

County Councillor Report to Parishes February 2020: Micheldever Ward
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Consultations this month:-

Consultation on proposed changes to the Home to School Transport Policy and Post-16 Transport Policy: deadline 23 Feb 20 Hampshire County Council is seeking residents' and stakeholders' views on proposals to change its Home to School and Post-16 Transport policies that would come into effect in September 2020. Any changes to these policies would affect new applications for transport made after the date of implementation.

Help shape Hampshire's library service for the future: deadline 18th March 2020 :Hampshire County Council is asking people who live, work and study in Hampshire to have their say on proposed changes/cuts to libraries. It includes options for a 15%, 20% or 25% cut in library opening hours. As well as responding to changing needs, the library service is looking to *make savings of £1.76 million*. All areas of work across the County Council are being looked at to find savings needed to bridge the current funding gap faced by local authorities across the country, as demands for council services grow.

Promoting a Hants Carshare scheme- recommended for regular commutes

Hampshire runs its own liftshare scheme, [Hants Carshare](#). Anyone can join for free. You need to register with your email address or Facebook account. The more people who join and submit journeys, the greater the chances of a liftshare match. Parish Councils and local organisations : please promote the service too.

Replacement of 95/96 bus services. Having met with residents to find out their requirements :

A morning trip to Winchester for dentist, bank, optician etc, shopping trips to Sainsburys, to go to hospital visiting, carer responsibilities etc. I have now met the County Council I think we have found a workable solution of a bookable taxi share which covers all the requirements. (confidential note attached for Wonston and Headbourne worthy Councils) This includes a diversion along Springvale Road through Bedfield Lane, Headbourne Worthy on one day which could be useful for Headbourne and Kings Worthy residents (especially those with limited mobility) from Nations Hill to Taylors Corner. I am seeking one day a week option to the Gratton surgery too which could help Wonston and Stoke Charity residents?

Fly tipped waste incidents are rising: please continue to report them, but the Clear Waste app publicised by us all (including the County and Police) is causing some problems. Please continue to report via WCC or HCC. You can also check the waste licences online at hants.gov.uk.

The County budget will be approved in mid February. 20/21 is a '**holding revenue budget**': but massive cuts are planned again for the following year. For example, youth service funding has collapsed from £10m ten years ago to £78,000 for 20/21, library cuts by £1.76m. **Capital projects** for schools, care homes etc (in 19/20 around £380m) are cut by more than 50% for the 20/21 year, and diminish to virtually nil (£0.42m) until 2024. The good news is that after a change in practice, the number of children in care is at its lowest since Aug 2018, to around 1600. I continue to press for a solution to the Merrydale/Cornerways site.

Recent weather conditions remind us of the risks for our communities. Please ensure your emergency plan is up to date. Any queries relevant City or County contacts, please contact me, or WCC direct.

