

Spring 2021

Fareham TODAY

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YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

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THIS SPRING**

**FAREHAM'S NEW
COMMUNITY
LOTTERY!**

FAREHAM
BOROUGH COUNCIL

A message from the Executive Leader of Fareham Borough Council, Councillor Seán Woodward

Welcome to the Spring issue of Fareham Today. This is the first 'regular' issue of Fareham Today that we have published in a year, as we focussed on responding to the pandemic.

What an incredibly tough 12 months it has been. Some of you will have sadly lost someone to this terrible virus. Shortly after Christmas, our dear friend and colleague, Councillor Keith Evans, passed away. Keith was a highly respected councillor who had served our Borough for more than 30 years. My thoughts continue to be with Keith's family, and for all of those who have lost someone dear.

Spring is a time of hope and new life, and the ongoing rollout of the vaccine offers us all just that. On page 4 you will find more information about the vaccination programme and answers to frequently asked questions.

In May we should have local elections for Fareham Borough Council, Hampshire County Council and for a new Hampshire Police and Crime Commissioner. These include the elections which were postponed last May and we have taken time over the last year to plan how to manage them safely. See page 10 for details, including information about how to vote by post if you would prefer.

I'm delighted to share details of Fareham's new Community Lottery in this issue (page 13). The lottery will not only give residents the chance to win cash prizes but will also provide a vital source of income for our local charities, community interest companies and other community groups, many of which have been hit hard by the pandemic. Don't forget to buy your ticket!

I know many of you will be keen to return to our leisure centres again when the time is right. Staying active is so important to overall health and wellbeing – now more than ever. Both our leisure centres are undergoing exciting improvement works at the moment which will see them offer even better facilities for all the family. This includes a new soft play area at Fareham and a brand new health suite at Holly Hill – turn to page 14 to see what the new facilities will look like.

I hope you find this issue interesting and helpful. As always, if you have any suggestions for how we can continue to improve our Borough, please do not hesitate to get in touch.



Fareham Borough Council

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www.fareham.gov.uk/farehamtoday

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COUNCIL SERVICES



WE'RE HERE FOR YOU

Despite the disruption of the pandemic, the Council has worked hard to ensure we still provide important services and are here when you need us.

The Council's Civic Offices may be closed at times, due to local or national restrictions, and we continue to respond to the latest Government announcements.

However, our officers are still working hard and are on hand to help you if you need it, even when visiting us in person isn't possible.

For updates about Council services and the help and support available please visit our coronavirus page: www.fareham.gov.uk/coronavirus

If you need to contact the Council, please get in touch via the following numbers:

Benefits	01329 824646
Council Tax	01329 824651
Council Tenant Enquiries	01329 824435
General Enquiries	01329 236100
Housing or Homeless advice	01329 824343
Housing Repairs	01329 824771
Licensing	01329 824399
Planning	01329 824662
Sheltered Housing	01329 847125



VACCINATIONS

YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED



The COVID-19 vaccine is a huge step forward in the fight against coronavirus. The vaccine is safe and effective and is currently being provided to residents across the Borough. Having a vaccine is the best way to protect the most vulnerable and save lives.

The Council is working closely with the health service to ensure that residents who are vulnerable, alongside the frontline workers who support and protect them, receive a COVID-19 vaccination quickly.

The order in which people are being offered the vaccine is based on advice from the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI), with the most at-risk groups receiving their vaccine first in order of priority:

- Residents in a care home for older adults and their carers
- All those 80 years of age and over and frontline health and social care workers
- All those 75 years of age and over
- All those 70 years of age and over and clinically extremely vulnerable individuals

- All those 65 years of age and over. All individuals aged 16 years to 64 years with underlying health conditions which put them at higher risk of serious disease and mortality
- All those 60 years of age and over
- All those 55 years of age and over
- All those 50 years of age and over

The NHS are moving quickly through the eligible groups so keep up-to-date with the news for the latest on the vaccination programme.

Below are some of the your frequently asked questions about the vaccination programme.

Q: How many doses of the vaccine will need to be administered?

