Barbecuing Tips

While the summer is perfect for barbecues, cooking food outdoors provides perfect conditions for bacteria which can cause nasty food poisoning or even serious illness.

Following these few simple rules will minimise the risk of an unhappy ending to your outdoor fun:

- Wash hands before touching foods and after handling raw meat and poultry
- Make sure all cooking and eating utensils, and work surfaces are spotlessly clean before use
- Light the barbecue well in advance, make sure you use enough charcoal and wait until it's glowing red (with a powdery grey surface) before starting to cook
- Plan ahead - ensure any frozen meat or poultry is fully defrosted before use (unless instructions say otherwise)
- Keep meats and other perishable food in a cool bag with ice packs or in the fridge until just before you are ready to cook or eat them. Serve salads at the last minute
- During cooking, turn food often. If it starts to burn on the outside raise the grill height or reduce the heat of the charcoal (dampen coals slightly or partially close air vents)
- Cook poultry, burgers, sausages and pork throughout – always check that there are no pink bits in the middle. If possible, fully pre-cook all poultry and sausages in the microwave or oven then take it straight to the barbecue to add the final barbecue flavour
- Keep raw and cooked foods apart at all times. Don’t handle cooked foods with utensils that have touched raw meats or put cooked or ready-to-eat food on plates that have held raw meats
- Keep serving bowls covered to protect them from dust, insects and pets
- Use a sheltered level site, away from anything that might catch fire. Keep pets and children at a distance, use long-handed equipment when handling hot coals and keep a bucket of sand or water handy

Food Safety

Eating abroad

Each year thousands of us holiday abroad, having a fabulous time sampling different cultures and the variety of food on offer. Unfortunately though, some people’s holidays are spoiled by food poisoning, with a few becoming seriously ill. But don’t be put off your travels just follow these simple guidelines from the World Health Organisation for eating safely abroad:

- Ensure food is thoroughly cooked and served hot
- Avoid uncooked food, unless it’s fruit / vegetables that can be peeled or shelled. Avoid fruits with damaged skin. Think cook it, peel it or leave it
- Dishes containing raw or undercooked eggs, such as homemade mayonnaise, some sauces and desserts may be dangerous
- Ice cream from unreliable sources is frequently contaminated and can cause illness. If in doubt, avoid it
- Avoid ice unless you’re sure that it’s made from safe water
- Unpasteurised milk should be boiled before consumption
- In some countries certain species of fish and shellfish may contain poisonous biotoxins even when they’re well cooked. Local people can advise you about this
- When the safety of drinking-water is doubtful, bring it to a vigorous boil. In situations where boiling water is not possible, a combination of a well-maintained filtering device and a slow-release disinfectant agent might be considered
- Beverages such as hot tea or coffee, wine, beer and carbonated soft drinks or fruit juices which are either bottled or otherwise packaged are usually safe to drink
Parks - Gardens - Countryside - Woodlands

Springtime saw the efforts of our community with a further 30,000 Daffodils bursting into bloom around the borough in March. This beautiful double variety called Planet, adds to the 4.5 million that have been established over the past 15 years, bringing a sea of colour each spring.

Bulbs for Spring 2007

Bulbs are an easy and permanent way of bringing colour to our parks, verges and local green spaces for years to come, and this autumn we'll be giving away more bulbs. There'll be an option for the first time of Crocuses as well as Daffodils. These are for residents and local schools to plant in their own communities to benefit others who'll be able to enjoy their beauty next spring.

The Daffodils are a variety called Sweetness with a heavily scented, long lasting deep yellow bloom and the Crocuses are a variety called Pickwick which is a silvery lilac with darker lilac stripes producing very large flowers, both species flower in February to March.

There are 60 nets of each available containing approx 200 bulbs and these will be distributed from the week commencing Monday 4 September; we recommend you plant them by mid-October.

Adopt a Tree scheme

There are also more trees available as part of the Adopt a Tree scheme; FREE to those residents and schools who want to care for and look after a tree to ensure it survives and grows for the future.

This year we have 30 white flowering Japanese Cherries* available which will be planted for successful applicants at the end of November as part of national tree week. The adoptee then takes on the care of watering, tying and ensuring the general wellbeing of the tree.

* It's unfortunate that due to underground services and safety it's not possible to plant these trees and bulbs on highway verges. In some cases, we may have to suggest an alternative location.

Please complete and return the application form by Friday 18 August.

Bulb Planting & Adopt a Tree Application Form

We'd like to be considered for:
you may tick both boxes)
Adopt a Tree Bulb Planting Your Proposed Planting Location(s) for:
Trees Bulbs
No. of bulb sacks:
Daffodil Crocus

Name / Organisation: Please print in capitals
Address:
Post Code Contact Telephone Number:

Please return by Friday 18 August 2008 to:
Fareham Borough Council, Parks & Open Spaces, FREEPOST Fareham, PO16 7BR

The personal information you provide will be treated with the strictest confidence and held for a period of no more than two years for the purpose of these activities, promotion of related events and the mailing of associated material. Should you not wish to receive such information, then please tick.

Growing your own may enable you to pick some delicious raspberries or juicy tomatoes, but you'll also be making good use of the land, sustaining the local environment and saving money on your weekly food bill.

