News from **Chesterfield Borough Council**

Your Chesterfield

Putting our communities **first**

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CHESTERFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL

Issue 36 **Spring 2025**

Welcome

To the spring edition of Your Chesterfield

Many of you may be aware that some big changes are in store for local councils across the country as part of the government's plans for devolution and local government reorganisation.

That includes areas like Derbyshire which is known as a 'two-tier system' of local government – meaning that some of the council services you receive are delivered by the county council, while others are delivered by a local district or borough council, like Chesterfield Borough Council.

Derbyshire is not within the first wave of areas to press ahead with reorganisation and the county council elections will go ahead in May. But the government still expects areas to submit proposals for reorganisation by 21 March 2025, with more detailed plans being developed by November 2025.

This is a complex issue, and I've been taking part in discussions with the leaders of all district and borough councils and Derby City Council to develop a proposal that is in the best interests of residents and businesses. We also want to ensure Derbyshire's boundaries remain intact and that the new councils are the right size to deliver the best possible services.

Derbyshire County Council's leader was invited to these discussions - he chose not to attend but we are still open to discussing the proposals with him.

The options we are exploring would involve the creation of two new unitary councils which would cover the entire county and city, each with a population of around 500,000 - we think this would strike the right balance between being financially stable and retaining the strong local connections we already have with our communities.

To guide our final decision, our proposals will be subject to extensive consultation with residents, businesses, our workforce, partner public bodies, and the voluntary sector; ensuring all voices are captured and heard collectively.

While discussions continue, please be reassured that it is business as usual and our main priority is to deliver the day-to-day services to the high standards you rightfully expect, and that we continue our work to invest in the future of our people and places.

This edition of Your Chesterfield puts a spotlight on just some of the local work and investment that is progressing - from the exciting major regeneration schemes in Chesterfield town centre and the transformation of our historic theatre and museum, to investing in the skills our young people need for a great career, and to our ongoing commitment of providing affordable and decent homes to people across the borough. The responsibility to our community is clear throughout our work.

I hope you enjoy reading the updates within this magazine – and we hope to see many of you joining us for our first big event of the year; the hugely popular 1940s Market on 10 April (see the opposite page for all the details).

Councillor Tricia Gilby, Leader of the council

Chesterfield 1940s market

THURSDAY 10 APRIL 10am to 4pm

The popular 1940s Market is returning to Chesterfield this spring – bringing a range of free entertainment to the town centre for the whole family to enjoy once again.

The action-packed market will be returning on Thursday 10 April, transporting the town centre back to the 1940s with a variety of music, street performances and period dress on offer.

With lots of fantastic entertainment set to return, the event will take place during the Easter school holidays and will run alongside the popular weekly flea market.

More information about the event plans and entertainment will be available on our website and social media channels – pop online for the latest programme information.

Councillor Kate Sarvent, cabinet member for town centres and visitor economy, said: "The 1940s Market is enjoyed by residents and visitors alike. There are not too many places you can go to see a range of free street entertainment like we have on offer here.

"We encourage you to put the date in your diary and be sure to join us on the day!"

Revitalising Chesterfield Market

As the first phase of our multi-million pound regeneration of Chesterfield town centre nears completion, we take a look at our market's heritage and update you on how the works are progressing.

The market has been an essential part of Chesterfield for over 800 years – we're proud of our town's market history and want to celebrate and protect it for years to come.

Councillor Kate Sarvent, cabinet member for town centres and visitor economy, said: "The exciting improvements to the top half of Market Place are taking shape – with reconditioned cobbles and paving, new street furniture and of course the construction of the new stalls which, once complete, will transform the look and feel of the square, and provide fantastic new facilities for traders.

"There has been a small delay to the completion of this first phase, which is frustrating, but not uncommon for schemes of this size. This is due to issues with the supply of materials, and some hold ups due to the freezing and snowy weather, but it's also because each stall is a bespoke construction which is tailor-made to the space it sits in.

"Rest assured, we are committed to getting this right, and making sure it meets the high standards we want for our town centre, and our traders and shoppers."

> **"The exciting improvements to the top half of Market Place are taking shape – with reconditioned cobbles and paving, new street furniture and of course the construction of the new stalls"**
>
> **Councillor Kate Sarvent, cabinet member for town centres and visitor economy**

The Market moved to the present site during the 12th century. Since then, it has been crucial for the local economy but up until the mid-twentieth century it was also the focal point for community gatherings and our current plans to refurbish the area seek to build on this history by supporting both the traditional market offer and providing an enhanced space for events, festivals and community gatherings.

You can see in the Market Place that we've used new paving to improve the surface for visitors but also to create a new central space with a design inspired by the Market Hall tiles – allowing us to host more events and entertainment which will help create a buzz throughout the market.

In 1853 a public water pump was installed in Chesterfield Market Place – we're making sure this feature takes pride of place in the centre of the market once more. With seating and new paving around the pump, it will serve as a fantastic place to meet friends and family to explore the town.

You can find out more about our Revitalising the Heart of Chesterfield project and sign up for email updates about the project by visiting: **www.chesterfield.gov.uk/revitalise**

Trading on Chesterfield Market

You might have spotted the new Chesterfield Markets logo - it will feature on the canopies and will be used help raise the profile of our town.

Whilst a lot of focus has been on the physical improvements we're making, we know that there is also more we can do to promote the market and our traders.

This is just the first step and as works complete we will be doing much more both to attract new traders and support existing traders.

Interested in joining us on this journey as trader? Stalls start from just £12.10. You can find out more about trading on Chesterfield Market by visiting:

www.chesterfield.gov.uk/market-trading

Funded by UK Government

CHESTERFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL

Enhancing Stephenson Memorial Hall

Over the last few months, major regeneration work to transform Stephenson Memorial Hall has been rapidly progressing.