A: The vaccine is given in two doses, three to twelve weeks apart. This is administered via an injection into your upper arm.

Q: How effective is the vaccine?

A: Data from clinical trials have shown the vaccine is 94% effective in protecting people over the age of 65 from coronavirus, with trials suggesting it works equally well in people of all ages, races and ethnicities. There were also no serious safety concerns reported in the trials. Full protection should begin 7-10 days after the second injection.

Q: Is it safe?

A: The COVID-19 vaccines have met strict standards of safety, quality and effectiveness set out by the independent Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA).

Any coronavirus vaccine that is approved must go through all the clinical trials and safety checks all other licensed medicines go through. The MHRA follows international standards of safety.

Other vaccines are being developed. They will only be available on the NHS once they have been thoroughly tested to make sure they are safe and effective.

Q: Where are vaccinations going to be administered?

A: Vaccination to at-risk groups will take place at the most appropriate settings to encourage uptake. This includes administering vaccination to at-risk individuals in their usual place of residence.

You will be notified of your vaccination options when you receive your invitation to be vaccinated.

Q: Who is going to be administering the vaccines?

A: Recruitment of workforce has focused on those who already have experience in handling vaccinations but may currently work outside of NHS settings, for example, independent nurses or allied health care professionals.

Q: Are there any side effects?

A: Like all medicines, vaccines can cause side effects. Most of these are mild and short-term, and not everyone gets them. These include:

- a sore arm where the needle went in
- feeling tired
- a headache
- feeling achy

You can report any additional suspected side effects to the MHRA Coronavirus Yellow Card reporting portal found on the MHRA website.

Further information about Vaccinations can be found on www.nhs.uk



SOLAR TOGETHER

SCHEME LAUNCHED

With environmental issues a hot topic, you may be thinking about greener energy for your home. One great option is solar panels, but it can be daunting with a range of systems and costs available. That's where a new joint scheme between the Council and iChoosr can help!

The 'Solar Together' scheme offers high-quality solar photovoltaic (PV) panels. It's a group-buying scheme so provides the most competitive price possible.

How does it work?

1. Registration

You can register for free and without obligation at www.solartogether.co.uk/Fareham, you just need to provide some details about your roof, such as its size and orientation.

2. Auction

An 'auction' will be held on the 23 March 2021, where pre-vetted solar installers will submit bids for the work. The more people that register, the better the deal should be for each household. The installer with the most competitive package will win the auction.

3. Personal recommendation

Following the auction, you will be emailed a personal recommendation. This includes your costs and the specifications of your system.

4. You decide

The decision is then yours as to whether you want to accept your recommendation. There is no obligation to continue and you have until the 21 May 2021 to decide.

5. Installation

If you accept, the winning installer will contact you to survey your roof and set an installation date.

For more information, visit the Solar Together website above or call the Solar Together Team on 0800 098 8415.



VOTING AT THE 2021 ELECTIONS

On Thursday 6 May 2021 there are three elections taking place for residents in Fareham. These are for Fareham Borough Council, Hampshire County Council and the Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire.

The Council has a plan in place to help keep you safe while casting your vote.

There are a number of ways you can have your say - by post, in a polling station, or by appointing a trusted person to vote on your behalf, which is known as a proxy vote.

If you would prefer to vote from the comfort of your own home this year, you can apply for a postal vote by calling the Council's elections team on 01329 824588. Ballot papers will be sent directly to your home, once they are ready, along with a pre-paid return envelope. You can also download a postal vote application form from the Electoral Commission website, which you can then print out, complete and return to the Council. The deadline to apply for a postal vote is 5pm on Tuesday 20 April 2021, so please apply early.

After Tuesday 20 April, if you're unable to get to a polling station to vote for any reason such as illness

or self-isolation, please contact the elections team who will be happy to help set up a proxy vote for you.


