

YOU'VE GOT TO BIN IT TO WIN IT, AS LITTER LOTTO LAUNCHES IN NEWPORT.

Newport City Council is supporting a new prize draw app to offer residents the chance to win prizes just for using litter bins.

Litter Lotto is a monthly prize draw which offers participants the chance to win prizes ranging from £5 to £10,000.

Players can take part by downloading the Litter Lotto app and uploading a picture of themselves disposing of their litter (or someone else's) into a bin.

Each player will receive one entry into the monthly prize draw for each picture they upload.

While funding for the prizes comes from Litter Lotto's corporate partners, the council has been providing technical support to Litter Lotto ahead of the game's UK launch, and will be promoting the app on bins across the city in a bid to encourage residents to take part.

Councillor Roger Jeavons, deputy leader of the council, said:

"I'm delighted that we have been able to support this great initiative.

"We know that clean streets are a priority for the people of Newport, and we're pleased to be supporting Litter Lotto on new ways to tackle littering."

For more information, visit the Litter Lotto website or download the app now and start binning!



GREEN LIGHT FOR NEW LEISURE CENTRE

Exciting plans for a new leisure centre on a key riverfront site in the city centre have taken another step forward.

Planning permission was granted in November for the building which will include a modern pool hall, fitness suite and café.

It will be built to the most sustainable and environmentally friendly standards possible and include a roof-top garden, providing a safe and useable space as well as ecological benefits.

Work is expected to begin on the site near the University of South Wales campus in the spring.

The aim is to create a provision that will appeal to people of all ages and all backgrounds from across the city so accessibility is a key

feature of its design and location.

Last year, a wide-ranging public consultation was held and the feedback was overwhelmingly positive.

It is estimated the new centre will cost around £19 million and it will be funded by a grant from the Welsh Government, savings in the Newport Live subsidy and council reserves.

The leisure centre will be another part of the major regeneration of the land next to the River Usk.

The site has been vacant for a number of years but was previously used for motor repairs and a scrapyard.

It will house a pool hall, changing rooms, active hall, café and viewing area on the ground floor with a



fitness suite and changing rooms on the first floor. There will be fitness studios and changing rooms on the second floor plus the green roof.

The modern centre will replace the ageing Newport Centre where

the pool hall has been found to be beyond viable repair.

As well as providing a fantastic new leisure provision, the plans will unlock the existing site for future development, to the benefit of the

city centre's viability and vitality.

It is being proposed that Coleg Gwent could create a new campus on the site bringing hundreds of students and staff into the city centre.

THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL AWARDS 2021



We're delighted to announce that the council was a winner at The National Environmental Awards 2021, which were held in November.

The council won the Outstanding Organisation award, in recognition of the practical steps we've taken to reduce our carbon emissions.

We were also shortlisted for

the Best Policy and Practice within the Public Sector award.

This was the inaugural year for the awards, set up by The National Wales newspaper.

The awards, celebrate initiatives, individuals, teams, businesses, schools, organisations and community groups throughout Wales that really make a difference to the environment.

Councillor Jane Mudd, leader of the council, said: *"I'm delighted that the efforts of our staff, and our partners, have been recognised by the judging panel with this award which recognises the commitment and passion of our staff to deliver real change for our organisation and for Newport."*

Councillor Jason Hughes, cabinet member for sustainability added: *"Our thanks go out to all those staff at all levels of the council*

who work tirelessly and with passion to improve our environment and lower our carbon emissions.

"Thanks also those who dedicate their spare time to supporting countless initiatives as volunteers in the city and beyond.

"This win is a reflection of their efforts and dedication."

SETTING THE BUDGET FOR 2022-23



Newport City's Cabinet will consider the budget for coming financial year at their meeting on 14 January.

At the time of Newport Matters going to print, the council was waiting for details of its draft settlement from Welsh Government.

This grant makes up the vast majority of the council's budget – more than three-quarters. The balance is funded by council tax and other fees and income.

