

Somerset West and Taunton

Newsletter to SWT Councillors and Parish Councils

Issue 106 Week ending 22/05/2022

SWT Council's priority strategic themes and outcomes

Somerset West and Taunton Council's four strategic themes are as follows:

- Our Environment and Economy
- A Transparent and Customer Focused Council
- Homes and Communities
- An Enterprising Council

[Click here](#) to view SWT's expected outcomes.

Key Messages this week

1. Democracy and Governance

Committee Meetings

You can search by Committee or by the monthly calendar for details of all [Committee meetings](#). Here you can find the agendas and minutes of all meetings, as well as which Councillors sit on each Committee.

- **SWT Annual Council, SWT Full Council** – Tuesday 24 May 2022, in the JMR at 6.15pm. The agenda and report packs are available to view on the [website](#). Deadline for public questions is 4pm on Friday 20 May.
- **SWT Community Scrutiny Committee** – Wednesday 25 May 2022, in the JMR at 6.15pm. The agenda and report packs are available to view on the [website](#). Deadline for public questions is 4pm on Monday 23 May.
- **SWT Planning Committee** – Thursday 26 May 2022, in the JMR at 1.00pm. The agenda and report packs are available to view on the [website](#). Deadline for public questions is 4pm on Tuesday 24 May.
- **SWT Tenants Strategic Group** – Monday 30 May, in the JMR at 6.00pm. Deadline for public questions is 4pm on Thursday 26 May.

- **SWT Corporate Scrutiny Committee** – Wednesday 1 June 2022, in the JMR at 6.15pm. Deadline for public questions is 4pm Monday 30 May.

Meetings will still all be live streamed so that members of the public can watch at home. To watch the live stream when the meeting commences, please visit the SWT website by [clicking here](#). If you are not able to watch the meeting live, you can also watch it after the meeting.

Please see the dates listed above re deadlines for submitting questions or statements. Information on speaking at public meetings is available on the SWT [website](#).

2. Reminder - Town and Parish Register of Interest Forms

The Localism Act 2011 requires that the Monitoring Officer hold and maintain a register of interest for all District, Town and Parish Councillors.

All Town and Parish Councillors are required to fill in a new Register of Interest (ROI) form. A form will need to be completed irrespective of whether they have been a Councillor before. SWT delete and securely destroy any previous ROI forms.

They will have 28 days to return their form following their declaration of acceptance of office. The email address to send the forms to is governance@somersetwestandtaunton.gov.uk. If any Councillors decide to print and send the forms in the post, please ensure that they are addressed as:

Governance Team
Somerset West and Taunton Council
Deane House,
Belvedere Road,
Taunton,
TA1 1HE

Once the forms arrive with the SWT Governance Team they will have signatures redacted, scanned, and uploaded to the website. It is a legal requirement that the Monitoring Officer publishes all Register of Interest forms on the SWT website. If any Councillors are concerned about this, please ask them to contact the Monitoring Officer to discuss.

Traditionally, some Town and Parish Councils have been better at returning their ROIs than others. This year the Monitoring Officer will give an update to each Ward Member (in mid to late June) on the returns that are missing so that this can be raised when they are attending the next Town or Parish Council meeting. Updates will also be regularly given to the Standards Committee.

3. Reminder - Training available to Councillors and Parish Clerks

Now that you have your new Councils/Councillors in place it is worth thinking about training, as it is always good to get your new Councils off to a good start

The [Somerset Association of Local Councils](#) (SALC) run a number of courses that are designed for new Councillors (or are a useful refresher), which include:

- Councillor essentials – P1 Roles and Responsibilities
- Councillor essentials – P2 Governance and Finance
- Responding to Planning Applications
- Successful chairing
- The Council as an employer

They also offer training on the Code of Conduct.

However, in previous years SWT has also offered several sessions on the Code of Conduct, Register of Interests, meeting etiquette and the pitfalls of social media. As well as offering several virtual sessions that any Councillor or Clerk can attend, the Monitoring Officer is also willing to undertake training for any Town and Parish Council, if they would like it.

Please email A.Tregellas@somersetwestandtaunton.gov.uk if your Council would like to attend a SWT training session.

4. Big Jubilee Lunch – Picnic in the Park

A party to mark the [Queen's Platinum Jubilee](#) is being held in Taunton's Vivary Park on **Sunday 5 June**.

The Big Jubilee Lunch will run from 11am to 4.30pm with everyone invited to bring their own picnic, rugs, chairs and flags.

