

## BEE FOR BRILLIANT NEWS



**An exciting discovery was made in the city in September – a thriving population of rare bees.**

Newport is an official bee friendly city and has a number of specific pollinator sites including St Julian's local nature reserve.

A survey was being undertaken by the council's biodiversity officer and an entomologist from BugLife Cymru, as part of a Postcode Lottery-funded project, when they found the small scabious mining bees which are rare in the UK.

Newport has more than 25 acres managed as pollinator sites to attract bees, butterflies, beetles and other insects.

Although many of the verges, junctions and roundabouts are cut for road safety and pedestrian access, in selected areas the council has changed the grass, verge and hedgerow cutting regimes.

There are also some "leave to grow" areas being trialled including the A48 at Machen, Sterndale Bennett Road, Pencarn Way, Ruskin Way and Oystermouth Way.

Work is also done with schools and community volunteer groups to undertake bee friendly activities.

To find out more visit: [www.newport.gov.uk/countryside](http://www.newport.gov.uk/countryside) and go to **biodiversity** section.

# KEEP NEWPORT SAFE THIS WINTER

**Over recent weeks Newport, Wales and the rest of the UK have seen the evidence that Covid-19 has not gone away and how residents are still feeling the impact in a considerable way.**

In the last edition of Newport Matters we spoke of how restrictions were being lifted locally and what the council were doing to support the safe re-opening of businesses.

City centre safety measures that included improvements to pedestrianised areas, enhanced cleaning and specialised advice for businesses were all put in place to support a safe return to the city. #VisitSafe.

Unfortunately, following a considerable rise in cases, Newport and many of our surrounding authorities were

put back into local lockdown measures during September.

Shortly after, Wales as a whole saw additional measures introduced to try to help stem the flow. This included restricted opening times within the hospitality sector

Councillor Jane Mudd, Leader of the council, said: *"I would like to thank everyone in Newport for the effort they have made to help keep us safe and limit the spread of the virus. It is so important that we maintain that effort, particularly over the winter months, so we can continue to protect our loved ones, families, friends and communities. We can do this – we can work together to keep Newport safe."*

*"We need to make sure we follow the rules – and I fully appreciate that this can be a confusing time as the laws and guidelines change to address the current situation. As a council we will continue to work closely with Welsh Government*

*and ensure the latest advice is presented as clearly as possible across our communication channels.*

*"However this progresses over the winter, we will still need to limit contact, keep our distance, wear face coverings where required, wash*

*our hands regularly, get tested if we display symptoms and self-isolate strictly if we advised to do so."*

Please ensure that you continue to gather information from trusted sources on the current Covid-19 situation.

The latest local advice is available on the council website – [www.newport.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.newport.gov.uk/coronavirus) and from Welsh Government, Public Health Wales, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board and Gwent Police.



**Newport, COVID-19 is closer than you think!**



## MAKING CHRISTMAS SAFE AND SPECIAL

**At the time of going to press, we don't know what restrictions will be in place over the Christmas period. But we can all start thinking about how we can make this time of year special while still staying safe.**



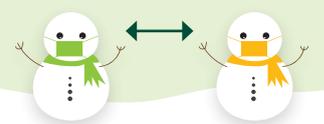
### THINK ABOUT

- ☀️ **Shopping local and early** – support our local businesses and try to spread out your shopping trips to avoid crowds
- ☀️ **Catching up with friends and family** – make sure you keep to the current rules or think of other ways to spend some special time with

people – maybe a socially distanced winter walk?

- ☀️ **Think about travel** – is your travel necessary and what method are you using?
- ☀️ **Older relatives** – think about the possible risk of visiting, maybe send a special message instead.

Newport Council is working with Newport Now, the city's business improvement district on how we can mark Christmas in Newport in safe but fun way – for the latest news visit the council website or [www.newportnow.co.uk](http://www.newportnow.co.uk)



# COUNCIL REPORTS PROGRESS ON SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT



## Newport City Council reported progress on sustainable transport initiatives at the September cabinet meeting.

Details were shared of a number of projects that the council had successfully sought funding for from Welsh Government's active travel fund.

The Covid-19 pandemic has had a major impact on everyday life, not least around every day travel and commuting to and from work. As a result, Welsh Government made additional funding available during lockdown for councils to fund local active travel improvements.