The multi-million pound project will create an exciting new heritage and performing arts venue with an enhanced theatre, expanded museum, a café bar and education and community facilities.

In the auditorium the backstage steelwork, which will provide performances with modern equipment, has been installed and the new stage has been constructed.

At the back of the building the new extension, which will provide better facilities for performers, is almost complete, with all brickwork now in place and a new roof being installed.

In the new museum spaces, which will be on the top floor of the building, works have been focussed on insulating the roof and dividing the spaces. When complete it will include a high-specification gallery which will allow us to exhibit items on loan from other museums.

The new entrance to the building has been opened, with stairs and lift access, to ensure all visitors can access every part of the building. This new entrance is actually the original building entrance and sits underneath the tower on Corporation Street.

Above Corporation Street work on the new link gallery extension has been progressing well. This new structure will add education and community spaces, but also serves as additional space for visitors during theatre intermissions.

Councillor Kate Sarvent, cabinet member for town centres and visitor economy, said: "This is an ambitious and exciting project that will help elevate our town by attracting more visitors and providing enhanced facilities for our residents.

"I'm excited for us to be able to welcome visitors back to the building next year. Visitors will see a real change and will have the opportunity to appreciate the many heritage details that we have worked hard to preserve and enhance."

The decorative circle balcony fronts in the auditorium, are being preserved and we're highlighting the building's hidden details – including the stunning stained glass windows which are being celebrated as a feature that visitors can enjoy.

The project also includes significant new additions like lifts to help improve accessibility and a new ventilation system to improve the comfort of theatre visitors.

The refurbishment of Stephenson Memorial Hall is funded through the Government's Levelling Up Fund with additional funding provided by Arts Council England.

You can find out more about the refurbishment of Stephenson Memorial Hall and watch a short video tour of the architect's design by visiting: **www.chesterfield.gov.uk/stephenson-memorial-hall**

"I'm excited for us to be able to welcome visitors back to the building next year. Visitors will see a real change and will have the opportunity to appreciate the many heritage details that we have worked hard to preserve and enhance".

Councillor Kate Sarvent, cabinet member for town centres and visitor economy

Funded by UK Government

CHESTERFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL

Supported using public funding by ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

Creating enhanced community facilities in Barrow Hill

Work to refurbish Barrow Hill Memorial Hall and create enhanced community and healthcare facilities has started on site.

Barrow Hill Community Trust is refurbishing its historic home to create a social space for the community and add new facilities that will enable local residents to access healthcare services.

With funding provided through the Staveley Town Deal and the Heritage Lottery Fund, the first phase of the ambitious project should be completed by March 2026.

Simon Redding at Barrow Hill Community Trust, said: "It is fantastic to get started on site and start to see our plans come together. This is a community building and will make a real difference in Barrow Hill, helping people to access the services they need at every stage of life but also ensuring that as a community we have a space that we can call our own and celebrate our achievements."

Plans for the memorial hall include classroom space, healthcare facilities and a new social space for the community to come together. The work will be carried out in phases, with some elements dependent on further external funding.

Ivan Fomin, Chair of the Staveley Town Deal, said: "The Trust have worked incredibly hard to bring this project to life and I want to thank them for all their hard work. This project has the ability to transform lives and supports our aim of ensuring that Staveley is a place where everyone can have the best start to their lives, stay, grow and ultimately achieve their potential."

Barrow Hill Memorial Hall is owned and managed by the Trustees of Barrow Hill Community Trust on behalf of the community.

The Trust has owned the Hall since 1924 when Charles Paxton Markham gave the Workmen's Hall at Barrow Hill to the community as a war memorial.

The refurbishment of Barrow Hill Memorial Hall is just one project that is being funded through the Staveley Town Deal. To find out more about the wider programme visit: **www.chesterfield.gov.uk/staveley-town-deal**

Construction Skills Hub launches degree level apprenticeship

The Construction Skills Hub has launched a new degree level apprenticeship programme to help people access the skills they need for a great career in Chesterfield.

At the Hub students will be able to undertake an apprenticeship and earn a degree in Construction Management, Quantity Surveying or Civil Engineering from the University of Derby.

The Construction Skills Hub, which is funded through the Staveley Town Deal, is run in partnership between Chesterfield Borough Council, Chesterfield College and the University of Derby.

Currently more than 40 students are studying on the site earning trade-based qualifications in things like groundworks, brickwork, joinery and more through Chesterfield College.

Councillor Tricia Gilby, Leader of Chesterfield Borough Council and Vice Chair of the Staveley Town Deal Board, said: "It is fantastic that these qualification can now be delivered through the Construction Skills Hub - for our economy to grow we need to build, and I know this facility will help create the next generation of skilled construction workers.

"Apprenticeships offer a great opportunity for anyone to develop their skills whilst also earning, and it was important that through the Construction Skills Hub we can support apprenticeships that offer higher level skills.

"I look forward to welcoming the new students to the site when they begin their studies in September."

To find out more about the Construction Skills Hub, please visit: **www.chesterfield.ac.uk/study-with-us/subjects/construction/construction-skills-hub/**

> **"Apprenticeships offer a great opportunity for anyone to develop their skills whilst also earning, and it was important that through the Construction Skills Hub we can support apprenticeships that offer higher level skills."**
>
> Councillor Tricia Gilby, Vice Chair of the Staveley Town Deal Board

Protecting essential services

Like local authorities across the country, we continue to face significant pressures on our budgets, due to a variety of factors outside of our control.

> **"our aim is to continue to do all we can to protect the essential services that local people rely on, while remaining on a stable financial footing."**
>
> Councillor Amanda Sejeant, deputy leader

Last month the council approved plans to achieve a balanced budget for the coming financial year, while meeting our commitment to protect essential services for the most vulnerable residents. We are also continuing to invest in the future of our borough.

