



Latest updates from Dorset Council



Results for Littlemoor and Preston by-election announced

People have voted and the results are in for the January 2024 by-elections.

The results for the Dorset Council Littlemoor and Preston ward, with 30.79 per cent turnout, are as follows:

Steve Brown, Labour Party - 232 votes
Simon Clifford, Liberal Democrats - 833 votes
Peter Dickenson, Local Conservatives - 1237 votes

Peter Dickenson was duly elected, but declined to take up the post. The seat will therefore remain vacant until the election on 2 May.

The results of the Weymouth Town Council Preston ward, with 39.64 per cent turnout, are as follows:

Steve Brown, Labour Party - 100 votes
Simon Clifford, Liberal Democrats - 610 votes
Joanna Dickenson, Local Conservatives - 959 votes

Therefore, Joanna Dickenson is duly elected.

The next planned elections (for Dorset Council, town and parish councils in the Dorset Council area and the Dorset Police and Crime Commissioner) take place on Thursday 2 May 2024.

[Find out more about elections and voting](#)



Interested in becoming a councillor for Dorset Council?

Have you ever thought of becoming a local councillor? All 82 councillor seats for Dorset Council are up for election in May this year.

As a councillor you will play a vital role in shaping local services and make a huge difference to the quality of life of local people and how local issues are dealt with.

A briefing for Candidates and Agents for the election on 2 May 2024 will be held at 9.30am Friday 19 January, and repeated at 5.30pm on Monday 22 January.

Booking is essential so please register your interest and complete the [booking form](#).

[Find out more](#)



Planning application for demolition of Weymouth Bowl submitted

Dorset Council has submitted a planning application to demolish the former MFA Bowl building at St Nicholas Street, Weymouth.

The application focuses only on the demolition of the former bowling alley. No

final decisions about the future of this site has been agreed by councillors.

If this planning application is approved by the committee, it will contribute significantly to our ambition to regenerate Weymouth's waterside economy.

From the £19.5m Levelling Up Funding and other grants we've secured; Dorset Council is investing big sums of money in Weymouth right now.

[Find out more](#)



Almost half a million pounds awarded to local culture

Dorset Council Organisational Revenue Support Fund for Culture has awarded £486,000 to 28 organisations over the next three years.

A total of 41 applications were received from arts and heritage organisations and accredited museums.

£217,000 has been awarded to arts and heritage and £269,000 to accredited museums.

This funding has been spread across the Dorset Council area to ensure residents and communities have cultural benefit around the county.

[Find out more](#)



Is your gas hob safe?

Dorset Council Trading Standards is helping the Office of Product Safety and Standards (OPSS) to ensure your gas hob needs work to make it safe.

As a result of an investigation by OPSS it was found that 12 UK gas hob manufacturers may have a fault in their gas hob elbow joints that could lead to a serious risk of poisoning, burns or gas explosion and/or fire.

OPSS has asked the public to check whether their gas hob requires corrective action.

[Find out more](#)



Young people in Dorset learn to climb high

As part of the Holiday Activities and Food programme, Dorset Council's Weymouth Outdoor Education Service ran festive and adventurous activities for children and young people aged 8 to 16 during the Christmas holidays.

These sessions took place at Tout Quarry on Portland and provided enriching and memorable experiences for children; encouraging outdoor exploration, teamwork, and holiday spirit.

The initiative aims to ensure all local children and young people have the opportunity to get involved with enriching holiday activities and enjoy nutritious meals.

[Find out more](#)

Active travel survey ends 18 January

There is still time to give us your thoughts on which routes are important to you and what needs changing to help you get more active.

We want to make it easier for more people to gain the benefit of active travel, whether walking, cycling, or wheeling (using a wheelchair, mobility scooter or similar aid).

Everyday trips like getting to and from school, commuting to work, visiting town centres or enjoying the local area, are a great way to be physically active while doing routine activities.

[Take part in the survey](#)