

Parish Newsletter – 26 February 2018

## Wiltshire agrees continued investment in key services, infrastructure and economy

[Budget proposals](#) for 2018/19 detailing how we will continue to deliver vital frontline services and invest in key areas was agreed by councillors last week (20 February 2018).

The decision means the almost £1 billion spent each year on more than 350 services, is aligned to our key priorities; to protect those who are most vulnerable, grow the local economy and strengthen communities.

The approved budget reflects the challenges of delivering services against a backdrop of continued reduction in Government funding, a sustained increase in demand for some services; particularly adult social care and children's safeguarding, and the increase in the national wage and inflation costs.

It is planned to continue a programme of capital investment across the county. £310 million over the next four years will be invested to provide strong and sustainable infrastructure that includes £55 million for housing; £21 million to protect and grow the local economy; £96 million for highways; £76 million into our schools; and £40 million for community facilities.

## Baroness Scott's budget speech

I was reminded recently of a [famous quote](#);

"It isn't what we say or think that defines us, but what we do..."

Jane Austen penned this and it's as simple as it is true.

It made me reflect on this council and realise that we are defined by the actions we take and the outcomes we deliver.

I think we should all be proud that even in the toughest and most challenging of times we have continued to deliver services that people need and do all that we can to improve the lives for people in Wiltshire, and, in particular, for those who are most vulnerable.

Since we formed in 2009 - can you believe almost ten years ago!



our vision and priorities have remained the same and we have been united and focused on these.

We build strong communities, protect the vulnerable, and do what we can to grow the economy.

Wiltshire Council is now well reputed, high performing and a multi-award winning authority.

We have earned this reputation based on our track record for delivering radical and innovative transformation programmes.

## Successful bid for £700,000 to unlock sites in Trowbridge

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The redevelopment of the East Wing and Ashton Street sites in Trowbridge will take a step forward after [£700,000 was successfully awarded from the Government this week](#).



The bid was submitted to the Government's Land Release Fund by the One Wiltshire Estate Partnership which sees the council work positively with partners such as local health services, Wiltshire Police, Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue and the Ministry of Defence to make efficient use of public sector land, facilities and services to achieve better outcomes for the people of Wiltshire.

This funding will be used for essential work to enable delivery of additional housing towards the overall requirement for the county. The partnership has previously benefited from One Public Estate funding towards feasibility work, site surveys and design work.

The development at East Wing will incorporate housing, leisure and retail as well as a joint project with the NHS to deliver a new primary health care facility.

## Families share Healthy Me successes

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More than 20 children and their parents attended a [Healthy Me keeping in touch](#) day recently at Devizes Leisure Centre to share their experiences and successes.

The day included learning short tennis skills, fun on the bouncy castle, tai chi and a team-building exercise, which split parents and children into small groups to take on the task of building the highest tower out of 15 balloons with the aid of two small strips of masking tape.



All participants enjoyed the event, and shared their achievements as a result of the Healthy Me programme.

One family from Trowbridge told how their daughter had sung at the O2 Arena alongside 7,000 other children as a result of the difference the programme had made to her confidence and self-esteem. She achieved a reduction in her body mass index (BMI).



## What's on

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If you would like to promote an event in your area to staff and the wider public why not use the [events calendar](#) on our website. You can find the link to the calendar on the home page under ["What's on"](#).

Check what else is on at Wiltshire Music Centre in Bradford on Avon:

[www.wiltshiremusic.org.uk](http://www.wiltshiremusic.org.uk) and City Hall in Salisbury: [www.cityhallsalisbury.co.uk](http://www.cityhallsalisbury.co.uk)

## Quick links

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Area Board information - [www.wiltshire.gov.uk/communityandliving/areaboards.htm](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/communityandliving/areaboards.htm)

All the latest news releases - [www.wiltshire.gov.uk/latestnews.htm](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/latestnews.htm)

A blog for the heritage community of Wiltshire - <https://heritageinwiltshire.wordpress.com>

Community virtual notice boards - [www.wiltshire.gov.uk/ourcommunitymattersblogsites.htm](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/ourcommunitymattersblogsites.htm)

Recycle for Wiltshire - [www.recycleforwiltshire.com](http://www.recycleforwiltshire.com)

Roadworks - [www.wiltshire.gov.uk/roadshighwayspavements/roadworks.htm](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/roadshighwayspavements/roadworks.htm)

Tree wardens for Wiltshire - [www.wiltshiretreewardens.co.uk](http://www.wiltshiretreewardens.co.uk)

What's on in Wiltshire - [www.wiltshire.gov.uk/leisureandrecreation/whatson.htm](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/leisureandrecreation/whatson.htm)

What's on at City Hall in Salisbury - [www.cityhallsalisbury.co.uk](http://www.cityhallsalisbury.co.uk)

A blog for Wiltshire's arts community - <http://theartsinwiltshire.wordpress.com>

The latest news from the council is available on the [full newlisting](#) pages of the website