Devolution consultation for Chesterfield residents - see pages 4 to 9

Business leaders back devolution deal - see pages 16 to 17

New skills for apprentices - see pages 14 to 15
Welcome
This week a public consultation has been launched about whether we should take advantage of a devolution deal by becoming a full member of the Sheffield City Region Mayoral Combined Authority.

The choice is quite stark. On one side we have on offer a share of £484 million over five years and £900 million over 30 years, along with new powers to make decisions over everyday issues that impact on our lives. On the other there is nothing other than the continuation of these decisions being taken in London.

I’ve said it before and I want to say it again - this is an economic deal. We are not moving in to Yorkshire or merging with it. I’m Chesterfield and Derbyshire born and bred and this is where I will lay my head. I’m not interested in anything that isn’t for the best of Chesterfield and Derbyshire people because I’m proud to be in Chesterfield and Derbyshire.

For years my local BBC radio station service has been provided by BBC Radio Sheffield, my postcode has been a Sheffield one and the sewers in my street have been maintained by Yorkshire Water.

Are we accessible to you?

You can find more information about accessibility on our website.

Czy łatwo jest skontaktować się z nami? Jeżeli nie, powiedz nam o tym! Siamo accessibili nei vostri riguardi? In caso contrario rivolgetevi a noi!

We want everyone to be able to read our publications. We aim to provide what you need to be able to understand our information or talk to write us.

On request we will provide free of charge:

- Language interpreters, including for sign language
- Translation of written material into other languages
- Material in braille, large print and recorded onto CD.

Get in touch
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Demolition plans
A decision is expected in two weeks on a planning application seeking permission to demolish the old Queen’s Park Sports Centre.

The centre, on Boythorpe Road, closed in December 2015, a few days before the new £11.25 million Queen’s Park Sports Centre opened.

A planning application was submitted last month to demolish the site and carry out landscaping as it is no longer economically viable to keep the building running due to it not being energy efficient, not being up to modern leisure requirements and having high running costs.

If permission is granted, work could begin in October and be completed by the end of January 2017.

A public consultation on three or four options for future uses for the site will take place between Monday 22 August and Friday 30 September. Discussions are taking place with planners and Historic England to ensure options put forward in the public consultation would be acceptable given the grade two star heritage listing of the neighbouring Queen’s Park.

We will publish details of the public consultation in advance to encourage residents to give their views on future uses of the site before a decision is made.

Offering help to vulnerable Syrian refugee families

We have pledged to give support to up to six Syrian refugee families who are fleeing violence and persecution.

Our cabinet made the decision to offer homes to up to six families - typically consisting of between two and six people – although in reality only three or four homes are likely to be needed.

We have identified properties which have traditionally proved difficult to find tenants for – meaning anyone currently on our housing waiting lists will not be affected.

Working with our partners, we have identified properties for the scheme in areas where GP surgeries, NHS dentists and schools are not oversubscribed to lessen the impact on residents.

We expect the refugees will arrive in the autumn but the exact timing will be decided by the Government.

Families from the war torn country can come here for up to five years as part of the Government’s Syrian Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme.

The scheme prioritises help for survivors of torture and violence, and women and children at risk or in need of medical care.

At the end of the five years, if they are unable to return to Syria, they may be eligible to apply for settlement in the UK.

The Government will fund the cost of housing the refugees during their stay and providing any services they require. It will also security screen all potential refugees before accepting them in to the UK.

The Derbyshire response to the scheme is coordinated by Derbyshire County Council in conjunction with several district and borough councils in the county.

Various church and voluntary groups have already pledged support for any refugees placed in Derbyshire and councils working with them to ensure the local response to the humanitarian crisis is coordinated.

Visit www.chesterfield.gov.uk/refugees for a list of frequently asked questions on the subject.
Proud of Chesterfield, proud of Derbyshire

All residents and businesses are being encouraged to take part in a public consultation on the best way of gaining devolution powers and funding for Chesterfield.

The consultation, which runs from 1 July to 12 August, is your chance to give your views on one of the biggest decisions the council has had to make in years.

What's it all about?

At the moment many of the day-to-day decisions that affect your life are taken in London by either ministers or civil servants. The money that pays for those services is also controlled by Whitehall. Devolution aims to hand over these powers and money from London to a more local area where decision makers are closer to the issues.

Devolution aims to hand over these powers and money from London to a more local area where decision makers are closer to the issues. These include:

- The need for investment to bring former industrial sites back in to commercial use and to support start-up businesses and existing businesses so they can grow.
- Funding for skills and training to ensure local people have the skills needed to get the jobs created.
- Housing investment.
- Ensuring that public transport services are more integrated across administrative boundaries so they better meet the needs of residents.

The Sheffield City Region has negotiated a deal which will see a £900 million funding pot handed over to the region over the next 30 years with the sole aim of improving the area’s economy, with the boost that brings to jobs.

We’re proud of Chesterfield and proud to be a part of Derbyshire. That is why we are working to get the best deal we can for both by seeking to become a full member of the Sheffield City Region Mayoral Combined Authority. We will, of course, continue our day-to-day links with partners in Derbyshire and the East Midlands.

We – along with North East Derbyshire, Bolsover and Derbyshire Dales District Councils and Bassettlaw District Council in north Nottinghamshire - have already been non-constituent members of this authority since it was set up in 2014 and members of the Sheffield City Region Local Enterprise Partnership since that was created in 2010.

And we’ve done well by being there. We’ve attracted millions of pounds of funding for projects to create and protect jobs in Chesterfield that we would otherwise not have had (see pages 22 to 25).

We now have a choice to make about whether to become a full member, known as a constituent member, and be eligible for all the devolution powers and money that have been negotiated. Or we could take a lesser, non-constituent member status which would see us step aside and not be part of a devolution deal at all, losing the right to access the funding and leaving the decision making in London.

Our councillors, of all three political parties, overwhelmingly voted to apply for full membership of the Sheffield City Region Combined Mayoral Authority, as have the councillors at Bassettlaw District Council in north Nottinghamshire.

The Secretary of State for Local Government is now considering our application. It is due to be decided later in the year on whether Chesterfield and Bassettlaw can become constituent members of the combined authority and gain access to the devolution powers.

In return for handing over the powers, the Government wants an elected mayor post to be created, who will be voted for by all residents in the area that devolution powers and money are given to.