Seven of our bids were approved for funding. We have already implemented social distancing measures at Newport Bus Station, and made temporary changes in high footfall areas such as the city centre to help our city's businesses reopen safely.

We will also make improvements to footpaths and cycle lanes in various locations across the city, and trial a number of 20mph speed limit zones in order to promote safety and active travel within these zones.

As well as these specific projects, we continue to improve existing active travel routes. Work has recently been completed at Fourteen

Locks, which saw the cycle path resurfaced as well as new barriers being installed to allow easier access for wheelchair users.

We are also looking at what we can do with our own vehicle fleet to help reduce emissions.

To that end, we are pleased to have recently secured funding for an ultra-low emission refuse vehicle, which will be the first of its kind in the country when launched next year.



## CLEAR VIEW FOR MARKET ARCADE

**A project to restore an historic shopping arcade in the city centre reached a milestone in the summer with the installation of a new glass roof.**

Work by specialist contractors Anthony A Davies resumed on the 19th century arcade in July after being paused because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Funding was secured from the Heritage Fund, Cadw and Welsh Government to restore the arcade that runs from High Street to Market Street.

The work also includes the restoration of the shopfronts.

Find out more about the project here:

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



## NEWPORT TO REVIEW CITY'S DEVELOPMENT PLAN



## Newport's local development plan (LDP) sets out areas of land use across the city and proposals to shape the future growth of Newport until 2026.

The LDP was adopted by the council in 2015 and an annual monitoring report is submitted to Welsh Government every year detailing its progress.

Newport's LDP has been considered successful, but a review is now due.

The review will update policies and legislative requirements that have been introduced since the LDP's adoption, for example the Well-being of Future Generations Act, and would also help to

identify new development and regeneration sites to aid Newport's recovery following Coronavirus.

The LDP will also continue to protect Newport's best historical and environmental assets.

Widespread consultation with the public significantly shaped the content of the original LDP and views will again be sought as part of the review process.

Regular updates will be included in Newport Matters, on the council website and on social media.

For more information on the LDP and updates on the review process visit [www.newport.gov.uk/ldp](http://www.newport.gov.uk/ldp)

## NEW LIVING LEVELS PROJECT

**A proposal to add a new visitor gateway hub on the Gwent Levels has moved another step closer.**

Land next to the Lighthouse Inn in Wentlooge is in the process of being acquired by the city council for the Living Levels scheme.

It will enable better access to and from the Wales Coast Path and

other routes in the area. It is a popular location for walking and cycling as well as a great place to see wildlife and some key heritage features in this very special place.

Orientation and information points, shelter, accessibility onto the seawall, secure cycle parking and car parking are all planned. This will be funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund landscape partnership scheme.

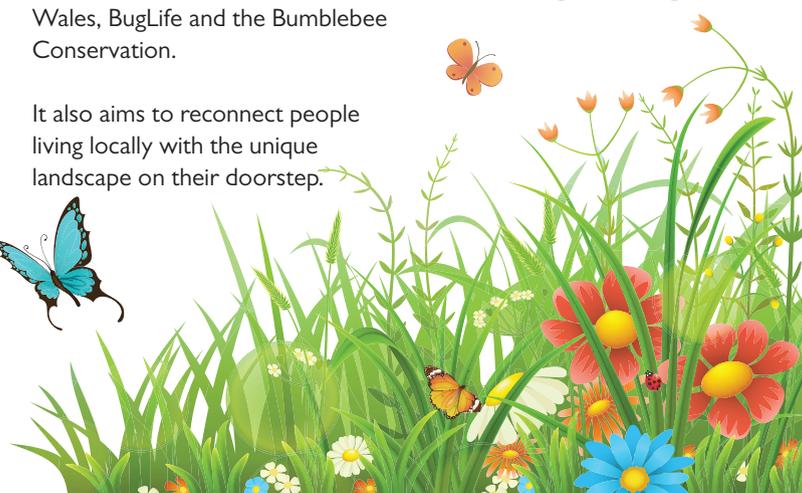
In order to conserve and enhance the natural heritage of the Gwent Levels, the Living Levels partnership brings together a number of

organisations. These include RSPB Cymru, Gwent Wildlife Trust, the council, Natural Resources Wales, BugLife and the Bumblebee Conservation.