The event will be officially opened at midday by the Mayor of Taunton, Cllr Sue Lees, with outside broadcast support from Tone FM.

There will be entertainment to suit all ages with theatre performances, games and activities.

Further information on the Big Jubilee Lunch with updates on activities and attractions can be found on the SWT [website](#) and social media - search Taunton Jubilee or use the hashtag #TauntonJubilee.

Please [click here](#) to read the full press release.

5. Reminder - New campaign promotes SWT as business 'growth hotspot'

Backed by key business leaders, SWT has launched an exciting new inward investment campaign to put the area on the map with future business investors.

The SWITCH campaign is being delivered to promote the area of Somerset West and Taunton as a key business destination, rich in growth and innovation opportunities.

The campaign, which launched yesterday (12 May 2022) at Somerset Cricket Club in Taunton, focuses on the opportunities in key growth sectors and the Council's investment and regeneration plans for the area; highlighting the many benefits for national and international organisations looking for a location for their business to thrive.

Please [click here](#) to read the full press release.

6. Reminder - Funding available for electric vehicle charge points

SWT has launched a new round of grant funding to support the installation of electric vehicle charge points (EVCPs) across the district.

Parish and town councils are being invited to apply for grants of up to £1,500 in match funding for installation of the charge points.

Applications from parish and town councils, and community centres, are welcome **before the 30 September 2022**.

Please [click here](#) to read the full press release.

7. Reminder - Launch of SWT Climate News

The SWT Climate Change Team has just launched its first 'Climate News' which will be published monthly on the SWT website and sent to SWT residents and businesses who sign up to receive a copy.

The newsletter aims to showcase all the great work that is happening across Somerset West and Taunton to achieve carbon-neutrality by 2030.

Please [click here](#) to read Issue 1.

8. Somerset Waste Partnership Services (SWP)

Fixy off to a flying start

Somerset's new repair and reuse initiative 'Fixy' got off to a flying start at the weekend, attracting around 200 visitors at the eat:Taunton festival. The Fixy team was overwhelmed by the public's appetite to find out more about how to breathe new life back into broken electricals and electronics.

As well as discussing the benefits of repair and reuse with nearly 200 eventgoers, the team shared information about the network of Repair Cafes across the county. That included the [Taunton Repair Café](#) at nearby Moose Hall where repairs were running through much of the day.

Fixy's next appointments are as follows, with more being added as they are confirmed:

- Saturday 25 June - **Stoke St Gregory** [EnviroFair](#) 10am-4pm at Williams Hall, Stoke St Gregory.
- Saturday 9 July - **Bishops Hull Repair Café** 10am-12noon at [Bishops Hull Hub](#), Bishops Hull Road, Bishop's Hull, Taunton TA1 5EB.

- Saturday 16 July - [EcoFair Yeovil](#), all day at Holy Trinity Church, Lysander Road, Yeovil BA20 2DU.

At repair cafe events, the eye-catching blue and white van will provide tools and spare parts for volunteer fixers as well as banging the drum for Somerset's repair and reuse movement. By teaming up with Somerset-based Donate-IT, it will also be taking donations of broken or unwanted smart tech for repair to pass on to those schools, groups or individuals who need them.

Check somersetwaste.gov.uk/fixy for the latest on where Fixy will be and when, as well as details of Somerset's Repair Cafes and how you can volunteer with them.

The Fixy project is a great example of the cross-authority Climate Emergency work, being delivered by Somerset Waste Partnership in partnership with [Resource Futures](#) and [Donate-IT](#) with grant funding from [Ecosurety Exploration Fund](#). Each year millions of tonnes of electrical and electronic waste is thrown away and it is estimated that the average UK household has 20 unwanted electrical items. Fixing electricals is often easier than people think and as well as environmental benefits, it saves money and means you can keep hold of loved items for longer.

Later in the year, Fixy plans to visit schools and businesses to discuss how repair and reuse could work for them.

To see, download, print or add to a smart device all your collection days - for recycling, rubbish and garden waste - visit My Collection Day at somersetwaste.gov.uk. (When entering your post code in the search bar, please include the gap i.e., AB12 3CD)

Calendars can be downloaded for printing or directly into your laptop or mobile device's calendar - creating helpful automatic reminders.

You can find lots more information about Recycle More online at somersetwaste.gov.uk/recycle-more. Extra guidance and support can be requested using a form on this page, or by calling SWT.

