This spring will see the completion of our improvements to the Western end of West Street. Throughout the work, the retailers and residents of the area have been enormously patient and have been focused, like us, on how much better the area is going to look at the end of the project.

Motorists using the roads around the area have also shown great patience and understanding, and I would like to take this opportunity to extend my thanks to everyone living, working, using or travelling through West Street over the past nine months. I hope all would agree that the improvements have been worth the disruption. You can read more about this on page 21.

In this edition I’d like to draw your attention to a new strategy we have produced. The Strategy for Older People in Fareham has been developed in partnership with statutory and voluntary agencies with the aim of improving the quality of life for older people in Fareham.

Statistics suggest that almost 20% of Fareham Borough’s population is over the age of 65. This sits above the rest of Hampshire and the whole of England & Wales, where the average is approximately 16%. Projections also show that over a quarter of the remaining Fareham population will reach retirement age in the next twenty years.

In preparing the strategy we asked some of our older residents for their priorities. They were concerned about:

- Improving transport, mobility and access to services for older people
- Helping older people to maintain their health and well being
- Supporting older people to continue living in their own homes
- Improving communication and information about services

Some of the elements needed to ensure we all enjoy our golden years are looked after by other agencies, such as the Primary Care Trust, the Hospital Trusts and Hampshire County Council Social Services. As a result we will be working closely with them to ensure we all provide what our older residents need and want to give them the independent, healthy and well informed lives they deserve.

Please take the time to look at the strategy. You’ll find it on our website at: www.fareham.gov.uk

Executive Leader of Fareham Borough Council,
Councillor Seán Woodward

Sean Woodward
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**Know a rip-off? Give us a tip off!**
Contact the Benefit Investigations Team (in confidence), tel: 01329 824667, email: investigations@fareham.gov.uk or use our online form: www.fareham.gov.uk/benefits
Local elections

On Thursday 1 May electors in the Borough of Fareham will have an opportunity to vote for councillors to represent them on the Council. Fifteen seats will be in contention, one for each of the Borough’s wards. Each councillor elected will serve for four years until May 2012.

Who are the candidates?
Nomination of candidates takes place about a month before the election and details will be published on the Council’s website: www.fareham.gov.uk/elections. Information will also be posted on public noticeboards throughout the Borough and will be available at the Civic Offices, Fareham.

Who can vote?
To vote in this election you must be registered as an elector within the Borough of Fareham. If you’re not registered, you should apply now. The last date for receipt of applications to register is Wednesday 16 April, this will enable you to vote in this election. If you’re still registered for your previous address, you may be able to vote in respect of that address, by post if necessary. For further advice, contact the Elections Office.

Where do I go to vote?
Poll cards will be delivered to all electors to let them know when and where to go to vote. There have been changes to some polling station venues this year so watch out for a notice delivered with your poll card drawing attention to any changes for your area.

I can’t get to the polling station that day - what are my options?
If you’re unable to go to the polling station in person - or simply prefer not to - you may vote by post. An application form is available from the Elections Office or can be downloaded from the Council’s website. It must be received before 5pm on 16 April. A ballot paper will then be sent to you about ten days before the election. Please bear in mind that once you have been granted a postal vote, you can’t change your mind and vote in person instead.

Can I arrange for someone to vote on my behalf?
Yes, in certain circumstances you can make an application to appoint a proxy to vote on your behalf. The person you appoint must be qualified to vote in a local government election and should be someone you trust. Applications will need to be received by 5pm on 23 April. This is the recommended method of voting if you’re going to be abroad on polling day and are leaving a week or two before the election so may not receive a postal vote in time. For further advice on proxy voting contact the Elections Office.

How will I find out who has been elected?
The election results will be published at the Civic Offices and at www.fareham.gov.uk/elections. Contact details for all your local councillors will also be available and will be put onto noticeboards throughout the Borough during May.
Voting by post -
keeping it safe

New arrangements for voting by post have been introduced to minimise the opportunity for fraud. The postal voting pack sent to electors includes a statement on which the elector must provide their date of birth and signature. These details are compared with the information held on our secure database and only if the details match will the ballot paper go forward to be included in the counting of votes.

If you vote by post, you can help make sure your postal vote is safe by following some simple rules:

• When the postal voting pack arrives, put the papers somewhere safe. Make sure the papers are not left where someone else can pick them up.

• Don’t let anyone else handle them. If for some reason you need help to vote (for instance if you are disabled) make sure that only someone you know and trust, or an election official from the Council’s elections office, helps you.

• Where possible, take your completed postal vote pack to the post box yourself. If you need help, make sure it is someone you know and trust who helps you.

• Don’t hand your postal vote to a candidate or party worker unless no other way is practical.

If anyone tries to help you against your will or force you to give them your postal vote, you should contact the police. If you have any other queries, contact the Election Services Office.

To contact Election Services, tel: 01329 824587 or email: electionservices@fareham.gov.uk

Alternatively, visit our website: www.fareham.gov.uk/elections for information and application forms.
A typical week in the life of the Waste & Recycling officers is very varied, here’s a taste of what they do:

**Monday**

**Round surveying:**
The team is out ahead of the collection crews to check recycling bins which have been put out for collection. The aim is to monitor recyclables collected, and leave a note on the bin to advise residents where non-recyclable items are found. The team doesn’t issue fines or penalty notices, it’s purely an advisory role. We find most people are keen to recycle, and recycle correctly, but occasionally they aren’t sure about which materials can be recycled.

**Tuesday**

**am** Meet with collection crews for team meeting and then visit local school to deliver workshops on recycling and minimising waste. The team works with schools throughout the Borough and across all age ranges, to ensure the next generation are good recyclers (and in the hope they remind their parents too!).

**pm** Visit the residents on Monday’s surveying round to assist with recycling and offer further advice.

**Wednesday**

**am** Visit residents to assist with waste reduction.

Any householders who feel they need extra refuse capacity because they have a large family or exceptional needs, can request a second refuse bin.