It also aims to reconnect people living locally with the unique landscape on their doorstep.



To find out more about the partnership visit: [www.livinglevels.org.uk](http://www.livinglevels.org.uk)



## TRANSPORTER BRIDGE SUBMITS FUNDING BID

The team at Newport Transporter Bridge have recently submitted a funding bid to the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF).

The bid covers Phase 2 of a major restoration project and if successful, it will see the bridge close from spring 2021 for the work to be carried out.

The project will not only include restoration work to the bridge itself, but also the construction of a brand new visitor centre which will help bring the history of the city's most iconic structure to life.

The bid is currently being assessed, with a decision from NLHF expected sometime before the end of the year.

You can keep up to date with the latest news from the Friends of Newport Transporter Bridge at [www.fontb.org.uk](http://www.fontb.org.uk)



# CHRISTMAS MESSAGE - LEADER AND MAYOR



## Leader

I would like to wish all Newport residents and businesses a very Merry Christmas.

My first year as council leader has been one of the most challenging I can remember. Covid-19 has had a profound impact on all of our lives, and I would like to take an opportunity to pay tribute to the people of Newport for the resilience you have all shown in the face of this global crisis.

Hopefully 2021 will be much better for all of us. We will continue to work hard as a council to ensure that we deliver the best possible service to you, and that our city fully recovers from the impacts of Covid.

**Nadolig Llawen**  
**Councillor Jane Mudd**  
**Leader of the council.**



## Mayor

As the leader said opposite, 2020 has been a challenging year for all of us, and we are all hopeful that 2021 will see us return to a more normal state of things.

I have only been Mayor for a few months, and although I have not had the chance to meet with as many of you as I would have liked, it has still been an honour to serve the city as its First Resident.

As we approach the festive period, it is important that we all work together and follow the advice or regulations that may be in place. By doing so, we will hopefully help move things back to normal as quickly as possible.

**Councillor Thomas Suller**  
**Mayor of Newport**



## COUNCIL WINS CREDIT UNIONS OF WALES AWARD

Newport City Council has recently been recognised for helping to improve the financial well-being of staff with a national award.

The council won the Payroll Partner (Public Sector) at this year's Credit Unions of Wales Awards thanks to a long standing partnership with Newport Credit Union.

Council officers actively promote credit union membership to staff, who can opt to build up savings directly with the credit union through their pay packet.

Cllr Jane Mudd, leader of the council, said "We are delighted to receive this award. Credit unions offer an affordable and democratic alternative to high street banks, and we are passionate about promoting the services of Newport Credit Union to our staff."

"It is important that the council supports organisations like Newport Credit Union that are rooted in our local community and contribute to the economic well-being and resilience of the city."

For more information on Newport Credit Union's services, visit: [www.newportcreditunion.co.uk](http://www.newportcreditunion.co.uk).

## HELP TO BEAT FLU THIS WINTER

**Public Health Wales is urging all eligible people in Wales to have their free flu vaccine as NHS Wales carries out its largest ever national flu vaccine programme.**

**'Catch it, Bin it, Kill it.'**

For the latest information, visit [www.beatflu.org](http://www.beatflu.org) or [www.curwchffliw.org](http://www.curwchffliw.org) or search Beat Flu or Curwch Ffliw on Twitter and Facebook.

## FLOOD RESPONSE MANAGEMENT PLAN

**As we move into winter, residents and businesses can be assured that the council and its partners have the appropriate arrangements in place to respond to flooding in the city.**

In line with its statutory duties, the council's flood management plan is in place and ensures a coordinated management of the activation, assessment and response