Partner Engagement – Key messages from other Public Service Areas

Somerset County Council (SCC)

SCC Highway Maintenance Update

Another week of reasonable weather this week has contributed to works being completed on schedule.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT for users of the **A39 between Porlock and Minehead** on the hill at Venniford (the narrow section between the Wootton Courtenay junctions):

Works to undertake important drainage work on the A39 between Minehead and Porlock have been **temporarily postponed**. These works will need to take place prior to the resurfacing planned in the summer and an alternative schedule will be shared with the community and road users as soon as it becomes available.

New works for week commencing 23 May 2022 are:

- **NEW:** Footway works at **Grange Drive Taunton**
- **NEW:** Drainage works at **Holywell lake, Wellington**
- **NEW:** Drainage works at **Chilcombe Lane Bicknoller**
- Completed: Footway resurfacing in at **Bradford on Tone Rd, Taunton**
- Completed: Carriageway patching at **A396 Bridgetown**
- Completed: Pedestrian safety barrier repairs: **Hamilton Road, Hurdle Way and A38 Musgrove entrance – Taunton**
- Completed: Footway resurfacing: **Oaken Ground, Wellington**
- Completed: Carriageway resurfacing preparation works **Cher, Minehead**
- Completed: Repair of sinkhole in **Duke Street Taunton**
- Completed: Changing of speed limit signs **Stoke St Gregory Taunton**
- Completed: footway resurfacing works in **Bishops Lydeard at Darby Way** and at **King George Road, Minehead**.

For information on highway maintenance works and to stay up to date visit www.travelsomerset.co.uk or follow [@TravelSomerset](https://twitter.com/TravelSomerset) on Twitter.

Reporting a problem on the road

Alerting SCC to potholes or a host of other problems on the road is now easier and quicker – and you can track its progress after you've reported it.

Gone is the need to make phone calls or send emails - thanks to a new upgraded online system with an improved interactive map, members of the public can report a problem 24/7 and the Highways team will get on the case. From potholes, blocked drains and broken manhole covers, to overgrown vegetation, damaged pavements or cycle paths, faulty traffic lights or missing markings - they can all be reported in just minutes from a smartphone, tablet or computer.

The full range and how to report is available here www.somerset.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/report-a-problem-on-the-road/.

The new development means that if you're reporting a fault, you can now track its progress. If it's safe to pull over, all you need to do is take a quick picture of the fault, then visit the Report It site on your phone, answer a few simple questions and upload your picture. You'll be sent a link which enables you to track its progress.

Please [click here](#) to read the full press release.

Urgent Emergency Road Closure - Priory Avenue, Taunton

Please be aware that SCC has received a notification of a TTRN (urgent / emergency) road closure at **Priory Avenue, Taunton** that will commence on **23 May 2022** and is expected to last until **24 May 2022**.

The contractor has indicated that access for Emergency Services through the site is **not permitted** on this occasion.

Please [click here](#) to visit the one.network map and diversions.

National Highways

Supplementary Consultation launched on A358 Dualling Project
National Highways is consulting on design changes for the proposed upgrade to the A358 between Taunton and Southfields roundabout.

The consultation will run from Tuesday 24 May until **11.59pm on Sunday 26 June 2022.**

National Highways is looking to upgrade approximately 8.5 miles (13.6 km) of the A358 to a high-quality and high-performing dual carriageway. Since the 2021 consultation changes have been made to the preliminary design which will improve safety and access to local roads and reduce the impact on communities, the environment and the local landscape.

Your feedback will help National Highways develop the application for a Development Consent Order (DCO), the type of planning permission needed for the scheme.

When the supplementary consultation opens on 24 May you will be able to find out more about the proposals and have your say, by visiting National Highways' online exhibition or one of the consultation events. The project team will be on hand at face-to-face events and webinars to answer your questions.

Consultation Events in Person (from 11.00am – 8.00pm)

- **Thursday 26 May** Monks Yard (Conference Room) Ilminster (TA19 9PT)
- **Wednesday 8 June** Somerset County Cricket Club (TA1 1JT)
- **Saturday 11 June** Taunton Racecourse, (TA3 7BL)

Please [click here](#) to read the full press release.

Step Up Somerset

Employment advice service coming to a location near you

Looking for work, new skills and training opportunities or information on how to grow your business? Would you like to try out digital equipment to find out what might suit you? Then come and visit the new Step Up to Mobile Outreach service which is coming to a location near you.

