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*Cover picture: one of the photos from the Gosport's Story project, p4-5.*



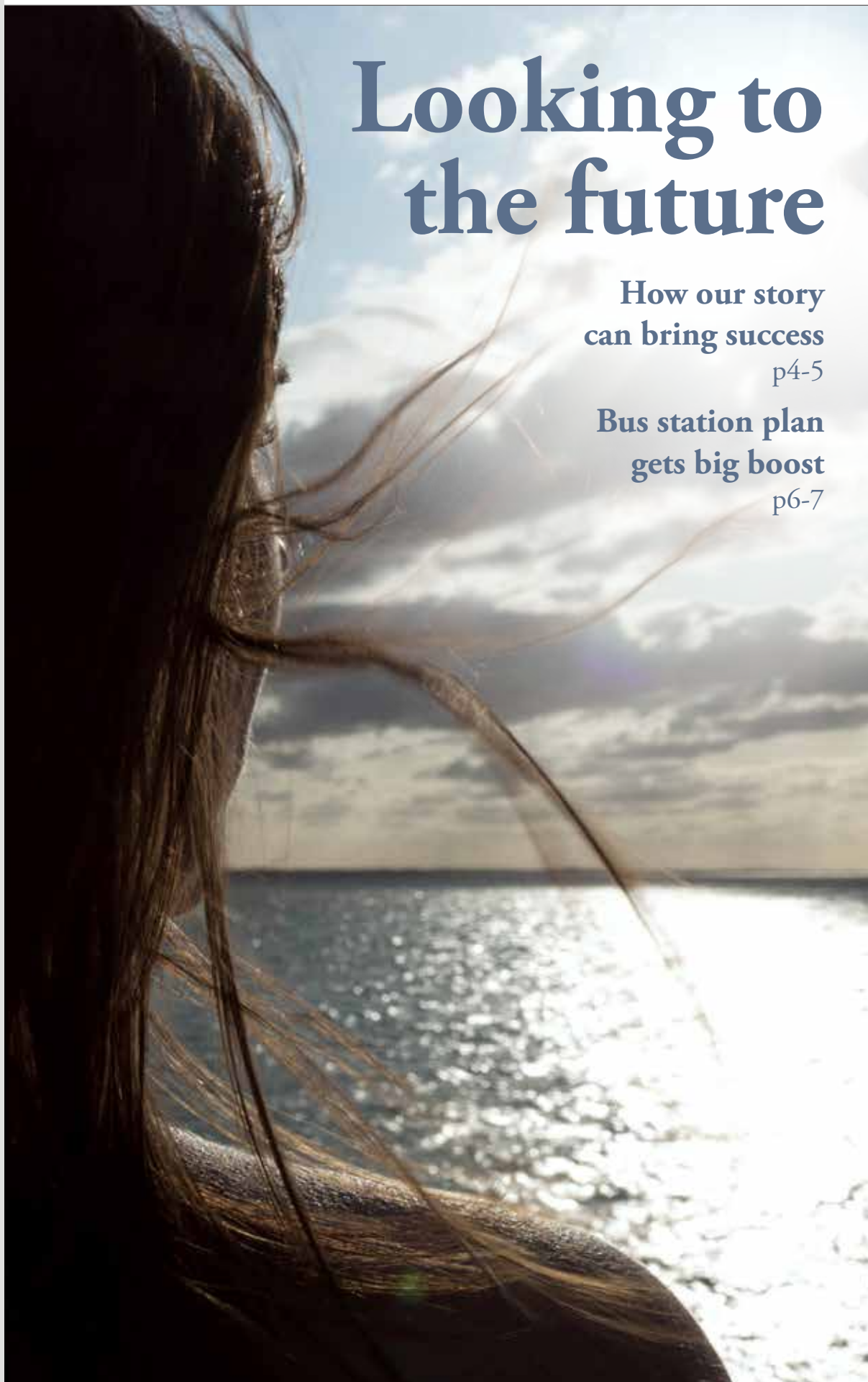
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(023) 9258 4242

# Looking to the future

**How our story can bring success**  
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# Helping locals keep their libraries

**We've been working with community groups on bold plans to keep Lee-on-the-Solent and Elson libraries open.**

The plans were made after Hampshire County Council, which runs local libraries, decided the two branches had to close, as part of a package designed to save £1.76m.

