenes along with investigations that will help ensure the project can be delivered. Plans will be shared later this year with the aim of starting on site in 2024.

A shop front grant scheme was launched in early 2023 and there has been a lot of interest among local businesses, with several applications already being considered. The scheme will provide funding for businesses and landlords to make improvements to buildings that will encourage more customers to visit and improve the look and feel of the town centre.

All projects were invited to apply for additional funding from this pot, with most asking for small amounts to cover the high cost of inflation but Staveley 21 requesting a larger sum.

You can find out more about Staveley 21 on our website: www.chesterfield.gov.uk/staveley-21





Chesterfield Canal restoration gathers pace



Plans for the restoration of the canal are developing at pace with work expected to start on site in 2024.

Chesterfield Canal Trust unveiled detailed plans at their Canal Festival this year and members of the public also had the opportunity to vote for their preferred Trans Pennine Trail bridge design.

More than £5 million will be spent restoring more of the canal at Staveley, which includes installing two bridges, a new lock and upgrading the towpath all the way to Renishaw.

In May 2023 ground investigation work took place along the route of the canal and the Trust has also received a donation of 160,000 cubic metres of clay from fellow town deal project sponsor Suon Ltd.

George Rogers, Chesterfield Canal Trust's development manager, said: "Purchasing and transporting suitable materials from other sources would be prohibitively expensive and cause untold disturbance to the local population. Without this incredibly generous donation, the project simply couldn't proceed in its current form and so the Trust is very grateful for the support and generosity of Suon and Chatsworth. We look forward to continuing our long history of working together to enable the restoration of the canal."

Ivan Fomin, chair of the Staveley Town Deal Board, said: "It's fantastic to see project sponsors working together to achieve the overall objectives of the town deal. This is an important donation that will help ensure the canal can continue to be enjoyed by local people and visitors, whilst making use of this natural resource in the local area."

Derbyshire County Council has also secured planning permission for Staveley Waterside – a mixed use development that will create business opportunities and enhance the visitor experience at Staveley Town Basin.

You can find out more about the canal restoration by visiting: www.chesterfield-canal-trust.org.uk/restoration

Keep up to date with the latest news

Over the next year we expect most of the Staveley Town Deal projects to start on site and begin delivering improvements for residents. We'll be providing regular updates on progress and also letting you know how you can get involved.

There are lots of ways you can keep up with the latest news:

Sign up to our quarterly newsletter: www.chesterfield.gov.uk/home/newsletter-signup

Follow us on Facebook and LinkedIn – just search for Staveley Town Deal.

Visit the website: www.chesterfield.gov.uk/staveley-town-deal

What's on

Winding Wheel Theatre www.chesterfieldtheatres.co.uk

Box office: (01246) 345222

Abbamania

Thursday 2 November at 7.30pm
Europe's leading Abba tribute.

The Drifters

Friday 3 November at 7.30pm
Performing all their classic hits live.

Carlton Main Frickley Colliery Band

Sunday 5 November at 3pm
One of the world's top 10 brass bands perform.

Exhibition on Screen: Klimt and the Kiss (Cert TBC)

Tuesday 7 November at 2pm
A look into one of the world's favourite paintings.

We Are What We Overcome

Wednesday 8 November at 7.30pm
A play about one man's journey to good mental health via a very bad idea. Supported by The Samaritans New Art Exchange and Arts Council England.

Chesterfield Festival of Remembrance.

Thursday 9 November at 7.20pm
44th Festival of Remembrance organised by The Fellowship of the Services.

Simon Brodwin - Screwed Up

Friday 10 November at 8pm, last entry at 7.30pm
Fresh from his sold-out show at the critically acclaimed Edinburgh Fringe run.

Ed Sheeran Experience

Saturday 11 November at 7.30pm
Tribute show starring Jack Shepherd as Ed Sheeran.

Sing-along-a-Gareth-Two!

Thursday 16 November at 7.30pm
It's time to lift our voices once more as Gareth Malone hits the road.

The Real Thing

Friday 17 November at 7.30pm
With original vocalists Chris Amoo and Dave Smith.

So Diva - the Last Days of Disco

Saturday 18 November at 7.30pm
So Diva famously championed by Sir Tom Jones on ITV's The Voice UK embark on their first national theatre tour.

Fiction and Fantasy

Sunday 19 November at 7.30pm
Presented by Chesterfield Symphony Orchestra

Blue Hawaii (PG)

Monday 20 November at 1pm - 4pm (film starts 1.30pm)
Dementia Friendly Screening.

What's Your Poison?

Tuesday 21 November at 7.30pm
Rumpus Theatre Company present the true-crime Victorian murder mystery play.

