Following the local elections in May, the Liberal Democrats became the majority party on the council by 27-18. The new administration have announced their new Cabinet.

**Cllr Anne Weir**, Cabinet Member for local economy.

**Cllr Malcolm Prince**, Cabinet Member for sport, leisure and communities.

**Cllr Neil Cutler**, Deputy Leader with portfolio for finance and risk.

**Cllr Kelsie Learney**, Cabinet Member for housing and asset management.

**Cllr Jackie Porter**, Cabinet Member for built environment and wellbeing.

**Cllr Lucille Thompson**, Leader with portfolio for communications and transformation.

**Cllr Lynda Murphy**, Cabinet Member for environment.

Cllr Lucille Thompson said "We want to take a fresh approach to building relationships with residents and involving them in our decision-making."

“I look forward to meeting many of you as we work together to create a fantastic place to live for all our residents.”

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**Residents’ lounge upgrades**

Work is currently underway at Lawn House to upgrade the residents’ lounge.

Work has now been completed at: King Harold Court and Makins Court.
Chesil Lodge opening

The official Chesil Lodge opening took place in March. A special event took place to celebrate the development which was created in partnership between Winchester City Council and Hampshire County Council. The celebration was attended by key members of the housing team, who worked hard on the development for over four years Steve Brine MP formally opened the building and was joined by Mrs Sarah Thorne, Deputy Lieutenant of Hampshire.

Also at the opening were the family of Harold Harris, who bequeathed £600,000 to house older people in the district. Members of the Harris family helped to unveil a plaque during the emotional ceremony.

Internal decorations

As part of our ongoing sheltered improvement programme, the redecoration of all internal corridors of sheltered schemes and blocks has commenced with Mildmay Court, Richard Moss House, Godson House and Lawn House in the first phase. This will be followed in the next phase by Matilda Place, Greens Close, White Wings House and Makins Court. All full sheltered schemes will be completed over the next four years.

Winchester City Council handyperson service

We are pleased to inform you of our new handyperson service.

The service offers small repairs and adaptations at a subsidised rate to those who qualify in the Winchester district. If you need a shelf or curtain poles put up or some flat pack furniture put together we may be able to help.

In order to qualify to use the service clients need to be either over 60 years of age or living with a disability or both.

The scheme is open to Winchester City Council tenants, housing Association tenants, homeowners and private tenants. The hourly rate charged depends on if a client is in receipt of means tested benefits (£9.60) or not (£18.00). For more information call 01962 848 455.

Signage

To complement redecoration, all internal and external signage will also be changed to a new colour scheme. This will be done following the redecoration so please be aware that there may be a short delay in new signage being installed but we will make every effort to minimise this.

Care provider achieves a ‘Good’ rating

Alexander Care and Support (ACASA), who provide care to our extra care tenants in Matilda Place and Danemark Court, were recently inspected by the Care Quality Commission and achieved a ‘Good’ rating across all areas. Our congratulations go to ACASA for this is wonderful achievement. It is not easy to achieve a good rating in all areas of the service.
Local Authority Building Control (LABC) South East Awards

Chesil Lodge was the winner of the “Best Inclusive Building” at the LABC South East Building Excellence Awards recently. Chesil was also a finalist in two other categories (Best Affordable Housing Scheme and Best Public Service Building). As a regional winner, Chesil Lodge is automatically shortlisted for the national awards in London in November.

Christmas party

More than 100 sheltered housing tenants got together to celebrate Christmas at the Holiday Inn, Winchester. This festive gathering, organised by the council and supported by Osborne, the housing service’s maintenance contractor, was enjoyed by everyone.

Mr Edwards, a resident from Eastacre, Weeke, said: “The event was excellent in every respect. I’m most grateful to the Council and the tenant group for organising this for us.”

Mrs Martin, a resident from King Harold Court, Winchester, said: “What a wonderful party, it was lovely to get together with other sheltered residents.”

And more than 70 Extra Care residents attended a party at Chesil Lodge.

Mr Sparks, a resident, said: “The food was fantastic.” Mrs Severn commented that “Tommy Ryan was great” and Mrs Wardle said: “It was a feeling of real community. Everyone enjoyed singing along with the carols that All Saints Children choir sang.”

Christmas tree competition

2018 saw the first annual Christmas tree decoration competition with prizes awarded for themed designs, effort and imagination. A huge thank you to all who took part. Amber Russell, Head of Housing Tenancy visited every scheme to judge the entrants. This year’s winners were...

Wi-Fi

Wi-Fi has been installed to all of our sheltered schemes and our sheltered tenants are enjoying the benefits of having Wi-Fi in their own home and communal areas.

Getting older people online has already made positive changes to tenants’ lives by combating loneliness, improving mental and physical health, strengthening relationships with family and friends and learning new things.

Whatever you want to use the internet for, you can find the help you need to get started on the learn My Way website learnmyway.com. Use the centre id 8003591 when registering.

We do have a very small number of tablets that sheltered tenants can borrow to use in their own home, helping them to get online and feel confident in using technology. Please contact your sheltered housing officer for more information.

If you need any technical support or are experiencing Wi-Fi or hardware problems please contact Social Telecoms on Helpdesk 01743 730 100 or Email: support@socialtelecoms.org.uk Monday – Friday 9.00am – 17.00pm and Saturdays 10.00am – 14.00pm.
Connect to Support Hampshire

Connect to Support Hampshire is a website with information for those who want to look after their wellbeing, connect to the community and maintain their independence for longer. It is an online one stop shop where you can find the right source of help or support.

You can find:

- information to help you maintain or regain your independence
- advice about equipment to help you to get out and to manage at home
- information about benefits, welfare assistance and paying for care
- support for carers
- hundreds of local groups, activities and services in your community, as well as national charities and helplines that can provide specific advice and support
- care homes or home care agencies in Hampshire

connecttohampshire.org.uk

Meet the staff

Name: Rich (also know as the Ronaldo of the sheltered housing officers)
Job title: Sheltered Housing Officer

1. What is your best childhood memory?
   Playing football.

2. Who do you most admire and why?
   My friend Julie, she is knowledgeable and caring.

3. If you could travel anywhere, where would you go and why?
   Italy, because I can stay there for free.

4. If you could be any age for a week what age would you be, and why?
   15 years old, I was simply playing football and going out with my friends with no worries or cares.

5. What type of music do you listen to?
   A bit of everything.

6. What cheers you up?
   A sunny weekend.

Quick fire questions:

- Read on a Kindle or paperback book? Paperback
- Go to the theatre or a cinema? Both
- Holiday in Hawaii or Alaska, and why?
  Hawaii, I like the sun
- Travel by plane, train or car? Plane and car
- Win the lottery or find your perfect job? Win the lottery

Chichester Care Line

Chichester Careline which monitors our emergency alarm systems, has recently been taken over by PPP Taking Care.

Chichester Careline have been working closely with PPP Taking Care, a leading telecare provider with over 30 years’ experience. The company is part of AXA PPP healthcare, specialists in helping people understand their health and access the best possible care. PPP Taking Care also manages Age UK’s personal alarm service, which supports over 52,000 people in the UK.

This means that Careline will benefit from significant investment and will further expand the services that it can offer. Residents will see no difference in the service that they receive when they pull their emergency alarm or activate their pendants. Calls will continue to be answered by the call centre in Chichester who will call your named contacts or the emergency services to assist you dependant upon the nature of your call.