

Sellindge District Councillors' Report – 10 January 2022

Otterpool Layby – Enforcement Officers' are regularly patrolling this area and Veolia have, again, been instructed to arrange regular clean-ups. Please do report concerns on the District Council Website and/or to the Police if appropriate. This helps build up a better picture of what is happening in this area.

MyAccount allows you to see council information relevant to you. Registered users will be able to find details about their Council Tax, benefits, bin collections, ward councillors, and much more, all in one place. More services are being introduced into MyAccount enabling you to report, apply or pay for services at the click of a button. In short, MyAccount is an easier and quicker way to interact with the Council and you can register or log-in at www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk

Household support fund - The council has been awarded funding from Kent County Council for the Household Support Fund (HSF), which is provided by the government and runs until 31 March 2022 (subject to fund availability). Anyone aged 16 or over and living in the district in a vulnerable household may be eligible for a payment. Vulnerable households are defined as those that are struggling to afford essential food and utility bills and have no other available support. Grants are available for families with or without children. For full details of the criteria and to make an application, go to <https://www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk/household-support-fund>

Budget 2022-2023 - By early March each year the council is required by law to approve its budget and council tax levels for the forthcoming financial year. Full Council will meet on 23 February 2022 to do this. We would now like to hear your views on the specific budget proposals within the Budget Strategy as well as feedback on the general spending and income generation priorities for 2022/23 see <https://www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk/consultations/budgetconsultation>

Police & Crime Commissioner consultation on precept. The PCC has launched his Budget proposal for 2022/2023 and the Kent and Medway Police and Crime Panel will vote on this proposal in early February. You can comment by emailing: haveyoursay@kent.police.uk before the 23 January. See [Kent PCC: Office of the Kent Police and Crime Commissioner \(kent-pcc.gov.uk\)](http://kent-pcc.gov.uk) for further details.

Scrutiny Committee – Residents are being asked to let Folkestone & Hythe District Council know what local issues they would like discussed. Suggestions for matters which are important to the community will help shape the council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the next financial year. While suggestions do not have to be limited to the council or the services it provides, proposed ideas cannot include planning applications, licensing matters, housing appeals or disciplinary issues. To share your ideas, please complete the form which can be found at folkestone-hythe.gov.uk/your-

[council/democracy/council-scrutiny](#) Please note, you will be required to sign in to 'MyAccount'. The deadline for submissions is Friday 25 February 2022.

Scam messages - Fake emails and text messages are a common tactic used by cyber criminals, particularly at this time of the year. Their goal is often to convince you to click a link. Once clicked, you may be sent to a dodgy website which could download viruses onto your computer, or steal your passwords and personal information. In order to try and convince you that their messages are legitimate, criminals will pretend to be someone you trust, or from some organisation you trust. This could be your Internet Service Provider (ISP), local council, even a friend in need. And they may contact you by phone call, email or text message. If you have received an email which you're not quite sure about, you can report it by forwarding the email to the Suspicious Email Reporting Service at: **report@phishing.gov.uk**