The mayor would be supported by a cabinet made up of the council leaders from each of the councils involved in the combined authority. Each leader would have a vote alongside the mayor when decisions are being made.

The mayor and his cabinet would only manage the devolution powers transferred from London to the region. Day-to-day decision making on existing local council services would remain with Chesterfield Borough Council and Derbyshire County Council, with the one exception of public transport.

What’s the alternative?

The only alternative is to leave the powers and funding in London and miss out on the opportunities available.

There is no other devolution option on the table. Plans for a hoped for Nottinghamshire- Derbyshire devolution deal with the Government were not agreed after a number of Derbyshire’s councils voted not to be part of that proposal.

The remaining partners have publicly said they are not currently putting further work into trying to secure a deal. There is also no Derbyshire only devolution option available.

So our options are a share of at least £484 million over five years - and £900 million over 30 years - if we become a full member of the Sheffield City Region Mayoral Combined Authority or no deal at all, which puts us at the back of the queue when it comes to Government funding.

For years both Chesterfield Borough Council and Derbyshire County Council have had some of the worst funding settlements from the Government, while richer authorities in the south have faced much smaller cuts to their budgets.

Our councillors don’t think that’s fair for the people of Chesterfield and believe the best way of tackling that is to be sat at the table where the money is being handed out rather than by risking our future on playing a waiting game based on ifs, buts and maybes.

You can see a short video on the Sheffield City Region consultation at www.chesterfield.co.uk/devolution.

Myth busters

Devolution is a new process to everyone, both in local areas and in national Government.

So it’s easy for myths to build up around what the process is and isn’t about. Here we clarify some myths that are around.

Myth 1: Chesterfield wants to leave Derbyshire and become part of Yorkshire.

Reality: Chesterfield is and always will be part of Derbyshire. There will be no changes to Chesterfield’s geographical boundaries. It’s not up for discussion.

Myth 2: Chesterfield is merging with Sheffield City Council.

Reality: Chesterfield isn’t merging with Sheffield City Council – or any council. Chesterfield Borough Council will remain in control of every single thing it currently does.

Myth 3: Chesterfield and Derbyshire will lose control of all the services it runs.

Reality: As stated above none of Chesterfield Borough Council’s services will be affected.

Derbyshire County Council will also continue to run all its services as it does now with the one exception of public transport services which would instead be coordinated across a wider region to enable them to link up better together.

Everything else the county council does including running education, children and young people services, adult care and libraries, will continue to be run at County Hall in Matlock as it is now.

Myth 4: Sheffield will be in charge of maintaining our roads.

Reality: Derbyshire County Council will carry out roads maintenance in Chesterfield as they do now.

Myth 5: Chesterfield’s police, fire and ambulance services will be run by Yorkshire.

Reality: Derbyshire Police, Derbyshire Fire and Rescue and the East Midlands Ambulance Service will run Chesterfield’s emergency services as they do now.
How to take part in the consultation

The consultation process is being run by Ipsos Mori, one of the UK’s leading polling organisations.

You can take part by visiting: www.sheffieldcityregiondevolution.org.uk
where you can also find out more about all the issues involved and understand what they mean for you and your family.

Paper copies of the survey are also available from our customer service centre in New Square or the Town Hall.

Consultation events

To help residents and businesses understand what devolution will mean to Chesterfield a series of public consultation events are being held to explain more and let you take part in the consultation process.

The main event is a public meeting being held at the Winding Wheel theatre in Holywell Street, Chesterfield on 11 July at 6.30pm.

This is open to any resident or business in Chesterfield borough to hear from Chesterfield Borough Council’s leader, Councillor John Burrows, and chief executive, Huw Bowen, and ask questions of them.

This will be followed by a drop in consultation event in Chesterfield’s indoor Market Hall on 15 July.

All residents will also be sent a leaflet making them aware of the consultation and details will be published in the local media.

Throughout the consultation process there will also be an information display at our customer service centre in New Square.

Last week more than 100 businesses took part in a Destination Chesterfield event ahead of the consultation process starting.

On 12 July there will also be a Chamber of Commerce event at Ringwood Hall which will be another opportunity for businesses to find out what the process means to them.

Timeline of the process

1 July to 12 August:
Consultation takes place with residents and businesses.

August:
Results are analysed by Ipsos Mori.

Start of September:
The analysis of the public consultation, along with details about the economic case and a proposed scheme of governance – which sets out how the Sheffield City Region Combined Authority would be run – will be sent to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government to consider.

September:
The Secretary of State considers the consultation results and examines the economic case against a series of tests to ensure it is in the best interests of the public. He then makes a decision.

If he decides Chesterfield should be a full member of the Sheffield City Region Mayoral Combined Authority he will start the process of asking Parliament to approve the legislation. If he decides the case hasn’t been made Chesterfield will not become a constituent member of the combined authority.

December:
Parliament approves the legislation.

May 2017:
Residents vote for an elected mayor to chair the Sheffield City Region Mayoral Combined Authority and oversee delivery of the new devolution powers and funding.

Devolution won’t cause Council Tax to go up in 2017/18

One of the most common questions about devolution is what impact it will have on Council Tax.

The Government has said that proposals for devolution should not cost tax payers more than current spending levels.

In line with this guidance, we are committing that our decision to apply for full membership of the Sheffield City Region Mayoral Combined Authority will not cause your Council Tax to go up in 2017/18.

However, the bulk of your Council Tax bill will continue to pay for services not related to devolution. Derbyshire County Council, Derbyshire Fire and Rescue and Derbyshire Police may or may not choose to raise their part of your Council Tax bill to fund these services.

But if there are any rises they will not be related to devolution.

Under the devolution plans, it is likely within the next few years that the small part of your Council Tax currently paid to Derbyshire County Council for public transport services would go to a directed elected mayor to enable him or her to better integrate and plan public transport services.

We are also confident that our application to join Sheffield City Region will help mitigate some of the Government funding cuts currently facing the borough’s services, and achieve better outcomes for Chesterfield residents.
The economic case

One of the tests the Government will consider is whether it makes sense economically for Chesterfield to be a full member of the Sheffield City Region Mayoral Combined Authority.

Due to its geographical position Chesterfield does most of its trade with the other areas that make up north east Derbyshire (Bolsover and North East Derbyshire) and with South Yorkshire. All of that geographical area is within the Sheffield City Region Mayoral Combined Authority area.