Getting started

If you're new to growing you can get started by taking on a small plot at one of 11 sites in the borough of Fareham. This can cost as little as 20p per week, together with some basic gardening tools, time and passion you'll be well on your way to creating your own little haven away from it all. It's also a relatively cheap pastime with many sites having trading huts for their members where you can buy discounted gardening products, seeds and compost.

The associations run a range of activities with lectures, workshops and outings to places of horticultural interest and if you feel you've grown something special then enter an annual allotment competition.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Association</th>
<th>Sites</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fareham</td>
<td>The Gillies, Saltersn, Stroud Green, Wickham Road</td>
<td>Secretary, Mrs M Westbrook tel: 01329 234699</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Wards</td>
<td>Hunts Pond Road, Lodge Road, Pottbrook, Salisbury, Warsash</td>
<td>Secretary, Mrs Gill Rock tel: 01489 576628</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portchester</td>
<td>Roman Grove, Red Barn</td>
<td>Secretary, Mr G Little tel: 01329 284003</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you're interested in hiring a plot please contact the association within your area directly, (see table above)

For more information or advice on allotment gardening please contact Matt Wakefield, Horticultural and Education Officer, tel: 01329 236100 or email: customerservices@fareham.gov.uk
X-Cite Sports Nursery and Pre-School

A brand new day care nursery is now open at Fareham Leisure Centre that offers a wide range of exciting activities from imaginative play and creative workshops through to first stage computer skills.

X-Cite Sports Nursery and Pre-School is open for children aged 2 to 5 and is managed by a team of fully qualified staff who’ll help and support them through their curriculum (Birth to Three Matters and The Foundation Stage).

The great advantage of X-Cite Nursery and Pre-School being located at Fareham Leisure Centre is that the children benefit from swimming and gymnastics lessons taught by a qualified instructor on site, giving them a strong grounding of being healthy in a fun way. They’re also able to make use of other resources within the centre such as a bouncy castle, soft shapes, a dance studio and much more.

Also, recently re-opened is the refurbished Creche, allowing visitors to Fareham Leisure Centre to leave children aged 3 months to 5 years with trained staff, whilst they participate in the various activities on offer.

For more information on X-Cite Sports Nursery and Pre-School at Fareham Leisure Centre please contact, Kate Smith, Nursery Manager, tel: 01329 824716 or email: farehaminfo@slm-ltd.co.uk

Environmental Improvements

Four new schemes for the borough

Crofton Lane Shopping Centre, Hill Head
The frontage has been improved with new, better quality surfacing and flowering cherry trees. The surfacing of the pedestrian route to the rear of the houses in Denham Close has been enhanced. Steps to shops have been removed and flat entrances created to assist mobility and access.

Highlands Road Shopping Centre, Fareham
The layout of the car park and the replacement of worn out grass areas with trees, shrubs and railings has greatly improved the look and appeal of the shops at Highlands Road. Steps to the shops have been removed, with levelled entrances created to assist mobility and access.

The quality of street furniture and surfacing materials has also been improved and signage put in place displaying a specially designed logo for the shopping centre, created by Henry Cort student, Deana West.

Jubilee Gates and Tree Avenue
The relocation of the Jubilee Gates to the Market Quay Car Park (left), adjacent to the Market Quay roundabout has been completed, creating an attractive ‘gateway’ feature at the entrance to the town centre.

The planting of an avenue of London Plane trees (right) along the main pedestrian route through the Market Quay Car Park was completed in February, linking the Jubilee Gates with the entrance to the shopping centre. The cost of the trees was kindly sponsored by The Fareham Society to celebrate their 30th anniversary. It is hoped that additional improvements to surfacing will follow, subject to funding.

Harper Way Tree Avenue
The planting of an avenue of large London Plane trees in Harper Way was also completed in February, creating a bold and dramatic new entrance to the town centre from the bus station. Additional improvements to surfacing will follow.

Future improvement schemes, currently in preparation, include parts of the Town Quay Conservation Area, specifically the Upper Wharf and Lower Quay areas, Titchfield Square and part of West Street.
Community Safety

Hidden Crime

From day-to-day many of us put up with some sort of abuse, intimidation or nuisance because we don’t know who can help or we don’t think we can be helped or we fear what’ll happen if we ‘start the ball rolling’ by making a complaint. But you don’t have to be a victim!

Thankfully, there are a large number of services available to provide support, information or action – they’re just a phone call away (see contact numbers on the opposite page).

The council has a Community Safety Team which offers free advice to residents concerned about the safety of their neighbourhood. We work closely with the community to develop an accurate picture of any problems being experienced and are able to draw up a plan of action with other agencies that’ll help tackle the issues identified.

Lesbian and Gay Liaison Officers are trained to work closely with people suffering from homophobic crime, whilst designated officers are on hand to help those who are suffering from domestic abuse, to ensure that the person receives a fair and non-judgmental service.

In addition, beat or police officers are assigned to specific areas of Fareham to act as a link into the community. Four times a year, they hold community meetings that are open to the public, where they listen to concerns and offer solutions. These meetings are also attended by members of the Community Safety Team, the council’s Enforcement Team and representatives from Neighbourhood Watch who can help tackle the wider community problems.

