

flagship

Spring 2024



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City helpdesk: **023 9283 4092** or
cityhelpdesk@portsmouthcc.gov.uk or
www.portsmouth.gov.uk/contactonline

Adult social care: **023 9268 0810** or
ASCoppdAdmin@portsmouthcc.gov.uk

Children's social care and safeguarding: **023 9283 9111**
or **023 9268 8793** or mash@portsmouthcc.gov.uk

Council tax: **023 9268 8588** or search **council tax**
at www.portsmouth.gov.uk

Parking: **023 9268 8310** or
parking@portsmouthcc.gov.uk

Recycling and rubbish: **023 9284 1105** or search
recycling and rubbish at www.portsmouth.gov.uk

Search **contact us** at www.portsmouth.gov.uk for our
A-Z contacts directory.

Payments

You can drop in at the Civic Offices to make a payment:
9am–4pm, Mon–Fri.

Cashiers are open 9am–1pm, self-serve payment
machines 1pm–4pm.

In-person appointments

The services below can arrange for you to speak to someone in person at the Civic Offices. You need to make an appointment, unless the issue is urgent, for example an emergency homelessness application or other crisis. Before making an appointment, we will try to save you a journey by resolving your enquiry on the phone first. To make an appointment call:

- › housing benefit and council tax support: **023 9283 4556**
- › council tax and business rates: **023 9268 8588**
- › housing needs: **023 9283 4989**
- › school admissions and family information: **023 9268 8008**
- › children's social care: **023 9283 9111**
- › All our services are available online and on the phone.

Council meetings

To find out what's coming up search **council meetings** at www.portsmouth.gov.uk Watch meetings at livestream.com/accounts/14063785

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023 9283 4092

New library services get into gear

Look out for our new electric tuk-tuks. They'll be popping up in high streets, parks, seafronts and at events around the city to promote our libraries.

The first of two brightly coloured three-wheelers has started bringing books and other reading items to areas that don't have a library. It will be soon joined by another, each carrying a collection of books for people to browse and borrow.

David Percival, our library and archive service manager, said: "We're thrilled the first tuk-tuk has arrived. We've waited quite a while for these vehicles to be designed and manufactured – they're real labours of love."

The tuk-tuks have been bought by the council using £100,000 awarded by Arts Council England's libraries improvement fund. The grant has also been used for installing meeting spaces and self-contained office "pods" at Central Library and North End Library.

As well as new "pods", North End has had the main library floor re-carpeted and the area brightened up. New computer chairs have been added, along with some display furniture in the children's library, and new tables and chairs for adults.

Find out about the many library events and online services at librariesandarchives.portsmouth.gov.uk



New audiobook group

A new reading group has started for people with print or vision impairment.

Do you love listening to books? Would you like to meet new people to chat about a new book each month over a cuppa?

Then join in at Cosham Library every fourth Thursday, 2pm to 3.30pm. Contact Jacqueline on **023 9268 8049**.

out&about

★ MARCH – MAY ★

All the **highlighted** events are free

Lots more going on...

There isn't room here for all the things to do and places to visit in Portsmouth. You can find out more at **visitportsmouth.co.uk** – the definitive listing for events and activities, for residents and visitors. If you have an event to promote, or want more information about something listed on the website, call us on **023 9282 6722** or email **vis@portsmouthcc.gov.uk**

To keep in touch with things to do around the city, sign up to our monthly Visit Portsmouth e-newsletter. Go to **bit.ly/2bz13Sn**

ONGOING

Mondays (term time) Tots and Toys

Empower Centre, Kingston Road,
9.30am–11am. Ages 0–5,
free breakfast.

Wednesdays Coffee Mornings

Kings Theatre, 10am–12pm.

Fridays Community Sing

Kings Theatre, 9am–10.30am.
£1.50, includes hot drink.

First and third Friday

Coffee and Company

Bradbury Centre Cafe, 1.30pm–3pm,
£2.50. Book on 023 9288 3506.

Second and last Friday

Veterans' Breakfast Club

Bradbury Centre Cafe, 10am–12pm,
£5–£6. Book on 023 9288 3506.

Sundays from 31 March

Portsmouth & Southsea Car Boot Sale

Duisburg Way, 7am–1pm.
Free for buyers.
www.facebook.com/PSCarBoot

Second and last Sunday Car Meet

Port Solent, 10am–12pm.



