

## **200304 Cranborne & Alderholt Ward Dorset Councillor Report for Alderholt Parish Council**

### Climate Change

The Council has launched a “Call for Ideas” for people to put forward suggestions as to how the Council may be able to help tackle climate change.

The Council is looking at five main themes:

- Buildings
- Transport
- Waste & Energy
- Natural Environment
- Leadership and Influence

Enquiry Days have been held – where a large number of ideas were put forward for consideration

### Housebuilding in Rural Areas

Dorset Council has recently refused an “in principle” housing application on the grounds that the village (in this case Owermoigne, just off the A352 south west of Dorchester) is not a sustainable place to build more housing due to lack of shops, poor bus service, and the need to travel by car to get anywhere. This decision may be a precedent for the refusal of development in similar villages.

### Dorset Council Housing Allocation Policy

Dorset Council is drafting a new policy looking at how people access social housing in the area. The new policy will come into effect on 1 April 2021 and aims to:

- offer people seeking accommodation a choice about where they live
- be fair and easy to use
- offer solutions to those most in need while making the best use of the housing stock available

It will replace the Christchurch and East Dorset Joint Housing Allocation Policy and the Dorset Homechoice Common Allocation Policy.

Applications for social housing in Dorset are currently being decided under the old council geographical boundaries that were present before 1 April 2019.

As part of local government reorganisation (LGR) central Government agreed a period of two years to put in place new housing allocation policies for Bournemouth Christchurch & Poole Council and Dorset Council. These policies must come into effect on 1 April 2021.

No changes to how applicants apply for social housing or the criteria to decide a local connection will come into effect before 1 April 2021.

[www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/housing-register-survey](http://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/housing-register-survey)

## Somerley HRC

There are a lot of questions being raised regarding access to Somerley HRC, many prompted by an article in the previous edition of Ringwood and Fordingbridge News. I'd like to take the opportunity to reiterate that Dorset residents will not be charged to use the HRC. Dorset Council has come to an agreement with Hampshire County Council and the method of registration for Dorset residents will be announced by HCC in due course.

In the meantime if anyone is told they need to pay when they go to the tip then politely decline, and tell me.