We've been working hard to meet these ongoing budget challenges and have successfully implemented the budget savings plans which we set out last year. We had to take some difficult decisions, and deliver some services differently, but this action has allowed us to keep the council on a sound financial footing.

We've also made the most of the opportunities in front of us – for example, looking at how we can make the best use of our buildings to help support our budget strategy.

This has included the sale of Revenues House and the move of our customer services centre into the Town Hall, alongside other public services. We've also let out commercial space in The Healthy Living Centre in Staveley – creating new café facilities for local people, providing a new trading base for a local business, and contributing to the council's budget strategy.

Councillor Amanda Serjeant, deputy leader and cabinet member for finance and asset management, said: "Over recent years we've been open and honest with our communities about the ongoing pressures we, like all councils, are facing – and we had to take some really difficult decisions.

"But I'm pleased to say that these decisions were not taken in vain and the successful implementation of the comprehensive savings plan, running alongside our budget strategy, have allowed us to set a balanced budget for the 2025 / 26 financial year.

"We thank our communities for their part in helping us achieve this and we will continue to work with local people, as we know that further savings measures are likely to be needed to achieve similarly balanced budget positions in future financial years."

Your new residents' parking permit

You should have received your new residents' parking permit with your Council Tax bill. Please be aware that a small charge now applies when using the pass, but it still entitles residents to cheaper parking:

£1 before 10am from Monday to Saturday

£2 after 3pm from Monday to Saturday

All-day parking for £2 on Sundays and Bank Holidays

The pass is valid from 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026 and should be displayed with a valid ticket, or payment via the council's pay by phone provider, RingGo. It covers most of our town centre surface car parks. Find out more: **www.chesterfield.gov.uk/parking-permit**

Small rise in Council Tax

The budget plan includes a small rise in the amount of Council Tax that households pay for our services. This is an extra £3.80 a year (7 pence a week) for people living in Band A homes, and £5.70 a year (11 pence a week) for Band D households.

Councillor Amanda Serjeant said: "Increasing Council Tax, even by a relatively small amount, is not a decision we ever take lightly.

"However, in doing so our aim is to continue to do all we can to protect the essential services that local people rely on, while remaining on a stable financial footing despite an incredibly difficult economic climate."

The council will continue to provide financial support for those on lower incomes. Check if you're eligible for a discount on your Council Tax bill: **www.chesterfield.gov.uk/council-tax**

We collect Council Tax on behalf of a number of local organisations. But did you know that only around 9 per cent of your bill goes towards the cost of providing the services you receive?

What you pay

What each household pays towards Chesterfield Borough Council services each day through your Council Tax

Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H
36p	42p	48p	54p	66p	78p	90p	£1.08p

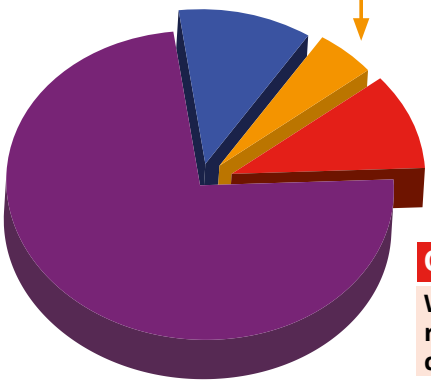
Where your Council Tax goes

13% Derbyshire Police

4% Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service

74% Derbyshire County Council

9% Chesterfield Borough Council



Services include

- Roads and pavements
- Libraries
- Care homes
- Schools
- Street lighting
- Adult care
- Adoption and foster care

Over 50 services including

- Waste and recycling collections
- Car parks
- Homelessness
- Fly tipping
- Leisure centres
- Theatres
- Markets
- Parks and open spaces
- Museum

*Residents in Staveley and Brimington also pay Council Tax to Staveley Town Council and Brimington Parish Council.

Setting the standard for decarbonisation

Refurbishment of a housing block will set the standard for decarbonising buildings in Chesterfield – whilst helping to reduce carbon emissions by up to 80 per cent.

> **“The decarbonisation project will help us to reduce carbon emissions but it will also help improve the quality of life for our tenants.”**
>
> Councillor Martin Stone, cabinet member for climate change, planning and environment

Brocklehurst Court in Brampton is being upgraded into a more sustainable and energy-efficient building through a major decarbonisation project.

The project will see the existing gas central heating system and hot water boilers being removed at our independent living scheme, and replaced with commercial air source heat pumps.

To further enhance energy efficiency, solar panels are being installed on the roof which will help generate electricity to power the new air source heat pumps.

CAN
Climate Action **Now.**

Each flat will have a modern Heat Interface Unit installed which will give residents greater control over their heating and hot water – improving both comfort, and energy efficiency.

To enhance efficiency and reduce reliance on the grid, the project will incorporate battery storage to help ensure that the solar panels can be used efficiently with renewable energy being used, even when it is not being generated.

Councillor Martin Stone, cabinet member for climate change, planning and environment, said: "This project represents a significant step in our commitment to becoming a carbon neutral organisation and I'm really pleased to see that works have started and are progressing well at Brocklehurst Court.

"The energy used to heat and power buildings is one of the largest sources of emissions in Chesterfield and this project demonstrates the kinds of upgrades that can be carried out on buildings across the borough to reduce emissions and improve energy efficiency.

"The decarbonisation project will help us to reduce carbon emissions but it will also help improve the quality of life for our tenants."

We are committed to becoming a carbon neutral organisation by 2030 and supporting our communities to become carbon neutral by 2050.

