

**NM**  
**NEWPORT**  
**MATTERS**

The official newspaper of Newport City Council



**NEW BUS STATION  
OPENS AT  
FRIARS WALK**  
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# BUDGET SAVINGS PROPOSALS - HAVE YOUR SAY



**In December 2015, Newport City Council received confirmation that it would be facing a reduction in its 2016/17 Welsh Government revenue settlement grant. This is the budget awarded to councils, enabling them to deliver their services. It accounts for roughly 80 per cent of the council's overall budget, with the remainder coming from council tax and other grants and charges.**

The UK Government's austerity programme continues to cause difficulties with the provision of council services.

It is the fifth year that Newport City Council has faced a reduction and although it was expected, the size of the reduction was not as large as feared. Newport's revenue settlement was reduced by 0.7 per cent, equating to a total grant of £209 million. However, it still leaves the council in the position of having to make further budget cuts to balance its budget for the forthcoming financial year.

The Cabinet of Newport City Council met in December and considered budget savings proposals as it looks to save almost £11 million in the next financial year. Consultation with residents on the proposals is now taking place, with the options valuing nearly £4.5 million.

Leader of the Council, Councillor Bob Bright said:

*"Despite our Welsh Government settlement being better than expected, we still have to make substantial savings in the forthcoming*

*financial year. That is why we will be consulting with our residents on our entire budget saving proposals – including those developed when we thought the Welsh Government grant cut would impact more.*

*"Next year's improved settlement figure from Welsh Government means we can also focus on some of the positive investments the council is making in the city.*

*"It goes without saying that the education of our young people and the protection of the most vulnerable will always be prioritised.*

*"Our budget consultation will run from Friday 18 December until Friday 22 January and I would encourage our residents to take part and provide us with their views.*

*"The council has to balance its books while at the same time maintaining investment in major projects and vital services. It is important that we share this challenge with our residents and listen to their concerns and suggestions."*

Have your say by going to **[www.newport.gov.uk/haveyoursay](http://www.newport.gov.uk/haveyoursay)**



► This and top front cover image courtesy of South Wales Argus

# NEW BUS STATION ARRIVES IN STYLE

**The Friars Walk section of Newport Central Bus Station opened to passengers on Friday 11 December, offering a full range of bus services in one location for Newport passengers.**

Services ran across Newport from this date from the bays numbered 1 to 15, at the rear of the Debenhams store in Friars Walk,

with other services in bays 16 to 25 continuing to operate from Upper Dock Street, at the front of Newport Market.

The completed Newport Central Bus Station is now used by several operators including Newport Transport, Cardiff Bus, NAT, Stagecoach and First Bus from 25 bays. This means passengers can quickly and conveniently

change between local, regional and national services.

This new facility has proved an instant hit with commuters, with thousands of passengers using the new integrated bus station every day.

The buses arriving from the range of operators at the bus station are bringing passengers

in from across Newport, the Valleys and as far afield as Cardiff and Bristol.

Newport Central Bus Station is perfectly placed for commuters to enjoy the full range of leisure and retail facilities in the city centre, including exploring the city's thriving independent retail sector and the vibrant and historic Newport Market full of passionate local traders.

## TINY REBEL RETURNS TO THE CITY CENTRE



**Following the roaring success of their pop-up bar in May 2015 in the newly refurbished Newport Market, Tiny Rebel Brewery has returned to the city centre with the opening of their bar, the Urban Tap House.**

The bar features Tiny Rebel's award-winning beers as well as latest releases and guest ales from breweries from around the world.

## BETTWS BY-ELECTION

**The new councillor for the Bettws ward of Newport City Council is Janet Elizabeth Cleverly, who stood as an Independent councillor.**

Councillor Cleverly is replacing Noel Trigg who has retired due to ill health.

Cllr Cleverly, a former youth and community worker, won the seat with 336 votes.

Runner up was Glynn Kenneth Jarvis with 294 votes. Mr Jarvis stood as a Welsh Labour party candidate.

Third was Jason Alan Jordan who stood as an Independent and gained 275 votes.

The other candidates were Paul Gordon L'Allier who stood for the Welsh Liberal Democrats (7 votes); Peter Ashley Cifford Varley who stood for the Wales Green Party (29 votes) and Lewis Craig Williams who was the Welsh Conservative Party candidate (114 votes).

Councillor Cleverly has lived in Bettws for more than 40 years and is well known to many residents through her past work with community youth groups.

If anyone has any issues they would like to raise with Cllr Cleverly please email her at [janet.cleverly@newport.gov.uk](mailto:janet.cleverly@newport.gov.uk)

## FUNDING FOR BRIGHT IDEAS IN RURAL NEWPORT

**A pot of £2.79million is now available to support inspirational ideas which will boost the local economy and improve life in the rural wards of Newport and Monmouthshire, known as the Vale of Usk.**

Groups with ideas for new projects are encouraged to get in touch straight away to see if they could be eligible.

The backing for this is funded through the Welsh Government Rural Communities Rural Development Programme 2014 – 2020, which is funded by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the Welsh Government.

It is available until 2020 for the Vale of Usk, a region defined by the rural wards of Monmouthshire (which have benefitted from RDP funding for the past 14 years) and the rural Newport wards of Llanwern and Marshfield, able to benefit for the first time.

(Funds can also benefit Monmouthshire's market towns and the Newport wards of Graig, Caerleon and Langstone.)

Community groups and business partnerships will be able to apply for up to 80 per cent of eligible costs – development costs which might include expert advice, training, research and pilot projects.

Groups with innovative ideas needing funding are invited to get in touch to find out if they are eligible and how to apply. Groups are also strongly encouraged to start discussions early to ensure their developing ideas support the project's masterplan and the Vale of Usk Local Development Strategy, which can be found on the website visit [www.valeofusk.org](http://www.valeofusk.org)

For more information phone **01633 748311** or email: [zarabligh@monmouthshire.gov.uk](mailto:zarabligh@monmouthshire.gov.uk)



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government



# COACH OF THE YEAR AWARD FOR BETTWS WOMAN

**The hard work of a Newport woman who works tirelessly to ensure more people from black, minority and ethnic (BME) backgrounds take part in sport has been honoured.**

Angeline Tshiyane won Community Coach of the Year at the 2015 BBC Wales Sport Awards and was presented with her trophy by Christian Malcolm, the retired Newport sprinter.

