

NORTH SOMERSET

ISSUE 132 – SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

LIFE

French
flavours...



www.n-somerset.gov.uk

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 North
Somerset
COUNCIL



WESTON
COLLEGE

ACCESS ALL AREAS

OPEN EVENT

12 OCTOBER 2016

8 NOVEMBER 2016

5.30PM - 8PM | ALL COURSES | ALL CAMPUSES

For more details visit www.weston.ac.uk/openevents

Dear reader,



I hope you had a good summer despite some of the disappointing weather at the start. The sunny days in August showed North Somerset at its best, with events all over the area as well as just beautiful countryside. The newly restored Marine Lake in Clevedon is excellent and those involved in creating it are deserving of their accolades.

It was certainly an eventful time, with the electorate taking the momentous decision to leave the European Union and then the experts telling us that either we are going to be much better off trading with the rest of the world, or possibly we are heading for ruin. I'm glad they have made that clear. I found the debate on both sides very depressing, not just because of the obvious distortion of facts, to the extent that many of the claims didn't even make sense, but because most of the time was spent on personal abuse.

Soon after the Brexit vote we had extraordinary manoeuvring and plotting in the main parties, ending with a new Prime Minister and Cabinet, and still waiting for the outcome in the Labour leadership. Again it was about the personalities not the issues. I hope that all these changes will give the opportunity for a better relationship between politicians and electors, enabling a little more respect and tolerance on both sides.

The Olympics came as a welcome break and the success of the Great Britain team has been inspiring. So many brilliant performances to be proud of.

While writing this I am on a holiday flight, clear skies looking down on the stunning view of the Alps and sadly one of my first thoughts was wondering if the developers had put in a planning application.

Councillor Nigel Ashton
Leader of North Somerset Council

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This publication is available in large print, Braille or audio formats on request. Help is also available for people who require council information in languages other than English. *Life* editor: 01275 884 139

Theatre shows return to the Tropicana



Theatre fun returned to Weston's Tropicana this summer with comedy, arts and music entertaining audiences at the seafront site.

The varied line-up continues this autumn and winter as the venue on Marine Parade establishes itself as an arts and entertainment centre.

This summer has also seen the fun fair Funland @ Tropicana and an exhibition of urban street art, The Wormwood Rocks: The Gallery @ Tropicana.

All these theatre shows are suitable for children and adults. The upcoming line-up includes...

- A funny and heartbreaking story about love, loyalty and the enduring power of the imagination, on **Friday 23 September**.

The Mysterious Vanishment of Pobby and Dingan, performed by Travelling Light, is based on Ben Rice's acclaimed debut novel. It tells the story of a boy's mission to save his family in an Australian outback opal mining community. Suitable for ages nine and over.

- Performance poetry will tell the story of shattered friendship and the hollow reality of the New Labour dream.

Luke Wright will perform What I Learned from Johnny Bevan on **Friday 4 November**. Suitable for teens and adults, tickets cost £10 or £7.

- Step back in time to 1823 with a unique performance of the gothic horror story Frankenstein.

Popular historical comedy duo Living Spit tell Mary Shelley's story like never before, with a four-piece band, preposterous puppets, grotesque gags and diabolically desperate dance moves.

It runs from **Saturday 12 to Sunday 20 November** (but no show on Monday 14). Tickets cost £14 or £12 concessions.

- Hear life-changing experiences of meeting gorillas in the jungle during a spoof comedy show.

Glorilla, or Gloria in the Mist, is performed by female comedy pair Spitz and Co and features comedy, slapstick and non-stop hilarity.

Suitable for teens and adults, see the show on **Friday 25 November**.

All performances are inside with unallocated seating. On-site facilities include The Bay café with licensed bar.

More shows will be coming in November and December. See the next issue of Life for details or visit www.thebayweston.co.uk

For more information about shows, including performance times, prices and age suitability, visit www.tobaccofactorytheatres.com. Search for The Bay under 'venues'. Tickets can also be booked through the Tobacco Factory box office: 0117 902 0344. A limited number are also available from The Bay café.

The perfect rural retirement

In the heart of North Somerset is **Sandford Station**, a vibrant retirement village with a great community spirit. The excellent facilities and staff provide the perfect retirement lifestyle.

To book a personal tour or to simply find out more call **0117 919 4262**. See our latest video of life at Sandford Station just type **ow.ly/XSYGw** into your browser.

Registered Charity 202151



St Monica Trust

Time to apply for school places

Parents will soon be able to apply for school places if their child is due to start school or transfer to a new one next year.

Applications can be submitted from Monday 12 September for children who are now in their final year of primary or junior school and are due to transfer to secondary school in September 2017.

This also includes students who want to transfer between years 9 and 10, such as to North Somerset Enterprise and Technology College.

The closing date for all these applications is 31 October.

Applications can also be received for children who were born between 1 September 2012 and 31 August 2013 and are due to start school from September 2017, as well as any children who is in their last year of infant school and are due to transfer to a junior school.

The closing date for these applications is 15 January 2017.

To read a parent guide and apply online visit www.n-somerset.gov.uk/admissions

Paper application forms available on request.



01275 884 078, 884 014 or admissions@n-somerset.gov.uk

Could you help your community in an emergency?

Would you like to learn the skills needed to help your community in an emergency?

Community Resilience North Somerset is a volunteer programme which trains people to help their local community prepare, respond and recover from an emergency.

The scheme is open to anyone who lives or works in the district and is aged 14 or over. No experience is necessary as training is given.

Volunteers are needed specifically in Clevedon and Portishead so anyone who could share their local knowledge and skills, and make a difference when it counts, is urged to get in touch.



To find out more, visit a drop-in session on...

- Friday 9 September at Nailsea Library, from 10am to noon.
- Friday 14 October at The Campus in Locking Castle, from 10am to noon
- Friday 11 November at Portishead Library, from 10am to noon

01934 426 322 • www.communityresilience-ns.org.uk

Remember to register to vote

Registering to vote is a two-stage process and residents in North Somerset are being reminded to return their forms.



The annual household enquiry form, which lists all people eligible to vote in a household, was sent out in August.

Residents need to inform the council of any changes, or confirm if nothing has changed.

This can be done by text, internet, telephone or by post, and details are outlined on the form. Reminders will be sent to all non-responding properties.

Anyone who is not yet registered to vote but adds their name to a household enquiry form will receive an invitation to register.

This can be completed online at www.gov.uk/yourvotematters or returned by post. Reminders will be sent to non-responding electors.

Affordable home insurance for flood-risk properties

Flooding can be devastating and it can also leave householders struggling to find affordable insurance afterwards.

A new not-for-profit scheme has now launched to help people in flood risk areas find affordable home insurance.

Flood Re is a joint re-insurance scheme set up between the Government and insurance industry.

Each year the scheme collects a tax from home insurers which is put into a central fund.

Individual insurers then pass on any high flood risk elements of a property's policy onto Flood Re. If a valid claim is made on the policy, Flood Re reimburses the insurer from the central fund.

Residents should talk to their insurers to see if their home is eligible for Flood Re.

FLOODRE



For a list of participating insurance companies visit www.floodre.co.uk

Top national award for local handyman charity



From left, Neil Woollard (senior handyman); Chris Taylor (volunteer); Ellie Bull (area manager); Kevin Snowball (chief executive); Lord Best (a House of Lords cross bench peer)

A charity which provides a handyman service across the West of England is celebrating after scooping a national award for the second time.

WE Care and Repair has been named national Home Improvement Agency Service of the Year 2016 at the national Home Improvement Agency and Handyman Service Awards, held at the House of Lords.

The charity helps older people and those with disabilities to continue living independently and safely at home for as long as possible.

It provides a handyman service for small repairs, a larger repairs and adaptations service, and a specialist bathrooms adaptations service.

We Care and Repair also runs an equipment and demonstration centre in Weston-super-Mare, to showcase the range of mobility aids and independent living products on offer.

The centre, based in the Motex Centre in Winterstoke Road, Weston-super-Mare, is open 10am-4pm Monday to Saturday.

Equipment and demonstration centre: 01275 888 804
We Care and Repair: 0300 323 0700 (normal landline rate)
www.wecr.org.uk

Rehome unwanted electrical equipment

Unwanted electrical equipment and furniture will be given a new lease of life thanks to re-use events held throughout October and November.

North Somerset Council is hosting these events with social enterprise Changing Lives so residents can donate their unwanted electrical equipment and furniture.

Items collected will be repaired by Changing Lives and resold in their stores or recycled through North Somerset's recycling centres.

For information and updates about these events visit www.n-somerset.gov.uk/reuse or your local parish council website.

New online self-help tool launches

A new online self-help tool has launched for people who might need more support to live independently in their own home.

The self-help tool can be found within the adults section of North Somerset Council's online directory - a portal of information, advice and resources about all types of social care.

It is designed to help residents consider their needs and find things which could help them stay independent at the touch of a button.

It asks a series of questions and the answers provided will determine what information and advice is given at the end.



North Somerset Council is committed to helping people live safe and fulfilling lives in their own homes but for some people, age or disability might mean they can't do as much as they once did.

Some residents might need help getting around, looking after themselves, or with shopping and cleaning.

If the tool recommends you may need more help, you can choose to refer your answers to the council as part of the assessment process.

Find the self-help tool within the adults section of the online directory:
www.n-somerset.gov.uk/onlinedirectory

Free electric blanket testing and slipper exchange

Residents will be able to check the safety of their electric blankets and slippers ready for winter during a series of sessions around North Somerset.

Faulty electric blankets are a serious hazard and badly-fitting slippers can contribute to a fall.

Sessions run between 9.30am and 3pm on selected days.

Book a time slot in advance by calling 0300 123 2463.

- Tuesday 20 September - Clarence Park Baptist Church, Walliscote Road, Weston-super-Mare
- Tuesday 27 September - Somerset Hall, The Precinct, Portishead
- Monday 3 October - Milton Baptist Church, Baytree Road, Weston-super-Mare
- Tuesday 4 October - Nailsea Methodist Church, Silver Street



- Friday 28 October - Kenn Road Methodist Church, Clevedon

The events are organised by North Somerset Council and CURO Community Connect, along with Avon Fire and Rescue and North Somerset Community Partnership.

CURO: 0300 123 2463

Drop-in and discover your energy entitlements

Get ready for winter fuel bills and make sure you're not wasting money by dropping in to a free advice session.

The home energy team from the Centre for Sustainable Energy is running drop-in sessions in Weston-super-Mare for people who want free, impartial advice.

This could include anything from fuel debt and supplier complaints, to heating controls, damp and mould, or switching suppliers.



No appointment is needed. Just visit...

- Town Hall, Weston-super-Mare - Thursday 15 September and 20 October, from 1-4pm
- Worle Library - Tuesday 13 September and 11 October, from 10am-1pm



CSE home energy team: 08000 822 234
www.cse.org.uk/advice

Protect against shingles

Older people in North Somerset are being reminded to get themselves vaccinated against shingles if they are eligible for the free jab.



People who are 79 years old and have previously been offered a shingles vaccine but haven't received it, should ensure they have it before their 80th birthday.

For the last three years the vaccine has been routinely offered to people aged 70, and a catch-up programme is running to ensure everyone has it before they reach 80.

Shingles is caused by the reactivation of the same virus that causes chickenpox in children. It can be a painful rash and the risk and severity increases with age.

Visit your GP practice for more information.
www.nhs.uk/shingles

New community minibus for villages

Villagers in the heart of North Somerset are benefiting from a new community minibus to take them out and about.

Churchill and Langford Minibus Society has operated for more than 40 years in these two villages and now its services are being extended.

Earlier this year, the society took delivery of a new 12-seater vehicle thanks to a grant by the Department for Transport.

The society is now extending its service to include Winscombe, Shipham, Sandford, Banwell and Burrington.

It offers trips to towns in the area, transport for other organisations, clubs and societies, and the Good Companions scheme to combat social isolation.



New volunteer drivers are needed to help the service run. Anyone who would like to help, preferably with a D1 category on their driving licence, can contact Alan Purcell on 01934 862 250 or Malcolm Letts on 01934 852 314. For bookings call 01934 852 725

Mental health and wellbeing support

Young people can face many pressures in life so a new library scheme has launched to support their mental health and wellbeing.

Reading Well is part of the national Books on Prescription scheme and aims to help young people cope with pressure, boost confidence and deal with difficult feelings and experiences.

