

# NM

## NEWPORT MATTERS

The official newspaper of Newport City Council

### NEWPORT FOOD FESTIVAL RETURNS FOR ITS 9TH YEAR



**Newport Food Festival, one of the biggest annual events organised by Newport City Council, will take place this year on Saturday 5 October.**

Last year's event saw more than 18,000 people flock to the city to sample delights from local producers, watch chef demonstrations, take part in masterclasses and soak up the fabulous entertainment and festival atmosphere.

The Food Festival, held in the city centre, attracts more than 75 wonderful food and drink producers ranging from organic dairy products to gourmet meats, through to an exciting

selection of local ales and ciders.

Previous years have attracted the talents of top chefs, including Newport-born and Michelin star chef Hywel Jones, Mark Sargeant and Masterchef finalists, Ping Coombs, Larkin Cen and Dale Williams who have all shown their support for the city and for the event.

Newport Food Festival would not be possible without the support of sponsors, friends and volunteers. If you would like to be involved in this fantastic city centre event, please find out more at [www.newportfoodfestival.gov.uk](http://www.newportfoodfestival.gov.uk)

## CIVIL PARKING ENFORCEMENT



▶ If you park on double yellow lines you could receive a £70 PCN

**July 1 2019 is an important date in Newport City Council's calendar – it is the day we take over civil parking enforcement (CPE) from Gwent Police.**

The decision was made in September 2018 after it became obvious residents wanted action over the number of motorists choosing to ignore the rules of the road.

In recent months council staff have been double checking traffic orders and ensuring the necessary parking enforcement signs and single and

double yellow lines are updated or replaced in readiness for the big day.

The council has also recruited a team of 12 civil enforcement officers who will be patrolling the streets across the city to ensure drivers are not breaking the rules.

If a vehicle is found to be parked unlawfully the officers will have the power to issue a penalty charge notice (PCN)

The council is taking over CPE from Gwent Police who will withdraw from parking enforcement on 30 June 2019 with the council

taking over from the next day. However, the responsibility of enforcing other traffic related legislation, particularly for more serious offences or where it is necessary in the interests of public safety, remains with Gwent Police.

A spokesperson for Gwent Police said: "We will continue to work in partnership with our colleagues at Newport City Council to ensure the city is a safe place to work and live, however we will no longer be the lead agency regarding parking offences.

"We welcome the fact that civil parking enforcement will be a

priority for the local authority, with significant resource being involved to make a positive difference within communities."

Newport City Council's CPE campaign to remind motorists of the rules of the Highway Code in relation to parking has been running for several weeks with a #ParkRight message.

Councillor Roger Jeavons, Newport City Council's cabinet member for Streetscene, said:

"Staff taking on the duties of civil parking enforcement will be fully

trained in readiness for the big day. And in the two weeks in the run up to us taking on CPE our team will be issuing warning notices to motorists who park illegally, after 1 July this will be an offence and motorists will face a £70 penalty.

"We will constantly be reminding our residents of parking legislation, which is outlined in the Highway Code, in the next few months with our #ParkRight campaign.

"There is little excuse for people to say they are unaware of the changeover from Gwent Police to Newport City Council."

## PROJECT HELPING PATIENTS RETURN HOME

**Home First is a new scheme bringing together health and social care to ensure patients receive the right care, in the right place, at the right time.**

It is transforming the way people are assessed when they first arrive in hospital.

The scheme involves either a social worker or occupational therapist working with hospital staff on pre-admission wards in the Royal Gwent and Nevill Hall Hospitals.

They identify patients from across the five council areas who do not need to be admitted but may need additional information, advice, assistance and support so they can be discharged.

For many people, being admitted to hospital is sometimes inevitable but they can face difficulties in going back home and Home First means that some of these patients can now be discharged home more quickly.



## NEWPORT WEST BY-ELECTION

**The by-election for the Newport West parliamentary seat took place on Thursday 4 April 2019, following the death of Labour Party MP Paul Flynn.**

An overnight count took place at the Geraint Thomas National Velodrome of Wales, Newport International Sports Village.

The seat was held by Labour with Ruth Jones elected as the new MP.

Turnout was 37.1 per cent.