Although polling stations across Fareham will be COVID-19 safe, voting may take a little longer than usual due to some necessary changes we have made in order to ensure the safety of voters. These include:

- Any queues will be outside the building
- Social distancing is required at all times
- Face coverings are required (unless you are exempt). Please bring your own if you can.
- Hand-sanitiser must be used – it will be provided for use on entry to and exit from the polling station
- Please bring your own pen or pencil if possible (sanitised pencils are available)

- Avoid busy times if possible (8-10am and 5-7pm)
- Some polling stations have changed location – check your poll card carefully

Full details of the May elections in Fareham can be found at www.fareham.gov.uk/elections

You can register to vote at: www.gov.uk/register-to-vote



Want to vote
by post?
Apply early

The
Electoral
Commission

YOUR VOTE MATTERS

DON'T LOSE IT





SHOP SAFE SHOP LOCAL

Plans are in hand to give shopping areas right across the Borough a helping hand to get back on their feet and attract people back into stores when the national lockdown is lifted.

We are currently looking at a number of options to encourage people back to the shops when the time is right. While we don't yet know when our shopping areas might be able to get back to normal we recognise that there is a need to give people confidence to get back into shops, restaurants, cafes and bars when it is safe to do so.

Towns and districts need vibrant shopping areas that attract visitors and residents alike and encourage the spending and trading that keeps Fareham as a thriving market town.

Town centres and district centres are not just about shops either - it is just as important that office-based businesses in our towns are able to return when it is



safe for them to do so because they provide a lot of the spending power that our shops, restaurants and bars survive on. It is in the interests of all of us that live in the Borough that we see the town thrive and so we will be urging you to Shop Local and Eat Local once again when it is safe to do so.

As a Council we have been supporting shops, hospitality outlets, traders and other businesses throughout the past year, issuing 2,000 Government grants that have totalled more than £20.4m. In addition, we have provided storage and distribution locations for food banks, produced financial rescue packages for our two leisure centres, and encouraged the traders at Fareham Market to continue with their weekly pitches.

In the November lockdown alone, we paid out more than £480,000 to around 320 Fareham businesses that were forced to close - and that fund is still available to businesses that were affected and meet the grant criteria.

It continues to be an incredibly challenging time for all those business owners that have been forced to close, but with all of our support shopping local and eating local when the lockdown is eased, we hope that we can see all our favourite places regenerate and come back to life.

The Council still has funding available for businesses affected by the restrictions. Businesses who have not yet benefitted from a grant since the November lockdown are urged to go to www.fareham.gov.uk/business/business_rates/grants.aspx to find information and guidance on all current schemes. If you are not sure if you are eligible, please call the helpline on 01329 824430 on weekdays from 8.45am to 5.15pm and a member of the Council team will be happy to help.



THANK YOU

FOR HAVING YOUR SAY



We are always keen for our residents to get involved in decision making where possible, which is why we run regular consultations to allow you to have your say.

Recent consultations

In January we asked people to comment on a revision to the Welborne Planning Application. The results were presented to our Planning Committee at the end of January.

We also launched our Balancing the Books consultation which invited you to have your say on Fareham's finances, as, like other councils, we are facing a significant financial challenge, made worse by the impact of Covid-19.

Before Christmas we completed our latest Local Plan consultation alongside our first ever virtual exhibition, which was visited by over 1,000 people!

If you would like to be informed directly about any upcoming consultations or Community Action Team meetings, please sign up to our E-panel by visiting:

www.fareham.gov/have_your_say/e-panel

Help others have their say

The Consultation Team is always keen to develop better connections with our residents and communities. We understand that not all people have access to a computer or the internet. Please contact us if you are part of a local community group or organisation and are interested in helping promote consultations to people you know without online access. You can email Consultation@fareham.gov.uk or call 01329 236 100 and ask for the Consultation Team.

You can also send a letter to:



Consultation Team
Floor 6
Civic Offices
Civic Way
Fareham PO16 7AZ

census 2021



CENSUS 2021

Households across Fareham will be asked to take part in Census 2021 this spring.

The census, run by the Office for National Statistics, is a once-in-a-decade survey that gives the most accurate estimate of all the people and households in England and Wales. It has been carried out every ten years since 1801, apart from in 1941.

