

Hampshire County Councillor Update 49

Dear All

What a summer it's shaping up to be—sunshine, strawberries, and an unstoppable calendar of community events. I hope you're finding time to enjoy it all. Here's my latest County Councillor update for June/July:

M27 Junction 5–7 Overlay Scheme – Update from National Highways e-Bulletin – 30 June 2025

National Highways is progressing with the M27 Overlay Scheme between Junctions 5 and 7. Phase 3a (westbound lanes 3 and 4) is nearing completion, and the team is preparing to shift into Phase 3b, which focuses on surfacing westbound lanes 1 and 2 and verge modifications.

To carry out this next phase safely and efficiently, several overnight and daytime closures will be in place throughout July and early August:

Key Closures:

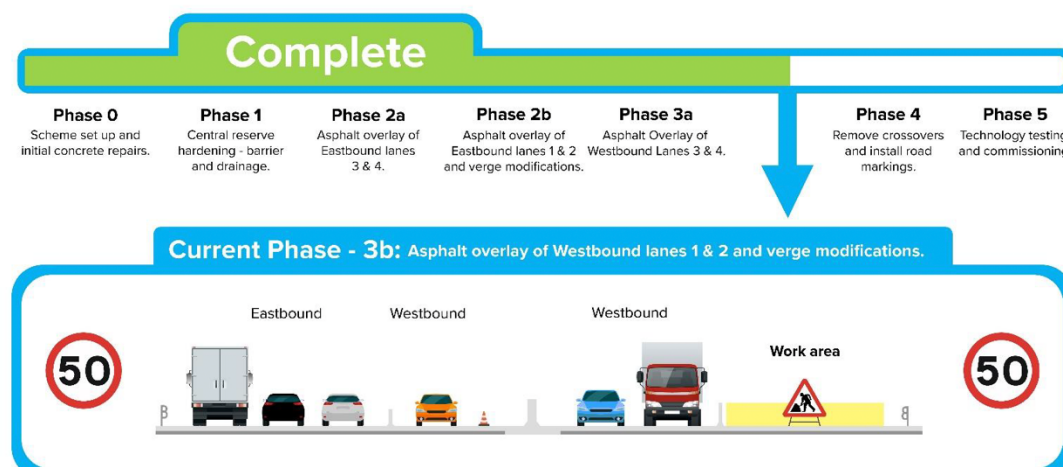
M27 junctions 7 & 8 westbound entry slips: Overnight closures between 10 July and 4 August, 9:00pm–6:00am Complete closure at Junction 7 westbound entry slip: 9:00pm 10 July to 6:00am 16 July Followed by a lane closure (one lane open) until 4 August

M27 junctions 5 & 7 westbound exit slips: Overnight closures between 10 July and 4 August, 9:00pm–6:00am

Diversion routes will be clearly signed, routing traffic via junctions 3, 8, or 9 depending on the closure location and direction of travel.

These closures are essential to ensure safe alignment between resurfaced slip roads and the new carriageway height. While some works extend beyond night hours, this short-term disruption allows National Highways to avoid extended closures during future phases, due to run through to January 2026.

For live updates and further scheme information: www.nationalhighways.co.uk/M27Concrete



Halterworth Lane Improvement Works – Update & Schedule

To help reduce disruption for residents, commuters, local businesses and nearby schools, I've been working with Highways colleagues and as a consequence we're reprogramming the construction works along Halterworth Lane to minimise daytime closures wherever possible.

What's happening? Hampshire County Council are carrying out footway and safety improvements along the south side of A3090 Winchester Road. These works are designed to make the route safer and more accessible for pedestrians and cyclists, with enhancements to visibility at key crossing points.