Councillors and community groups have been talking to HCC about transferring the library buildings to us – Gosport Borough Council.



As Coastline went to press, talks were continuing on the Elson plan and the Lee plan had been given the green light by HCC.

Under the plans, we would allow community groups free use of the buildings. The libraries would be run by volunteers, with the help of grants and local fundraising efforts.

They would also be used for other activities and become community hubs.

Announcing the savings package, HCC said it was pleased voluntary groups were taking a strong interest in running libraries, and pledged to help communities get projects off the ground.

Cllr Mark Hook, Leader of GBC, said: "There's so much determination and goodwill being put into making these plans a reality."

Cllr Graham Burgess, Deputy Leader and a councillor for Lee East, said: "There's been a tremendous community response to this in Lee and we're delighted that our plans have been given the go-ahead."

Advertisement



## Carpet Fayre Ltd



## Information notice

Gosport Borough Council is required by law to protect the public funds we administer. Information provided may be shared with other bodies responsible for auditing or administering public funds in order to prevent and detect fraud, for the collection of debts or to assist in the discharge of other statutory functions.

For further information search **fair processing** at [www.gosport.gov.uk](http://www.gosport.gov.uk)

## Our services during Covid

The best way to find information and contact us is online via [www.gosport.gov.uk](http://www.gosport.gov.uk)

The Town Hall is open 10am-2pm, but only for cash payments or if you've been given a face-to-face appointment. Only the High Street entrance is being used, and you may be asked to wait outside. You'll need to wear a face covering. You can see council meetings at <https://vimeo.com/440920031>



*Leisure centre staff member Tyler Smith tries out the weights*

# Leisure centre welcomes you back

**Gosport Leisure Centre is open for fun and fitness, with measures in place to keep you safe during the pandemic.**

As Coastline went to press, most activities were available, including swimming, gym, group exercise classes, badminton, table tennis, short tennis, seven-a-side football and five-a-side football.

You'll find plenty of sanitiser and hand-washing facilities around the centre, and customers who use equipment will be asked to wipe it down afterwards.

To help with social distancing, you might have to take a different route around the centre, or use a different exit or entrance. Some areas and pieces of equipment may be out of use, and capacity has been reduced for activities.

To help manage the number of visitors and allow cleaning between sessions, many activities need to be booked on [www.placesleisure.org](http://www.placesleisure.org) or by using the Places Locker app (see the website).

If you want to keep fit at home, there are lots of free virtual workouts on the app.

## Our vision for Daedalus Waterfront

As the local planning authority, we're working with Homes England, the government housing agency, on the future of the Daedalus Waterfront site.

Homes England has been seeking interest from investors and developers who can transform the site into a thriving destination with leisure activities, shops, and industrial, commercial and residential development.

Priorities for the council include jobs for local people, and bringing historic buildings back into use.



## High street plans: getting involved

We're working on ways of getting local people involved in our £3.2m plan to improve Gosport town centre – the high street heritage action zone programme. Early next year we'll be stepping up the pace and seeking the views of residents, local businesses and interest groups on our proposals.

To find out about future engagement opportunities, please contact [HSHAZ@gosport.gov.uk](mailto:HSHAZ@gosport.gov.uk)

To learn more about the programme search [hshaz](https://www.gosport.gov.uk) at [www.gosport.gov.uk](http://www.gosport.gov.uk)

# Our unique story can sell Gosport around the world



## **A powerful new way of promoting our borough will involve local people spreading the word.**

**We love Gosport because it is has a unique history and character. It has a special story that no other place can tell.**

And we're going to use that story to promote Gosport far and wide – to investors and developers who can create jobs for local people, to tourists who can help our local businesses thrive, and to talented individuals who can contribute to our community.

