



Vaccines have built a wall of protection around our communities, allowing us to get back to a more normal way of life. Spring COVID-19 booster jabs are available for: - care home residents, people aged 75+, and those with a weakened immune system aged 12 and over. Almost 150,000 people have already booked their spring boosters. The NHS will contact you and invite you to book your spring booster when it's due.



[Book or manage a coronavirus \(COVID-19\) vaccination - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)

# Join the Great British Spring Clean

Kursaal Ward



On Saturday 2nd April in Kursaal Ward.

Why not come and join us?

Equipment provided.

Saturday 10am or 2pm Front gates Southchurch Hall Gardens on Woodgrange Drive.

# SOUTHEND SHAKEDOWN RETURNS



Southend Shakedown returns to Southend seafront, organised by [Southend Shakedown Resurrection](#).

The seafront will be alive with hundreds of stunning motorbikes, plus a whole load of other great things to see and do, including trade stands, live music, and more.

The event will be on between 10.00 and 17.00.

# WHICH Survey Southend Ranking



Southend boasts many popular attractions like Southend Pier, Adventure Island and the arcades, however, it appears that people were less than impressed with the offerings at the seaside. The beach was ranked with only one star for peace and quiet, two stars for the food and drink, tourist attractions, scenery, shopping and value for money, and three stars on the pier.

The average cost of hotels at Southend seaside city was £100. All of this added up to give a total score of just 51 per cent.

Rory Boland, Travel Editor of Which? Said: There is hope. I have been to Clacton, Southend and Weston in recent years and things are on the up. A lick of new paint here, a renovated grand hotel there and the confidence that comes with an influx of new visitors during the pandemic.

The basics are certainly in place. Many resorts have some of the best stretches of beach in the country as well as theatres, arcades, and mini funfairs for the kids.

If you haven't been to a British seaside resort in a while, it might be worth revisiting – pack your bucket and spade, an empty stomach for the candyfloss and a pile of 2p coins to make your fortune on the slots.



## **SOUTHEND HARP BLUEBIRD HOMELESS CENTRE**



This year HARP are opening their new 50 bed BlueBird centre on Southchurch Avenue which will house 50 people across a range of rooms and flats, providing transitional support to people across Southend.

This project will be the charities biggest to date, within the complex is a 'Learning for Life Centre', a new six bedroom shared houses and a five bedroom shared house.

Additionally, the charity is also refurbishing two existing properties to create a six-bed shared house and six individual bedsits with their own kitchens and shared bathrooms.

HARP is a leading Southend charity helping local people out of homelessness across the city, its main hub is the Bradbury Centre in York Road. BlueBird will compliment HARP's other homeless accommodation, the Acorn Centre, in York Road.

## PDSA Eligibility Checker

You should qualify for help if you are on benefits, and you live near one of our Pet Hospitals or Pet Care Practices.

### Eligible pet owners

We help the pets of owners in need.

To be eligible for our free veterinary service, **owners must be in receipt of means-tested help with council tax (Council Tax Support / Reduction)** and live within the catchment area of a PDSA Pet Hospital.

To be eligible for our reduced cost veterinary service, owners must live within the catchment area of a **PDSA Pet Hospital** and be in receipt of means-tested benefits (including Working Tax Credit, Child Tax Credit, JSA, ESA and PIP) or be pensioners living in houses Council Tax bands A-D.

*Check your eligibility and sign up for help via  
[www.pdsa.org.uk/pet-help-and-advice/eligibility](http://www.pdsa.org.uk/pet-help-and-advice/eligibility)*

If you need support with vet care or costs of keeping your pet healthy you could get help through the PDSA. Free care is available to people living in the catchment area of a PDSA pet hospital and getting Council Tax Support/ Reduction. Reduced cost care is available for people receiving means tested benefits or pensioners living in Council Tax band A-D.

