

Just to let you know that the 2018 grass cutting programme is due to start beginning of March.

Like me you have probably noticed that

a) The grass has started growing already but...

b) The ground conditions are somewhat soggy after all of the rain we have been having over the last few weeks So the normal procedure will apply and crews will make an assessment on a site by site basis as to whether it is possible to go onto the ground to cut the grass without ruining the site by digging into the top surface As a result there may be cases where areas get omitted on this cut so please bear this in mind.

Strategic Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (SHELAA) 'Call for Sites' launched

To inform the pending Winchester Local Plan Review, a 'Call for Sites' has been launched – referred to as the Strategic Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment SHELAA . The purpose is to request organisations and individuals who have a parcel of land that they wish to be considered for potential development through the local plan process, to submit details to us by Friday **6 April 2018**.

<http://www.winchester.gov.uk/planning-policy/evidence-base/housing/shlaa-strategic-housing-land-availability-assessment>

The SHELAA will replace the existing SHLAA (Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment) and it will update all details with regard to land availability that will feed into the local plan process. Land included within the SHELAA does not equate to an allocation in the local plan or that the site will be granted planning permission. This exercise will provide the Council with information on which to progress consideration of locations of potential growth to explore through the local plan review.

At the Budget setting Council meeting on the 22nd February the Council agreed an increase in the WCC Council tax schedule of 2.9% which is from last year £134.99 to £138.92 for a Band D property.

Winchester city council looks after:-

5000+ council Houses plus New build and 8000 Tenants. Planning. Waste Collection. Licensing. Landscape and grass cutting.

The Local Government Association claims there is more than 400,000 plots with planning permission which remain un-built. But that's only half the story, on average it takes 1.7 years to complete the post-application phase after permission is granted. And this goes to 3.2 years for sites of 150 homes or more. Pre-commencement conditions, Section 106 agreements, and a lack of planning department resources are the primary causes of the delay.

Winchester City is introducing kerbside Glass Collection.

As part of its commitment to helping residents create a more environmentally-friendly district. Winchester City Council has agreed at the Budget Setting Council Meeting on the 22nd February to start monthly kerbside glass collection service as soon as possible for all households as part of the revised specification for its waste collection contract which is currently being prepared.

Increasing recycling levels are part of the City Council's aim to improve the quality of the District's environment, along with the protection and enhancement of open spaces and the reduction of harmful emissions.

Cllr Laurence Ruffell