Domestic Violence Helpline

Domestic violence is often a crime that goes unreported; leaving sufferers feeling vulnerable, isolated and at risk of repeat incidents.

Fareham’s Community Safety Partnership has provided funding towards the Domestic Abuse Helpline that ensures people in the Fareham area, who are suffering from domestic violence have access to support at anytime; day or night.

Run by Southern Focus Trust, the 24 hour helpline offers a confidential telephone line which provides listening support and details of local services which can offer additional guidance, advice and practical assistance.

The helpline is operated by female volunteers who have undergone strict vetting and intensive training. All phone calls are completely confidential (the phone number doesn’t even show up on your phone bill and is free if you use a landline) and any action will only be taken if this is specifically requested by you.

The Domestic Abuse Helpline is 0800 5876 500.

Hate Crime

Hate crime is any offence against a person or their property which is motivated by the offender’s perception of the individual being ‘different’ e.g of a different race, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity or level of physical ability.

Fareham’s Community Safety Partnership is currently researching peoples’ experience of ‘hate crimes’ in the borough. This is to ensure that we’ve an accurate picture of the level of occurrences of these crimes in Fareham, allowing us to target and tackle them more effectively.

The Partnership is asking anyone who has experienced hate crime in the borough to inform us. We’re fully aware of the number of very understandable reasons why these incidents may not be reported. However, we offer the opportunity for anyone to report their experiences entirely confidentially and will only carry out further investigations of the incident if requested by you.

Confidential self reporting forms, on which no personal details are required, are available from Fareham Police Station, Fareham’s Community Safety Team (at Civic Offices) or by contacting the Community Safety Officer, tel: 01329 824495 or cbenfield@fareham.gov.uk

All enquiries and information will be treated in the strictest of confidence. No personal details will be passed to any other party or agency unless specifically requested by you.

Useful numbers:

- Community Safety Team 01329 236100
- Police (non emergency) 101
- Domestic Violence Helpline 0800 5876 500
- National Drugs Helpline (FRANK) 0800 776600
- Inscape (Sexuality Support Service) 023 92 298951
- Lesbian and Gay Liaison Officers 08450 45 45 45
- Samaritans 08457 909090
- IN AN EMERGENCY 999

Look out for articles on how to tackle anti-social behaviour in future issues of Fareham Today.

Customer Service Centre tel: 01329 236100 email: customerservices@fareham.gov.uk
Is your dog following all the rules?

As a responsible dog owner you’ll probably already be aware about the regulations you must abide by to ensure you’re acting within the law, but here’s a reminder:

**Identification**
When out in public your dog must, at all times, wear a collar with a tag that contains your address and phone number. If you fail to do so you could face prosecution. The added bonus of course is, if your dog gets lost you have a much better chance of being reunited.

In addition to collars and tags, we strongly advise that all dogs are microchipped. It’s a quick and pain-free experience costing only £18 per dog (£10 for owners in receipt of Job Seekers Allowance or Income Support). Our Dog Warden can either come to your home, tel: 01329 236100 to arrange an appointment, or bring your dog to one of our chipping events, either Saturday 5 August at Monks Hill Car Park, Hill Head from 10am-2pm or Saturday 12 August at Passage Lane Car Park, Warsash from 10am-2pm.

**Keep your dog on a lead**
When walking your dog on a footpath or grass verge adjacent to a road, your dog must be on a lead. It’s an offence that you could be prosecuted for and may result in unnecessary accidents.

**Strays**
Any dog that’s on the loose, unsupervised in public, whether or not it has identification, is classed as a stray and as such falls under the Environmental Protection Act 1990. In such cases the council follows this procedure:
- Upon catching a dog if it’s wearing a collar with identification or is microchipped we try to return it direct to its owner
- If the same dog is picked up a second time it will not be returned direct to the owner but kennelled. The owner will then incur all charges related with the incident and will have to pay these before the dog is released
- If the owner can’t be contacted we kennel the dog and (if we have an address) we write to the owner
- Any dog not claimed within 7 days will be found a new home

**Fouling**
It’s an offence not to clean up after your dog straight away and if witnessed by an officer of the council, you will be issued with a fixed penalty notice, currently £50. If this isn’t paid within 14 days you could face prosecution in court and a fine of up to £1,000.

For more information about dogs please contact the Dog Warden, tel: 01329 236100; email: customerservices@fareham.gov.uk or visit: www.fareham.gov.uk

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**Energy Efficiency**

We’d all like to save a little extra money on our annual bills and believe it or not it’s easier than you’d think. Just by following these simple tips you’ll not only have a bit more spare cash, you’ll also be helping the environment.

**Light bulbs**
Replace your light bulbs with energy saving ones. They last up to 10 times longer than the standard bulbs and use a quarter of the electricity. A single energy saving light bulb will save you up to £7 per year. It may not sound a fortune but when you consider how many bulbs you have in your household it soon adds up!

Energy saving light bulbs are available in a variety of shapes, sizes and wattages.

**Kettles**
The kettle is a high user of energy and comparatively expensive to run. Don’t overfill the kettle for just one drink, just heat the amount of water you really need - if you’re using an electric kettle, make sure you cover the elements. Jug-type kettles need less water as they have smaller elements.