Councillor Jane Mudd, leader of the council, said: "We know that the last two years have been particularly difficult for our residents and businesses and that there are more

challenges ahead, particularly relating to the cost of living.

"We are hopeful for a positive settlement from Welsh Government and will do everything we can to pass that on – depending on the final budget available to us we will make every effort to limit increases to fees and charges, while also making sure we invest money in the key front-line services that our residents rely on.

"The council provides over 800 services for 151,000 people living in more than 65,000 households. With the impact of Covid-19 on businesses, the economy, employment and health, we are seeing the demand for support-based services continue to rise.

"We have set out our strategic aims with a focus on the communities that have been impacted most by Covid-19 and ensuring we support our economy to rebuild."

Details of the budget proposals will be available on the council website before the January Cabinet meeting and will be followed by an online consultation.

Full details will be available at newport.gov.uk/haveyoursay

Final decisions will then be made at a Cabinet meeting on 18 February and full Council on 22 February.

Law & Regulation

Recruitment of Members for Education Appeal Panels

School Standards Framework Act 1998

Newport City Council is required to establish education appeal panels to hear appeals regarding the admission and exclusion of pupils. We are looking for both lay members and experienced members to sit on these panels.

To be considered as a lay member, you must not have any personal experience in the management of any school or the provision of education in any school (other than as a Governor or in any other voluntary capacity). For experienced panel members you will have experience in education, be familiar with educational conditions in Newport, or be a parent of registered pupils at a school.

As a panel member you will be entitled to receive a financial loss allowance to compensate for any loss of earnings incurred as a result of attending panel meetings. You would also be able to claim reimbursement of travelling and subsistence expenses.

Appeal panels will hear appeals from pupils in both primary and secondary schools. Panels normally sit between the hours of 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday however you may be required to sit until an appeal is concluded. Those appointed to the appeals will always be consulted as to their availability for attendance at hearings on particular days.

As a panel member you will need to be IT literate and have access to digital equipment at home with an internet connection.

Closing date: 28th February 2022

Reference number: School Appeals Panel

If you are interested please contact Jane Holbrook/Abigail Lewis, Corporate Admin Supervisor on **01633 656656** or email corporateadmin.supervisor@newport.gov.uk.



RENEWABLE ENERGY PLAN FOR FORMER LANDFILL SITE

In December, planning permission was granted for a council-owned solar farm on one of its sites in the city.

It will generate 2.37 megawatts of electricity and could power up to 800 homes.

The solar farm, which will include photovoltaic panels and a power transformer station, will be located on council land near the Docks Way landfill site.

It will have a lifespan of 35 years and will then be decommissioned with all equipment removed from

the site and recycled or scrapped.

The planning committee was told the proposal would contribute towards meeting the national renewable energy target and has the potential for secondary benefits to air quality and the wider environment.

It will have a limited impact on the surrounding landscape and conditions attached to the planning consent will ensure the appropriate measures are

taken to protect things like ecology, species, trees and archaeology.

The council has declared an ecological and climate emergency and this project is part of its ongoing work to tackle that emergency.



ACCOLADE FOR NEWPORT SOCIAL WORKER



In November, Lorraine Bird received a prestigious award for her work in fostering.

Lorraine, a supervising social worker with the council, was given a fostering excellence award for outstanding contribution by a social worker by the Fostering Network.

Councillor Paul Cockeram, the council's cabinet member for social services, congratulated her on this well-deserved award.

"It is especially pleasing that her nomination was based on a letter of appreciation from one of the foster carers she works with."

"They praised the support she has provided over the years, even going the extra mile by helping them in achieving a specialist qualification."

"This is no surprise to those who know and work with Lorraine. She is highly regarded by her colleagues and is a valued member of the Foster Wales Newport team."

Lorraine, who has been a social worker for more than 25 years, said: *"I have been very fortunate to work with great children, families and colleagues. In my role, I work with fantastic foster carers, we are a team."*

Did you know Newport City Council foster carers:

- Receive full training and support?
- Receive financial support for the amazing work they do?
- Can come from all sorts of different backgrounds and circumstances?