Angeline said she was shocked to receive her award and thanked everyone who had supported her.

She said: "I'd like to see a lot more people from a BME background being included in sport and participating in sport."

Angeline, 52, a care worker from Bettws, established the Njuzu Community Swimming Group and has helped set up a female only BME walking group plus other groups helping people from BME backgrounds.

## M&S IS BACK



**Marks & Spencer have returned to the city centre with the opening of the M&S Foodhall Newport at Friars Walk.**

Over 50 jobs have been created at the store, including new members of staff as well as individuals who have relocated from other M&S stores.

M&S Foodhall Newport is 5,500 sq.ft. in size and enjoys a prized location bordering John Frost Square.

The store boasts a wide variety of quality food and drink lines, including fresh meat, fish and poultry, as well as seasonal fresh produce. It also has an in-store bakery.

Shoppers can also use a food ordering service and the 'Shop Your Way' service, giving customers the choice to order from the M&S catalogue in-store or online, with free next day in-store delivery and collection.

## GOLD ACCOLADES FOR NEWPORT ATTRACTIONS

**Two of Newport's most popular tourist attractions have received Gold accolades for their excellent facilities and customer service.**

Tredegar House and the RSPB Newport Wetlands Environmental, Education and Visitor Centre were among the winners of Visit Wales' new attraction accolades scheme for 2016.

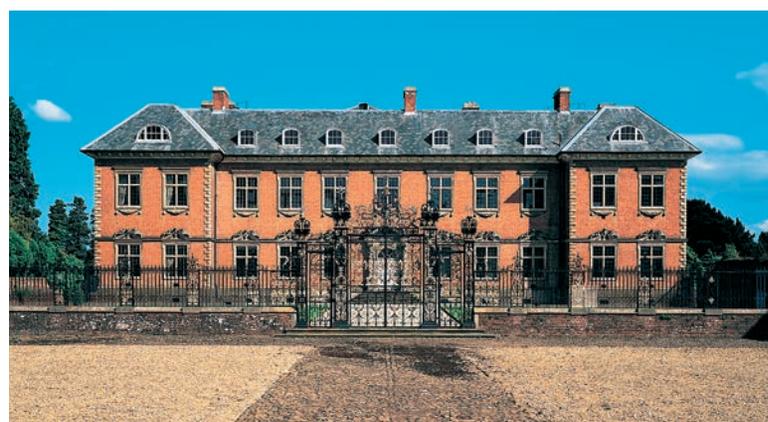
These accolades are for attractions which are already part of the Visit Wales' Visitor Attractions Quality Scheme but who make an exceptional effort to create an enjoyable and memorable experience for their visitors.

The Deputy Minister for Culture Sport and Tourism, Ken Skates said:

"Wales has such a wealth and range of attractions and things to do, our visitors are spoilt for choice.

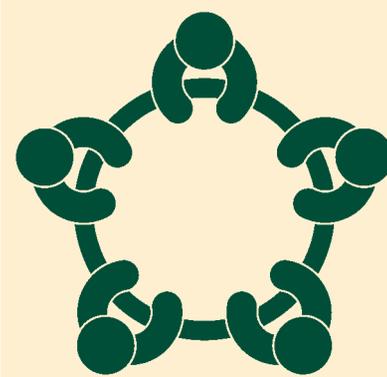
"This new scheme will both reward those attractions which go the extra mile and also give visitors more information on what makes some of our attractions extra special and will also highlight some less well known gems.

"I'd like to congratulate all the 2016 winners and we hope that these accolades will drive further improvements in visitor experience throughout Wales."



## CONSULTATION ON EQUALITY OBJECTIVES

**Newport City Council is currently in the process of updating its Equality Plan.**



The plan focusses upon eight objectives including equalities, Welsh language and human rights and how the council will ensure they are embedded in the way they deliver services. To have your say on the council's equality objectives, visit the council's 'have your say' webpage where you will find consultation on the council's budget and equality objectives.



## INTEREST IN HIGH STREET ON THE UP

**The opening of Friars Walk has catapulted Newport from 198 to 90 in a list of top UK shopping destinations.**

This catalyst for positive change has seen the city's catchment area for customers almost double from 226,000 to 442,000 overnight – the opening weekend of Friars Walk saw 350,000 people come back to Newport.

The upturn in footfall has seen benefits throughout the city centre, including High Street. Following a £1million investment in Newport Market, many new businesses have seized the opportunity to trade in this area including Tiny Rebel, Slipping Jimmy's and Pretentious Burger. All will benefit from the footfall from commuters, plus the thousands of staff based in the nearby offices of Admiral and Seren Group.

The council is also delivering further investment in this area from the £60million Vibrant and Viable Places (VVP) project with residential accommodation being built above the shops of Griffin Island. The transformation of the former Kings Hotel into apartments and Yate's Wine Lodge into a Premier Inn will both reach fruition early in 2016, bringing even more customers back to High Street.

## WELSH GOVERNMENT PLANS FOR NEW CURRICULUM

**The Welsh Government has chosen more than 120 schools across the country to take part in an overhaul of the school curriculum.**

This includes ten Newport schools which will be part of the 'Pioneer Schools Network'. Schools included in the network will design and develop a new curriculum for Wales; support schools in preparing for its implementation; and provide practitioners with professional learning opportunities throughout their careers.

As part of their work, Pioneer Schools will also consider workload issues in our schools. Over time the Pioneer Schools will come together to support all schools in Wales

to implement the vision set out in the Donaldson report, entitled 'Successful Futures'.

Newport schools involved in the Pioneer Schools Network include; Eveswell, Glan Usk, Malpas Court, Malpas Park, St Mary's RC, St Julians, Millbrook, and Langstone Primary schools as well as St Joseph's RC High School and Duffryn High School.

