

# COUNCILLORS' INFORMATION BULLETIN

Wednesday, 3 February 2021

**Bulletin No: IB/1064**

INFORMATION ITEM	Pages
<p>1 <b>Delegated Planning Decisions</b></p> <p>Delegated planning decisions for the week beginning 25 January 2021 are attached. Contact for enquiries: Jean McPherson, Group Manager: Development Management on <a href="mailto:jean.mcpherson@crawley.gov.uk">jean.mcpherson@crawley.gov.uk</a>.</p>	5 - 8
<p>2 <b>Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders</b></p> <p>The following documents are attached in relation to Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• List of Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders.</li> <li>• Matthews Drive, Maidenbower (Appendix A).</li> <li>• Hazelwick Avenue (northbound) (Appendix B).</li> </ul>	9 - 14
<p>3 <b>Action Taken Under Delegated Authority: Housing Revenue Account Property Portfolio Rents for 2021/22</b></p> <p>Councillor Irvine, Cabinet Member for Housing, exercised their delegated authority on 29 January 2021 to approve the following increases for properties held in the Housing Revenue Account</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To implement a CPI +1% increase for social and affordable dwelling rents (excluding exceptions which are new build affordable rent properties let during 2020/21).</li> <li>• To increase shared ownership and hostel rents by CPI+1%.</li> </ul> <p>The consideration report CH/194 was published on 19 January 2021 in Councillors' Information Bulletin <a href="#">IB/1062</a>.</p>	



Switchboard: 01293 438000  
Main fax: 01293 511803  
Minicom: 01293 405202 DX:  
57139 Crawley 1  
[www.crawley.gov.uk](http://www.crawley.gov.uk)

Town Hall  
The Boulevard  
Crawley  
West Sussex  
RH10 1UZ

4 **Action Taken Under Delegated Authority (Significant Operational Decision): Setting Fees and Charges for Garages**

Full Council considered report Appropriation of Garages from the HRA to the General Fund - FIN/511 at its meeting on 16 December 2020, which previously had been considered by the Cabinet on 25th November 2020.

At the Full Council, the following was resolved:

- a) The appropriation of all garages from the HRA to the General Fund as at 1 April 2021, with the exception of those garages that are included within a Crawley Homes' tenancy agreement;
- b) Delegated authority to the Head of Corporate Finance in consultation with the Head of Crawley Homes to use the powers under Section 122 of the Local Government Act 1972 to transfer such garages from the HRA to the General Fund, when any of the garages currently included within a Crawley Homes' tenancy agreement falls outside of that tenancy, and
- c) To develop an appropriate pricing and fees regime for the letting of garages in consultation with the Leader, and for this to take effect from 1st April 2021.

Following the above resolutions, on 1 February 2021 the Head of Corporate Finance, in consultation with the Head of Crawley Homes and the Leader of the Council, took the decision that the garages charges be set as follow from 1 April 2021:

- Crawley Homes Tenants £11.22 (up from £10.90)
- Private Tenants (inc VAT) £14.77 (up from £13.08)

5 **Consultation on Proposed Changes to Crawley's Air Quality Management Area (AQMA)**

15 - 18

Information on the consultation is attached.

6 **Safer West Sussex Partnership Newsletter - January 2021**

19 - 24

Please see attached the January Safer West Sussex Partnership newsletter, a body that CBC is part of.

This newsletter is aimed at partners, to provide updates and information about developments, progress and activities around the Safer West Sussex Partnership priorities, along with information about upcoming key campaigns, training and events. For more information please contact Paula Doherty, Community Services Manager at [paula.doherty@crawley.gov.uk](mailto:paula.doherty@crawley.gov.uk).

7 **Councillor Code of Conduct Complaints and Outcomes**

Pursuant to the resolution of the Governance Committee held on the 5 March 2019, the list of Councillor Code of Conduct Complaints and Outcomes, have been published on the Council's website, and can be found [here](#).

8 **Change in Membership: Planning Committee**

In accordance with Paragraph 2.1(o) of the Full Council's Procedure Rules contained within the Constitution and in concurrence with the wishes of the political group, the Democratic Services Manager (acting as Head of Legal, Democracy and HR) has made the following change to the membership of the Planning Committee:

- Councillor Hart to fill the vacancy on the Committee membership.
- Councillor Hart to fill the vacancy of Vice-Chair.

