

## COUNCIL WINS SECOND NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL AWARD

The council was a winner for the second year running at the National Environmental Awards.

The awards, in their second year, recognise the best in environmental and green efforts across Wales.

Having won outstanding organisation back in 2021, the council was awarded the best policy and practice in the public sector award at this year's ceremony.

The council was recognised for its efforts at cutting carbon emissions, as well as for the organisational climate change plan which sets out what the council will do to further reduce our emissions as it heads towards becoming a carbon-neutral organisation by 2030.



# THE NEWPORT FOOD FESTIVAL IS BACK!

The Newport Food Festival returns to the city in October after a two-year Covid-enforced absence.

On Saturday 8 October, the city centre streets will once again become a hive of activity and tasty treats.

There will be plenty of food stalls as traders showcase the best in food and drink from across the city and the wider region.

As well as the stalls, the newly refurbished Newport Market will be playing host to local chefs putting on special demonstrations throughout the day.

There will also be a full programme of activities taking place across the festival site, including face-painting and roaming street theatre.

Since the first event back in 2010, the festival has become a highlight of the Welsh food festival scene, with traders considering it a key date in their calendar.

Commenting on the festival's return, Councillor Jane Mudd, leader of the council, said: "I'm very excited to see the return of the Newport Food Festival after an unavoidable hiatus.

"The festival has attracted fantastic producers and suppliers both from the local area and slightly further afield, and many thousands of visitors since its inception in 2010.

"I know it has been sorely missed and its return will be welcomed by all those who appreciate great food, a great atmosphere and a great day out."

Entry to the festival, which begins at 9am, is free.

The council is grateful for support from this year's partners/sponsors: Newport NOW, Newport Live, and Newport Market, and from our patron Hywel Jones.



## CITY CENTRE POP-UP LIBRARY

A unit in nearby Kingsway Centre has been transformed into a colourful and welcoming pop-up library while work takes place on the Central Library,

### Museum and Art Gallery in John Frost Square.

In August, it hosted StoryTrails, part of UNBOXED: Creativity in the UK, as part of the country's largest immersive storytelling experience.

Using digital experiences, it told fascinating tales of Newport people and places.

One, about a Windrush family who used their passion and drive to become central to their adopted community, was told in a completely new way through an augmented reality trail.

The StoryTrails app is available on the App Store and Google Play. Visit [story-trails.com](http://story-trails.com) for more information.



# MAP DIRECTS RESIDENTS TO SUPPORT



**Your Newport is a new tool that can help residents find a wide range of activities and services to help enhance their health and wellbeing.**

Communities have faced a lot of pressure over the last two years and the Newport integrated wellbeing network team wants to support people in ways that work for them.

The online map can connect people to clubs, support groups, activities and much more

On the map you'll find all the information you need to take part in activities or to ask for help.

You can use the search bar to find services, activities and organisations or click on a map pin to reveal more information on a dedicated listings page.

Listings range from the Active Living Centre to Youth Futures and have a wealth of data to help people of all different ages and backgrounds find something of interest.

Integrated wellbeing networks are about working together better, and more effectively, to continue to improve the health and wellbeing of communities.

Aneurin Bevan University Health Board is working with a range of partners, including the council, to support and strengthen the wellbeing of residents.

Find Your Newport at [yournewport.co.uk](http://yournewport.co.uk)

## FIRST SODS CUT AS TRANSPORTER BRIDGE TRANSFORMATION PROJECT BEGINS

**A £16m project to transform the Newport Transporter Bridge into a major tourist attraction got underway last month.**

Councillor Jane Mudd, leader of the council, led the celebrations at a sod-cutting ceremony at the bridge site to mark the start of work to build a new visitor centre.

The Friends of Newport Transporter Bridge are fundraising for the project and presented a generous £20,000 donation for the project to Councillor Mudd at the event.

The project will also see extensive restoration work carried out on the

bridge to ensure its preservation for future generations.

Councillor Mudd said: "I was delighted to welcome colleagues and visitors to our celebration of the project and of our fabulous Transporter Bridge.

"Transforming the site into a major tourist attraction will bring cultural and economic benefits to the city. It will enable us to showcase the bridge to a much larger audience, and ensure future generations will be able to enjoy this unique structure in the same way previous generations have."

