

Skills Bootcamp Training

Hampshire’s Skills Bootcamp training is to run again for a further year, thanks to an award of £3.8 million from the Department for Education (DfE). This free, fast-track training programme is offered to Hampshire residents and employers, enabling both those in work and job seekers to gain further training and secure higher paid roles, with employers benefitting from upskilled employees.



This latest round of funding will enable training to be offered to at least 1,000 learners and will additionally include training in coding, construction, engineering, project management, early years education, health and social care, and hospitality and tourism.

The courses are flexible with learning planned to fit around professional and family commitments allowing people in different circumstances to gain the skills employers are looking for.

For most Skills Bootcamp courses, no previous knowledge in the subject is needed. Courses can be classroom-based, on-the-job or online and unemployed participants are guaranteed a job interview at the end of their course.

More information and guidance is available for residents and businesses online at hants.gov.uk/business/skillsbootcamp - including on how to find a course and how to apply.

For those who need help deciding on suitable courses, an online National Careers Service Skills Assessment - <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/skills-assessment> - is available to establish an individual’s existing skills and match them to potential careers.

Future Services – changes to planned decision-making dates

Following the announcement that a General Election will be held on 4th July 2024, decisions on proposals in relation to the findings of the Future Services Consultation held earlier this year, will be postponed until this autumn.

Vote to Tackle Abuse and Intimidation

At the County Council’s AGM on Thursday 23rd May, County Councillors voted unanimously to support a Motion to sign up to the campaign and challenge the normalisation of abusive and aggressive behaviours against Councillors, officers and contractors delivering public services for Hampshire residents.

With 7 in 10 councillors nationally experiencing abuse or intimidation in the last year according to the LGA's 2022 Councillor census, the body has been working for some time to build a better understanding of the issue of abuse, intimidation and aggression directed at elected members and what individuals, local organisations and national government can do to reverse this trend. The Local Authority has also committed to work closely with the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Police and Crime Commissioner to ensure there is a clear and joined-up mechanism for reporting threats and other concerns about the safety of councillors and their families.

New Leader for Hampshire County Council

Councillor Nick Adams-King has been elected as the new County Council Leader. The County Council met to formally establish the new administration where Councillor Adams-King officially took up his new role, following a decision by Councillor Rob Humby to step down as Leader following two years in post.

Young People Vote Climate Change and Environment as Top Concern

More than 25,000 young people across Hampshire have taken part in Make Your Mark, the UK’s biggest youth consultation, to choose campaign priorities for young politicians to focus on in the coming two years

Make Your Mark participants, aged between 11 and 18 years, were asked what issue affects them most from a shortlist of 10 issues. Young people of Hampshire voted Climate Change and the Environment as their top issue for 2024, as it has been in the Hampshire ballot since 2019.

The issue of health and wellbeing was voted a close second in Hampshire while it was the most important topic for young people across the UK. The consultation also showed crime and safety as a major concern for young people both in Hampshire and across the whole country.

Over half a million young people took part in the consultation nationally with Hampshire receiving the second most votes. Hampshire Youth Parliament is continuing its climate campaign by running its third Hampshire Climate Conference in September in partnership with Winchester College and the Final Straw Foundation. It will bring together pupils from across Hampshire to hear from keynote speakers and learn about environmental issues in a variety of interactive climate-based workshops.

£8.3 million Investment for Refurbishment Projects at three Hampshire Schools

Pupils at Crookhorn College and Hart Plain Infant School in Waterlooville, and Henry Beaufort School in Winchester, are set to benefit from a multi-million-pound school refurbishment. School buildings, which were built in the 1960s, will receive a range of upgrades including double glazing, increased insulation and new roofing which will improve the condition of the building, improve the teaching environment, and help to reduce energy bills and carbon emissions. The funding comes from a Department for Education grant to maintain and improve the condition of school buildings and grounds.

The projects are as follows:

- Crookhorn College, at an estimated cost of £3.45 million
- Henry Beaufort School, at an estimated cost of £3.48 million
- Hart Plain Infant School, at an estimated cost of £1.4 million

Work is planned to start in the summer of 2024 to utilise the school summer holiday and to avoid exam periods.

Hampshire's Unpaid Carers

A new, single countywide carers support service starting in September is set to offer help to Hampshire carers over the age of 18 years looking after someone with a long term health condition, **including dementia, and those looking after a person with a physical or learning disability**

The new service will provide a wide range of assistance comprising information and advice, direct one-to-one support where carers' needs are more complex, and contingency and emergency planning, helping carers to prepare plans in the event of an emergency and being unable to look after their loved one.

The 2021 Census identified 111,739 unpaid carers in Hampshire, although according to the Office for National Statistics the numbers are likely to be much higher than the Census figures indicate.

Further information about the local support available for the County's carers is available on Connect to Support Hampshire, the online resource for adults in Hampshire to support independent living, see <https://www.connecttosupporthampshire.org.uk/carers>

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