The information gathered helps the Government, councils and health authorities, plan and fund public services, such as transport, education and health.

Information from the census is important in lots of other ways too. Charities and voluntary organisations often use it as

evidence to seek funding. It helps businesses to understand their customers and, for example, decide where to open new shops. Plus, those doing research, like university students and people looking into their family history, use census data. It provides important information on population diversity, allowing organisations to know whether they are meeting their responsibilities and take action where necessary.

Census 2021 will be the first to be predominantly online, with households receiving a letter with a unique access code, allowing them to complete the questionnaire on their computers, phones or tablets.

Census day will be on March 21, but households will soon receive letters with online codes explaining how they can take part. The census will include questions about your sex, age, work, health, education, household size and ethnicity. For the first time, there will also be a question asking people whether they have served in the armed forces, as well as voluntary questions for those aged 16 and over on sexual orientation and gender identity.

For more information visit census.gov.uk.

**citizens
advice**

We're still here for you

Please don't feel you need to wait for the pandemic to be over to contact us.

We're still here and ready to help however we can.

Citizens Advice Fareham has been advising residents since 1942 and, even when we're in lockdown, we're still here to help.

So, please don't sit at home worrying, if you have any concerns don't hesitate, get in touch today.

**Money
worries**

Debt

**Housing
issues**

**Consumer
problems**

**Family &
relationship
issues**

**Employment
worries**

**We offer free, impartial,
independent advice.**

Although we're not currently seeing clients face-to-face, we offer the same level of support over the phone or via our online service.

So don't delay, get advice today!

 **01329 223117 General advice**

 **public.citafareham.org/advice**

 **www.citizensadvice.org.uk**

 **0800 144 8 444 Universal Credit**

 **0808 223 1133 Consumer problem**

 **0808 250 5050 Online scams**

Our services could be much busier than normal once lockdown is eased   

Fareham Community Lottery



GET YOUR TICKETS

FOR THE FAREHAM COMMUNITY LOTTERY

We're delighted to announce that we have awarded the charity, One Community, the funding it needs to launch a new Community Lottery.

This exciting new lottery will not only be a chance to win cash prizes but will also provide a vital source of income for our valued charities and community groups, many of which have been hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic.

A lottery had previously run in Fareham during the 1970's but they have become increasingly popular again. Other councils are using them successfully and to the timing is right for Fareham to have its own.

One Community is a charity which already provides support to community and voluntary sector

organisations across Fareham. That is why they were awarded £10,040 in Community Funding to establish the lottery and ensure that as many charities as possible benefit from the additional funding it will bring.

Registering as a 'Good Cause' with the Fareham Community Lottery will provide charities and community organisations the opportunity to receive 40 percent of each £1 ticket purchased where the buyer selects their charity as a primary recipient. The remainder of the ticket value will provide Fareham residents who buy a ticket and enter the weekly draw with the chance to win cash prizes.

So don't delay...buy a ticket today!

Residents can buy tickets online at www.farehamlottery.org.uk

Community and voluntary sector organisations will be able to register by contacting info@1community.org.uk

Further information about One Community can be found at www.fareham.gov.uk/leisure/community/oncommunity.aspx, or you can contact them directly by emailing info@1community.org.uk, or calling 01329 239934.





Artists' impression of the new facilities.

EXCITING NEW LEISURE FACILITIES ON THE WAY!

Many of us have missed being able to visit the pool or gym to keep fit, with leisure centres closed due to the pandemic. The good news is our leisure centres have been busy during this time with an exciting £6m project to improve their facilities.

Fareham Leisure Centre, which is managed by Everyone Active on behalf of the Council, will offer a number of new features for all the family to enjoy. These will include a Top Rock climbing wall, soft play area, a large extension to the gym, an indoor splash pad and improvements to the café, changing rooms and reception area. The works are due to be finished this autumn.

As part of the project, Holly Hill Leisure Centre will also benefit from a brand-new health suite, including a steam room and sauna. This is set to be complete by the end of the year.

