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## News and Features from Harborough District Council - January 2020



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Councillor Phil King  
**Leader of  
Harborough District  
Council**

### Happy New Year to all

Happy New Year to all our newsletter subscribers.

I hope you had a great Christmas. Last year saw a huge number of successful Council projects, initiatives and events - including some excellent festive events to encourage people to shop locally and support their local economy.

We look forward to working with residents, local groups and partners over the year ahead.

We have exciting projects in the pipeline and we will ensure there is full opportunity for you to get involved.

With this in mind, I encourage you to have your say on our budget proposals - and our community safety survey. Your views matter and we're very keen to hear from you.

### Have your say on community safety

We want to hear your views on how we can help make your community "a vibrant, safe and prosperous place to live".

We've launched a community safety survey looking at what issues are important to you and what concerns you may have.

Your feedback is valued and will be considered by the Partnerships' Strategy Group when allocating funding to priorities.

[Take part in the survey before the end of January 2020 here.](#)

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## Share your views on Council's spending



Getting our budget proposals right is important to us and you now have the opportunity to help shape our spending and saving proposals over the coming year.

Harborough District Council is setting out its budget priorities for 2020/21 with proposals **not to increase its share of the Council tax bill**, plus significant **investment** in a number of key areas which residents said were important to them.

We're now asking for your views on this, with a public consultation live on the Council's website with full details about the Council's budget proposals.

Your feedback will help inform our budget process before the budget and our share of the council tax bill is approved at the end of February 2020.

[Have your say about our budget and Council Tax proposals on our website.](#)

## Sign up to garden waste collections



You can now sign up to have your garden waste recycled by the Council every fortnight during the spring, summer and autumn months.

For an annual subscription of £40 per bin, you'll be given a sticker to go on your green bin with collections **nine months of the financial year**; from **April to November** and the following **March** of that financial year.

Having your garden waste collected by the Council means you don't have to worry about taking it to the tip yourself.

You'll need to sign up before 16 February 2020 to ensure your green bin collections start from April 2020. You can also pay by direct debit too.

Subscribe today via our website at [www.harborough.gov.uk/green-bin](http://www.harborough.gov.uk/green-bin)

## New year and a new way to find a new you



With the excess of the festive season out the way; is it time to start thinking about a better, healthier you?

To help, we've teamed up with health and wellbeing practitioners, health specialists, and local sports and leisure clubs to create a Healthy Harborough Directory - a 'one-stop-shop' for local sporting and healthy lifestyle needs.

With directory pages featuring local contacts, it is a great place to join local sporting communities and pursue a healthy, more active lifestyle.

The new directory brings information together at a single point for people who are seeking new leisure activity, new sporting communities or who just want to keep fit using local services.

For more information about leisure services across the District of Harborough visit the [Healthy Harborough webpage](#).

## Breakfast tour of new flagship business centre to view office suites



Has your business outgrown its current office space?

On **Wednesday 22 January 2020**, from 8am to 10.30am, businesses are invited to a special drop-in **Breakfast Office Tour** to look around the new



Harborough Grow-on Centre to view the office suites currently available.

The building, situated in a prime location at the Compass Point Business Park in Market Harborough, is built to high environmental standards (BREEAM Excellent), and provides flexible office suites ranging from 500– 2,100 sq ft, together with bookable meeting rooms.

Interest is now growing for businesses looking to move into the flagship centre which is expected to create around 230 jobs and bring £20m into the local economy.

Businesses interested in attending should contact the Council at [communications@harborough.gov.uk](mailto:communications@harborough.gov.uk) by Monday 20 January 2020.

Harborough District Council provided approximately £3.62m to fund the project, with a further £3.28m coming from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and £0.99m from the Leicester and Leicestershire Enterprise Partnership (LLEP).

## Comedy shows are bringing the laughs

It's only a few weeks until the Harborough BIG Weekend 2020 comedy event lands in the district, and tickets are selling fast!

With events for both children and adults alike, the BIG Weekend - part of the Leicester Comedy Festival - will run in Harborough district from Thursday 13 Feb to Monday 17 Feb 2020.

Harborough Market, owned by Harborough District Council, will once again be transformed into a theatre for two days to host some nationally-renowned comedy performers including a new children's matinee show. With some familiar TV and Britain's Got Talent faces, Arthur Smith, a new Dad's Army Radio Show, Wiggly Readers and Comedy Quizzes lined up, there is something for all ages.

It's sure to be a great event, with last year's BIG Weekend receiving a Liberty Award for embodying the 'spirit of the event' at the 2019 Leicester Comedy Festival Awards.

## Progress on tackling 'climate emergency'

We have reviewed Harborough District Council's newly updated Climate Emergency Action Plan, noting several progressive measures taken to tackle climate change and their effects.

Back in 2013, Harborough District Council made a commitment to acting on climate change by signing the Climate Local agreement and, in 2015, the council adopted a Climate Local Action Plan. This has contributed to a reduction in its carbon emissions by 41%.

We are committed to working with residents and communities to support their actions in reducing emissions and help them increase their resilience to the impacts of climate change.

In 2018/19, 509 homes in the District received energy efficiency measures such as loft and cavity wall insulation which will save over 22,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide (CO2) over a 20-year period.

To find out more about access to fully-funded home loft and cavity wall insulation for residents in need, [please visit our website](#).

[Read about the Council's progress here](#)

## Join those who've saved £££ on bills

You can start 2020 with a New Year's resolution that will save you money on your energy bills by joining our next Switch and Save.

People in Harborough district saved an average of £246 in last year's Switch and Save event.

Signing up for our scheme is free and without obligation.

Completing the registration form takes less than 5 minutes, with the next auction taking place on **11 February 2020**.

The supplier who offers the cheapest tariff will get to offer you a new contract.

From 24 February 2020 you will receive your personal offer and you can see how much money you could save.

You have until 24 March 2020 to decide whether to accept your personal offer or not. If you accept the offer, we will take care of the entire switching process.

[Join others - Switch and Save here](#)

To find out more or to buy tickets [visit the event website](#).

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