Bransbury Park trains, from 31 March

**From 31 March, Sundays and
bank holiday Mondays
Bransbury Park Trains**
2pm–5pm, £1 per person.

MARCH

16 Litter Pick

Baffins Pond Association,
10am–12pm.

16 St John Passion

Portsmouth Choral Union. St Mary's
Church, 5.30pm–6.45pm, adults
£17.50, children/students £2.50.

16–17 Love Southsea Market

Palmerston Road, 9am–5pm
Saturday, 9am–4pm Sunday.

17 Hampshire Farmers' Market

Palmerston Road, 10am–2pm.

17 VW Campers and Buses Meet

Port Solent, 10am–12pm.

17 Open Studios

Hotwalls Studios, 11am–4pm.

20 Messy Church

Empower Centre, Kingston Road,
4pm–5.30pm. Craft, food, fun and
creative worship for accompanied
children.

23 Celebrating Celine

New Theatre Royal, 7.30pm, £31.

24 Sing-a-Long-a Matilda the Musical

New Theatre Royal, 2pm, from £16.

26 Southsea Skiffle Orchestra

Zodiac Gallery, Guildhall, 12pm.

28 The Rocket Man

Tribute to Sir Elton John. New
Theatre Royal, 7.30pm, £34.

29 Puppet Interactive Easter Trail

National Museum of the Royal Navy,
11am–3pm, free with Historic
Dockyard ticket.

30 Easter Egg Hunt

Baffins Pond Association, 12pm,
£2.50.

30–31 Easter and Wellness Market

Hotwalls Studios, 10am–4pm.

31 Robert Vincent & Band

Wedgewood Rooms, 7.30pm, £18.

APRIL

2, 4, 9 and 11 Kids Club

Port Solent, 11am–4pm.

3 Nature Everywhere

Natural History Museum,
Cumberland House. Drop in
10.30am to 3pm. Discover
overlooked wildlife beneath our feet.

3 Milkshake Live on Holiday

New Theatre Royal, 12.30pm and
3.30pm, from £18.

4 Microscope Scientific Drawing

National Museum of the Royal Navy,
11am–3pm, free with Historic
Dockyard ticket.

5 Behind-the-Scenes Tour

National Museum of the Royal Navy,
2pm–2.30pm. Free with Ultimate
Explorer ticket. Booking required.

6 Southsea Beach Clean

Meet at the Coffee Cup, Eastney
Esplanade, 10am.

6–7 Love Southsea Market

Palmerston Road, 9am–5pm
Saturday, 9am–4pm Sunday.

7 Kirsten Adamson & The Tanagers

Square Tower, 7.15pm, £16.



NoGood Boyo, 12 April

We work hard to make sure these listings are correct when compiling them. But events may be changed, postponed or cancelled. Please check with organisers or venues.



Treasure Island, 8 April

- 8 Treasure Island**
New Theatre Royal, 2pm and 6pm, from £14.
- 9 Community Hub**
Lily & Lime Café, Central Library, 10.30am–12pm. Meet the team and enjoy hot drinks and cakes.
- 12 NoGood Boyo**
Lens Studio, Guildhall, 7pm, £15.
- 13–14 Takedown Festival**
Guildhall, from 1pm. From £66.
- 14 Waterside Market**
Port Solent, 11am–5pm.
- 14 Iain Stirling: Relevant**
New Theatre Royal, 8pm, £26.
- 17 Track Dogs**
Square Tower, 7.15pm, £16.
- 17 Messy Church**
Empower Centre, Kingston Road, 4pm–5.30pm. Craft, food, fun and creative worship for accompanied children.
- 18 Classic FM Hall of Fame**
Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra. Guildhall, 7.30pm, £6–£26.
- 18–19 Dear Zoo**
New Theatre Royal, timings vary, from £16.
- 20 Litter Pick**
Baffins Pond Association, 10am–12pm.
- 20–21 Love Southsea Market**
Palmerston Road, 9am–5pm Saturday, 9am–4pm Sunday.
- 21 Hampshire Farmers' Market**
Palmerston Road, 10am–2pm.
- 21 VW Campers and Buses Meet**
Port Solent, 10am–12pm.
- 21 Open Studios**
Hotwalls Studios, 11am–4pm.