Residents will be able to keep up to date with progress through a series of behind-the-scenes videos, and the project team will also be developing an outreach programme 'Beyond the Bridge', which will engage with local communities and organisations.

Further updates on both of these initiatives will be shared through both the Transporter Bridge social media channels, and the council's communications channels.



## GET DIGITALLY SAVVY WITH NEWPORT COMMUNITY LEARNING

September sees the start of the new round of adult community learning courses for 2022/2023.

This year people can enrol on courses to develop their digital skills - whether a complete novice or to gain a new skill, there's a course for everyone!

For the complete beginner, the Computers Don't Bite course will show learners how to switch a computer on, build confidence and get to grip with the basics of using a personal computer.

For those who are looking for courses to improve their job prospects, the ICDL Level 1 and

Level 2 courses are perfect and are recommended and endorsed by employers. Both courses include word processing, spreadsheet and presentation modules.

Also on offer is a course on how to stay safe online - how to search and find information on the internet and how to be creative using a computer, tablet or smart phone - a must in today's digital world.

To find out more about the courses available and to enrol visit [newport.gov.uk/communitylearning](http://newport.gov.uk/communitylearning)

## The Riverfront Theatre and Arts Centre



Book your tickets | Archebwch eich tocynnau

the riverfront glan y afon

[newportlive.co.uk/Riverfront](http://newportlive.co.uk/Riverfront)

## Theatr a Chanolfan Gelfyddydau Glan yr Afon

NEWPORT LIVE CASNEWYDD

# FREE SCHOOL MEALS FOR ALL INFANT PUPILS



## Every child in reception, year 1 and year 2 is now being offered a free school meal.

Thanks to Welsh Government funding, councils across Wales are extending the availability of free school meals, beginning with their youngest learners. The aim is that every primary school pupil will be able to have a free school meal by 2024.

Councillor Jane Mudd, leader of Newport City Council, said: "This is an amazing commitment

that will benefit so many young people in Wales. We are very proud to be rolling this out ahead of schedule and exceeding the targets set by Welsh Government. We made that promise to the people of Newport so we could help as many children as quickly as possible, and we are delivering.

"There is no doubt the positive impact this will have on families and our education environment and we will do everything we can to extend this to our junior classes as soon as we can."

Councillor Deb Davies, cabinet member for education and early years, added: "There is so much evidence that shows that young people learn better when they are fed and full. We've been pushing this message for several years and breakfast clubs have made a real difference, but this will take it to a different level.

"There are challenges facing many families at the moment, so this will lift some of those worries and ensure our youngest learners are content and ready to enjoy and engage in their education."

## How will my child receive these meals?

Pupils will be able to access meals directly through their school. You do not have to apply to receive a free school meal.

## What other support is available?

Families that would have traditionally qualified for free school meals can still access additional support including uniform grants, discounts on trips and additional school funding.

Councillor Davies added: "It is very important that, if you do receive certain benefits, you still get in touch with the council as there is a lot more support available to you."

If your child was already receiving free school meals (prior to September 2022) your eligibility for the additional support will be checked without the need for you to reapply.

If your circumstances have changed and you believe you may now be entitled to additional support, please make an application.

## Children in year 3 and above

Paid-for school meals will continue as normal. Plans to roll-out free school meals to all junior children will be announced as soon as possible.

If your child was already receiving free school meals (prior to September 2022) these will be automatically rolled over into the new academic year.

If your circumstances have changed and you believe you may now be entitled to free school meals and additional support, please make an application.

For more information on the free school meals scheme and to apply for extra support visit [newport.gov.uk/schoolmeals](http://newport.gov.uk/schoolmeals) or call **01633 656656**.

## SCHOOL PLACES FOR 2023 - MAKE SURE YOU KNOW WHEN TO APPLY

School admission timetables are published the summer of the year before a child is due to start school - it is important that parents make note of the application deadlines and apply within the relevant timeframe.

The next round of applications will open for 2023 secondary school places on 21 September 2022 with a closing date of 23 November 2022. Applications for 2023 reception places will open on 2 November 2022.

Parents can choose any school they want their child to attend and the council will try to meet that preference where places are available.

However, in many areas of Newport, the demand for school places is particularly high and there are

often more applications received than there are places available.

Parents are advised to read the individual school admissions policy and express a preference for at least three different schools in order to increase the chance of getting a place that they are happy with. A preference for the catchment school will receive priority but this does not guarantee a place.