# HUB WILL PROVIDE RIGHT SUPPORT, IN RIGHT PLACE



**Work is progressing well on the transformation of Ringland community centre into Newport's first neighbourhood hub to put residents at the heart of service delivery.**

Last year, the city council agreed to develop the hub concept to enhance and integrate the delivery of support services.

Ringland was chosen as the first location to pilot the model before it is rolled out to other areas.

Local company TPS won the contract to reconfigure and modernise the community centre which will become home to many community services such as Work & Skills, youth

services, Families First, Resilient Communities, libraries, Flying Start and other partner organisations.

At the moment these services are managed across a number of buildings across the city. When complete, these services will be managed in the neighbourhood hub but they will still be delivered to residents in Alway, Somerton, Moorland Park (East Newport community centre) and St Julians (the Beaufort Centre).

Council leader Councillor Debbie Wilcox said: "We want to provide a much more effective way of delivering services to benefit residents who most need support. At the moment, that can mean going to a number of different sites to

access services or possibly missing out on support that could make a real difference to their lives.

*"By bringing the management of those services into the hub, there will be one point of contact for families and individual that will ensure they are given the right support, in the right place."*

Councillor David Mayer, cabinet member for community and resources, said:

*"Ringland Library will have an enhanced environment and partners are also planning to join us in the hub. It will create a local 'one stop shop' for residents and will make sure they are getting the assistance they need to lead fulfilling lives."*

## SAFE, WARM AND SECURE HOMES

**Long-term empty homes can reduce the housing supply and cause problems for neighbours so the Welsh Government wants councils to return such properties to use.**

From April this year, the council no longer allows a discount on the council tax payable for empty homes unless it falls into one of the exempt categories.

It does, however, offer interest free loans to owners to help bring empty properties back into beneficial use, subject

to qualifying criteria.

The loans, which can be used to renovate and improve single properties or convert buildings into a number of residential units, are for up to £25,000 per self-contained flat or house. There is an overall maximum of £250,000 per borrower, subject to the availability of funding.

As part of the safe, warm and secure scheme, the council also offers interest free loans to eligible homeowners to carry out essential property improvements.

Loans of £1,000 to £25,000 are for a maximum period of five years.

Newport City Council has a contract with the Robert Owen Community Banking Fund to administer the owner-occupier loans although the authority will still be the lender.

The fund, based in Powys, provides ethical investment opportunities for businesses, charities and local authorities and brings affordable finance to local communities.

For more information about the council's housing improvements loans or its empty homes strategy visit [www.newport.gov.uk/emptyhomes](http://www.newport.gov.uk/emptyhomes)

## BREXIT

**We don't yet know what the precise impact of Brexit will be on people living in Newport, on businesses operating in our city or on the public services we all rely on.**

However, the council has been taking practical steps and considering mitigations to ensure the continued delivery of services in Newport.

We are working closely with Welsh Government, the Welsh Local Government Association, neighbouring authorities and other organisations to ensure we are aware of the most up-to-date developments.

**For the latest information visit [www.newport.gov.uk/brexit](http://www.newport.gov.uk/brexit)**



*The Glutton machine is used by Newport City Council cleansing team. It acts as a giant vacuum cleaner and can pick up litter, leaves and most importantly cigarette butts from under benches, other street furniture and hard to reach places.*

The council does not have its own housing stock but it does have a small portfolio of properties leased from private owners. Leases are normally for three to five years and properties are fully managed by the council throughout that period. Anyone interested in leasing to the council should call 01633 656656 and ask for the private sector leasing team.



## NIGHT SHELTER APPEAL FOR VOLUNTEERS



As part of the work to assist rough sleepers, the council has worked in partnership with Eden Gate on an extensive refurbishment of a year-round emergency night shelter.

Since 2009, the charity has operated a night shelter during the winter months so some of the city's most vulnerable people do not have to sleep on the streets.

Newport Night Shelter Plus, like most services of its kind, will rely on volunteers and Eden Gate has appealed for anyone interested to get in touch.

The role will mainly involve providing a warm and friendly welcome to all their guests.

For more information email [info@edengate.org.uk](mailto:info@edengate.org.uk)

## SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

Take up this year's summer reading challenge with Newport libraries. Every year the Reading Agency works with libraries to encourage children to keep their reading skills and love of books through the school holidays. This year's theme is Space Chase, an out-of-this-world adventure inspired by the 50th anniversary of the first moon landing.