Their request is considered following a visit from a Waste & Recycling Officer to assess their needs and to offer advice on how to ensure they’re recycling as much as possible.

**pm** Meeting with elected Members and management to discuss and plan future recycling initiatives.

**Thursday**

Recycling Surgery at the Civic Offices. These surgeries provide an opportunity for members of the public to pop in for information, or ask that burning question they’ve been meaning to ask!

**Friday**

**am** Meeting with recycling officers from other Councils in Hampshire. This enables everyone to share good ideas and keep up to date with developments in recycling and waste.

**pm** Planning visits to flats. All households in flats will be visited over the next two years in a programme to introduce recycling to all flats in the Borough.
Waste & Recycling Officers’ top tips for recycling

1. Reduce your waste as much as possible - for example, buy products in bulk, or buy loose fruit and vegetables.

2. Re-use items before you dispose of them - for example, use rechargeable batteries, or keep used carrier bags in the boot of your car so you have them with you next time you’re shopping!

3. Recycle everything you can - even materials we can’t collect in the blue-top bin! Take your glass, clothing & textiles, books and CDs to one of the many bring banks around the Borough.

4. The only plastic we can collect in your blue-top bin is bottles. Ask yourself - is it bottle shaped? If not, it has to go in the green-top waste bin as we can’t send other plastics for recycling.

5. Remember that your glass bottles and jars, steel and aluminium cans can be recycled over and over again!

For more information or help with reducing your waste and increasing recycling, please contact the Council, tel: 01329 236100 and ask to speak to a Waste Advisor; or visit: www.fareham.gov.uk or www.recyclenow.com

Parking your cars on refuse collection days
Could where you park cause an obstruction on refuse collection day?
Parked cars often obstruct refuse collection vehicles when trying to gain access to roads around the Borough. This results in crews having to return the following day hoping that the access will be clear or in some cases requires several attempts on different days - bins remain on pavements for longer and the cost of waste collection rises.

The Refuse and Recycling Service is now working in partnership with Hampshire Police to help ensure the reliability of the waste collection service.

When vehicles are parked in an obstructive way, details of the offending vehicles are reported to the Police for obstruction.

On collection days please help your refuse crew by ensuring your vehicle(s) don’t cause an obstruction.

Bank Holiday collections - waste and recycling

Easter Bank Holiday Good Friday - Normal collection service
Monday collections will be made on the Tuesday, and collections for the remainder of this week will be made either on the due day or a day late.

May Bank Holidays Monday collections will be made on the Tuesday, and collections for the remainder of this week will be made either on the due day or a day later.

Customer Service Centre tel: 01329 236100 email: customerservices@fareham.gov.uk
Local Development Framework

Make sure you have your say on planning issues of the future

Fareham, like every other local authority with planning responsibility must prepare a Local Development Framework (LDF) - a blueprint for development in the Borough until 2026. This Local Development Framework must link in and reflect the requirements of the South East Plan - the document that sets out a vision for the future of the South East region to 2026.

The LDF is an important document and one on which we need to consult you, the residents and businesses of the Borough. That’s why this summer we’re holding a series of exhibitions at local venues close to you, enabling you to find out more about development plans in the Borough. Look out for the list of dates in the summer edition of Fareham Today.

The LDF contains a vision of what the Borough will look like in 2026, along with information about the Strategic Development Area to the north of Fareham town. This focuses on how much land will be needed to accommodate the new community, as well as the character and form of the development, in addition to options for access to the M27 and improved public transport.

There’s also information about general development proposals and identifies specific sites across the Borough that have been highlighted as probable development areas. Further information on site specific developments are given in the LDF’s Site Allocations document. Here you’ll find options for particular types of development such as housing or employment as identified in evidence studies.

Also part of the LDF is a Town Centre Area Action Plan which considers how the town centre might be developed between now and 2026.

Getting involved at this summer’s exhibitions and workshops will ensure your thoughts on how the Borough should look in the future are registered.

Visit: www.fareham.gov.uk for more information about the LDF
Concessionary travel

If you’re 60 or over, or disabled, your bus pass is changing

From 1 April 2008, if you live in England and you’re 60 or over, or registered disabled, you’ll be able to enjoy FREE off-peak local bus travel on local buses anywhere in England. FREE off peak travel is from 9.30am until 11pm Monday to Friday, and all day weekends and bank holidays*.

So even when visiting friends or enjoying a holiday anywhere in England, your Fareham bus pass will enable FREE off-peak local bus travel there too.

If you’re an existing pass holder, there’s no need to reapply, your new pass will be sent to you by 31 March. The new national passes will be valid for a period of five years in most cases.

There will be two types of pass (shown below). The pass with a blue stripe down the right-hand side, is for those residents aged 60 and over. The pass with the orange strip is for disabled residents.

In addition to the National Standard Scheme, Fareham will continue to provide:

**Travel tokens**
£35 worth of tokens for a £5 administration fee.

This concession is available to eligible disabled residents and those currently in receipt of travel tokens. This concession is offered as an alternative to the bus pass and is renewable annually.

**Companion passes** - available for residents who due to a disability, can’t travel alone. This pass allows the holder and one companion to travel FREE within, and directly to and from, the Borough of Fareham. As this concession is provided solely by Fareham Borough Council, it can’t be used in other areas of England. Those eligible will receive two passes, a national standard pass and a Fareham Borough Council pass.

* In Fareham off peak is 9.30am until 12.59am Monday to Friday, all day weekends and bank holidays

For further information and application forms please visit: www.fareham.gov.uk under Concessionary Travel in the A to Z, email: travelconcessions@fareham.gov.uk or tel: 01329 236100.
Business

Fareham’s a good place to start a business

The availability of serviced offices and workshops is a key element of what’s needed to create the right circumstances for the start up and growth of businesses. The ability to pay a monthly fee for a fitted-out office, someone to answer the phone, provide back up secretarial support and have meeting rooms available, is an essential first step for many in getting their business established.