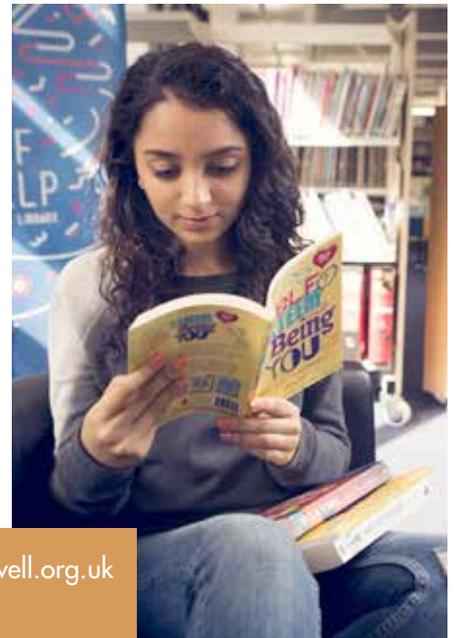
It includes 35 books that have been chosen by young people and health experts, containing information, advice and personal stories about dealing with anxiety, depression, stress, or experiences like bullying.

As well as non-fiction, graphic novels and fiction are also included.

The books are free to borrow from libraries and if one isn't available, it can be reserved for free.

No overdue charges will be made on Reading Well books if they are returned late.

The books are also available to young people in North Somerset secondary schools and Weston College library.



For the list of books visit: www.reading-well.org.uk or your local library

Council committed to partnership success in days of devolution



Commitment to joint working across the West of England area remains a priority for North Somerset Council despite its rejection of a devolution deal for the area.

In June, North Somerset Council members voted to refuse the current West of England devolution deal being offered by Government.

Although much of the deal looked attractive in principle, the requirement to have a directly elected mayor overseeing the work of a combined authority to deliver the deal was considered by the majority of councillors to add an unnecessary and costly layer of bureaucracy.

A consultation among local residents and businesses conducted prior to the council's decision supported this view, with 82 per cent of respondents opposing the requirement for the 'metro mayor'.

The other three councils in the West of England area - Bristol, Bath and North East Somerset, and South Gloucestershire - all voted in support and are now proceeding with arrangements, subject to the outcome of a recent consultation and parliamentary approval.

North Somerset Council does not object to this as long as the new devolution arrangements don't damage the existing highly successful West of England Partnership.

This partnership is well-established, with many schemes delivered successfully and nearly £700m more on the horizon.

In its response to this summer's consultation about the proposals, the council stressed the importance of ensuring that North Somerset, within the West of England Partnership, continues to play a key role in shaping the region's economy.

It is keen that partnership working continues across the area on key issues such as spatial planning, transport, economic development and skills to avoid growth stalling or taking place in an uncoordinated and unsustainable manner.

Responses to the consultation are currently being considered by the Secretary of State who will need to make a decision whether to proceed with the arrangements to establish a directly elected mayor.

If the decision is taken to go ahead as planned, the combined authority would be set up and the 'metro mayor' for the other three authorities would be elected next May.



To read North Somerset Council's response to the consultation and find more information visit www.n-somerset.gov.uk/devolution



Food and drink innovation centre takes step forward



Food and drink producers in North Somerset will be given a big boost when an innovation centre of national importance opens its doors.

Earlier this year North Somerset councillors agreed to support the principle of the FoodWorks SW centre and a bid to the West of England Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) to fund its construction.

The initiative is aimed at food and drink manufacturers and will boost the profile of this thriving industry both regionally and nationally. It will also raise awareness of the business opportunities across North Somerset.

Four acres of council land at Weston Business Quarter, in Junction 21 Enterprise Area, have been earmarked for the site dependent on development costs being funded through the LEP.

Facilities at FoodWorks SW will include:

- ✓ meeting space, industry specific business development support and advice, an opportunity to showcase products

- ✓ product development facilities with specialist technical support and equipment so businesses can scale-up production, innovate and develop new and improve existing products
- ✓ small food-grade units for new and growing businesses.

More than 160 jobs in food manufacturing, testing and production will be created.

These will increase as businesses move on and into larger premises within the Food Enterprise Zone.

It is also expected that more jobs will be supported through the development of the wider supply chain and on-site business support.

A private sector-led project advisory group is advising on the specific needs and requirements of the food and drink industry.

This includes Campden BRI, BIC Innovation, Business West, North Somerset Enterprise Agency, Thatchers, Yeo Valley, Lovely Drinks, Marshfield Bakery, North Somerset Council and UWE.

A full planning application for the centre will be submitted this autumn.

Current estimates are that all relevant build costs will be about £10.7m.

Subject to planning approval and necessary funding, work will start next summer with the centre opening late summer 2018.

For more information visit www.foodworks-sw.co.uk or [@FoodWorks_SW](https://twitter.com/FoodWorks_SW)



French flavours waft into Weston

French flavours will be wafting through Weston's seafront soon when a new restaurant opens its doors.



www.bistrotpierre.co.uk
01934 643 972

Bistrot Pierre, part of an independently-owned restaurant group, opens its doors in Weston-super-Mare this month.

The restaurant, based in the rotunda in Princess Royal Square, is the chain's sixteenth in the UK and is the latest opening in Weston's multi-million pound regeneration programme.

Visitors to the 180-seater restaurant can enjoy a stylish French interior with wide-ranging views across the bay, beach and Grand Pier.

Owner Rob Beacham said: "We are really excited to be opening in Weston at a significant time for the town as it undergoes its regeneration.

"We are also extremely excited to open in such a stunning location. By renovating an existing beach-side restaurant, we hope to bring a certain 'je ne sais quoi' to the town's thriving restaurant scene.

"We want to make the best use of the views and the floor-to-ceiling windows flood the space with light to create a really special dining experience."

Bistrot Pierre offers great value French cooking and seasonal menus. It combines classics such as steak-frites, boeuf bourguignon and tarte au citron, with its own take on regional favourites like tarte flambée, Bouillabaisse and paté de campagne.

The restaurant is open seven days a week, serving breakfast, lunch and dinner. There are gluten-free dishes as well as child-friendly options.

Competition!

Bistrot Pierre is giving away a **free dinner for two** to celebrate its opening. Please email: competitions@pierre94.co.uk by Friday 30 September. Winner picked at random.

Have your say on planning in Weston town centre

Regeneration in Weston-super-Mare is now well under way with investment being made in sites across the town centre.

The £18m construction of Dolphin Square is progressing rapidly, work has started on Weston College's flagship Law and Professional Services Academy at the Winter Gardens, the Homes and Communities Agency has invested in numerous sites around the town, and a Miami-style makeover has been given to The Centre, the 1930s Art Deco building opposite the Town Hall.

People are being invited to have their say on the planning framework which will support those looking to invest in the town centre, the Supplementary Planning Document (SPD).

This document contains details about key policies, such as ensuring there is quality design, improving the choice and quality of housing in the town centre, utilising the rich heritage of the town to drive regeneration and conservation, and improving the public realm.

The vision for Weston town centre is for it to be a vibrant and lively place where more people want to live, learn and spend their leisure time.

For this to happen, the town needs more diverse leisure and cultural opportunities, a more focussed shopping area, and better accessibility to help increase footfall all year round.

Creating high-quality residential developments is an important part of this as it will create more demand for shops and services, and in turn boost the town centre economy for residents and visitors.

North Somerset Council is already taking a leading role in driving this forward by purchasing the police station and former magistrates court to develop into modern apartments.

The council is also working closely with the Homes and Communities Agency to develop housing on sites across the town centre, which will act as a catalyst for further investment.

The SPD will be formally adopted by the council this winter but residents have the chance to view the draft document and comment on it.



For more details visit www.n-somerset.gov.uk/consultation or call the planning policy team on 01934 426 603

Creating a vibrant 'Weston Lanes' area

Business owners based in Weston-super-Mare's town centre are putting their heads together to promote their location to visitors and residents alike.



Paul Batts, owner of Outdoors and Active in Meadow Street



In the summer, North Somerset Council hosted a workshop for businesses from Orchard Street and Meadow Street, as well as Grove Village, to meet and discuss what improvements could be made to draw more people into their areas.

Now the idea for a vibrant and buzzing 'Weston Lanes' destination is being developed, based on laneways found in other cities around the world such as Brighton and Melbourne.

It also ties in with North Somerset Council's regeneration plans for Weston, to develop a thriving town centre with a strong local economy, which are well under way with significant levels of investment being made already.

Paul Batts is the owner of long-standing business Outdoors and Active on Meadow Street.

The shop opened nearly 10 years ago and Paul, who is also chairman of Weston Business Improvement District, said: "Creating a 'Lanes' destination is a long-standing idea so it's great that things are now moving forward.

"We are a seaside town but we want to show people that there is more to Weston than the seaside and High Street.

"When people visit a new destination, they don't say, 'that was a nice Boots', they remember the individual, unique shops."

Orchard Meadows contains a lot of small units and new businesses are opening all the time, such as the Little Toy Box toy shop, Daly Podiatry foot health and Canine Cuts dog grooming service.

Some more established businesses have expanded in recent years, such as Emarty music shop and Eastern Spice food store.

More hanging baskets have been installed to improve the look of the area and a metal 'Welcome to Orchard Meadows' sign will soon be installed.



A vision for Weston Lanes

Ideas generated at the recent workshop include...

- ✓ reducing speed limits or creating a shared space to improve pedestrian access
- ✓ the pavement from Big Lamp Corner into Meadow Street could be widened
- ✓ small, tucked-away licensed venues could morph from cafés during the day into restaurants/bars at night, offering live music, comedy or performing arts in an intimate setting
- ✓ the heritage and architecture of the streets should be enhanced
- ✓ opening hours could be reviewed, with a trial of one late night a week
- ✓ shop frontages could be improved with canopies and fairy lights
- ✓ there could be more advertising and directional signs from other parts of town.

Paul said: "There is a community, village feel here. Businesses are talking to each other more. There is a collective feeling for getting something done."

Rachel Lewis, regeneration manager at North Somerset Council, said: "Small businesses make a great contribution to the liveliness of successful towns and cities and a number of Weston's laneways have the potential to be developed into wonderful alternative spaces."



A lane in Melbourne, Australia



Brighton's North Laine area



Investment in roads paying off

Public opinion about roads in North Somerset has been low in recent years but a national report has revealed they are better, on average, than other areas across England.



The report from the Department for Transport (DfT) looks at the percentage of roads in an area that should be considered for maintenance.

The higher the percentage, the more roads need to be looked at and the worse the condition of the overall road network.

The most recent report for 2015 shows that the condition of major and minor roads in North Somerset is well above both national and regional averages, with the condition of the council's 1,100km network continuing to improve.

Only one per cent of main A roads in North Somerset were found to be in a condition where maintenance should be considered, well under the national average of four per cent and a significant decrease since 2011 when the figure was five percent.

For minor B and C roads the reduction was even more striking. In 2011 the proportion of these roads where maintenance should be considered was 12 per cent but for 2015 the figure was five per cent, also below the national average of seven per cent.

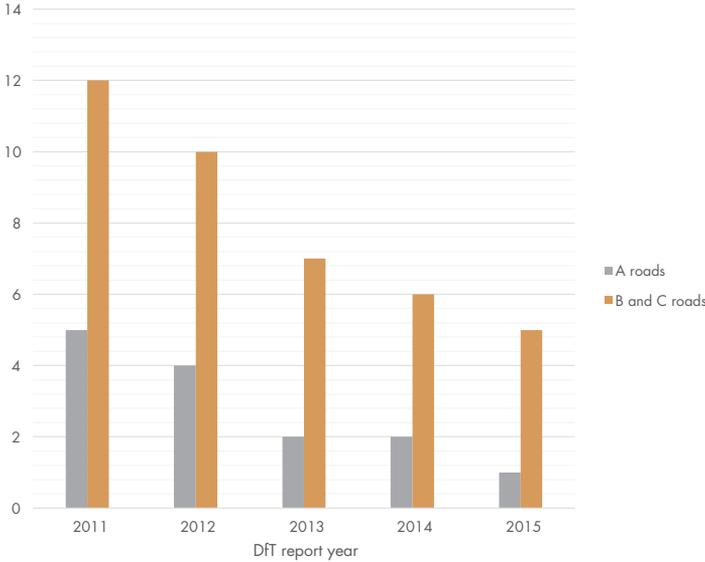
And for unclassified or U roads, only nine per cent of North Somerset's roads needed to be considered for maintenance - half the national average of 18 per cent.

Despite this, residents' surveys in recent years have shown low satisfaction scores for the condition of roads and pavements.

In response, North Somerset Council has committed an extra £40m over five years to maintaining and beginning to improve the district's roads.

Colin Medus, the council's head of highways and transport, said: "Investing in roads remains high on our agenda and these results show that our approach is working."

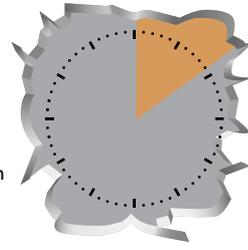
Percentage of roads in North Somerset that should be considered for maintenance



As well as the additional money, the council has also adopted a proactive 'whole life' approach to maintaining roads and introduced reactive smart gangs who work across the area.

Colin said: "We know from our own data, such as the number of potholes being reported to us, that our roads are steadily improving, and the results from the national DfT survey confirm the progress we're making."