Gosport has so much going for it, but we decided a better job could be done of telling the world about our strengths. So along with local businesses, organisations and

residents, we've thought about what makes us special, competitive and different to other places.

The result is a new story that all of us can use to spread the word about Gosport and help build a great future. From big business meetings to everyday conversations, we can all be confident and consistent about what makes Gosport special.

We asked an expert company in this field, Thinkingplace, to help create this story. They have more than 14 years of experience working with towns, cities and counties across the country, including Hampshire, Nottingham, Newhaven, Harrogate,

Lowestoft, Doncaster, Staffordshire and all three UK Cities of Culture: Derry-Londonderry, Hull and Coventry.

To gain the views of local organisations and residents, we had more than 120 conversations, gathered more than 700 survey responses, and held a series of focus groups and workshops.

The result is a set of 'themes' about Gosport that we can use to promote the borough, plus exciting new photography (some of it used on these pages) and graphic design elements that organisations can use to give a consistent look to their work.

# How you can get involved

We're looking for local people to sign up as ambassadors to help promote Gosport through their own networks, socially or at work.

Ambassadors will get regular updates about what's happening in the

borough. If you're interested, email us at [prosperity@gosport.gov.uk](mailto:prosperity@gosport.gov.uk)

At the end of November, we'll pick five applicants at random and they will each win a copy of our new book Gosport's Story which celebrates the

borough and has more detail on the whole project.

To find out more about using the story, photography and graphic design, contact us at [business@gosport.gov.uk](mailto:business@gosport.gov.uk)



*A mock-up showing how the new visuals could work on shopping bags*

## Gosport's top three

We'll use three main themes to talk up Gosport and show what we have to offer.



### **Our deep blue celebration**

Water is the natural asset that gave us our naval heritage.

The same waves will power us forward once again.



### **Re-imagining and animating our history**

We will shift from focusing on our built heritage to sharing and celebrating our social history: life and death, endeavour and tragedy.



### **The environment for fresh thinking**

We embrace innovation and creativity, attracting entrepreneurs looking for inspiring studios, offices and work spaces in cool heritage buildings.



*The new interchange will complement the Eclipse bus service*

# Just the ticket: cash for new transport hub

**Commuters, tourists and shoppers could benefit from big improvements being planned for Gosport's waterfront.**

**A new and improved transport hub on Gosport waterfront could soon be on the way, following an announcement of £5.2m of government funding**

We're planning a new, modern transport interchange including a new bus station, a taxi rank, drop-off/pick-up parking, and cycle and motorbike parking. Access to the ferry would be enhanced too.

The scheme would make the most of the views across the harbour and enhance the setting of the Falkland Gardens, while being careful not to encroach on this very important area of open space and remembrance.

Consideration is also being given to sensitively bringing buses back into the heart of the town centre, with bus priority measures in North and South Cross Streets.

The scheme would improve the area for all travellers, including people walking or cycling.

The proposals are in the very early stages. The next step will be to develop plans further, consult with residents, businesses and other key stakeholders, and then apply for planning permissions.

Cllr Mark Hook, Leader of Gosport Borough Council, said: "This funding is fantastic news.

The new interchange is a massive part of our plan to make public transport more attractive, more joined-up and easier to use.

Better public transport, with better links to nearby areas, helps people without cars – and encourages car owners to drive less, which cuts congestion and air pollution.”

The interchange project is being led by Hampshire County Council, with Gosport contributing additional funding.

The £5.2m is part of a government funding package worth almost £56m, won after a bid by the county council, Portsmouth City Council, Isle of Wight Council and local transport operators, supported by the borough council.

The funding package is a major boost to the South East Hampshire Rapid Transit scheme, a long-established ambition shared by local councils and transport operators, involving a network of bus-priority routes and improvements for people walking and cycling.

