

MEMBERS ONLY

Information for Councillors



Issue 62
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Date for the diary

27 February
‘Dementia friends’
information session

See page 4

Date for the diary

18 March
Park homes seminar
at the Winter Gardens

See page 2

Minister opens Weston Package

A government minister officially opened the £15m Weston Package transport improvements scheme last week.

Sajid Javid MP, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, unveiled a ceremonial plaque in front of an audience of North Somerset councillors, engineers and representatives from the main contractors who carried out the work.



The minister said: "There is clearly a role here for government from capital investment. It is great to see that investment making a real difference and Weston is well placed with its excellent transport links."

Sajid Javid is pictured with John Penrose MP and Cllrs Ashton and Ap Rees. See our [press release](#) for more information.

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Changes to park homes legislation

New legislation relating to park homes and changes to the licensing procedure of park home sites is being introduced from 1 April, under the Mobile Homes Act 2013.

We are hosting an information and advice session on **Tuesday 18 March in the Prince Consort Hall at the Winter Gardens**. This event is aimed at residents but members are welcome to attend.

The session will begin at 1pm and there will be guest speakers from LEASE (the Lease Hold Advisory Service) and from the DCLG (Department for Communities and Local Government).

Places at the event are limited, so if you would like to attend please let us know as soon as possible by emailing privaterented.housing@n-somerset.gov.uk.

i [Howard Evans](#), Private Sector Housing Service Manager, 01934 426 673

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Policy and Scrutiny Panel news

Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel (HOSP)

The next HOSP Panel takes place on **Thursday 27 February** at 1.30pm in the New Council Chamber. The chairman of the panel, Cllr Willis, would like to highlight to all members some of the topics to be discussed by the panel at the meeting. These include:

- **NHS England area team's plans for primary care in the Central Ward area following the closure of the Boulevard Healthcare Centre** - members will recall that the council recently referred NHS England's closure of the Boulevard service to the Secretary of State for Health as being not in the interests of health services in the area.
- **The future of clinical services at Clevedon Hospital** - including reports on local engagement undertaken by HealthWatch North Somerset (HWNS) and the North Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG); and proposals for the future model of health care at the hospital following the consultation.
- **Dealing with winter pressures on health services; how additional Government winter pressure funding provided to North Somerset agencies has been spent and how this has affected performance so far** - including evidence from HWNS, the CCG, Public Health and Weston General Hospital.

The agenda and reports have been published and you can read them on the [website](#).

Please let Cllr Willis or Leo Taylor know if you have any particular questions and, as always, you are welcome to come along to the meeting.

i [Leo Taylor](#), Scrutiny Officer, 01934 634 621

Alliance Homes annual report and presentation

The Adult Services and Housing Policy and Scrutiny Panel on **Friday 14 March** will consider the Alliance Homes annual report and receive a presentation by Clive Bodley, Group Chief Executive of Alliance Homes.

Cllr Kemp, chairman of the panel, invites all members of the council to attend the presentation.

The Alliance Homes annual report will be posted on our website soon and you will be notified of this.

Please note the panel meeting on 14 March starts at the earlier time of 10am.

i [David Jellings](#), Scrutiny Officer, 01275 884 219

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'Dementia friends' date

Please note the 'dementia friends' information session for members scheduled for Wednesday 5 March, prior to the P&R Committee meeting, has been cancelled due to lack of bookings. Places are still available for the session on Thursday 27 February at the Town Hall.

To book a place please contact:

i [Rose Benjamin](#), Corporate Training, 01934 884 037

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Chief Executive's blog

A reminder that Chief Executive Mike Jackson is posting a weekly blog on the intranet which you can access via the PCs in the members' rooms. The blog is posted every Friday and you can find it on the home page.

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Leader's diary

Here are the main contents of my diary for January/February:

6 Jan	Meeting with Police and Crime Commissioner Sue Mountstevens for first review of proposed police budget.
7 Jan	Detailed review of Better Care Fund financing of integrated services. Target Operating Model discussions on review of future structure and savings.
8 Jan	Meeting with Local Government Association Adviser Andy Bates on creating better links with the LGA. Discussions with planning officers about improving communications with town and parish councils.
9 Jan	Police and Crime Panel agenda briefing followed by update on Core Strategy with planners.
10 Jan	Meeting with Liam Fox and representatives of National Grid to discuss outstanding issues around proposed pylon routing. Meeting with EDF to discuss opportunities for North Somerset with the construction of Hinkley Point.
13 Jan	Meeting with the Chief Executive on progress with the integrated care budget.