Aladdin Pantomime

Friday 1 December - Tuesday 2 January at Various times
Starring ITV's The Chase star Anne Hegerty, CBeebies Nigel Clarke, from Dhar Mann and a faraway galaxy, Jo Osmond, Britain's Got Talent's Tony Rudd and Darren Clewlow-Smith. Also featuring the voice of Brian Blessed as the Genie.

A New Year Viennese Gala Concert

Sunday 7 January at 3pm
Presented by Sheffield Symphony Orchestra.

Danny Baker: At Last...The Sausage Sandwich Tour

Saturday 13 January at 7.30pm
A brand-new, full-tilt, non-stop thunderous performance.

Emilio Santoro as Elvis

Friday 2 February at 7.30pm
Award-winning Elvis Presley theatre show.

Gareth Gates in The Best of Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons

Thursday 8 February at 7.30pm
Nostalgic musical journey pays tribute to the life and career of those four boys from Jersey.

The Adult Panto: Beauty and the Big Beast!

Friday 9 February at 7.30pm
Presented by the Market Theatre Company.

An Evening with Sky Sports Jeff Stelling

Sunday 11 February at 7.30pm
An exclusive evening of football nostalgia, fun and entertainment.

Sounds of the Rat Pack Era

Thursday 15 February at 7.30pm
Backed by the acclaimed Moonlight Serenade Orchestra UK.

The Upbeat Beatles

Friday 1 March at 7.30pm
Paying homage to the greatest band in history.

Fascinating Aida

Saturday 2 March at 7.30pm
Celebrating 40 years on the road, Dillie, Liza and Adèle, Britain's raciest and sassiest musical cabaret trio return to Chesterfield.



Chesterfield markets

Open air market every Monday, Friday and Saturday.
Flea Market every Thursday

Artisan Market

Sunday 26 November

Sunday 17 December, 10am to 4pm

Looking for a gift for a friend, a treat for someone special or that distinctive Christmas present? The Artisan Market is the event to visit.

Record fair

Sunday 12 November

Sunday 10 December, 10am to 3pm

Over 40 dealers from all over the country selling a range of LPs, CDs, cassettes and music-related DVDs.

Vegan Market

Sunday 5 November

Sunday 3 December, 10am to 4pm

An amazing range of vegan products from cakes to dog treats, plastic-free goods to pies plus a selection of hot food to try.

Chesterfield 1940s Market

Chesterfield town centre

Thursday 2 November

10am to 3.30pm

See a Spitfire, enjoy 40s music, classic cars and military vehicles alongside one of the biggest flea markets in the country.

Peddler Market

New Square

Friday 17

**10am to 1pm, Saturday -
noon to 9.30pm**

Peddler will bring some of the best street food the UK has to offer, alongside craft drinks, live music and much more.

Chesterfield markets

Chesterfield Christmas lights switch-on and market

Chesterfield town centre

Sunday 19 November

Noon to 6pm

Get into the festive spirit with Christmas entertainment and a market where you can grab a Christmas bargain. Lights switched on at 4.45pm in New Square. With a special guest, Paddington™.

Revolution House

Christmas at Revolution House

Thursday 7 to Sunday 24

December

Open Thursday to Sunday

from 11am to 3pm

See the House decorated for a traditional 17th century Christmas with displays of greenery, a kissing bough and colourful flower arrangements.

Christmas Carol Concert

Revolution House

Thursday 7 December, 6.30pm

Join Holymoorside Brass Band in the garden at Revolution House for traditional festive carol singing.

Derbyshire Archaeology Day

Winding Wheel Theatre

Saturday 20 January

9.15am to 4.30pm

Speakers include Tristan Cousins from York Archaeology, Thomas Booth from The Crick Institute and many others, with talks on the study of ancient DNA and the results of recent excavations.

Other events

Fireworks Extravaganza

Stand Road Park

Friday 3 November 2023

Join us for a fireworks event to remember! This is a family-friendly event that will include stage entertainment from 4.30pm. The fireworks will be at 7pm and the event will close at 9.30pm. The entry price is £3 and exact cash is requested. No card payments will be accepted. Alcohol and all fireworks including sparklers are not permitted on site and will be confiscated at the entrances.

Festival of Christmas Trees

Crooked Spire Church

Saturday 18 November to

Sunday 3 December

Monday to Thursday from

10.30am to 4.30pm

Friday and Saturday from

10.30am to 5pm

Sunday from noon to 5.30pm

The Crooked Spire is the largest church in Derbyshire and will be filled with more than 100 Christmas trees decorated by local people.

Santa's Grotto

Market Hall, Chesterfield

town centre

Sunday 19 November to

Sunday 24 December

Various dates and times

Santa will be returning to Chesterfield, and it doesn't matter if you've been naughty or nice because you'll get a free gift with every ticket.



Contact us

We provide more than 50 services to our residents including: waste collection and recycling, street cleaning, leisure and park facilities, housing, environmental protection, planning, regeneration, housing, markets, theatres and tourism.