Better links between Gosport, Fareham, Havant, Waterlooville, Ryde and Portsmouth will help boost the local economy, open up jobs, provide better access to services and support a greener recovery from the coronavirus pandemic.



*New development will make the most of Gosport's transport links*



## New-look waterfront

**The announcement of funding for a new transport interchange will help unlock our wider plans for the waterfront area, making use of the current bus station site.**

The announcement means we can promote the site to suitable property companies who might want to work with us on a redevelopment scheme.

We want to see an exciting waterfront area with bars and cafes or restaurants with outside seating, along with shop units at ground floor level. The new-look area could also include a new tourism centre encouraging visitors to learn about the borough's heritage.

Cllr Mark Hook, Leader of Gosport Borough Council, said: “The funding announcement opens up the long-awaited opportunity to redevelop the present bus station site. A redeveloped gateway to Gosport, along with a new waterfront development, would be a big boost to our economy and our ambition to regenerate the high street area.

“It's a crucial part of our plans to make the borough an even more attractive place for residents and visitors, and provide jobs.”

# Ideas to combat climate change



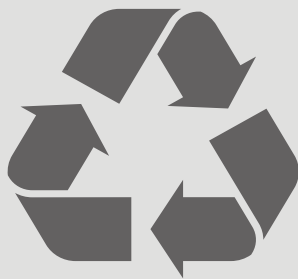
**We're working on an action plan to help tackle climate change and encourage the local economy to make a 'green recovery' from the pandemic.**

We've recruited a climate change officer and found a supplier of green energy for the council.

We've also calculated the council's CO2 emissions, so we know our starting point for cutting down.

Here are just a few of the other ideas we're working on:

- improving energy efficiency and reducing plastic use in council buildings
- looking at options for electric vehicles
- considering ways of reducing staff travel
- doing more to encourage walking and cycling
- investigating how planning rules could help wildlife
- securing funding to encourage energy efficiency in homes



## Cash for waste projects

**Up to £5,000 could be available for organisations to make their waste prevention ideas a reality.**

Hampshire County Council is asking groups, small businesses, schools and charities to submit applications for new waste prevention, reuse or repair projects.

The deadline for the first round of applications to the Waste Prevention Community Grant Fund is Friday 4 December. The second round of applications opens early next year. Search **waste grant** at [www.hants.gov.uk](http://www.hants.gov.uk)



## Recycling while you shop

We're trialling new combined bins in Gosport town centre, to see how successfully they collect separate kinds of waste and recycling. If you haven't seen them yet, they'll be installed soon – one near Morrisons and one at the other end of the High Street at Coffee#1.

They take plastic bottles, cans, paper and general rubbish, and carry messages thanking local litter-picking volunteers for their amazing work.



# Coronavirus update

## Getting the help you need

The council and Gosport Voluntary Action are still working together to support local people in need during the pandemic.

Our service offers practical help for those who have no alternative options, as well as advice and guidance. The range of support includes:

- shopping and prescription collection
- a shopping buddy if you are anxious about venturing out
- support with internet shopping
- regular friendly phone calls
- help from the Gosport Food Partnership with essential supplies

## How to get our support

Phone the Community Helpline on **023 9254 5588** (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm) or go to **[www.gva.org.uk/coronavirus](http://www.gva.org.uk/coronavirus)**

Other sources of help

- Find details of trusted community groups at **[www.gva.org.uk/coronavirus/local-updates](http://www.gva.org.uk/coronavirus/local-updates)** or call the Community Helpline
- If you need support or feel unsafe, call Hampshire County Council adult health and care on **0300 555 1386** (out of hours **0300 555 1373**)
- If you're worried about a child, call **0300 555 1384** (out of hours **0300 555 1373**)

## Money worries

- You may be entitled to benefits – or an increase on your current benefits. If you haven't claimed benefits before, you might be able to get universal credit. If you're already claiming benefits, you can usually stay on them unless there's been a change in your circumstances that means you need to claim universal credit. For help search **universal credit** at **[www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)** or ask Citizens Advice (**[www.gosportcab.org.uk](http://www.gosportcab.org.uk)** or **0300 330 9031**).
- For help paying your council tax, search **council tax support** at **[www.gosport.gov.uk](http://www.gosport.gov.uk)**
- There's a one-off payment of £500 for people who have to self-isolate and can't work. Search **self isolation** at **[www.gosport.gov.uk](http://www.gosport.gov.uk)** to see if you're eligible.

