

Report to the City Council April 2025 from Cllr Sarah Sharp, Chichester District Councillor for Chichester South

1) Changes are being made to the housing register:

Currently, the Advertising and Bidding process for available social housing properties being let by CDC's Registered Provider Partners is set on a fortnightly advertising and bidding cycle. This means that all vacant properties currently have to wait for the fortnightly advertising cycle to open – which may be a number of days after the property becomes vacant. The adverts are then open for bids for a full two weeks.

In moving to a new housing software system, CDC are soon going to be able to move to a daily advertising and bidding cycle. What this means for the Registered Provider Partners, and customers in need of housing, is that as soon as a property becomes available for letting, the property can be advertised and made available for customers to place a bid on. The advert will be open for bids for 7 days.

The transition to the new housing software system is going well, and CDC are working towards being able to open the Housing Register application process, and the property advertising and bidding process, on our new system from mid May. Officers are in the middle of the process of supporting existing housing register applicants to move their application over to be able to use the new system, alongside working with a number of Registered Provider partners to set up their social housing stock details to be able to advertise properties on our new system. As a result, being able to provide an exact date that CDC will have fully completed the transition at this stage is not possible.

- 2) If you book your MOT with Chichester Contract Services in May you can get £5 off: [MOT, taxi meter and fitness tests - Chichester District Council](#)
- 3) Food waste collection is also due to come in next year and preparations are being made for this by purchasing the necessary vehicles and caddies: [Food waste - Chichester District Council](#) Recycling and general waste collections will continue as usual. A phased roll-out for households will begin in Spring 2026. Collections for communal properties who share bins will start later in the year. More information will be released nearer the time.
- 4) There is a new Singing group being promoted by the Council: Sing for Health Come and join our free and friendly singing for health group. 11.30am – 12.30pm at Chichester Boys Club To be eligible for the free group you must meet at least one of the criteria below: • Do you have high blood pressure? • Do you have a long-term health condition? • Are you a carer? • Are you socially isolated? • Are you currently physically inactive? To book your place please complete this registration form or contact us on 01243 521041. There are also groups for men's health, weight management courses, fall prevention course, and courses to learn how to walk with poles all on offer via the Wellbeing service.
- 5) Planning & Infrastructure Bill
On 11 March the Government published the Planning and Infrastructure Bill. The headlines from Government's statement that accompanied the bill are as follows: -

homes and infrastructure will be built faster. - energy security will be bolstered, with Britain becoming a clean energy superpower. - the Bill is key to building 1.5 million homes and driving up living standards. - the Bill will speed up decision making and remove unnecessary blocks to delivery according to the Government.

- 6) CDC are currently working on a consultation for a new Public Space Protection Order in Chichester to tackle alcohol related anti-social behaviour. The area covers the City Centre and the area to the south including Whyke as this was the area covered by the previous PSPO and it includes an off licence. Questions remain about the benches on Eastgate Square.
- 7) Increased funding of £350k is available for businesses, places and spaces and vulnerable groups via the CDC grant programme. [Chichester District Council grant programme - Chichester District Council](#).