Fareham is lucky to have a choice of facilities on offer:

• **Fareham Enterprise Centre** in Newgate Lane was built by the Council approximately 15 years ago and is now managed by Enterprise First [www.enterprisefirst.co.uk](http://www.enterprisefirst.co.uk) the enterprise agency. There are 18 workshops and 12 office units in the centre managed by Robin Evans, tel: 01329 317222 or email: admin@farehamenterprisecentre.co.uk

• **START Fareham** [www.start-international.co.uk/locations/fareham](http://www.start-international.co.uk/locations/fareham) at Segensworth East is a new building designed as a business incubator and set up by Cambridge based St Johns Innovation. The centre has 10 workshops and 33 office units managed by Stephen Brownlie, tel: 01489 889800 or email: info@start-international.co.uk

• **The Parallel Business Centre** at Cams Hall is at the heart of the Cams Estate office campus and was developed to provide serviced offices within a 300 year old historic building. It’s set within a parkland conservation area that’s now a 27 hole golf course. There are 92 desk spaces in the centre [www.parallelbusinesscentres.co.uk/properties/cams_hall_details.html](http://www.parallelbusinesscentres.co.uk/properties/cams_hall_details.html) managed by Steffi Duffner, tel: 01329 227444 or email: manager@cams-hall.co.uk

• **Portchester Business Centre** [www.pbccentre.co.uk](http://www.pbccentre.co.uk) offering serviced offices, conference and virtual facilities, was created in 2003 by the South West Communications Group, by converting an office building situated on the edge of the shopping area in Portchester. The centre has 72 desk spaces in 21 offices and 4 meeting/conference rooms managed by Sam White, tel: 023 9227 2727 or email: pbc@swcomms.co.uk

The support for new and growing businesses in Fareham is boosted by the location in the town centre of the national business support organisation, Business Link, with their office in High Street, Fareham.

For more information contact:
Tony Mundy, Economic Development Manager, tel: 01329 824686 or email: tmundy@fareham.gov.uk
This A-Z directory lists many of the services Fareham Borough Council provides and can be kept for your future reference. The following list of council services can all be contacted via tel: 01329 236100 or email: customerservices@fareham.gov.uk. More information is available on our website: www.fareham.gov.uk

A

Abandoned Vehicles
We investigate within one working day and if the vehicle does appear to have been abandoned, notices will be placed on the vehicle. Untaxed vehicles that do not appear abandoned should be reported to the Police, tel: 0845 045 4545.

Air Quality
Local authorities have a duty to review and assess air quality in their areas. Contact Regulatory Services for more information.

Allotments
There are eleven sites throughout the Borough offering a range of plot sizes for those interested in organic gardening and growing their own produce.

B

Beach Huts
These are located in Hill Head at Monks Hill and Cliff Road. All huts are privately owned but are sited on council land therefore a charge is made for ground rent and non domestic rates. Due to the popularity of the huts, the low turn over and the length of the waiting list, the list is currently closed.

Building Control
Applies construction standards and regulations required by Government for new and altered buildings, dealing with issues such as; fire resistance, structural stability and energy conservation. It checks the technical design and inspects the new work on site.

Burials
For all religious denominations, burials are arranged through an undertaker in liaison with the Council. There are eight cemeteries and five churchyards managed and maintained by the Council. These provide a quiet and tranquil environment for the bereaved.

Bus Passes
Available to residents who are aged 60+ or registered disabled.

Business Rates
Deals with the billing and collection of Business Rates.

Byelaws
Information regarding current byelaws in force within the Borough, can be viewed at www.fareham.gov.uk

C

Civic Offices Opening Times
Civic Offices - Monday to Thursday, 8.45am to 5.15pm
Friday, 8.45am to 4.45pm
Banking Hall - Monday to Thursday, 8.45am to 4.30pm
Friday, 8.45am to 4pm

Committee and Council Meetings
Held at the civic offices, details of the committees, members, dates of meetings, committee papers and a deputation scheme (which enables people who live or work in the Borough to address councillors on a matter which is due to be discussed) are available from Democratic Services or www.fareham.gov.uk

Community Action Teams
Have your say on what’s going on in your community at one of the five Community Action Team meetings across the Borough.

Community Centres
There are a number of centres around the Borough that can be booked by individuals or groups for activities. You can find out where they are at www.fareham.gov.uk

Community Safety
The Community Safety Team works in partnership with a range of organisations to address issues such as anti-social behaviour and tackling the fear of crime. Contact: antisocialbehaviour@fareham.gov.uk

Community Development
Aims to tackle poverty and promote social inclusion through a range of activities and projects.

Contaminated Land
To prevent future health risks, the Council controls the development of contaminated land. Contact Regulatory Services for further information.

Council Tax
This section deals with the billing and collection of Council Tax.

Council Tax Benefit & Housing Benefit
This section deals with the administration of Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit.

Customer Service Centre (CSC)
The CSC provides easy access to a wide range of Council services and our dedicated Customer Service Advisors are fully trained to assist you with your enquiries.
D

Dangerous Structures
If you’re concerned about any type of building structure that appears to be in a dangerous condition contact building control partnership, tel: 01329 824823.

Development Control
Makes decisions on planning applications for development, the enforcement of planning control and related advice and enquiries.

Disabled Badges
Issued by Hampshire County Council, tel: 0845 600 4555.

Dog Control
The Council deals with stray and nuisance dogs and provides a microchipping service. Contact Regulatory Services for more information.

Drainage Problems
Enquiries relating to blocked/defective drains/sewers should be directed to Southern Water Services, tel: 0845 278 0845. Council tenants should contact Housing Maintenance.

E

Economic Development
The Economic Development service aims to support and promote the local economy. For more information, visit: www.fareham.gov.uk

Election services
Election of councillors to Fareham Borough Council or to Hampshire County Council are generally held on the first Thursday of May. Registration as an elector in the Borough is required by law, although there are some restrictions on who may register.

Enforcement Team
Deals with litter, dog fouling, fly tipping, graffiti and other environmental defacement and related issues. Offenders can be fined an on the spot £50 fixed penalty notice or face prosecution.