## Getting tested

The government's Department of Health and Social Care has opened a walk-through testing site at Walpole Park south car park, for people with an appointment.

For more information, go to **[www.gosport.gov.uk/gosportlts](http://www.gosport.gov.uk/gosportlts)**

Anyone with coronavirus symptoms, however mild, can get a free test.

Other ways of getting a test include using the drive-through site at Southampton Airport or taking a home test.

Tests should be booked or ordered as soon as symptoms begin, at **[www.nhs.uk/coronavirus](http://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus)** or by calling **119**.

# Update on helping homeless people



**We're continuing to help homeless people and rough sleepers who came forward for help during lockdown, needing somewhere safe to stay.**

Since March we've accommodated a total of 89 homeless people, 49 in our pods near Walpole Park and the rest in bed and breakfast hotels, our hostels or more specialist accommodation.

These numbers are unprecedented, but all have had their needs assessed, been linked with GP services and been offered support. Many have not only found more settled accommodation, but have made real lifestyle changes by addressing their physical and mental health needs.

Our main focus has been to move people out of interim accommodation into more long-term homes, and a number of people have already been successfully placed. We've been gradually reducing the number of pods, but will keep some for cold weather use and in case of future pandemic needs.

As Coastline went to press, 41 of the 89 people had moved on to more settled accommodation. A total of 26 were in interim accommodation, including the pods. Nine had been evicted (for instance, for anti-social behaviour) and six had gone to prison. Seven had left the accommodation we provided.

## Boost for services

We recently won an extra £200,000 from the government for homelessness. The Leader of the Council, Cllr Mark Hook, said: "Only one other district council in Hampshire has been given a bigger allocation, so it's a real endorsement of our plans to help homeless people.

"The money is vital, because the number of people needing our help has increased so much.

"We will use it to help fund the pods and to pay for more support for rough sleepers as they make progress towards settled homes.

"We will also use it to provide incentives for landlords to take formerly homeless tenants, such as deposits or guarantees in case of damage."