To find out more about what we are doing to tackle climate change in Chesterfield visit: **www.chesterfield.gov.uk/climate-change**

Supporting a sustainable swap shop

Friends of Dunston School have received funding through our Community Grants Fund to create a new swap shop which will help parents to save money and encourages the re-use of items that might have been thrown away.

The community-led initiative includes the installation of a new outdoor shed and storage facilities where they can securely keep items like school uniforms, books, food and other essential items. This will be open every school day for parents to access.

It follows on from a regular pop-up uniform and book stall that has proved to be very popular over the last few years.

By encouraging the re-use of items, it not only helps parents to save money on the essentials it also improves sustainability because less new items are needed.

This is just one of several sustainable initiatives that is being supported through our Community Grants Fund. To find out more about the fund visit: **www.chesterfield.gov.uk/community-grants-fund**

Get involved, have a voice

Looking to get involved in something new in 2025? We're on the lookout for more tenants to join us and help shape our housing services!

There are lots of opportunities for you to get involved - from speaking to our team at one of our mobile office visits, to joining one of our established groups, there are a number of different ways to get your voice heard and have your say about what matters to you most.

We offer a menu of engagement opportunities at different times of the day, both in person and online, so you can get involved at a time that suits you.

We've also just launched our 'mystery shopper' initiative. which will give you the chance to put our services to the test.

Want to know more and get involved? You can find out more about the opportunities available at: **www.chesterfield.gov.uk/get-involved** or by contacting the tenant engagement team by email at: **tenantengagement@chesterfield.gov.uk**. You can also call or text: **07970 421854 / 07980 899527 / 07930 690276**

"I have enjoyed contributing ideas towards our communication and accessibility group. Having an input and feeling listened to has helped change the format of rent letters, and calling cards for repairs to make these easier to understand in a 'plain' language for all."

One of our engaged tenants, who has been helping us to improve our services

You said, we did

Tenants have already been making a great contribution to improving our services. Here are some of the actions that have already been taken as a direct result of tenant engagement.

You said
The rent arrears letters are not easy to understand

We did
We worked with tenants to review these and add in more images and easy to understand information

You said
The information on the housing section of the website is full of text and you can't find anything

We did
We worked with tenants to review the content and the layout of the website, including introducing more videos and visual reports

You said
The communal cleaning service should be reviewed

We did
We reviewed the cleaning activities, have increased monitoring of the service and revised the information available to tenants

You said
You wanted more information about fire safety and what you as a tenant can do

We did
We've created a series of new videos which set out key fire safety information. We've also written to all tenants living in blocks of flats with information about the new Riskhub platform, to help keep you safe in your home - find out more on page 17.

You said
Tenants need accessible information on how the housing service is performing

We did
New report created 'for tenants, by tenants' sharing details of how the housing service is performing in areas identified as important to tenants

Could you be a community surveyor?

Want to help look after your neighbourhood and help improve the local community?

We're joining forces with Keep Britain Tidy to offer free training to tenants and leaseholders who want to be the eyes and ears on our estates.

Once trained, our willing volunteers will help us check for things such as the quality of grass and hedge cutting in the area, as well as reporting on the level of dog fouling, littering, and graffiti that they may spot in the area.

All findings will be reported back to our housing team so that necessary steps can be taken to improve the look of our estates and ensure that they are to the standard our tenants expect.

The next training session with Keep Britain Tidy will take place on Wednesday 2 April. It is a full day course that combines classroom and practical sessions to get you up to speed. After the course, you will receive a certificate from Keep Britain Tidy and officially become a community surveyor.

You'll then be able to join other community surveyors each month and inspect different estates across our borough and report back to our teams on your findings.

Interested in playing a part in helping keep our estates looking their best? Contact our tenant engagement team:

Email:	**tenantengagement@chesterfield.gov.uk**
Call:	**01246 345147**
Text or WhatsApp:	**07970 421854 / 07980 899527 / 07930 690276**

Keep up to date on fire safety in blocks of flats

To reduce the risk of fire in the communal areas, we carry out regular fire risk assessments on the blocks of flats and independent living schemes that we own across the borough.

The assessments are carried out in the communal areas, such as entrances, stairwells and corridors, and includes the individual flat entrance doors. This allows us to identify any work that needs to be carried out to make sure that our blocks are as safe as possible for you and your visitors in case of fire.

It's also important that you can easily access all the information on the fire safety for your block of flats, and we have recently launched on online system called the Riskhub Resident Hub.

By logging in to the system, all tenants living in flats, or an independent living scheme, can use the system to find out:

- **What to do in case of a fire**
- **Who to contact if they have concerns**
- **What safety measures are in place**

We have contacted all tenants and leaseholders directly with login details for the system, but if you have any questions please email **fire.safety@chesterfield.gov.uk**.

More information can also be found at: **www.chesterfield.gov.uk/riskhub**

Taking action to enhance housing services

Following a recent inspection of our housing services, that saw us achieve the second highest positive rating possible, we've now set out a Regulator of Social Housing and Tenant Satisfaction Action Plan that will help us to further improve the quality of housing for our tenants.

"Significant progress has already been made to improve our services and based on the feedback from the regulator, we have developed the action plan that sets out a range of continuous improvement activities for us.

"We look forward to working with the regulator on our improvement journey, and we will continue to work directly with you, our tenants, keeping you updated and involved throughout."

Councillor Jean Innes,
cabinet member for housing.

The action plan comes after we received a grade of C2 from the Regulator of Social Housing. The grade means that while there are some areas for improvement, overall, there is a positive level of 'assurance' that we are achieving the consumer standards set by the regulator.

A number of significant changes and improvements have already been made to help enhance our services, including:

- The reshape of housing management and statutory housing functions, which resulted in more frontline housing management staff and more tenant engagement opportunities.
- Implementation of a robust monitoring regime for landlord compliance and safety to ensure continuing excellent performance.
- The establishment of a Housing Advisory Board, which brings together tenants, elected members and senior officers to drive performance improvements with a focus on tenant satisfaction, complaints and compliance.