Key improvements include:

- Widening the footway between Winchester Road and Silverwood Rise
- A 3-metre-wide shared footway between St Swithun's Cottage and The Mandarin Chef
- Realignment and narrowing of the Halterworth Lane junction with Winchester Road
- Enhanced crossing with tactile paving
- Resurfacing approx. 50m along Halterworth Lane
- Updated signage and new bollards to prevent vehicles entering footways

Phased Roadworks Schedule:

Phase 1: Full 24/7 road closure of Halterworth Lane – 2nd to 6th July

Phase 2: Night-time closures (18:00–07:00) – 7th to 13th July, with multi-way lights during the day (no HGV access during this phase)

Phase 3: Ongoing works with multi-way signals until 1st September

Thanks for your patience as we carry out these important improvements — I'll continue to keep you updated as the works progress.

Highways Information

Reporting Highway Problems

Links to report road issues are here:

Potholes: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/highways/report-a-problem/potholes>

Tree/hedge problems: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/highways/report-a-problem/treehedge>

Flooding/drainage issues: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/highways/report-a-problem/flooding>

Pavement problems: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/highways/report-a-problem/paving>

Broken or missing signs: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/highways/report-a-problem/brokensigns>

Faulty street lights: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/highways/report-a-problem/streetlight>

Faded or missing road markings: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/highways/report-a-problem/road-markings>

Problems with rights of way:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/rightsofway/reportaproblem>

When reporting an issue, you'll be sent an email confirming a reference number for the report. If you would like me to follow this up for you then do please forward that message to me and I will chase for you.



Recycling Myth-Busting – Advice from Test Valley Borough Council

There's a lot of confusion about recycling—we hear it all the time. So here at Test Valley Borough Council, we want to set the record straight by tackling some of the most common myths:



"Recycling doesn't make a difference" It absolutely does. Recycling conserves resources, reduces pollution, and keeps valuable materials in use. Plus, many charities rely on recycled items like clothes and books for income.



"It's too time-consuming" Once you set up a simple system at home—just a bin in the kitchen or bathroom—it only takes a moment to sort recyclables, and the environmental benefit is massive.



"You don't need to clean recyclables" Actually, you do! Please ensure items are clean, dry and loose. Rinse bottles, tins and cans in leftover washing up water and keep cardboard clear of grease or food.



"Recycling costs more than it's worth" Wrong again—recycling an aluminium can saves around 95% of the energy used to produce one from raw materials. And don't forget the cost of disposing of materials that could've been recycled.



"You must follow the labels" Not always helpful! With Test Valley's simple system, you don't need to worry about plastic types. We accept all plastic bottles (with lids), plus paper, cardboard, tins, cans and aerosols.



"Wrong items get sorted out anyway" Unfortunately, no. It costs £1.9 million every year in Hampshire to remove non-recyclable items from recycling bins. If in doubt—leave it out.

Simpler. Stronger. Secure.

This week a consultation is being launched by some councils in Hampshire and the Solent about the future shape of local government in our area. Each council is being asked to submit a proposal for how new council areas should be created.

Hampshire County Council is also reviewing early options for the future shape of local councils across Hampshire and the Solent and will be consulting on our proposal later this summer.

Under Government plans, all two-tier areas must transition to single-tier unitary councils by 2028—meaning changes to how local services are delivered. The aim? To create simpler, more efficient councils that are financially resilient and responsive to residents' needs. I absolutely recognise there is a huge risk this will not be the outcome, which is why HCC are undertaking a rigorous assessment of options before suggesting a solution.

It's vital that any new councils created protect the high-quality services upon which residents rely—and ensure long-term financial strength.

Four possible options are now being assessed, each grouping local authority areas differently. Here's a quick look:



Option 1: Three-unitary model

North: Basingstoke & Deane, East Hampshire, Hart, New Forest, Rushmoor, Test Valley, Winchester

South: Eastleigh, Fareham, Gosport, Havant, Portsmouth, Southampton

Isle of Wight: Remains as a stand-alone unitary

(Let me be very clear, I do not believe this model should be promoted, the areas are too large, and the risks created by merging the services of so many councils together are too great. This model though should be explored to provide a base line for our deliberation.)