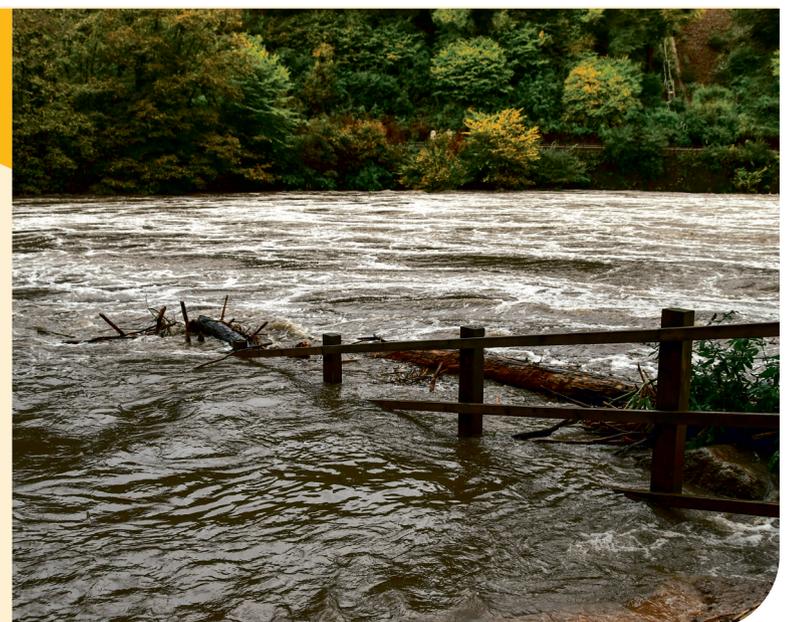
to incidents and a coordinated approach with partners.

Maps and information included in the plan which outline the current and long term risk of flooding from various sources to Newport residents and businesses are available on the Natural Resources Wales website.

It also explains how residents and businesses can receive appropriate

warnings of flooding incidents, how these would be communicated and actions to be taken before, during and after flooding occurs. Visit [www.naturalresources.wales/flooding](http://www.naturalresources.wales/flooding)

More information about how the council responds to incidents can be found at [www.newport.gov.uk/en/Transport-Streets/Road-Street-Maintenance/Report-A-Problem/Flooding.aspx](http://www.newport.gov.uk/en/Transport-Streets/Road-Street-Maintenance/Report-A-Problem/Flooding.aspx)



## DISABLED PARKING BAYS SCHEME

The council has a policy to ensure fair allocation of the limited number of disabled parking bays in residential streets.

Applications can be made between November and January.

Applications can only be made by those who appear to meet the initial necessary threshold and priority is based on the level of need, not a first come, first served basis.

People will receive a letter telling them if they have been successful or not and there is no appeal process.

All successful applications are subject to confirmation of funds being made available in April and an assessment to ensure the site is suitable.

Requests to remove disabled parking bays can also be considered but they must be made by people who live at the property where the bay is marked.

## PROJECT SHORTLISTED FOR TOP AWARD

Newport City Council's initiative to open new children's homes in the city is in the final of Social Care Wales' The Accolades 2020.

The awards recognize, celebrate and share excellent work by organisations, groups or teams in social care, early years and childcare.

Project Perthyn is one of three shortlisted in the innovative and inspiring ways of working category. It aims to bring children back to, and stay in, Newport by providing a different type of care experience.

Two new children's homes have already opened in the city with plans for third in the pipeline.

Winners will be announced at a virtual ceremony on Tuesday 10 November.

# WASTE AND RECYCLING ROUND UP

## Garden waste collections to stop for winter

Garden waste collections are suspended during the winter months and will restart week commencing 1 March 2021. The last garden waste collections of 2020 will take place between Monday 16 and Friday 27 November.

Green waste can be taken to the Household Waste Recycling Centre until collections resume. Booking is required.

## Recycling at Christmas

Christmas always generates a lot of waste that can be recycled - from cardboard packaging and wrapping paper to food leftovers. Here are a few handy hints on how to recycle these at home.

## Use the scrunch test

Not sure if a piece of paper can be recycled? Try scrunching it up in your hand. If it doesn't spring back, then it can be recycled. It's a good test to use with wrapping paper. And if you're recycling birthday cards, tear off any glittery bits first.

## Cut up your cardboard

Cut up your cardboard so that it fits in the green box and/or bag. Wastesavers also accept a small amount put to the side of the box if, when folded, it's the same size as the green box.

Larger amounts can be taken to the Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) for recycling.

## Love food hate waste

Did you know that one banana peel creates enough energy to power two smartphones. When clearing the dishes after eating, please put the food waste in the recycling caddy instead of the bin.

## Wastesavers tip shop now open for business

If you have items that are too good to tip and would like to give old items a new lease of life, the Tip Shop at the Household Waste Recycling Centre is now open for donations or to pick up a bargain.