The new curriculum for Wales will be developed over the next 3 years. Schools will have some flexibility in determining how and when they first begin teaching of the new curriculum.

The Welsh Government's ambition is that by 2021 schools will be using the new curriculum to underpin teaching and learning for children and young people aged 3-16.

Four purposes will underpin all decisions during the development of the curriculum. Their aims are to support our children and young people to be:

- ambitious, capable learners ready to learn throughout their lives
- enterprising, creative contributors, ready to play a full part in life and work
- ethical, informed citizens of Wales and the world
- healthy, confident individuals, ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society.

The curriculum will be organised into six areas of learning and experience. These are:

- Expressive arts
- Health and well-being
- Humanities (including RE which should remain compulsory to age 16)
- Languages, literacy and communication (including Welsh, which should remain compulsory to age 16, and modern foreign languages)

- Mathematics and numeracy
- Science and technology (including computer science).

**Below are the high level key milestones...**

**2015 – 2016:** Pioneer Network established

**2015 – 2018:** Design and development phase of the new curriculum

**September 2016:** Digital Competence Framework available

**2017 – 2021:** Practical support to schools to prepare for the new curriculum

**September 2018:** New curriculum and assessment arrangements available

**September 2021:** New curriculum and assessment arrangements in place

For info email: [Curriculumforwales@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Curriculumforwales@wales.gsi.gov.uk)

## APPLYING FOR A NURSERY PLACE IN 2016



**Your child is entitled to a free part-time nursery place in the term after their third birthday.**

You can apply for a community or council maintained nursery from Friday 8 January 2016 until the closing date 29 February 2016.

To apply visit [www.newport.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.newport.gov.uk/schooladmissions)

For any queries or questions please contact the school admissions team on **01633 656656** or email [school.admissions@newport.gov.uk](mailto:school.admissions@newport.gov.uk)

Additional nurseries may be available for September 2016, please check the council's website for further updates

[www.newport.gov.uk/nurseryplaces](http://www.newport.gov.uk/nurseryplaces)



Internet access is available at all Newport libraries and is free for the first hour. For assistance with your online application visit Newport Information Station at:

**Old Station Building, Queensway, Newport NP20 4AX**



## THE WELSH LANGUAGE STANDARDS – BETTER SERVICES FOR WELSH SPEAKERS IN NEWPORT



**Newport City Council staff are busy preparing for the first milestone of the rollout of the Welsh Language Standards. The standards give Welsh speakers the right to use Welsh with us, and the council is changing the way it works to make this easy and reliable for Welsh speakers.**

By the end of March 2016 we will all be greeting the public with a confident 'bore da' or 'prynhawn da,' (as well as good morning and good afternoon)

when you telephone or visit us. We will do our best to deal with your enquiry in Welsh, but should a Welsh speaker not be available we will call you back in Welsh or arrange a visit.

You can talk to us in Welsh at the city contact centre on **01633 656656** and at the Information Station on Queensway (the former railway ticket office). Please let us know if you have any problems getting services in Welsh and we'll do our best to improve.

## Y SAFONAU IAITH GYMRAEG - GWELL GWASANAETHAU I SIARADWYR CYMRAEG YNG NGHASNEWYDD



**Mae staff y Cyngor Dinas Casnewydd yn brysur yn paratoui ar gyfer carreg filltir gyntaf yn y broses o gyflwyno'r Safonau Iaith Gymraeg. Mae'r safonau yn rhoi'r hawl i siaradwyr Cymraeg ddefnyddio'r Gymraeg gyda ni ac mae'r cyngor yn newid y ffordd y mae'n gweithio i wneud hyn yn hawdd a dibynadwy ar gyfer siaradwyr Cymraeg.**

Erbyn diwedd mis Mawrth 2016 byddwn oll yn cyfarch y cyhoedd gyda 'bore da' neu 'prynhawn da' hyderus (yn ogystal â good morning

a good afternoon) pan fyddwch yn ein ffonio neu'n ymweld â ni. Gwnewn ein gorau i ddelio â'ch ymholiad yn Gymraeg, ond os nad oes siaradwr Cymraeg ar gael, byddwn yn eich ffonio'n ôl yn Gymraeg neu drefnu ymweliad.

Gallwch siarad â ni yn Gymraeg yng nghanolfan gyswilt y ddinas ar **01633 656656** ac yng Ngorsaf Gwybodaeth Queensway (y swyddfa docynnau rheilffordd gynt). Rhowch wybod i ni os oes gennych unrhyw broblemau i gael gwasanaethau yn Gymraeg a byddwn yn gwneud ein gorau i wella.

# NEW POWERS PASSED FOR A SAFER CITY CENTRE

**The council has approved a public space protection order (PSPO) aimed at improving people's city centre experience by tackling behaviour that undermines it.**

Following public consultation and careful consideration by the council, a city centre PSPO has been approved which now includes five measures to prohibit behaviour that can have a detrimental effect on the quality of life of people (residents, visitors, shoppers, businesses) using the city centre.

This means the following are now offences in the city centre:

1. Refusing to stop drinking alcohol, or hand over containers of alcohol, when required to do so by an authorised officer.