For more information on how and when to apply visit [newport.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://newport.gov.uk/schooladmissions)

If your child was born between:	Make an application for:	Apply from:	Closing date:
1 Sept 2018 and 31 Aug 2019	Reception 2023	2 Nov 2022	5pm 11 Jan 2023
1 Sept 2011 and 31 Aug 2012	Secondary 2023	21 Sept 2022	5pm 23 Nov 2022

\* There's only one application window for nursery, from which both September and Rising 3 places will be allocated, where available



Geraint Thomas  
NATIONAL VELODROME OF WALES  
FELODROM CENEDLAETHOL CYMRU

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01633 656757

NEWPORT LIVE  
CASNEWYDD FYW

# HELP FOR PEOPLE SLEEPING ROUGH



**Newport City Council and its partners are committed to tackling homelessness and rough sleeping.**

A “hand-up rather than a hand-out” approach is preferred.

In the summer months, the number of people sleeping out traditionally increases and this year is no exception. For a minority of people, this represents a personal choice.

People who sleep rough can have complex and chaotic lives, and can be extremely vulnerable, but help is available, and offered, to all.

A directory of services and details about the Street Links app, which people can use to raise a concern about a rough sleeper, can be found at [newport.gov.uk/homelessness](http://newport.gov.uk/homelessness)

For several months, homeless people or people at risk of being homeless have been able to receive specialist support from a range of organisations in a city centre outreach hub.

Initially set up to offer alternative long-term solutions to those people who were begging on the streets, it has been extended to assist all those sleeping rough and people at risk of rough sleeping.

**The weekly sessions bring together organisations that offer dedicated and specialist services to homeless people in the city including:**

- **Charities The Wallich** [www.thewallich.com](http://www.thewallich.com) and **Eden Gate** [www.eden-gate.org.uk](http://www.eden-gate.org.uk)
- **GDAS (Gwent Drug and Alcohol Service)** [www.gdas.wales](http://www.gdas.wales)
- **NHS mental health staff**
- **Newport City Council’s housing and supporting people teams**
- **Pobl** [www.poblgroup.co.uk](http://www.poblgroup.co.uk)
- **Horizon Sexual Violence Services** [www.horizonsvs.org.uk](http://www.horizonsvs.org.uk)

Together the services help people understand and address their needs, whether that is homelessness and housing, addiction, mental health issues or difficulties accessing facilities and services.

Advice can also be given to those who are concerned about someone they know.



Since the hub opened at the beginning of December, accommodation has been found for a number of people, many others have been helped to access services and several have received advice on their housing issues.

## FINE FOR FELLING PROTECTED TREES

**Cutting down trees in a protected woodland cost the owner £21,690 following a successful prosecution by Newport City Council.**

Officers investigated after becoming aware that trees covered by a Tree Protection Order in the west of the city had been felled without permission.

Councillor Yvonne Forsey, cabinet member for climate change and biodiversity, said: “I’m pleased that this investigation into illegal tree

falling has resulted in a successful prosecution and a significant fine.

“It demonstrates that we take such incidents very seriously. Trees are protected for very good reasons and their importance to the environment is well known so there is no excuse for blatantly disregarding TPOs.”

Councillor James Clarke, cabinet member for strategic planning, regulation and housing, said: “This was an excellent example of departments working together. In this case planning, countryside and legal officers combined to achieve this satisfactory result.

“Although, sadly, those trees are now lost, I hope this case sends a message to others that TPOs should not be ignored or there will be consequences.”



## NEWPORT’S EDUCATIONAL WINNERS



**A teacher and a school in the city triumphed in this year’s Professional Teaching Awards Cymru 2022.**

Holly Gordon (pictured), of Ysgol Bryn Derw ASD special school, was named outstanding new teacher.

She was described as an inspiration who works incredibly hard to connect with each pupil she reaches and understands their very specific additional learning needs.

Llanwern High School received the Betty Campbell MBE award for promoting the contributions and perspectives of Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic Communities.