# GOSPORT BOROUGH COUNCIL - A to Z of services

<b>Abandoned cars</b>	Streetscene	Freephone 08000 198 598	<b>Health &amp; Safety</b>		
<b>Access for the Disabled</b>	Building Control	01329 824 823	- At work	Environmental Health	01329 824399
<b>Air Pollution</b>	Environmental Health	01329 824399	<b>Health Education/Promotion</b>	Environmental Health	01329 824399
<b>Alcohol Licensing</b>	Environmental Health	01329 824399	<b>Infectious Diseases</b>	Environmental Health	01329 824399
<b>Allotments</b>	Streetscene	Freephone 08000 198 598	<b>Jobs (council only)</b>	HR Services	023 9254 5650
<b>Asbestos Advice</b>	Environmental Health	01329 824399	<b>Land Bookings</b>	Economic Prosperity, Tourism & Culture	023 9254 5425
<b>Beach Barbecues (booking)</b>	Economic Prosperity, Tourism & Culture	023 9254 5425	<b>Land Searches</b>	Legal, Democratic and Planning Services	023 9254 5221
<b>Beach Huts</b>	Housing Services	023 9254 5564	<b>Listed Buildings</b>	Legal, Democratic and Planning Services	023 9254 5483
<b>Beach/Prom (Management)</b>	Streetscene	Freephone 08000 198 598	<b>Litter &amp; Street cleaning</b>	Streetscene	Freephone 08000 198 598
<b>Bulky Item Collection</b>	Streetscene	Freephone 08000 198 598	<b>Lotteries (Registration)</b>	Environmental Health	01329 824399
<b>Building Regulations</b>	Building Control	(01329) 824823	<b>Noise Nuisance</b>	Environmental Health	01329 824399
<b>Business enquiries</b>	Economic Prosperity, Tourism & Culture	023 9254 5723	<b>Parks &amp; open spaces</b>		
<b>Car Parks</b>	Streetscene	Freephone 08000 198 598	- maintenance	Streetscene	Freephone 08000 198 598
<b>Cemetery - Anns Hill</b>	Streetscene	Freephone 08000 198 598	- policy and strategy	Streetscene	Freephone 08000 198 598
<b>Charity Street collections</b>	Environmental Health	01329 824399	<b>Payments</b>	Customer Services	24 hour hotline (0800) 0213 995
<b>Citizen of the Year Award</b>	Legal, Democratic and Planning Services	023 9254 5340	<b>Pest control</b>	Environmental Health	01329 824399
<b>Civic Events</b>	Legal, Democratic and Planning Services	023 9254 5202	<b>Planning</b>		
<b>Coastal flooding</b>	Streetscene	Freephone 08000 198 598	- applications enquiries	Legal, Democratic and Planning Services	023 9254 5483
<b>Coastline Magazine</b>	Press & PR	023 9284 1395	- appeals, inquiries	Legal, Democratic and Planning Services	023 9254 5414
<b>Community Safety</b>	Community Safety	023 9254 5241	- Local Plan	Legal, Democratic and Planning Services	023 9254 5461
<b>Concessionary Travel</b>	Hampshire County Council	(0300) 555 1376	<b>Playgrounds</b>	Streetscene	Freephone 08000 198 598
<b>Conservation/listed building</b>	Legal, Democratic and Planning Services	023 9254 5483	<b>Pollution</b>	Environmental Health	01329 824399
<b>Council Housing</b>			<b>Recycling</b>	Streetscene	Freephone 08000 198 598
- Community Alarms	Housing Services	023 9252 9308	<b>Refuse Centre (Grange Road)</b>	General enquiries	(0300) 555 1389
- Housing Options	Housing Services	023 9254 5476	<b>Reprographics and Printing</b>	Financial Services	023 9254 5270
- Housing Repairs	Kier	Freephone 0800 028 0835	<b>Road Signs</b>	Hampshire County Council	(0300) 555 1388
- Neighbourhood Involvement	Housing Services	Freephone 0800 328 6958	<b>Road Gritting</b>	Hampshire County Council	(0300) 555 1388
- Right to Buy	Housing Services	023 9254 5403	<b>Roads &amp; pavements</b>	Hampshire County Council	(0300) 555 1388
- Sheltered Accommodation	Housing Services	023 9254 5453	<b>Rubbish collection</b>	Streetscene	Freephone 08000 198 598
- Neighbourhood Management (including rental income)	Housing Services	023 9254 5665	<b>Rubbish - Fly Tipping</b>	Streetscene	Freephone 08000 198 598
<b>Council Tax</b>			<b>Sale of land &amp; property</b>	Housing Services	023 9254 5564
- Benefits	Financial Services	023 9254 5325	<b>Slipways</b>	Streetscene	Freephone 08000 198 598
- Business Rates	Financial Services	023 9254 5470	<b>Sport - pitches</b>	Streetscene	Freephone 08000 198 598
- Enquiries	Financial Services	023 9254 5470	- Pools : Splash Park	Streetscene	Freephone 08000 198 598
<b>Council Meetings</b>	Legal, Democratic and Planning Services	023 9254 5340	- Pools : Gosport Leisure Park	Places for People	023 9253 4950
<b>Countryside Section</b>	Streetscene	Freephone 08000 198 598	<b>Street lights</b>	Hampshire County Council	(0300) 555 1388
<b>Crime Prevention</b>	Non-Emergency / Emergency	101 / 999	<b>Street Name Plates</b>	Streetscene	Freephone 08000 198 598
<b>Dangerous Structures</b>	Building Control	(01329) 824823	<b>Taxi Licensing</b>	Environmental Health	01329 824399
<b>Dog Fouling</b>	Streetscene	Freephone 08000 198 598	<b>Toilets</b>	Streetscene	Freephone 08000 198 598
<b>Dog Warden (lost &amp; found)</b>	Environmental Health	01329 824399	<b>Tourist Information Centre</b>	Economic Prosperity, Tourism & Culture	023 9252 2944
<b>Dropped kerb (requests)</b>	Hampshire County Council	(0300) 555 1388	<b>Traffic lights</b>	Hampshire County Council	(0300) 555 1388
<b>Dustbins (emptying)</b>	Streetscene	Freephone 08000 198 598	<b>Traffic Regulation Orders</b>	Hampshire County Council	(0300) 555 1388
<b>Energy efficiency at home</b>	Energy Services Team	023 9284 1947	<b>Trees</b>		
<b>Flooding (roads)</b>	Hampshire County Council	(0300) 555 1388	- alongside roads	Hampshire County Council	0300 555 1388
<b>Food hygiene &amp; safety</b>	Environmental Health	01329 824399	- other trees	Streetscene	Freephone 08000 198 598
<b>Gosport Market</b>	Environmental Health	(07983) 994071	- preservation orders	Legal, Democratic and Planning Services	023 9254 5414
<b>Gosport Local Plan</b>	Legal, Democratic and Planning Services	023 9254 5461	<b>Voluntary Sector</b>		
<b>Grants</b>			- Conservation Groups	Streetscene	Freephone 08000 198 598
- Disabled Facilities	Hampshire Social Services	(0300) 555 1386	- Recreation Groups	Economic Prosperity, Tourism & Culture	023 9254 5723
<b>Grass Cutting</b>	Streetscene	Freephone 08000 198 598	<b>Voting</b>	Legal, Democratic and Planning Services	023 9254 5227/5218
			<b>Wildgrounds</b>	Streetscene	Freephone 08000 198 598