28 Carmina Burana
Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra and BSO Voices. Guildhall, 3pm, £16–£26.

30 Southsea Skiffle Orchestra
Zodiac Gallery, Guildhall, 12pm.

30 April–1 May Tess by Ockham's Razor
New Theatre Royal, 7.30pm, from £21.

MAY

3 Behind-the-Scenes Tour
National Museum of the Royal Navy, 2pm–2.30pm. Free with Ultimate Explorer ticket. Booking required.

4 Southsea Beach Clean
Meet at the Coffee Cup, Eastney Esplanade, 10am.

4 Car Boot Sale
Tangier Field, sellers from 11am, buyers from 12pm, cars £8, vans £12. Baffins Pond Association.

4–5 Love Southsea Market
Palmerston Road, 9am–5pm Saturday, 9am–4pm Sunday.

5 Sons of Town Hall
Square Tower, 7.15pm, £16.

10 Play Deck Explorers
Play session for children 3–7. Victory Gallery, 10am–3pm. Free with Historic Dockyard ticket.

11 Stitch & Sew Textiles Mini Market
Hotwalls Studios, 10am–4pm.

11–12 Comic Con
Guildhall, from 10am. £1–£21.50.

12 Waterside Market
Port Solent, 11am–5pm.

14 Mayor Making Ceremony
Guildhall, arrive 9.15am for 10am start.

14 Community Hub
Lily & Lime Café, Central Library, 10.30am–12pm. Meet the team and enjoy hot drinks and cakes.



Community Hub, 14 May

15 Messy Church
Empower Centre, Kingston Road, 4pm–5.30pm. Craft, food, fun and creative worship for accompanied children.

16–17 King Arthur
New Theatre Royal, 7pm, £22.50.

18 Litter Pick
Baffins Pond Association, 10am–12pm.

18 Spring Concert
Portsmouth Light Orchestra. Church of the Resurrection, Drayton, 7.30pm, adults £7, accompanied under 16s free. Tickets: 023 9237 1135.

18–19 Love Southsea Market
Palmerston Road, 9am–5pm Saturday, 9am–4pm Sunday.

19 Hampshire Farmers' Market
Palmerston Road, 10am–2pm.

19 VW Campers and Buses Meet
Port Solent, 10am–12pm.

19 Open Studios
Hotwalls Studios, 11am–4pm.

19 Portsmouth's City Service
Anglican Cathedral, time TBC.

21 Southsea Skiffle Orchestra
Zodiac Gallery, Guildhall, 12pm.

22 The Hackles
Square Tower, 7.15pm, £15.

22 An Evening of Laurel and Hardy
New Theatre Royal, 7.30pm, £22.50.

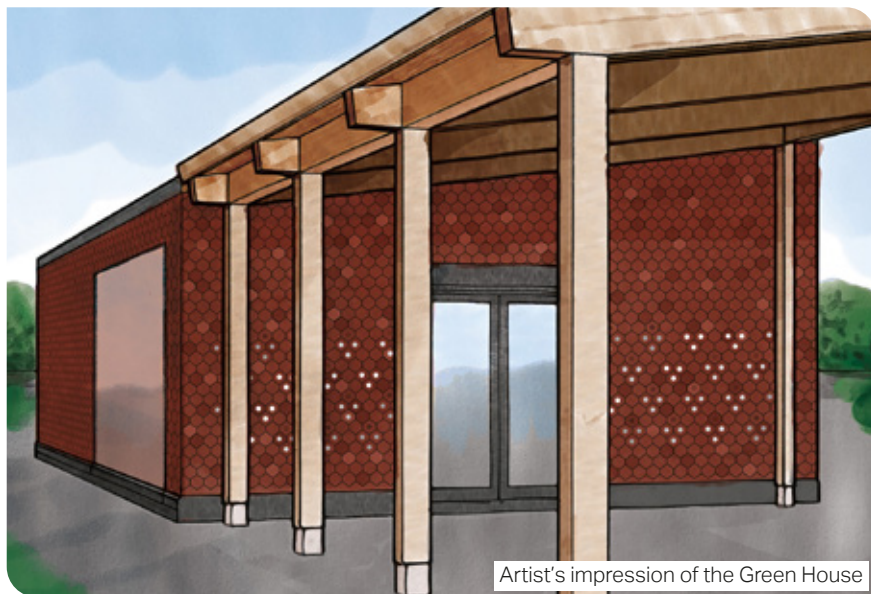
25 Requiem
Portsmouth Choral Union. St Mary's Church, 5.30pm–6.45pm. Adults £17.50, children/students £2.50.