The Step Up to Mobile Outreach service's events will be held at the following venues, **between 10am and 2pm** on the relevant date:

- Tuesday 24 May – **Williton** - SWT Car Park,
- Wednesday 25 May - **Watchet**- The Esplanade,
- Thursday 26 May - **Bishops Lydeard**- Village Hall Car Park.

Keep an eye on the Step-Up Somerset website at [Events \(stepupsomerset.org.uk\)](https://stepupsomerset.org.uk) for updates on the dates and locations of upcoming events for a chat or contact **0330 12227015**.

Exmoor National Park Authority (ENP)

Green Space Dark Skies: Exmoor

In May, as part of the [UNBOXED: Creativity in the UK festival](#), outdoor arts company Walk the Plank is working with local people, artists and community groups to create beautifully choreographed and accessible gatherings in Dartmoor and Exmoor. These joyful and participatory artworks will be created at dusk by volunteer 'Lumenators' and captured on film for all to see afterwards.

[Green Space Dark Skies](#) is a series of 20 large-scale outdoor artworks in the UK's most outstanding landscapes as part of *UNBOXED: Creativity in the UK*. It runs from April to September 2022 and is a once-in-a-lifetime national celebration of creativity connecting the people and places that make the UK special.

The Exmoor Green Space Dark Skies event will take place on **28 May**, and everyone is welcome to register for free to take part at www.greenspacedarkskies.uk/events/exmoor-np.

Please [click here](#) to read the full press release.

Appeal Launched to Create Moor Meadows

A new [CareMoor for Exmoor](#) appeal has launched to help raise funds for meadow creation in the National Park. It follows a 97 per cent drop in wildflower meadows nationwide since the second world war.

Meadows provide important food and homes for a diverse range of species, including many pollinator insects, small mammals, bats and birds, and are a rich carbon store. They help improve connectivity between habitats and can be a valuable source of forage for livestock, supporting traditional skills such as haymaking.

Donations to the appeal will support the new **Exmoor Sowing the Seeds** project - a collaboration between Exmoor National Park Authority (NPA), FWAG South West and Devon Wildlife Trust, with support from South West Water and Natural England, to collect and distribute wildflower seed locally.

Please [click here](#) to read the full press release.

Quantock Landscape Partnership Scheme (QLPS)

Community Archaeology at Crowcombe Court

Remember last summer when archaeology volunteers helped to identify a previously unknown Bronze Age enclosure on top of Cothelstone Hill? Well, this year the team will be back out on the hills, and once again need your help, this time on the hunt for the lost medieval manor house of Crowcombe.

The manor house is believed to have originated in the 13th century but was pulled down in 1724 and its exact location is uncertain. Together with archaeologists from [Context One Heritage & Archaeology](#), QLPS will be excavating in the grounds of Crowcombe Court between **29 June and 15 July** in an attempt to pin down the manor site and understand its development.

No experience is necessary; there are varied roles for volunteers of all abilities and levels of experience. So if you would like to be involved, [click this link](#) for more details.

Devon and Somerset Fire & Rescue Service (DSFRS)

Preventing the main causes of death on the roads

Throughout the South West DSFRS has seen an alarming rise in fatal road traffic collisions.

There are five main causes of death on the road. These are known as the fatal five:

- speeding
- not wearing your seatbelt
- distractions - using your mobile or a hand-held device
- drink and drugs
- careless and inconsiderate driving.

Irresponsible driving doesn't just risk your life, but the lives of others too. It's better to be safe than sorry. Please [click here](#), to find top tips on how to avoid these dangers and make sure that you're staying safe whilst driving.

Community Support – What help is out there?

Voluntary and Community Sector Support

Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy

Are you eligible for the Boiler Upgrade Scheme from April 2022?

On 23 May 2022 a new grant scheme for homeowners upgrading from gas boilers to either an Air Source Heat Pump (ASHP) or a biomass boiler may be eligible for a grant of £5,000, or £6,000 if upgrading to a Ground Source Heat Pump (GSHP).

The government will provide grants to encourage property owners to install low carbon heating systems such as heat pumps, through the Boiler Upgrade Scheme (BUS). These grants will help property owners overcome the upfront cost of low carbon heating technologies.

The scheme will be open to domestic and small non-domestic properties in England and Wales. It will run from 2022 to 2025.

Please [click here](#) to find out more.

Somerset Activity Sports Partnership (SASP)

Reminder - Crime Prevention through Sport Fund

The Crime Prevention Through Sport Fund aims to support projects that use sport and physical activity to reduce violence, crime and anti-social behaviour. This fund is for projects that focus on using activity as a tool to engage and support young people up to the age of 25. Applications that use sport in its widest sense including traditional, informal sports and activities will be considered and encouraged to apply.