Option 2: Four-unitary model (South split in two)

North: Basingstoke & Deane, East Hampshire, Hart, Rushmoor, Test Valley, Winchester

South-West: Eastleigh, New Forest, Southampton

South-East: Fareham, Gosport, Havant, Portsmouth

Isle of Wight: Stand-alone unitary



Option 3: Variant four-unitary model (Test Valley shifted)

North: Basingstoke & Deane, East Hampshire, Hart, Rushmoor, Winchester

South-West: Eastleigh, New Forest, Southampton, Test Valley

South-East: Fareham, Gosport, Havant, Portsmouth

Isle of Wight: Stand-alone unitary



Option 4: Five-unitary model (more localised focus)

North-East: Basingstoke & Deane, Hart, Rushmoor

Central: Test Valley, Winchester, East Hampshire

South-West: Eastleigh, New Forest, Southampton

South-East: Fareham, Gosport, Havant, Portsmouth

Isle of Wight: Stand-alone unitary



14 What's next? A preferred option will be selected this summer for public feedback. Final proposals will be submitted to Government this autumn, before a further Government led consultation in 2026.

Have your say on Test Valley's future - Consultation open on next Local Plan 🏡

TVBC are inviting residents to comment on the Revised Regulation 18 Draft Local Plan 2042, which sets out how Test Valley could meet the Government's new housing target of 934 homes per year — a 78% increase from the previous figure.

This 10-week public consultation runs from Friday 27 June to noon on Friday 5 September 2025 and focuses on how the council plan to accommodate this growth while coordinating essential infrastructure.



Key points: • Planning for 15,878 new homes between 2025 and 2042 • Impacts on employment needs also explored • Previous comments will continue to inform future stages



View the plan and respond: www.testvalley.gov.uk/localplan2042



Printed copies are available at Council Offices and libraries across the Borough.



14 Public exhibitions are happening throughout July — check the image below for full details.



Submit your comments: • [@planningpolicy@testvalley.gov.uk](mailto:planningpolicy@testvalley.gov.uk) • 🖋️ TVBC, Beech Hurst, Andover SP10 3AJ • 🖱️ Use the online response form via the link above



Deadline: midday, 5 September 2025

Venue	Address	Date	Time
East Anton Pavilion	Pavilion Road, Andover, SP11 6XU	Monday 7 July	3.30pm – 6.30pm
Valley Park Community Centre	Pilgrims Close, Chandler's Ford, SO53 4ST	Wednesday 9 July	3.30pm – 6.30pm
Wellow Village Hall	Buttons Lane, West Wellow, Romsey, SO51 6BR	Thursday 10 July	4.00pm – 6.00pm
Grateley War Memorial Hall	Station Road, Grateley, Andover, SP11 8LA	Thursday 10 July	4.00pm – 6.00pm
Memorial Hall, Ludgershall	Andover Road, Ludgershall, Andover, SP11 9LZ	Monday 14 July	4.00pm – 6.00pm
Barton Stacey Village Hall	The Street, Barton Stacey, Winchester, SO21 3RH	Monday 14 July	4.00pm – 6.00pm
Stockbridge Town Hall	High Street, Stockbridge, SO20 6HE	Wednesday 16 July	3.30pm – 6.30pm
North Baddesley Village Hall	Botley Road, North Baddesley, Southampton, SO52 9DT	Tuesday 22 July	3.30pm – 6.30pm
Weyhill Fairground Village Hall	Weyhill, Andover, SP11 0QN	Thursday 24 July	3.45pm – 6.45pm
Abbotswood Community Centre	14 Abbotswood Common Road, Romsey, SO51 0BX	Tuesday 29 July	3.30pm – 6.30pm
Nursling & Rownhams Village Hall	Joe Bigwood Close, Nursling, Southampton, SO16 0YL	Wednesday 30 July	3.30pm – 6.30pm
Upper Clatford Village Hall	Village Street, Upper Clatford, Andover, SP11 7QL	Thursday 31 July	3.30pm – 6.30pm
Broughton Village Hall	High Street, Broughton, Stockbridge, SO20 8AX	Thursday 31 July	4.00pm – 6.00pm




★ King's Birthday 2026 Honours – Nominations Now Open

Do you know someone who goes above and beyond for our community? Someone whose contributions deserve national recognition?