25–26 Live at the Bandstand on Tour
Location TBC, 1pm–4pm. Opening weekend. www.facebook.com/LiveAtTheBandstand

26 Bank Holiday Live Music
Port Solent, 12pm–6pm.



Hotwalls open studios, 19 May



Artist's impression of the Green House

People's park has a new look

Victoria Park now boasts some exciting new facilities and activities, as work to give it a new lease of life reaches completion.

A community building called the Green House has been created, with two accessible public toilets. A new under-fives play area will keep little adventurers entertained. The park's historic features are being lovingly restored, work on the aviary has been finished and restoration of the fountain continues.

The work is part of a major project to restore and bring new life to the park – made possible by the National Lottery Heritage Fund. The project has been inspired by the original idea of the park as “the people's park”.

Please join us at the official launch of the new-look park on 25 May, to see the new facilities and try free taster sessions of a packed programme of activities.

See the latest news, including when the new facilities will be available and details of the launch event closer to the time, at www.victoriaparkportsmouth.org.uk or find **Victoria Park Portsmouth** on Facebook.



Fleur De Lys Nelson Under-8s training at the new complex

Kicking off at new KGV complex

Our new King George V football complex in Cosham is now open.

Managed by Hampshire FA, it boasts two 3G synthetic turf pitches along with grass pitches and new facilities including a café, a social space, and outdoor seating. There's also a Changing Places loo for people with limited mobility.

The complex has been funded by the council, the Football Foundation and the government's levelling-up fund, as part of the Hilsea Lines project to promote health and wellbeing.

For more information contact kinggeorgev@hampshirefa.com

Discounts at Portsmouth attractions

Lots of Portsmouth visitor attractions have discounts during English Tourism Week, 15 to 24 March. Deals include a 30% discount at the D-Day Story and 20% off at the Spinnaker Tower, for residents with PO postcodes. For all offers go to www.visitportsmouth.co.uk/ETW

Plus, if you're receiving means-tested benefits, you could qualify for our Leisure Card, which gives discounts year-round, including at Portsmouth Historic Dockyard.

Search **leisure card** at www.portsmouth.gov.uk or call **023 9268 8797**.

Why it's time to get the bus

Portsmouth's bus services are getting faster, easier to use, more reliable and more affordable.

And they're getting greener. More than 60 new electric buses are set to arrive in the city this month, as part of our plans to improve services.

These plans have already helped to introduce two 24/7 routes to the city – the 2 and the 23 linking the city centre and Paulsgrove. Others are running later and more frequently.

And you can now pay for trips on First buses by tapping on and off with your card or device.

There are lots of new tickets too. A Pompey Hoppa 90 ticket gives you unlimited journeys within 90 minutes for £3. A Pompey Group ticket takes you and five friends around the city all day for £12.50. And a Pompey Night Owl ticket gives unlimited travel from 7pm for £4. With these tickets you can switch between Stagecoach and First buses.



One of the new electric buses



Bike corral on Southsea seafront

Need more bike parking?

If you struggle to find secure places to leave your bike, use our new online tool to tell us where you'd like to see more parking facilities.

You can request different types of bike stands, including standard frames or bike hangars for up to six cycles. We can even replace broken or out-of-date stands, or install a Beryl rental bike rack.

To nominate a road or area and find out more, go to travel.portsmouth.gov.uk/cycleparking

Safety boost for Goldsmith Ave

We've created safer walking and cycling routes on Goldsmith Avenue, as part of our work to improve travel by bus, walking and cycling. The cycle lane at Fratton Road roundabout has moved to the front of the pavement. Cycle segregation poles have been added to the cycle lane west of the Pompey Centre roundabout. And the signalised crossing outside Lidl makes it safer for people to cross the road.



Theatre of the sea to open

The prom from Blue Reef up to the Pyramids is set to re-open early this summer, including the spectacular new section around Southsea Castle.

Part of the new Southsea Coastal Scheme sea defences, the two-tier prom around the castle has already earned the description the “theatre of the sea”.

It replaces the old “pinch point” promenade around the castle and the tight squeeze around other sections, in places only two or three metres wide. The new, spacious prom will have seating and lighting, and is set to become a new social hub where residents and visitors can enjoy stunning views across the Solent. It will be fully accessible.