6,555
potholes
were repaired this month



That's **1** every
90 seconds

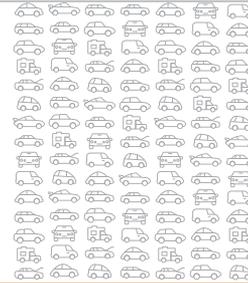
Assuming
253 working days per year
and an 8 hour day

Potholes repaired

July 2016



7,831
square metres of
patching
completed



That's
the same as
679.7
parking spaces

Assuming a parking space of
4.8m x 2.4m dimensions

Patching completed

July 2016



3,806
gullies
were cleaned this month



That's the same as the
distance between
Dundry
and
Long Ashton

Assuming the average gully
is 1m in depth

Gullies cleared

July 2016



Room for improvement on minor roads

The condition of North Somerset's major roads is better than in previous years, as shown in the DfT report and the council's own surveys.

However, there is room for improvement on unclassified roads – which make up the majority of the area's road network.

The council is already shifting its focus to invest more available resources into the minor roads and will continue this approach to improve their condition over the coming years.

Have your say on future of children's centres and libraries



Residents in North Somerset still have the chance to help shape the future of children's centres and libraries in the area.

A major review is currently taking place about community buildings and services run by North Somerset Council, with particular focus on the 14 children's centres and 12 libraries.

The Community Access Review aims to make sure these buildings and front-facing services are fit for purpose, in the right place, cost effective, equipped to deal with new technology, and can meet the current and future needs of residents.

It is being completed in stages and the seven localities in the first phase are Yatton, Congresbury, Winscombe, Worle, Long Ashton, Pill and Weston South (Bournville and Oldmixon).

The consultation runs until Friday 30 September and residents are being asked what they think of the proposals, what impact different options would have on their use of the services, when they would like to access services and whether they have any other ideas.

Libraries and children's centres are two of the council's most highly-rated services by residents and it is committed to continuing to deliver them.

Mandy Bishop, assistant director of operations at North Somerset Council, said: "This review is about ensuring we retain and, where possible, improve these services in our communities rather than lose them as is happening in some other parts of the country.

"However, if we are to continue to provide good quality services in our communities at a price we can afford, we need to be delivering them in a different way.

"We already have some excellent examples of services working very well together.

"For example, at The Campus in Weston we have a library, children's centre, two schools, a café and other community facilities.

"Others include the Healthy Living Centre and Town Hall in Weston, and The Barn and Castlewood in Clevedon.



Informal engagement sessions will be held throughout September. These will give residents the opportunity to speak to officers involved in the project, have their questions answered and make their views known.

- Monday 5 – 2pm and 7pm, Congresbury Methodist Hall, High Street, Congresbury
- Wednesday 7 – 3pm and 7pm, function room at the Woodborough Inn, Sandford Road, Winscombe
- Tuesday 13 – 2.30pm and 7pm, Worle Community Centre, Lawrence Road, Worle
- Thursday 15 – 2pm and 7pm, Long Ashton Community Centre, Keedwell Hill
- Monday 19 – 2pm and 6pm, St John Ambulance Hall, The Poplars, Easton-in-Gordano
- Tuesday 20 – 2pm and 7pm, Hangstones Pavilion, Stowey Road, Yatton
- Tuesday 27 – 2pm and 7pm, For All Healthy Living Centre, Lonsdale Avenue, Weston-super-Mare (afternoon session in church hall, evening session in community hall)

“This review provides us with a great opportunity to improve customer access to services through self-service, increased opening hours and to co-ordinate services and maximise the use of our buildings for the benefit of families and communities.”

All feedback from the three-month consultation will be compiled into a report for executive councillors to consider in December.

Any changes will be implemented from April to July next year.

Three other more ‘complex’ locations – Nailsea, Clevedon and Weston Central - will form the second phase of the review.

Consultation on these will take place next year with changes implemented by April 2018.

Anyone interested in going should put their name down in advance so organisers can predict numbers.

Email careview@n-somerset.gov.uk

How to give feedback

- Complete an online survey at www.n-somerset.gov.uk/car
- Email careview@n-somerset.gov.uk
- Write to Community Access Review, Post Point 16, Town Hall, Weston-super-Mare BS23 1UJ
- Visit your local library or children’s centre
- Attend a public engagement session
- Call Council Connect: 01934 888 802



First-hand fostering experiences

Fostering is a life-changing experience for all the family and it can be a valuable education if your own children still live at home.

Many foster parents open up their homes while their own children are still small and it brings many benefits to the whole family.

North Somerset Council currently looks after about 200 children but there are only about 70 active fostering families who are approved for one to three placements each.

More are now needed and the council is urging families to get in touch who have the space and skills to nurture a vulnerable child.

Sophie*, aged 15, comes from a foster family.

She said: "Opening up your home to vulnerable children is a wonderful thing to do. It allows those individuals to be in an environment that encourages and nurtures them."

"However, it could sometimes mean that you have less time to spend with your own children due to certain situations, but it will make you all really value your time together."

"It also allows you to grow stronger as a family unit, as you learn to help each other cope with any difficult situations."

Alexia's parents are also foster carers.

The 10-year-old said: "The best thing about being in a foster family is that I get to be included in lots of fun activities."

"I will always know that my family are helping children who would have had rough starts to their lives."

"I always have a play mate and if I have had a rough day at school then I can look forward to coming home and seeing my foster brother or sister."



Richard Grierson and his partner Sam have been foster carers for five years.

Richard is still only 30 and said: "As a boy I always wanted to join the police and dreamt of catching baddies like Batman.

"I've been a police officer for nine years and think that as much as we can have an impact on a life, the community or people we deal with, we rarely get to see the end result which I find frustrating.

"So we decided to foster when we were 25. We had a spare bedroom, we wanted to give something back and felt we had the skills to nurture a child to fulfil their potential.

"Despite the poor starts in life, the children we've cared for are some of the most amazing people I have ever met.

"Our most recent placement came to us at 12-years-old, a smoker, not at mainstream school, had no routine and was associating with bad influences.

"I am so proud to say that through hard work, our relationship with him, and his desire and determination to change, he is now a non-smoker, a healthy footballer, has a brilliant routine, and is over-achieving at school. He is an absolute pleasure to have as part of our family."

It can be hard work though. Richard added: "Having a child who isn't your own is a new challenge as you have to accept there are very different rules between a child in care and your own flesh and blood.

"We have learnt to understand that every child is different, every placement is different and you need to be clear with yourself what you want to achieve and what you can offer.

*Names of children have been changed



Would he recommend it?

"I don't regret fostering alongside becoming parents or being relatively young," Richard added.

"My children love our current placement like a brother and they are learning that not every child has the same upbringing, which I think is great education.

"If you are thinking about it, talk it though with loved ones and understand the full implications. Be prepared for your life to change and accept that your family's life will never be the same again."

Could you foster?

There are lots of different fostering opportunities available to suit different family situations, whether long-term, short-term, specialist, or respite care for people who can't commit full-time.

Contact the fostering service to find out more:
01275 888 999

www.n-somerset.gov.uk/fostering

fostering@n-somerset.gov.uk

 /fosteringnorthsomerset





Commuters go green travelwest

Green travel is high on the agenda for companies across North Somerset who want to promote healthy lifestyles for their staff.

North Somerset Council runs a range of initiatives to encourage sustainable travel for commuting and business, including the Big Commuter Challenge and Travel to Work survey.

Design consultancy firm Harmsen Tilney Shane, based in Flax Bourton, has taken advantage of these initiatives.

Delyth Williams, from the firm, said: "The Big Commuting Challenge was a perfect platform to get everyone engaged and enthused.

"We encourage staff to leave their cars at home and consider commuting to work in a more sustainable way, and it was always going to be challenging.

"We had people car sharing, cycling, running and using public transport which is great considering our offices are located in the countryside."

The company also received a match-funded grant to install an electric charging point for their fleet vehicle, and are currently borrowing an electric bike from the council to give staff the opportunity to try it out.

Bike racks and shower facilities are also provided to encourage anyone who can to cycle or run into work.

Delyth added: "We appreciate this takes a bit of advanced planning but it is met with positivity and taken up when the weather is a little warmer."

A passenger payment scheme has also been set up to encourage car sharing to meetings.

Delyth said: "This is a great platform for us to build on and we look forward to really reducing our carbon footprint in future."

Earlier this year North Somerset Council successfully bid for £415,000 from the Department for Transport's Sustainable Travel Transition Year fund.

This money will be used to continue the good work it is already doing to promote sustainable travel alternatives to businesses, schools and to new and existing communities.

www.travelwest.info/businesses/north-somerset





Give your taste buds a treat

Enjoy fresh local produce, fine dining and tasty treats during a popular food festival in Weston this month.

Weston-super-Food Festival returns on Saturday 17 and Sunday 18 September to its new venue at the Tropicana on the seafront.

Both indoor and outdoor markets will feature more than 150 stands, with everything from venison and wild game to cheese, wine, cakes, liqueurs and other specialist and award-winning products.

This year's festival features a new Eat and Be Food experience theatre with hands-on workshops, producer showcases, tasting experiences and cookery demonstrations by professional chefs, including Josh Eggleton from the Michelin-starred gastropub Pony and Trap.

Food-themed circus skills, smoothie bikes and street theatre can also be seen, along with food science from At Bristol and entertainment in the live music marquee.

Tasty snacks and meals will be available to buy from many gourmet street food stalls. Choose from genuine Basque catering, Japanese sushi, Mediterranean, French, Indian and Thai cuisine, as well as traditional West Country catering.

Popular foodie celebrity Mike Smylie will make a return with Kipperland, where he will show visitors how to prepare fish from his on-site smokery.

You could then buy fresh shellfish from the Dorset coast or trout from a local BioAqua farm.

In the children's and family area, Tractor Ted will make an appearance with a giant bouncy tractor and visitors will have chance to see some smaller farm animals up close.



Competitions will include the tasty Weston-super-Bake Off and a wacky knitted fruit and vegetable competition.

Elsewhere, a large edible festival garden will take place in the Town Square, off the High Street.

Here you will find a kitchen garden nursery, green woodworking demonstrations, plant sales and inspiration and advice about growing delicious produce at home.

Weston super Food Festival runs from 10am to 6pm on Saturday 17, and 10am to 5pm on Sunday 18 September. www.westonsuperfoodfestival.co.uk



Follow in the footsteps of poets

Follow in the footsteps of poets on this short, circular, coastal path in Clevedon.



Walk information

Distance:
About 1.5 miles

Difficulty:
fairly easy – the route is short but there are lots of woody paths and steps. Wear suitable footwear.

Duration:
About an hour at a very leisurely pace

Map:
OS Explorer 153

How to get there

Start at map ref: ST 397710

Car:
Pay and display car park at Salthouse Fields, or park considerably on the road.

Poets' Walk is a little over a mile in length but the area includes a wealth of features, including limestone grassland, woodland, a rich diversity of wildlife, an Iron Age fort, Second World War shelter, and stunning views across the Bristol Channel.

The site is managed by North Somerset Council with help from the Friends of Poets' Walk volunteer group and, thanks to their hard work, some old footpaths have recently been opened up.

Poets' Walk is a tranquil route around Church Hill and Wain's Hill.

Its name is a reference to the English poets Samuel Taylor Coleridge and Alfred Tennyson, who visited Clevedon and were inspired by the time they spent there.

Start this walk at Marine Lake, which underwent an £850,000 restoration last year.

Take the stone steps up into the woodland and turn onto the right-hand path. This path leads to a view point at the end, a big stone circle.

Turn left up some steps and continue to the lookout. This was built in about 1835 by Ferdinand Beeston, then owner of the Salt House. It is known as the Sugar Lookout.

After a few yards take the second path on your left, and then follow the zigzag path immediately on your right, up through the woodland.



The Friends of Poets' Walk meet at 2pm every Thursday to carry out a range of activities, including litter picking, scrub management, path clearance and scything the ramparts on Wain's Hill in the summer.

Tools and insurance are provided by North Somerset Council.

Everyone is welcome. Call Angela for more information: 01275 873 974
www.clevedonconservationvolunteers.org



The Friends of Poets' Walk, with help from the Woodcutters for Wildlife volunteer group, have focussed on repairing and reopening historic pathways.

This zigzag path is one that has recently been restored to allow access up the side of Church Hill.

Follow this path to the top of the hill and you will come to an iron cross bollard. This originally marked the top of the (then fenced) zigzag path and prevented grazing cattle from wandering onto the path.

From here, take the right-hand path which leads back downhill. You will pass the Tennyson posts on your left, a sculpture erected in 1994 which includes lines from Tennyson's poem In Memoriam A.H.H.

Ahead of you will be views of St. Andrew's Church, which viewers of ITV's Broadchurch will recognise.

Continue down the path and at the junction with the formal path, take a sharp right and then a left, following the signpost to the Iron Age earthworks.