SASP are keen to receive applications from the following areas this year: Bridgwater, Yeovil, Taunton, Wellington and Minehead.

SASP are proud to be working in partnership with [Wesport](#) to deliver the Crime Prevention through Sport Fund commissioned by Avon & Somerset Constabulary. Together this partnership will endeavour to support projects that have a considered approach to supporting young people who are involved or are at risk of being involved in criminal activity.

Deadline for applications is noon on **Monday 6 June 2022**. Please [click here](#) for more information.

Somerset Community Foundation

Reminder - Growing Grants

Somerset County Council (SCC) has set up Growing Grants to support community-led food projects that make healthier food affordable for everyone.

Growing Grants will support projects that involve:

- growing food as a community effort
- educating local people about healthy food and nutrition
- teaching and supporting people in your community how to shop and cook healthier
- serving balanced and nutritious communal meals
- using food and growing projects to help connect local people to each other
- building networks of community-led food projects.

Groups can usually apply for a grant of between £500 and £5,000, which would need to be spent within 12 [months\[MS1\]](#).

You must submit your application by **5pm Friday 10 June 2022**. SCF will not consider any applications submitted after that date.

Please [click here](#) to read the full press release.

Community Council for Somerset (CCS)

Another chance to apply for the Somerset Food Resilience Grant

A new Food Resilience grant fund is being provided to help Somerset communities that support or directly work to develop food resilience. Any community group, charity, organisation, and agency in Somerset can apply for a maximum of £2,000.

The deadline for applications has been extended to the **31 May 2022** - or when the fund runs out. The grant is funded by Somerset County Council and provided by Smart Communities Ltd.

Please [click here](#) to find out more and make an application.

Spark Somerset Job Vacancies

There are currently 3 vacancies at Spark Somerset, an organisation that supports charities and community groups.

For further information about the vacancies (and other charity jobs in Somerset), visit <https://sparksomerset.org.uk/latest/jobs>.

Health and Welfare Hypertension Day (17 May)

Blood pressure monitors available in Somerset Libraries

More than two hundred blood pressure monitor kits are available for loan from libraries in the county to raise awareness of high blood pressure and to coincide with World Hypertension Day which was on 17 May.

About 3 in 10 adults in Somerset have high blood pressure but 1 in 10 don't know it. It is a major risk factor for Cardiovascular Disease (CVD) and significantly increases the risk of having a heart attack or stroke, but early detection and treatment can help people live longer, healthier lives.

The blood pressure monitor kits include an information leaflet that explains how to check your blood pressure at home and what to do with the results – measuring blood pressure at home can be very useful to give a more accurate picture of what a person's blood pressure is like. The monitors can also detect an irregular heartbeat which is another risk for CVD.

For anyone who is not a library member it is really easy to join, either call into your local branch or go online at: <https://lwc.ent.sirsidynix.net.uk/custom/web/registration/>

Please [click here](#) to read the full press release.

Clintons Catch Up Healthy Lifestyle Choices – Dementia Action Week

Making healthier lifestyle choices can help prevent dementia. It's never too early to start. Clinton explains some of the choices we can make in his latest [video](#).

Living safely with respiratory infections including COVID-19

The [Government has published important advice](#) for people with symptoms of respiratory infections, such as COVID-19; people with a positive COVID-19 test result and their contacts; and advice on safer behaviours for everyone.

There are simple things you can do in your daily life that will help reduce the spread of COVID-19 and other respiratory infections, such as flu and protect those at highest risk.

Things you can choose to do are:

- Get vaccinated.
- Wear a face covering or a face mask.
- Let fresh air in if meeting others indoors.
- Stay at home if you have [symptoms](#)
- Cover your coughs and sneezes
- Practise good hygiene:

If you have symptoms of a respiratory infection, such as COVID-19, and you have a high temperature or do not feel well enough to go to work or carry out normal activities, you are advised to try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people.

Please [click here](#) to read the guidance on what to do if you have symptoms but have not taken a test.

Spring Booster Jobs

SCC's Public Health team is urging older and more vulnerable residents to take up the offer of a free, further COVID-19 booster vaccine.

The Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI), as part of its latest review of the UK vaccination programme, has recommended an additional spring booster dose for our most vulnerable individuals. People aged 75 years and older, residents in care homes for older people, and those individuals aged 12 and over with weakened immune systems, are being offered a spring booster of coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine.