A terraced design was selected because it has more scope to preserve and enhance the castle area, with a sensitive choice of materials, better accessibility and increased public vantage points.

Bandstand update

The scheme has used Bandstand Field for its site offices since 2022 but aims to hand it back this spring, fully restored and with a renovated bandstand. Music events will return to the bandstand when possible. In the meantime, Live at the Bandstand on Tour events start on 25 May.

For more information, check www.facebook.com/LiveAtTheBandstand



Rules for shared houses

Houses in multiple occupation (HMOs) are more tightly regulated in Portsmouth than in most parts of the country. An HMO is a property where between three and six unrelated people share a kitchen and/or a bathroom. A new one needs planning permission and a licence. The council can refuse planning permission if it would go against our local plan, or withhold a licence if the landlord or property fails to pass our tests.

Under specific “permitted development” conditions, people can extend a house without planning permission, whether it’s a family home or an HMO (but not a flat). But changing the use of a family home to an HMO still needs planning permission and a licence.

To find out more about the rules on HMOs, go to www.portsmouth.gov.uk/hmo-faq

Keeping vital services going

Old underground sewage and gas pipes, some dating back to early last century, are starting to bring challenges. Extreme temperatures, more vehicles on the roads above, and increased demand make these pipes wear out faster.

But they're crucial for the city. So when pipes burst or fail, Southern Water and gas network company SGN carry out emergency fixes. They also invest in maintenance, such as the recent work on London Road and the Eastern Road.

This work is essential to make sure residents and businesses continue to have these vital services.

The council isn't responsible for such work, but coordinates activity when possible to minimise disruption. However, utility companies have legal duties, and emergency work just has to be done. For more information, go to www.portsmouth.gov.uk/roadworks

- › If you smell gas, call the national gas emergency number on **0800 111 999**.
- › If you spot a sewer leak in a public place, call Southern Water on **0330 303 0368**.



SGN gas replacement work on Eastney Road, June 2023



Goly Natural owner Stef Dogan

New shop pops up

Portsmouth Pop Up, our new pop-up shop scheme, has opened in Cascades shopping centre with its first local business, Goly Natural, which produces and sells natural organic skin-care products.

The pop-up scheme enables small businesses to trade at a high street location without the cost of a longer-term lease. They can apply to rent the pop-up shop for a minimum of six weeks, giving them a chance to engage with customers and launch products and services.

Stef Dogan, owner of Goly Natural, said: "I'm truly excited to be part of this project, and to be given the opportunity to take my business to the next stage."

For more info visit www.portsmouth.gov.uk/pop-up

Milestone for new leisure centre

The planning application for a new Bransbury Park leisure centre has been submitted.

The plan includes a GP surgery, a 25m pool, a learner pool, a gym and fitness studios. Outside it proposes a free-to-access artificial pitch and a multi-use sports court. A children's play park is also planned, east of a slightly realigned miniature railway. Existing community facilities would remain.

Thanks to a new opportunity, we're looking for a new location for the sports hall and hope to have more details soon.

To view and comment on the plan, go to publicaccess.portsmouth.gov.uk/online-applications and search **Bransbury Park**



Artist's impression



Moments matter: school attendance counts

Last year, one in five city children had a week of unauthorised absence from school.

They missed out on lessons, school clubs and school trips, leaving gaps in their learning which could limit their future options.

Unauthorised absence includes time off for shopping, birthdays, holidays, visiting relatives or days out.

Parents have a legal responsibility to get their children to school. If a child misses 10 half-day sessions through unauthorised absence in one term, parents can be required to pay a fine of £60.

If you're having trouble getting your children to attend, please talk to school staff, who can help you to make sure they don't miss out.

Find out more by going to
www.portsmouth.gov.uk/attendance



Is yours a healthy relationship?

Signs of domestic abuse might not be as clear as you'd think. Abuse can be about controlling and playing with someone's mind and emotions as much as hurting their body.

Is your relationship, or a relationship around you, unhealthy? Look for signs of:

- › bullying, threatening or controlling behaviour
- › control of money
- › being cut off from family and friends
- › physical abuse
- › sexual abuse

Take our quiz to see if your relationship might be unhealthy. If it is, reach out for help.

Search **Is this love?** at **saferportsmouth.org.uk**

More help with childcare costs

Government childcare support is expanding.

