

County report for October 22

Adult Social Care

As well as being your County Councillor I am currently also Deputy Chair of a Board at the Local Government Association which support local government in its delivery of its health responsibilities including adult social care. It is in that role that along with cross party colleagues we have written to the Secretary of State with our grave concerns about the current pressures facing social care and the capacity and financial resources required to deliver the Government's reform agenda. alongside NHS leaders we are sounding the alarm on social care and called for a "rescue package for the sector. Unless action is taken and government rethinks its plans, people who draw on care may experience reductions in quality and availability of care and support services.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE COST OF LIVING

East Sussex County Council has a webpage giving information about help with the cost-of-living crisis. Each section contains links to resources aimed at assisting individuals and families experiencing the impact of the cost-of-living challenges that we currently face. Here's the link:

[Support with the cost of living | East Sussex County Council](#)

Support from Lewes District is here: <https://www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/community/cost-of-living-crisis/help-with-the-rising-costs-of-living-including-home-energy/>

DISPOSAL OF BATTERIES

We know that there have been recent fires at waste sites and on collection vehicles, so it is vital that we all dispose of our old batteries carefully. There have been nine fires at waste sites in East Sussex so far this year, including three where the cause has been attributed to batteries found in the waste material. Batteries that are incorrectly disposed of can explode or ignite after being squashed, compacted, punctured, soaked in liquid or exposed to heat at waste sites or on collection vehicles. There is also a risk that batteries, especially lithium-ion batteries, that are incorrectly thrown away could cause a fire in people's waste or recycling bins.

More information and details of the best places across all areas of East Sussex to safely dispose of batteries can be found at www.takecharge.org.uk.

FOSTER CARERS NEEDED

East Sussex County Council is in need of more foster carers. Help and advice is available to ESCC foster carers, day or night and every foster carer has a dedicated social worker who is

locally based in East Sussex. In addition, a 24-hour telephone helpline is available, 7 days a week. Here's a link to a film where you can find out more:

www.eastsussex.gov.uk/FosterForEastSussex