Ask at your local library from Saturday 13 July and join our super space family, the Rockets, for a thrilling mission to track down books nabbed by mischievous aliens!



## CYBER TEAM PICKS UP NATIONAL AWARD

The University of South Wales has been named the Cyber University of the Year at the National Cyber Awards 2019.

The inaugural awards, held last month, announced that USW Newport Campus, had been recognised as the best

Last spring, a grant of £2.5 million was awarded by the National Lottery to help recapture, enhance and celebrate the historic Gwent Levels.

Just over a year later, the Living Levels programme to promote and reconnect people to the heritage, wildlife and beauty of the landscape is already making a real difference.

A series of projects, many involving local volunteers, have taken place helping to restore and enhance the natural environment.

Most of the Gwent Levels lie in Newport but also stretch into Cardiff and Monmouthshire, areas which have been worked and lived on for centuries.

It is a complex area with a unique landscape encompassing both rural and urban areas, borders the sea, has a rich history and provides wildlife and nature havens.

The Living Levels partnership is led by RSPB Cymru and includes three local authorities - Cardiff, Newport and Monmouthshire - Natural Resources Wales, Gwent Wildlife Trust, Gwent Archives, Buglife Cymru, Bumblebee Conservation Trust, the National Trust, Cardiff Story Museum and Sustrans.

It has been working with farmers and landowners to clear ditches, pollard trees, develop pollinator sites and even restore orchards which contain unique pear and apple varieties.

One of the key areas of progress has been to tackle fly-tipping and clear the reens. Natural Resources Wales has led on this work with the councils.

Another aim of the programme is to improve access and interpretation to help residents rediscover the asset.

university in the country for providing cyber education.

The awards aim to reward those who are committed to cyber innovation, cyber crime reduction and protecting the citizen online.

USW fought off competition from Royal Holloway University of London and the University of Gloucestershire who were also shortlisted.

Andrew Bellamy, Course Leader in Computer Forensics, said: "It was an absolute honour to have

won the award for Cyber University of the Year at the inaugural National Cyber Awards last night.

"It's great that cyber at USW is being recognised nationally for the work we do around outreach, innovative teaching and our engagement with industry. This award really does validate all the hard work and dedication of our cyber team."



## WORKING TO PRESERVE A UNIQUE LANDSCAPE



► The Tin Shed Theatre Company perform Big Skies

A third, and very important strand, is to enhance skills and learning. As well as working to provide educational resources to all primary schools on the Levels, there are projects such as Big Skies with the Tin Shed Theatre Company, an

oral historian has been appointed and there are events where people can learn traditional skills.

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



## FINDING HELP TO ASSIST WITH DAILY ACTIVITIES

Newport residents can use an online assessment tool to help them find useful information about products to make it easier to carry out daily activities at home.

AskSARA is run by the national charity Disabled Living Foundation and has been licensed for use by Newport City Council.

It is free and easy to use and can provide ideas and tips about ways to make life easier; details of products that might help and where to get them and contacts for more advice and support if needed.

For more information or to try the self-assessment tool visit [www.newport.gov.uk/asksara](http://www.newport.gov.uk/asksara)

## CYCLE NEWPORT!

The council is exploring the introduction of a cycle hire scheme across the city and would like to hear the views of residents.

It would support the work the council is delivering to encourage more journeys to be made by sustainable travel and contribute to Newport's continued transformation into a modern, thriving and vibrant city.

In order to determine support for the scheme and identify locations across the city, the council is reaching out to residents, as well as major employers and public service providers, for their views.

Please complete the following online short questionnaire by following the links below:

**English:** <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/CycleNewport>

**Welsh:** <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/BeicioCasnewydd>

# WELSH LANGUAGE BROUGHT ALIVE THROUGH SONG

**Youngsters learning Welsh in Newport are showing off their language skills in a series of videos now available on YouTube.**

Newport City Council and Mudiad Meithrin, the voluntary organisation specialising in Welsh-medium early years provision, have worked together to produce a playlist of eight videos.

These show children from Mudiad Meithrin and Ysgol Bro Teyrnnon singing simple Welsh language songs, with subtitles.