The action plan highlights the progress and next steps, and can be viewed in full at: **www.chesterfield.gov.uk/housing-action-plan**

Councillor Jean Innes, cabinet member for housing, said: "As a social housing provider, ensuring that our services meet the needs of our tenants is our top priority. The C2 grade recognises that we are meeting the Regulators' Consumer Standards in many areas, but the report did identify some areas for improvement to make sure that we are offering the best possible services for our tenants."

New build homes taking shape

Tenants are settling into their new-build council homes on Ringwood Avenue in Middlecroft - and a further two two-bedroom bungalows at Court Place are also now complete, ready to welcome tenants.

Each of the completed properties has been designed to achieve an A-rated EPC (energy performance certificate) and fitted with an air source heat pump, which will supply hot water and heat the homes via underfloor heating – without the need for a gas boiler.

Solar panels have also been installed and are designed to generate more energy than the properties are expected to use.

The bungalows all have level access and have also been designed so that lifts and ceiling hoists can be installed in the future. This means that the homes can remain fully accessible for tenants if their housing needs change – allowing them to remain living independently for longer.

Councillor Jean Innes, cabinet member for housing, said: "We're really pleased to see these new homes being completed, and welcoming tenants to enjoy their new homes.

"When planning for these new build homes, we want to ensure that we can provide homes that meet the needs of our tenants both now and in the future – and provide homes for life. That's why we've designed these bungalows in a way that adaptations, such as installing lifts and hoists, can be installed easily should they be needed in the future – allowing people to live independently in their homes for longer."

Councillor Tricia Gilby and Councillor Jean Innes visited the site recently to see how the new homes were progressing

Get your boots on for this year's walking festival

Get ready to refresh your body and mind as the Chesterfield Area Walking Festival returns from Saturday 10 May to Sunday 18 May 2025.

With scenic routes for all abilities from gentle strolls to exhilarating hikes this is your chance to boost your fitness, reduce stress, meet people, and soak in the great outdoors.

Led by trained guides, each walk offers a unique blend of history, wildlife, and breathtaking landscapes. Whether you're looking for a family-friendly adventure or a rewarding challenge, there's something for everyone.

Many of the walks are completely free. Lace up your boots, breathe in the fresh air, and let's walk towards wellness together!

Secure your spot and start your journey to better health today at:
www.chesterfieldtheatres.co.uk

Simplify your recycling

From Monday 7 April you will no longer need to separate your glass - all your recyclables can go straight into your blue bin. Find out more and check what items can go in your blue bin on our website.

What about my black caddy?

You will no longer need to use the black caddy that inserts into your bin – you can keep your caddy for your own use or leave it out for our team to collect next time your blue bin is emptied.

www.chesterfield.gov.uk/recycling

Unlock the past with Museum on the Move

We've been hosting museum exhibitions across the borough over the last few months with interactive activities and events for families – we've got a fantastic schedule of events planned for 2025.

Our Extraordinary Women exhibition is run in partnership with Chesterfield College, Derbyshire LGBT+ and Kakou. Hosted at West Studios the exhibition tells the amazing stories of local women and features artworks created by Chesterfield College students. It is open until Sunday 27 March.

In April we're hosting an exhibition about life during the Tudor period at Hasland Village Hall with replica Tudor objects to get hands on with, mysterious items and a selection of fun activities. The exhibition will be run from 5 April until 19 April and will be open from 10am to 2pm on Tuesday to Friday and 10am to 4pm on Saturdays.

A Viking extravaganza will be hosted at Duckmanton Primary School in June with handling objects and fun activities including weaving, rune writing and the opportunity to create your own Viking shield.

The final exhibition will focus on life in Medieval Chesterfield (or Cesterfield) with fun Medieval activities, games and a traditional market stall. It will be hosted at Mary Swanwick School from July to August.

Councillor Kate Sarvent, cabinet member for town centres and visitor economy, said: "I know lots of people have been enjoying the exhibitions we've hosted through this project but there is still lots of time to join in and discover our history through these fun events. These are all family friendly events, with lots for young ones to do and are free to attend."

Museum on the Move is funded by Arts Council England and aims to ensure that local residents can connect with history and culture whilst Stephenson Memorial Hall is closed for refurbishment (pages 6 to 7).

You can find out more about Museum on the Move and upcoming events by visiting our website.

LOTTERY FUNDED
Supported using public funding by
ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND
Museum on the move

Local Plan consultation

We'd like to hear your views on what you think ought to be in a new Chesterfield Local Plan.

The Local Plan is a crucial part of the planning process and helps ensure that we can meet our climate change commitments. It currently sets out how many homes and commercial properties will be built, and where, by setting this out in a Local Plan it aims to ensure that new development is sustainable without impacting upon people's health and wellbeing or the environment.

The existing plan sets out how and where development should happen over the next ten years and identifies how infrastructure including school places, GP surgeries, leisure facilities, roads, and green spaces can be provided to meet the needs of both of existing and new residents. The plan also includes key policies which are used when deciding on planning applications.

We are required to review our Local Plan at least every five years to ensure that is appropriate and effective. The review process also allows us to incorporate changes to national planning policy including changes to our housing targets that have been introduced since the plan was drawn up in 2020.

Councillor Martin Stone, cabinet member for climate change, planning and the environment, said: "The Local Plan forms the basis of all decisions made about planning applications in the borough and is critical to helping us to limit the impact of climate change and achieve our target of becoming a carbon neutral borough by 2050.

"It is important that residents, businesses, and community organisations can comment on the plan and help guide development in the borough. It is not just about housing; it is about ensuring that we can create sustainable communities that provide the facilities residents need and that we provide space for nature to thrive."