3,226 commuters travel to Chesterfield from Sheffield daily for work (compared with 253 from Derby and 216 from Nottingham), with 3,137 commuters going in the other direction (compared to 391 for Derby and 319 for Nottingham)

Six industry sectors in Chesterfield and South Yorkshire rely on each other to supply goods and services

Companies looking to re-locate their businesses are attracted to Chesterfield through our close association with the Sheffield City Region

Invest in Sheffield City Region generated 83 inward investment enquiries for Chesterfield

Figures from between April 2013 and August 2015.

£ Compared to 29 enquiries from other sources

16 per cent of Chesterfield shoppers visit Meadowhall in Sheffield and 15 per cent go to Sheffield City Centre for shopping

There are 17 trains an hour between Chesterfield and Sheffield compared to 13 to Derby and 10 to Nottingham

How it would work

One of the conditions of the Government handing down devolution powers and funding is that areas must have a directly elected mayor to be held accountable to voters for any decisions made on issues being devolved from London to a local area.

All areas looking to get devolution are also being asked to prove to the Government that they can put in place structures with proper accountability to manage the powers and money being devolved to them.

So another part of the public consultation will be to consider the proposed governance scheme that looks at how the Sheffield City Region Mayoral Combined Authority would operate.

The mayor would be responsible for all the things that are jointly important but cross cut council and geographical boundaries. These are: the transport budget, the bus network, major routes linking the areas together (with everyday roads maintenance remaining the responsibility of Derbyshire County Council) and the strategic planning of key sites for business growth, transport and housing.

Mayors will be elected every four or five years giving voters a direct say over issues that are currently decided in London.

The Sheffield City Region Mayoral Combined Authority will be responsible for all the other powers devolved to Sheffield City Region, including skills and training, the investment fund for development and regeneration projects, employment support and business support.

The elected mayor will chair the Sheffield City Region Mayoral Combined Authority, which will operate as a cabinet in the same way that Chesterfield Borough Council currently operates.

The mayor will be required to consult their cabinet on all their spending plans and strategies. Each cabinet member (the leader of Chesterfield Borough Council will be one of these) will have one vote on an issue, as will the elected mayor. Any plans could be rejected if two-thirds of cabinet members disagree.

While the mayor will be responsible for preparing a strategic planning framework for the Sheffield City Region, each cabinet member will also have a veto, to make sure the mayor cannot impose unwanted or inappropriate development in our area.

All decision making will be held to account by scrutiny committees made up of elected councillors from all the councils involved.

Individual councils will continue to run their own services as they currently do – which is the vast majority of everyday services including bin collections, roads maintenance, social care and so on.
Helping Chesterfield’s communities to bloom

Once again, we are helping our residents make the most of the areas in which they live through the Chesterfield in Bloom campaign.

One of our key priorities is to improve the quality of life for local people. This is why we lead the community project each year to show the borough at its green, clean best.

We were recently contacted by local resident, Michelle Murphy who has adopted a piece of land near her home.

Michelle explains: “I moved to Nelson Street three and a half years ago and from the many places I’d lived around Derbyshire, the difference was it lacked any pretty green space.

“I noticed a patch of land at the bottom of the street thick in brambles and nettles it looked like a waste land so people treated it as such.

“It became a mission to clear it, hopefully if it looked clearer and was indeed safer people would care for it better instead of me finding discarded needles and bottles. People have offered flowers to add when it’s finished. ”

Michelle asked if we could provide some gravel or wood chips to prevent weeds coming back when she had finished her planting. Our partner, N T Killingley, has kindly agreed to provide materials for the area.

Michelle is pleased, although she realises people are surprised with the work she has carried out. She says: “I’m sure some people think I’m crazy and I’ve been asked ‘why do you bother?’ I answer: because I want to be proud of my street.”

We are keen to help people improve their communities. For more information or for a range of volunteering opportunities as part of Chesterfield in Bloom, contact John Ramsey by email: john.ramsey@chesterfield.gov.uk or call 01246 345097.

Tackling noise nuisance

A Chesterfield man had his speakers confiscated by the council’s environmental protection team after he caused distress to his neighbours by repeatedly playing loud music.

Stephen Yates, of Grove Way in Chesterfield, had previously received a noise abatement order from the council but ignored repeated warnings leading to the seizure of the speakers.

When the case went to court in April, magistrates granted a confiscation order meaning that the speakers will not be returned.

He was also ordered to pay £200 in fines and costs.

More information on how to deal with noise nuisance is available on our website: www.chesterfield.gov.uk/noise.

Warning on smoking in work vehicles

We are warning people that it is illegal to smoke in vehicles which are also workplaces.

This comes after a Chesterfield taxi driver was handed £320 in fines and costs by magistrates in April.

David Henry Thorley, 54, of Mansfield Road, Temple Normanton had previously received a fixed penalty notice for smoking in the vehicle.

He also received six penalty points on his taxi driver’s licence for the offence.

Welcoming Chesterfield’s new mayor

We welcome a new mayor as Councillor Steve Brunt takes up the reins for the coming year.

Councillor Brunt was elected as councillor for Brockwell ward in May 2015 having previously served as councillor for Holmebrook ward from 1987 to 1999.

He worked in mining before a career in further education, retiring from Northern College, Barnsley after 21 years last summer.

He is supported by his wife, Jill Mannion-Brunt, who serves as mayoress.

They will support two charities during their year of office: The Macmillan Cancer Support Appeal for the new Macmillan Cancer Centre at Chesterfield Royal Hospital and Accessible Derbyshire.

They replace Councillor Barry Bingham and his wife June who served as mayor and mayoress in 2015/16.
We know from the complaints we receive that dog fouling is a big problem in several of our communities.

As well as being unsightly, dog fouling can cause a serious risk to health. Sophie says: "People shouldn’t allow their dogs to do it because it’s not nice for other people. It’s not good for their health – it might have parasites in it."

Mr Hadley says this has proved a real concern to parents: “Many of them have raised concerns and some of them got together to raise a petition about the amount of dog fouling in the area. ‘It’s a close-knit community so it’s likely that our parents will know the people who keep allowing this to happen. ‘I always tell them to keep an eye out for dog walkers who are allowing their dogs to foul around the school grounds and to report it to the council for them to take action. ‘It’s not always easy because it often happens late at night or early in a morning.”