14 Jan	Met with Lord Heseltine and Cities Minister Greg Clark to discuss infrastructure funding through the Local Enterprise Partnership. CMT/Exec meeting to discuss progress on the budget proposals followed by Full Council meeting.
15 Jan	Attended Downing Street reception with the Prime Minister for Conservative council leaders.
16 Jan	Tickenham School road safety meeting followed by meeting with Nailsea Town Council re car parks and infrastructure development in the town. Review of public health performance and budget.
17 Jan	Discussion with Liam Fox on a number of issues raised by his constituents. Meeting with council leaders and chief executives in Somerset to discuss effect of Hinkley Point on skills and supplies.
20 Jan	Meeting with RNLI about future locations for them in Weston. Briefing on car parking issues across North Somerset.
21 Jan	Attended opening of Innovation Centre at Weston College.
22 Jan	Attended the Ambassador's Launch with business leaders at the Curzon Cinema in Clevedon.
23 Jan	Attended special meeting of the LGA General Assembly in London.
27 Jan	Attended the Older People Champions Group annual meeting at the Winter Gardens to discuss the budget proposals and their impact. Chaired the People and Communities Health and Wellbeing Board.
28 Jan	Met with finance team to discuss more budget details. Met with representatives of the National Apprenticeship Scheme and then attended the police forum in the New Council Chamber with Police and Crime Commissioner Sue Mountstevens and Chief Constable Nick Gargan.
29 Jan	Interviewing for the consultants for the Transformation Programme. Chaired the North Somerset Partnership Board meeting.
31 Jan	Attended the Local Government Finance Panel in London.
2 Feb	Attended the Chairman's Civic Service at St Peter's Church in Portishead.
3 Feb	Meeting with rural bus operators. Met with Leader of BANES to discuss transport and environment issues and other areas of co-operation. Discussions on strategic flood construction contract at Wrington.
4 Feb	Meeting with councillors and officers to discuss foster carers support. Further meeting with officers to discuss Better Care programme followed by the Executive meeting where main issue was the budget proposals.
5 Feb	Chaired Police and Crime Panel meeting at Castlewood to consider commissioner's budget proposals.
6 Feb	Public health budget discussions with Becky Pollard. Attended LEP Board meeting at UWE.
10 Feb	Meeting with local business to discuss potential new waste disposal system.
11 Feb	CMT/Exec meeting to discuss results of staff survey.

12 Feb	Further progress on appointing consultants for Transformation Programme. Update on foster carers support and discussions on affordable housing supply.
13 Feb	Met with Sajid Javid, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, for formal opening of Weston Package (see press release for more on this) and then one-to-one discussions on various funding issues. Meeting on bus provision in North Somerset.
14 Feb	Meeting with parish council representatives to discuss local pylon issues. Met with local MP John Penrose to discuss the Better Care Fund and other local issues. Visited The Granary in Wraxall to discuss general dementia provision.
18 Feb	Full Council meeting to finalise 2014/15 budget.
19 Feb	Met with Mrs Maureen Whitmore, High Sheriff of Somerset, during her visit to the Town Hall (see article on next page).
20 Feb	Briefing on Citizen Portal, a joint project between the council and police to develop a new app for public access to services (see press release for more).

Coming up...

24 Feb	Attending Armed Forces Covenant steering group following award of grant for specific support service (see press release for more on this).
25 Feb	Meeting with Lord Heseltine in London to discuss details of possible future funding.
26 Feb	Meeting with the Leader and Chief Executive of Sedgemoor District Council to discuss opportunities for greater co-operation.
27 Feb	Chairing South West England Adult Care Services Board meeting in Taunton. The main issue will be to discuss the continuing health and social care integration and peer reviews.
28 Feb	Attending the Conservative Councils Association conference in London.

In addition, I have attended around 70 other meetings with officers, members and residents.

If you would like more details on any of these issues, please do not hesitate to contact my office either by emailing members.secretary@n-somerset.gov.uk or by ringing 01275 884 127.

Clr Nigel Ashton
Leader of the Council

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Committees, meetings and decisions

The agendas for forthcoming meetings, minutes of previous meetings and Executive Member and Director decisions can all be found on [our website](#).

High Sheriff's visit

The High Sheriff of Somerset, Mrs Maureen Whitmore, visited the Town Hall this week. She was shown round the gateway facilities as part of a day in Weston hosted by the Chairman of Council, Cllr McMurray, and the Mayor, Cllr Keith Morris.

The High Sheriff's itinerary also included visits to the Mayor's Parlour, Blakehay Theatre, Barcode Youth Café and the YMCA, Weston Museum and the For All Healthy Living Centre and Bournville estate.



Our photo shows the High Sheriff (centre) with Cllr and Mrs McMurray, the Mayor and the Mayoress Mrs Jos Holder in the Old Council Chamber at the Town Hall.