Make sure you use the boiled water immediately, don’t leave it so you’re forced to re-boil. You could save as much as £25 per year by doing this.

**Hot Water**
Water needs to be hot, but not scalding. For most people, setting the thermostat on the boiler or hot water cylinder at 60°C/ 140°F is fine for bathing and washing. Adopting this helpful hint could save you around £15 a year.

For more information on energy efficiency visit: www.est.org.uk/myhome/ tel: 01329 236100 or email: customerservices@fareham.gov.uk
Fareham & Gosport Real Nappy Network

The Fareham and Gosport Real Nappy Network, launched in April, aims to enable parents to make informed choices about which nappies are best for them and their babies. The Network runs four coffee mornings a year, two in Gosport and two in Fareham, to give parents and parents-to-be the opportunity to see the variety of real nappies available and to chat with the experts – mums who use them.

Gaynor Andrews is a volunteer mum and a founder member of the Fareham and Gosport Real Nappy Network. The network was formed because real nappy information was hard to come by and that only a limited range was in the shops. By running these networks Gaynor hopes that mums and expectant mums will find it easier to access information on real nappies and benefit from talking to mums who use them, helping them to make an informed choice for their child and the environment.

At present about eight million disposable nappies are thrown away every day in the UK - but real nappies can be used again and again. In fact, by choosing real nappies you could actually reduce your household rubbish by 50% and better still the total cost of using real nappies could save you up to half that of using disposables. There is no need to soak or pre-wash the nappies, as the liners are flushed away and only the wraps (outer layer) are washed - there is even a real nappy laundry service available (see details below).

Gaynor Andrews and her son Kieran

Mum-of-three, Emma Johnson, wanted to spread the word to other mums by volunteering to be a member of the Fareham and Gosport Real Nappy Network. Emma used disposable nappies on her two eldest children, now 9 and 7, but says she felt guilty knowing that their nappies were still decomposing in a landfill years later. So after discovering real nappies in Wales, she was delighted to be able to use them on her youngest, Rebecca when she was born.

Emma found them easy to use; both practical (as you wash them at 60ºc) and economical when she realised they worked out cheaper than disposables. Now she says Rebecca only wears disposables when they’re away on holiday!

Emma Johnson and daughter Rebecca

The next Fareham and Gosport Real Nappy Network coffee morning is being held on Friday 14 July from 10.30am until 12.30pm at Thorngate Hall in Gosport.

For more information contact: The Recycling Promotion Officer, Sue Hand, tel: 01329 236100, email: customerservices@fareham.gov.uk visit: www.realnappycampaign.com or call the Real Nappy Helpline: 0845 850 0606.

Recycling scheme off to a good start

Last year Fareham Today asked for volunteers to help spread the word about recycling. Over two dozen applications were received and the scheme was launched in December.

The Recycling Reps, as they're now known, have already met twice and are developing a leaflet to advise neighbours that they can help with any recycling queries. If you have a Recycling Rep in your street you may find a leaflet coming through your door soon.

If you'd like more information or would like to join the group, please contact the Recycling Promotion Officer, tel: 01329 236100 or email: customerservices@fareham.gov.uk

Pro-Grow

Ever wondered what happens to your garden waste once the sacks are emptied fortnightly? Well, the material is taken away and composted. The result is Pro-Grow, a totally peat free, high quality soil conditioner which has Soil Association accreditation.

Pro-Grow is an excellent alternative to peat based products. It has been used in a number of high profile projects including The Eden Project in Cornwall and at The Sir Harold Hillier Garden and Arboretum in Hampshire.

Why use Pro-Grow? The National Trust and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds have jointly warned about the continuing loss of our peat bogs and the need to use alternatives to peat in the garden.

Peat bogs are a unique habitat and are home to rare species of plants, animals and birds such as the Golden Plover. 94% of the UK’s lowland peat bogs have already been lost, yet many gardeners continue to buy peat, often unaware that they’re doing so. Multi-purpose and other composts are usually peat-based unless they state otherwise.

Pro-Grow is available to buy in bags at Household Waste Recycling Centres. It’s also now available from many garden centres or can be delivered FREE direct to your home, by CPL Distribution.

To order any of the Pro-Grow range of soil and lawn conditioners, mulch and bark, please contact CPL Distribution Ltd, tel: 0845 678 9955 or visit: www.pro-grow.co.uk

More information is available from www.rspb.org.uk/gardens/whatyoucando/peat/peatfree.asp and www.pro-grow.co.uk.
New development in the borough

The council is committed to ensuring that Fareham remains a prosperous, safe and attractive place to be. To help us achieve this we’re preparing a new plan for the borough.

This plan is called the Local Development Framework. It’s made up of many parts, and at the moment a document called the Core Strategy is being prepared. This document has reached the Preferred Options stage.

This Core Strategy Preferred Options sets out how the council would prefer to deal with new development in the borough for the next 20 years. It considers the countryside, towns and places where we live, work, shop and spend our leisure time and a new settlement of up to 10,000 houses to the north of Fareham.

Before the next version of the Core Strategy is produced, we need to hear and take account of your opinions on planning the future of the area. Equally we need to consider the views of the government and the south east’s regional authority.

Last summer we asked for your comments on the important planning issues facing the borough. We would now like your help once more. This time we’re asking for your opinions on the council’s preferred approach for the Core Strategy.