Your comments will help develop a new draft Local Plan which will be subjected to further public scrutiny before it is introduced.

We are also asking people who own land or premises to submit suggestions for sites with the potential for new land uses and development.

The consultation on the Local Plan Review opens on 31 March and will close on Friday 11 April. You can find out more and share your views by visiting: **www.chesterfield.gov.uk/local-plan-review**

> **"It is important that residents, businesses, and community organisations can comment on the plan and help guide development in the borough."**
>
> Councillor Martin Stone, cabinet member for climate change,

Creating new public art in Chesterfield

Last year we launched Animate Chesterfield a public art programme that will create new artworks and activities for visitors and residents to enjoy.

Our Artist in Residence, Lucie Maycock is now working on a new series of artworks that will be unveiled in the Pavements shopping centre at the end of March. She held workshops from September to December where anyone could go and unleash their creative spirit, and these sessions have inspired this project.

In December illustrator Sally Anderson created a unique festival trail featuring designs on shop windows that more than 500 people took part in.

And there are still lots of projects set to happen this year.

We're working with students at the University of Derby to create a new outdoor exhibition structure that will initially feature art created by Junction Arts Next Gen artists before becoming available for the wider community to use.

A Sense of Chesterfield is a new heritage arts trail that we are working to develop with local groups, it will help visitors explore the town and learn about our history.

A new town centre mural will be created later this year and we're currently looking at options for the theme of the project.

Coralie Turpin is also working to create a new sculpture and embed her designs in the regeneration of Staveley town centre.

Animate Chesterfield is funded through planning agreements as part of the council's percent for art scheme and delivered by Beam, a leading cultural development organisation.

We'll be sharing more details about Animate Chesterfield throughout the year. You can find out more by visiting **www.chesterfield.gov.uk/animate**

Artwork created by Lucie Maycock inspired by stories of Chesterfield shared at workshops last year

CHESTERFIELD
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Discover more at your local leisure centre!

On the look out for a new hobby? Want some more 'me' time? Or just need more fun stuff to do with the family?

You might be surprised by what's on offer at our centres – our great range of activities include:

- **State-of-the art gym equipment**
- **Fun dance-based classes for all abilities, including Dancing with Dementia and Club Anthems Dance**
- **Climbing wall** (The Healthy Living Centre)
- **Parent and baby group, plus 'Move it Mums' fitness sessions**
- **Fun family swimming, including weekend splash sessions**
- **Swimming lessons – for adults and children**
- **50+ activities including bowls, table tennis, yoga, aerobics and badminton**

Great value memberships, or pay as you go at The Healthy Living Centre, Staveley and Queen's Park Sports Centre, Chesterfield.

Find out more: www.chesterfield.gov.uk/leisure

Careers inspiration for the next generation

A series of free events have been helping young people and their parents to understand more about the options available to them after completing their GCSEs.

Apprenticeship and Technical Education events have been held across the borough and bring together young people, parents, local businesses and current apprentices to highlight the different opportunities available in key local sectors.

Local engineering firm MSE Hiller have supported the events, and this has helped them connect with and employ three new potential employees.

After meeting at the event two students undertook work experience placements and have gone on to study related subjects at college and a third was hired as Level 3 Mechanical Engineering Apprentice.

Tom, explained: "I attended this event after deciding that I wanted to reskill into the engineering industry where I could learn new skills and find a career that brought me personal fulfilment. I have been working with the company for six months now and I am enjoying the role. The work is challenging but due to the advice and support from my colleagues, mentors and management, I am encouraged to expand my skill set and become more confident in my role."

The Apprenticeship and Technical Education events focus on careers in construction, engineering and manufacturing and health and social care, as these are all sectors where there are lots of local opportunities.

All events are run in partnership with local businesses along with East Midlands Combined County Authority Careers Hub and the Department for Education's ASK programme.

Councillor Tricia Gilby, leader and cabinet member for economic growth, said: ""These events highlight why working in partnership with businesses is vital to helping young people understand the options available to them. Apprenticeships can serve as a great starting point for highly skilled careers and maximising opportunities like this will help to grow our local economy.

"I'd encourage young people and their families to come along to these events because they can really help people to realise their potential."

Our next free Apprenticeship and Technical Education Event will be held at Chesterfield Football Club on Wednesday 21 May from 6pm. You can find more information about the event by visiting: **www.chesterfield.gov.uk/skills-events**

What's on

Winding Wheel Theatre www.chesterfieldtheatres.co.uk Box office: (01246) 345222

The Drifters

Saturday 15 March at 7.30pm
A night of live music featuring the timeless hits of The Drifters**.**

Dracula

Tuesday 18 March at 7.30pm and Wednesday 19 March at 2pm and 7.30pm
Theatrical treatment of Bram Stoker's adventure blends Victorian Gothic with the Contemporary, showcasing Blackeyed Theatre's trademark ensemble performance style.

T.Rextasy

Saturday 22 March at 7.30pm
The world's only official tribute band dedicated to Marc Bolan and T.Rex's music.

Lions and Tigers and Bears with Gordon Buchanan

Sunday 23 March at 7.30pm
Wildlife photographer and filmmaker Gordon Buchanan shares stories and footage from his adventures with big cats and bears.

The Greatest Star - Barbra Streisand Tribute

Friday 28 March at 7.30pm
A tribute concert celebrating the music and legacy of Barbra Streisand.

The Magic of Motown

Friday 11 April at 7.30pm
Celebrating timeless hits from Motown's greatest artists. Seen by millions, back for its 20th Anniversary Tour.

Easter Panto - Pinocchio

Sat 12 April, 3pm and 7pm
A family-friendly pantomime retelling the classic story of Pinocchio's adventures. Star cast including Bobby Davro.

