

WINTER 2019 | #DISTRICTNEWS

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# DN

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MAGAZINE



NEWS FROM ACROSS  
THE LEWES DISTRICT



Lewes District Council

# Hello

Welcome to the winter  
edition of DN magazine,  
brought to you by Lewes  
District Council



Merry Christmas and welcome to the winter edition of DN magazine brought to you by Lewes District Council.

We are delighted to bring you details of how a raft of community projects in the Lewes district are benefiting from £1.2 million in funding.

Local good causes are getting a

further boost, receiving 60p from every £1 ticket bought in the new Lewes District Local Lottery launched by the council.

In December many people's thoughts will turn to personal resolutions to help achieve their goals.

At Lewes District Council, the

ambition is already clear - zero emission and climate resilience by 2030. With a far-reaching programme underway, we look forward to bringing you climate action updates in 2020 and beyond.

Wishing you a wonderful festive season and a happy and healthy New Year.

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## Get In Touch

District News is available in large print, audio disc or in another language upon request.

To receive DN magazine by email visit [lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/district-news](https://www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/district-news)

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**"The improved sports facilities in this round of funding is great news and I'm particularly pleased to see the major funding being committed to the cycle route from Newhaven to Piddinghoe."**

**Councillor Emily O'Brien**

## £1.2 Million For Projects In Lewes District

**Projects in the Lewes district are to benefit from £1.2 million allocated through Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding.**

CIL is a charge local authorities can make on new developments to raise funds for the improvement of roads, sports, school and medical facilities, open spaces and flood defences.

Over £5 million has been collected since the scheme came into force in December 2015. The money is shared between county, district and community initiatives.

In this round of district funding allocations, £20,000 will go towards improvements at the Salts Recreation Ground in Seaford and £56,000 will help deliver resurfacing on the tennis

courts and ball court in Newhaven Fort Recreation Ground, and ramped access to the venue.

A further £13,280 will establish a electricity supply to the Denton Island bandstand in Newhaven and nearly £3,000 will part-fund three water refill stations on Seaford seafront to reduce the use of single-use plastics.

Councillor Emily O'Brien, Cabinet Member for Planning, said:

**"CIL funding is proving a real game-changer in our local communities, with health, wellbeing and social benefits being generated.**

**"The improved sports facilities in this round of funding is great news and I'm particularly pleased to see the major**

**funding being committed to the cycle route from Newhaven to Piddinghoe."**

Some £250,000 from the combined county and community pots will part-fund the construction of 1.5km of cycle way alongside the River Ouse, known as the Egrets Way Project.

The Seahaven Academy will also receive £400,000 from the county allocation to support expansion of the school and £300,000 has been agreed for improvements to the Newhaven ring road.

The community pot has also earmarked £3,000 towards the refurbishment of the school library in Newick – the project will create a resource hub that people living in the village can use free of charge.





## Lewes District Lottery Is Launched



**Lewes District Council has launched a new online lottery to support local good causes.**

With a weekly jackpot of £25,000 up for grabs, tickets cost just £1 with 60p going towards local good causes, compared to just 28p in the pound for the National Lottery. There are also prizes of £2,000, £250, £25 or three free tickets.

Councillor Ruth O'Keeffe, Cabinet Member for Tourism and Devolution, said:

"The council already supports good causes through our grant funding and with the launch of the Lewes District Local Lottery even more voluntary and charitable groups in the district will benefit.

"The first draw on December 14 gave an early Christmas present to lucky lottery players. Good luck to everyone who takes part, whatever the time of year."

Any groups in the district that want to take advantage of the

new lottery funding should visit **[leweslocallottery.co.uk](http://leweslocallottery.co.uk)** and complete an application.

All those approved by the council will have their own page on the website and can encourage their supporters to support them when they take part in the lottery.



## Seaford Skate Park Is Taking Off



**Seaford's new skate park has proved a big hit with skateboarders, BMXers, mountain bikers and scooter riders who are making superb use of the facility throughout the winter evenings thanks to floodlights.**

The four floodlights stay on until 9pm every night and were installed in October, enabling skate park users to make the most of the darker nights.

CCTV has also been set up to ensure the skate park, at The Salts Recreation Ground, is a safe place for users of all ages.

The skate park, designed and built by the company Canvas, opened in the summer. It was developed by Seaford Town Council using Section 106 funds, a generous donation from NPS Lions and a Sports England grant.

A new water station has also been installed at the venue to encourage people to refill bottles there and stop the pollution caused by single-use plastics.

It is the first of four water refill stations to be put in place by Seaford Town Council, with three more planned for along the promenade. The town council's restaurant, The View at Seaford Head, also offers free water refills to visitors.