This change took effect from Friday 29 January 2021.

9 **Press Releases**

Press releases are available at [www.crawley.gov.uk/news](http://www.crawley.gov.uk/news)

This page is intentionally left blank

# CRAWLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

## DELEGATED PLANNING DECISIONS

The following decisions were issued, subject to conditions, under delegated powers for the period 25/01/2021 and 29/01/2021

Application Number	Location	Proposal	Date of Decision	Decision
CR/2019/0718/NM1	ZURICH HOUSE, EAST PARK, SOUTHGATE, CRAWLEY	Non-material amendment to approved application CR/2019/0718/FUL to change external walls shown as MCM plank on the ground floor front extension to silicon render finish colour anthracite RAL 7016	26 January 2021	PERMIT
CR/2019/0744/NCC	STONER HOUSE, KILNMEAD, NORTHGATE, CRAWLEY	Variation of conditions 2 (approved plans), 3 (noise mitigation), 4 (contamination), 10 (materials), 16 (roof terraces and gardens) and 18 (management plan for communal facilities) pursuant to CR/2017/0921/FUL to no longer deliver the roof terrace or extend the central core to service it and to make other alterations, such as changes to the fenestration, flues/vents and formation of ground level amenity space, to the previously approved scheme	28 January 2021	PERMIT
CR/2019/0760/CC1	9 & 11 HOME CLOSE, POUND HILL, CRAWLEY	Discharge of condition 15 (landscaping, trees) pursuant to CR/2019/0760/NCC for variation of condition 1 (drawings) pursuant to CR/2019/0532/NCC (for the erection of three detached dwellings and single detached garage with access off Pembroke Road) for single storey side extensions to plots 2 and 3	28 January 2021	APPROVE
CR/2019/0922/CC1	6 LANGLEY LANE, IFIELD, CRAWLEY	Discharge of condition 3 (materials) pursuant to CR/2019/0922/FUL for removal of conservatory, erection of ground floor extension and first floor attic rooms and revised parking on site	29 January 2021	APPROVE

Application Number	Location	Proposal	Date of Decision	Decision
CR/2019/0939/FUL	17 ST CATHERINES ROAD, POUND HILL, CRAWLEY	Erection of 300mm bay window projection to front of garage, alter flat roof to pitched roof to front section of property and conversion of garage to habitable space, including replacement of front tile hanging with horizontal cladding and the creation of an additional off-road parking space	25 January 2021	PERMIT
CR/2020/0251/ADV	1 GATWICK ROAD, NORTHGATE, CRAWLEY	Advertisement consent for 1 no. Main Volvo pylon sign (internally illuminated); 2 no. Volvo shield signs (internally illuminated); 1 no. opening hours sign; 2 no. directional signs (internally illuminated); 3 no. Volvo selekt flags; 2 no. selekt totems (internally illuminated); 1 no. comms panel (internally illuminated); 9 no. car park signs; 6 no. demonstrators signs; 1 no. built up letters and 1 no. selekt expo wall sign (internally illuminated)	29 January 2021	REFUSE
CR/2020/0306/OUT	5 WOOLBOROUGH ROAD, NORTHGATE, CRAWLEY	Outline application (layout, scale and appearance) for demolition of the existing detached bungalow and erection of a part one and half storey and part three storey residential building, comprising 2 x studio flats, 3 x one-bed flats and 2 x two-bed flats	29 January 2021	REFUSE
CR/2020/0394/FUL	18 ERIDGE CLOSE, POUND HILL, CRAWLEY	Erection of single storey side and rear extension and relocation of front door	26 January 2021	PERMIT
CR/2020/0532/FUL	107 ST MARYS DRIVE, POUND HILL, CRAWLEY	Demolish existing conservatory, erect a single storey rear extension and install a roof lantern on the existing single storey rear extension	29 January 2021	PERMIT
CR/2020/0535/FUL	BRIDLEWORTH, CHURCH ROAD, POUND HILL, CRAWLEY	Proposed erection of single storey / sub-basement level attached one bed annexe to rear of the main house	29 January 2021	PERMIT

