



- It has been an exceptionally busy time at Yeovil Country Park with the ranger team and Friends Group jointly receiving grants totalling £35,500 for event and activity delivery over the next few years. Then at the beginning of June the team had confirmation from the Heritage Lottery Fund that their bid had been successful for £251,000 allowing the team to embark upon a diverse 3 year project, which will improve the natural heritage and visitor offer at Yeovil Country Park, the first step is the recruitment of a Community Ranger to facilitate outreach work across the town.
- South Somerset Careline received excellent feedback from their recent customer survey; 98.5% of our customers are very satisfied or fairly satisfied with the service and 95% of our customers feel safer since having Careline.
- Streetscene team has been very busy – supporting Yeovil Marathon, Ilchester Youth Clean Up, Crewkerne Rotary Club Clean Up; all bedding plants installed and areas cleansed for Yeovil in Bloom judging (24 July); highway weed spraying across the town in the district completed, villages now starting.
- South Somerset District Council's Area South Development Team, Yeovil Town Council and Yeovil Without Parish Council have all contributed funding to employ a Ranger for one year. This dedicated Ranger from SSSC's Streetscene Team has already started work to ensure the town is kept looking its best. If successful it is hoped the project will be supported in future years.
- The Octagon Theatre's Summer School programme is set for three week long projects for children and young people to immerse themselves in theatre and learn new skills in music, dancing and drama. Building confidence and making new friends will also be a big part of the workshops.
- It's been a very busy time for Licensing as they have been giving a lot of help and advice over the last few months on the numerous summer events that take place in South Somerset. Officers have been visiting larger events and undertaking inspections to ensure organisers are complying with any conditions of their licence and that the events are safe for the public to attend.
- Over the last few months the planning service achieved a very significant improvement in terms of planning appeals. Over the last month the service has won 11 of the 12 appeals determined. This is a stark contrast to a success rate of only 50% at the same time last year.

Latest headlines:

- A consultation on Local Council Tax Support for South Somerset residents opened on 15 June for 8 weeks. The consultation invites members of the public to have their say on Council Tax Support and is held each year. You can view the survey at www.southsomerset.gov.uk/housing-and-benefits/benefits/lctconsultation.