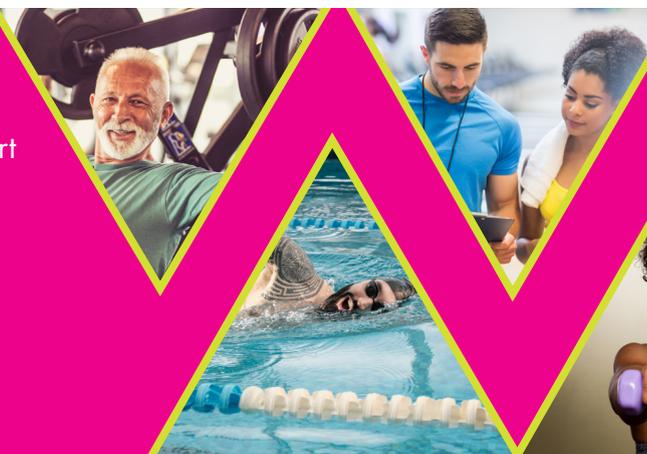
The school was praised for fostering a feeling of belonging and showing a true commitment to celebrating diversity.

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# 20MPH TO BECOME DEFAULT SPEED IN RESIDENTIAL AREAS



the changes come into force in around a year's time.

There are some roads that will remain at 30mph. These roads will be signed in the same way that roads with higher speed limits are now.

Any speed signs currently in place indicating a 20mph limit will be removed.

There will be no signs in place to remind you of the speed limit where it is the default. This is the same as it currently is in 30mph limits.

Work will be undertaken across Newport between now and this date to prepare for the change.

This includes removing the 20mph and 30mph roundel markings from the road.

These markings are advisory and not required for the enforcement of speed limits, so can be removed prior to the rollout.

**Welsh Government consider that reducing the speed limit from 30mph to 20mph on restricted roads could see many benefits. These include:**

- ✓ Helping to improve our health and wellbeing
- ✓ Making our streets safer
- ✓ Safeguarding the environment for future generations
- ✓ Reducing road collisions
- ✓ More opportunities to walk and cycle in our communities

We are working with Welsh government and they will be publishing maps for each council area detailing which roads will default to 20mph and which roads will stay at 30mph.

We will let residents know when this map is available to view.

Visit our 20mph webpage at [newport.gov.uk/20mph](http://newport.gov.uk/20mph) for more information.

**From 17 September 2023, Welsh Government will introduce a new 20mph default speed for all restricted roads in Wales.**

These are roads with streetlights no more than 200 yards apart, usually located in residential and built-up areas.

Once the new law comes into force, all restricted roads will default from 30mph to 20mph. This means that the maximum speed you can legally travel at on these roads will be 20mph.

Wales will become the first country in the UK to adopt a default speed of 20mph when

## NEXT STAGE FOR COLEG GWENT CAMPUS PLAN

**Newport City Council and Coleg Gwent's exciting proposal to create a city centre campus providing first-class further education facilities is taking another step forward.**

A pre-planning consultation was held prior to an outline application being jointly submitted by both organisations.

It is intended that the city centre campus will be built on the site of the existing Newport Centre and a new state-of-the-art leisure centre will be built on a nearby brownfield site by the riverfront to replace the ageing Newport Centre.



## NEWPORT VETERAN WINS TOP AWARD



**Wales Veterans Awards are held to celebrate achievements by veterans throughout the year and David Watkins, of Newport Veterans Hub, was named volunteer of the year.**

David set up Newport Veterans Hub as a social and support group in 2019. He was inspired to create the hub because of his own personal experiences and challenges.

Thanks to his hard work, the hub now offers a range of services including, weekly drop-ins with access to wide-ranging support and advice, family access to gym/sports facilities through Newport Live, mental health first aid and many more services.

There are now over 20 veterans volunteering at the hub, supporting members of the armed forces community in Newport.

The awards ceremony was attended by council leader Councillor Jane Mudd and armed forces and veterans champion Councillor Mark Spencer.

Councillor Mudd said: "This well-deserved award reflects the brilliant work that David has achieved in the community and across Newport for veterans."

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# COULD YOU GIVE A CHILD A LOVING HOME?

We want to make better, brighter futures for children

We need foster families

If you foster with us:

- Our team will be with you every step of the way
- You'll receive financial and practical support
- The skills and expertise of the entire team will be at your disposal

We don't ignore the past, but our focus is on the present and the future.

fostering@newport.gov.uk  
01633 210272

We need families who will understand what a child may have been through including those who have come into the country without anyone to look after them.

foster wales | maethu cymru  
Newport | Caseruydd



**Foster Wales Newport is always looking for people who can offer a child a safe and loving home.**

We need a diverse range of foster carers as children come from many different backgrounds and we also would like to hear from those who can welcome teenagers.