This paved path runs around the peninsular and was constructed in 1929.

Near the end of Wain's Hill, leave the formal path to take the zigzag woodland trail to your right. This leads out onto the road so go past the cottages, allotments and town cemetery.

Turn left up to St Andrew's Church and, after passing the front of the church, take the right-hand path, signposted to Salthouse Fields.

Continue on the paved path until you see a woodland trail going up on your left. Follow this trail until you get to some woodland steps, which then lead you back down towards Marine Lake. Or keep straight on to return via the lookout.





LOCAL EVENTS

September

Saturday 10

Winscombe Michaelmas Fair
1.45pm, Winscombe Community Centre. Fruit and veg, flowers and craft/baking entries, and an afternoon fair.

Sunday 11

Model Train Show
10am, The Campus, Locking Castle, Weston-super-Mare. The largest one-day show in the South West, raising funds for Weston Hospicecare and the Castle Kids Club. 01934 425 075 www.weston-supermaretrainshow.com

Saturday 17

Mendip Society walk around Burrington Ham Meet 2pm outside The Burrington Inn. About 5 miles with a moderate climb. 01275 848 052

Saturday 17 and Sunday 18

North Somerset Vintage Tractor Club Steam Up 10am, Birches Farm, Cambridge Batch, Flax Bourton. Displays of vintage tractors, cars, motor bikes, steam engines, etc. Demonstrations of horse ploughing, dry stone walling and hedging. Saturday evening entertainment from the Redhillbillies. 07769 977 198 or 01278 671 784. www.nvtec-north-somerset.org

English Civil War battle and encampment The Helicopter Museum, Locking Moor Road, Weston-super-Mare. Musket drills in the morning and a pitched battle in the afternoon. Adults £10.75, children £5.75. 01934 635 227. www.helicoptermuseum.co.uk/events



Tuesday 20

Clevedon Music Club concert season begins Teignmouth Room, Clevedon Community Centre. Enjoy eight concerts for £48, or half the season for £26.50. Admission to individual concerts is £8 on the door. For more details phone 01275 879 099 or 875 262

Friday 23 – Sunday 25

Clevedon Tides Festival Marine Lake, Salthouse Fields, Clevedon. An annual event organised by Marlens to celebrate the lake. Music, arts and crafts, family activities and events in the water. Free entry. www.clevedontides.co.uk

Thursday 29

Bridge Lessons for Beginners 2pm, Winscombe Bridge Club. 10 weekly two-hour lessons. £45. To book call 01275 540604 or www.winbridge.org.uk

October

Sunday 1

Coffee morning 10am-noon, Hutton Village Hall. In aid of Weston Hospicecare
Nicholas McCarthy: One-handed pianist 7.30pm, St John's Church, Church Lane, Churchill. Champions of Churchill Music! £12, non-champions £16, under 18s £4, from 01934 852 919 or info@churchillmusic.org.uk

Monday 3

Friends of Trendlewood Park illustrated presentation 7.30pm, Tithe Barn, Church Lane, Nailsea. Local photographer Andrew Town, showcasing wildlife images from Nailsea's Trendlewood Park. £3 entry (inc refreshments). www.friendsoftrendlewood-park.org.uk

Friday 7 – Sunday 9

HydroGarden Weston Beach Race Beach, Weston-super-Mare. 34th annual beach race. Giant mountains of sand are formed into a difficult track. www.rhactivities.com

Saturday 8 and Sunday 9

Chew Valley Arts Trail 10am and 6pm, 22 venues open across the valley for browsing and buying, including St Andrew's Church in Blagdon, the Prince of Waterloo in Winford, and Rickford. www.chewvalleyartstrail.co.uk or 01275 333 128

Saturday 8

Mendip Society walk around Banwell 2pm, in free car park opposite school on main road. A 5-mile walk to Banwell Hill and through Christon Wood. 01934 820 745

Saturday 15

Charity Christmas Card Sale 9.30am-noon, Abbots Leigh Village Hall. Free admission. Coffee and homemade cakes. 01275 374 523

Friday 28

All Sixties Night featuring **The Berries** 8pm, Weston-super-Mare Football Club, Winterstoke Road. In aid of Weston Hospicecare. Tickets £10. 01934 522 511, 01934 621 618 or 01934 423 960



MUSIC

Mondays

Portishead in Harmony (E)(women only) 10.30am-12pm, The Folk Hall, Portishead High Street. £5 per session. www.wendysergeant.vpweb.co.uk, 01275 814 220
Clevedon A Cappella (E)(women only) 1.15-2.45pm, Kenn Road Methodist Church, Clevedon. £5 per session. www.wendysergeant.vpweb.co.uk, 01275 814 220

Afternoon singing group (fortnightly) 2-4pm, St Jude's Hall, St Peter's Church, Baytree Road, Worle. 01934 413 571

Mixed Company Community Choir (E) 7.30-9.30pm, Golden Valley Primary School, Nailsea. £6 per session with free taster

Clevedon Choral Society (E) 7.15 pm, Methodist Church Hall, Kenn Road, Clevedon. www.clevedonchoralsociety.org.uk

Clevedon Light Opera Club (E) 7.30pm (Juniors Thu 7pm) Princes Hall, Clevedon Community Centre. 01275 791 556

Vocalise Choir (E) 7.30-9.30pm, United Reform Church, Waterloo Street, Weston. £5 inc refreshments. 01934 627 709

Clevedon Players (and Wed, Fri)(leading up to a play) 7.30-10pm, the Stables, behind Princes Hall, Princes Road, Clevedon. 01275 853 975

RAFA Concert Band (E) 8pm, Blakehay Theatre, Weston-super-Mare. www.rafaconcertband.org.uk 01934 820 205

Footlights Community Choir 8-9:30pm, Community Hall, Trinity School, Portishead. No experience necessary.

Tuesdays

A Musical Tea Time (2) 2-4pm, Lady of Lourdes Church Hall, Milton, Weston-super-Mare, £1.50 inc tea/cake. 01934 413 571

Cadbury Wind Band (E)(term time only) 7.15-9.15pm, Yatton Rugby Football Club. 01275 792 300

Lyrical Ladies Choir (E) 7.20-8.20pm, Nailsea School. £4 per session. 07722 298 550, gillatkinson15@blueyonder.co.uk

Waves of Harmony (E) 7.30pm, Victoria Methodist Church Hall, Station Road, Weston-super-Mare. Women's 4-part acapella group. 01934 643 823. www.wavesofharmony.co.uk

Cheddar Male Choir (E) 7.30pm, Draycott Village Hall. New members welcome. www.cheddarmvchoir.co.uk



Winscombe Community Choir (E) 7.30pm, Winscombe Primary School, Moorham Road. www.winscombemusiccommunitychoir.org.uk

Campus Choir (E) 7.30-9pm, The Campus, Locking Castle, Weston-super-Mare. 01934 832 283. www.singoutlouduk.com

Weston Choral Society (E) (term time only) 7.30pm, Milton Methodist Church Hall, Milton Hill, Weston-super-Mare. 01934 813 255

Clevedon Music Club (3) 7.30pm, Community Centre, Princes Road. Classical concerts by professional musicians. £8 per concert on the door. 01275 879 099

Nailsea Choral Society (E) 7.30pm, Vestry Hall, Christ Church, Nailsea. 01275 875 533 www.nailseachoral.org.uk

Trinity Singers (E) 7.30pm, Churchill Primary School, Pudding Pie Lane, Langford. www.trinitysingers.co.uk 01934 415 301

Portishead Town Band (E) 7.45pm, Methodist Church Hall, High Street. New players welcome. 07816 544 474, 01275 818 575

Pill Community Choir (E) 7.45-9.15pm, Pill Community Centre. £5 per session or £4 if paying for a term. Free taster session. www.wendysergeant.vpweb.co.uk, 01275 814 220

Congresbury Singers (E) 7.50pm, Old School Rooms, Congresbury. 01934 876 104

Samba Drumming (E) 8-10pm, All Saint's Church Hall, All Saint's Lane, Clevedon. Beginners welcome, £6 with free taster session. 01275 545 714

Weston Brass Band (E) (and Thu) 8pm, Church Road Methodist Church, Upper Church Road, Weston-super-Mare. 01934 842 461

Nailsea Folk Club (2) Grove Sports Centre, Nailsea. (4) Prince of Orange Inn, Yatton. All musicians and singers welcome. 01275 857 784

Wednesdays

Clevedon Ladies Choir (E)(September-June) 2.15-3.30pm, St Peter's Church Hall, Alexandra Road. £25 per year. 01275 876 131 or 01275 858 246

Juke Box Ukulele Club (E) 6.30-8 pm, St Mark's Primary School, Worle. £5 per session. All abilities welcome. 07870 788457

Upstaged Drama Group (E during term time) 7-8.30pm, Theatre in the Hut. Sessions and workshops for 16 to 25-year-olds. upstaged@hotmail.com

Weston Music Appreciation Society (A) 7.30pm, St Jude's Hall, Baytree Road. 01934 814 732

Somerset Singers (E) 7.30pm, Meeting House, Sidcot School, Sidcot. 01934 743 965

Yatton Ladies Choir (E) 7.30-8.30pm, Yatton Infants School. £4 per session. 07722 298 550, gillatkinson15@blueyonder.co.uk

Harmony Plus Choir (E) 7.45-9pm, Emmanuel Church, Weston. 01934 629 112

Footlights Community Choir 7.45-9.15pm, Community Entrance, Nailsea School, Mizzymeard Road. No experience necessary. 07818 065 015 footlightsperformance@gmail.com



Portishead Community Choir (E) 8-9.30pm, Avon Way Hall, Portishead. £5 per session or £4 if paying for a term. Free taster session. www.wendysergeant.vpweb.co.uk, 01275 814 220

Thursdays

Music Is Fun (E) (babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers) Methodist Church, Nailsea. 30 min session £3, 40 min session £3.40. 07722 298 550, gillatkinson15@blueyonder.co.uk

Singing Mums Choir (E) 7.10-8.10pm, Nailsea School. £4 per session. 07722 298 550, gillatkinson15@blueyonder.co.uk

The Baytree Singers (E) 7.30-9.30pm, St Jude's Hall, St Peter's Church, Baytree Road, Worle. No experience necessary.

Portishead Choral Society (E) 7.30 pm, St Joseph's Catholic Church, West Hill, Portishead. 01275 849 278

Cantiamo Ladies Choir (A)(grade 8+ musicians only) 8.15-9.30pm, Nailsea School. £5 per session. 07722 298 550, gillatkinson15@blueyonder.co.uk

Weston Organ and Keyboard Club (1) 7.30pm, Somerset Suite, Weston Football Club. £5 members, £6 non-members. 01934 812 759

Worle Community Choir (E) 7.30pm, Becket Primary School, Tavistock Road, Worle. New members welcome. 07972 909 939

Muskrafs Jazz Band (1) 8.30pm, Clarence House, High Street, Portishead. £3. Bar and dancing, all welcome. 01275 814 434

Traditional jazz night (2) 8.30pm, Salthouse pub, Clevedon. Resident band, the Dixieland Rascals. Free entry

Fridays

Singing for Pleasure (E) – 20-week course starts 26 Sept) 1.30-3pm, Tickenham Village Hall. 01934 512 669

Singtastics Junior Choir (E)(Y3-Y7) 3.40-4.30pm, Hannah More School, Nailsea. £3 per session. 07722 298 550, gillatkinson15@blueyonder.co.uk

Lions Brass 4 Youth (E) 5.30pm/6.15-7.45pm, 1st Clevedon Scout Hall. County brass band. 07815 733 886

Weston Youth Orchestra (E) 6-7pm (8-12 yrs), 7-9pm (12-20 yrs). Boulevard United Reformed Church, Weston-super-Mare. 01934 622 519 or 07787 520 230

Male Choir (E) 7.30-9pm, Victoria Methodist Hall, Weston-super-Mare. 01934 529 728

North Somerset Community Brass Band (E) 7.30-9.30pm, Puxton and Hewish Village Hall. 01275 397 582

Congresbury Brass Band (E) 7.30-9.30pm, Methodist Church Hall, Congresbury. 01275 849 611 / 07986 007 829

Clevedon Gilbert and Sullivan Society (E) 7.30-10pm, St Peter's Church Hall, Alexandra Road, Clevedon. New members welcome. 01934 838 713

Nailsea Concert Orchestra (E)(term time only) 7.30pm, Nailsea Methodist Church. www.nailseaconcertorchestra.org

West Mendip Orchestra (E)(term time only) 7.45-10pm, Lynch Chapel, Winscombe. 01275 463 480

Harmony Plus Brass (E) 7.45pm, Emmanuel Church, Weston. 01934 629 112

Nailsea Theatre Club (E) 8pm, Nailsea Little Theatre, Union Street. 01275 852 275 (Box office: 07772 981 037)

