

Parish report from your District Councillors

09 June 2024

Are your residents ready to vote?



As polling day for the general election rapidly approaches, there are key dates for your residents to put into their calendar if they want to ensure they can vote in the way they want to.

The key dates they need are:

- **Register to vote - before 11:59 p.m. on Tuesday 18 June**
- [register online here](#)

It only takes five minutes. They'll be asked for their National Insurance number (but they can still register if they do not have one).

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- **Vote by post - Deadline for applications is before 5 p.m. on Wednesday 19 June**
 - [Apply to vote by post](#)

Useful if they know that they won't be able to get to the polling station on polling day, they can vote by post.

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- **Vote by proxy?**

- Deadline for applications is before 5 p.m. on Wednesday 26 June
- [Apply to vote by proxy](#)

They can ask someone they trust to cast their vote on their behalf if they're unavailable to vote.

- **Photo ID**
- Essential to vote in any election
- Apply for a Voter Authority Certificate - Deadline for applications is before 5 p.m. on Wednesday 26 June
- [apply for free voter ID](#)

If they don't have any accepted photo ID, they can apply for a free voter ID document, which is known as a Voter Authority Certificate.

- **Changes to voting for British citizens living overseas**
- [Changes to overseas voting](#)

The 15 year limit on voting rights for has now been removed. The registration period has been extended to three years. This means that overseas voters will only need to register to vote every three years.

POLLING DAY

- 7 a.m. - 10 p.m. on Thursday 4 July [Remember their photo ID]
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LGA Corporate Peer Challenge: Executive Summary (excerpt)

Executive Summary

South Hams is a high performing council, which is well led and managed and is delivering consistently well on behalf of its residents and communities.

Following the district elections in May 2023, the political leadership of the council changed; resulting in a Liberal Democrat administration, with a new council leader.

The new administration had a well socialised manifesto ahead of the elections and the officer team supporting the council very wisely used this by quickly and effectively producing a 'risk / RAG rated potential action plan arising from the manifesto, in order to help the new administration to hit the ground running.

The above proactivity has been combined with a clear determination to be as inclusive as possible by drawing on the talent of elected members across all political groups. As one stakeholder told us, which was reflective of other views the peer team heard, 'the new arrangements feel like a breath of fresh air'. This is very much to the credit of the

leader, his deputy and indeed the leaders of the other main parties and evidenced by the make-up of the council's Executive.

The council's chief executive and senior officer team should take credit for supporting the new and very different political administration. Their proactivity in preparing for and effectively responding to change in May 2023 is a strong and defining feature of the relationship between the members and senior officers within the council, which has the hallmarks of a pragmatic, trusting and ever maturing leadership team.

That effective preparation and good cross-party engagement has meant that the council already has in place a well-articulated Council Plan covering the period 2024- 28. The plan, its priorities and delivery outcomes are likewise reflected in the detail of a three-year rolling financial strategy, which is the norm for the council. The council has an excellent track record of financial management and planning, which is one of its underpinning core strengths.

Parish Profiles

At this week's Executive Committee, Members endorsed the use of Parish Profiles within the District. This will be a key piece of evidence to inform Elected Members, Communities, Registered Providers and other interested parties what the Affordable Housing need is in each parish.



These will be primarily used to justify and explain the housing need in a clear and easy to read format. They will also be used as part of our consultation response on Planning Applications.

What the Profiles do?

- use data which is in the public domain
- avoid the need for an individual survey
- do not ask or use confidential personal data
- tell the housing picture clearly
- identify areas with high house prices
- identify areas with low affordable housing stock
- provide data on capacity within school
- indicate locations of possible deprivation

The Parish Profiles have been created for every parish within the South Hams to highlight the housing circumstances on a local level. These are the first versions and we would be grateful if you could advise us of potential additions we might consider for future improvements. The Profiles will be reviewed on an annual basis or earlier required.

What happens next?

On the website we will be providing information in an accessible format, however the Parish Profile posters for each area will be sent to the relevant Parish Council for them to publicise on the parish notice board and include on their website. An example of this can be [found here](#).

Please find the information below on each individual parish.

South Hams

- [Ashprington](#)
- [Aveton Gifford](#)
- [Berry Pomeroy](#)
- [Bickleigh](#)
- [Bigbury](#)
- [Blackawton](#)
- [Brixton](#)
- [Buckland-Tout-Saints](#)
- [Charleton](#)
- [Chivelstone](#)
- [Churchstow](#)
- [Cornwood](#)
- [Cornworthy](#)
- [Dartington](#)
- [Dartmouth](#)
- [Dean Prior](#)
- [Diptford](#)
- [Dittisham](#)
- [East Allington](#)
- [East Portlemouth](#)
- [Ermington](#)
- [Frogmore and Sherford](#)
- [Halwell and Moreleigh](#)
- [Harberton](#)
- [Harford](#)
- [Holbeton](#)
- [Holne](#)
- [Ivybridge](#)
- [Kingsbridge](#)
- [Kingston](#)
- [Kingswear](#)
- [Littlehempston](#)
- [Loddiswell](#)
- [Malborough](#)
- [Marldon](#)
- [Modbury](#)
- [Newton and Noss](#)

- [North Huish](#)
- [Rattery](#)
- [Ringmore](#)
- [Salcombe](#)
- [Shaugh Prior](#)
- [Slapton](#)
- [South Brent](#)
- [South Huish](#)
- [South Milton](#)
- [South Pool](#)
- [Sparkwell](#)
- [Staverton](#)
- [Stoke Fleming](#)
- [Stoke Gabriel](#)
- [Stokenham](#)
- [Strete](#)
- [Totnes](#)
- [Wembury](#)
- [Thurlestone](#)
- [Ugborough](#)
- [West Alvington](#)
- [West Buckfastleigh](#)
- [Woodleigh](#)
- [Woolwell](#)
- [Yealmpton](#)

It is our intention to publish the webpage in seven days so it is accessible for all. We welcome your feedback before then, **please do not share the links below outside of the Council**. These links will expire after a couple of weeks until the website is live.

If you could let me know if there are any significant issues with your profile within the **next seven days**. Please could you also share any comments for future improvements with Katie West and myself. These suggestions will be taken to the Housing Advisory Group.

Alex Rehaag | Principal Affordable Housing Enabler

Celebrating our community heroes

Following the presentation of the Community Awards at Full Council, we have produced a video to showcase the work of our worthy winners for 2024.

Watch the video [here](#).

Communications Team