Environmental Health
Within the Department of Regulatory Services, Environmental Health covers a range of issues including noise and general nuisance, pest control, hygiene, licensing, etc.

F

Fareham in Bloom
This gardening competition is open to all residents and businesses, who contribute to the appearance of the Borough by means of bright and cheerful planting schemes that enhance the local street scene.

Fareham Leisure Card
Offers discounts of between 5%-50% on a range of leisure activities including sport, entertainment and gardening, tel: 01329 824894.

Fareham Leisure Centre
Managed by SLM in partnership with the Council. For membership or general enquiries, tel: 01329 233652, email: farehaminfo@slm-ltd.co.uk or visit www.slm-ltd.co.uk and www.bananafitness.net

Fareham Town Centre Management
An informal partnership committed to the vitality and vibrancy of the town centre, ensuring that it’s a clean and safe place to work, shop, live and enjoy leisure time.

Ferneham Hall
Fareham’s well established prestigious venue and the hub of the town’s arts and entertainments scene. The varied programme consists of shows, dance nights, fairs, exhibitions and an annual Christmas pantomime. Ferneham Hall box office, tel: 01329 231942 or visit: fernehamhall.co.uk

Flooding
Blocked gullies on the highway are dealt with by Hampshire Highways, tel: 0845 603 5633 or email: roads@hants.gov.uk. If flooding is caused by high sea levels, please contact the Assistant Engineer within the Department of Planning and Transportation.

Food Hygiene and Complaints
We will investigate complaints about food sold within the Borough and ensure all food and food packaging meets legal requirements.

Footpaths
Issues regarding surfaced footpaths are dealt with by Hampshire Highways, tel: 0845 603 5633 or email: roads@hants.gov.uk

Enquiries about unsurfaced or informal footpaths should be directed to Hampshire County Council, tel: 0845 600 4555.

Fraud Hotline
To speak to an investigating officer (in confidence), tel: 01329 824667. Alternatively, you can email: investigations@fareham.gov.uk. You can also report any kind of benefit fraud to the National Fraud Hotline, tel: 0800 854 440 or visit their website: www.targetingbenefitfraud.gov.uk

G

Grants
The Council has a community grants programme for voluntary and community groups to apply for up to £2,000. Go to www.fareham.gov.uk/grants

Grass Cutting
Carried out between March and November on all Council managed and adopted land, which includes highway verges, public spaces and Council housing areas.

H

Have Your Say
Do you have a comment, compliment or complaint about the council? Then contact, tel: 01329 236100 or email: comps@fareham.gov.uk
Health Development
Working with other statutory and voluntary organisations, including the NHS, to deliver and develop projects to promote good health and provide information and advice on a variety of ‘health’ topics.

Historic/Listed Buildings
Advice is given by the Department of Planning and Transportation to owners of listed buildings. This includes guidance on listed building consent for any alterations and the likely acceptability of proposals to alter or extend such buildings.

Home Energy Conservation
Information is available on the methods, grant schemes and programmes designed to help residents cut energy costs and save money while helping to reduce climate pollution/damage.

House Alarms
Noise associated with the persistent ringing of audible intruder alarms installed at domestic premises should be reported to Environmental Health.

Housing
Responsibilities include homelessness and advice; improvement; maintenance; rent and arrears; sheltered; waiting list.

Jobs
Jobs at Fareham Borough Council are advertised online at www.fareham.gov.uk where you can also complete an application online.

L
Land Charges
The Council undertakes land searches on request whenever land or property is going to be sold. Searches are generally turned around in three to five working days.

Licences to sell alcohol
You’ll need a personal and/or premises licence from the Council to sell alcohol. Contact Regulatory Services for an application form.

Lotteries
A lottery permit is required to sell tickets to the public. Advice is available from Regulatory Services.

M
Markets
Traditional street markets are held in Fareham (Mondays) and Portchester (Wednesdays). Farmers’ Markets are held in Fareham on the first Saturday of the month.

Mayor’s Engagements
Fundraising events, Mayor’s chosen charities.

O
Ombudsman
The ombudsman for Southern England is Mr. J R White, Local Government Ombudsman, The Oaks, 2 Westwood Business Park, Coventry CV4 8JB
Tel: 024 7682 0000; Fax: 024 7682 0001 or email: enquiries@lgo.org.uk

Out of Hours
For public health emergencies outside normal office hours, such as late night parties, misfiring house alarms, stray dogs, dangerous structures etc, tel: 0800 374485. If the emergency is after 11pm, you may receive a visit by an authorised officer.

P
Parks Events
These run from March until December and can be booked via Fareham Tourist Information Centre, tel: 01329 221342. The 2008 Events Guide, giving full details of dates, venues and pricing is now available online, visit: www.fareham.gov.uk

Parking
If you have a general enquiry contact the Department of Regulatory Services. If you wish to appeal against the issue of a Standard Charge Notice, this will need to be in writing.

Pay It
The council provides several options for payment of services administered by the Council. Various payment options are available: by Direct Debit, payment online, paying in person, by post, by telephone, by internet banking.

Pest Control
From 1 April 2008 a charge for treatment of rodents (rats and mice) will apply, together with the existing charge for fleas and wasps. The Council doesn’t offer a service for dealing with foxes or squirrels.

Planning
Planning policies are developed within the Planning and Transportation Department. Enquiries relating to planning applications or the enforcement of planning control on specific sites are handled by the Development Control Division of the Department of Regulatory Services.
Planning – Local Development Framework
This sets out future planning strategy to manage how development will take place in Fareham and is progressed by the Department of Planning and Transportation.

Play Areas
These are provided for varying age groups within parks and open spaces throughout the Borough and are managed by the Council.

Private Tenanted Accommodation/Shared Housing
If you’re living in poor or overcrowded conditions and your landlord is reluctant to improve the property, contact Regulatory Services.

Protected Trees
Enquiries should be directed to the Arborist within the Department of Planning and Transportation. Applications for works to trees in conservation areas and trees subject to tree preservation orders are handled by the Development Control Division of the Department of Regulatory Services.