To check your eligibility and register for help, visit the PDSA website:  
<https://www.pdsa.org.uk/pet-help-and-advice/eligibility>

## SOUTHEND FOOD BANK'S MOST NEEDED ITEMS THIS WEEK



- 🍲 Meat meals – tinned curry, chili, chicken in sauce
- 🥫 Tinned vegetables - peas, carrots, sweetcorn
- 🍓 Jam
- 🍛 Rice pudding
- 🥛 Tinned or instant custard
- 🥛 UHT milk (semi-skimmed or full fat)
- 👜 And strong re-useable carrier bags

90% of all the food given out is donated by the community but increasingly they need to buy essentials. They are committed to giving food parcels that provide filling, balanced meals as well as offering basic toiletries, but this depends on kind and generous donations from the public.

If you want to get a notification straight to your phone about what is needed and where you can donate, you can use Bank the Food. Installing the Bank the Food app connects you to Southend Foodbank's most needed items, by pinging your phone when you enter a supermarket that has a foodbank donation point. The app is completely free and was developed in Southend with a local charity supporting Southend Foodbank: [www.bankthefood.org/](http://www.bankthefood.org/)

More information about how to donate food, drop-off points, warehouse opening hours etc

<https://southend.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/>

If you don't have time to donate food but would like to contribute money for when the Food Bank needs to buy essentials, you can donate via PayPal, through Facebook, by bank transfer or supporting their seasonal Crowdfunders:

<https://southend.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-money/>

## FUNDRAISING QUIZ FOR MAYOR'S CHARITIES



The Mayor of Southend-on-Sea, Cllr Margaret Borton, is holding a quiz to raise money for her mayoral charities, **Trust Links Charity** and Little Heroes ASD Support .

The event will take place at 19.00 for 19.30 on Tuesday 3 May 2022, at **Genting Casino Westcliff**, Western Esplanade, Westcliff-on-Sea SS0 7QY. Tickets are £15 per head, with teams of up to six people. This event is for over 18s only, and includes a finger buffet.

To book your place, please email [events@southendmayorscharity.net](mailto:events@southendmayorscharity.net), or call 0300 102 1557.



# HARP MEETING WITH KILWORTH ESTATES AND LOCAL COUNILLOR

Gary from HARP had some positive news on the large containers currently place in the gardens on 117 York Road, on view to the street. These containers are imminently to be removed.

# Project Green



In addition to this HARP are discussing planting shrubs in the gardens and a low ornate wall, like the building on the opposite corner, to stop people sitting on the wall in groups for long periods of time. If planting of shrubs goes ahead this will help progress Kilworth Estates Project Green.

# Project Anti-Social Behaviour



Gary said, following a meeting with a Cllr and the police at Toledo Green, he had noticed how littered the Green appeared and asked the HARP team to do a litter pick. It was noted that some of the front gardens locally still need to tidy up and that some HMO's tenants can be quite anti-social and mistaken for HARP residents. Reference was made to noise problems and Gary said that if problems arouse out of

hours with a HARP property, Bradbury house should be contacted until further notice. Cllr Tricia Cowdrey said that an HMO policy needs to be finalised prior to gaining an Article 4 directive.

## Project Shopping Parade



Sue suggested that HARP residents may be able find work with SEAL (Southeast Essex Alliance of Landlords), some of SEAL proprietors' properties need redecoration, gardening, and general maintenance. Work undertaken by HARP residents could be reimbursed with meals in HARP cafes within the area. This voluntary work could eventually lead to formal work when a HARP resident moves to independent accommodation.

Discussion took place relating to landowners within in the area and the possibility of redevelopment. Sue said that some Kilworth Estate Residents were convinced there had been a deliberate attempt to make the area look run to maximise on future development of the area. It was also mentioned the members were really fed up with certain properties looking very poorly kept. Harps Bluebird project was discussed.

A further catch-up meeting was agreed for the summer.

## REGISTER TO VOTE FOR THE 2022 LOCAL ELECTIONS



The deadline to register to vote in the local elections on 5 May is 11.59 tonight, Thursday 14 April.

If you're not registered, it takes five minutes. Just visit <https://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote>

Make sure you get your say on how Southend is run and who represents you on Southend City Council.