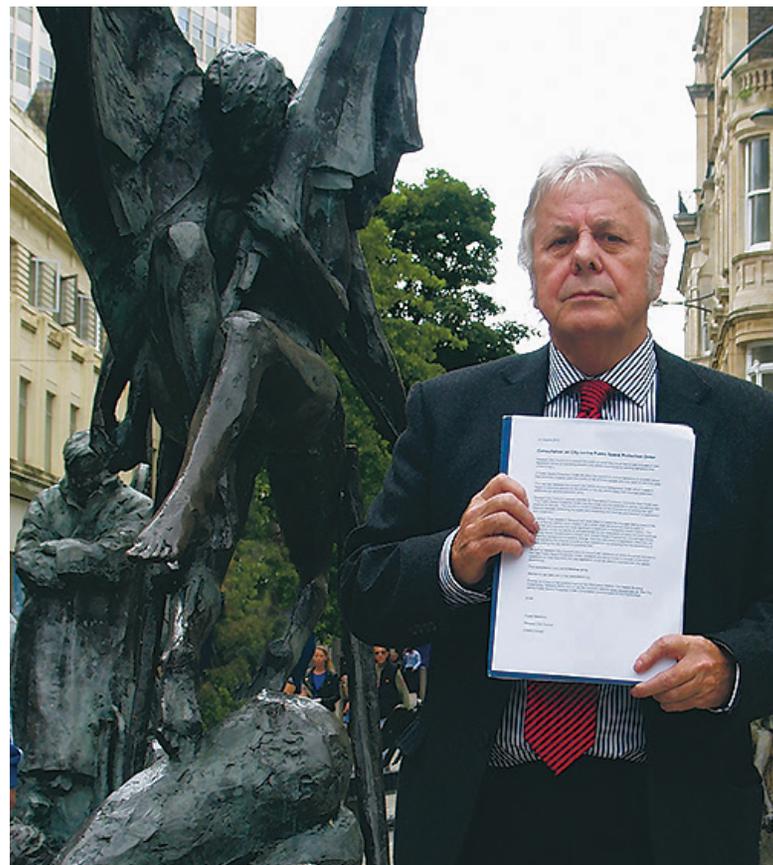
2. Approaching members of the public in a persistent manner persuading them to subscribe to a service; or make charitable donations by direct debit, standing order etc.
3. Begging in an aggressive or intimidating manner which harasses members of the public.
4. Affixing any notice, picture, letter, sign or other mark upon the surface of a highway or any tree, structure or works without permission of the landowner (fly-posting).
5. Being in charge of a dog that is not on a lead (max 1.5 metres in length).

It's already illegal to drop litter, cycle in pedestrianised parts of the city centre and not clear up dog mess.

Any person who fails to comply commits an offence and could be liable on conviction to a fine of up to £1,000. Offenders will have the opportunity in the first instance to pay a fixed penalty notice of £100 (reduced to £75 for prompt payment).

Councillor Bob Poole, Newport Council's Cabinet Member for Regulatory Functions, said:

*"I believe this new public space protection order has the scope and the potential to deliver something very positive for the city. It is timely, against the background of positive change with the wonderful new developments in the city centre, that this new piece of legislation offers the city and its residents the chance to build on that momentum by ensuring that the experience of all people visiting the city centre is a positive one."*



## YOUR COUNCIL ONLINE



Visit the council website [www.newport.gov.uk](http://www.newport.gov.uk) - to pay, report, request or simply find information about council services.

You can pay your council tax, business rates, parking fines and library charges, report a pothole or faulty streetlight, request new recycling boxes,

bins and bags and apply for a school place using the website.

Residents can now also register for paperless billing and online accounts for council tax.

In My Newport – [www.newport.gov.uk/mynewport](http://www.newport.gov.uk/mynewport) - here you can check the date

of your next bin collection, read about local planning applications and find out how to contact your local councillors.

Why not keep up-to-date with the latest council news by subscribing to the Keep Me Posted weekly e-news service.

## GIVE A DOG A HOME

The award winning team at Coronation Kennels do an excellent job of looking after stray dogs who have been found by Newport residents, or brought in by the council's dog wardens.

There are 16 kennels in total for dogs in their care who are looking for a forever home.

If you would like to make an appointment to visit the kennels and meet the dogs and the team you can call **01633 290902**.

You can also keep an eye on the council's Facebook page for the latest appeals for rehoming dogs ([www.facebook.com/newportcitycouncil](http://www.facebook.com/newportcitycouncil))

**And a big thank you!**

Following the Christmas appeal for dog treats and toys, the dogs and staff would like to thank everyone who kindly donated.

They are always looking for donations for the dogs in their care so if you would still like to donate, please bring your items along to Coronation Kennels, Stephenson Street, Newport, NP19 0RB.

They would love to hear from you. Again give staff a ring on **01633 290902**, to check when the kennels are open for visitors.



## HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY



**27 January is the day for everyone to remember the millions murdered in the Holocaust, under Nazi persecution and in subsequent genocides in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur.**

On Wednesday 27 January at 11am, members of the public are invited to a memorial service which will take place at Newport Cathedral. It will be hosted by the Mayor of Newport, Councillor Herbie Thomas, and will be overseen by Canon Ray Hayter.



# POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER ELECTION TO BE HELD AGAIN THIS MAY



**On 5 May 2016 the people of Newport will be asked once again to visit their local polling station to cast their vote to elect a Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for Gwent.**

Newport City Council is responsible locally for raising awareness of the election with its residents, and for holding the election, ensuring it is carried out in a fair, legal and transparent way.

The first PCC election was in 2012, with this role replacing the local police authority. Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) elected in November 2012 were elected to serve for three-and-a-half years, taking their term of office up to May.

PCC elections take place in 41 police force areas covering England and Wales (excluding London). Each area has one PCC.

The PCC is responsible for holding the Chief Constable and police force to account on the public's behalf. They oversee

how crime is tackled in their area and aim to make sure the police are providing a good service.

PCCs ensure the policing needs of the community are met as effectively as possible and are elected to hold your police force to account for delivering the kind of policing you want to see. Their aim is to cut crime and to ensure your police force is effective.

They bring a public voice to policing and do this by:

- engaging with the public and victims of crime to help set police and crime plans;
- ensuring the police force budget is spent where it matters most; and
- appointing, and where necessary dismissing, the chief constable.

PCCs also work with local councils and other organisations to promote and enable joined-up working on community safety and criminal justice. The PCC does not 'run' the police force.

Chief Constables continue to be responsible for the day to day operations of the police, but they are accountable to the public via the Police and Crime Commissioner.

PCCs are required to swear an oath of impartiality when they are elected to office. The oath is designed so that PCCs can set out publicly their commitment to tackling their new role with integrity. It reflects the commitment police officers make to serve every member of the public impartially and makes clear that they are there to serve the people, not a political party or any one section of their electorate.