Public Conveniences
There are 15 sites in the Borough of which a number have disabled facilities.

Residential/Holiday Caravan Sites
Your site should comply with a licence issued by the Council. If you’re concerned about conditions on the site, contact Regulatory Services.

Safety Advisory Groups
Speciality events or events for more than 500 people may need Safety Advisory Group input from the Council.

Street Lighting
Please report defective lighting or vandalism (remembering to give us the number on the column) to the reception desk, tel: 0845 603 5633 or email: roads@hants.gov.uk.

Taxi Licensing
The Council provides licences for taxis, their drivers and operators to ensure statutory requirements are met.

Temporary Events
Temporary events providing regulated entertainment, food or alcohol will require a temporary event permit.

Text the Council
You can text us on 07876 131415 if you see issues you want to report eg vandalism, graffiti.

Traffic Lights
Please report traffic signal faults to Hampshire County Council’s Traffic and Travel Information Centre, tel: 01962 860392.

Traffic Management
For general traffic enquiries please contact the Traffic Management and Design Manager in the Department of Planning and Transportation.

Travel Tokens
For those registered disabled (or in receipt of tokens prior to 31 March 2006). There’s a charge of £5 for £35 worth of tokens which can be used for taxis, buses and trains. You can only apply for one pack of tokens in any 12 month period.

Vandalism
If you see any vandalism in the Fareham area please report the incident to the council. If you witness vandalism taking place, please report it to the police, tel: 0845 045 4545.

Walking to Health in Fareham
This is a led-walking scheme around the Borough. Led by trained volunteers, these walks are ideal for beginners and those recovering from illness and injury, or those just wanting fresh air, good company and a stretch of the legs.

Waste
Green top refuse and blue top recycling wheeled bins plus filled garden waste sacks are collected fortnightly. Householders who can’t move their bins or garden waste sacks to the collection point due to ill health, infirmity or disability can apply for assistance. Compost bins can be purchased at a discounted rate by contacting, tel: 0845 077 0757 or www.recyclenow.com/compost

Water Quality
From May to September the Environment Agency carries out bacteriological testing of the sea water at the Borough’s beaches. Results are posted on our noticeboards at Monks Hill, Salterns Road, and Hill Head Sailing club car parks.

Youth Council
The Council supports young people in having their say on local issues. The Fareham Youth Council is made up of young people from across Fareham.
Buy Local

Looking at where our food and consumables come from, together with the associated costs is a hot topic.

Since the Middle Ages, Fareham has hosted markets which continue to thrive today, offering a real alternative to supermarkets. Every Monday there are up to 50 stalls in the traditional street market in the pedestrian end of West Street. Whatever the weather you’ll see the colourful produce and hear the cheerful banter of stallholders.

Greengrocer Brenda Long, a third generation trader who’s had a stall in Fareham for 30 years

Ginny Barrett from Soothill’s bakery who sends Lardy cakes as far away as Australia

On the first Saturday of every month, around 40 small local farmers, growers and producers gather for Fareham’s Farmers’ Market. You won’t find pre-packaged food transported from every corner of the globe here, only seasonal produce which has been grown, reared, caught, brewed, pickled, baked, or processed in the region.

Sitting alongside many of the well known chain stores, there are several local family-run businesses that have traded in the town for decades, some for close to a century. They offer a wealth of knowledge, wide expertise and product range.
A day in the life...

of a Police Community Safety Officer (PCSO)

By Ann Adams

As a PCSO covering the Highlands Road, ‘West End’ and Gosport Road areas, I deal with issues such as anti-social behaviour; petty crime and criminal damage. Along with other partner agencies; including the council; housing associations; fire and ambulance services, we aim to identify the culprits and deal with their behaviour, hopefully to prevent further problems in the future.

Shift 13:30hrs to 22:00hrs

13:30hrs I arrive at the police station and log onto our computer systems to check any incidents that have taken place since I was last on shift. This keeps me up-to-date with events and people, especially prolific offenders, and also allows me to pick up tasks from my sergeant.

14:00hrs I kit up and call into CWUN (control centre) that I’m going out on patrol. I leave the police station on my bike and make my way to Highlands Road via West Street. I stop and chat with some youngsters at Fareham bus station - I often talk with members of the community, it helps to build good relations and reassures those old and young, that there’s a police presence in the area.

14:20hrs I arrive in the Highlands Road area and call in at a couple of addresses to complete some enquiries with regards to criminal damage from the night before. I then check in with the local shops to ensure everything’s okay and head off to Neville Lovett School.

15:00hrs I arrive at Neville Lovett School to arrange when we’re next going in to assist the school with their citizenship classes, talking about rights and responsibilities. We assist with a lot of different classes in all the schools, both junior and senior, which is an excellent way of getting to know all the local children and likewise, them getting to know us. The heads and teachers are extremely supportive and I continually liaise with them to fit the classes into our time.

15:15hrs I receive a call regarding an obstruction of vehicles around Wallisdean Junior School. As the parking of parents’ vehicles around the school can cause a danger for the children walking home, I leave the arrangements at Neville Lovett to a later date and head for Wallisdean Junior. Whilst moving the cars that are causing the obstruction, I also explain to the drivers the dangers and inconvenience to other road users and the legal actions that could be taken if this situation occurs again.

15:40hrs I patrol around the ‘West End’ area of Fareham on my bike taking particular notice of the Broadlaw Walk precinct. I move on a group of youths, who have congregated in the precinct with footballs and bikes, into the park. We’ve had a lot of reports of broken windows and other damage in the precinct from shopkeepers in the past.

16:05hrs Patrolling through the Gillies, I’ve spotted two known drug users, a male and a female, who appear to be dealing drugs with two other males under the old walkthrough. I call into control centre for a police officer as I have to consider my personal safety and I don’t have the powers to deal with this situation. I continue to observe and make mental notes of what’s taking place until other officers arrive within 5 minutes. The suspects run on seeing them arrive. We take up the chase through the traffic in West Street and two are caught. I continue to search the area for the items thrown whilst they were running and after they’re taken to the station I continue my patrol.
16:45hrs I check a PPA (priority patrol area) these are areas that have come to our attention as having particular problems; eg seasonal anti-social behaviour.