Saturdays

Pret A Chanter Ladies Choir (A) 9.30-11.30am, Southfield Church, Nailsea. £8 per session. 07722 298 550, gillatkinson15@blueyonder.co.uk

Cadbury Saxophone Band (A) 10.15am-12.30pm in Clevee/Yatton. 01934 830 072 or www.cadburysaxband.co.uk

Sundays

Barley Rye choir (E) 6.30-8.30pm (winter) 7-9pm (summer), Ring o' Bells, Nailsea. New members welcome. 01454 411 052



DANCE

Mondays

DB's Dance Club (E) 10-11am, Clevedon Community Centre. Line dancing. 01275 854 375

Ballroom and sequence beginners dance lessons (E) 10am-noon, Corpus Cristi church hall, Weston. 01934 510 749

Latin and jive – next step/improvers (E) 1.30-3.15pm, St Peter's Hall, Clevedon. £5. 01275 876 314

Egyptian Bellydance (E)(term time only) 7.30-8.30pm, Dance Studio, Nailsea School, Nailsea. 01275 855 016

Easy Strollers line dancing (E) 7-8pm (intermediate), 8-9pm (improvers), Clevedon Triangle Club, Old Church Road. 01275 875 235

Social dancing (E) 8-10pm, St Marks Church, St Marks Road, Worle. 01934 644 691

Portishead Square Dancers (E) 8-10pm, Folk Hall, Portishead. 01275 817 964 £2.50 each class

Tuesdays

Social Morning with Historic and Country Dancing to Live Music (E) 9.30-11.30am, Folk Hall, Portishead. £2 per person. 01275 847 909

Movement to Music (E) 10-11am, Methodist Church, Portishead. 07899 754 937

DB's Dance Club social tea dance (E) 2.30-5pm, Clevedon Community Centre. 01275 854 375

Avon Dance Club (E) 8-10pm, Somerset Hall, Portishead. Ballroom and Latin practice night. 01934 823 128

Backwell Sequence Dance Club (E) 8-10.15pm, WI Hall, Backwell. £3 per person. 07710 460 550

Weston Folk Dance Club (E) 8-10pm, Corpus Christi Church Hall, Weston-super-Mare. 01934 514 226

Brazilian carnival style dance with live drummers (E) 8-10pm, All Saint's Hall Clevedon. Call 07780 641 427

Portishead LeRoc (E) 8-10.30pm, Portishead Primary School, Station Road. Modern jive. 07909 063 624 heather@portisheadleroc.com

Ceroc dance lessons (E) 8-11pm, Banwell Village Hall. www.cerocbeat.net, cerocbeat@outlook.com

Ballroom and sequence (E) 8-11pm, Town and Country Lodge, Bridgwater Road. 0117 9778 200

Wednesdays

Easy Strollers line dancing (E) improvers 9.15-10.15am, 1st Clevedon Scout Hall, Great Western Road. 01275 875 235

DB's Dance Club line dancing (E) 10.45-11.45am, Clevedon Community Centre. 01275 854 375

Sequence tea dance (E) 2-4pm, Avonway Hall, Portishead. 01934 644 745

Latin and jive - absolute beginners (E) 7-8.15pm and 'next steps' from 8.30pm. (Also Thurs 2-3.45pm) St Peter's Church Hall, Clevedon. £5. 01275 876 314

Easy Strollers line dancing (E) beginners 7-8pm, 2nd Clevedon Scout Hall, Coleridge Vale Road North

Abanico Salsa Classes (E) 7.30-10:30pm (3 classes, beginners to improvers), Clevedon Triangle Club. Call in advance: 07971 565 406

50s and 60s rock 'n' roll (E) 8pm-late, Tavern Inn the Town, Regent Street, Weston-super-Mare. 01934 412 826

Thursdays

Easy Strollers line dancing (E) 9.15-10.15am (improvers) 10.20-11.20am (intermediate) 1st Clevedon Scout Hall. 01275 875 235

New and Old Sequence dance class (E) 10.30am-12.30pm, Kewstoke Village Hall. 07437 203 642

DB's Dance Club line dancing (E) 11am-1pm, Folk Hall, Portishead. 01275 854 375

Weekly Sequence Dance Club (E) 2-4.30pm, Claverham Village Hall. 01275 851 221

Egyptian Bellydance (E)(term time only) 7.30-8.30pm, Castle Batch Community Centre, Bishops Avenue. 01275 855 016

Nailsea Le Roc (E) 8-10.30pm, Scotch Horn Leisure Centre, Nailsea. Beginners/intermediates. £6. 07816 649 077

Fridays

Ballroom, Latin and sequence dancing (E) 2-4.30pm, Kewstoke Village Hall. 07437 203 642

T&A Burlesque (E) 6-7pm, Victory Hall, Uphill, Weston-super-Mare. 01934 627 122 or 07732 799 918

North Somerset Intercultural Dancing Association (E) 7.45-9.30pm, Nailsea Methodist Church, Silver Street. Free admission. 01275 854 366

Clevedon Sequence Dance Club (E) 7.45-10.30pm, Walton St Mary's Church Hall. 01275 847 293

Social dance (1) 8-11.30pm, Somerset Hall, Portishead. £5. 01275 831 884

Streetdance (2)(4) 7-8.30pm, Claverham Village Hall. For 8-15-year-olds. 01934 838 017

Social dance (4) 8-10.30pm, St. James Hall, Winscombe. £4. 01934 516 852

Saturdays

Chelis Theatre Company (E) 2-5pm St. Saviours Church Hall, Weston-super-Mare. Drama, dance and singing for 6-18-year-olds. 01934 625 301

Sundays

Avon Dance Club Tea Dance (Monthly) 3-6pm, Somerset Hall Portishead. 01934 823 128

Ballroom and sequence (E) 7.30-10pm, Kewstoke Village Hall. 07437 203 642

Social dancing (E) 7.30-10.30pm, Hutton Moor Leisure Centre, Weston-super-Mare. £5. 01934 518 529 www.westonsocialdancing.co.uk





Celebrate local food, drink, arts and crafts

Tasty food and unique crafts will be on show during a popular annual event to showcase North Somerset's best local food producers, artists and craftspeople.

The sixth annual Made in North Somerset Showcase, organised by North Somerset Council, is a market of some of the most talented food and drink producers and art and craft businesses in the area.

Visitors will have the chance to sample, buy and talk to the 47 stallholders at the event, which takes place from 10am to 4pm on Saturday 1 and Sunday 2 October, at the National Trust Tyntesfield estate in Wraxall.

There will also be music, theatre, storytelling and hands-on activities during the weekend.

Entrance to the market is free. Normal charges apply to the house and grounds. Car parking is £3 per vehicle, per day (free for National Trust members).

www.innorthsomerset.co.uk/madein

[@madeinnsomerset](https://twitter.com/madeinnsomerset)

[TimeOutInNorthSomerset](https://www.facebook.com/TimeOutInNorthSomerset)



Disclaimer

North Somerset Council is co-ordinating the Made in North Somerset Showcase but is not responsible for any acts or omissions by any individual businesses involved in this event. It does not accept any liability for any accident, injury or illness arising from visits to the event. Contact The National Trust Tyntesfield about accessibility. All information correct at the time of printing.

Photography by Liz Milner lizmilner.wordpress.com

The Stallholders

SATURDAY

Barbara Langdon

www.onenear.com/barbara-langdon

Organic wheat bags and cushions made using hand printed organic cottons.

Big Sky Textiles

www.bigskytiles.co.uk

Unique hand-spun yarns and hand-woven textiles, using British wool and other natural fibres.

Dragonfly Jewellery

www.dragonflyjewelleryandbeads.co.uk

Unique jewellery and glass designs, using silver, copper and glass beads.



SATURDAY & SUNDAY

Abigail Mill

www.abigailmill.co.uk

Original framed and unframed embroideries, prints and handmade cards, kits and embroidered jewellery.

Aldwick Court Farm and Vineyard

www.aldwickcourtfarm.co.uk

Producer of award-winning English wine, from hand selected grapes.

Amy R Lee Jewellery Design

www.amyrllee.co.uk

Silver and gold jewellery, from conception to completion, completely by hand.

Banwell Pottery Brandon Trust

www.banwellpottery.org

Part of the Brandon Trust, a UK charity supporting people with learning disabilities and autism.



Get Noticed

www.facebook.com/getnoticedbycarol

Fabric items including cushions, cards, bunting, and bags.

JoeJoe Handmade & Missycards

www.etsy.com/JoeJoeHandmade

www.missycards.co.uk

Missycards – unique handmade cards and framed gifts.

JoeJoe Handmade hand-sewn gifts.

Moonlight Jewellery

www.moonlight-jewellery.com

Individual one-of-a-kind glass beads and unique jewellery pieces.

Rugs of Art

Unique latch-hooked rugs with pure wool pieces or recycled T-shirts.

Viva's Beadbox

www.vivasbeadboxjewellery.weebly.com

Colourful, pleasurable bead jewellery enhanced by the shapes, colours and textures of Agates, Jaspers, Lava and more.

Willow Basketry

A basketmaker, entranced by the properties and colour of willow.



Chew Moo's

Ice Cream Company

www.chewmoos.co.uk

Artisan ice-cream from their pedigree Guernsey cows.

CJ's Home Baking

Old fashioned baking, sweet and savoury goodies. Range of gluten and wheat free.

Claire Hall Glass

www.clairhallglass.co.uk

Original fused glass jewellery and sculptural vessels from a studio in Backwell.

Clevedon Craft Centre

www.clevedoncraftcentre.co.uk

Jewellery, pottery, leatherwork, mosaic art, illustration and more.

Coburg Crafts

www.coburgcrafts.co.uk

Affordable, handmade jewellery and accessories.

FELTbyFI

www.facebook.com/FELTbyFI

Handmade felt work, including pictures, brooches, trinket pouches and jewellery.



Great British Country Preserves

Traditionally-made artisan chutneys, marmalades, jams and jellies.

Hand painted Stuff

www.facebook.com/handpaintedstuff

Old handpainted furniture with birds, leaves and flowers.

Images by Simon

www.imagesbysimon.co.uk

Local landscape photographer displaying and selling cards, limited edition prints and framed prints.



Lolly and Moo

www.lollyandmoo.co.uk

Stunning soy wax candles and melts, and bath products too.

Lucy Routh Art

www.lucyrouth.co.uk

Inspired by nature, her distinctive style is bold and vibrant yet simplistic.

Renee Kilburn Ceramics

www.reneekilburn.com

A ceramic artist, hand-modelling stoneware pieces for the home and garden.

RT Bear

www.rtbear.co.uk

Decorative and functional porcelain pottery.

Somerset Charcuterie

www.somersetcharcuterie.com

Embracing traditional Italian and Spanish methods, combining them with the rich food culture of the West Country.

Sutton Ridge Vineyard

www.facebook.com/Sutton-Ridge-Vineyard

Producer of award-winning English wine.

The Story Group

www.storybutchers.co.uk

Organic beef and lamb burgers, sausages and bacon baps.

Trethowan's Dairy

www.gorwydd.co.uk

Makers of Gorwydd Caerphilly, an award-winning unpasteurised cows' milk cheese handmade to a traditional recipe, using milk from Puxton Court Farm.

Twisted Oak

www.twistedoakbrewery.co.uk

A family-run business situated on a working farm.

Whitegates Apple Juice

Producers of single variety apple juices, a pear juice and traditional cider.

Wight & Wight

www.wightandwight.co.uk

Individual silver and copper jewellery; colourful fused glass, nunofelt scarves and leather goods.

Winnies Bakery Ltd

Bread, cakes, pastries, rolls and flavoured breads.

Wood 'n' Things

www.woodnthings-uk.com

Beautiful unusual mirrors in Cleve depicting tree silhouettes and landscapes.



SUN

Barley Wood Walled Kitchen Garden

www.walledgarden.co.uk

Organic vegetables grown in Barley Wood Walled Garden, Wrington.



Carolyn Jewellery

www.carolynjewellery.co.uk

Hand-crafted silver jewellery using traditional techniques.

Jacklands Fishing Lakes

www.facebook.com/JacklandsFishingLakes

Trout and coarse fishery and farm shop.

Jewellery by Jo

www.jewellerybyjo.co.uk

Affordable yet pretty sterling silver and gemstone jewellery.

Marcela's Purse

www.marcelaspurse.co.uk

Handbags and purses to complement any style, and assorted crafts.

Mayringues

www.mayringues.co.uk

Unique handmade meringue and marshmallow products with no additives or preservatives.

Serious Treats

www.serious treats.co.uk

Award-winning chocolate brownies.

Stephanie Eastwood Floral Design

www.stephanieeastwood.co.uk

Floral designs incorporating locally grown flowers and foliage.

West Country Wood Design

www.westcountrywooddesign.co.uk

A bespoke service for designing and making pieces of furniture to fit your exact requirements.