When you vote in the PCC elections you will use the Supplementary Vote System. This means a voter marks a cross in one column for their first preference candidate and another cross in a second column for their second preference (but only if they wish to do so). If only two candidates stand then the first-past-the-post system is used.

To vote in a Police and Crime Commissioner election a person must be registered to vote and also be:

- 18 years of age or over on the day of polling
- A British citizen, a qualifying Commonwealth citizen or a citizen of the European Union
- Resident in the UK
- Not be subject to any legal incapacity to vote.

Additionally, the following cannot vote in a Police and Crime Commissioner election:

- Anyone other than British, qualifying Commonwealth or European Union citizens
- Convicted persons detained in pursuance of their sentences, excluding contempt of court (though remand prisoners, unconvicted prisoners and civil prisoners can vote if they are on the electoral register)

• Anyone found guilty within the previous five years of corrupt or illegal practices in connection with an election

More information will be provided on the Gwent PCC election in the coming months, including the names of prospective candidates which will be made public on 9 April 2016.

The PCC poll will be held together with elections to the National Assembly for Wales on Thursday 5 May 2016. In this election, voters in Newport will have the chance to elect one of two constituency Assembly Members along with four regional Members, as part of the South East Wales National Assembly Region. Candidates for the National Assembly will be announced at the same time as the Police and Crime Commissioner candidates are announced in April.

For more information on the voting process visit [www.aboutmyvote.co.uk/how-do-i-vote/what-are-the-different-voting-systems](http://www.aboutmyvote.co.uk/how-do-i-vote/what-are-the-different-voting-systems)

## EDUCATION BEGINS AT HOME



**A Welsh Government initiative is letting parents know that helping your child at home makes a difference to their performance in school.**

The home environment is the single biggest factor in educational attainment. By creating an environment that values education and supports a child's learning, parents are giving their child a significant head start in life.

The campaign, called 'Education begins at home', will encourage parents to get involved in their child's education

by showing them how little things can make a big difference.

Things like waking them up early for school; making sure they get a good night's sleep; making time to read with them; helping with number work; going to parents' evenings and asking them about school will all help them do so much better at school.

More information can be found at [facebook.com/beginsathome](https://www.facebook.com/beginsathome) and Twitter [@edubeginsathome](https://twitter.com/edubeginsathome)



# GET MORE INFORMATION FROM THE STATION IN 2016

**Since opening in January 2012, the city's Information Station has welcomed hundreds of thousands of people through its doors.**

Based in the former Newport railway station building on Queensway, this multi-agency customer service centre provides an accessible, welcoming environment that gives local people the opportunity to have a range of queries and issues dealt with all in one place.

Organisations including Aneurin Bevan Health Board, Citizens Advice Bureau, Royal British Legion and Tenovus all offer services from the Information Station.

You can access a range of essential everyday services including:

- Applying for blue badge permits and concessionary bus passes.
- Paying your council tax.
- Advice on housing benefit.

- Information on housing, including support on homelessness
- Advice on licensing applications.
- Viewing current planning applications. For general planning enquiries, a duty planning officer is available on Monday, Wednesday and Friday only.
- Speaking to the council's social services including adult services, children and family services, child protection and adoption.

Instant payments for bills such as council tax can be made using the self-service payment machines. Computers are also provided so visitors can read the online information offered by the organisations based there.

For enquiries that will take a little longer, there is the Advisory Zone. On hand is a team of specialist advisors, with private interview points, interview rooms, family rooms and a comfortable waiting area.

You can also visit [www.newport.gov.uk](http://www.newport.gov.uk) for information and access to a wide range of council services.



# CAN YOU FOSTER CARE?

**Families and individuals who are prepared to offer help to vulnerable youngsters in need of a loving stable home are being sought by Newport City Council as Social Services Department.**

The Fostering Service is in need of foster carers able to offer these children a safe place in which to live.

The focus of the work of the Fostering Service is at all times trying to ensure that we place Newport children with our foster carers in order that they can remain within the area, continue to attend the same school or education provision and receive support from local staff.

Nick Lovell, Social Worker with the Fostering Team said:

*"We need foster carers to be able to offer homes to these vulnerable children, many who come from very troubled backgrounds and who have witnessed violence in the home or who live with parents who just can't cope with looking after them due to their own problems.*

*"We particularly need carers willing to take older children, teenagers and sibling groups.*

*"We don't expect a perfect family set up but what we need are people*

*willing to go through a process enabling them to take on such an important role as a foster carer."*

Many people have an image of a troubled teenager smashing up their home or being a disruptive influence in their family, and while some may be challenging, many carers have found this myth to be just that.

*"These children need stability, regular routines, support and encouragement to attend school regularly and being able to live normal lives in a safe environment. We know there are people out there who may be able to help by being a foster carer."*

Of course you can't just turn up and offer to be a carer - the first step is usually a phone call to Social Services or check out the Council's website.

If you are interested please do get in contact with us to discuss this further.

We provide pre-approval training prior to a comprehensive assessment process being undertaken. If you are approved you will have an identified social worker with responsibility for ensuring that you receive on-going training, support and supervision to ensure you are equipped and well informed to undertake your role. We provide a range of support services together with an out-of-hours telephone service manned every

evening by a member of staff from the Fostering Team.

You can be married or single, in a same sex relationship, in your 20s or 60s, have your own children or not.

Patience, tolerance and a good sense of humour are essential!

The only people who would not be considered are those who have been convicted of an offence against children or a violent crime.

A Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check will be made and the council will request medical and local authority checks as well as employment and personal references.

The children range from 0-17 years and vary in their personalities and needs.

We respect a child's racial, religious, linguistic and cultural backgrounds when placing them with a foster family, as well as ensuring that their health and ability needs are met.

When you make a fostering enquiry we will discuss what age child you can best support and over what period of time.

