



Latest updates from Dorset Council



Household Support Fund Awareness Week

This week (16-22 October), the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) is highlighting some of the funding available for low-income households to help with the cost of living challenge.

DWP has given local authorities funding to support residents throughout the year. In Dorset, this support is in the form of supermarket vouchers and applications open each month for eligible households.

Round 4 of the Household Support Fund (HSF) will reopen for applications at

10am on Thursday 2 November 2023 for low-income households in the Dorset Council area.

[Find out more](#)



Putting our best foot forward – Smarter socks that could revolutionise patient care

Our Dorset, the Dorset Integrated Care System, has signed up to trial an innovative new product – the Milbotix SmartSocks – which can help sense when people with dementia or autism are in distress.

The socks, which track heart rate, sweat, temperature and motion, aim to enable those caring for people to intervene before issues escalate.

[Read more](#)



Dorset Council Joint Venture recruitment company

In an exciting announcement, Dorset Council and Commercial Services Group (CSG) will be forming a joint venture (JV) recruitment company to provide Dorset Council with its contingency and interim workforce. The JV will help the council to source key staff particularly in areas such as social care and waste collection.

We will be able to provide more effective management of the recruitment process and retention of skilled temporary agency staff. The council will also have better control over the quality of agency staff and benefit from efficiencies and savings from the collaboration.

[Find out more](#)



‘Hovis’ listed building brought back to former glory.

A listed building on one of Dorset’s most iconic streets has been transformed and bought back into residential use, thanks to collaborative work between the owner and us.

The formerly derelict cottage on Gold Hill in Shaftesbury, featured in the renowned Hovis advert 50 years ago and has now been removed from the council's at risk register.

The Grade II cottage, built in the 17th Century or early 18th Century had lain empty, unused and in disrepair for five years.

[Read more](#)



Careline owners urged to watch out for scammers

Residents with carelines have been warned to look out for scammers asking for money as part of the ongoing switch away from analogue telephone lines.

Some careline equipment needs to be upgraded as part of Ofcom's requirement for BT and Openreach to update the telephone system to a digital one. BT and Openreach are moving householders from the old copper network to a new broadband connection. Landline telephone numbers will remain the same.

The upgrade will be down to the telecom companies, who will inform people of the changes on a postcode basis, between now and December 2025. The new carelines will need to be installed by care providers before the digital switchover takes place.

[Read more](#)

Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2024/25 Consultation

Our consultation on proposed changes to our Local Council Tax Reduction scheme will close on Wednesday 25 October.

Council Tax Reduction is a discount that helps people on low incomes pay their Council Tax bill.

[Have your say](#)

More News:

- [Hayeswood Bungalow in Wimborne, set to provide a nurturing hub for families of children with learning disabilities](#)
 - [Youth practitioners in Dorset complete an innovative qualification in therapeutic childcare](#)
 - [Alcohol and Gambling licensing consultations](#)
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Dorset Road Fix

Find out where our
maintenance crews will be



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