There are many types of fostering with the local authority. From short term fostering to supporting young adults as they take the next step in their lives - you can help.

Web: fosterwales.newport.gov.uk/en/how-it-works/
Tel: 01633 210272

THE LEADER'S NEW YEAR MESSAGE



Welcome to the January 2022 edition of Newport Matters. I hope you have all managed to have a happy Christmas.

The last twelve months have been a busy period for the council. I'd like to thank our officers who have again gone above and beyond in keeping services running during this challenging time.

As part of our efforts to help the city recover from the impacts of Covid, we increased our budget for our City of Newport business grants to £300,000, allowing us to offer support to more businesses than ever.

We are particularly keen to help businesses who are innovative in areas that

improve wellbeing and economic fairness, such as helping to tackle climate change, addressing poverty, or reducing waste.

In terms of climate change, we have continued to make good progress in reducing our carbon emissions and I was delighted that we were recognised for this at the National Environmental Awards in November.

We have a long way to go to become carbon neutral, and we will set out what action we will take to achieve this in our finalised climate change plan, which we will be looking to publish in the next few months.

It has also been good to see major projects such as the new Devon Place bridge progressing nicely. Plans for a new leisure centre on the riverfront have also moved forward after being granted planning permission.

2022 promises to be an exciting time for Newport, and I wish you all the very best for the year ahead.

**Councillor Jane Mudd
Leader of the council**

WOULD YOU LIKE THE MAYOR TO ATTEND YOUR EVENT?

The Mayor of Newport represents and promotes the city of Newport.

Part of the role involves attending events which support and celebrate local people, charities and organisations.

If you would like to invite the mayor to an event, you can submit a request online or email mayors.office@newport.gov.uk

Please give at least three weeks' notice if possible.

For more information visit newport.gov.uk



Councillor Roger Jeavons, deputy leader of the council and cabinet member for city services, said:

"This fully accessible route will benefit many residents by enabling them to make more journeys within their community either on foot or by cycling."

"I'm especially pleased that it will provide safer routes to school for children living in the Llysaght Village development."

"Not only do walking and cycling improve people's health and well-being, but they also benefit the wider city by reducing the number of cars on our roads."

"This is why we are working hard to increase the active travel network so that our residents have more opportunities to walk or cycle."

ACTIVE TRAVEL UPDATE

Following a delay to allow for further works to be carried out, we opened our new active travel route at Monkey Island in November.

The new route provides a safe crossing link under the Southern Distributor Road for pedestrians and cyclists.

A new accessible ramp connects the pedestrian and cycle path on the northern side of the SDR bridge with a new path under the bridge.

This path leads off into the Llysaght Village housing estate, and from there to other commercial and residential links in Lliswerry.

The new route means that cyclists and pedestrians no longer need to use multiple road crossings to get from one side of the SDR to the other.



NEWPORT DOGS HOME WINS ANOTHER GOLD



Newport City Dogs Home won gold at the 2021 RSPCA Cymru PawPrint awards for their work with stray dogs.

This is the tenth year that the team have been recognised for the hard work they do looking after the dogs in their care.

PawPrints is an annual award scheme that recognises good practice from public bodies in relation to animal welfare. There are number of categories including; recognition for stray dog provision, animal licensing work, contingency planning and housing policies. Each category is judged on specific criteria and there are bronze, silver and gold standards in each.

This year has been particularly challenging for the team who have had to ensure care for the dogs and abide by the social distancing and COVID-19 restrictions.

Councillor Ray Truman, Cabinet Member for Regulatory Functions, said: *"Our staff work hard to ensure that any stray or unwanted dogs are well cared for and provided with the most suitable opportunity for their future care. I am very pleased that the efforts of the team have once again been recognised."*

For more information on the work undertaken by Newport City Dogs Home visit newport.gov.uk/newportdogshome



COUNCIL WARD CHANGES

Next May, Newport residents will go to the polls to select their representatives on the city council.