Sweet and Sour

Saturday 19 April at 7.30pm
The Ultimate Tribute to Sabrina Carpenter and Olivia Rodrigo.

Mark Steel - The Leopard in my House

Friday 25 April at 8pm
The multi-award-winning, BAFTA-nominated writer and comedian presents his new tour.

Showaddywaddy

Saturday 26 April at 7.30pm
The band perform live in this dynamic and uplifting show, featuring their greatest hits.

Everybody's Talking About Jamie

Wednesday 30 April - Saturday 3 May. Every evening at 7.15pm and a Saturday matinee at 2.15pm.
Enjoy Chesterfield Operatic Society's interpretation of the hit show. Amateur production.

Simon Reeve - To the Ends of the Earth

Friday 9 May at 7.30pm
The author and TV presenter shares stories and insights from his adventurous travels.

Craig Revel Horwood: Fab-U-Lous

Saturday 10 May at 7.30pm
The Strictly Come Dancing judge discusses his life and career in this entertaining talk.

Luke Combs UK

Saturday 17 May at 7.30pm
The World's leading tribute to the Grammy-nominated country megastar Luke Combs!

Calling Planet Earth

Friday 23 May at 7.30pm
Concert recreating the electrifying 80s and taking you on a musical memory right back to the nightclub dance floor!

Sophie McCartney - One Foot in the Rave

Saturday 24 May at 8pm
The award-winning comedian and number one bestselling author brings her humorous take on motherhood and life to the stage.

G4 Phantoms of the Popera

Saturday 31 May at 7.30pm
The UK's No1 vocal harmony quartet perform a fusion of pop and opera classics.

ABBA Forever

Friday 13 June at 7.30pm
A tribute concert packed full of excitement and exuberance.

The ELO Experience - Greatest Hits and More Tour

Saturday 21 June at 7.30pm
Multi award-winning tribute to The Electric Light Orchestra. With sensational string section, stunning light show and large screen projection.

Winding Wheel Theatre

Horrible Histories - Gorgeous Georgians and Vile Victorians

Saturday 12 July 1pm and 5pm
Live on stage. Don't miss this horrible history of Britain with the nasty bits left in!

A Foreigners Journey

Saturday 19 July at 7.30pm
A tribute to the music of Foreigner and Journey. "Check out this amazing band, they rock!" Jeff Pilson, Bass player of Foreigner.

The Simon and Garfunkel Story

Saturday 13 September at 7.30pm
A concert-style show chronicling the lives and music of the iconic duo. "What A Great ****ing Show" Art Garfunkel

Chesterfield markets

Discover Chesterfield Markets – a shopping experience for everyone

General Market

Every Monday, Friday and Saturday 9am to 4pm
Explore fresh produce, unique gifts, and everyday essentials.

Flea and Antiques Market

Every Thursday 9am to 4pm
Unearth hidden treasures and timeless collectibles.

Record Fair Sunday

Every 2nd Sunday of the Month 9am to 4pm
Browse vinyl archives and rock and pop memorabilia.

Market Hall

Open Mon to Sat, 9am to 5pm
A fantastic mix of shops and food stalls – the perfect place to explore, eat, and shop local!

Chesterfield markets

Vegan market

Sunday 6 April
Join us at the Vegan Market for a day of delicious, sustainable food and unique ethical gifts.

1940s Market

Thursday 10 April, 10am to 4pm
Experience the charm of the 1940s with live music, captivating street entertainment, vintage vehicles, and fascinating wartime displays. Browse Chesterfield's beloved flea market, brimming with unique finds, and enjoy the atmosphere as our stallholders dress the part in authentic 1940s attire.

Easter fun at the Market Hall

5 – 18 April, 9am to 5pm
Search for hidden letters around the market hall, crack the secret word, and enter for a chance to win a delicious Easter Egg.

Easter crafts day

Tuesday 15 April, 11am to 4pm
Bring the kids along to create their very own Easter Bunny hand puppet, while parents can sit back, relax, and enjoy a drink in our cozy café.

Museum on the Move

Extraordinary Women Exhibition

21 February to 27 March, Weds to Sat, 11am to 3pm
An exhibition telling the amazing stories of local women, presented in partnership with Derbyshire LGBT+ and exploring ideas of feminine identity. Featuring 'If the Shoe Fits...' original artworks created by Chesterfield College Art and Design students.

Museum on the Move

Code with Micro:bits Workshop

Sat 15 March, 12noon to 2.30pm
Discover the fascinating history of codebreaking during wartime and learn how to send and receive secret messages using Micro:bits and Morse code! An opportunity to explore the basics of programming and electronics in a fun and engaging environment.

The Tudors Exhibition

5 to 19 April, Tues to Fri 10am to 2pm, Sat 10am to 4pm. Closed Fri 19 April. Launch evening on 4 April, 3.30pm to 7pm.
Explore life in Tudor times through this interactive exhibition. Free, family fun with mysterious Tudor items, hands on activities, dressing up and crafts. A BSL interpreter will be available on Saturday 5 April between 11am and 2pm.

Meet a Tudor Surgeon

Saturday 5 April, 10am to 4pm
Discover the gory details of Tudor medicine and diseases and learn about the unorthodox treatments used. Marvel at the display of surgical equipment used in the Tudor period including replicas from the surgeon's cabin on the Mary Rose.

Tasty Tudor Treats

Saturday 12 April, 10am to 4pm
Explore food and feasting 16th Century style and have a go at making some tasty Tudor gingerbread.

Viking Extravaganza!

Saturday 7 June, 11.30am to 4.30pm
Discover what life was like in the Viking era with re-enactors, dressing up and crafts and the opportunity to take part in a walk-through battle!