The Spring Booster is being rolled out for these groups of people because they are at higher risk of developing severe complications from COVID-19. Protection from their previous vaccinations may be lower and may decline more quickly over time. If the number of infections increases over the summer, this booster should help to reduce their risk of developing serious illness and being admitted to hospital with COVID-19.

Across Somerset, there are more than 80 thousand people eligible to receive their spring booster. They will be contacted by the NHS when it is their turn to receive the vaccine, although anyone eligible who has had six months since their last booster can also go online to book through the [National Booking System](#) or by calling 119 for an appointment.

There are also plenty of walk-in appointments available across the county. Please check the local NHS website: [COVID-19 vaccinations in Somerset](#) to find clinics in your area or use the national portal to find a clinic: www.nhs.uk/grab-a-jab.

NHS staff are ready to welcome you whether it's for your first, second, or third dose.

Coronavirus Helpline Update

In line with the lifting of Government restrictions the Coronavirus Support Helpline is now closed having taken over 18,000 calls from Somerset residents who needed help during the pandemic.

Anyone in need of Coronavirus-related support should contact their local authority from now on:

Somerset West and Taunton Council call **0300 304 8000**

Mendip District Council call **0300 303 8588**

Sedgemoor District Council call **0300 303 7800**

South Somerset District Council call **01935 462462**

Somerset County Council on **0300 123 2224**

Need to seek help?

If you, or someone you know are feeling like things are too much, please know that you / they don't have to be alone. Here are some numbers of organisations that can help:

- Samaritans - 116 123
- CALM - 0800 58 58 58
- ChildLine - 0800 1111
- Anxiety UK - 03444 775 774
- Mind - 0300 123 3393
- Somerset Domestic Abuse helpline - 0800 69 49 999

Crime / Safeguarding

Avon and Somerset Police (ASP)

Operation Sceptre – Keeping weapons off the street

This week (16-22 May) ASP are engaged in Operation Sceptre, an intensified focus on enforcement, education and engagement around knife crime. The twice-yearly operation, which is led and co-ordinated by the National Police Chief's Council (NPCC) and involves police forces across the UK, builds on the prevention and enforcement work police carry out all year round to keep people safe from knife crime.

Police cadets and leaders have been working with police officers and police community support officers (PCSOs) ahead of the Op Sceptre week of action to check that stores are complying with their legal responsibilities around the sale of knives to under 18s.

Knife crime includes any crimes that involve the use of a sharpened weapon or blade. It is illegal to sell a knife to or buy a knife from anyone who is under 18 years old. Self-protection is not a reasonable excuse for carrying a weapon and possession of a knife carries a prison sentence of up to 4 years (5 years in Scotland) even if it's not used.

Please [click here](#) to read the full press release.

Reminder - UK-wide Firearms surrender campaign

ASP are appealing for people to hand in any unwanted guns during a two-week surrender of firearms and ammunition which started on Thursday 12 May.

This surrender, which is being co-ordinated nationally by the National Police Chiefs Council (NPCC) and The National Ballistics Intelligence Service (NABIS), gives people the chance to dispose of firearms or ammunition in a safe place and will be held for two weeks, running until **Sunday 29 May**.

During the fortnight, those surrendering firearms will not face prosecution for the illegal possession upon surrender and can remain anonymous.

Surrendering unwanted, unlicensed weapons stops the risk of them falling into the wrong hands and being used to commit criminal offences.

Firearms can be surrendered at any police station – [ASP encourage members of the public to click on this link for more details of station locations and full opening times](#).

For further Neighbourhood Policing Updates...

For regular updates on events/campaigns and what is happening in your area, please keep an eye on the relevant policing Facebook pages detailed below:

- [Minehead and West Somerset Neighbourhood Policing](#)
- [Wellington Neighbourhood Policing](#)
- [Taunton Neighbourhood Policing](#)
- [Sedgemoor and Hinkley Point Neighbourhood Policing](#)
- [Rural Affairs Unit – Avon and Somerset Police](#).

Finally

The below link may be useful to you, should there be a requirement to convert files to jpg format: <https://www.adobe.com/uk/acrobat/online/pdf-to-jpg.html>
It is important to keep up to date with the latest [information and advice from the Government](#).

For quick up to date information regarding SWT services please follow us on Facebook www.facebook.com/SWTCouncil/ or Twitter [@swtcouncil](https://twitter.com/swtcouncil).

If you have concerns about your own health and coronavirus please visit the [NHS](#) website.