Last year's winner Nicki Whitehead receiving her prize



## Win £2,500 Cash To Help Get Your Business Started

Future entrepreneurs from Lewes, Seaford, Newhaven, Peacehaven and the surrounding areas are being encouraged to take part in next year's LEAP (Local Enterprise and Apprenticeship Platform) for business support and their chance to win £2,500 cash.

This free, comprehensive programme provides workshops, seminars, one-to-one mentoring and a chance of winning a cash prize of £2,500 to any resident who is looking to set up their business in the Lewes district.

Since 2013, residents have been supported as they have turned their business dreams into a reality – with companies ranging from massage therapists to

haberdasheries, gardeners to photographers, social media gurus and health and safety consultants, to name a few.

Councillor James MacCleary, Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Prosperity, said: "The training programme starts in January 2020 with a one-day workshop in Lewes or Peacehaven. Following this, candidates are selected to attend further mentoring, guidance, support and their chance to be awarded Entrepreneur of the Year at the LEAP Awards and receive a trophy as well as a cash prize of £2,500. All candidates receive additional business support with mentoring and guidance provided."

To register visit [yourleap.co.uk/](http://yourleap.co.uk/) or call 01323 641144.

## Shop In Lewes District

Shopping locally has so many benefits: reducing fuel, air pollution, waste and carbon footprint, as well as supporting the community and local economy.

To showcase the wealth and variety of independent shops on our doorstep, Visit Lewes has produced a handy and informative guide to independent shopping in Newhaven, Seaford and across the rural district.

The guide is a companion piece to the Lewes Town independent shopping guide published in 2018, and both can be picked up for free from Lewes or Seaford Tourist Information Centres.

There is still the chance to win a hamper of goodies donated by local shops in the Shop Independent This Christmas competition, which runs until Friday 20 December.

Visit [visitlewes.co.uk](http://visitlewes.co.uk) for details.



# At The Front Line Of Fighting Climate Change

**Lewes District Council has appointed a new Strategy and Partnership Lead for Sustainability to drive forward a programme of far-reaching action.**

Kate Richardson will join the authority later this month from her current role at East Sussex County Council.

The appointment is just one of many steps the new Co-operative Alliance is taking to achieve zero carbon emissions and full climate resilience by 2030.

The news follows Cabinet approval for a pesticide reduction policy and strategy for pollinator-friendly land management.

Lewes District Council will now use non-pesticide options for weed control as a first choice whenever possible – the authority was amongst the first to pioneer the use of hot foam. The technique works by applying heat to the weed in the form of hot water and foam. The near boiling point of the mixture acts as a thermal blanket, keeping the heat on the weed long enough to kill it.

A strategy has also been agreed that changes the council's approach to land management, putting a much greater focus on pollinators and the critical importance of their role in the food chain.

Professor Dave Goulson, Professor of Biology at the University of Sussex, said:

"It is vital that we do more to look after our declining pollinators, so I am delighted to see Lewes District Council's new strategy to reduce pesticide use and increase habitat for these most important of creatures."

Councillor Zoe Nicholson, Leader of Lewes District Council, said:

"We have a raft of measures already underway and others soon to be implemented."

"Kate's appointment is excellent news and will lead to a Climate Change and Sustainability Strategy being fully developed by July 2020."

Other climate actions planned by the Co-operative Alliance include an annual report to the Audit and Standards Committee on the level of council investment in the fossil fuel industry through its pension plan, the formation of a Community Climate Change Forum attended by some of the world's leading experts in the field, new measures to ensure young people are part of the climate emergency decision-making process and the setting up of a Climate Change Scrutiny Panel to monitor and oversee the implementation of the strategy.

Councillor Nicholson added:

"In the three months since I became leader, my team and I have been working as fast as possible to turn the national and international momentum around tackling climate change,







into climate action across the Lewes district.

“Our first step in July was to declare a climate emergency and underpin the declaration with measures designed to achieve our overarching goals of zero emissions and climate resilience by 2030.

“I’m pleased with the progress made so far, but we have much more to do, and we will not rest until we have achieved every one of our goals.”

We will be bringing you all the latest updates on the council’s climate actions in future editions of DN.



**Councillor Matthew Bird**  
Cabinet Member for Sustainability

“A third of all the food we eat is dependent on pollination. We have a vital role to play in ensuring that we create the best conditions for pollinators to thrive. This is especially important given the challenges they and all of us face in a changing climate.”



**Councillor Julie Carr,**  
Cabinet Member for Recycling,  
Waste & Open Spaces

“The Co-operative Alliance took control of the council in July this year. From day one we were clear that as custodian of land across the district we would not deviate from our duty to implement policies and plans that nurture our natural environment.”

# New Council Homes In Newhaven

**The first tranche of new homes has been completed in Lewes district through Aspiration Homes, the council's development company.**

Aspiration Homes has brought forward five three-bedroom affordable houses out of the new Trinity Homes development of 27 homes on the former Grays School site in Western Road, Newhaven.