A number of fantastic local people have been honoured in the last couple of years as a result of the scheme, so it's definitely worth nominating that person who goes above and beyond for their community.


Nominations are now open for the King's Birthday 2026 Honours. It's a chance to celebrate the everyday heroes who make a real difference to the lives of others.



You'll need to complete the online nomination form:  <https://www.gov.uk/honours> Each nomination must include two letters of support.



The deadline is midnight on Friday 8 August 2025.

If you need help or advice, email:  honours@communities.gov.uk Or visit:  How to nominate – UK Honours System

Let's make sure the incredible people in our community get the recognition they deserve.

Local honours in this year's King's Birthday List:

Huge Congratulations to James Pitkin, rector and vicar for Wellow, Sherfield English, Lockerley, East Tytherley, West Tytherley and East Dean, awarded an MBE in today's King's Birthday Honours for his services as National Chaplain of the Air Cadets.

James works incredibly hard with good humour, kindness and grace and can be seen at so many local events supporting not only his parishioners but our wider community in general, very well deserved.


New Parent? You're not alone.

If you're adjusting to life with a little one and craving some connection, Hampshire's Libraries are here for you.

Hampshire County Council's free 'New Parents Meet and Connect' events offer a relaxed space to share the highs and lows of parenthood—no pressure, just friendly faces, gentle chat, and maybe a few laughs too.

Harry, a new dad who attends his local session, shared: "It's an informative group for a new Dad. I enjoyed quality time with my baby – we especially enjoyed the sensory play."



No need to book—just drop in when it suits you.  Find your nearest session:
<https://www.hants.gov.uk/.../lib.../services/support-parents>

Getting About

Last month I attended the Parish Council meetings at Lockerley, East Dean, West Tytherley, Awbridge, Chilworth, Michelmersh and Timsbury and Wellow. I also attended the Armed Forces Day flag raising in Winchester, appeared on BBC Politics South, attended the parents concerned at smartphone use meeting at Ganger Farm, spoke at the Sparsholt college 125th anniversary event, and at public meetings in Gosport and Shawford.

Contact

Do please get in touch if I can ever be of any help. For those of you using social media, I post very regular updates on many local issues including roadworks and planning applications on my Facebook page here: facebook.com/nickadamsking



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 facebook.com/nickadamsking

CLLR NICK ADAMS-KING
Caring for Romsey Rural

General Updates from HCC:

Decisions due this summer on future services

From older adults' day services to school transport and planned road maintenance, this summer will see key decisions made on the future of some important County Council services delivered to Hampshire residents after April 2026

[Decisions due this summer on future services | Hampshire County Council](#)

Bookings open for Hampshire's Holiday Activities and Food summer programme

Hampshire County Council's popular Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme is back for the 2025 summer holidays – and eligible families can now browse and book free places for their children at local schemes across the county

[Bookings open for Hampshire's Holiday Activities and Food summer programme | Hampshire County Council](#)

Upgrades completed on popular Hayling Billy Trail to create ‘all weather’ surface

People using the Hayling Billy Trail, on Hayling Island in Havant, can now benefit from a brand-new ‘all-weather’ surface, making it easier for walkers, cyclists, mobility scooter users, and horse riders to use in all seasons throughout the year

[Upgrades completed on popular Hayling Billy Trail to create ‘all weather’ surface | Hampshire County Council](#)

County Council to consider proposals to support expansion of household food waste recycling in Hampshire

Proposals to support the introduction of household food waste collections across the county are set to be considered later this month by Hampshire County Council. For the first time, arrangements could be established to process food waste collected from households at two specialist local facilities