From April some working parents of two-year-olds may be entitled to up to 15 hours of support.

Your hours can be used for 38 weeks of the year (during school terms). Or, you may be able to stretch your hours and use fewer of them per week, for up to 52 weeks.

Find out about the changes in April, and more to come, by going to **www.childcarechoices.gov.uk** You can also sign up for email updates and check what you could be eligible for.



Story time at the Somerstown hub

Free support at your family hub

Your local family hub is a one-stop shop for all the support you need – whether you're a mum, a dad or a carer.

Our health professionals and volunteers are there to help, from pregnancy right through to when your children reach their teens.

Free support includes:

- › stay and play groups for under-fives every week
- › breastfeeding support groups
- › baby massage sessions
- › online and face-to-face courses for parents
- › mental health support
- › a "champion" at every hub for personal advice and further support

One mum, who received support from the family hub in Buckland, said: "After trying all avenues before, it was great and easy to walk into a hub and get support instantly. They were so helpful, and I felt really listened to."

We have five family hubs. Find out what's on at your local one at www.portsmouthfamilyhubs.co.uk or call **023 9288 2588** and select your nearest hub.



Hop along to HAF this Easter

Make the two-week holiday eggstra-special for your 5–16-year-olds, by booking them on to HAF events across Portsmouth. Each day includes activities like performing arts, sports, arts and crafts or games, plus they get a delicious meal.

Kids who have benefits-related free school meals get to attend for free, but there are some pay-as-you-go options as well.

Book at www.pycportsmouth.co.uk/haffunpompey



Have your say

Elections for the council and for the local police and crime commissioner are on 2 May.

Make sure you're registered to vote at www.gov.uk/register-to-vote

Remember, ID rules introduced nationally last year will still be in place, and there are new rules on postal votes. To get the latest information and avoid missing deadlines to register for postal or proxy votes, visit www.portsmouth.gov.uk/elections or contact **023 9283 4074**.

JOIN OUR **SMALL BUT MIGHTY** FOSTERING COMMUNITY

Join our close-knit fostering community and we'll support you from initial enquiry to becoming a foster family.

By providing our foster carers with the tools and support needed to succeed, we ensure the children and young people in their care have a chance to thrive and meet their potential.

- Children stay local to family, friends, schools and communities.
- We know our carers and children individually.
- 24/7 support, a mentoring scheme and the award-winning Mockingbird model of care.
- Local training and professional development.
- Social events and support network.
- Competitive financial package including allowances, fees for specific skills and benefits.
- Accelerated applications or transfers.
- Respite care.
- Regular placement opportunities with robust matching, increasing placement stability.

FosterPortsmouth



Find out more:

- 📄 foster.portsmouth.gov.uk/small-but-mighty
- ☎ 023 9283 4071
- ✉ fostering@portsmouthcc.gov.uk
- 📘 [fosterportsmouth](#)

"The best thing about fostering with Foster Portsmouth is the community spirit harnessed by this small but mighty local authority."

Jo Austin, foster carer

Could you be a Shared Lives carer?

Do you have a spare room and some free time? Could you welcome someone to live as part of your family? If so, you could become a Shared Lives carer.

Shared Lives carers share their homes with people who need some support to stay independent.

Carers can offer long-term arrangements, short breaks or day support. Payment is £250 to £400 a week.

Jimmy and Michelle have been Shared Lives carers for eight years. Jimmy said: "We spend time together as a household and always try and eat together. The best part of being a Shared Lives carer is having the ability to make changes that have an immediate effect on people's lives."

Find out more at:

www.portsmouth.gov.uk/sharedlives



Eric (far left) and Jordan (far right) with their carers Jimmy and Michelle, and Jimmy and Michelle's two sons



I used to think: if I fell, nobody would find me

Margaret (pictured) once feared a bad fall would leave her stranded in her home with no one around to help.

But since becoming a Safe at Home customer, her whole outlook has changed.

Safe at Home is managed by the council. They supply equipment and services (including fall detectors, epilepsy monitors and 24/7 support teams) which help vulnerable people live independently in their homes.

Margaret lives alone with severe osteoporosis and has previously suffered a stroke. But she no longer worries about getting help, thanks to her fall detector, key safe and alarm from Safe at Home. "It's changed my life," she says.