This period of consultation will last until 31 July 2006.

Roadshows

Although some of the roadshows and workshops have already taken place, the following events remain:

- **Mon 10 July** The Square, Titchfield 9am-5pm
- **Wed 12 July** Gull Coppice local centre 9am-5pm
- **Fri 14 July** Outside Somerfield supermarket, Highlands Road, Fareham 9am-5pm
- **Mon 17 July** Middle Road, Park Gate 9am-5pm
- **Wed 19 July** Portchester shopping precinct 9am-3pm
- **Thu 20 July** Locks Heath shopping centre 9am-5pm
- **Mon 24 July** Red Lion car park, Stubbington Green 9am-5pm
- **Tue 25 July** Red Lion car park, Stubbington Green 9am-5pm

How to get a copy of the Core Strategy

If you’d like to read the core strategy, you can ask for a copy to be sent to you from the council’s Planning Policy Section (see contacts) or visit: [www.fareham.gov.uk/ldf](http://www.fareham.gov.uk/ldf). Copies are also available from borough libraries and the Civic Offices.

How to take part

If you wish to take part in the consultation, you can do so in the following ways:

- Come along to one of our roadshows and talk to our planning officers
- Attend one of the workshops
- Complete a free post response form (included with the Core Strategy)

Workshops

(There are limited places and attendance must be pre-booked)

- **Tuesday 18 July**
  Octagon Room, Ferneham Hall, Fareham (2pm - 5pm)
- **Wednesday 26 July**
  Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Fareham (5pm - 8pm)

To book your place on a workshop, please contact, tel: 01329 236100 ext 2318/2363

Did you Know?

- Fareham’s new plan for the borough must follow government guidance and make sure that it will meet the south east region’s development needs. This includes the new settlement to the north of Fareham.
- You can find out more about the region’s future strategy and development needs by looking at the draft South East Plan. This is available on-line at [www.southeast-ra.gov.uk/southeastplan](http://www.southeast-ra.gov.uk/southeastplan) or you can contact the regional authority, tel: 01483 555200. A paper copy is also available to look at in the Civic Offices, Fareham.
- The council published new guidance in April 2006 on how it will involve the public, groups and organisations when preparing the new plan and for planning applications. This document is called the Statement of Community Involvement and can be viewed at [www.fareham.gov.uk/ldf](http://www.fareham.gov.uk/ldf) or you can buy a copy from the Planning Policy Section.
- We’re also preparing guidance for future housing developments at Hunts Pond Road, Titchfield Common and Peters Road, Locks Heath. If you’d like further information on these proposals contact the Planning Policy section (see contacts) or visit: [www.fareham.gov.uk/ldf](http://www.fareham.gov.uk/ldf)

Contacts

Planning Policy
Department of Planning and Transportation
Civic Offices, Civic Way
Fareham PO16 7PU
Email: planningpolicy@fareham.gov.uk
Tel: 01329 236100 ext 2318/2363
One Compact for Hampshire

Now in its second year, Fareham's public and voluntary sectors’ partnership framework, COMPACT is paying dividends. Improvements include changes to the council’s Community Grants Programme, processes within the Community Safety Partnership and more decisions where the voice of voluntary groups, meeting community needs, is being heard more fairly.

Members’ allowances

The council has a scheme of allowances for which councillors are entitled to claim payments, this includes a basic flat rate allowance, payable to all councillors.

The basic allowance is the same for all councillors and is intended to recognise the time commitment of all councillors, including such inevitable calls on their time as a variety of meetings, constituency matters and incidental costs, e.g. using their homes.

The council’s scheme also includes what are known as special responsibility allowances. These are available to some councillors who have significant extra duties and responsibilities such as the Executive Leader of the Council, leaders of political groups, members of the council’s Executive and chairmen and vice-chairmen of committees, boards and panels. Carers’ allowances are also available to councillors. Additionally, councillors and co-opted members can claim relevant travelling and subsistence allowances under the scheme.

After receiving advice from an independent panel, the council has now fixed the level of the allowance available for the year until 31 March 2007.

Are you paying for someone else’s ‘good living’?

If money is taken from your purse or wallet, you contact the police, and if someone dents your car, you undoubtedly ask for their insurance details. It seems strange then, that most of us are reluctant to report people we think are claiming housing benefit when they shouldn’t be. It’s even more strange when you consider that in Fareham alone £200,000 is fraudulently claimed each year.

Perhaps most people think it’s easier not to report someone – maybe for fear of reprisal. But with confidential reporting systems in place – either by phone, letter or via the internet – this shouldn’t be an issue.

If you genuinely believe someone is claiming when they shouldn’t be, you can let us know and we’ll look into it. You won’t be asked to give a statement.

Mr X and his ‘good living’

Mr X lived in Fareham and liked ‘good living’. In an anonymous letter we heard that he was claiming housing benefit here, whilst renting out properties in London. Our investigation found that as well as claiming Housing Benefit and Income Support here, he was using a different identity to claim from Brent Council in London.

Digging deeper, the investigation revealed that the London address he was using was being rented to refugees and that he was pocketing the income from this as well. Police officers arresting Mr X found evidence of two further identities in the search of his Fareham home. Checks found that he had a further two London properties – both housing rent paying refugees and both being used to claim Housing Benefit & Income Support.