Changes will be made to some wards after the Welsh Government accepted the recommendations of the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales.

It means that the number of councillors will increase by one – from 50 to 51 members – and the number of wards will increase from 20 to 21.

Eleven of the current wards will remain the same.

The changes, which come into force for the next council elections in May 2022, include:

- **A new Rogerstone West ward to include Afon Village with two members**
- **Rogerstone East with one member**
- **Rogerstone North with one member**
- **Tredegar Park and Marshfield ward covering Coedkernew, Tredegar Park, Wentlooge, Marshfield and Michaelstone-y-Fedw with three members**
- **Stow Hill ward will now include the Mon Bank development**
- **Communities of Bishton, Langstone, Llanvaches and Penhow will combine to form the Bishton and Langstone Ward with two members**

- **Goldcliff, Llanwern, Nash and Redwick will form the Llanwern ward with one member**

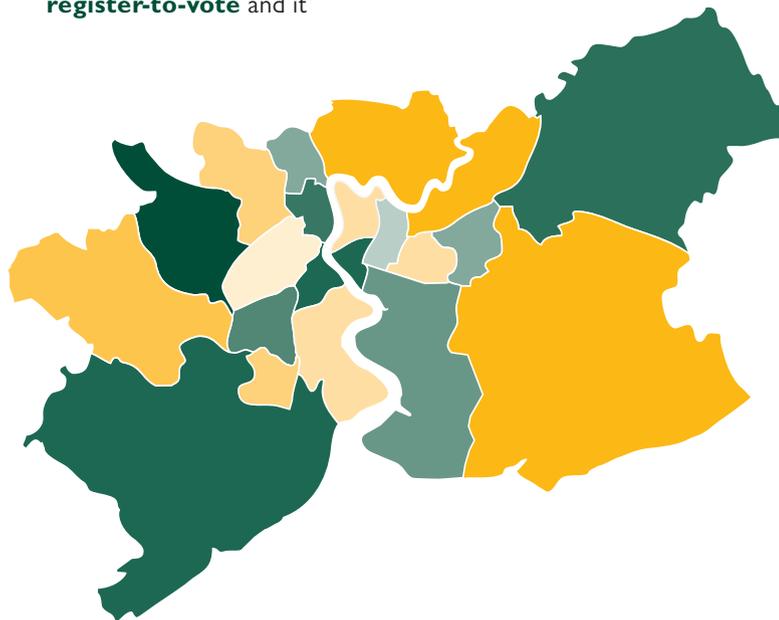
It is a legal requirement to be included on the electoral register and you cannot vote unless you are registered.

Registering online just takes five minutes at www.gov.uk/register-to-vote and it

helps if you have your National Insurance number to hand.

Alternatively, telephone **01633 210744** during office hours.

Find information about voting and the report on the ward boundary changes at newport.gov.uk/elections



UPDATED COMPLAINTS POLICY

The council has recently updated its compliments, comments and complaints policy in line with best practice recommended by the Public Services Ombudsman Wales.

Details of the new policy can be found under C in the A-Z section of the council website.

Alternative languages are available and Reachdeck, previously known as Browsealoud, is also available for text to voice translation, increasing the size of text and other features offering increased accessibility.

We welcome feedback and this can be done through the following channels:

- My Newport app on an android device or I-phone
- Online at newport.gov.uk
- Telephone **01633 656656**
- Write to Civic Centre, Godfrey Road, Newport, NP20 4UR

DEVON PLACE BRIDGE UPDATE

A lot of work has been carried out at the site of the new Devon Place bridge since the previous Newport Matters was issued.

The main bridge steel spans and column components were delivered in November and December to the site. Pro Steel Engineering of Pontypool have constructed the spans, delivering them to the site overnight due to their size.

Work to modify the overhead line equipment has also been completed. This has been lowered slightly to allow the bridge to sit above it.