The answers to most of your queries will be available on our website:

www.chesterfield.gov.uk and you can manage a range of council services through My Chesterfield (register at www.chesterfield.gov.uk/mychesterfield)

If you can't find what you are looking for, you can fill in a contact form www.chesterfield.gov.uk/contact

General enquiries - (01246) 345345

For enquiries about specific services call:

Chesterfield Theatres box office

(01246) 345222

box.office@chesterfield.gov.uk

Chesterfield Visitor Information Centre

(01246) 345777 or 345778

tourism@chesterfield.gov.uk

Healthy Living Centre - (01246) 345666

hlcenquiries@chesterfield.gov.uk

Queen's Park Sports Centre - (01246) 345555

qpsscquiries@chesterfield.gov.uk

Chesterfield Citizen Advice - 0808 278 7843

For housing related queries please call our main number (01246) 345345 except for:

Careline - 0300 303 3378

Homelessness prevention team - (01246) 345825

homelessness.prevention@chesterfield.gov.uk

Homelessness (out of hours) - 08081 629 333

Home Options - for all council house waiting list and allocations queries

Visit the website at: www.home-options.org

(01246) 345700

home.options@chesterfield.gov.uk

Housing management team- (01246) 345071

housingmanagement@chesterfield.gov.uk

Rents and rent recovery - (01246) 345501 or 345510

Reporting housing repairs - 0800 5875 659

repair.requests@chesterfield.gov.uk

Emergency housing repairs - out of hours only

(01246) 345041

Get the latest news



@ChesterfieldBC



ChesterfieldBoroughCouncil



Chesterfield Borough Council



chesterfieldbc



See our videos on YouTube, search for Chesterfield Borough Council's channel

Are we accessible to you?

کیا ہم تک آپ کی رسائی ہے؟ اگر نہیں تو ہمیں بتائیے!

你可覺得易於與我們接觸？若不同的話，請提出要求。

Czy łatwo jest skontaktować się z nami? Jeżeli nie, powiedz nam o tym!

Siamo accessibili nei vostri riguardi? In caso contrario rivolgetevi a noi!

We aim to provide what you need to be able to understand our information or talk or write to us.

On request we will provide free of charge:

Language interpreters, including for sign language

Translation of written material into other languages

Material in braille, large print and recorded onto CD

Please contact us:

General enquiries: 01246 345345

Text: 07960 910264

Web: www.chesterfield.gov.uk

Email: info@chesterfield.gov.uk

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CHESTERFIELD
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Could you be a snow warden?

We're on the lookout for willing local volunteers to help us clear footpaths in the event of heavy snow.

You will be provided with training and the necessary equipment, including snow shovels and gloves, to make sure you can carry out the role safely.

Our snow wardens also act as our eyes and ears on the ground, reporting things like local weather conditions or empty grit bins – so we can make sure we're responding to issues as quickly as possible.

For more information please contact Sam Sherlock, senior emergency planning officer, on **01246 936464** or email sam.sherlock@chesterfield.gov.uk



Shop smarter this Christmas

Christmas is a time where lots of you will come together and celebrate – but the extra waste created can have a negative impact on our environment.

By thinking about what you buy and how you are going to use it you can help reduce the amount of waste you throw away and increase the amount you recycle. Here are five tips to help you reduce waste this year:



Avoid glitter and foil – when purchasing greetings cards, crackers or wrapping paper avoiding products which have glitter or foil means they can be easily recycled after Christmas. Search for the 'scrunch test' to find out how to test the recyclability of your wrapping paper.



Plan before you shop – create a list and only get what you need, and try to think in advance about how you can use leftovers for the days after Christmas.



Shop local and plastic free – buying food from local suppliers, like butchers and greengrocers, can help reduce the amount of plastic packaging you use.



Avoid polystyrene – if you order goods online at Christmas it's likely your items will be delivered in cardboard boxes, remember to remove any plastic or polystyrene inserts before recycling.



Use your green bin – you can put food waste including bones, vegetable peelings and leftovers, in your green bin which can then be composted.



Get the family together at your local leisure centre

Both Queen's Park Sports Centre and The Healthy Living Centre offer membership options for a family of four to enjoy.

The offer is open to two adults and two children under 16, or one adult and three children.

Membership prices:

£59.98 per month for a 12 month contract

£659.78 for a 12 month pre-paid contract

£215.93 for a 3 month pre-paid contract

As part of this you can: swim, go to the gym, take part in classes, go to the spa, visit the casual climbing at The Healthy Living Centre and get discounted rackets at Queen's Park Sports Centre.

Age restrictions apply to certain activities.

Members also get a discount when booking a course or a children's party booking.

www.chesterfield.gov.uk/sport-and-leisure/membership-and-prices

Book online or call reception:

Queen's Park: 📞 01246 345555

Healthy Living Centre: 📞 01246 345666



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