*The Mayor of Gosport, Cllr Zoe Huggins,  
wishes you a merry Christmas and a happy new year.  
Keep safe and look after each other.*



# Dates for your diary



## Friday 27 to Saturday 28 November: Christmas lights

We're sorry that we can't hold public switch-on events this year, because of the pandemic. Lee-on-the-Solent's lights will be on from the Friday, and Gosport's lights from the Saturday. Real trees will return.

## Friday 27 to Saturday 28 November: Christmas Fair

Gosport Museum, Gallery and SEARCH, Friday 10am–8pm, Saturday 10am–4pm. Local artists and makers present handmade goods. Plus workshops, performances and demonstrations. Free. Booking essential.

[www.hampshireculture.org.uk](http://www.hampshireculture.org.uk)



*Marvellous Mechanicals*

## Until Friday 18 December: Gosport Play Gallery

Gosport Gallery. Hands-on activities and play for under-fives. Free. Booking essential.

[www.hampshireculture.org.uk](http://www.hampshireculture.org.uk)

## Until Saturday 19 December: Marvellous Mechanicals

Gosport Gallery, 10am–4pm, Tuesday–Saturday. Modern mechanical sculptures, with clever mechanisms and often humorous ideas. Free.

Many events are being cancelled, postponed or changed. Please check with venue. Keep up to date by visiting our Tourist Information Centre, South Street.

Call 023 9252 2944, email [tourism@gosport.gov.uk](mailto:tourism@gosport.gov.uk) or find them on Facebook. Or see [www.discovergosport.co.uk](http://www.discovergosport.co.uk)

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023 9250 1128

[www.rubyfunerals.co.uk](http://www.rubyfunerals.co.uk)



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