Out of the five, four homes are for rent and are being made available through Lewes District Council's housing register and one home is being offered under shared ownership for households who want to purchase part of their own home.

The ambition is to deliver 215 new homes through Aspiration Homes across Lewes and Eastbourne by 2021/22.

Councillor William Meyer, Cabinet Member for Housing, said:

"There is a real need for three-bedroom family homes in the district so I'm particularly delighted with this development.

"Monthly utility bills will be reduced thanks to solar panels on each property and they also have a high specification of insulation, ensuring heat is retained and utility bills are reduced."

The development is within walking distance of the town centre and local schools and, with nearby bus stops, there is easy access to Brighton and other neighbouring towns.

Councillor Meyer added: "The delivery of high quality homes for those who need them most is a top priority for the Co-operative Alliance.

"The acute shortage of affordable homes is a challenge for every local authority. Here across the Lewes district we are using a mix of development options to increase our housing supply for residents. The Alliance's overriding aim being to bring forward many more such innovative schemes over the next four years."







# Housing Advice

Lewes District Council can provide a range of advice and support if you are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. This includes advice on:

- Budgeting and benefits
- Maintaining your mortgage payments
- Finding and securing a privately let property
- Accessing other services to help you maintain your tenancy

You can complete an online self-assessment to find out what support options may be available to you at:

[homesfirstlettings.co.uk](http://homesfirstlettings.co.uk) or find out more about our housing services online at: [lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/housing](http://lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/housing)

You can also speak with one of our Customer Advisors Monday to Friday at our office at Southover House, Lewes between 8:30am and 5pm, or at Saxon House, Newhaven between 10am and 2pm.

Appointments in Peacehaven Meridian Centre on Mondays and Seaford Citizens Advice Bureau on Thursdays are available on request.

# Housing Fraud

**Lewes District Council is cracking down on housing fraud which deprives people in need from having a home.**

Housing fraud takes many forms, including:

- Subletting without permission
- Giving the wrong information upon application
- Not telling the council upon leaving the property
- Not telling the council when someone else has left the property or passed away – ‘fraudulent succession’
- Fraudulent right to buy applications
- ‘Key selling’

Punishments include losing the home, a maximum fine of £50,000 and a criminal conviction.

To report housing fraud anonymously online visit: [lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/housing-fraud](http://lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/housing-fraud)

Anyone wishing to discuss their circumstances in confidence can do so, if they have concerns.

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# Tenants’ Conference

**The Homes First Tenants’ Conference will take place at Plumpton Racecourse on Wednesday 25 March 2020.**

There will be workshops, inspirational speakers, Homes First staff to speak with, display stands giving expert advice and a free hot lunch is offered.

For more information or to book your place, phone **01273 487249** or email [tenant.involvement@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk](mailto:tenant.involvement@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk)





Christopher Addison

## Addison Act Centenary



This year marks the centenary anniversary of the 1919 Addison Act which saw the start of large-scale social housing in the UK. Christopher Addison was a gifted surgeon who entered politics and later became the Minister for Health. He recognised that good housing had a direct link to health and wellbeing, and as a result he guided the new Housing Act through Parliament.

Helped by the Addison Act, the council purchased 39 acres of land from the Marquess of Abergavenny for £2,312 on 5 November 1920. Some 14.5 acres of this land was approved by a government inspector for subsidy and soon after the first council houses in the area were built on Nevill Road.

Lewes District Council is appealing for photos, stories and memories from across the district which can be used for an exhibition and booklet to celebrate 100 years of social housing. To contribute please phone **01273 487249** or email **tenant.involvement@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk**



## Housing News Survey

Council tenants and leaseholders are being asked to fill in a short survey about how they receive communications on housing at: [smartsurvey.co.uk/s/housingnewsletter](https://smartsurvey.co.uk/s/housingnewsletter)

## EU Settlement Scheme

**EU citizens and their families can apply to the EU Settlement Scheme to continue to live, work and study in the UK.**

Applicants must be a citizen of the EU, Iceland, Lichtenstein, Norway or Switzerland, or a non-EU family member of an EU citizen. This includes those with a UK permanent residence document.

People do not need to apply if they have indefinite leave to remain or enter, or are an Irish citizen – but they can do if they wish.

For more information, visit [gov.uk/eu-settled-status](https://gov.uk/eu-settled-status)

Citizens Advice offices in Lewes and Newhaven offer application guidance and scanning of identification documents so that originals don't need to be sent.

# Spotlight On

## Lauren Saville-Wiggins Specialist Advisor, Building Control



### Tell us about your job:

I am a Building Control Surveyor (Specialist Advisor) with the Building Control team. We provide a professional service to architects, homeowners and builders which includes checking plans and carrying out site inspections to ensure a project achieves compliance with the building regulations set by central government.