For more information visit www.everyoneactive.com/news/everyone-likes-to-make-improvements/





Everyone Pledge









In light of the pandemic, Everyone Active has launched the 'Everyone Pledge,' giving members confidence that they will take care of them and their membership, whatever the future Covid-19 restrictions may be.








The Company pledges to offer flexible membership options to ensure protection through any closures, meet and exceed Government guidelines to prevent the spread of Covid-19 across its facilities, and continue to deliver an unrivalled range of online content and workouts to keep customers active both in centre and online.








Your Councillors









Fareham Council email is name@fareham.gov.uk









Executive Member 
 Conservative 
 Liberal Democrat 
 Independent 

Fareham East Ward  Katrina Trott 01329 310389 ktrott@  Tom Davies 07832 991436 tdavies@	Fareham North Ward  Louise Clubley 01329 281427 lclubley@  Pamela Bryant 01329 281427 pbryant MAYOR	Fareham North West Ward  Fred Birkett 07505 000987 fbirkett@ Executive Member for Housing  Peter Davies 01329 846239 pdavies@	Fareham South Ward  Keith Barton 01329 286396 kbarton@  Geoff Fazackarley 02393 112231 gfazackarley@
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Fareham West Ward  Tina Ellis 01329 843936 tellis@  Leslie Keeble 01329 845339 lkeeble@	Hill Head Ward  Kay Mandry 01329 317923 kmandry@  Steve Dugan 07948 381721 sdugan@	Locks Heath Ward  Susan Bayford 01489 577772 sbayford@  Simon Martin 01489 325805 smartin@ Executive Member for Planning and Development	Park Gate Ward  Ian Bastable 07444 552194 ibastable@
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Portchester East Ward  Shaun Cunningham 01329 230626 scunningham@  Roger Price 01329 280446 rprice@  Gerry Kelly 02392 363905 gkelly@	Portchester West Ward  Nick Walker 02392 384943 nwalker@  Susan Bell 02392 384943 sbell@ Executive Member for Leisure and Community	Salisbury Ward  Jon Butts 07379038765 jbutts@  Seán Woodward 01489 881030 swoodward@ Executive Leader of the Council and Executive Member for Policy and Resources
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Stubbington Ward  Carolyn Heneghan 07949 142283 cheneghan@  Jim Forrest 01329 511418 jforrest@	Titchfield Ward  Tiffany Harper 01329 844074 tharper@  Connie Hockley 01329 287365 chockley@  Sarah Pankhurst 07701 393396 spankhurst@  Jack Englefield 01489 583284 jenglefield@	Titchfield Common Ward  Mike Ford 01489 331076 mford@ Executive Member for Streetscene  Trevor Cartwright 01489 578519 tcartwright@ Deputy Executive Leader and Executive Member for Health and Public Protection
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County Councillors  Fareham Town Peter Latham 01329 843267 peter.latham@  Fareham Town Fred Birkett 07505 000987 fred.birkett@  Titchfield Geoff Hockley 01329 287365 geoff.hockley@  Salisbury Seán Woodward 01489 881030 sean.woodward@  Crofton Pal Hayre 07941 969429 pal.hayre@  Portchester Roger Price 01329 280446 roger.price@	MPs  Caroline Dinéage 020 7219 3000 caroline.dinage.mp@parliament.uk MP for Gosport plus Hill Head and Stubbington  Suella Braverman 020 7219 3000 suella.braverman.mp@parliament.uk MP for Fareham
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County Council email is name@hants.gov.uk

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- INSTANT ACCESS TO EVERYONE ON DEMAND - FOUR OF THE BEST ONLINE FITNESS APPS

FREE
INSTANT ACCESS
TO VIRTUAL
WORKOUTS

PAY
NOTHING
UNTIL WE
RE-OPEN

EVERYONE

WHY WEIGHT?
START TODAY



FAREHAM
BOROUGH COUNCIL

everyone
ACTIVE

Join now at [everyoneactive.com](https://www.everyoneactive.com)

Fareham Leisure Centre & Holly Hill Leisure Centre