With your help, we can tackle these persistent offenders. Please give us as much information as you can: the date, time and location as well as a description of the dog and the owner. If the owner arrives in a vehicle, please let us have the registration number.

By letting us have all of these details, we are able to step up patrols in the area and hand the perpetrators a fixed penalty notice. If they refuse to pay or allow their dogs to foul regularly, we can take them to court where they can receive a fine of up to £1,000.

Archie (shown right) has a clear message to these persistent offenders: “It’s not the dog’s fault but the fault of the people who walk the dogs. ‘It needs to stop. They should think about us.”

If you see dog fouling in your area, report it at: www.chesterfield.gov.uk/dogfouling or by calling (01246) 345345.
Joining the Sheffield City Region devolution deal will give Chesterfield businesses access to a £17 million Skills Bank Fund that will provide 42,000 employee qualifications over six years. The Skills Bank is an extension to Sheffield City Region’s skills development programme, following on from the successful £27.4 million Skills Made Easy programme.

Since it began in 2013, Skills Made Easy has helped 184 Chesterfield businesses to grow and develop their workforces by offering opportunities for training and support. This includes delivering 98 apprenticeships and 355 training plans.

The skills based programme provides practical and impartial advice when it comes to recruiting apprentices as well as helping to overcome skills shortages by offering access to a wide range of training programmes, usually delivered at no cost to the employer.

Tyler Hopkinson, aged 19 and from Chesterfield, is currently studying for a level four apprenticeship in digital marketing which is benefitting her family’s business. Her parents, Gwen and Jay Hopkinson, set up Brampton-based business Elphius Flux in June 2015. Describing themselves as upcyclers of distinction, the company takes salvaged pieces of furniture and reconditions them to create bespoke, artistic pieces of furniture which can be found in people’s homes and in shops and businesses throughout the UK.

Tyler explains: “The course I’m studying is very in depth, you learn everything you need to know about digital marketing: how to market your business on social media, how to get better results on search engines, how to get paid-for advertising online – basically getting your name out there.”

It is proving successful for the business: “Our average post on Facebook has gone from having around 2,000 views to 19,000 to 20,000 views.”

The business is currently riding high with full order books and they are looking to move to larger premises.

She is certain she made the right decision in joining the course: “People tend to think that you do an apprenticeship if you want to work in hospitality or on a building site but there are so many opportunities out there. “We have one or two workshops each month where we work together in small groups, it’s a great atmosphere.

“I could have gone to university - I had good A Level results - but doing this, you get to earn while you learn.

“Working with my parents made complete sense, there aren’t any cons.”

As well as marketing the company, Tyler also plays a full role in all aspects of the business: “I usually prepare the furniture, strip off paint, sand it down and do finishing work.”

She is proud of how she has put the theory she has learned on the course into practice.

“We had to make a video for the course. A lot of people decided to film an advert for their business but, instead, I ran a competition. “We had a salvaged cabinet which we stripped, took all of the rust off, made a new door, added new handles and hinges and added a butcher’s block on the top made from salvaged wood.

“In the video, we asked people to name the cabinet. We’ve had lots of people engaging with us – with over 100 people entering the competition, people are really starting to get to know who we are.”

Tyler would encourage others to follow her example: “There’s no reason not to do it – studying for an apprenticeship gives you a real advantage, you can always study more at college or university later.”

For more information about skills and training opportunities in the Sheffield City Region visit: www.sheffieldcityregion.org.uk/skills-made-easy/skills/

Hear more from Tyler in a video at www.chesterfield.gov.uk/devolution
Devolution brings benefits to local business

Local business leaders are urging local residents to get behind the proposed Sheffield City Region devolution deal, outlining the benefits to the Chesterfield economy.

Peter Swallow is managing director of Bolsterstone Group Plc, based in Sheepbridge responsible for commercial and residential property development. The company is one of the lead investors in Chesterfield Waterside and also acts as project manager for the scheme, which has already received £5.1 million funding from Sheffield City Region to build Basin Square, the commercial heart of the £300 million scheme, and to carry out the second phase of housing development on the site.

This will create more than 300 jobs in the borough.

As we went to press, work was expected to begin clearing the site for work to begin on building phase one of Basin Square, with tenants already being signed up for the office developments in the scheme.

Peter says: “Chesterfield’s position within the Sheffield City Region means we do a lot of business with neighbouring towns and cities in the region.

“Devolution will give the town a seat at a more influential ‘local’ table not to mention more control over our own financial affairs.

“It could also help bring potential funding to the area further boosting our ambitious plans for growth and development over the next 10 years.”

Peter Beeson, senior partner at Shorts Chartered Accountants on Ashgate Road agrees.

Shorts is the largest independent accountancy firm in Chesterfield and has an established reputation as reliable and forward thinking accountants, taxation and business advisers.

Paul explains: “Devolution is going to happen, so doing nothing is not an option.

“My view is that Sheffield City Region is definitely the one to go to because we have more synergies with Sheffield.

“We have offices in both Chesterfield and Sheffield and people in the business world tend to look north rather than south. We do very little business with companies based in either Derby or Nottingham.

“At the moment, the Sheffield City Region deal is the best one on the table.”

The view is shared by James Brand, managing director of United Cast Bar, which manufactures metal components at its foundry on Spital Lane.

He says: “I’ve never understood why Chesterfield is not more aligned with the Sheffield City Region.

“Devolution is the right thing to do – to have more local control over funding and services, it really makes more sense than having everything controlled by the Government. We are better placed geographically to be part of the Sheffield City Region devolution deal.

“We rely on Sheffield for resource and expertise in both our sub-contractors and suppliers because Sheffield is the heartland for metal.

“There is more focussed skills and training available in Sheffield than in either Derby or Nottingham so it really makes perfect sense.

“As a business, United Cast Bar would hope to benefit from a share of the £900 million of new funding coming into the region over the next 30 years – it will be good for local companies.

“When people hear that local companies have been successful in receiving funding, I am sure that they will be positive about the Sheffield City Region deal and the benefits that it brings to local people by providing jobs and boosting the local economy.”

For more information about the consultation on the Sheffield City Region devolution deal, see pages four to nine.

There is a short video on the consultation available on our website at: www.chesterfield.gov.uk/devolution.
Summer fun

Youngsters can beat the holiday blues and keep active with a full programme of activities at Queen’s Park Sports Centre this summer.