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Town and parish councils

The up-to-date list of contact details for all the town and parish council chairmen and clerks in North Somerset can be found on our website at: www.n-somerset.gov.uk/townandparish.

i [Elisabeth Roberts](#), Policy and Partnerships Development Officer, 01257 884 004

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News from assistant executive members

Cllr Ann Harley – Health and Social Care

Pilot 1, which covers the centre of Weston-super-Mare, is continuing to progress. It is taking more time than we would have wished, but what we have to remember is that we are integrating a number of teams who have different systems and it is vital that we get it right.

Being the first pilot we knew that it would be difficult because of the nature of its complexities. However, I am confident that when we assess the progress in June, the anniversary of its launch, it will be working well.

The positive thing to report is that a survey of those who have already been co-located shows that the staff are happy and settled in well. But I am always listening to any concerns they may have and meet with them regularly - they need to be listened to and supported.

Pilot 2 St Georges, covering Worle and the surrounding area, is not able to be launched until the middle of March unfortunately. BT are not able to put in the necessary equipment until then, having agreed initially that it would be done in December. It is all ready to go and, although our officers have been in contact with BT regularly, BT are not prepared to change that date.

Work on **Pilots 3 and 4** is progressing. It is recognised that both these schemes will be totally different and any issues that have been encountered with the first two need to be facilitated into the process.

Integrated administrative staff are now sitting together and beginning to learn each other's roles. Radek (NSCP) admin staff now have an NSC intranet account. The next step is for AIS access which can be applied for once all five NSC information governance modules have been completed. Training is being put in place, and RIO access will be established for the NSC admin staff following the training.

Connecting Care. Staff initially identified as being part of the integrated team have been sent passwords and access to the connecting care site. Training and support have been offered to staff and monthly newsletters are sent out, which is absolutely vital in communicating with staff.

Multi-disciplinary meeting. A standard operating procedure for the MDT meeting is now complete, but will be subject to review as the meeting continually evolves. The meetings have been well attended by health and social care over the past few months, which was fundamental to the management of some complex cases.

I joined the **Productive Integration workshops**, which have been a big success with all staff involved really engaged. The comment made to me was that I gave the patient's/user's perspective of current services which they felt generated some interesting conversations and food for thought! I will continue to attend these meetings and feed back to them relative concerns that may have been mentioned to me.

Integrated Occupational Therapy. NSC and NSCP OT leads met with the implementation manager and it was agreed that an action plan to progress OT integration be produced.

As you can see, there has been a lot of work involved to integrate the various partners, and everyone in this process is committed to it succeeding.

i [Clr Ann Harley](#), 01934 842 069

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Roadworks

To find out about all the current and future work on the roads across the district go to:
www.n-somerset.gov.uk/roads.

A new addition to this webpage is the **highways weekly update** with information on potholes dealt with and road schemes being carried out.

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Consultations

The council is currently consulting on its [Bus Information Strategy](#).

The strategy determines what local bus information should be made available to the public and the way it should be made available. It also sets out the obligations of bus operators running services in North Somerset to provide bus information.

It is a statutory requirement that the council has a Bus Information Strategy. We have recently updated the strategy to include everything the council does relating to the provision of bus information. We are now consulting local people and organisations to make sure there is nothing we have missed out.

You can see all the consultations we are currently undertaking on our eConsult website at:
www.n-somerset.gov.uk/consultations.

i [Dave Ostry](#), Research and Information Officer, 01275 888 762

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What's on in North Somerset

For details of events taking place across North Somerset go to: www.n-somerset.gov.uk/events.

i [Events team](#), 01934 427 251

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In the news

Media interviews carried out since the last edition of *Members Only* include:

- Cllr Lake did an interview with BBC Radio Bristol about the KPMG report into the Agilisys contract.
- Cllr Baker did interviews with BBC Radio Bristol and Breeze Radio about Weston being chosen by the Home Office as one of only 20 Local Alcohol Action Areas in the country (see our [press release](#) for more information).
- James Foster, Head of Policy, Communications and Customer Services, was interviewed by Breeze Radio about new funding secured for an Armed Forces project in North Somerset (see our [press release](#) for more information).
- Cllr Bryant did interviews with BBC Points West and BBC Radio Bristol about the new waste treatment contract which was approved at Full Council on Tuesday (see our [press release](#) for more details).
- Cllr Ap Rees did an interview with BBC Radio Bristol about potholes.
- Cllr Ashton was interviewed by Breeze Radio about the budget after Tuesday's council meeting (see our [press release](#) for more information).
- Cllr Lake also did an interview about the budget after Tuesday's meeting with BBC Radio Bristol.

All the latest press releases issued by the Marketing and Communications team can be viewed on our website at: www.n-somerset.gov.uk/news.

i [Press Office](#), Marketing and Communications, 01934 634 996

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Contact

The next issue of *Members Only* is due out on 7 March with a copy deadline of 5 March. If you have something you would like to include in this issue please contact Marketing and Communications Officer [Richard Turner](#) via email or on 01934 634 995.

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