Booking is not required to just visit the shop and the staff on site will give instructions on accessing the shop safely.



## Festive & New Year collections

Wastesavers and Newport City Council will suspend bin and recycling collections on Christmas Day and New Year's Day with some collections happening a day later as follows:

**Friday 25 December will be collected on Saturday 26 December**

**Friday 1 January will be collected on Saturday 2 January**

All other collection dates remain unchanged.

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

## HAVE YOUR SAY ON LATEST 21ST CENTURY SCHOOL



There are still a few more days to have your say on the latest school improvements under the 21st Century schools programme.

Plans to expand Bassaleg School and build a new state-of-the-art teaching block, dining and assembly facilities are currently out for public consultation.

The Bassaleg proposals include significant building work over the next three years to replace older structures with new modern buildings and ensure sufficient school places to meet a growing demand. The overall capacity of the school will increase by 300 with effect from September 2023.

The proposed improvements will be delivered under the Welsh Government 21st Century Schools and Colleges programme which has seen major investment from both Welsh Government and Newport City Council.

Newport has already benefitted from an investment of £52m across schools as part of the first stage

(Band A) and will benefit from a further £70m in this phase (Band B).

Highlights of Band A include the establishment of Newport's first Welsh-medium secondary school, Ysgol Gyfun Gwent Is Coed; the purpose built Caerleon Lodge Hill Primary; the establishment of Newport's first ASD school, Ysgol Bryn Derw; and new classrooms for Gaer, Langstone, Pentrepoeth and Mount Pleasant Primary schools.

Plans under Band B include a new teaching block, assembly and dining hall provision for Ysgol Gyfun Gwent Is Coed; a new build for Pillgwenly Primary School facilitating the establishment of Newport's fourth Welsh-medium primary school; and replacement teaching facilities at Caerleon Comprehensive. Works are also planned for Maesglas and Maindee Primary schools.

For more information on the 21st Century Schools programme and to have your say on the Bassaleg proposals, visit [www.newport.gov.uk/schoolreorganisation](http://www.newport.gov.uk/schoolreorganisation)

Councillor Gail Giles, cabinet member for education and skills, said: "We have made a clear commitment to schools and education in Newport and have backed it up with cash injections across several financial years. Real results can already be seen across the city and this and other projects show that we are not slowing down."

"The 21st Century Schools programme has supported our ambitions to make considerable investment in education and schools across the city. These proposals represent an opportunity to not only improve the environment and experience for our learners, but respond to the changes in demands that result from us being a growing city. I would urge all interested parties to find out more about the proposals and engage in the consultation process."



## DO YOU NEED EMPLOYMENT ADVICE? WE CAN HELP.

The council and its partner organisations can provide support and advice if people are at risk of redundancy, have recently been made redundant, furloughed, or are working zero hour contracts.

Our neighbourhood hubs offer help over the phone or online with job searches, CVs and interview techniques. Access to free online training courses and one-to-one mentoring is available as well as support to individuals and families to help obtain access to digital services, childcare provision and food banks.

The teams in the hubs can also help at each stage of the redundancy process:

### Stage 1 At risk of redundancy

assistance with CV writing and job applications and access to free employment related courses with a one-to-one employment mentor.

### Stage 2 Receipt of a redundancy letter

access to funding could be available through Working Wales and can include financial support for attending interviews.

Visit [www.gov.wales/get-help-if-youre-made-redundant-react-and-access](http://www.gov.wales/get-help-if-youre-made-redundant-react-and-access)

### Stage 3 Future employment support

The Hubs teams can offer support to individuals and families and provide links to partner organisations including:

- **Newport Citizens Advice Bureau** - free, confidential advice online or by telephone [www.citizensadvice.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk) 01633 240734
- **Shelter Cymru** - free, independent and expert housing advice [www.sheltercymru.org.uk](http://www.sheltercymru.org.uk)
- **Working Wales** - expert advice to get into work - [www.workingwales.gov.wales](http://www.workingwales.gov.wales)

**Freephone: 08081 963482**  
**or email:**  
[centralhub@newport.gov.uk](mailto:centralhub@newport.gov.uk)  
[northhub@newport.gov.uk](mailto:northhub@newport.gov.uk)  
[easthub@newport.gov.uk](mailto:easthub@newport.gov.uk)  
[westhub@newport.gov.uk](mailto:westhub@newport.gov.uk)

# FOSTERING CHANGES LIVES

**Newport City Council wants more people to become our foster carers and look after Newport children.**

During the coronavirus pandemic, our Foster Newport team have kept in regular contact with our foster carers who keep children safe and active at home.