The programme runs from Monday 25 July to Friday 2 September for children age six to 14.

Activities include: gymnastics, trampolining, basketball, racquets, football, team games, water rave and many more.

A full day (9am to 4pm) will cost £12.60 for Active Chesterfield members or £14 for non-members. A half day will cost £6.30 for Active Chesterfield members and £7 for non-members.

Booking is recommended as limited spaces are available. All activities must be paid for at the time of booking.

For more information, please visit www.chesterfield.gov.uk/leisure or call the centre on (01246) 345555. Leaflets are also available to pick up at the centre.

Residents also have until Monday 1 August to nominate their local sporting heroes for the annual Active Chesterfield Sports Awards. Visit: www.chesterfield.gov.uk/sportsawards for more details.

Well, it’s the Battle of Chesterfield

September sees us host the annual well dressing in the town centre.

You can see the well being dressed from Monday 5 to Friday 9 September in the Pavements Shopping Centre, next to Massarella’s from 9:30am to 4pm each day.

It will then be on display at the town pump in the market place from Saturday 10 to Saturday 17 September.

The theme of this year’s well dressing is Chesterfield 750, commemorating the 750th anniversary of the Battle of Chesterfield in 1266.

There will also be a well dressing held at the ‘Crooked Spire’ church.

Photo shows last year’s well dressing under construction.

Looking out for your safety

It’s estimated that one in three young adults now have a tattoo but they could be putting themselves in danger if the tattoo is not applied safely.

Dirty needles can pass on serious infectious diseases such as hepatitis and HIV so it’s extremely important that all of the equipment used is sterile.

This is why we are taking part in a Derbyshire scheme to inspect tattoo parlours in the borough to make sure they conform to hygiene standards.

The scheme is led by Derbyshire County Council with the inspections carried out by Chesterfield Borough Council’s officers.

They will give the tattooist a rating between zero and four depending on how clean and sterile the equipment is and if hygiene records are kept. It is similar to the food hygiene ratings given to cafés and restaurants.

The first tattoo parlour in the county to be given the maximum level four rating was Pierce of Art on Knifesmithgate.

Tattooist Wayne Grant, from Pierce of Art, said: “It makes me feel very proud. It means we can prove we are a top studio with the highest hygiene rating, it sets us aside from every other studio.

“When an inspection takes place, they check all our health and safety procedures.

“They’re wanting ultimately to make sure the customer is safe while having a tattoo. They make sure we are using clean gloves, that we’re washing our hands and using disposable needles.”

He thinks it’s important that people should look out for the new ratings.

“By coming to somebody with a hygiene rating four, which is the highest, they know they are going to get the tattoo they’re happy with but in the safest possible environment.”

For more information and to view the ratings, visit: www.chesterfield.gov.uk/tattooists, where you can also hear more from Wayne in a short video.
One of our top aims is to improve the quality of housing in the borough.

Our in-house works team regularly carries out work to make sure that the homes that are lived in by our tenants meet the Decent Homes standard: that they are warm, protected from the weather and have modern facilities.

Ordinarily, this is a fairly straightforward process but when the buildings where the work is being carried out are listed, this brings added complications.

Recently, work was carried out to homes on Ebenezer Row in Staveley. This is a tenement range of workers’ cottages on Porter Street in Staveley. Built in 1860, they were listed in 1974 and are registered with Historic England.

They were in need of major works to be carried out to the roofs and to replace doors and windows.

Jayne Sherlock has lived here for the past nine years. She explains: “We were worried about the leaky roof, when we had very heavy rain, it would come in through the roof and bedroom ceiling. It’s happened around five or six times while we have lived here.”

Because of the listed status, there are strict rules to follow when replacing roof tiles.

Working with the council’s conservation officer, our in-house works team were able to renew the roof using Welsh slate to ensure it was sympathetic to the look of the original roof.

Work was also carried out to repair the lead flashings, to the chimney stacks and to renew all of the chimney pots.

While this work was done, the team also topped up the loft insulation and added a breathable membrane under the new slates to allow water to drain away during wet weather as well as adding new cast iron guttering and down pipes to cope with rain water.

The team were also able to fit a new communal television and satellite system meaning that TV aerials could be removed from the roof, restoring the heritage look of the properties and enabling residents to subscribe to digital satellite TV for the first time.

Many of the windows in these homes were rotting and draughty and needed to be replaced.

The new windows have double glazed units, meaning there was no need for secondary double glazing. The window frames were made of a timber called Accoya which is specially treated meaning it will not shrink or swell. This was chosen after consulting the council’s conservation officer to make sure it was sympathetic to the heritage appearance of the property.

The new windows are not draughty and open and close much easier than the old ones.

The homes also received new rear doors.

While the work was carried out, there was a level of disruption for tenants as plaster had to be removed and secondary glazing on the windows taken out meaning some noise and dust during working hours.

This was kept to a minimum and when the new windows and doors had been fitted, the areas around them were replastered. Tenants also received vouchers to redecorate their homes when the work was finished.

Jayne says she is pleased with the work that has been carried out: “The look of the place is now much better. The new windows are much better, they have made a real difference, it’s much warmer now and it’s improved the whole place.”
Securing job opportunities for Chesterfield residents

More than 2,400 jobs are set to be created in the borough in the next few years.

All the developments are being made possible thanks in part to Chesterfield’s place at the table in the Sheffield City Region. Several large developments in the borough have already received significant investment, since the Sheffield City Region Local Enterprise Partnership was set up in 2010. These opportunities are set to increase with the devolution deal offered by the Government. Here we take a look at some of the developments benefitting from funding or other financial incentives.

Northern Gateway scheme incorporating the former Co-op building redevelopment

The original Northern Gateway scheme sought to develop land around the Donut roundabout at Holywell Cross for a retail and leisure scheme. But the unexpected closure of the Co-op department store in Elder Way, combined with changes in the retail sector due to the recession, led to a complete rethink with the Co-op site being incorporated in to a revised scheme.

By working with owners Central England Co-operative and their partners, Jomast Developments we were able to support the private sector companies with their development by successfully gaining a commitment for a £5.83 million Sheffield City Region Investment Fund grant that will benefit both the Co-op redevelopment and the wider revised Northern Gateway scheme.