17:30hrs I return to the station to update our record management system with information, check emails etc and have dinner.

18:30hrs I resume my patrol with another PCSO. We often pair up at night for safety and to be more effective when dealing with large groups of youths. Travelling on bikes allows us to be responsive to calls within minutes, it also enables us to use alleys; patrol parks and fields and generally get into areas that cars can’t go without being seen or heard.

Patrolling the Highlands Road area, we have spoken to a group of youths being rude and threatening to customers entering Somerfield. These youths are known to us and after speaking to them, taking their details and issuing them with a street encounter record, we send them on their way.

I have spotted a car that has road tax out of date by several months, I call in on the radio and do a vehicle check. When all the information comes back to me with regards to the owner, I write out the documentation to send to the DVLA.

19:00hrs The youth club is on tonight in the church hall at the top of Gudge Heath Lane, we drop in for a cup of tea and a chat with the youth club volunteers and the kids attending. There have been some problems with youths smuggling in cigarettes and alcohol. I stand on the gate as they’re coming in and if I suspect they have either, I have the power to search and confiscate, sending out a clear message that we’re working together to stop under age drinking. At the same time, we also try to educate them about the problems drinking causes in their behaviour and their health and try to encourage them into doing some more productive or imaginative things with their time at the club.

We remain at the club for around an hour. We’re then called to ‘West End’ to check out a call that has come in claiming youths are on the roof of Neville Lovett School. By the time we arrive there’s no sign of them, so we continue an area search and find a group of youths who deny being the culprits. We send them on their way letting them know we’re patrolling the area for the evening.

21:00hrs We return to the Highlands area, stopping on our patrol to talk to members of the public, reassuring them we’re around and giving them the opportunity to talk to us. We also stop several small groups of youths, just for a chat, checking they’re not drinking and causing any problems.

21:45hrs After a final check that things are running smoothly at the youth club, we cycle back to the station. Our shift has ended.

You may be aware that central government funding for the 101 project has been withdrawn. At the time of writing it is unclear whether the service may continue with alternative funding. Please check the media for 101 announcements.

Crimestoppers, the charity that takes information about criminals and crime, now has local pages on the charity’s website for Hampshire & IOW. They include the local rogues gallery “Most Wanted” as well as all the latest information on call statistics and crime types as well as updates on campaigns and corporate news.

The new site can be found at www.crimestoppers-uk.org/in-your-area/south-east and then click on the map.
Fareham in Bloom Competition 2008

Please print in capitals

Name/Organisation: ...........................................................................
Address: .......................................................................................
Postcode ......................................................................................
Telephone: home: ...........................................................................
work: ............................................................................................
Allotment site (if applicable): ..........................................................
plot no. ..............................................................

Entries must be within the Borough of Fareham and visible from the front or side (except sections 3&5).
You may enter a total of four categories in sections 1 - 4 or you can enter one category from sections 5 or 6.

Section 1
1a Small floral front garden under 60 sq.m
1b Large floral front garden over 60 sq.m
1c Courtyard gdn (max. 5m depth from front of house)
1d Plantsman’s front gdn (other than floral bedding)

Section 2
2 Hanging or wall basket
3 Container (window box/tub etc.)
4 Best floral display (including balconies) using any type of baskets/containers
5 Unusual garden feature

Section 3
6a Floral back garden
6b Plantsman’s back garden
6c Wildlife garden

Section 4
7a Allotment garden up to 5 rods
7b Allotment garden over 5 rods
7c Young person’s allotment garden

Section 5
8a Local authority run warden assisted/sheltered residential home/complex or day care facility
8b Other warden assisted/sheltered residential home, complex or other housing services provider
9 Business premises
10 Public house
11 Community floral display
(Your street/cul-de-sac, community centre, public service area etc.)
12 Schools gardening projects

Section 6
13 Shop window display

Please return to: Fareham Borough Council, Parks & Open Spaces, FREEPOST, Fareham PO16 7BR

Events for all
The new parks events guide is set to bring another fun filled season with a full programme of events aimed at developing an awareness of the Borough’s parks, woodland and countryside sites and encourage people into the great outdoors.

A copy of the Events Guide and more information is available from the Fareham Tourist Information Centre; Fareham Shopping Centre; community centres; libraries; the Civic Offices and at www.fareham.gov.uk.

Flower Power - putting on the show
Do you have a garden that really stands out from the rest? Whether it’s your gorgeous geraniums or your beautiful Begonias, we’d love to receive your entry. All entries are judged during the first two weeks of July on individual merit with awards of Bronze, Silver, Silver Gilt and Gold presented at a gala evening to be held on 11 September at Ferneham Hall.

To enter, simply complete the application form (left) and return it to: Fareham Borough Council, Parks & Open Spaces, FREEPOST, Fareham PO16 7BR no later than Friday 20 June. Entry is FREE and all entrants will receive a 10% discount card for use throughout the year at selected nurseries.

For more information on ‘In Bloom’ Events and Horticultural advice contact Matt Wakefield, Horticultural Development Officer, tel: 01329 824543 or email: parks@fareham.gov.uk

We’re tickled pink to be the Champion of Champions
Supported by WarnerGoodman
Principle sponsors

Thirteen years on and one of the most successful community gardening campaigns in the south, Fareham in Bloom, continues to bring together hundreds of people who help to make Fareham a brighter, more colourful and enjoyable place to be.

Last year saw the Borough receive the Champion of Champions award for the South and South East of England. A fantastic accomplishment for the Borough, which was achieved through the hard work of many people including those who helped to improve their local communities; residents who entered their own gardens into the local competition and open gardens event; the wealth of events held in our parks and open spaces; along with the many generous sponsors who make such a difference to the highways.

Thank you to everyone who’s supported the campaign over many years and played such a big part in achieving this prestigious award.

