

District Council Report

July 2022

The first results of the 2021 Census have been released this week by the Office for National Statistics, providing a glimpse of how Chichester District's population has changed over the past decade.

The population size of the district has increased by 9.1%, from around 113,800 in 2011 to 124,100 in 2021. This is higher than the overall increase for England (6.6%), where the population grew by nearly 3.5 million to 56,489,800 and higher than the increase for the Southeast (7.5%).

The results also show that within the district there has been an increase of 20.8% in people aged 65 years and over; an increase of 5.7% in people aged 15 to 64 years; and, an increase of 3.6% in children aged under 15 years.

The Novium Museum officially turns 10 years old on 8 July 2022. They'll be celebrating with a day-long birthday party the following day, on Saturday, 9 July and inviting residents and visitors to join us. Historical characters will bring the museum to life throughout the day:

- meet Brutus, our brave Centurion
- play traditional parlour games with a Victorian teacher
- try your hand at code breaking • learn about life in space with our astronaut in training
- take part in a mini archaeological dig with 'Dr Forbes', founder of the original Chichester museum

The District Council are currently working on a new 5 year off and on street parking strategy, probably due in the Autumn. (No doubt it will still cost more to park! If you can find a space).

Midhurst Vision moves closer to a final report. Deacon's work (the consultant) will present their findings at The Spread Eagle on Tuesday 6th September at 5.30pm, all interested parties invited. The community consultation would then start at The Grange the next day 7th from 3.30pm to 7.30pm.

The Office of the Police Crime Commissioner (OPCC) has recently launched the Safe Space Sussex App. The app can now be downloaded for free from both the Apple and Google store. The App was designed to enable users to locate safe spaces near to their location at any given time. The App now has over 275 safe spaces across the county with more added every week. It enables the user to assign a named contact who will receive an SMS when triggered of the users GPS and What3Words location asking them to call the user as they feel unsafe.

Payments for eligible residents who pay by direct debit commenced on 11 April 2022. So far, over £4.3 million has been paid out to 28,860 residents. This equates to 80% of all payments being made as of 13 June 2022. CDC is writing to residents who do not pay their Council Tax by direct debit so that they can ask for their bank details to make the payment. Officers continue to work extremely hard to ensure eligible residents receive their payments as quickly as possible.