The work is part of Newport's Becoming Bilingual/ Bod yn Ddwyeithog project [www.newport.gov.uk/becomingbilingual/](http://www.newport.gov.uk/becomingbilingual/)

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

Newport City Council's cabinet member for education and skills, Councillor Gail Giles, attended the launch: "These innovative videos will enable Welsh language songs to be available to people at home to show and sing along with their children. Whether children are in Welsh or English medium education, they will enjoy these songs.

"Children are getting an excellent educational start in attending Mudiad Meithrin at Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Teyrnnon. And it is obvious they are happy and confident in Welsh – a language that most of them have only learnt for a few months. It will assist them as they start their Welsh medium education

and become fully bilingual, and some multilingual, over the coming years."

A fourth Welsh medium primary school in Newport is due to open in September 2020.

Leanne Marsh, Mudiad Meithrin's acting chief executive, said: "We welcome this opportunity to work with Newport County Council to promote the benefits of bilingualism. The videos are a great resource to promote and introduce the Welsh language within the home and starting families on their bilingual journey."

See the videos here <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLTkXQGICFE4sd7I fijHfln6oTGW53-DN>



Cllr Gail Giles with youngsters from Mudiad Meithrin and Ysgol Bro Teyrnnon at the launch of the Welsh language videos

## NEW MAYOR FOR 2019/20



**Councillor William J Routley, who likes to be known as Will, is the new Mayor of Newport**

### for the coming civic year

Born in Newport he spent his early years in Pill, where his grandparents also lived. He moved to Alway but made regular visits to his grandparents, forming many good friendships and considering Pill his second home.

After leaving St Joseph's High School aged 15, he worked at Hancocks Brewery then the White Rose laundry and Standard Telephone and Cables.

While visiting family in Germany he won a window-cleaning round in a game of cards, and became the official window

cleaner at RAF Brüggen.

On returning to Newport he became a travelling entertainer then attended Caerleon College of Higher Education studying social and trade union affairs. He currently works for the NHS.

He has been a councillor for Alway, Stow Hill and Langstone.

The Mayoress is Cllr Routley's partner Alison Robbins, a registered nurse, and a continuing healthcare case manager based at St Cadocs Hospital.

Deputy mayor is Councillor Charles Ferris and the deputy mayoress is Caroline Ferris.

## ALLOTMENTS

### Would you like to grow your own food but don't have a suitable patch of ground?

Do you fancy working out in the open air either by yourself or with a group of family and friends?

Then maybe you should consider renting one of the hundreds of allotments available from Newport City Council from as little as £60 a year?

All you have to do is contact the site secretary of the area where you would like to be – visit [www.newport.gov.uk/en/Leisure-Tourism/Allotments/Allotments.aspx](http://www.newport.gov.uk/en/Leisure-Tourism/Allotments/Allotments.aspx) for a list of sites and for more details on how to go about being an allotment holder.



## PILL CRIME PREVENTION PANEL

**The Pill Crime Prevention Panel is recruiting new members.**

A crime prevention panel is a group of volunteers that work with the police to prevent crime in their communities.

This could include helping to improve home security, patrols to identify potential victims of crime, raising awareness of crime prevention techniques, community speed watch, and a range of other initiatives to help residents stay safe.

Crime prevention panels are funded by the office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent.

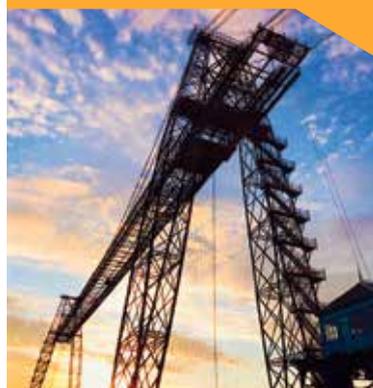
Police and Crime Commissioner Jeff Cuthbert, said:

"Crime Prevention Panels do a valuable job in our communities, working incredibly hard to help prevent localised crime and support vulnerable people. This is a great opportunity for anyone who wants to make a difference in their community."

Members of the crime prevention panel are subject to basic police vetting checks and must be aged 18 or over.

For more information contact [pillcrimepreventionpanel@gmail.com](mailto:pillcrimepreventionpanel@gmail.com)

## TALES OF THE TRANSPORTER



### A project to find residents with links to Newport Transporter Bridge is now underway.

A series of 'living history' videos are being recorded and will be available on the council's Youtube channel and on the South Wales Argus website.