At the time of going to press, the project team was preparing to install the spans over the railway line. This work was due to take place over the Christmas period to minimise any potential disruption.

Alun Griffiths Ltd, the principal contractors on the project, have continued to keep residents informed of any major period of works and road closures that were needed.

They have also been supporting local charities, making donations to Newport Samaritans and a Macmillan coffee morning, as well as making a food donation to Newport foodbank.

Both the council and Alun Griffiths would like to thank residents for their patience and cooperation while works remain ongoing.

ST JULIAN'S SCHOOL REMOVED FROM SPECIAL MEASURES

Following a recent monitoring inspection visit, St Julian's School has been removed from special measures.

Her Majesty's Inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales, Estyn has confirmed that the school has made sufficient progress and no longer requires this level of intervention.

Councillor Jane Mudd, leader of the council, said: "This is excellent news for the school and its students. A considerable amount of work has been done in partnership with the school – well done to staff, governors, pupils and the wider school community for their continued support and for making such positive progress."

Estyn's inspectors had previously placed the school in special measures and judged that standards were below what was expected.

The school has now shown progress again the recommendations made by Estyn including:

- Improvements to the quality and consistency of teaching, marking and assessment; a clear understanding of what successful learning should look like; teachers developing productive and positive working relationships with pupils; and the use of various teaching methods to maximise pupils' learning, progress and development of literacy skills.
- The headteacher has established a clear vision for the school based on the principles of consistency, high expectations and professionalism and these expectations are understood by staff.
- Throughout the Covid-19 pandemic, the school's primary

focus has been on supporting the wellbeing of its pupils and helping them to settle back into school after periods of lockdown. The school has continued its work to raise pupils' achievement and develop their skills, independence, and resilience. This has had a positive impact and supported suitable improvements in the standard of pupils' work.

Councillor Deb Davies, cabinet member for education and skills and chair of governors at the school, added: "We are incredibly pleased that Estyn could see the improvements made within the school, but we also acknowledge this is not the end of the story.

"Estyn is confident that St Julian's has the capacity to maintain the journey of improvement and that the local authority will continue to support the school as they implement their school development plan. This is a huge milestone for the school, and we are determined that the impetus and positive development will continue."

GREAT COMMUNITY IDEAS WIN FUNDING



Seven organisations will share more than £2.8 million from the UK Renewal Fund for exciting schemes that will benefit the city and its residents.

They range from making an area in the city greener and more sustainable to the developing a prototype digital health village.

Newport City Council coordinated the submission of bids to the fund and was delighted that seven were successful.

Ffilm Cymru Wales was awarded £858,642 for its Foot in the Door programme to deliver increased access to employment and skills training activity for 300 people in local communities, education providers and screen sector businesses.

Welsh Institute of Digital Information (WIDI) / University of South Wales will use their £745,617 to form a research and development centre at the university's city centre campus.

The project will consolidate research across three health boards,

prototype an online digital health village, maximise artificial intelligence in health and care services and incorporate WIDI's activity into a not-for-profit company.

An award of £408,642 was made to Volunteering Matters so the organisation can help individuals, from school leavers starting on the path to careers to older adults who need support to "level-up" their employment prospects.

TGP Cymru received £335,457 to develop and deliver opportunities for 16 to 25-year-olds who have

experienced care and are not in education, employment or training to improve their prospects of further education, training, employment, housing and support.

Business in Focus is proposing to use its £217,389 to deliver a Young Enterprise pilot in Newport that will engage with economically inactive young people, unemployed and part-time employed as well as women entrepreneurs.

Maindee Unlimited was awarded £176,480 for Greening Maindee. The project will undertake an options

appraisal to develop the area into a greener, more sustainable space and complement emerging proposals for active travel and rapid bus travel.

Last, but by no means least, Pobl Cymru received £60,741 for business support in Pillgwenlly. It will appoint a High Street manager to coordinate the rejuvenation of the high street.

The council will continue to support the delivery of all the projects and work with the organisations to ensure they meet their aims.