The Wicked Chilli

www.thewickedchilli.co.uk

Locally produced original chilli sauces made from their own fresh chillies.



Jammy Picklers

www.facebook.com/thejammypicklers

Homemade preserves – jams, chutney, pickles and cordials.

Jane's Flower Pots

Ready-planted baskets, planters and hanging baskets etc, for all seasons.

John Smythe – Beekeeper

Honey and sections produced from nectar which bees have gathered from flowers around Blagdon.

Julia's Sewing Room

Quality fabric home accessories and gifts.

KS Woodwork

www.kswoodwork.co.uk

Woodturned and hand crafted designs for the home, gifts and special occasions.

Mr T. G. Pullin's Bakery

www.pullinsbakery.co.uk

For generations the Pullin family has made award-winning artisan bread using locally milled flour and craft skill.

Mydsomer Studio

www.mydsomer.co.uk

Handmade, affordable fused glass. Silver plated pendants, earrings, brooches, rings, cufflinks.

Pear Tree Arts

www.buddybird.co.uk

A beautiful hand crafted range of ceramics, mugs, jugs, bowls and yarn/knitting bowls.





Crematorium to mark 50th anniversary



Remember a loved one at Weston-super-Mare's crematorium this month during an open day to mark its 50th anniversary.

The site, in Ebdon Road, will open to the public on Saturday 10 September.

Visitors can have a tour around the crematorium and grounds, search the records for family history information, find out about memorial options and take part in a special service to remember loved ones who have been laid to rest.

The first cremation at the site took place on 7 February 1966, but the first burial didn't happen until August 1968 as there was already a cemetery in the town and many more open churchyards than today.

The crematorium was under local authority control until North Somerset Council transferred the service to Dignity in 2010.

Since then, Dignity has spent more than £2m refurbishing and extending the chapel and public areas, extending the crematory machine and installing mercury abatement equipment.

Plans for an extension to the cemetery and memorial gardens, and additional car parking, were approved by the council earlier this year.

The free open day runs from 11am to 3pm on Saturday 10 September. The memorial service is at 1.30pm.

For more information call the crematorium Office:
01934 510 608
www.dignityfunerals.co.uk

Putting North Somerset on the map



Historical maps of North Somerset will soon be freely available online for the first time.



Free digital mapping project Know Your Place West of England allows users to explore the heritage of their local area through old maps, archive images and linked information.

The service launched in Bristol in 2011 and over the last few months has extended to include South Gloucestershire, Gloucestershire and Wiltshire.

North Somerset will be added this autumn, along with Bath and North East Somerset, and Somerset.

Historic Environment Record data is available alongside the maps to provide a valuable research tool for everyone interested in local history.

Visitors will be able to upload and share their own information about the area to help build a rich and diverse community map and discover how North Somerset has transformed over time.

The website - www.kypwest.org.uk - will continue to grow as more resources are added, including enclosure and tithe maps, and drawings and photographs from archive and museum collections.

It also features an accompanying blog to follow the project's progress.

The Know Your Place West of England project was awarded £379,800 by the Heritage Lottery Fund, with match-funding and in-kind support from local authorities and heritage groups across the region.

Driving out



in North Somerset

Hate crime can have devastating effects on individuals and communities so victims or witnesses are being urged to report any incidents to help drive it out.



National Hate Crime Awareness Week runs from Saturday 8 to Saturday 15 October and members of umbrella group RHINS (Responding to Hate Incidents in North Somerset) will be setting-up displays and holding drop-in sessions to mark the week.

RHINS includes representatives from North Somerset Council, Avon and Somerset Police, SARI (Stand Against Racism and Inequality), EACH (Education Action Challenging Homophobia), North Somerset People First, and Citizens Advice North Somerset.

So what is hate crime?

Hate crime is any crime that is targeted at a person because of hostility or prejudice.

This might be because of the person's disability, race or ethnicity, religion or belief, sexual orientation or transgender identity.

It can be committed against a person or property and anyone could be a victim, even if they are not a member of the group at which the hostility is targeted.

Alex* said: "I was born and raised in Weston-super-Mare and I love living here but I am often the victim of verbal abuse from people who I've never met before.

"People mimic how I walk and think this is funny because they laugh at me.

"They don't realise how much this can affect someone's life, being made fun of just because of who you are is cruel. We are all different and we all have feelings."

Alex has now received support from learning disability charity North Somerset People First to help regain his confidence.

* not his real name

He said: "I have made new friends and now we support each other. When people make fun of me now it doesn't upset me, I just feel sorry for them because they don't know any better."

Following the EU referendum result in June, there were increased reports of hate crime across the country, including a slight rise in the Avon and Somerset police area.

Detective superintendent Will White, from Avon and Somerset Police, said: "Hate crime can have a devastating impact on victims and their quality of life; it divides communities and neighbourhoods.

"We will always support anyone who is victimised and work closely with all communities to stamp out crimes motivated by prejudice and hate. If you or someone you know is a victim please don't hesitate to call us."

North Somerset Council condemns any form of hate crime and, at the last full council meeting, councillors unanimously agreed a motion to ensure local bodies have the support and resources they need to fight and prevent it.

Howard Potheary, community safety manager at North Somerset Council, said: "Reporting makes a difference – to you, your friends, and your community.

"By reporting hate crime when it happens, you can help stop it happening to someone else. So please report it if you are a victim or you witness it taking place.

"You will also help the police to better understand the level of hate crime in your local area, and improve the way they respond to it."

Michelle Burnett, chief executive of North Somerset People First and member of RHINS, said:

"Members of the RHINS group feel that a positive and proactive way to combat hate crime is working together.

"We need local communities to look out for one another, particularly those who are more vulnerable than ourselves.

"If you see an incident or behaviour that you think is, or could be, a hate crime, please don't ignore it, report it."

Representatives from a range of organisations will be available to talk to members of the public during Hate Crime Awareness Week, which runs from Saturday 8 to Saturday 15 October.

Visit the stand in the Town Hall, in Weston-super-Mare, from Monday to Friday if you would like advice or to report a hate crime.

Victims of Hate crime will also be there to talk about their experiences.

A roadshow will also be travelling throughout the area...

- Saturday 8 - Rainbow Café, based in Cameo bar, Walliscote Road, Weston-super-Mare
- Monday 10 - The Campus, Locking Castle (morning)
- Tuesday 11 – Weston College Knightstone Campus (10am-1pm)
- Wednesday 12 – For All Healthy Living Centre (9am-12.30pm) and Big Lamp Corner in Weston (1.30-4.30pm)
- Thursday 13 and Friday 14 – school visits.

For more information, or to discuss how you could become involved in Hate Crime Awareness Week, email CSDCommunity@n-somerset.gov.uk



Report a hate incident online at www.n-somerset.gov.uk/hatereport or call Council Connect: 01934 888 801
Call 999 in an emergency or the police on 101 in a non-emergency.

New recycling and waste contract starts next year



Improvements will come to North Somerset's recycling and waste service next year when a new contractor takes over.

Biffa has been appointed to take over the area's household recycling and waste collections and run its recycling centres for the next seven years, from 1 March next year.

The service will stay mostly the same but with some key improvements.

These include an increase in the amount of materials you can recycle, the introduction of different coloured recycling boxes, better reuse services so old items can find a new lease of life, improved recycling facilities for flats, and using bins for garden waste collections.

Since the current contract began in 2010, North Somerset Council has become one of the top performing councils in the country for recycling.

The amount of residual waste generated by each household is now half of what it was in 2006 and well below the national average.

The recycling rate in the area has also increased from 21 per cent in 2005 to 58 per cent in 2015/16.

This has reduced the cost of sending waste to landfill by about £11m over the same period.

Satisfaction among residents is also high, with the service gaining between 87 and 91 per cent in residents' surveys.

North Somerset Council is committed to ensuring that these high levels of customer satisfaction are maintained under the new contract.

Life takes a look at what the new contract will look like...

Recycling collections from the kerbside

Collections from the kerbside will remain largely unchanged.

In addition to the materials currently collected, small waste electrical items (up to the size of a small toaster) will now be collected by crews.

A second different coloured box will also be introduced to help residents separate their materials.

New boxes will not be rolled out immediately but will be made available when residents request additional or replacement containers.

Recycling and food waste will remain a weekly collection.

Kerbside refuse collections

Waste will continue to be collected every two weeks from existing 180-litre bins, or grey sacks/black ties where applicable.



Garden waste service

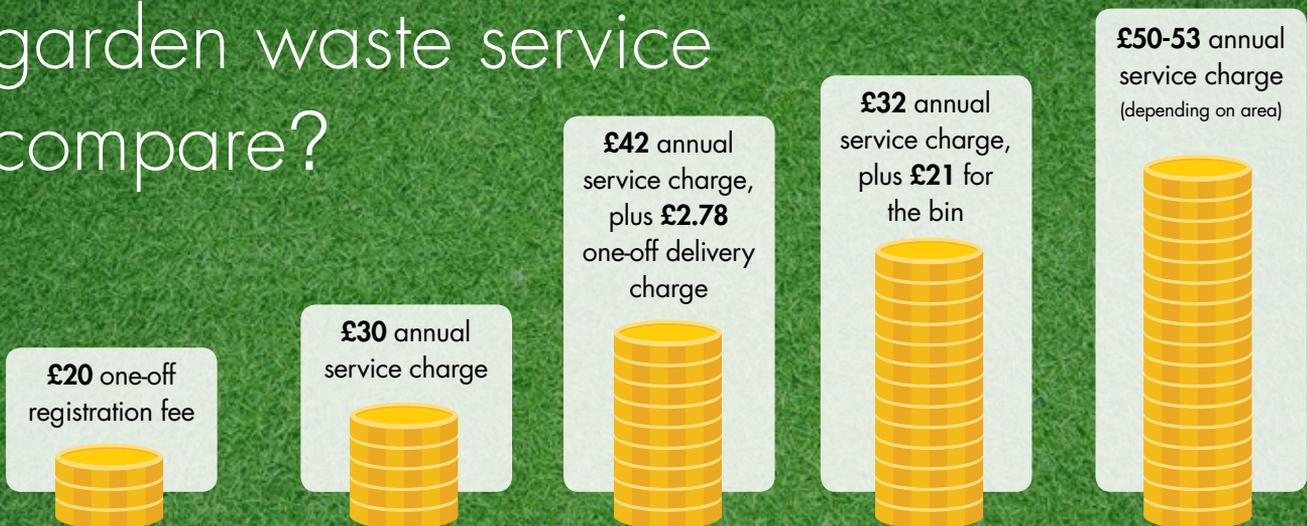
Garden waste will now be collected in bins, not sacks. This change is being made for a number of reasons but largely because of health and safety concerns around the current system.

The new service will be subscription-based with a one off fee of £20 for each bin registered to the property.

Bins will be available in three different sizes - 140, 180 and 240-litre - and each property will be allowed up to two bins.

For properties where bins would be inappropriate, smaller more manageable reusable garden waste sacks will be available.

How does the cost of the garden waste service compare?



North Somerset



South Gloucestershire



Bath and North East Somerset



Bristol



Somerset Waste Partnership



Food waste for flats

A food waste collection service will be introduced for people who live in flats and communal properties.

The food waste bins will have lockable lids to prevent spills and so wildlife can't get in, and they will be removed for cleaning every four weeks.

Commercial waste service

A commercial waste collection service will still be offered to small and medium-sized businesses who sometimes find it difficult to secure a reasonably priced service. These businesses will also be able to pay to use the area's recycling centres.

Bulky waste

A lot of bulky waste has the potential to be reused or recycled so North Somerset Council will work with a local charity/social enterprise to help provide this service in future and ensure the reuse value is maximised.

Changes to recycling centres

All the recycling centres – in Backwell, Portishead and Weston-super-Mare – will have dedicated reuse areas for items that could be given another home.

Hard plastics and plate glass will also be added to the list of items which can be recycled.

A resident's permit scheme will be introduced during autumn 2017. This will be free of charge but only available to North Somerset residents. CCTV and automatic number plate recognition systems will support this.

The recycling centres will have web cams to allow residents to check how busy the site is before setting out.

Small and medium-sized businesses will be able to use the recycling centres at Weston-super-Mare and Portishead for up to six hours a week.

A fee will be charged but it will provide these businesses with a convenient waste disposal solution.



Investment

North Somerset Council will invest £8m on new collection vehicles, machinery and depot facilities.

All vehicles will be fitted with equipment to allow real-time route information to be collected, which will be provided to Biffa and council staff.

The equipment will also allow the council to carry out twice-yearly surveys about the amount of waste and recycling produced.

The new contract is also a big boost for North Somerset's economy.

Between three and five per cent of Biffa's workforce must be apprentices or in traineeships, and there is an aspiration that at least 90 per cent of the workforce are North Somerset residents.