This money will enable environmental improvements to be made to Knifesmithgate, Elder Way and part of Saltergate that will enhance the Co-op redevelopment, while also providing improvements needed for access to other parts of the revised Northern Gateway scheme. Jomast and the Co-op gained planning permission in December 2015 to redevelop the former Co-op building for a leisure scheme which will include:

- Six ground floor restaurants
- A hotel on the first and second floors
- A health and fitness centre in the basement
- A courtyard on Knifesmithgate with outside seating.

Premier Inn and Beefeater are two of the companies who will occupy the site. Work is expected to start on site in the autumn and take around 18 months.

Now this is on track the rest of the revised Northern Gateway scheme can be progressed. This month our councillors will be asked to approve the finances and changes to the Northern Gateway scheme. It will see us:

- Build an innovation centre for start-up and small and medium sized businesses on the site of the current Holywell Cross (Donut roundabout) car park.

The centre will complement the council’s two existing innovation centres at Tapton Park and Dunston.

- Refurbish and expand the existing Saltergate multi-storey car park to completely update it and make it more appealing to shoppers and commuters.

It will replace the 75 car parking spaces that will be lost at Holywell Cross and also meet the demand for parking created by the Co-op redevelopment.

If the finances are approved, and planning permission is given, it is hoped that work can begin in late 2016 and will take around a year to complete. The scheme will create around 500 jobs.
Chesterfield Waterside

Work on the project, which is one of the largest regeneration projects in the UK, was given a boost when it received a £2.7 million grant from the Sheffield City Region Infrastructure Fund.

The grant, which was secured by us in partnership with developers Chesterfield Waterside Limited, will enable the first phase of the development’s £75 million Basin Square scheme to be brought forward by the site’s developers.

A planning application will be considered later this month seeking permission to carry out infrastructure and enabling work at Basin Square. It also seeks outline planning permission for the layout of phase one of the Waterside development. The plans seek to:

- Relocate the existing temporary car park to the north of the site
- Create an acoustic noise bund along the A61 on the former Arnold Laver site
- Work on site infrastructure and preparation is expected to begin this summer and be completed by the end of the year.
- Work can then begin on the development of the first phase of Basin Square in 2017. This is expected to create more than 300 new jobs.

The project is being developed by Chesterfield-based Bolsterstone Plc working with Chesterfield Borough Council and the Arnold Laver Group.

The first phase of the Waterside development saw 19 new affordable homes built on part of the former Arnold Laver DIY site on Brimington Road last year for the Great Places Housing Association. These homes are fully occupied.

Peak Resort

This £400 million major leisure resort and visitor attraction development for Chesterfield and the Peak District is underway on the 300 acre Birchall estate in Unstone.

The all-year round Peak Resort development will be open to day visitors, as well as people staying for longer periods and will offer all-weather activities, events and a digital retail experience.

The project has received £2.8 million of funding from Sheffield City Region’s Infrastructure Fund to build the roundabout access from the A61, new public footpaths and bridleways around the site and put in place site security.

The funding will allow the resort to be connected to the Peak District National Park, Chesterfield, Sheffield and the surrounding countryside.

Once completed, the project will include:

- A range of leisure facilities, including restaurants, retail and spas
- Woodland lodges, a luxury hotel and hostel
- 300 acres of parkland incorporating walking and cycling trails
- Car parking

Following the completion of site preparation work last year, the main building work is expected to start on site this autumn, with the resort due to open to guests from summer 2018.

It will be built in three phases and will create 1,300 jobs.

Peak Resort is a joint venture partnership between UK development company Birchall Properties and US firm Grand Heritage Hotel Group.

Markham Vale

Markham Vale is a 200 acre business and distribution park site, by junction 29A of the M1.

The former coalfield site has been successfully reclaimed and redeveloped by landowners Derbyshire County Council and site developers Henry Boot Developments and is rapidly becoming one of the UK’s largest commercial sites.

A large proportion of the site has been designated as an Enterprise Zone through the Sheffield City Region Local Enterprise Partnership.

As a result, businesses setting up there receive tax incentives and face less onerous planning restrictions, which makes the site much more attractive to companies looking for a new site to locate on.

Henry Boot Developments and Derbyshire County Council have taken advantage of the opportunities presented by the Enterprise Zone status to attract businesses that have generated 938 jobs on the site so far, with more on the way.

As the planning authority we have supported the development and have been particularly pleased to see existing Chesterfield businesses, such as Inspirepac and Gould Alloys, expand their operations and move to the site.

But the site has also attracted a range of new companies to the area, including major employers like Great Bear, Ready Egg and Andrew Page.

The development is a key example of how Derbyshire’s economy benefits by linking with the Sheffield City Region, working in partnership with Derbyshire County Council, and exploiting or taking advantage of links with Derbyshire and the East Midlands area as well.
Support for bereaved families

Losing a loved one is a painful and distressing time for anyone but our bereavement services staff based at Chesterfield and District Crematorium are here to help families as they make funeral arrangements.

Jonathan Reeve regularly leads funeral services in Chesterfield. He estimates that he has taken around 1,100 funeral services – the majority of them at the crematorium in Brimington. He says it is a special place: “I work closely with families and if they plan to have their loved ones cremated, I always point them to the crematorium.

“I have taken funerals at other crematoria including Sheffield and Derby but there is such warmth about Chesterfield.

“The staff are all very friendly. Nothing is too much trouble for them, there is always someone at the door to greet people as they arrive and for people who have sadly had to attend more than one funeral, they become familiar faces.

“They all show such a sense of respect, which is really appreciated by families.

“I recently carried out a service for a war hero and everyone could feel the sense of respect that he was given – it was lovely to see.

“I have seen the staff when they carry out the cremation and it is done with such care and attention.”

In the last year, work has been carried out at the crematorium to make it more comfortable for families planning funerals. This has included:

- A new reception area
- A ramp, handrail and automatic doors to improve access to the building
- A private consultation room to allow staff to have meetings with families more sensitively
- New heating and lighting systems.

There have been other changes that wouldn't be as easily recognisable. Jonathan explains: “They have also extended the gap between services, meaning they can now last for up to 40 minutes rather than 30 minutes previously – this gives more time to play music and for reflection.

“There are also new screens in the chapels for people to use for photographs of their loved ones during the service and also a TV screen in the retiring room.”

“Although I encourage people to bring little ones along to funeral services to be part of the day and allow them to run around, some people will, understandably, want to take them outside because they are worried the children will cause disruption.