We offer advice and support based on a local knowledge of ground conditions, building history, sewers and other considerations for the design and construction of buildings

to guarantee they are safe, energy efficient and accessible for people to live, work and spend time in.

We are also called out to dangerous structures. In these cases we visit the site, advise on the course of action to remove the danger or reduce the risk and monitor the situation closely. Our number one priority is to keep the public safe at all times.

### What is your biggest success?

My biggest success so far was last year when I graduated with a BSc in Historic Building Conservation. The

Lewes district has a large, varied and interesting stock of historic and listed buildings, and our projects include a range of these buildings.

Having an understanding of traditional construction and a building's significance as well as what parts of the building regulations to apply to them is very important when making decisions. I enjoy being able to wear two hats in my job – achieving an appropriate balance between conserving the historic built environment whilst complying with building regulations to ensure the buildings are safe and efficient.

## Be The First To Know



**Each month hundreds of residents sign up to receive email alerts from Lewes District Council about the things that interest them the most.**

People who sign up for this free service are the first to find out when the council announces local events such as Sussex Gin & Fizz and Artwave, launches consultations, shares council news or sends updates on waste and recycling collections.

To encourage even more people to experience the benefits of this service, Lewes District Council will be entering everyone who registers for the service during December and January into a prize draw to win one of three pairs of tickets to next year's Sussex Gin and Fizz festival in Lewes. The winners will be selected at random in February 2020.

Sign up up today at  
**[lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/keep-me-posted](https://lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/keep-me-posted)**



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\* Prices exclude VAT and are available to those with a long term medical condition and on the completion of a declaration.





# Christmas Tree Recycling

If you're buying a real tree this Christmas, don't forget to recycle it. Just bring your tree to any of the drop-off points below by Sunday 19 January and we'll take it to be recycled into soil conditioner. It might even be used to grow more Christmas trees for next year!

- **Seaford: Richmond Road car park or Buckle car park**
- **Peacehaven: Piddinghoe Avenue car park**
- **Newhaven: Bay Vue car park**
- **Lewes: Brook Street car park**

## Upcoming Lewes District Council Public Meetings:

Planning Applications Committee (1)	8 Jan	5:00pm
Audit and Standards Committee (4)	20 Jan	10:00am
Planning Applications Committee (1)	29 Jan	5:00pm
Scrutiny Committee (3)	6 Feb	2:00pm
Cabinet (3)	10 Feb	2:30pm
Planning Applications Committee (1)	19 Feb	5:00pm
Council (1)	24 Feb	6:00pm

### Venues:

1. Council Chamber, County Hall, St. Anne's Crescent, Lewes
2. Telscombe Room, Southover House, Lewes
3. Ditchling & Telscombe Rooms, Southover House, Lewes
4. Ditchling Room, Southover House, Lewes

For further information and to confirm meetings times, dates and locations, please contact Committee Services at:

**[committees@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk](mailto:committees@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk)**  
or call **01273 471600**.

Information is correct at time of going to press.



## Samaritans

Health, family, work, relationship and money issues or feelings of loneliness, isolation or uncertainty can make life really tough. Anyone feeling unhappy, down or overwhelmed can always speak to someone by calling Samaritans on **01323 116123**.

# Christmas Holiday Waste Collections

**DN**  
MAGAZINE

No collections on bank holidays Wednesday 25 December, Thursday 26 December and Wednesday 1 January. All refuse to be put out at the edge of your property by 6am on the advertised day of collection below (unless you have an assisted collection). If not collected on the advertised day, leave out for collection the following day. All collections for the week commencing Monday 23 December will be completed by Saturday 28 December, and for the week commencing Monday 30 December by Saturday 4 January.

## Normal Collection Day

Monday	<b>23 December</b>
Tuesday	<b>24 December</b>
Wednesday	<b>25 December</b>
Thursday	<b>26 December</b>
Friday	<b>27 December</b>
Monday	<b>30 December</b>
Tuesday	<b>31 December</b>
Wednesday	<b>1 January</b>
Thursday	<b>2 January</b>
Friday	<b>3 January</b>
Monday	<b>6 January</b>

## Revised Collection Day

Saturday	<b>21 December</b>
Monday	<b>23 December</b>
Tuesday	<b>24 December</b>
Friday	<b>27 December</b>
Saturday	<b>28 December</b>
	Normal collections
	Normal collections
Thursday	<b>2 January</b>
Friday	<b>3 January</b>
Saturday	<b>4 January</b>
	Normal collections resume

For recycling Christmas collection dates, please refer to your new purple recycling calendar.

There will be no garden waste collections between 23 December and 3 January. Fortnightly collections will resume on Monday 6 January.

🌐 [lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/district-news](https://lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/district-news)

🐦 @LewesDC 📘 LewesDistrictCouncil



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