Arrangements have also been made to continue and expand the partnership work with existing reuse social enterprises, James Scott's North Somerset Reuse Project and Somerset Wood Recycling.



Have your say

A consultation launches this month to look at the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of recycling centres.

It will include questions on reducing the opening hours as well as the level of charge residents pay for delivering DIY waste such as rubble, paint and plasterboard.

Visit www.n-somerset.gov.uk/rc2016





Thriving leisure facilities prove popular in Portishead

Leisure facilities in Portishead are proving popular with residents as investment in venues across the town is paying off.

Whether you want to work up a sweat at Parish Wharf, get your dancing shoes on for a trip to Somerset Hall, or smell the flowers during a stroll around the Lake Grounds, there is something for everyone.

Life takes a look at some of the highlights...



£1.2m refurbishment boosts centre usage

Thousands more people are getting fitter and healthier following a £1.2m refurbishment of Portishead's leisure centre.

Parish Wharf, in Harbour Road, has seen its visitor numbers increase from about 180,000 a year to about 250,000 since the refurbishment was completed last March.

More than 1,000 extra people have also signed up for membership and swimming lessons are now given to nearly 700 children a week.

The new state-of-the-art gym was completed in November 2014 and additional work then took place during that winter.

This included a new reception desk and café with more seating.

Improvements were also made to the entrance of the swimming pool changing rooms and toilets, as well as providing an additional studio space for classes and activities.

Parish Wharf leisure centre:
01275 848 494

Improvements at Somerset Hall



Improvements inside and out are bringing people back to Somerset Hall.

The hall, in The Precinct, hosts many events, celebrations and organisations throughout the year and more people are now visiting thanks to its £15,000 improvements.

During the last 18 months, new accessible ramps have been built, the dancefloor has been refurbished, new signs have been put up, and it's had a lick of paint.

The updated balcony is now fully accessible for people to enjoy a drink they have bought from the fully licensed bar.

Somerset Hall is run by North Somerset Council and manager Paul Hillman said:

"The space is so flexible that in any one month we could be hosting a variety of meetings, afternoon tea dances, blood donor sessions, parties or even live action wrestling with a full size ring."

The hall is also home to many clubs and organisations such as Portishead Harbourside WI, Portishead Floral Art and Portishead Players.

Somerset Hall can accommodate a range of celebrations with space for functions of 50 to 250 people. Call 01275 884 100 somerset.hall@n-somerset.gov.uk

Green Flag for Lake Grounds

Prestigious Green Flag status has been awarded to Portishead's Lake Grounds, meaning it is one of the best green spaces in the country.

The award, run by environmental charity Keep Britain Tidy, is a sign that the space boasts the highest possible standards, is well maintained and has excellent facilities.

The Lake Grounds is the seventh open space in North Somerset to fly the flag, joining Prince Consort Gardens and Jubilee Park in Weston-super-Mare, Abbots Pool Woodland in Abbots Leigh, Watchhouse Hill in Pill, Trendlewood Community Park in Nailsea and Uphill Hill Local Nature Reserve in Uphill.



The area offers a diverse range of uses for visitors and there is a strong community feel.

Many local groups already work hard on the site, with Portishead in Bloom and Pride in Portishead organising litter picks and improving the plants and flowers, while Portishead Town Council provided new play equipment.

Green Flag awards are given on an annual basis and winners must apply each year to renew their status.

Flagship library remains popular

Portishead's flagship library is still going from strength to strength five years after its opening.

The library, on the ground floor of Horatio House in Harbour Road, opened in April 2011 and is more than twice the size of the town's previous library.

It now receives about 81,200 visitors a year, with about 6,800 visitors a month. People use the space to read, relax, sip coffee, browse the internet or get their council questions answered. Almost 98,000 items are borrowed a year, about 8,100 items a month.

Popular sessions include Storytime on Thursday afternoons for babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers.

The library also has a team of friendly computer buddies who can help visitors get online and assist them using a computer or tablet. Contact the library to book a session.



Portishead library: 01934 426 040
portishead.library@n-somerset.gov.uk

A library book sale will be held at Portishead library on Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 October.

Young people can have their say in a library survey next month. Anyone up to the age of 16 can take part in the questionnaire. The survey runs from Sunday 16 to Saturday 29 October in your local library or call 01934 426 897.

Giving a voice to black and other minority ethnic communities



Black and other minority ethnic communities continue to have a voice in North Somerset thanks to a new joint venture.

North Somerset Council and North Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) awarded a 12-month contract to local voluntary organisation the Multicultural Friendship Association in June.

This means they are now working together, along with mental wellbeing organisation 1in4 and the Carlton Centre, to empower BME communities, give them the chance to get their views heard, and enable them to participate in the development of public services in North Somerset.

Triliria Newbury, from the Multicultural Friendship Association, said: "We are so pleased to have been given the chance to act as a gateway into the many and varied communities in our local area.

"Our members come from every corner of the world but we know there are many more people we have yet to meet.

"We believe that this BME project can help you to make a positive difference to the services on offer, so contact us to make your voice heard."

Louise Roberts, equality and diversity manager at North Somerset Council, said: "Both the council and CCG are committed to seeking the views of individuals and organisations in North Somerset to help them provide and develop services in the most effective and efficient way.

"When it came to awarding a new contract, we were particularly impressed with the partnership approach put forward by the MFA and the wide range of new ideas they had to work with a community that can sometimes be viewed as hard to reach."

Plans for the upcoming year include...

- completing an annual health and community safety survey
- developing clear, articulate routes to engage the community in developing services
- supporting members of the community to help evaluate local health services.



MFA is based at the Badger Centre, Wadham Street, Weston-super-Mare.
Open Tuesdays 1-3pm • 07587 335 963 • www.mfa-wsm.org.uk

TROPICANA THEATRE



How to book

**TOBACCO
FACTORY
THEATRES**

Box Office

0117 902 0344

www.tobaccofactorytheatres.com

Tickets also available from
The Bay Café, Tropicana

Marine Parade, Weston-super-Mare BS23 1BE
 TheBayTropicana • WestonSeafront
www.thebayweston.co.uk • info@thebayweston.co.uk

Travelling Light

The Mysterious Vanishment of Pobby and Dingan

Friday 23 September

7pm

Age: 9+

£10/£7 concession

"A delightful story with a huge heart"

★★★★ Public Reviews

Luke Wright

What I Learned from Johnny Bevan

Friday 4 November

7.30pm

Age: 13+

£10/£7 concession

"Pulsating piece of poetic storytelling" ★★★★★

Lyn Gardner, Guardian

WINNER Fringe First Award for new writing

WINNER The Stage Award for acting excellence

Living Spit's Frankenstein

co-produced with Salisbury Playhouse

Saturday 12
and Sunday 20
November

13, 19, 20 - 2.30pm

12-13, 15-20 - 7.30pm

Age: 11+

£14/£12 concession

"World Class Actors at
the top of their game" FTR

Spitz and Co

Glorilla

Friday 25 November

7.30pm

Age: 13+

£7

Comedy, slapstick
and non-stop hilarity



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ENGLAND**



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General enquiries 01934 629 829

Don't chicken out... respect your food and stay safe



Chicken now accounts for almost half the meat eaten in the UK but it does need careful handling to avoid food poisoning.

Poultry is a great, versatile ingredient for student meals so families with loved ones leaving home for the first time this month are being urged to remind them of some simple food hygiene rules...

- washing your hands after handling raw meat and its packaging removes poisoning bacteria
- do not rinse raw chicken as it can spread juices and bacteria. Dry off juices with a paper towel instead so you can throw it away.
- prepare salads and vegetables before preparing meat
- keep raw meat and cooked food apart - don't over-stock the fridge to avoid raw meat packaging touching ready-to-eat food
- raw meat can drip bacteria, so store it at the bottom of the fridge.
- keep a preparation board for raw meat only
- defrost frozen chicken thoroughly in the fridge before cooking
- cook poultry until the juices run clear and the meat is no longer pink.
- consume any food before the use-by date.

 @/foodstandardsagency  /nsfoodandsafety

Help fight flu with a jab



Don't be knocked off your feet this winter – protect your health with a flu jab.

Jabs are available from September to offer protection before flu starts circulating in the winter. The flu vaccine is still the best and only real protection against flu for you and your loved ones.

Life found out more...

● **Who can have the flu jab?**

Anyone. People most at risk from developing complications are offered a free jab. Others can still have a jab for about £10. Contact your local pharmacy for details.

● **Who is entitled to a free jab?**

- Young children (nasal spray for pre-school children and up to year 3)
- Anyone with a long-term medical condition (aged six months or older)

- People with a learning disability
- Pregnant women
- People living in a residential or nursing home
- Informal or unpaid carers
- People aged 65 and over (who may also be eligible for a pneumonia vaccine – your GP surgery can provide more information).

● **Where can you get it?**

From GP surgeries and most pharmacies. Many surgeries offer flu' vaccination clinics with no need for an appointment. Text 'pharmacy flu' with your postcode to 80011 to see your three closest participating pharmacies.

● **Is it always effective?**

The flu virus is constantly changing so there is a new vaccine each year. Last year it was effective in more than half of those who received it. If you do get flu it's likely to be milder and shorter-lived than it would otherwise be.

● **Can flu be treated with antibiotics?**

No - flu is a viral infection and antibiotics can't treat viruses.

● **Will it give me flu?**

No. The vaccine is inactivated and cannot cause flu. Many people catch colds during winter and if you have symptoms after the jab you may have already caught a cold before having the vaccine.

● **Flu is just a bad cold isn't it?**

Flu can cause severe symptoms. Most people have to take time off from work and/or can't continue normal daily life. Some may even be admitted to hospital.

● **Is the vaccine safe?**

Yes. It can be given to babies and older people with very few reactions.

For full details visit:
www.nhs.uk/flu-jab

Have your say and help influence council policies

Get your voice heard and help influence council policies by taking part in a consultation.

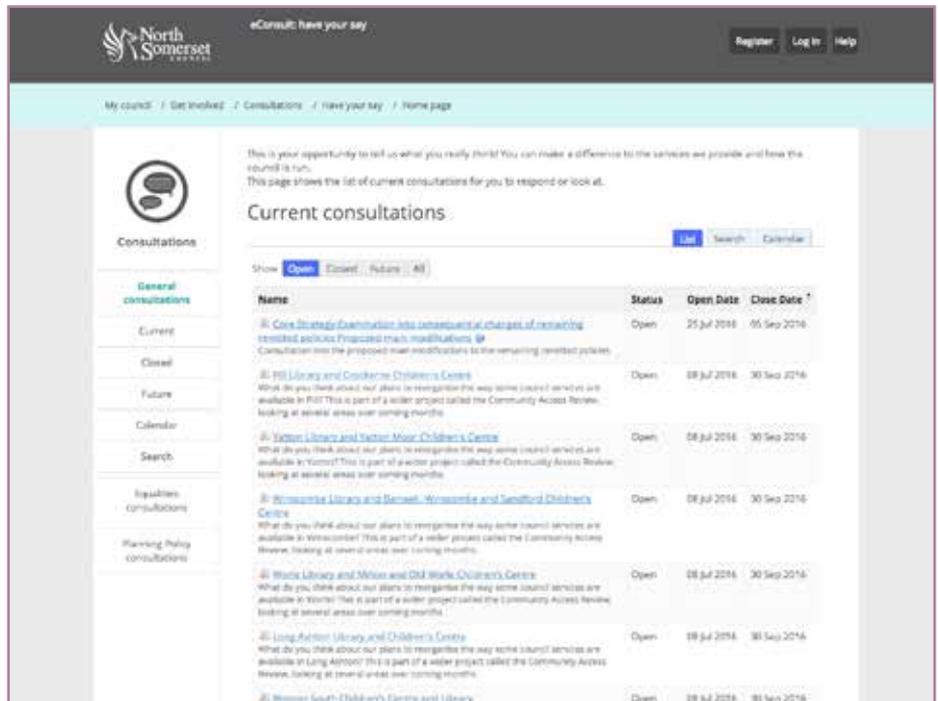
North Somerset Council organises more than 50 consultations throughout the year so residents can have their say on council services and policies.

These cover local, area-wide or regional issues, and can be about a range of subjects such as health, education, roads, social care, housing and more.

The council has a duty to consult on certain things, such as the long-term development of the area and equalities issues, and it often consults on other issues too to help make decisions on the best use of resources.

Examples of recent consultations include....

- the proposed West of England devolution deal
- expansion plans for a school
- regeneration plans for Weston-super-Mare's town centre
- planning policies for land usage
- licensing private landlords in central Weston-super-Mare.



Changes to policy are made wherever possible following feedback from residents.

Recent changes include...

- Christmas school holidays tweaked in response to what schools wanted
- extra recycling bins for flats in a part of Portishead
- designing a creative hub in Weston-super-Mare, an office space for micro businesses and start-ups in the creative sector
- changing the rules about the contributions which developers have to make to roads and public services

- installing of a mini roundabout at the Cabstand junction in Portishead.