Foster Wales Newport is part of a national network of Welsh local authority fostering services.

We believe in working together, sharing knowledge and building better futures for children – together.

Children's Commissioner for Wales Rocio Cifuentes has recently given her support for our campaign to recruit more foster carers from an ethnic minority background.

*"Fostering is a vital service that can provide a safe and loving environment for the most vulnerable children," she said.*

*"Children entering the care system are from a wide variety of backgrounds, and so it's important that we have a diverse range of prospective foster carers as well.*

*"For a child going through what can be an unsettling and stressful experience, a foster family who understands their cultural background, speaks their first language, or practices their religion can make a big difference in making that child feel safe and secure.*

*"Families come in all shapes, sizes, colours and cultures, and so should foster families – I encourage anyone who is thinking about fostering to come forward as there are children from diverse backgrounds in need of that support."*

Local authority fostering is not for profit – here for children, not for shareholders – and that's why we need more local people to foster for us.

Our friendly team would love to hear from you and answer any questions you have.

You find out more at **fosterwales.newport.gov.uk**, email [fostering@newport.gov.uk](mailto:fostering@newport.gov.uk) or call 01633 210272.

**Take that first small step and you could make a huge difference to a child's life.**

## GREEN FLAGS RAISED AGAIN IN TWO NEWPORT PARKS

Two of Newport's biggest parks are celebrating once again after retaining their Green Flag status for 2022/23.

Beechwood Park and Belle Vue Park have been recognised by Keep Wales Tidy for their excellent visitor facilities, high environmental standards, and commitment to delivering great quality green space.

This will be the sixteenth consecutive year that Belle Vue has been awarded Green Flag status, while Beechwood is celebrating its fifth consecutive award.

A third council managed site, Gwent Crematorium, has also

retained its Green Flag status for the sixth year in a row.

The Green Flag awards are a UK-wide scheme which recognise and reward well-managed parks and green spaces.

Councillor Yvonne Forsey, cabinet member for climate change and biodiversity, said: "I'm delighted that our three sites have retained their Green Flag status.

"Once again these awards are a

recognition of our officers' hard work and dedication in managing our green spaces, and making them as welcoming and environmentally friendly as possible.

*"We recognise the value to residents of high-quality outdoor spaces, places they can connect with nature and their local community. That's why we have committed an extra £2.5m from this year's budget to improve our parks and green spaces, as well as £300,000 over the next two years for maintenance of play areas and equipment."*



## CYCLE STORAGE COMING TO CITY CENTRE

Look out for a new cycle storage unit coming to Skinner Street.

Spoke Safe Newport, managed by the charity Gap Wales, will offer Newport's first 24/7 securely monitored city centre cycle storage facility.

At the time of going to press, the unit was almost ready to open.

Search 'Spoke Safe Newport' for more information.



## 2022 ABP NEWPORT WALES MARATHON AND 10K RESCHEDULED

Event organisers Run 4 Wales (R4W) have announced that the 2022 ABP Newport Wales Marathon and 10K, due to take place on Sunday 23 October 2022, has been rescheduled.

It will now return to its regular spring slot in the running calendar on Sunday 16 April 2023.

Run 4 Wales Chief Executive, Matt Newman, explains the decision: "As the sector resets itself following the impact of the pandemic, the new date will provide an opportunity to relaunch the event, remove a number of operational risks which arise from the late October date and ensure a high-quality event experience can be delivered."

"Moving the event out of the congested autumn running calendar gives us the time and opportunity to work alongside Newport City Council and other potential partner organisations with a view to growing the event."

"We apologise to everyone who had signed up for the event and hope you understand that a return to the pre-pandemic date is in the best interests of both the participants and the key stakeholders."

Leader of Newport City Council, Councillor Jane Mudd commented: "We completely understand Run 4 Wales' decision and recognise the legacies and ongoing challenges the pandemic continues to pose for all manner of events. The most important thing for us is that this amazing event comes back stronger than ever, and we will do everything we can to support that."

For more information visit [newportwalesmarathon.co.uk](http://newportwalesmarathon.co.uk)

