

County Council Report February 2024

Budget

The Council's **budget and Council Plan** for 2024/25 were approved at the meeting of Full Council on 6 February 2024. Councillors approved a £538m net revenue budget for 2024/25 with no new cuts to services. The decision not to reduce services was taken despite the rising cost of providing them and funding not keeping pace. In setting a balanced budget, Councillors agreed to use £14.3m of the Council's limited financial reserves to meet the shortfall and to increase council tax by 4.99%.

Roadworks

Newhaven Road, Lewes

There will be carrying targeted patch repairs in Newhaven Road, Lewes on **Tuesday 12 March** .

The road will remain open with temporary traffic lights in place between the hours of 9:30am-3pm.

Properties close to the carriageway may experience a temporary disturbance as this can be a noisy process and those properties may experience flashing lights and reversing sirens.

For information on roadworks and journey planning, visit www.One.Network.com. Please follow us on X (formerly Twitter) [@escicroads](https://twitter.com/escicroads) or Facebook [@EastSussexHighways for updates](https://www.facebook.com/EastSussexHighways). If you would like to know more about East Sussex Highways and what we do, please visit our website www.eastsussexhighways.com.

Thank you,

More Homes for Ukrainians needed

With Ukrainians still being forced to flee their homes, and those already in the county looking for settled accommodation, residents are being asked to consider becoming a host family for those seeking refuge.

Since the beginning of the conflict in February 2022, more than 800 host families have welcomed over 1800 guests to the county, with local groups and organisations providing support and services to help them settle and achieve independence. Hosts have played an invaluable role in helping Ukrainian guests to build an independent life in this country.

More information about the scheme can be found at <https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/community/supporting-refugees/ukraine/could-you-provide-a-safe-home-for-ukrainian-guests>, alternatively residents wanting to find out more can email ukraine@eastsussex.gov.uk or call the advice line between 10am and 4pm, Monday to Friday on 01273 337010