Application Number	Location	Proposal	Date of Decision	Decision
CR/2020/0568/192	57 THE MILLBANK, IFIELD, CRAWLEY	Certificate of lawfulness for proposed single storey rear extension and insertion of window in southern flank elevation and rooflight within the southern flank roofslope. (amended description)	25 January 2021	PERMIT
CR/2020/0621/TPO	30 PERRYFIELD ROAD, SOUTHGATE, CRAWLEY	T1 Oak - prune the branch extending towards the TV aerial of number 45 Lanercost Road (as identified on the site visit photo) to give 2m clearance (amended description)	27 January 2021	CONSENT
CR/2020/0668/FUL	84 HEATHFIELD, POUND HILL, CRAWLEY	Erection of single storey front extension and conversion of garage to habitable space	28 January 2021	PERMIT
CR/2020/0725/FUL	UNIT D2, OLD BRIGHTON ROAD, LANGLEY GREEN, CRAWLEY	Retrospective application for replacement entrance doors and windows, removal of 6x first floor windows and replace with matching cladding	29 January 2021	PERMIT
CR/2020/0795/PA3	XL HOUSE, 2 MILL COURT, SPINDLE WAY, THREE BRIDGES, CRAWLEY	Prior approval for change of use from offices (b1) to (c3) 8 no. Studio apartments with all habitable rooms served by a minimum of one window	26 January 2021	PRIOR APPROVAL REFUSED
CR/2020/0799/PA3	HARRABIN CONSULTANCY LTD, GROUND FLOOR & FIRST FLOOR, 3 MILL COURT, SPINDLE WAY, THREE BRIDGES, CRAWLEY	Prior approval for change of use from offices (b1) to (c3) residential apartments, with all habitable rooms served by a minimum of one window	26 January 2021	PRIOR APPROVAL REFUSED
CR/2021/3001/EIA	LAND ADJACENT TO HYDEHURST LANE, CRAWLEY	Screening opinion for redevelopment of land adjacent to Hydehurst Lane	29 January 2021	NOT REQUIRED

This page is intentionally left blank



# Agenda Item 2

The following documents are attached in relation to Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders:

- Matthews Drive, Maidenbower (Appendix A).
- Hazelwick Avenue (northbound) (Appendix B).

This page is intentionally left blank



Please be advised that West Sussex County Council has received a request for Temporary Traffic Regulation as follows:

Road Name	Matthews Drive	
Village/Town/Parish	Crawley	
Specific Location	between the junctions with Maidenbower Drive to Pallingham Drive	
Reason for TTRO	24hr Road Closure to undertake highway improvements works	
Proposed Start Date / Time	Date: 29th March 2021	Time: 09:30
Proposed End Date / Time	Date: 23rd April 2021	Time: 14:30
The restriction will be effective	Day-time only from (time) 09:30 to (time) 14:30	
Access arrangements	Pedestrian, resident/business and emergency access will be maintained within the closed area.	
Applicant name	West Sussex County Council	
Applicant contact tel number	01243 642105	
Any other details	For more information about this proposed TTRO please visit: <a href="https://one.network/?tm=119779125">https://one.network/?tm=119779125</a>	

The application is currently being processed and you will be advised further when details are confirmed.

Yours faithfully,

West Sussex County Council

Streetworks Team

[Report a problem with a road or pavement](#) or [raise a highways related enquiry](#)

Follow us at [@WSHighways](#)

Email: [ttr@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:ttr@westsussex.gov.uk)

This page is intentionally left blank



Please be advised that West Sussex County Council has received a request for Temporary Traffic Regulation as follows:

Road Name	Hazelwick Avenue Northbound	
Village/Town/Parish	Crawley	
Specific Location	Hazelwick Avenue Northbound, Crawley	
Reason for TTRO	Road Closure between the junctions with Northgate Roundabout to North Road with works taking place to the side of No.128 to replace column 43	
Proposed Start Date / Time	Date: 6th April 2021	Time: 09:30
Proposed End Date / Time	Date: 6th April 2021	Time: 14:30
The restriction will be effective	Day-time only from (time) 09:30 to (time) 14:30	
Access arrangements	Access maintained for emergency services, residents and pedestrians	
Applicant name	West Sussex County Council	
Applicant contact tel number	01444873414	
Any other details	For more information about this proposed TTRO please visit: <a href="https://one.network/?tm=120562800">https://one.network/?tm=120562800</a>	

The application is currently being processed and you will be advised further when details are confirmed.