# KILWORTH ESTATE - GRAND BUILDING

## Grade I listed Porters Civic House



According to the website <https://britishlistedbuildings.co.uk/101112724-porters-civic-house-kursaal-ward#.YpaNbKjMLMY> Porter Civic House takes its name from le-Porters, a prominent family in south-east Essex in the C14 who owned the estate.

One of the family may have built an earlier house on the site. The first known owner of the present house is Humfrey Browne (d. 1592) but it may have been built by a member of the Tyrrell family who owned the estate earlier in the C16. It is a late C15 or early C16 red brick manor house with cross wings at the east and west ends gabled on the north and south fronts.

At the end of the C16 it was completed or extensively rebuilt when the space between the wings was filled in and a porch built on the north front. There is a



moulded brick plinth. 2 storeys and attics. The windows are stone mullioned and transomed casements, 3-5 lights. 4 window range on the north front and irregular fenestration on the south front. The windows on each storey under the gables on the north front are original with moulded mullions and transomes, also the ground storey window of the centre block. On the south front the attic windows in the gables and the 1st storey windows of the centre block are original. Some of the windows on the south side have moulded brick reveals. A gabled porch projects on the north side. Roof tiled, with 1 hipped dormer window on the south front and chimney stacks with diagonally set shafts on the east and west ends (rebuilt).



Today the house is used as Southend Mayors Parlour, it is also available to hire out for Weddings.

# **Fly-tipping and Drug Problems in Kilworth Estate**

Residents have become alarmed with a surge of drug dealing going on in the local area, now that the weather is turning warmer gangs of drug takers are thought to be gathering in the under pass from Lancaster crescent to Hastings Road. Several residents have reported witnessing multiple drug deals in one day. There is a brazen disregard for the law.

The street cameras, that Southend Council are rolling out across the neighbourhood, are seen as a potential fix for this problem. However, residents are becoming frustrated due to delays with camera installation, when other areas around Southend, for example Ambleside Drive already have their new cameras installed.

Residents believe that our local camera should be prioritised as drug dealing is going on so near to a primary school.

In addition to this, residents are concerned that no cameras are currently due to be place in Lancaster Road, just the other side of Hastings Road tunnel, this leaves a large area uncover and open to these types of crimes.

Residents continue to report fly-tipping to Veolia, it has been noted that there appears to be certain addresses that have serial offender.

# **Southend Council News**

**1<sup>st</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

## **Nursery children's special Southend pier train ride treat**

It was all aboard the electric train today as 50 local pre-school children were treated to a special visit on the City of Southend's iconic pier.

## **'Death Positive' Event at Southend Libraries**

As part of Dying Matters Awareness Week 2022 and the Death Positive Libraries Framework, Southend Libraries are hosting a Death Positive event at the Forum: Southend-on-Sea.

## **All you need to know about your recycling and waste collection this Easter**

If your kerbside recycling and waste collection falls on Good Friday, Friday 15 April, then Veolia, our recycling and waste partner, will collect this the following day, Saturday 16 April. Communal bin stores will be collected as per their usual schedule on Friday 15 April and Monday 18 April. There will not be any other changes to the collection schedules.

## **New project seeks to fill empty shops and offices**

The Council is aiming to encourage the development and use of empty commercial buildings across the City and south Essex, by leading a project to provide zero interest loans to owners and developers.

## **Plans in place as warm weather arrives for Easter weekend**

With Easter bank holiday weekend approaching, we are urging residents and visitors to be respectful to our new City, whilst having fun.

## **96% of pupils get one of top three choices of primary school for September**

Eighty-eight per cent of children in Southend-on-Sea will start primary school in September 2022 at their first-choice primary school, with 96% receiving one of their top three preferences.

## **Samba, steel pan and songwriting workshops to be offered to schools and the community**

This year's Music on Sea workshops are about to be offered to schools and the community and will include samba, steel pan and songwriting workshops.

## **Southend residents submit over 100 street party applications to celebrate The Queen's reign**

More than 100 applications have been received for street party permits and road closures to celebrate The Queen's Platinum Jubilee – with the deadline closing on 5 May.