TOP CYCLING EVENT COMES TO THE CITY

Newport is due to host the HSBC UK National Track Championships for the first time later this month.

The prestigious event is scheduled to be held in the Geraint Thomas National Velodrome of Wales from 28 to 30 January.

It will be the first to take place outside of Manchester since 1994, with Britain's top riders battling it out for the coveted red, white and blue national champions' jerseys.

Councillor Jane Mudd, Leader of Newport City Council, said: "I am thrilled that Newport is hosting this prestigious sporting event and the participants, their support teams and spectators will be warmly welcomed."

For more information visit www.britishcycling.org.uk



ENDING PHYSICAL PUNISHMENT IN WALES

On 21 March 2022 the law is changing which means physically punishing children will be illegal in Wales.

The change in law does not create a new offence but it removes an old law to bring children's rights in line with those of adults - they cannot be "physically punished" in any setting, including their home, for their behaviour by any person.

It will not stop parents disciplining their children - there is a big difference between discipline and physical punishment. Parents can use alternatives to physical punishment as a means of maintaining discipline and addressing poor behaviour.

It will not interfere with a parent's ability to parent - parents can of course physically intervene to keep a child safe from harm.

Find out more about ending physical punishment in Wales and what it means on the Welsh Government website at gov.wales/ending-physical-punishment-children

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION GIVEN FREEDOM OF CITY

The Freedom of the City of Newport has been bestowed on the Royal British Legion.

In the words of the scroll, the Freedom of Entry was given in appreciation of the famous record and glorious traditions of loyal and devoted service to the country and in recognition of the long association between Newport and the RBL.



WASTE AND RECYCLING ROUND UP

GARDEN WASTE COLLECTIONS RETURN

Garden waste collections will resume 28 February 2022 following the winter break.

In the meantime green waste can be taken to the Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) in Docks Way for free collection. Flower cuts can be put in the food waste caddies with food waste.

To find out your collection date or to book a space at the HWRC visit newport.gov.uk/recycling



WHAT TO DO WITH SOFT PLASTIC PACKAGING

Wastesavers collect many different types of plastics in their kerbside collections but there are many are many types of thin plastic that cannot be collected.

These are known as soft plastics and include, plastic products - such as polythene wrapping; plastic-wrapped grocery produce (fresh and frozen); multipack shrink wrap; crisp and sweet bags; and pet food, detergent and cleaning pouches. All of which can be recycled at local recycling banks and supermarkets.

Why not make it a habit and drop your soft plastics off at your local supermarket when you do your weekly shop.

Find out more where you can recycle soft plastics on the Recycle Now website - www.recyclenow.com/what-to-do-with/plastic-film

KNOW YOUR DUTY OF CARE WHEN DISPOSING WASTE

Did you know, households have a legal responsibility to make sure any rubbish is disposed of correctly?

If rubbish is removed and it ends up being fly-tipped, the householder could be held responsible and fined.

Research carried out by Fly-tipping Action Wales suggests that 42% of householders in Wales remain unaware that they have a legal responsibility to check for a registered waste carrier when arranging excess rubbish removal from their home.

If a waste enforcement officer traces fly-tipped rubbish back to a householder that did not make these checks, then they risk a fine of up to £5,000 and prosecution.



Remember...

- Always ask to see a waste carrier's certificate and do not use waste contractors who won't show you an original certificate.
- Keep a record of the waste carrier's details in case they fly-tip your waste and it is traced back to you.
- Businesses must always get a copy of a waste transfer note from the person who takes the waste away.

To find a list of registered waste carriers visit www.naturalresources.wales/permits-and-permissions/ or www.fly-tippingactionwales.org.

RESIDENTS' EMAIL NEWSLETTER

Have you signed up for our residents newsletter yet?

We'll send you regular emails with the latest news and information from Newport City Council direct to your inbox.

We'll also let you know when there's big news or an event you might be interested in.

Subscribe to our mailing list at newport.gov.uk/signup

