

District Councillor Address July 2026

Local Updates

No local planning updates at this stage that adds to the last report.

CDC Wide Updates

Food waste recycling

Since the roll out of the food waste service was launched in March, over 880 tonnes of food waste have been recycled, alongside a 21% reduction in general waste volumes compared to last year. These are very encouraging results, and CDC will continue to share updates on the impact of the service is having on recycling performance over the coming months.

If you would like a member of the team to deliver a talk, visit a school, attend a local event, or provide further information, please contact:

waste.prevention@westsussex.gov.uk

Sustainability Grants

Chichester District Council is offering **£105,000 in sustainability grants**, with businesses able to apply for up to **£7,500** (50% match funding required) to support energy efficiency, low-carbon technologies and waste reduction projects. Available to businesses with **2–40 employees**, the scheme aims to reduce costs, improve resilience and support greener growth. A new **Giki sustainability platform** will also provide expert guidance and tools to help businesses develop climate action plans and cut energy use. More information is available at **www.chichester.gov.uk/sustainable-support-grant**

Chair of Chichester District Council

Congratulations to Cllr. Clare Apel who was awarded an MBE in the recent Kings Birthday honours list for her outstanding work in the voluntary sector, local government and Holocaust education. Clare has served the Chichester District community for 40 years and was first elected as a councillor in 1987. She has been Chair of Chichester District Council since 2023

Central Government Planning Reforms

The Government's planning reforms aim to speed up decisions, increase consistency and support housing and infrastructure delivery. A new national scheme of delegation will see most applications determined by planning officers, with committees focusing on major, strategic or contentious proposals. Smaller applications will be decided by officers, while committee referrals will require a national gateway test and defined criteria. Councillor "red card" call-in powers will end, and planning committees will be limited to 13 members. Additional changes include local control of planning fees, new Spatial Development Strategies for strategic planning, and Environmental Delivery Plans to streamline environmental requirements while maintaining protections. What will happen next is the Government consulted on the draft regulations and guidance between March and April 2026. In June 2026 draft regulations were laid in parliament. It is expected that the National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG) will be updated to support the

implementation of the changes, and the Planning Advisory Service is expected to provide supplementary advice. Workshops and training for Parish Councils will be arranged after the summer period once final decisions by Government have been taken.

Full Council Meeting

The next full council meeting will be held on Tuesday 14th July at 6pm

District Councillor Surgeries

Cllr. Gareth Evans has the following surgeries running this month and beyond. Residents are reminded that should the publicised dates not work then it is possible to arrange calls or meetings outside of these publicised times. Please feel free to call 07958918056 or email gbevans@chichester.gov.uk

18th July, Kirdford Stores, (12pm-2pm)

22nd August, Old Mill Café, Wisborough Green (12pm-2pm)

5th September, Plaistow Stores, Plaistow (12pm-2pm)

19th September, Northchapel Club, Northchapel (2pm-4pm)