“They can take them into the retiring room and watch the service on the screen – meaning they don’t have to miss anything.”

The grounds of the crematorium are also a Green Flag listed park, one of five in the borough. Jonathan says this is also appreciated by families: “The grounds are just excellent, so well maintained and set out. The gardeners work tirelessly, it’s a massive ground.

“There is also the Peter Pan memorial garden where families who have lost babies can go to remember their loved ones.

“Having the extra car parking just means that there is less hassle for people when they come to use the crematorium – it makes it much easier for families.”

The crematorium is managed by the Chesterfield and District Crematorium Committee on behalf of Bolsover District Council, Chesterfield Borough Council and North East Derbyshire District Council.

To contact the staff, email: bereavement.services@chesterfield.gov.uk or call (01246) 345888.
Join in the fun at the market...

With a whole host of events, Chesterfield market is the place to be this summer and autumn.

This month sees us host the annual medieval fun day.

Taking place on Tuesday 26 July, the event sees stallholders enter into the fun by wearing fancy dress, selling goods and providing children's games.

There will also be entertainment on the day. The 'Crooked Spire' church will be open during the day for visitors to take a trip up the tower.

Chesterfield Museum will open specially on the day offering visitors the opportunity to meet Richard the Lionheart.

A regular fixture in the market calendar is the artisan market held in New Square from 11am to 4pm on the last Sunday of each month.

Organised in association with The Market Co., the artisan market has proved a real hit with visitors since it launched last year and brings together the very best food from award winning local producers as well as hand-produced gift items.

Street entertainers also help provide a buzzing atmosphere each month.

If you are looking for top-quality local produce, you can also visit our farmers' market, which takes place on the second Thursday of each month.

Taking place on Central Pavement, a changing range of stalls includes: organic vegetables, rare breed meat, freshly caught fish, Derbyshire honey, homemade cakes, cheese and homemade Italian sauces.

The annual market festival will also take place from Thursday 27 to Sunday 30 October.

The event includes:
- A 1940s market on Thursday 27 October with stallholders in wartime dress
- A young people's market on Friday 28 October where youngsters have an opportunity to sell their unwanted toys, books and games
- An Auto Jumble event on Saturday 29 October
- The monthly artisan market on Sunday 30 October.

Howzat! Still time to catch cricket festival

The annual Chesterfield Festival of Cricket returns to Queen's Park for another year of thrilling cricket matches.

Running all this week, there is still the chance to head down to see world class cricket on your doorstep with Derbyshire County Cricket Club taking on Northamptonshire in the four-day county game and a T20 match against local rivals Yorkshire Vikings.

One of the council’s key priorities is health and wellbeing. We fund the festival as part of our commitment to providing community events and access to sports activities in the borough.

This is the 11th annual festival to be held in Queen's Park, the home of Chesterfield Cricket Club. Each year the festival attracts bumper crowds.

The festival will be held in Queen's Park until at least 2020 following a decision by the council's cabinet last summer.

The matches taking place during the festival are:
- Monday 4 July to Thursday 7 July Derbyshire vs Northamptonshire County Championship
- Sunday 10 July Derbyshire Falcons vs Yorkshire Vikings NatWest T20 Blast

Tickets are available from Chesterfield Visitor Information Centre in Rykneld Square.

Win tickets for a murder...

We’re offering you the chance to win tickets for the thrilling play Rehearsal for Murder at the Pomegranate Theatre this month.

The play is the work of award-winning writing team Levinson and Link, whose work includes the mystery series Murder, She Wrote. It stars Gary Mavers of Peak Practice and Emmerdale, Susie Amy, from Footballers' Wives, chart-topper Anita Harris, whose films include the Carry On franchise, and pop-idol Mark Wynter.

We’re giving away two tickets to the performance on Monday 25 July at 7.30pm.

To enter, please answer the following question:
Which murder mystery series did the play's writers work on?

To enter, email your answer to chesterfield.theatres@chesterfield.gov.uk.

Alternatively, you can post this coupon, complete with your answer to Rehearsal for Murder competition, Visitor Information Centre, Rykneld Square, Chesterfield, S40 1SB.

Answer:
Name:
Address:
Tel:
Email:

I wish to receive the theatre e-newsletter about upcoming productions.

Entries must be received by noon on Friday 15 July.
What’s on

Chesterfield Field Market
General market each Monday, Friday and Saturday. Flea market each Thursday.
Thursdays 14 July, 11 August, 8 September.
Farmers’ market
Sundays 31 July, 28 August, 25 September, 11am to 4pm
Artisan market in association with The Market Co.
Tuesday 26 July

Medieval fun day
Monday 5 to Friday 9 September
Chesterfield well dressing in the making at the Pavements Shopping Centre and Crooked Spire church porch
Saturday 10 to Saturday 17 September
Chesterfield well dressing on display at the town pump in the market place and the Crooked Spire church porch
Thursday 27 to Sunday 30 October
Chesterfield Market Festival
See more on page 20.

Queen’s Park
Sunday 3 to Sunday 10 July
Chesterfield Festival of Cricket
Saturday 24 July
Chesterfield Pride
Sunday 24 July

Chesterfield Museum
Chesterfield Museum
Open each Monday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 10am to 4pm.
Admission free.
www.chesterfield.gov.uk/museum
Tel: (01246) 345727
Until Sunday 25 September
Pots in the kitchen
A display of local pottery and its uses in the home

Pomegranate Theatre
www.chesterfieldtheatres.co.uk
Box office: (01246) 345222
Monday 4 July to Saturday 9 July;
Evenings 7.30pm; Wednesday matinee 2pm; Saturday matinee 3pm
Rehearsal for Murder
Presented by The Classic Thriller Theatre Company.
Thursday 11 August, 7.30pm
Veronica’s Room
The chilling play by Ira Levin presented by Baroque Theatre Company.

Winding Wheel
www.chesterfieldtheatres.co.uk
Box office: (01246) 345222
Friday 29 July, 8pm
Spotlight Comedy Club
With Mitch Penn and Nick Barry.
Sunday 21 August, 11am to 4pm
Up On The Roof
Celebrating the music of Carole King and James Taylor.