Carrying on the ‘Tickled Pink’ theme from last autumn, when we gave away thousands of pink flowered spring bulbs; this summer season will see the Borough adorned with baskets, troughs and bedding displays, encompassing rich shades of pink, cerise and silver to bring the theme alive.
Parks Events 2008
Your at a glance guide to events in parks, woodlands and countryside sites around the Borough
All event bookings are taken by Fareham Tourist Information Centre in West Street, Fareham, tel: 01329 221342. 9.30am - 5pm Monday - Friday and 10am - 4pm Saturday. The guide can also be viewed and printed in PDF format by visiting www.fareham.gov.uk/parks

Sat 15 Mar - The Great Easter Egg Hunt
Location: Meet at the Holly Hill Woodland Park main car park, off Barnes Lane, Sarisbury Green
Time: Start 12noon with staged entry times until last entry at 3pm.
Tickets: £5 per child. Adults free with children. This event is always popular so book now!

Sat 29 Mar - Simply Scented
Location: United Reform Church, Osborn Road South, Fareham.
Time: Start 10.30am. Duration approx 3hrs
Tickets: £2.50 – limited to 40 places

Sat 26 Apr
Special Branch - The Sequel!
Location: Meet at the Holly Hill Woodland Park main car park, off Barnes Lane, Sarisbury Green
Time: Start 1pm
Tickets: £2.50 – limited to 30 places

Sat 10 May and Sat 14 Jun
Fareham Gardeners' Fairs
Location: Fareham West Street Town Centre
Time: 9am – 3pm

Sat 7 Jun
Lights Out - Part 1
Location: Warsash Common, entrance from New Road off Fleet End Road, Warsash
Time: Start 8pm
Tickets: £2.50

Sun 20 Jul - Gardens Open Day
Time: 11am - 6pm
Tickets: £3.50 all inclusive in aid of charity. Purchased at first garden visited. Refreshments available at selected gardens.

Sat 4 Oct - King of the Conkerers
Location: Meet at the Holly Hill Woodland Park main car park, off Barnes Lane, Sarisbury Green.
Time: 2pm start. This event is organised by the Friends of Holly Hill. To book, tel: 01329 310290.
Tickets: 50p for enrolment payable on the day. Refreshments will be available.

Sun 19 Oct
Tip Toe through the Toadstools
Location: Meet at Burnt House Lane car park, off Mays Lane, Stubbington where a ranger will take you to the site
Time: 1pm start
Tickets: £3. Limited to 40 people

Sat 25 Oct
6 more days to Halloween!
Location: Northern Junior Community School, Richmond Rise, Portchester
Time: 12noon with staged entry times until 1.30pm
Tickets: £5 per child. Numbers limited to 150. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Sat 28 Sep - In a Nutshell
Location: Gull Coppice, opposite Whiteley Community Centre, Yew Tree Drive, Whiteley
Time: 10am start
Tickets: £2.50

The complete guide detailing each event is available from the Tourist Information Centre or online at www.fareham.gov.uk/parks

Customer Service Centre tel: 01329 236100 email: customerservices@fareham.gov.uk
Our website www.fareham.gov.uk was first published in 1995 with about 300 pages, which by 2005 had grown to approximately 22,000 webpages and 35,000 documents. 2005 was also the year the website was given a facelift and was transformed into the way it looks today. As well as looking fresh and incorporating new/updated tabs, our website also complies with web accessibility to 'AA compliance' in accordance with www.w3.org this ensures everyone can see it.

As part of ongoing improvements to our website you may have noticed some new/updated tabs have appeared on the left-hand navigation. These include, 'Fareham's Community'; 'Discover Local Area'; 'Online Services'; and 'Council Services'. In May an additional tab 'How we Work' will be also be added.

A brand new 'Find My Nearest' search facility is also live on the website, you’ll find a link on every page within the left-hand navigation, under the ‘Online Services’ tab. This new facility enables you to search facilities using your postcode and the results are shown in a list and on a map.

Did you know you can...

• pay your Council Tax online
• apply for a job with Fareham Borough Council online
• search for facilities nearest to your home online
• view council facilities via clickable maps
• view planning applications online

You can also report things online such as: abandoned vehicles; benefit fraud; breach of planning conditions; and a change of address; child protection; damage to council owned trees; dog fouling; fly posting; fly tipping; graffiti; land vulnerable to illegal encampments; missed bin collection; a missing wheelie bin; missed grass cuttings; a missing street nameplate; noise nuisance; overhanging vegetation; overflowing dog bins; overflowing litter bins; a play area; public toilets; recycling banks; a smokey vehicle; streetlights; street cleaning; stray dogs; vandalism.

If you have any comments and suggestions on how to help us improve our website, please email: webmaster@fareham.gov.uk
West Street update

A brighter future for West Street

Last November, works to bring improvements to West Street were started. Funding for the project came from the Department for Communities & Local Government (DCLG) with the assistance of the Partnership for Urban South Hampshire (PUSH).

Thanks to this £1 million New Growth Point funding, and a contribution of £325,000 from Fareham Borough Council, the environment is now improved, with new paving, tree planting and lighting.

If you haven’t taken a stroll west along West Street, then make it one of the things you do this spring - you’ll see the difference.

Retailers in West Street can now see the improvements and hope for a much brighter future for this end of the shopping area.

During the improvement works it’s estimated that 5000 square metres of new paving will have been laid, 33 new lamp columns installed and 24 trees planted in the area between Aldi in the west and Westbury Manor Museum in the east.

The project team working on the West Street improvements would like to say thank you to everyone, retailers, residents and visitors alike for their patience while these improvements have been made.

Round the Harbours

Use your pedal power to help save lives

The British Heart Foundation (BHF) is once again urging people to get on their bikes and join the Round the Harbours bike ride on Sunday 8 June.

This enjoyable circular bike ride, which starts from four different locations (fareham; Gosport; Southsea; or Havant) is suitable for all the family. If you complete the full circular route you will have cycled 32 miles, with 2 ferry crossings, passing through both Portsmouth and Langstone Harbour, and raised money for the British Heart Foundation.