Yours faithfully,

West Sussex County Council

Streetworks Team

[Report a problem with a road or pavement](#) or [raise a highways related enquiry](#)

Follow us at [@WSHighways](#)

Email: [ttro@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:ttro@westsussex.gov.uk)

This page is intentionally left blank

# Agenda Item 5

## Consultation on Proposed Changes to Crawley's Air Quality Management Area (AQMA)

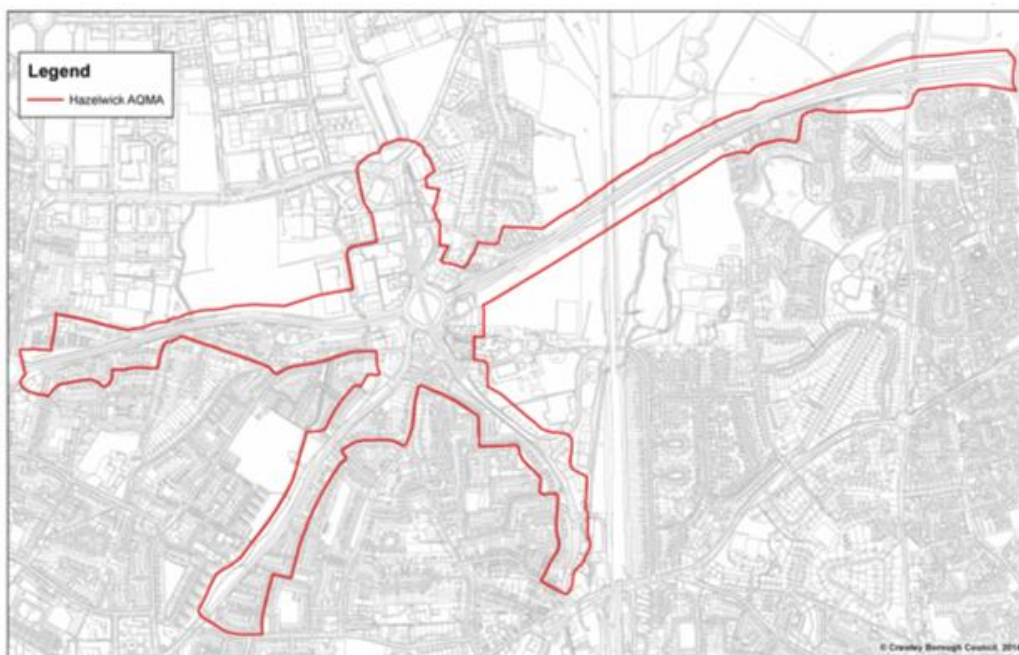
### 1. Legal Duty

Crawley Borough Council is required under Part IV of the *Environment Act 1995* to review and assess the air quality in their area in line with guidance issued by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA). Measured air quality levels in our borough are compared to the National Air Quality Objectives and, where these objectives are exceeded, an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) must be declared and an action plan drawn up with measures aimed at improving air quality.

### 2. Current Situation

The Council has an extensive monitoring network that measures concentrations of nitrogen dioxide. Based on the results of monitoring, an AQMA was declared in 2015 for levels of nitrogen dioxide exceeding legal limits in the area around the Hazelwick roundabout. The Map below shows the location and boundaries of the current "Hazelwick AQMA". The geographical boundary of the AQMA is set to identify the general area in which the Council wants to target actions to reduce concentrations of traffic related nitrogen dioxide. It is not meant to indicate all properties within its boundary have exceedances.

#### Existing AQMA



The current action plan measures are aimed at reducing vehicle emissions through a range of methods including: improving sustainable transport infrastructure; traffic management;

# Agenda Item 5

awareness raising; and planning and policy measures to encourage modal shift. Progress on these measure are updated annually. The most recent 2020 update can be found [here](#).

Since the Hazelwick AQMA was declared, monitoring has indicated that nitrogen dioxide levels are exceeding objectives outside the current AQMA, in the area around Three Bridges station on the A2220 Worth Park Avenue and Haslett Avenue East.