The idea is to show the Heritage Lottery Fund, which allocated £1 million to the Transporter Bridge project back in 2018, that the Bridge is profoundly connected to the local population and that there is enough interest and enthusiasm to support the application which aims to capture £10 million to secure the bridge's future, build a new visitor centre and pay for the

costly maintenance of the bridge which is now 113 years old.

The Transporter Bridge team, made up of council officers and members of the Friends of Newport Transporter Bridge, are appealing for information and photographs to help with the HLF redevelopment project.

So talk to relatives, look at your photo albums and then get in touch with the team on transporter.bridge@newport.gov.uk or via social media @NpTBridge

Volunteers are also needed. If you enjoy meeting people, care about local history and have a few hours free each month then get in touch.

## SMALLER BINS ROLLOUT

**Many households across the city will now be in possession of their smaller refuse bin as Newport City Council continues the roll out of this programme.**

Each year the council spends around £2.2m disposing of waste – yet more than half the contents of rubbish bins contain items of easily recyclable materials, food or garden waste.

The introduction of the smaller 120litre wheeled bins started in April and was due to last three months.

A council spokesperson said: “We know Newport is already one of the best performing cities in the UK for recycling however in order to meet Welsh Government targets of 70 per cent recycling – and to avoid heavy penalties – we all need to do more.”

Full details of why the changes have been made, what you can and can't recycle and how you can request additional recycling containers is available at [www.newport.gov.uk/recycling](http://www.newport.gov.uk/recycling) and the website of Wastesavers, our recycling partners, [www.wastesavers.co.uk](http://www.wastesavers.co.uk)



## CITY'S PLANS FOR NEW WELSH MEDIUM PRIMARY REVEALED

**Newport City Council has announced plans for a fourth Welsh-medium primary in the city from September 2020, increasing the current number of Welsh-medium primary school places across the city by 50 per cent.**

Within the council's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP), which was formally approved by Welsh Government last year, was a commitment to expand primary provision. This was supported by a pledge from Welsh Government for capital funding.

Almost £6m is now set to be invested in the new Welsh-medium school and two other schools in the west of the city.

It is proposed that the Welsh-medium school be developed at the current site of Pillgwenly Primary. Following a £3m refurbishment, it would take-up home there in September 2022.

It is also proposed that a seedling school be established from September 2020, located within the vacant infant building at Caerleon Lodge Hill.

In order to support this ambitious proposal, the current Pillgwenly Primary would move to a new facility on the Whiteheads development in early 2022.

This relocation would allow the popular and already over-subscribed school to grow, offering three-form entry. The school currently has high numbers of children on

the waiting list for all year groups and in many cases, families living in the area find that their children have to attend different schools. This investment would reduce the number of families in that situation.

Money would also be invested in Tredegar Park Primary.

Councillor Debbie Wilcox, Leader of Newport City Council, said: “We made a commitment to expand and enhance the opportunities for Welsh-medium education in Newport and we are delivering on that promise.

“Basing the new school in Pill would meet a demand in this area of the city. We have also seen excellent examples of thriving Welsh-medium education within BME communities, such as Butetown, Cardiff, and I am excited to develop this in Newport. The expansion of Pillgwenly Primary would also be invaluable to meeting the needs of the local community and enhancing education and attendance across the board.”

# 2019 WESTFIELD HEALTH BRITISH TRANSPLANT GAMES

**As Newport Matters went to press, the 2019 Westfield Health British Transplant Games are on target to attract an amazing 2,500 participants to the city from across the UK.**

Hotels will be bulging for the four nights of the Games, and undoubtedly, participants and supporters will be visiting the restaurants and shopping areas in their free time.

The Games is the flagship event of the charity, Transplant Sport, and takes place in Newport from Thursday 25 to Sunday 28 July. Team Wales is set to have its largest ever squad.

It is only the second time the Games have been staged in Wales in its 42-year history. All ages and abilities are welcome, and the Games offer something for everyone, including snooker, darts, archery and bowls. You can be a beginner to take part.

The anticipated scale of the economic impact to the city of Newport is forecasted at £1.5 million in hard cash terms based on accommodation, meals and secondary spend.