For more information visit [www.newport.gov.uk/Fostering](http://www.newport.gov.uk/Fostering)



# NEW YEAR RECYCLING RESOLUTIONS



## Recycling your waste makes a real difference to the environment – why not make it your New Year's resolution in 2016 to do your bit and recycle more?

It's not just in the kitchen and bathroom where recyclable waste is created; you will be surprised how many items can be recycled from every room of the home. For example, the living room will have magazines and catalogues and the bedroom could have perfume bottles, old clothes and cosmetic boxes which can all be recycled too.

### Did you know...?

- Reducing our waste decreases the need for more landfill and your recycled material is a valuable resource. Once it has been collected from your doorstep

it's taken away to be sorted, bailed and then transported to re-processors to be made into new products.

- In Newport the energy saved by recycling card, is equivalent to providing electricity to 398 Newport households for a whole year.
- Welsh households throw away the equivalent of six meals a week, costing the average family almost £60 a month.

If you haven't recycled before then it is very simple. Find out what equipment you need to start recycling contact Newport City Council on **01633 656656** or visit [www.newport.gov.uk/recycling](http://www.newport.gov.uk/recycling)



## LITTERING IN NEWPORT WILL COST YOU DEAR – SO DON'T DO IT

**Newport City Council is reminding people that it has a zero tolerance to littering, with a simple message – don't do it unless you are happy to pick up a fine.**

More than 792 people were issued fines for littering in Newport since April 2015.

And one person who ignored paying a fixed penalty fine of £75 ended up with a court bill costing £512.

Since Easter, council wardens have issued 792 littering fixed penalty notices.

The council's enforcement officers deal with littering by offering an offender the initial option of paying a fixed penalty of £75, as opposed to going to court.

Most offenders pay up, but if they don't, the council will prosecute the offender.

It is clear from the recent penalties the courts are handing down, that Newport Magistrates take a very dim view of littering offences too.

Thirty-four offenders have been fined in court since April following prosecutions brought by the council for littering.

This has been where the offender has been offered the chance to pay a fixed penalty, but for whatever reason has chosen not to.

In recent hearings, individuals pleading guilty have had to pay £392 (made up of a £100 fine, £150 court costs, £120 prosecution costs and a £22 victim surcharge).

Others, who failed to turn up to court, resulting in the council proving

the case in their absence, have ended up paying a total of £512.

Cllr Bob Poole, Cabinet Member for Regulatory Functions said:

*"The council takes a very dim view of people who litter. It costs thousands of pounds to clear up, money which should be spent on other important council services to Newport residents."*

*"We will not hesitate to take action against anyone caught littering or fly tipping and I'm pleased to see the courts are handing down harsh penalties too. I want this to act as a deterrent to anyone who leaves their waste on our streets."*

The message is clear, it will cost you dear to litter; so please take your rubbish home or put it in a bin.



## WASTESAVERS LAUNCHES "KEEP YOUR CAP ON" CAMPAIGN

**Wastesavers and Newport City Council are asking residents to leave the metal caps on their glass bottles when they recycle them. The caps are made from aluminium, a valuable metal that can be extracted when the glass is recycled.**

The first phase of the campaign was launched in December which saw Wastesavers putting eye catching stickers on communal glass recycling bins in flats across the city.

Phil Hurst, Communications and Development Officer with Wastesavers said:

*"Thanks to modern recycling methods aluminium bottle tops are actually easier to recover for recycling when they are collected with the glass."*

*"Newport residents can help by simply screwing the top back onto the empty bottle and dropping it in their recycling box or glass recycling wheelie bin if they live in flats."*

Councillor Deb Davies, Newport City Council's Cabinet Member for Streetscene and City Services added;

*"This initiative is another easy way in which residents can recycle more of their waste. This small change can make a big difference each year to how much we recycle in Newport."*

Rick Hindley, Executive Director of the Aluminium Packaging Recycling Organisation (Alupro) said:

*"The market for aluminium bottle closures is growing rapidly, particularly for wine bottles, so it is important that we get in the habit of recycling them so that the aluminium can be melted and re-used."*

*Simply screwing the top back on the empty bottle before recycling is the simplest and easiest way for people to do their bit in recovering this valuable, sustainable and recyclable material."*

Rebecca Cocking, Head of Container Affairs at British Glass, who are part-funding the Alupro campaign in association with the European Aluminium Foil Association's (EAFA) Closure Group, commented:

*"We see this as an excellent campaign that both informs and helps the consumer to recycle as much as possible. It also highlights the important role recycling banks play in getting good quality glass back into the system, helping saving energy and raw materials."*

Bottles are recycled in your green Wastesavers box.

To find out when your recycling day is you can visit [www.newport.gov.uk/mynewport](http://www.newport.gov.uk/mynewport)



# RESIDENT'S GIFT MEANS A NEW PLAY AREA FOR BEECHWOOD PARK



## Children using Newport's Beechwood Park can now enjoy a fantastic new play area thanks to the generous actions of a local resident

A new play area was officially opened on Saturday 21 November by Councillor Deb Davies, Newport City Council's Cabinet Member for StreetScene.

This new facility was donated to the council by Howard Barnes, 57, who won it as a prize

in a national competition run by Britvic soft drinks.

The prize included the supply and installation of a new play area in Newport up to the value of £45,000.

Mr Barnes said he was delighted with the facility as it is somewhere for his grandsons, Sam, seven and Oliver, three to go.

He said: "Entering the competition, you don't think you will ever win,

but I thought wouldn't this be a fantastic thing for Beechwood Park. I was really pleased and a bit shell shocked when I got the phone call. It's just great to see it all progressing."

On opening the play area, Councillor Davies commented:

"I would like to take this opportunity to thank our community minded benefactor for donating this excellent prize provided by Britvic soft drinks.

"It was the wishes of the prize winner that this wonderful gift was specifically provided for the young people who visit Beechwood Park, replacing the old top playground facility which was in need of replacement.

"This is a great example of how the council can work in partnership with an externally funded project to preserve our parks and green spaces for both the current and future generations".