[County Council to consider proposals to support expansion of household food waste recycling in Hampshire | Hampshire County Council](#)

Hampshire County Council to consider ‘lane rental’ proposals to minimise roadworks disruption

Proposals that could lead to the introduction of a new lane rental scheme aimed at reducing roadworks delays on over 550 miles of Hampshire’s busiest roads during peak times, are set to be considered by Hampshire County Council later this month

[Hampshire County Council to consider ‘lane rental’ proposals to minimise roadworks disruption | Hampshire County Council](#)

Hampshire County Council reviews early options for simpler, stronger, secure councils of the future

Hampshire County Council is assessing four potential options for local government across Hampshire and the Solent as it closes in on identifying the best way of delivering simpler, stronger and secure councils in the future under Government plans to shake up councils across the country

[Hampshire County Council reviews early options for simpler, stronger, secure councils of the future | Hampshire County Council](#)

Consultation to be requested on proposed merger of Havant primary and secondary schools

Residents in Havant could be asked for their views on the possible merger of the Federation of Riders Infant and Junior Schools and Park Community School (secondary) in Leigh Park

[Consultation to be requested on proposed merger of Havant primary and secondary schools | Hampshire County Council](#)

Last few days to have your say on proposals to help nature recover across Hampshire

There are just a few days left for the public to have their say on the Draft Local Nature Recovery Strategy for Hampshire which sets out a series of biodiversity priorities to help reverse nature's decline

[Last few days to have your say on proposals to help nature recover across Hampshire | Hampshire County Council](#)

Go-ahead given for introduction of Hampshire-wide food waste recycling

Plans to enable Hampshire residents to recycle household food waste from April 2026 have been confirmed. Hampshire County Council has agreed to progress with arrangements that will see an estimated 30,000 to 50,000 tonnes of food waste from Hampshire households recycled through anaerobic digestion – a process where bacteria breaks down organic matter producing valuable by-products such as renewable gas and organic fertilizer.

[Go-ahead given for introduction of Hampshire-wide food waste recycling | Hampshire County Council](#)

Hamble Airfield – Planning Inquiry re-commences

The planning appeal in relation to plans by CEMEX to develop a new quarry at the former Hamble Airfield in Hampshire, re-commences on Tuesday 24 June, lasting for three days.

[Hamble Airfield – Planning Inquiry re-commences | Hampshire County Council](#)

Hampshire County Council announces £12.5 million support package for vulnerable households

Vulnerable Hampshire households struggling with rising costs can access a range of support thanks to a comprehensive £12.5 million package unveiled by Hampshire County Council

[Hampshire County Council announces £12.5 million support package for vulnerable households | Hampshire County Council](#)

Consultation to go ahead on proposed merger of Havant primary and secondary schools

An initial consultation will open on Friday 27 June inviting residents in Havant for their views on the possible merger of the Federation of Riders Infant and Junior Schools and Park Community School (secondary) in Leigh Park

[Consultation to go ahead on proposed merger of Havant primary and secondary schools | Hampshire County Council](#)

More special needs school places for children in Gosport and the New Forest

More children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) in Gosport and the New Forest will access the right support closer to home, thanks to the addition of new special needs places in two local schools.

[More special needs school places for children in Gosport and the New Forest | Hampshire County Council](#)

Festival at The Fort: a vibrant celebration of music and culture comes to Gosport next week

An exciting creative arts festival is coming to Gosport next week, celebrating local heritage and culture and involving more than 700 schoolchildren from the town.

[Festival at The Fort: a vibrant celebration of music and culture comes to Gosport next week | Hampshire County Council](#)

Hampshire County Council plans over 100 transport improvements for 2025/26

Hampshire County Council is planning over 100 transport improvement projects across the county in the coming year to make everyday journeys safer, greener, and easier for everyone.

[Hampshire County Council plans over 100 transport improvements for 2025/26 | Hampshire County Council](#)