They also continue to work with those who wish to join our amazing network of foster carers.

Although it's not quite business as usual, our friendly team are still able to answer your questions, deal with enquiries and process them. The fantastic job that our foster carers do has been even more important during these difficult times.

Some children and young people require a safe and loving home for short periods, including overnight stays, or for a longer time until they become adults.

Foster carers are also needed for families who want a regular or one-off break.

We need more people to care for youngsters from the city.



Fostering one child won't change the world: but for that child, the world will change.



## Fostering Changes Lives



01633 210272  
[www.newport.gov.uk/fostering](http://www.newport.gov.uk/fostering)

Here are a few really good reasons to become a foster carer:

- Fostering one child won't change the world but, for that child, the world will change
- You will make a difference that lasts a lifetime
- Every child deserves a champion who never gives up on them
- If you can help a child, you don't have to spend years repairing the adult
- Fostering supports children and young people to achieve their full potential

People who become part of our foster family are offered learning and development opportunities as well as practical and financial support.

You will have your own social worker, as will the child, and there will always be someone to talk to if you need them.

To find out more about becoming a foster carer for us, visit [www.newport.gov.uk/fostering](http://www.newport.gov.uk/fostering) or call 01633 210272.

Follow us on:  
@NewportCouncil  
Newport City Council



We're not telling you it is going to be easy, we're telling you it's going to be worth it.

## PREPARING THE 2021/22 BUDGET

Over recent years, setting a fair and balanced budget has been a real challenge for elected members and officers and the coming year will also need to take into account the impact that Covid-19 has had on both services and our communities.

The overall funds available to councils across the UK has reduced considerably, yet the demand for key council services has consistently grown. The council provides more than 800 services for more than 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 already seeing the demand for support-based services rise even further.

Councillor Jane Mudd, Leader of the council, said: "Council services are settling into a new way of working as a result of the pandemic. We have clearly set out our strategic aims with a renewed focus on ensuring this good work is not undone, that we support our economy to rebuild and we focus on the communities that have been impacted most by Covid-19. These aims support the council's corporate plan and will serve to inform how we prioritise our budget in the next financial year."

The strategic recovery aims focus on four key areas:

- education and employment
- the environment and economy
- health and wellbeing
- the needs of citizens post Covid-19

Councillor Mudd added: "As we now consider the funds available to us as a council and how they should be spend on the most essential of services, I strongly encourage residents, businesses, partner organisations and stakeholders to engage with us – help us to both develop specifics within these priority areas and make the difficult decisions on where our limited money is directed."

## SERIOUS AND ORGANISED CRIME AWARD

**A partnership between Gwent Police, Newport City Council and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent has been commended by Police and Crime Commissioner Jeff Cuthbert as part of the Gwent Police awards 2020.**

The Newport Serious and Organised Crime Partnership brings together partners from policing, the public sector and third sector organisations to deliver interventions to vulnerable young people who are at risk from being drawn into serious and organised crime.

The team is working with organisations such as the St Giles Trust, Crimestoppers and Barnardo's.

Police and Crime Commissioner, Jeff Cuthbert, said: "The team are doing some trailblazing work here in Gwent that is already making a real difference within our communities, supporting vulnerable young people and helping to keep residents safe."

Councillor Jane Mudd, Leader of Newport City Council, said: "All the partners are determined to keep vulnerable young people safe from the clutches of serious and organised criminals both for their sake but also because of the impact such criminality has on individuals, families, communities and our city."

A number of proposals will also be presented to Cabinet at their December meeting and will then be subject to a full public consultation.

The responses to the consultation will be considered by Cabinet early in the new year and a final budget recommended in February 2021.