Find out more. Call **023 9283 4460** or watch Margaret's story at **www.portsmouth.gov.uk/safeathome**



Mental health help in other languages

Free mental health support is available to speakers of many languages. Call the Portsmouth Mental Health Hub on **0300 123 6621**, tell us your first language and a translator will call you back.

We can arrange translators for languages including Arabic, Bangladeshi, Espanol, Kurdish, Persian, Polski, Português and Romana.

The hub phone line is open Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm. Or go to **mentalhealthinportsmouth.co.uk**

If you need urgent help, you can call **111** – the NHS non-emergency number. If you need emergency medical help immediately, call **999**.

Worried about being homeless?

If you think you might be at risk of losing your home, we're here to help.

You may be struggling to pay your rent, need to leave where you're living, sofa surfing, or in an abusive relationship. Whatever your situation, come and speak to us as soon as possible and we can advise you.

You can walk in and speak to someone at the Civic Offices in Guildhall Square (Monday to Friday, 9am–4pm). There's no need for an appointment. Or search **if you become homeless** at **www.portsmouth.gov.uk**

Please don't bin batteries



Batteries can cause fires in disposal trucks and waste sites. Just recently a fire was caused by a lithium-ion battery in someone's recycling bin, which ignited when crushed in the bin lorry. Thankfully, the crew's quick thinking meant no-one was hurt, and the £230,000 vehicle was saved.

Please follow these tips:



Put batteries in a clear bag on top of your black rubbish bin or bag, so we can collect it.



If a battery can't easily be removed (e.g. one in a laptop or phone), leave it in the equipment in a carrier bag on top of your green recycling bin, so we can collect it.



Batteries and electrical items can also be taken to the Port Solent household waste recycling centre, or some shops and businesses, to be recycled.

Find out where you can recycle, donate or repair electrical items and batteries at www.shareportsmouth.org.uk/unwanted-electricals

Find a recycling bank

You can use our new online map to find out where to recycle your glass, plastic, cartons, textiles and books. Just go to www.portsmouth.gov.uk/local-recycling-points

Know which bin to use

You can find the right bin for your waste by typing the material or item into our online checker. Give it a try at www.portsmouth.gov.uk/whichbin

Bin day reminder

Please remember not to leave your bins out after bin day. Put them out from 7pm the night before bin day, or by 6am on the day, and take them back in by the end of the day. This will help keep our streets clean and tidy and make space for people with pushchairs or wheelchairs.

A better future for recycling

When you recycle, your waste can be turned into new products. This reduces the need to transport and process natural resources to produce something from scratch.

To boost recycling, we're working with Hampshire County Council and Southampton City Council to make it possible for you to recycle more kinds of materials from home.

In the next couple of years, we plan to build a new sorting facility to enable us to collect more materials from homes, including glass, cartons and foil, plus plastic pots, tubs and trays.

We will be able to share more details when the government has finalised its plans for recycling nationwide.

In the meantime, here's a reminder of the five things that can be recycled in your recycling bin or box:



Garden waste latest

Green Waste Club customers are being reassured that there will be a smooth transition when their garden waste service is taken over by the council, from 1 April. You'll keep the same bin, and collection day. When your waste club contract expires, you'll be invited to join our new Leaf It Out service. For more information visit www.portsmouth.gov.uk/garden-waste



Energy-saving at home

It can be hard keeping our homes warm while keeping bills down. Here are some tips:

- › Turn the thermostat down by one degree to reduce your heating bill by up to 10%.
- › Open curtains during the day to allow warming sunlight in, but close them at dusk to stay cosy.
- › Draught-proof windows and doors with easy DIY insulation tape.

For more tips and to find out if you're eligible for free home upgrades such as insulation and heating, go to www.switchedonportsmouth.co.uk

BILLS

COST OF LIVING

FOOD

SUPPORT & ADVICE

DEBT

FOR ADVICE AND SUPPORT IF THINGS ARE TOUGH

We know times are tough for people in Portsmouth, and many are impacted by the rising cost of living. If you're struggling, there is lots of assistance to:

Check what financial
support you're entitled to

Find out how you can
keep your costs down

Get advice to help
you get out of debt

Visit our online cost of living hub, a one-stop source of local advice and support, at **www.portsmouth.gov.uk/costofliving** or call **023 9284 1047**. The helpline is available from 9am-5pm on weekdays (closes 4:30pm Fridays).