At court he pleaded guilty to six offences – with 96 others taken into account. He was sentenced to 14 months in prison for fraudulently obtaining £40,000 of public money. It was estimated that he had probably obtained around a further £100,000.

We expect that during his prison term, Mr X lost his need for ‘good living’.

Non Emergency Number

Fareham residents invited to report to 101

Fareham residents can now call 101 for non-emergencies in their local area.

Most people know that 999 is for emergencies. But, up to 70% of 999 calls do not require an emergency response. Now people living in Fareham can call 101 to report all kinds of non-emergency and anti-social behaviour issues.

The new Single Non-Emergency Number (SNEN) provides easy access to safety advice, information and the ability to report things you believe require action whilst freeing up the 999 services for real emergencies. Fareham Borough Council is working closely with the police to improve the delivery of these non-emergency services and help gain information on community issues.

You can phone 101 about:

- vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate damage to property
- noisy neighbours and other noise nuisance
- intimidation and harassment
- abandoned vehicles
- fly tipping, rubbish or litter
- people being drunk or rowdy in public places
- drug related anti-social behaviour
- highway defects and street lighting

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The new Single Non-Emergency Number (SNEN) provides easy access to safety advice, information and the ability to report things you believe require action whilst freeing up the 999 services for real emergencies. Fareham Borough Council is working closely with the police to improve the delivery of these non-emergency services and help gain information on community issues.

You can phone 101 about:

- vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate damage to property
- noisy neighbours and other noise nuisance
- intimidation and harassment
- abandoned vehicles
- fly tipping, rubbish or litter
- people being drunk or rowdy in public places
- drug related anti-social behaviour
- highway defects and street lighting

Mr X and his ‘good living’

Mr X lived in Fareham and liked ‘good living’. In an anonymous letter we heard that he was claiming housing benefit here, whilst renting out properties in London. Our investigation found that as well as claiming Housing Benefit and Income Support here, he was using a different identity to claim from Brent Council in London.

Digging deeper, the investigation revealed that the London address he was using was being rented to refugees and that he was pocketing the income from this as well. Police officers arresting Mr X found evidence of two further identities in the search of his Fareham home. Checks found that he had a further two London properties – both housing rent paying refugees and both being used to claim Housing Benefit & Income Support.

At court he pleaded guilty to six offences – with 96 others taken into account. He was sentenced to 14 months in prison for fraudulently obtaining £40,000 of public money. It was estimated that he had probably obtained around a further £100,000.

We expect that during his prison term, Mr X lost his need for ‘good living’.

Non Emergency Number

Fareham residents invited to report to 101

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We expect that during his prison term, Mr X lost his need for ‘good living’.
**Affordable Housing**

Being able to provide new affordable homes for local people is very important to the council and in 2004, a high-priority corporate objective to build 100 new homes per year was adopted.

Affordable housing is developed for those of us who can’t afford to either buy or rent on the open market because the gap between income levels and property prices is too great. Instead these houses are available to rent from the council’s Housing Register or for other schemes such as Low Cost Home Ownership.

The council looks set to achieve its target of 100 new affordable homes in 2006/07 based on the current site projects.

**Sharland Place, Fareham - Awarded ‘Best New Housing Scheme 2005’ at the National Housing Excellence Awards.**

**Portsmouth Housing Association Ltd**

In Spring 2006, 8 flats were completed for rent at Foxfield, Park Gate and a further 16 new homes were finished (also for rent) at Paddon Place, Fareham. Both schemes were developed in association with Portsmouth Housing Association.

Scheduled for completion this summer/autumn and developed in partnership with Swaythling Housing Society and Atlantic Housing Group will be:

- 17 new affordable homes in Portchester Road
- 16 affordable homes in Botley Road, Park Gate
- 7 new homes in Lower Duncan Road, Park Gate

**Swaythling HOUSING SOCIETY**

Anyone wishing to apply to the Housing Register should contact the Customer Service Centre, tel: 01329 236100. All applications for Low Cost Home Ownership should be directed to Swaythling Housing Society, tel: 023 8062 8000 or visit www.homesinhants.co.uk

**Sheltered Housing**

**Where will you live in retirement?**

Many people in their retirement like to live in their own homes but they also prefer to have a ‘caring neighbour’ or relative nearby. The council’s sheltered housing can provide both of these important needs by offering one bedroom flats with their ‘own front door’, a 24-hour alarm call and help from a sheltered housing officer.

**What other facilities are available?**

A number of our sheltered housing schemes have communal kitchen and lounge areas where residents can meet for coffee mornings and other functions. They’ve landscaped gardens and most have lifts to all floors, several have assisted bathing rooms for those times when you may need help.

**Who can apply?**

Anyone 60 or over can apply for sheltered accommodation. Applicants are prioritised into bands, based on their housing and support needs. The number of housing applicants at present looking for sheltered accommodation is relatively few. As a result waiting times for some schemes may not be too long.

**How much does it cost?**

Rents and service charges vary according to the accommodation and service. Rents range between £49 and £53 per week and service charges between £14 and £17 per week. Assistance is given for both the rent and service charge where tenants are eligible for Housing Benefit. Support charges vary from one sheltered housing scheme to another and are currently under review.

