

Title:	District Cllrs Report	
Chinnor District:	Aston Rowant, Chinnor, Sydenham and Towersey	
District Cllrs:	Ed Sadler ed.sadler@southoxon.gov.uk +44 7482 602398	Ali Gordon-Creed Ali.Gordon-Creed@southoxon.gov.uk +44 7770 935579
Date:	10 JUN 2024	

Our joint District level activities at a glance:

13 JUN 2024 Friends of the Earth meeting
 15 JUN 2024 Green Living Fayre Thame
 17 JUN 2024 Licensing
 20 JUN 2024 Planning *cancelled*
 04 JUL 2024 General Election
 11 JUL 2024 Full Council
 15 JUL 2024 Joint Scrutiny
 17 JUL 2024 Planning
 22 JUL 2024 Climate and Ecological Emergencies Advisory Committee
 14 AUG 2024 Planning

New capital grant funding round opens to applications in July

Voluntary and community organisations in South Oxfordshire will shortly be able to apply for up to £75,000 in funding for projects that help improve people's quality of life. The new 2024/25 round of the council's Capital Grant Scheme launches on 8 July 2024. The council has a total budget of £320,000, 15 per cent of which will be reserved for smaller projects. Organisations can request a minimum of £5,000 and a maximum of £75,000 but no more than 50 per cent of their total project costs. The minimum overall cost of the project must be at least £10,000. The grant gives organisations a financial boost towards capital expenditure such as making improvements to buildings or play areas. Applicants must show how their projects will help improve the quality of life for people in South Oxfordshire through projects that; improve economic and community well-being, provide infrastructure that meets local need, that protect and restore our natural world; and take action on the climate emergency.

Organisations eligible to apply are:

- Town and parish councils
- Non-profit businesses and Community Interest Companies
- Community-based organisations

The Capital Grant Scheme will be open for applications from 8 July until midday 2 September. Applicants apply online through the council's website, southoxon.gov.uk/grants where the full guidance is available to help the applicant submit the best possible application.

Communications Team

South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils
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Thames Water reservoir consultation

Thames Water has launched a 12-week consultation on the proposed South East Strategic Reservoir Option (SESRO). The consultation is available here: <https://thames-wrmp.co.uk/sesro> and runs until 28 August 2024.

Thames Water is also running a series of consultation events across the district during this period:

Date	Time	Place
27 JUN 2024	14:00 – 20:00	Sutton Courtenay Village Hall
29 JUN 2024	10:00 – 16:00	Royal British Legion, East Hanney
01 JUL 2024	11:00 – 17:00	Abingdon Guildhall
05 JUL 2024	11:00 – 17:00	Loyd Lindsay Rooms, Wantage
09 JUL 2024	14:00 – 20:00	Didcot Civic Hall
15 JUL 2024	14:00 – 20:00	Milton Hill House, Steventon
18 JUL 2024	14:00 – 20:00	Marcham Centre

For more details and to confirm attendance visit <https://thames-wrmp.co.uk/news/events>

Cockroaches at M40 services

South Oxfordshire Environmental Health Officers have issued a Hygiene Emergency Prohibition Notice on an Oxfordshire service station following a significant cockroach infestation. The Notice means that impacted units at the site had to close immediately and will remain closed until officers deem the health risk has been removed.

The Notice was issued on 20 May following an emergency investigation after officers received a complaint from a member of the public who had visited the M40 Oxford Welcome Break Service Station, at junction 8a near Wheatley.

The Hygiene Emergency Prohibition Notice was issued to business owners Welcome Break Group Limited and applies to the units in the main building occupied by KFC, The Good Breakfast/Chopstix and Starbucks.

During their investigation, officers found evidence of a cockroach infestation in the food preparation and servery areas of these outlets which posed a significant risk of food contamination and an imminent risk to the customers' health.

On Friday 31 May, during a hearing at Oxford Magistrates' Court, District Judge Rana reviewed the evidence and statements provided by the officers and confirmed the imminent health risk on 20 May and was satisfied that the risk to health remained in place. She therefore made a Hygiene Emergency Prohibition Order and also awarded full costs of just over £3,000 to South Oxfordshire District Council.

Officers continue to work with the business and are monitoring these and the other units at the site and will take further action if appropriate.

Paul Fielding, Head of Housing and Environment at South Oxfordshire District Council, said: "When we received the initial complaint, our Environmental Health officers took immediate action and carried out an investigation at Welcome Break Services and served the hygiene

emergency prohibition notice requiring the temporary closure of the affected businesses. The infestation presented a signification risk of contamination and a serious risk to public health and I'm pleased that the District Judge has now endorsed the action our officers took.

"Our officers will continue conducting regular inspections at the site in order to protect public health. They are also working with Welcome Break to address the issue and supporting their efforts to reopen the impacted units as soon as possible."

A criminal investigation into any food hygiene offences committed is ongoing.

Green spaces consultation

Land use experts at <https://www.southoxon.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2024/05/Third-Party-Consultation-GI-and-open-space-Public-Survey.pdf> are supporting the councils to gather information to understand how people use green spaces in the districts.

During June LUC is asking residents to complete a short online survey to understand how residents use green spaces in their local area. This ranges from parks, playgrounds and churchyards to natural spaces like woodlands and meadows. The survey runs until Sunday 30 June 2024.

If you have any questions about the survey or the study, email:

SouthandValeGI@landuse.co.uk