

Winchester City Council parish update December 2023

Hospital consultation

Hampshire and Isle of Wight Integrated Care Board (ICB) and Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (HHFT) have published details on proposals for a consultation on how up to £900 million would be best invested in hospital services across the county.

They aim to do this by creating two excellent acute hospitals; with significant investment in refurbishing the Royal Hampshire County Hospital in Winchester, and by building a brand-new specialist acute hospital on either the existing Basingstoke and North Hampshire Hospital site, or at a new location near Junction 7 of the M3.

The proposals will be discussed at board meetings next week and, subject to approval, a widespread public consultation – likely to begin in early December on three options:

Option 1 proposes a new specialist acute hospital on the current Basingstoke hospital site, while options 2 and 3 propose the new hospital near to Junction 7 of the M3. Were option 2 or 3 to be chosen, specialist acute hospital services would be delivered from the new hospital, while day-to-day hospital services such as outpatients, diagnostics, and therapy services, would still be delivered from the current Basingstoke hospital site, as well as from the new hospital and Winchester hospital.

Cost of living support at Unit 12 Community pantry

WCC and the Community Hub at Unit 12 are offering informal drop-in sessions to provide friendly advice, information and sign-posting around the cost of living. Winchester City Council Officers and experts from partner organisations are on hand to answer questions on issues including increasing income, reviewing benefits, relieving debt, keeping your private or council tenancy.

Residents don't need to book and can bring babies/ children along too. Every 3rd Thursday of the month | 10.30am - 12.30am, Unit 12 Community Food Pantry, Winnall Valley Rd, Winchester SO23 0LD

Free solar panel support for Winchester community organisations

Community organisations in the Winchester district will be able to get free advice and guidance around upgrading their facilities with solar panels thanks to a new scheme from Winchester City Council in partnership with local climate charity Winchester Action on the Climate Crisis (WinACC). The council's Community Solar Support Scheme, funded by the UK government via its UK Shared Prosperity Fund, will provide community organisations with an easy, hassle-free route to installing solar panels on community buildings.

This scheme, which is part of the local authority's Carbon Neutrality Action Plan, will not only help organisations reduce their carbon footprint, it will help reduce running costs too.

Through the initiative, community organisations can benefit from WinACC's support from start to finish - from finding suitable locations and reputable installers, obtaining necessary permissions and identifying funding sources, through to the installation itself.

Organisations can get involved by emailing solar@winacc.org.uk.