Revolution House
The historic house is open each Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holiday Monday until Sunday 25 September, 11am to 4pm.
Admission free.
Tel: (01246) 345727
www.chesterfield.gov.uk/museum
Until Sunday 25 September
Pots in the kitchen
A display of local pottery and its uses in the home

Monday 25 July to Saturday 30 July;
Evenings 7.30pm; Wednesday matinee 2pm; Saturday matinee 3pm
Rehearsal for Murder
Presented by The Classic Thriller Theatre Company.
Thursday 11 August, 7.30pm
Veronica’s Room
The chilling play by Ira Levin presented by Baroque Theatre Company.

Wednesday 20 July, 7.30pm
Chaplin - The Charlie Chaplin Story
His story from Victorian Vaudeville to the glitz of early Hollywood.

Tuesday 19 July to Thursday 21 July, 7pm
Directions Theatre Arts Showcase 2016
Spectacular students perform in the school’s annual showcase.

Saturday 16 July, 7.30pm
Up on the Roof
Celebrating the music of Carole King and James Taylor.

Friday 29 July, 8pm
Spotlight Comedy Club
With Mitch Penn and Nick Barry.
Sunday 21 August, 11am to 4pm
Wedding Fayre
Your opportunity to meet a host of local wedding professionals. For details of venue hire visit:
www.chesterfieldvenuhire.co.uk
Thursday 25 August, 7.45pm
Your opportunity to meet a host of local wedding professionals. For details of venue hire visit:
www.chesterfieldvenuhire.co.uk
Thursday 25 August, 7.45pm

Film: Everybody Wants Some (15)
Hilarious and perceptive comedy about college life in the 1970s.
Saturday 23 July, 4pm; Sunday 24 July, noon
Film: Alice Through the Looking Glass (Cert TBC)
Spectacular adventure featuring the unforgettable characters from Lewis Carroll’s beloved stories.
Saturday 23 July, 7pm; Sunday 24 July, 3pm

Film: Love & Friendship (U)
Based on the Jane Austen novella 'Lady Susan'.
Saturday 16 July, 7.30pm; Sunday 17 July, 1.30pm
Film: Everybody Wants Some (15)
Hilarious and perceptive comedy about college life in the 1970s.
Saturday 23 July, 4pm; Sunday 24 July, noon

Film: Alice Through the Looking Glass (Cert TBC)
Spectacular adventure featuring the unforgettable characters from Lewis Carroll’s beloved stories.
Saturday 23 July, 7pm; Sunday 24 July, 3pm

Andre Rieu’s 2016 Maastricht Concert (12A)
The Dutch Maestro returns to his native Maastricht.
Thursday 4 August, 7pm
Kenneth Branagh: Romeo and Juliet (U)
Starring Richard Madden and Lily James as Romeo and Juliet.
Tuesday 9 August, 6.30pm
Glyndebourne Opera: Beatrice and Benedict (12A)
Part of the Shakespeare400 celebrations. Sung in French with English subtitles.

Film: Love & Friendship (U)
Based on the Jane Austen novella 'Lady Susan'.
Saturday 16 July, 7.30pm; Sunday 17 July, 1.30pm
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Highlights from film and satellite broadcasts at the Pomegranate Theatre
See full Pomegranate Screenings listings at:
www.chesterfieldtheatres.co.uk/pomegranate-screenings
Handy guide to keep

This guide explains which services your council tax helps provide and how to contact the organisations providing them.

Chesterfield Borough Council receives 10 per cent of the Council Tax you pay

Contact us about:
• Abandoned vehicles
• Anti social behaviour
• Benefits advice
• Bin collections or damaged bins
• Building control
• Bulk collections
• Business rates
• Business support
• Caravan sites and illegal encampments
• Car parks (except privately run ones)
• Cemeteries
• Commercial waste
• Conservation areas
• Council Tax
• Crematorium
• Dog fouling
• Dog wardens
• Electoral registration
• Economic development
• Energy advice
• Environmental health
• Fly tipping
• Graffiti
• Homelessness
• Housing benefits
• Leisure centres (Queen’s Park Sports Centre and Healthy Living Centre, Staveley)
• Licensing
• Litter problems
• Markets (indoor and outdoor)
• Museum
• Noise pollution
• Parks and open spaces
• Pest control
• Planning applications (making or commenting on one)
• Planning enforcement
• Pollution control (air, noise, odour and smoke)
• Private housing advice
• Recycling
• Street cleaning
• Stray animals
• Theatres (Winding Wheel and Pomegranate Theatre)
• Visitor Information Centre
• Welfare benefits

Council house issues
• Adaptations
• Choice based lettings (On the Move)
• Community involvement
• Decent homes
• Estate management
• Housing solutions team
• Rent payments and arrears
• Repairs/improvements
• Right to buy
• Sheltered housing

Contact us by:
• Visiting www.chesterfield.gov.uk
• Ringing (01246) 345345
• Texting 07960 910264

Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service receives 5 per cent of the Council Tax you pay

Contact them about all fire and fire safety related issues:
• By visiting www.derbys-fire.gov.uk
• Ringing 01332 771221 for all non-emergency calls
• Ringing 999 for emergencies only

Derbyshire Police receives 11 per cent of the Council Tax you pay

Contact them about all crime issues:
• By visiting www.derbyshire.police.uk
• Ringing 101 for all non emergencies (24 hours a day)
• Ringing 999 for emergencies only

Derbyshire County Council receives 74 per cent of the Council Tax you pay

Contact them about:
• Adoption and fostering
• Adult care (including support in the home)
• Adult community education
• Blue badge scheme
• Bus shelters
• Care homes
• Care for people with disabilities
• Children’s centres
• Children and family services
• Gritting of roads
• Lampposts
• Library books and services
• Pavements
• Potholes
• Public transport (although services are run by private companies)
• Records office
• Recycling and waste collection centres (rubbish tip)
• Registry services (birth, marriages, deaths)
• Roads – condition
• Roads – safety and changes to road layout
• Schools
• Street lighting
• Tapton Lock Visitor Centre
• Trading standards
• Trusted Trader Scheme
• Youth centres

Contact them:
• By visiting www.derbyshire.gov.uk
• Ringing 01629 533190
• Texting 86555

For residents of Brimington and Staveley only

Brimington Parish Council

Contact them by:
• Visiting www.brimingtonpc.co.uk
• Ringing 01773 833805

Staveley Town Council

Contact them by:
• Visiting www.staveleytowncouncil.gov.uk
• Ringing (01246) 473132