If you’d like to be a part of the Round the Harbours bike ride, contact the event hotline, Freephone: 0808 100 2109; email: sthamesevents@bhf.org.uk or visit: www.bhf.org.uk/roundtheharbours
Did you Know that...?

Price’s Grammar School was established by William Price, a Fareham timber merchant and successful businessman, at the request of his will in 1721.

Founded as a charity, the school allowed deprived children in the area access to an education. The school first opened in 1725 and served the Borough until 1982. Originally located in West Street, the school closed in 1901 and re-opened in 1908 as an all boys’ school on a new site in Park Lane.

The school became a sixth form college in 1976 and then merged with Fareham Technical College in 1982 to establish Fareham College. The Park Lane site (Price’s) closed forever in 1989 to join the Bishopfield Road site, where Fareham College is still based today.

The Charity Commission continues to carry out the original wishes of William Price under the reformed name of the William Price Charitable Trust, which makes grants to residents under the age of 25 living within the old Parish boundaries of Fareham.

An exhibition about Price’s, one of Fareham’s oldest schools, opens at Westbury Manor Museum, West Street on Saturday 3 May. Running until Saturday 21 June, the exhibition will demonstrate the life and times of the school as well as the important contribution William Price made to education in Fareham.

On Sunday 8 June there will be an arranged walk from the original site of the school in West Street following a traditional route to Park Lane and finishing at St Peter and St Paul’s Church where a commemorative service will be held.

If you’re a former pupil and would like to register your interest in the celebrations please contact David Williams by emailing david@family-williams.me.uk

Letters

Dear Fareham Today

I have been meaning to contact you for a while to say that our refuse collectors are fantastic. I have two small boys who can’t wait for Tuesday mornings to come round. It is the highlight of the day. They stand on the window sill and wave at the men who all smile and wave back. They are just fantastic and do a great job in all weathers. We just wanted to say thanks and think you should have a crew of the month award.

The Noyce Family, Portchester

Dear Editor

I would like to share with you and your readers my appreciation of a fantastic evening I and my son spent at Ashcroft Arts Centre.

It was there that the New Rope String Band, banished for a few hours the misery of winter rain with one of the slickest presentations of just how much fun music can be. Their level of musicianship was superb and presented with a level of enthusiasm that really was infectious. Well done Ashcroft Arts Centre for booking them and well done both the councils of Fareham and Hampshire for supporting a management which has the discernment to organize such good entertainment at affordable prices!

Yours sincerely, Myriam Tothill

Contact us...

Do you want to ‘air your views, ask a question about the Borough or tell us about an interesting historical fact? We’d like to hear from you, email: publicity@fareham.gov.uk or write to: The Editor, Fareham Today Magazine, Fareham Borough Council, Civic Offices, Civic Way, Fareham PO16 7PU.
MARCH

Tue 11 - 19:30  Silver - Celebrating 25 years of Fareham Musical Society  £11 & £10 (U16s/over 60s £9.50 & £8.50)
Sat 15 (Sat matinée 14:30)  Oysterband  £3.50 (U16s/over 60s £2.50, family of 2+ £10)
Sun 16 10:00  Talyllyn Railway Preservation Society Model Railway Exhibition
Fri 21 19:30 Show of Hands plus special guests  £20 all seated
Sat 22 19:30 Oysterband plus special guests  £20 seated, £15 standing
Sun 23 19:30 Flook plus special guests  £20 all seated

For more information on Easter Festival events at all participating venues, visit: www.eastfest.co.uk

Fri 28 19:30  The Mayor of Fareham’s Charity Ball  £16.50, £14, £11 & £6.50 (students ½ price U16s £1)
Sat 29 19:30  Havant Symphony Orchestra  £16.50, £14, £11 & £6.50 (students ½ price U16s £1)

APRIL

Thu 3 18:00  Live and Unsigned Regional Final Show U18s final  £7.50
20:30  18+ final
Sat 5 - From 09:00  Fareham Stage Dance Festival  £4 session, £6 daily, £30 whole festival (U16s/over 60s ½ price)
Sat 12 19:30  Gosport Gang Show  £8 Wed, £9 Sat matinées
Wed 16 19:30  Gosport Amateur Operatic Society  £8, £5.50 Thu & Sat matinées
Sat 19 13:30  The All Woman Show  £10.50, £8, £5.50 £9 (U16s/over 60s £8)
Thu 24 - 19:30  Stage One Youth Theatre Company presents - Kiss Me Kate  £8.50 (U16s/over 60s £7)
Sat 26 14:30  Mr Men & Little Miss - Sports Day Fun  £9 (Supersaver 4 tickets £34)

MAY

Sat 3 19:30  Fareham Philharmonic Choir & Orchestra Mendelssohn “Elijah”  £10.50 (U16s £2, over 60s £9)
tickets from The Fareham Well, tel: 01329 318731 or FPC Box Office, tel: 01329 664948
Sun 4 19:00  Band of HM Royal Marines in aid of Mayor of Fareham’s charity SSAFA  £12 (£10 concessions)
Sun 11 10:30  The All Woman Show  £2.50
Wed 14 19:30  Route 66  £15.50 (£14.50 Leisure Card)
Sat 17 19:30  Havant Chamber Orchestra  £16.50, £14, £11 & £6.50 (students ½ price U16s £1)
Thu 29 - 19:30  Stage One Youth Theatre Company presents - Kiss Me Kate  £8.50 (U16s/over 60s £7)
Sat 31 19:30

JUNE

Thu 5 19:30  The Motown Show  £17.50 (£16.50 Leisure Card)
Wed 11 14:30  We’ll Meet Again  £11 (Over 60s £9)
Sat 14 19:30  New Stars - A variety show starring the best young talent from the south  £12
Mon 16 19:30  Dolly - A Musical Celebration of the Leading Lady of Country  TBC
Thu 19 19:30  Sally Morgan - Star Psychic  £16.50 (£15.50 Leisure Card)

NB 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 online visit: www.fernehamhall.co.uk