Games events manager, Andrew Bridge, says the figure is based on the entries currently flying

in to the Games organisers:

“We opened entries on 1 March and within the month, more than 1,500 entries were received. That's 10 per cent up on corresponding entries for the 2018 Westfield Health British Transplant Games in Birmingham, when numbers rose to a record 2,750 accredited participants.”

The action takes place at sports venues across the city and there will be opportunities for local communities to get involved.

Mr Bridge added:

“The opening ceremony is set to be a brilliant event and we invite the people of Newport and the surrounding area to come and be a part of it. We also have the Donor Run which takes place on Saturday 27 July which is open to the general public. It is a four-day festival of sport and life and we encourage everyone to come along and support. Spectating is free.”

David Nix, president of the UK Donor Family Network, said:

“The Games aim to highlight the need for an organ donation conversation so that loved ones are fully aware of your wishes. Families are more likely to support organ donation when they know



that is what their relative wanted to do.”

As of 31 December 2018, there were 232 patients in Wales waiting for a transplant. In the first three quarters of 2018/19, 19 patients died while on the active waiting list.

The event, in addition to title sponsors, Westfield Health, is supported by the Welsh Government, Newport City Council, Newport Live, local health boards across Wales, NHS Blood and Transplant, Kidney Care UK, Anthony

Nolan Register, and the Donor Family Network. Further sponsors from the area include Friars Walk, Icon Design, Rodney Parade and Celtic Manor, while local suppliers are being targeted by the organisers to assist with the delivery of the Games.

# NATIONAL SOFTWARE ACADEMY COMPLETES ITS FIRST YEAR AT NEWPORT'S INFORMATION STATION

**Cardiff University's National Software Academy is coming to the end of its first academic year at Newport's Information Station, having expanded into the building in September 2018.**

The new premises have proved to be a success, providing the ideal environment for students to take advantage of the Academy's pioneering project-based style of learning and teaching.

During this academic year, the Academy's students have supported a range of projects with clients including Natural Resources Wales, Cardiff City Council, Transport for Wales, Cardiff University's Brain Imaging Centre and Fujitsu.

The students have also considered several healthcare solutions including apps that allow cancer

patients to spend more time at home, as well as the use of robotics to aid those suffering from dementia and loneliness.

The Academy welcomed its first cohort of postgraduate students to the Academy in September 2018. The new MSc degree in Software Engineering has proved popular, with increasing applications for the September 2019 intake. The Academy looks forward to building upon the experience of the first cohort in the coming years.

Cardiff University is a partner in the Institute of Coding which has been established by the UK Government to promote digital skills and careers.

Over the year, the university has worked with a number of schools in Newport to establish coding clubs and is keen to continue future work in the local community.



Inside Cardiff University's National Software Academy at Newport Information Station

## WHAT'S ON



### RIVERFRONT THEATRE 01633 656656

[www.newportlive.co.uk/riverfront](http://www.newportlive.co.uk/riverfront)

#### 25 May Welsh National Opera presents Don Pasquale

Follow the exploits of Don Pasquale in this riotous new version of Donizetti's classic comic opera. Set in and around Pasquale's doner kebab van, it tells the story of an old bachelor's romantic delusions and the young lovers who outwit him.

#### 30 & 31 May Ballet Cymru: Romeo a Juliet

Award winning company, Ballet Cymru, present an extraordinary adaptation of Shakespeare's masterpiece Romeo and Juliet.

#### 21 June The Simon and Garfunkel Story

Using projection photos and original film footage, this 50th anniversary celebration features a full live band performing all the hits.

### RIVERFRONT CAFÉ 23 May, 10am – 11.30am Carers Group

Do you help to look after someone? Join the Community Connectors and other carers for a cuppa and a chat anytime between 10am and 11.30am

### NEWPORT MUSEUM & ART GALLERY 01633 656656 [www.newport.gov.uk/heritage](http://www.newport.gov.uk/heritage) Until 2 July

**Remember When?**  
Chat to one of our volunteers and share your memories of growing up in Newport. Every Tuesday at 2pm on the Museum mezzanine.

### DOLMAN THEATRE 01633 263670 [www.dolmantheatre.co.uk](http://www.dolmantheatre.co.uk) 24-25 May Seussical Jnr

The Mini Venture Players bring to life your favourite Dr. Seuss characters in this musical extravaganza where the powers of friendship, loyalty, family and community are challenged and emerge triumphant!