For more information on the council budget and the latest updates and news, visit [www.newport.gov.uk/budget](http://www.newport.gov.uk/budget)



## MORE YOUNG PEOPLE IN EDUCATION, TRAINING OR WORK IN NEWPORT



**A determined and coordinated effort by the council and its partners has resulted in even more young people in Newport recorded as being in education, employment or training.**

Less than one per cent (0.9 per cent) of the year 11 age group was not in education, employment or training, raising the council to second in the all-Wales table and well above the Welsh average.

Councillor Jane Mudd, Leader of Newport City Council and Cardiff Capital Region cabinet member for learning, skills and talent, said: *“I’m delighted with these figures because they represent improved life chances for all those young people who might otherwise have slipped through the net.”*

Councillor Gail Giles, the council’s Cabinet Member for Education and Skills, said: *“This year’s excellent result reflects our continued determination and commitment to ensure every one of our young people is in school, training, work or college and I’m delighted we have been able to increase the numbers of those who are participating so significantly in recent years.”*



# COVID-19 – HOW HOMELESS PEOPLE WERE SUPPORTED

**In April, Newport City Council was charged with finding accommodation for those sleeping on the streets or at risk of rough sleeping after Wales went into lockdown.**

Councils across Wales had to find appropriate accommodation for people after the Welsh Government ruled they had a priority need so had to be found emergency or temporary accommodation.

In Newport, this was particularly challenging as the council does not have its own stock of homes so the housing team swung into action and worked with partner agencies to find shelter for everyone as quickly as possible.

Most importantly, an extensive range of support and services were provided as some homeless people have complex problems including substance abuse and mental health issues.

Councillor Jane Mudd, Leader of Newport City Council, said: *“A considerable amount of work has been done by council staff working with trusted partners such as Gwent Police, the Probation Service, Aneurin Bevan University Health*

*Board, Public Health Wales, The Wallich, Pobl, Eden Gate, the Olive Branch and the Salvation Army.*

*“We share a common aim – to end rough sleeping in the city. This will not happen overnight or easily in some cases but it is important that the support they are given is aimed at helping them off the streets, not helping them to remain there.”*

The council is now taking steps to build on this work and using a second phase of funding from the Welsh Government to increase supported housing availability and develop specialist health support services.

A bid was made to the Welsh Government for phase two funding and it has indicated funding of about £2.4 million in capital and £400,000 in revenue. While this is welcome, more will be needed, particularly revenue funding, to do all that is needed.

The proposed funding will help to create seven units of supported housing with MIND and eight units provided by housing association Melin.

A further four projects are being explored with Welsh Government that could provide another 38

units. The award for phase two will also fund a health board post to support people with mental health

issues and a team to support those with substance misuse problems.

## Homelessness Statistics as of end of August 2020



Temporary accommodation provision increased by



## PROVIDING VITAL SUPPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

**Newport's Community Connectors support people living in the Newport area to combat loneliness and social isolation by helping to find activities, joining a social group, making new friends or starting a new hobby.**

Since lockdown began at the end of March, Newport’s community connectors have supported over 1,000 people with information and advice on how to access services. With the help of volunteers from partner agencies such as POBL and Volunteering Matters, the connectors helped people gain

access to shopping and essential items, such as prescriptions and electric or gas token collection.

They also provided information about the council’s community hubs which gave access to food banks and Welsh Government food parcels for those who were shielding.

The team gathered information on the needs of people and the challenges they faced during this period and advised partner agencies for further support to be given.

The connectors continued to be in touch with those who

attended community groups such as the Chatty Café and offered regular wellbeing calls.

They also provided information on telephone befriending services for those who felt socially isolated during lockdown.

If you think they could help you or someone you know visit [www.newport.gov.uk/communityconnectors](http://www.newport.gov.uk/communityconnectors).

Alternatively email [communityconnectors@newport.gov.uk](mailto:communityconnectors@newport.gov.uk) or telephone 01633 656656 and ask for the community connectors.

## REMEMBER, REMEMBER...

**Remember to stay safe and legal this bonfire night.**

- Public bonfires should not be held due to Covid restrictions
- Bonfires are not permitted on council land
- Fly tipping is an offence
- If you need waste collected, book a bulky waste collection
- Know your Duty of Care - you have a legal duty to check that the person taking your waste is a registered waste carrier otherwise you could be fined or prosecuted

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