Visit www.n-somerset.gov.uk/consult to see all current and upcoming council consultations, as well as an archive of all completed ones.

On this page you can register to receive email alerts about new consultations matching your interests.

Posters are also put up in libraries at the start of each month to advertise all current consultations.

www.n-somerset.gov.uk/consult
or for more information call
Dave Ostry: 01275 888 762

Get vocal, be heard

Feedback is welcomed by North Somerset Council because residents on the receiving end of council services often have good ideas about how to make them better.

While the council can't act on every suggestion, it makes changes where possible.

You said:

What are you doing to improve cycle routes in the area, especially to Brean?

We did:

A joint project is currently ongoing to create a multi-use, off-road path leading from Weston-super-Mare's promenade to the beach at Brean.



The project is a collaboration between many partners, including North Somerset Council, Sedgemoor District Council, the charity Greenways and Cycleroutes, the Environment Agency, Natural England and Brean Parish Council.

The route is intended to increase tourism in the region by allowing easy access between the two resorts, and by linking Weston to the Stop Line Way - a cycle route which runs through Somerset, Devon and Dorset.

In June a work camp took place which saw volunteers lay 500 tonnes of stone to create 1.4km of new stone dust path leading up to the River Axe.

In addition, 500 metres of existing track have also been improved ahead of the work due to start this autumn.

This section will be tarmacked so it can be shared with farm vehicles.

Volunteers also completed work on the Sedgemoor side of the route, including vegetation clearance, drainage works and new fencing and gates.

North Somerset's part of this project will be completed fully this year, including works to prepare the Environment Agency sluice for the opening of the path.

The path will open once a safe route from the River Axe to Brean beach (along Weston Road) has been completed.

This section is being delivered by Greenways and Cycleroutes in collaboration with all stakeholders.

It is anticipated the route will open next summer, dependent on successful funding bids.

www.greenwaysandcycleroutes.org

Your views

 Send your items to
Editor, North Somerset Life
North Somerset Council
Floor 1, Town Hall
Weston-super-Mare, BS23 1UJ
or email editor@n-somerset.gov.uk

 @NorthSomersetC

 NorthSomersetCouncil

 NorthSomersetC

Items submitted without a valid name and address will not be considered for publication. Please tell us if you do not want your details published. Due to space restrictions letters may be edited.

Dear Editor,

While I understand the need to restrict recycling centre sites to genuine North Somerset residents, I am at a loss to understand the necessity of registering with the council.

This would be costly and time consuming as a person would need to be employed in completing the register, as well as the data transmission to each site.

Just ask to see the driver's driving licence.

*Roland Purchase,
Clevedon*

Colin Russell, recycling and waste manager:

The intention of the permit scheme is to restrict use of the recycling centres to North Somerset residents only, but for the application to be as simple and streamlined as possible.

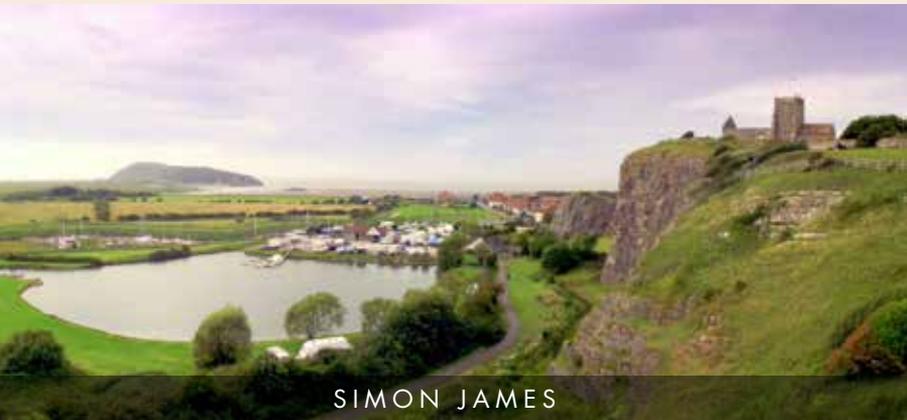
Although not finalised yet, it is likely that the resident will apply online using the 'my account' system on the council's website. Details will be verified against council tax information and vehicle details can then be entered.

The registration number will be logged on the automatic number plate recognition system which is installed at all recycling sites. Residents will then be able to drive straight into the site unchallenged.

If a vehicle is not registered, the automated system will alert staff. They will then go over to the driver to discuss how to apply if they are a local resident, or advise on other sites if they are not.

I appreciate the simplicity of checking driving licences but this can be time consuming and lead to queues of vehicles. It can also be difficult during bad weather or poor light.

 We can't show all of your photos in Life but you can see them at pinterest.com/NorthSomersetC



SIMON JAMES



IAN FREETH



Many topics are covered on Twitter and Facebook and last month these issues were raised.

 Thank you @NorthSomersetC for great service. New recycling boxes arrived in 5 days! Thanks to 'Clare' who answered my phone call.

 Where can I get a local concessionary bus pass?

North Somerset Council:
Please see our website at www.n-somerset.gov.uk/diamondtravelcard

 The travellers are back in The Barrows. Please could you advise on how long we should be expecting them to stay before they are moved?

North Somerset Council:
It often takes around five working days to do the necessary welfare checks then serve eviction notices.

North Somerset Life is the award winning magazine for the people of North Somerset. Your copy should be delivered with your post unless you use Royal Mail's opt out service to block unaddressed mail.

You can download this issue and back issues from www.n-somerset.gov.uk/nsi or pick copies up from council buildings.

Coming next issue:

- Winter Focus – keep warm and well, recycling in winter weather, salting routes and more.

Sign up to *Life's* online edition and receive news straight into your inbox. Visit www.northsomersetlife.co.uk

Tide timetables for Weston-super-Mare

Tide facts

Approximate high water times at:

- Clevedon: 10 min
- Portishead: 18 min later than Weston-super-Mare.

Weather conditions which differ from the average will have an effect on the differences between predicted and actual tide times.

Strong winds can hold the tide in or push the tide out. Air pressure can also cause fluctuations in predicted levels.

Tidal predictions for Weston-super-Mare have been computed by the Proudman Oceanographic Laboratory.

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www.n-somerset.gov.uk/tidetimes

SEPTEMBER 2016

Date	High water		Low water		High water		Low water	
	Time	Height (M)	Time	Height (M)	Time	Height (M)	Time	Height (M)
	AM				PM			
1 Thu	07:40	11.88	01:12	0.91	19:56	12.07	13:29	0.84
2 Fri	08:19	12.02	01:50	0.86	20:33	12.14	14:05	0.85
3 Sat	08:53	12.02	02:25	0.93	21:07	12.09	14:37	0.94
4 Sun	09:26	11.90	02:56	1.05	21:38	11.89	15:08	1.08
5 Mon	09:56	11.60	03:25	1.21	22:08	11.50	15:36	1.28
6 Tue	10:24	11.10	03:50	1.42	22:35	10.94	16:02	1.54
7 Wed	10:51	10.47	04:16	1.70	23:03	10.26	16:29	1.87
8 Thu	11:19	9.77	04:44	2.05	23:33	9.56	17:02	2.27
9 Fri	-	-	05:19	2.44	11:52	9.13	17:43	2.71
10 Sat	00:13	8.93	06:06	2.86	12:41	8.58	18:41	3.14
11 Sun	01:16	8.46	07:13	3.27	14:11	8.34	20:11	3.44
12 Mon	02:59	8.49	09:11	3.36	15:54	8.97	22:10	2.90
13 Tue	04:26	9.34	10:35	2.58	17:02	10.08	23:04	2.03
14 Wed	05:29	10.43	11:26	1.83	17:56	11.17	23:54	1.40
15 Thu	06:22	11.39	12:20	1.31	18:45	12.00	-	-
16 Fri	07:08	12.09	00:46	0.96	19:30	12.57	13:09	0.92
17 Sat	07:52	12.57	01:33	0.62	20:13	12.93	13:53	0.63
18 Sun	08:34	12.85	02:17	0.38	20:55	13.10	14:37	0.47
19 Mon	09:14	12.92	03:00	0.31	21:37	12.99	15:19	0.50
20 Tue	09:56	12.67	03:43	0.48	22:19	12.53	16:01	0.76
21 Wed	10:38	12.07	04:22	0.86	23:04	11.74	16:39	1.19
22 Thu	11:22	11.22	05:01	1.38	23:52	10.76	17:19	1.71
23 Fri	-	-	05:43	1.93	12:13	10.30	18:09	2.26
24 Sat	00:49	9.84	06:40	2.48	13:16	9.55	19:17	2.78
25 Sun	02:02	9.25	08:01	2.91	14:36	9.26	20:57	2.96
26 Mon	03:27	9.29	09:38	2.78	16:06	9.66	22:20	2.47
27 Tue	04:49	9.98	10:49	2.14	17:19	10.54	23:23	1.76
28 Wed	05:49	10.88	11:45	1.48	18:12	11.35	-	-
29 Thu	06:37	11.54	00:11	1.21	18:56	11.81	12:28	1.06
30 Fri	07:18	11.86	00:50	0.97	19:34	11.99	13:05	0.93

www.n-somerset.gov.uk



Report it. Request it. Pay for it.
www.n-somerset.gov.uk/connect

8am – 6pm Mon – Fri



Council Connect: for all streets and open spaces enquiries:
01934 888 802

Care Connect: for all social services enquiries:
01275 888 801
care.connect@n-somerset.gov.uk

Main switchboard:
01934 888 888

Emergency (out of hours):
01934 622 669

North Somerset Council
Town Hall



Weston-super-Mare BS23 1UJ

OCTOBER 2016

Date	High water		Low water		High water		Low water	
	Time	Height (M)	Time	Height (M)	Time	Height (M)	Time	Height (M)
	AM				PM			
1 Sat	07:54	11.97	01:24	0.96	20:08	12.03	13:39	0.95
2 Sun	08:26	11.99	01:56	1.03	20:39	12.00	14:09	1.02
3 Mon	08:56	11.93	02:25	1.10	21:07	11.89	14:37	1.09
4 Tue	09:25	11.73	02:53	1.19	21:35	11.61	15:04	1.21
5 Wed	09:51	11.34	03:17	1.35	22:02	11.13	15:30	1.43
6 Thu	10:18	10.77	03:41	1.61	22:31	10.49	15:57	1.77
7 Fri	10:46	10.10	04:10	1.96	23:02	9.82	16:27	2.17
8 Sat	01:17	9.46	04:40	2.35	23:39	9.21	17:05	2.58
9 Sun	-	-	05:24	2.73	12:02	8.91	17:59	2.97
10 Mon	00:37	8.72	06:28	3.12	13:20	8.56	19:23	3.29
11 Tue	02:07	8.58	08:09	3.35	15:08	8.91	21:24	3.05
12 Wed	03:46	9.25	10:00	2.82	16:27	9.98	22:34	2.21
13 Thu	04:57	10.37	10:58	2.02	17:26	11.14	23:29	1.52
14 Fri	05:53	11.43	11:56	1.43	18:18	12.07	-	-
15 Sat	06:42	12.22	00:24	1.01	19:05	12.70	12:48	0.95
16 Sun	07:29	12.74	01:13	0.61	19:49	13.08	13:34	0.61
17 Mon	08:11	13.03	01:56	0.36	20:34	13.22	14:16	0.43
18 Tue	08:53	13.09	02:38	0.31	21:16	13.09	14:57	0.46
19 Wed	09:36	12.84	03:19	0.48	22:00	12.61	15:38	0.72
20 Thu	10:19	12.24	03:58	0.88	22:46	11.79	16:17	1.17
21 Fri	11:05	11.37	04:38	1.41	23:36	10.81	16:58	1.72
22 Sat	-	-	05:20	1.97	11:56	10.44	17:48	2.27
23 Sun	00:31	9.88	06:15	2.52	12:56	9.67	18:54	2.77
24 Mon	01:38	9.28	07:32	2.94	14:11	9.32	20:28	2.98
25 Tue	02:59	9.23	09:12	2.89	15:36	9.58	21:54	2.58
26 Wed	04:21	9.79	10:21	2.33	16:50	10.31	22:54	1.98
27 Thu	05:23	10.60	11:16	1.74	17:45	11.04	23:43	1.49
28 Fri	06:10	11.23	12:00	1.35	18:29	11.48	-	-
29 Sat	06:51	11.58	00:21	1.25	19:07	11.68	12:37	1.19
30 Sun	06:26	11.73	00:55	1.19	18:40	11.74	12:09	1.15
31 Mon	06:58	11.80	00:26	1.20	19:10	11.76	12:39	1.15



Public Health
England

HOW WILL YOU QUIT THIS STOPTOBER?

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so **talk to your local Stop
Smoking Service.**



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ONE YOU