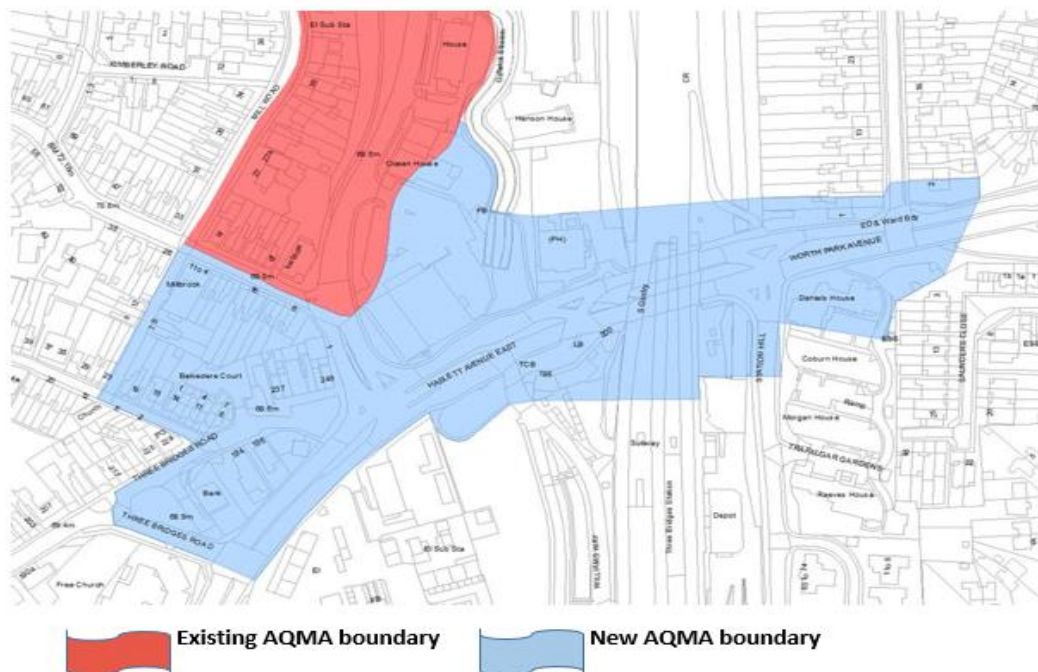
### 3. Proposed Actions

The Council has therefore reviewed the boundary of its existing AQMA to ensure it remains relevant. As a result, the AQMA is to be extended to include the Three Bridges area, forming a single extended “Crawley AQMA”. This will allow a coordinated approach to addressing air quality issues across all locations in a holistic manner. It give focus to the traffic corridors that are contributing to the problem at specific locations within the area, and helps prevents the risk of solving air quality issues at one location and creating another elsewhere.

The new area (shown in map below) would include the roads and properties fronting *parts* of:

- Worth Park Avenue from the junction of St Mary’s Drive,
- Haslett Avenue East to the junction of Three Bridges Road,
- Three Bridges Road to New Street
- New Street to Mill Road
- Mill Road to Hazelwick Road
- Hazelwick Avenue.

### Proposed Extension to AQMA





# Agenda Item 5

## **4. Consultation (How to Take Part)**

The Council is legally obliged to declare an AQMA in areas where the air quality objectives are exceeded. We are therefore undertaking a consultation exercise to raise the community's awareness of the proposed extension to the AQMA, as well as seeking any views and comments residents may have on it, before formally declaring the changes.

When responding to the consultation, please consider the following points:

- Although required by law, the declaration of an AQMA is intended to be a positive and proactive step towards improving air quality.
- An AQMA is not meant to indicate all properties within its boundary have exceedances, but rather the geographical boundary of the AQMA is set to identify the general area in which the Council wants to target actions to reduce ambient concentrations of road traffic related nitrogen dioxide.
- Bringing an area within an AQMA means greater attention is paid to the air quality impacts of new developments within the planning process.
- Following the declaration of an AQMA, an Air Quality Action Plan will be drawn up to identify actions to reduce air pollution levels. This action plan would also be subject to consultation.

The closing date for this consultation is 14 February 2021.

To have your say please email your comments to [haveyoursay@crawley.gov.uk](mailto:haveyoursay@crawley.gov.uk)

by 14 February 2021

This page is intentionally left blank

---

## Safer West Sussex Partnership Newsletter – January 2021

The Safer West Sussex Partnership quarterly newsletter will provide updates and information about developments, progress and activities around the seven [Safer West Sussex Partnership](#) priorities, along with information about upcoming key campaigns, training and events.

