

# **District Councillor Report – September 2026**

## **Local Government Reform- UPDATE**

The Government has announced that plans to create unitary authorities in West Sussex will be paused while it undertakes a review of its Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) programme.

As part of this review, a decision on West Sussex will also be reviewed and paused while this is carried out.

The Government has also confirmed that local elections scheduled for May 2027 will go ahead on existing council boundaries, which means the Chichester District Council elections will go ahead in May.

No timeline has been given to local authorities as to when the review is to be carried out or when it will be concluded.

To find out more about local government reorganisation in West Sussex please visit: [www.chichester.gov.uk/devolution](http://www.chichester.gov.uk/devolution) or [www.shapingwestsussex.org](http://www.shapingwestsussex.org)

## **All parishes meeting**

Ahead of the next Parishes meeting taking place in the Committee Rooms on 12th October 2026, we would like to ask the Parishes for their suggestions for agenda items.

Please e-mail your suggestions to [democraticservices@chichester.gov.uk](mailto:democraticservices@chichester.gov.uk), preferably by the 4th of September 2026.

## **A reminder about bin locations**

Funding has been agreed for a new project aimed at ensuring that more litter in the district is recycled. Cabinet has approved £170,000 for the project which will include reassessing litter bin locations, installing new bins in highly used areas and devising a behaviour change campaign aimed at encouraging more people to take their litter home so that it can be more effectively sorted and recycled. The district currently has around 600 litter bins and 250 dog mess bins and combined these are emptied 134,000 times a year. Initial analysis has highlighted that while some bins are extremely well used, there are others that are not well used, which could possibly be re-sited. Public recycling bins are not always efficiently used and can quickly become contaminated by general litter which is something that the council also wants to look at. If you have any ideas about where bins could be usefully located or relocated then let CDC or us know so that it can be taken into consideration.

## **Could you or a loved one be at risk of a fire at home?**

Each year West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service visit around 5,000 homes across the county to help people live safely and prevent fires. These visits, including any smoke alarms or specialist smoke detection equipment fitted during the visit, are free of charge.

Anyone that has a higher risk of having a fire in their home or is less able to escape their home in an emergency, is eligible for a Safe and Well Visit. Factors such as living alone; having a disability or impairment; smoking in the home; living with a health condition which requires the use of medical equipment; and hoarding can all increase the risk of fire.

A Safe and Well Visit covers many aspects of fire safety in the home, such as having working smoke alarms, cooking, charging electronic devices, and planning an escape route. It also covers health and wellbeing topics such as smoking, using emollient creams, alcohol consumption, diet, and exercise – which can all have an impact on a person's safety at home.

If you feel that a Safe and Well Visit would benefit you or someone you know, you can find out more and request a visit at [www.westsussex.gov.uk/safeandwellvisit](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/safeandwellvisit).

Cllr Brett Burkhardt is available on 07876 594168 or [bburkhart@chichester.gov.uk](mailto:bburkhart@chichester.gov.uk)

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