**Can I see a Sheltered Housing Scheme?**

Two of our sheltered housing schemes will be holding ‘Open Days’ in August.

- **Saturday 5 August**
  - Downing Court, Cyprus Road, Titchfield Common.
- **Saturday 19 August**
  - Barnfield Court, Butser Walk, Fareham.

At these open days, interested members of the public can be shown around these high quality schemes between 10 am and 4 pm and see what excellent support service is available on site.

For further information on other sheltered housing schemes or to discuss sheltered housing, please contact either Jas Studley, Senior Sheltered Housing Officer, tel: 01489 557511 or Jon Shore, Tenancy Services Manager, tel: 01329 236100.

**Scheduled for completion this summer/autumn and developed in partnership with Swaythling Housing Society and Atlantic Housing Group will be:**

- 17 new affordable homes in Portchester Road
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- 7 new homes in Lower Duncan Road, Park Gate

**Paddon Place, Watersmeet, Fareham**

**Hamilton Gardens, Portchester Road, nearing completion in June 2006**

**Paddock Court, Titchfield Common**
Fareham’s New Mayor

Mayor of Fareham 2006 - 2007 Councillor John Bryant

John and his wife Pamela (Mayoress) have both lived in Fareham for over 50 years. Married in 1966, they have a daughter, Louise and two grandchildren, Charlotte (9) and Emily (6) who all live locally.

John was first elected as a County Councillor in 1997, four weeks after retiring from the MOD. In 1999, he was elected as a Fareham Borough Councillor and was Consort to Pamela, who was Mayor of Fareham for the municipal year 2002/2003. As well as being Mayor, John is a member of the Appeals Committee and is Vice Chairman of the Planning and Transportation Review Panel.

A keen sportsman, John loves cricket, rowing, football and rugby. He has been the Captain of Southsea Rowing Club (SRC), racing/official/umpire with Hants and Dorset Rowing Association and Vice President of SRC and Hants and Dorset Rowing Association.

During their Mayoral year John and Pamela look forward to meeting many residents and visitors to the borough, and raising money for the Mayor’s chosen charities for 2006/07:

Fareham Youth Council

Are you aged 11-19 years old? Would you like to make a difference? Come and make an impact and get involved. Fareham Youth Council gives young people a voice both locally and nationally.

What they’ve done so far...

• Skate park consultation
• Homelessness conference
• Youth conference
• Met with MPs and other key decision makers
• Participated in Fareham Gala Day
• Organised fundraising events, including a Valentine disco

They also hold regular social events, including: bowling, meals out, weekends away, BBQs and event days.

The Fareham and Gosport MYPs want to meet with as many school councils as possible to give young people the opportunity to raise issues to the UK Youth Parliament. If you’d like them to meet with your school council please email: farehamandgosportmyp@hotmail.com

The 2006/07 MYP for Fareham and Gosport is Katie Weston, and the Deputy MYP is Michael Knight. Over the last few months, they’ve been meeting with the council, including Executive Leader, Councillor Sean Woodward, to campaign on behalf of young people in the local area. They’ve designed a Youth Strategy to improve services and to encourage young people to take an active role in the decision making process.

Currently, they’re campaigning to:

• Promote student run school councils
• Work on an anti-bullying project
• Promote a positive image of young people in the media

The Fareham and Gosport MYPs present Cllr Sean Woodward with the Youth Strategy

The Fareham Youth Council gives young people a voice both locally and nationally.

Members of Youth Parliament (MYP) work to establish the burning local, regional and national issues, and then tackle them through targeted campaigns.

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During their Mayoral year John and Pamela look forward to meeting many residents and visitors to the borough, and raising money for the Mayor’s chosen charities for 2006/07:

British Heart Foundation - (BHF) is the leading UK charity fighting heart and circulatory disease - the UK’s biggest killer. The BHF funds research, education and life-saving equipment and helps heart patients return to a full and active way of life.

FORT - Friends of Oncology and Radiotherapy - FORT Cancer Charity was founded in 1992 as Friends of Oncology and Radiotherapy Trust and although based within St Mary’s Hospital, Portsmouth, works throughout the region within all the hospitals and also within the community.

If you’d like to get involved please come along and make new friends – we meet on the first Wednesday of every month at Fareham Borough Council, Civic Offices, between 4 and 5.30pm.

They also hold regular social events, including: bowling, meals out, weekends away, BBQs and event days. The Youth Council will also be organising a Youth Conference for young people in October 2007, which will be looking at challenging stereotypes around anti-social behaviour and intergenerational differences.

If you’d like to get involved please come along and make new friends – we meet on the first Wednesday of every month at Fareham Borough Council, Civic Offices, between 4 and 5.30pm. They also have regular focus working groups which look at the issues that young people have.

For more information about Fareham Youth Council please contact Sam Martin, tel: 01329 829819 or Janet Duggan, tel: 01329 236100 or email: farehamyc@hotmail.co.uk
Garden Waste

I am so pleased with the garden waste recycling sack, and on collection day I can see how much is taken from my road alone, which must make a great difference to land fill sites. However due to twigs etc piercing the bag it’s becoming a bit worse for wear. When it is completely worn out and beyond use, can you tell me how I can get a replacement?