Residents and young people within the Beechwood and Always wards were invited to come along and see the new playground design and speak to the council's Parks Department Officers about this new opportunity prior to the installation works taking place.

The play area for children (aged two to nine) features a climbing unit, slide, playhouse tower, roundabout and swings.

## WHY NEWPORT'S RECYCLING METHODS WORK



Councils across the UK collect waste and recycling in many different ways. There are a number of reasons why Newport City Council uses kerbside sorting for recycling.

### These include:

- The quality of collected material is better – the income from the sale of recyclables is an important source of revenue, covering around half the cost of the kerbside collection service.

- It is a cheaper method than sorting at the depot – the nature of kerbside sort means that a small decrease in productivity can have a significant impact on costs.

- This method is the preferred method by Welsh Government who is asking other Welsh local authorities to consider switching their collection systems to the kerbside system used by Newport.

The annual cost per household for councils to run food and dry recycling varies between authorities. Newport City Council has the lowest cost of £23 per household – a considerably lower cost to other Welsh authorities – the highest being £118 household.

## A REMINDER OF THE MAYOR'S CHARITIES

The Mayor of Newport, Councillor Herbie Thomas has been working hard raising funds for his nominated charities during his term in office.

The chosen charities are Diabetes UK, Alzheimer's Research UK and Madzimai Pamwe – Zimbabwe Wales Women's Partnership – as his charities during his term in office.

Alzheimer's Research UK is dedicated to funding pioneering research into the diseases that cause dementia and Diabetes UK cares for, connects with and campaigns for people affected by, or at risk of, the condition.

Madzimai Pamwe is a Newport-based community group who work with people across Wales to raise awareness and promote community cohesion

as well as supporting vulnerable women in Zimbabwe.

Since May 2015 the Mayor has attended events including charity dinners and the annual duck race. He has been given many generous donations.

The total amount raised will be announced at the end of Cllr Thomas's time as mayor.



# NEWPORT – YOUR CITY ON THE RISE

**Newport is changing dramatically – and the change is for the better.**

Wales' third largest city is undergoing one of the most significant regeneration programmes in the UK, with investments potentially totalling £2 billion by 2020.

In November 2015, the city celebrated the opening of Friars Walk – a £90 million retail and leisure development in the city centre, which was the result of a private-public sector partnership. It was built with loan funding secured by Newport City Council, in a bold move that has proved a catalyst for further investment.

Under the Vibrant and Viable Places (VVP) programme, landmark city centre properties are being transformed and converted into new living accommodation and

attractive commercial space. The Council was awarded £15 million by Welsh Government under its VVP regeneration funding framework, which is expected to lead to a total investment of £60 million in the city centre.

The Council has also become the first in Wales to introduce a Local Development Order (LDO) to streamline the planning process and further bolster commercial activity in the city centre.

Scarborough Development Group has announced an additional scheme to redevelop an area adjacent to its Admiral House project, the new regional home to Admiral insurance, with more office, retail and restaurant space in the pipeline.

Meanwhile planning consent has been given for a £60m regeneration project by the Fear Group on Newport's riverfront, which includes

a student village, new homes and a four star hotel on the site of a former Sainsbury's supermarket.

Planning permission has been granted for the Wales International Convention Centre at the Celtic Manor Resort. Designed to attract major events from across the world, the exhibition hall and associated facilities will have a daily capacity for 4,000 delegates.

The economy is also set to benefit from partnerships such as the new Newport Economic Network, Cardiff Capital Region, Great Western Cities and the proposed Cardiff City Deal. A city centre business improvement district, Newport NOW, has also been formed.

With ambition running high, planned investments, innovative businesses and sites ripe for development, Newport is truly a city on the rise.



## INTERNATIONAL WHITE RIBBON DAY



**Proud to take a stand against violence toward women and girls**

**Council staff are being encouraged to support the White Ribbon campaign which aims to tackle domestic abuse.**

UNISON and GMB unions held an information day in the reception hall of the Civic Centre on November 25 – the day designated White Ribbon Day, the United Nation's Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women.

Both unions had stalls with a host of information for staff to visit throughout the day. The event was also backed by

councillors Debbie Wilcox, Deborah Davies and Gail Giles.

Steph Davies from UNISON said:

*"We want to try to amend the current domestic abuse policy and are currently undertaking a survey to ask people for their thoughts on how to do this.*

*We need a more open culture so people, both men and women, will feel more comfortable asking for help if they find themselves victims of abuse."*

For further information visit [whiteribboncampaign.co.uk](http://whiteribboncampaign.co.uk)

# WHAT'S ON...

**Newport Museum and Art Gallery**  
01633 656656



**On now until Saturday 23 January 2016**

**Exhibition: James Flewitt Mullock**  
James Flewitt Mullock is one of Newport's most significant 19th Century artists. Born in 1818, he witnessed the Chartist rising and experienced the unprecedented industrial and commercial growth of Newport. Newport Museum and Art Gallery cares for many of James Flewitt Mullock's works. Some watercolour drawings and lithographs are shown in this exhibition.

Price: **free admission**  
e-mail: [museum@newport.gov.uk](mailto:museum@newport.gov.uk)

**On now until May 19, 2016**  
**Exhibition: 140 years of Newport RFC**

The Friends of Newport Rugby Trust have been working in partnership with the Newport Museum and Art Gallery to create an exhibition celebrating 140 years of Newport RFC, marking the ups and downs of this historic rugby football club. On display will be an outstanding collection of rugby memorabilia from Newport RFC, together with audio and visual exhibits.

Price: **free admission**  
e-mail: [museum@newport.gov.uk](mailto:museum@newport.gov.uk)



**National Roman Legion Museum, Caerleon**  
0300 111 2333

**On now until Thursday 19 May 2016**

**Exhibition: War, What is it Good For?**  
As horrific as war is, are lessons learnt? A small exhibition that explores some of the positive as well as negative things that might never have happened if we hadn't gone to war.