Save time, do it online – sign up for My Chesterfield!

Did you know that you can access many council services online – at a time that suits you – through our digital platform 'My Chesterfield'?

From telling us about something that needs cleaning up in your neighbourhood, to managing your Council Tax bills and payments, you can manage and track a range of services by signing up to 'My Chesterfield' and doing it all online.

Through My Chesterfield you can:

- Manage your Council Tax bills, payments, direct debits
- View bin collection days, report a missed or damaged bin and request a replacement
- Report an issue, such as noise or smoke nuisance

www.chesterfield.gov.uk/mychesterfield

Tell us about something that needs cleaning up on a street, road or park

Request a council home repair

Access your housing or garage rent account to view payments, charges and rent statements

Sign up and pay for garden waste collections

See information about your local councillor

Tell us you have changed address

Send us a comment, compliment or complaint, or make a general enquiry

Already signed up for an account? It's time to go paperless!

Once you have a My Chesterfield account, you can help reduce paper waste by registering for e-billing.

This means you can manage your Council Tax, view instalments, amend your Direct Debits and so much more!

It's easy to sign up for paper billing too. Once logged in to My Chesterfield, just follow the steps below:

1. select online services
2. click on Council Tax
3. click on Council Tax online
4. select manage your account
5. add service
6. answer the security question

Check your details

If you are already registered, please check your My Chesterfield account and make sure your contact details are up to date.

www.chesterfield.gov.uk/mychesterfield

Contact us

We provide more than 50 services to our residents including: waste collection and recycling, street cleaning, leisure and park facilities, housing, environmental protection, planning, regeneration, housing, markets, theatres and tourism.

The answers to most of your queries will be available on our website: **www.chesterfield.gov.uk** and you can manage a range of council services through My Chesterfield (register at **www.chesterfield.gov.uk/mychesterfield**)

If you can't find what you are looking for, you can fill in a contact form **www.chesterfield.gov.uk/contact**

General enquiries - (01246) 345345

For enquiries about specific services call:

Chesterfield Theatres box office

(01246) 345222

box.office@chesterfield.gov.uk

Chesterfield Visitor Information

(01246) 345777 or 345778

tourism@chesterfield.gov.uk

Healthy Living Centre - (01246) 345666

hlcenquiries@chesterfield.gov.uk

Queen's Park Sports Centre - (01246) 345555

qpscenquiries@chesterfield.gov.uk

Chesterfield Citizen Advice - 0808 278 7843

Are we accessible to you?

کیا ہم تک آپ کی رسائی ہے؟ اگر نہیں تو ہمیں بتایئے!

你可覺得易於與我們接觸？若不的話，請提出要求。

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 aim to provide what you need to be able to understand our information or talk or write to 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

Please contact us:

General enquiries:	**01246 345345**
Text:	**07960 910264**
Web:	**www.chesterfield.gov.uk**

For housing related queries please call our main number (01246) 345345 except for:

Chesterfield Careline - **0300 303 3378**

Homelessness prevention team - **(01246) 345825**

homelessness.prevention@chesterfield.gov.uk

Homelessness (out of hours) - **08081 629 333**

Home Options – for all council house waiting list and allocations queries

Visit the website at: **www.home-options.org**

(01246) 345700

home.options@chesterfield.gov.uk

Housing management team- (01246) 345071

housingmanagement@chesterfield.gov.uk

Rents and rent recovery - (01246) 345501 or 345510

Reporting housing repairs - 0800 5875 659

repair.requests@chesterfield.gov.uk

Emergency housing repairs – out of hours only

(01246) 345041

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See our videos on YouTube, search for Chesterfield Borough Council's channel

CHESTERFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL

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Use your right to vote this May

YOUR VOTE MATTERS

DON'T LOSE IT

Voters will go to the polls on Thursday 1 May to vote in the Derbyshire County Council elections

To vote in these elections you must make sure you are registered by midnight on Friday 11 April. It only takes five minutes and all you need is your national insurance number.

Register at: **www.chesterfield.gov.uk/register** or call us on **01246 345 345.**

You can still cast your vote even if you won't be able to get to the polling station on election day. Information on voting by post or proxy can be found on our website.

If you want to vote in person at a polling station, you will need to show photographic ID. Lots of different forms of identification are acceptable including bus passes, driving licenses and passports. If you don't have ID, you can use a Voter Authority Certificate. Find out more at:

Find out more at: **www.chesterfield.gov.uk/voter-id**

Revitalising the Heart of Chesterfield

We're investing in our town centre to make sure it thrives for generations to come.

Our Revitalising the Heart of Chesterfield project is a major regeneration scheme that will revitalise and better connect key areas of our historic town centre and revamp the striking Stephenson Memorial Hall.

Sign up to receive the latest news about our town centre regeneration project, including the refurbishment of Stephenson Memorial Hall (Chesterfield Museum and Pomegranate Theatre).

www.chesterfield.gov.uk/revitalise

Are you at risk of falling?

Chesterfield Careline could help you

Did you know that our Chesterfield Careline package includes a 24/7 falls recovery service?

If you have a fall, our dedicated and fully-trained team will:

- Speak to you via your Chesterfield Careline equipment and check what help you may need
- Visit your home if needed and carry out clinical observations such as temperature, blood pressure, pulse and oxygen levels
- Lift you with specialist lifting equipment, if safe to do so
- Call your emergency contacts
- Call an ambulance if you are injured and wait with you until it arrives, or your emergency contact arrives
- Make sure you are comfortable before leaving
- Complete referrals that may be required to health and adult care, and any other agencies

Chesterfield Careline

CHESTERFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL

TSA

To find out more please contact Chesterfield Careline on:

0300 303 3378

or visit:
www.chesterfield.gov.uk/careline