Mary Johnson, Fareham

You can order a replacement garden waste sack direct from the Customer Service Centre, tel: 01329 236100 or email: customerservices@fareham.gov.uk

A new garden waste sack will be delivered free of charge to your home within 10 working days of the request being logged.

FT - Congratulations Mary, you’ve won a pair of Fareham Hall cinema tickets.

Dear Fareham Today

I just wanted to let you know how helpful the council’s Customer Service team have been each time I’ve phoned the council. The staff are very polite and it’s great that they can deal with my enquiry first hand; it makes a change to being passed from one person to the next!

Ms Sharp, Fareham

We’re focusing on improving our customer service and with the development of our Customer Service Centre (CSC) we have trained the team to deal with your enquiries at the first point of contact, lessening the need for you to be transferred from department to department.

You may have noticed that when you’ve called the CSC, a member of the team has asked for your details, this is to ensure that should you make a follow up call the adviser can see straight away the nature of your original enquiry and update you on the progress.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thu 13</td>
<td>19:30</td>
<td>Hyper-Actors Youth Theatre: When Saturday Comes</td>
<td>£10 (Party 1 in 10 FREE)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 14</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat 22</td>
<td>10:30</td>
<td>Film: Chicken Little (U)</td>
<td>£1.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 20</td>
<td>19:30</td>
<td>South Down Musical Society presents: Show Stoppers</td>
<td>£8 (Buy 2 adult tickets and get a child ticket FREE!)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat 22</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun 23</td>
<td>14:30</td>
<td>Acting Up Drama School presents: Cindy</td>
<td>£9 (U16s/Over 60s £6.50)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 25</td>
<td>14:00</td>
<td>Film: Jarhead (15)</td>
<td>Matinée £3 (£2.50 Leisure Card) Evening £4 (£3.50 Leisure Card)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 30</td>
<td>19:30</td>
<td>The Classique School of Dance: The Roaring Twenties</td>
<td>£8 (U16s/Over 60s £6)</td>
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<td>AUGUST</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 4</td>
<td>20:00</td>
<td>Sparks</td>
<td>£25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 17</td>
<td>19:30</td>
<td>Country Legends</td>
<td>£14 (£13 Leisure Card &amp; U14s £7)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 21</td>
<td>19:30</td>
<td>The Monkees Musical!</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 25</td>
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<td>&quot;I'm a Believer!&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 30</td>
<td>19:30</td>
<td>Hyper Actors Theatre presents: Disco Inferno</td>
<td>£10 (1 in 10 FREE)</td>
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<tr>
<td>SEPTEMBER</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 1</td>
<td>19:30</td>
<td>Hyper Actors Theatre presents: Disco Inferno</td>
<td>£10 (1 in 10 FREE)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat 2</td>
<td>19:30</td>
<td>Jet Harris</td>
<td>£16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 3</td>
<td>11:00</td>
<td>Bridal Fair (For more information contact Lyn, tel: 07941 061477)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun 3</td>
<td>16:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 7</td>
<td>19:30</td>
<td>One Night of Queen</td>
<td>£14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat 9</td>
<td>19:30</td>
<td>Phoney Beatles with support</td>
<td>£15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun 17</td>
<td>19:00</td>
<td>Scottish Tattoo &quot;Celebrate the Tartan&quot;</td>
<td>£14 (£12.50 Leisure Card &amp; parties 10+)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 21</td>
<td>19:30</td>
<td>Dominic Kirwan</td>
<td>£14 (£13 Leisure Card)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 22</td>
<td>15:00</td>
<td>Royal Star and Garter Home Concert</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The Hampshire Ex-Servicemen’s Band and The South Down’s Band</td>
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<td>TBC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat 23</td>
<td>19:30</td>
<td>Portsmouth Chorus</td>
<td>£8 tiered seats, £7 flat surface seats</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun 23</td>
<td>19:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 26</td>
<td>19:30</td>
<td>Fareham Musical Society presents: Annie</td>
<td>Tue ALL SEATS £8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat 30</td>
<td>Sat matinée</td>
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<td>Wed - Sat £10 &amp; £9 (U16s/Over 60s £9 &amp; £8)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>14:30</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
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<td>10:30</td>
<td>Film: Cars (U)</td>
<td>£1.50</td>
</tr>
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N.B. Details may be subject to change. For a full list of what's on at Ferneham Hall and to book your seats, please contact the Box Office, tel: 01329 231942, email: boxoffice@fareham.gov.uk or visit: www.fareham.gov.uk/fernehamhall...ONLINE BOOKING COMING SOON...

Movies in Motion

Created to develop local talent, Xposed Productions perform musical compilations of singing and dancing at Ferneham Hall. Following the success of L’Attitudes in 2005, they’re now preparing Movies in Motion, due to take place at Ferneham Hall in summer 2007.

If you’d like to get involved, cast auditions have been planned for the next couple of months, ready for rehearsals to begin on 1 October, visit: www.xposedproductions.co.uk or email: auditions@xposedproductions.co.uk for further details. Backstage and dressing room helpers are needed; email: info@xposedproductions.co.uk

Tickets go on sale in October from Ferneham Hall Box Office; further details can be found at: www.xposedproductions.co.uk/tickets