Price: **free admission**  
e-mail: [museum@newport.gov.uk](mailto:museum@newport.gov.uk)

**Celebrating 100 years**



Happy birthday wishes are sent to Newport resident, **Harry Polloway**, who celebrated his 100th birthday on 19th December. A card from the Queen, and a birthday party at Hilton Newport, helped celebrate this landmark birthday.

## YOU CAN NOW 'DIAL A BUS'

**With the opening of Friars Walk and the chance to check out new shops in Newport, residents are being reminded about the service operated by Newport Bus where passengers can pre-book a journey.**

Known as DRT (Demand Responsive Transport) the service has been offered for a couple of years now in Whitson/Wetlands/West Nash area (DRT63) and Bishton/Redwick/Llanwern Village (DRT62).

And from July 2015 the service started to cover St Brides/Marshfield/Castleton (DRT31).

There are four drop off points – at Asda in Duffryn, Newport Bus Station, Tesco on Cardiff Road and the Royal Gwent Hospital.

Demand Responsive Transport is a form of pre-booked transport using smaller vehicles than buses but with the customer in control.

Transport only runs when the customer demands.

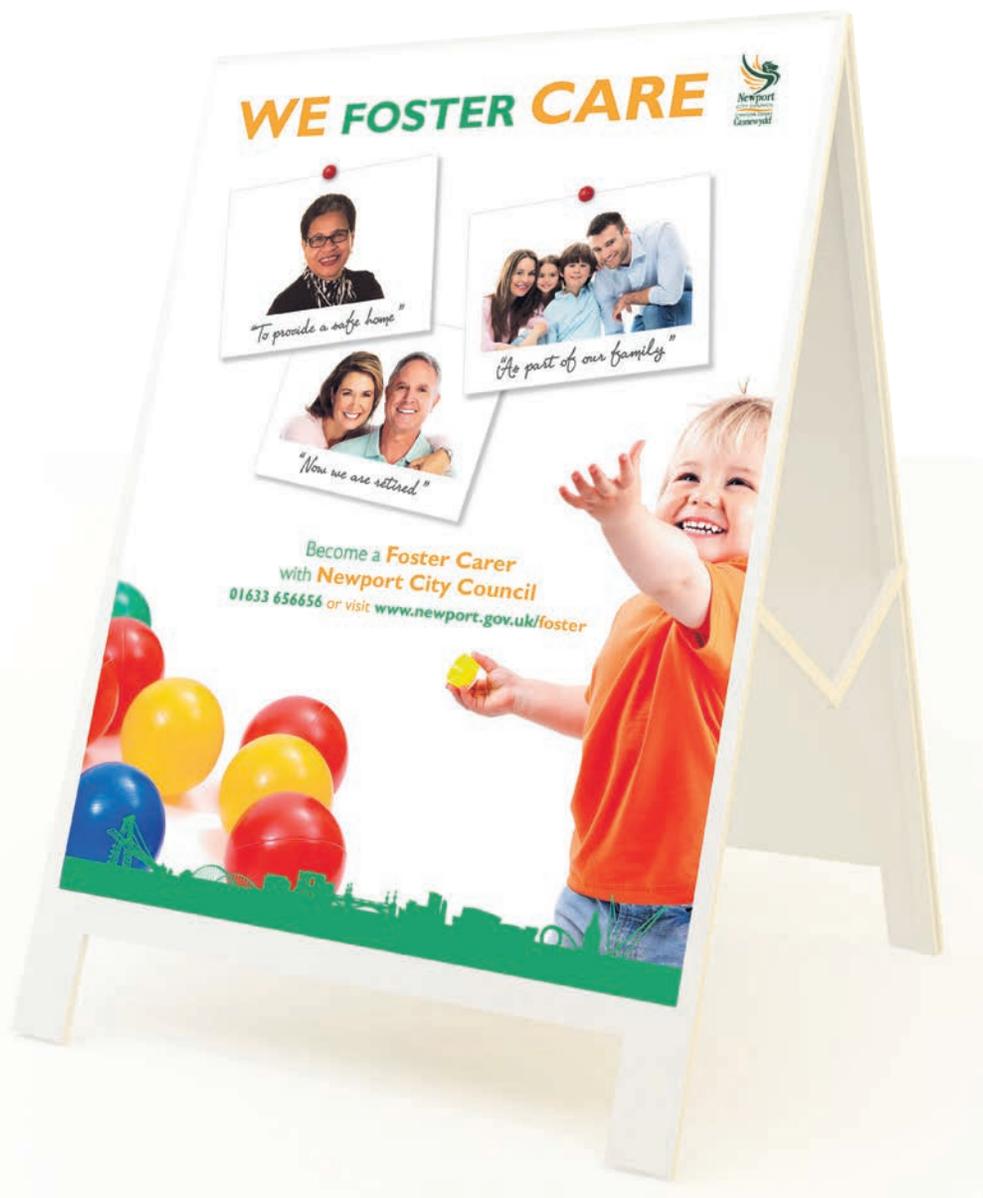
Customers can book a seat by calling **01633 211202** between 9am and 5pm and bookings need to be made 24 hours in advance, although every effort will be made to accommodate passengers making bookings at shorter notice.

The bus will be in operation **Monday to Saturday** between **7.30am** and **6.30pm**. A pick up point and time are agreed when you pre-book and the journey may be shared with other passengers.

Payment is made in the same way as you would on any bus service as tickets will be given. All Newport Transports' weekly, monthly and annual smartcard travel passes will be accepted.

Your journey will start at a bus stop nearest to your house and passengers can be dropped at one of four locations including Newport Bus Station, Tesco, Cardiff Road, the Royal Gwent Hospital and Asda, Duffryn too.

The service will only pick up prebooked customers at bus stops.



WASTESAVERS  
**REUSECENTRE**

Phoenix Park | Newport

# WANTED

Good condition used furniture, white goods and now small electrical items!

If you're thinking of donating furniture don't forget we also take electricals.

**COMPUTERS, LAMPS, CD PLAYERS, GAMES CONSOLES, RADIOS, TOASTERS...**



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Opening Hours:  
Mon – Fri  
9.00am – 5.00pm  
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