---

### Domestic Abuse Bill

The [Domestic Abuse Bill](#) is a landmark piece of legislation that has the potential to be transformational, in how we view, and respond to Domestic Abuse. For the first time, there will be a statutory definition of Domestic Abuse, one that includes emotional, coercive, controlling and economic abuse as well as physical violence. Other measures include the prohibiting of those that perpetrate abuse from cross examining survivors in family courts, an end to the defence of ‘rough sex’ when a woman is killed, and the recognition of children and young people as victims of domestic abuse in their own right.

The Bill will place a statutory duty on tier one [local authorities to provide support to victims of domestic abuse and their children within refuges and other safe accommodation](#).

This duty places statutory responsibility on the local authority to:

- Appoint a multi-agency Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board which it will consult as it performs certain specified functions. As a minimum, the Boards will include persons representing local authorities, victims and their children, domestic abuse charities or voluntary organisations, health care providers and the police or other criminal justice agencies.

These functions include:

- Assessing the need for accommodation-based domestic abuse support for all victims in their area, including those who require cross-border support.
- Develop and publish a strategy for the provision of such support to cover their locality, having regard to the needs assessment.
- Give effect to the strategy
- Monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the strategy
- Report back to central government.
- Require local authorities to have regard to statutory guidance in exercising their functions.

The Domestic Abuse Bill will go to committee stage on 25/01/2021. We are working with our partners in East Sussex and Brighton and Hove, in line with the principles of the pan Sussex Strategic Framework, to jointly assess the level of accommodation based support needed across Sussex demonstrating The West Sussex Domestic and Sexual Violence and Abuse steering group will continue to consult and engage with key partners and stakeholders in the development and delivery of Domestic abuse services in West Sussex, feeding locality based priorities into a Pan Sussex board.

### Domestic Homicide Reviews

Three of the four domestic homicides reviews identified in the previous update are still in progress but paused due to current criminal/trial proceedings or investigations currently taking or due to take place. The fourth case has resulted in being reclassified to a learning review due to the trial outcome. Once the reports have been concluded and Quality Assurance from the Home Office acquired, the reports will be published and learning and recommendations disseminated with key agencies. Learning events and opportunities will also be constructed as indicated by the report’s findings. A referral for a new domestic homicide review case was made to the WSCC Chief Executive on 2 November 2020. The case meets the criteria for a Domestic Homicide Review and a Child Safeguarding Practice Review and discussions to date within West Sussex County Council(WSCC) and another local authority involved, are in progress to initiate a dual review.

# Agenda Item 6

## Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

Work is in progress with partners in Crawley, working with the Rahma Project, to raise awareness regarding female genital mutilation. Initial work is focussing on mapping services for girls and women and seeing what gaps exist in provision and where support and pathways to sexual health and maternity services can be enhanced. Working with East Surrey hospital there are plans to train Maternity Services and the Pre-birth Service and raise awareness about the issues girls and women face in accessing emotional and health care support. Working with the Pan Sussex Harmful Practices Working Group a 'soft' campaign is planned with Crimestoppers for early spring to increase awareness that this is an illegal practice.

## Ask for Ani Codeword Scheme

The [Ask for ANI](#) (Action Needed Immediately) codeword scheme was launched in Pharmacies on 14 January, 2021. Victims of domestic abuse will be able to access much needed support from thousands of pharmacies across the UK. By asking for ANI, a trained pharmacy worker will offer a private space where they can understand if the victim needs to speak to the police or would like help to access [support services](#).



---

## WSCC Modern Slavery Pledge & Statement of Intent

To mark the 10-year anniversary of UK Anti-Slavery Day on 18 October 2020, West Sussex County Council pledged its commitment to Sussex-wide plans to eradicate slavery and exploitation and become a Slavery Free Community by 2030.

The aims of becoming a Slavery Free Community include:

- eradicating forced labour;
- ending modern slavery and human trafficking;
- securing the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour.



This work has been driven by the Sussex Anti-Slavery Network and our WSCC internal Modern Slavery Operational Group culminating in West Sussex Leaders signing a pledge alongside East Sussex County Council and Brighton and Hove City Council.

As part of our corporate commitment outlined in the [Modern Slavery Pledge](#), we have stated we will 'train our staff to recognise and respond appropriately to potential signs of slavery'. To support this commitment, through the work of the Community Safety and Wellbeing Team and Modern Slavery Operational Group, Modern Slavery training is now available to **ALL WSCC staff and Partners** via the [Learning and Development Gateway](#).

## Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking – WSCC Transparency Statement (December 2020)

The Modern Slavery Act, Section 54 (2015) outlines the key requirements for Contracting Authorities to run due diligence checks on its own supply chain to ensure traces of Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking do not exist:

- We are responsible for the annual gathering and review of Transparency Statements from our Key Strategic and Business Critical Suppliers, or for organisations with a turnover of £36m and above per annum.
- The Transparency Statement runs in line with the Financial year and organisations who contract with us are bound to produce them and share with us each April.

### New Legislation

The Government will be introducing new measures to strengthen the Modern Slavery Act 2015, from 2021. New measures will include:

- Asking Public Bodies to manage the risks of exposure via their own Supply Chains.
- Public bodies which have a budget of £36 million or more, including local authorities in England and Wales, will be required to regularly report on the steps they have taken to prevent modern slavery in their supply chains.
- The Government will be introducing a requirement for all organisations with a budget of £36m or more, in all industry sectors, to publish their own Modern Slavery Transparency Statement about the work they are doing on a new online portal reporting service.

# Agenda Item 6

## Key topics this MS Transparency Statement must include:

- Due Diligence when tendering and awarding contracts.
- Risk Assessments of sectors we contract with
- The steps the organisation has taken during the financial year to ensure that slavery and human trafficking is not taking place
- Sharing responsible practice
- Training and Development for teams who are purchasing.

## WSCC Transparency Statement

1. The WSCC Transparency Statement has been drafted ahead of the planned requirement by Government, ensuring we are ready for the changes to legislation.
2. The Statement covers how the Procurement and Contract Management functionality within the Council will be accountable for their part in Supply Chain Management and Due Diligence in our Tendering Processes.
3. The statement will be a Public Facing record, to be reviewed and updated annually.
4. The Transparency Statement will complement the already signed off WSCC Modern Slavery Pledge, which now has corporate sign off.

## Benefits of The Transparency Statement

1. By embracing the Modern Slavery Act and the new requirements which come into effect in the new year, we aim to be proactively analysing and reviewing our Supply Chain.
2. This will in turn support the WSCC Modern Slavery Pledge and underpin our position as a purchaser who will not tolerate Modern Slavery nor Human Trafficking being present among its wide-ranging contracts and suppliers.
3. WSCC will therefore be compliant, and ahead of other neighbouring authorities who are yet to work in the same collaborative way.

The Transparency Statement is going to the Executive Leadership Team on 28 January for sign off.

---

## Safer West Sussex Partnership Analyst Update

██████████ joined us last autumn in the role of Partnership Analyst. Her first task is to produce a series of Strategic Intelligence Assessments (SIA) for the Safer West Sussex Partnership and each locality Community Safety Partnership across the county. A large part of ██████████ role has been re-establishing links and information-sharing protocols with agency analysts and data owners across a range of internal departments and stakeholder organisations. She will shortly begin the process of creating the 6 SIA analyses which will be circulated in March. **If you have data you would like included in the SIA documents** and haven't yet shared this with ██████████, please contact her directly: ██████████

---

## West Sussex Contextual Safeguarding Resource Pack – Now live!

Contextual Safeguarding is an approach to understanding and responding to young people's experiences of extra familial risk and harm; expanding the objectives of child protection systems in recognition that young people are vulnerable to abuse beyond their front doors. The new [West Sussex Contextual Safeguarding resource pack](#) has been developed to raise awareness of Contextual Safeguarding practice in relation to protecting children and young people and/or creating safety and wellbeing in the places and spaces adolescents spend their time.

## West Sussex Education for Safeguarding (E4S) Toolkit – New sections now live!

West Sussex Education for Safeguarding (E4S) is an online toolkit that has been developed by WSCC School Effectiveness, Contextual Safeguarding and Public Health teams to help schools meet their statutory duty to develop and implement a universal needs-based Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) curriculum by summer 2021. E4S is a subscribed service for schools, however a wealth of free-to-access information and guidance has been recently uploaded for all schools to access; find out more and view the first cornerstone page [here](#).

# Agenda Item 6

## Conspiracy Theories (also known as hoaxes, cabals, urban legends) and Fact Checking

### What is a conspiracy theory?

- It is a theory that rejects the standard explanation for an event and instead credits a covert group or organization with carrying out a secret plot, and/or
- A belief that a particular unexplained event was caused by such a covert group, and/or
- The idea that many important political events or economic and social trends are the products of deceptive plots that are largely unknown to the general public.