**11-15 June  
Things We Do For Love**  
Newport Playgoers Society present Alan Ayckbourn's comedy of love and relationships.

## COUNCIL SIGNS UP TO TUC'S DYING TO WORK CHARTER

**A commitment to support employees with a terminal illness has been declared by Newport City Council by backing the TUC's Dying to Work campaign.**

Council leader, Councillor Debbie Wilcox, made the pledge on behalf of the council at the April cabinet meeting.

The TUC is calling for employers across the UK to sign their charter and agree not to dismiss any employee diagnosed with a terminal condition.

In order to meet the requirements of the charter the council is committing itself to several actions, including reviewing its sick pay and sickness absence policy to include a specific statement that no employee with a terminal diagnosis will be dismissed because of their condition.

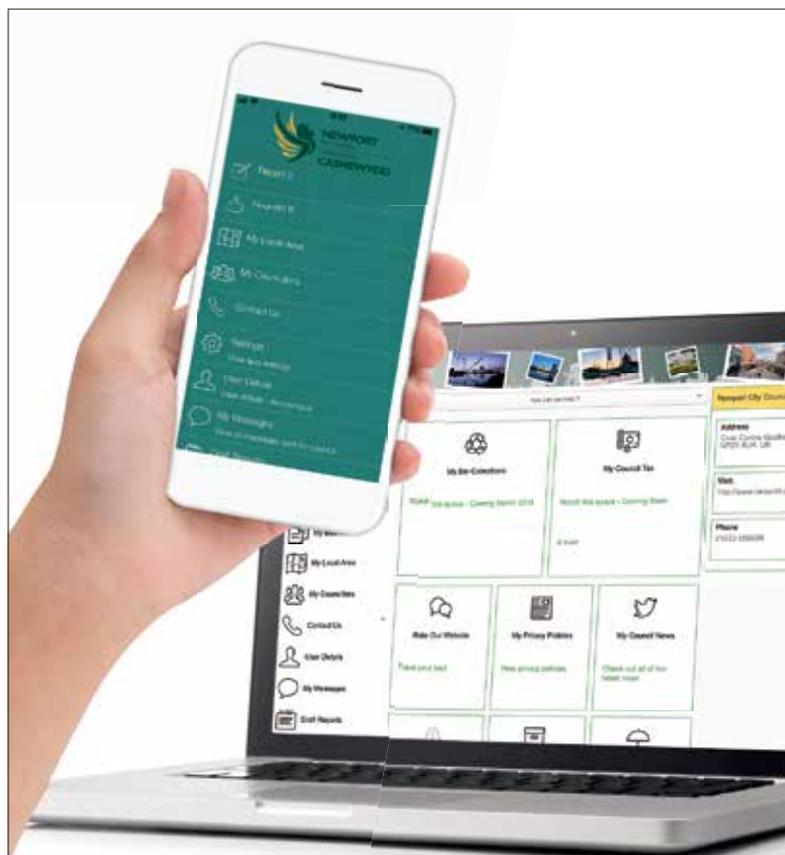
Procedures will also be put in place to create an employee assistance programme which will aim to provide support and allow access to counselling and financial advice.



By signing the Charter Newport City Council is also agreeing to provide training to line managers and human resources staff so plans can be put in place so any employee with a diagnosis of a terminal illness can have adaptations to their work arrangements as and when required.

The council's details will be added to the campaign website alongside other Welsh local authorities including Caerphilly, Cardiff, Carmarthenshire and Neath Port Talbot.

Councillor Wilcox said: "By signing the Dying to Work charter we are demonstrating our council's commitment to supporting employees and their families during very difficult times of need and respecting an employee's wishes not to be dismissed when diagnosed with a terminal condition."



**Arbedwch amser**  
Ewch ar-lein

**Save time**  
Go online

**Adrodd, Gofyn, Talu ac Olrhain**  
Gwasanaethau'r Cyngor ar unrhyw adeg  
[www.newport.gov.uk](http://www.newport.gov.uk)

**Report, Request, Pay & Track**  
Council services at any time  
[www.newport.gov.uk](http://www.newport.gov.uk)