### Why does it matter?

Conspiracy theories may seem harmless or too impossible to be true but when significant numbers of people begin to give them any credibility, there are some genuine risks to those that come to believe them and to those who they may seek to influence.

### People may be drawn to conspiracy theories currently due to a number of factors including:

- Times of uncertainty
- People who have a need for 'closure' but who have no access to answers which provide it
- Boredom
- A need for a 'yes or no' answer, with no room for grey areas
- Admirable people/role models openly sharing Conspiracy Theory content
- Feeling under threat but out of control
- Not understanding the agendas of people who create and spread misinformation
- Distrust of government, police and science

As conspiracy theories have become more prevalent, a growing number of ways to check facts and establish the truth have also emerged. Some recommended websites:

- [Full Fact](#)
- [Full Fact Whatsapp service](#)
- [BBC Reality Check](#)
- [The FactCheck Blog by Channel 4](#)
- [Shout Out UK](#)
- [CBBC Quiz](#)

## Campaigns

### Sexual abuse and Sexual Violence Awareness week 1 – 7 February, 2021



You can join the conversation on social media using #itsnotok and follow [@itsnotok2021](#)

### Safer Internet Day 9 February 2021 - An internet we trust: exploring reliability in the online world

This year in the UK, [Safer Internet Day](#) explores reliability online. The internet has an amazing range of information and opportunities online, but how do we separate fact from fiction? To celebrate and support this important campaign, the Community Safety & Wellbeing Team are hosting a number of **FREE webinars** for professionals and parents & carers, which will explore some of the key factors to be aware of regarding the online space and exploitation of children & young people. Book your free place [here](#).



There will be a key focus on the topics of trust online, fake news, conspiracy theories & radicalisation. The team will also be providing campaign packs & resources for partners to utilise and share amongst communities. For more information or to **request a campaign pack** email [communitysafety.wellbeing@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:communitysafety.wellbeing@westsussex.gov.uk).

Parent and carers sessions can be booked here: [9 Feb](#) and [12 Feb](#)

# Agenda Item 6

## International Women's Day – 8 March 2021

The theme this year is [#ChooseToChallenge](#). A challenged world is an alert world. Individually, we're all responsible for our own thoughts and actions - all day, every day. We can choose to challenge and call out gender bias and inequity. Collectively, we can all help create an inclusive world. From challenge comes change, so let's all choose to challenge.

## National Child Sexual Exploitation Awareness Day – 18 March 2021

[The National Child Sexual Exploitation \(CSE\) Awareness Day](#) aims to highlight issues surrounding CSE; **encouraging everyone to think, spot and speak out against abuse** and adopt a zero tolerance to adults developing inappropriate relationships with children or children developing inappropriate relationships with other children.

---

## Training and events

The Community Safety and Wellbeing Team are continuing to offer other online webinars including:

- **Introduction to Prevention of Radicalisation into Violent Extremism**
- **Refresher - Preventing Radicalisation and Violent Extremism**
- **Online Radicalisation: Key Signs**
- **Modern Slavery Basic Awareness**
- **Staying Safe Online Adult Focused Sessions**
- **Serious and Organised Crime (SOC), including County Lines**



To book your place, visit the [WSCC Learning and Development Website](#).

---

## COVID-19 vaccination scam

WSCC and Partners have been raising awareness of a surge of scams relating to the Covid-19 vaccination.

Remember:

- The vaccine is only available on the NHS for free to people in priority groups, and the NHS will contact you when it is your turn.
- The NHS will never ask you to press a button on your keypad or send a text to confirm you want the vaccine, and will never ask for payment or for your bank details.
- At the moment they are not making house calls to deliver or discuss the vaccine.

If you receive a call you believe to be fraudulent, hang up. If you believe you have been the victim of fraud or identity theft you should report this directly to [Action Fraud](#) on 0300 123 2040. Where the victim is vulnerable, report it to Sussex Police online or by calling 101.

## Consultation

Horsham District Council would like your views on the new prohibitions and whether they should extend the PSPO for a further three years. An online consultation is now live: [www.horsham.gov.uk/pspoconsultation](http://www.horsham.gov.uk/pspoconsultation) until 31 January 2021.

---

Follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)  
Sign up to our [Community Safety E-Newsletter](#)



This page is intentionally left blank