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This impacts the work we can undertake when maintaining hedgerows – it is an offence to disturb birds and nests during the nesting season.  However, if a hedge is causing severe risk, then we will take action adhering to the [Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981](https://links-2.govdelivery.com/CL0/https:%2F%2Fwww.legislation.gov.uk%2Fukpga%2F1981%2F69%2Fpart%2FI%2Fcrossheading%2Fprotection-of-birds/1/01010195ec1209a8-02f277f1-3cf7-4b76-8a6b-77f7b2e43b9a-000000/4tHUZn8xgmED3n1u0gSnCGAK9_msMbIVkHZcElcMse4=398)   |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | |  |   **Seasonal Watercourse Advice**  **Are you a landowner** who has a **riparian** **responsibility** for the maintenance of ordinary watercourses associated with your land? If yes, then these are the actions you should take during the spring season **(March-May).**   * Inspect your watercourse, checking that it is free flowing. * So long as it is safe to do so, and water levels are sufficiently low, rake out and remove any debris and litter that may have accumulated. * Advise your neighbours if you can see any issues within their section of watercourse that they may need to address.   To learn more about riparian responsibility please visit [Ditch The Problem](https://links-2.govdelivery.com/CL0/https:%2F%2Fwww.westsussex.gov.uk%2Fmedia%2F11191%2Fditch_the_problem_leaflet.pdf/1/01010195ec1209a8-02f277f1-3cf7-4b76-8a6b-77f7b2e43b9a-000000/pMZisQio8YwCkXQWZn57498VeStMMfT9ulZJvGOw8fo=398)   |  | | --- | |  |   **New Contractors**  West Sussex County Council is pleased to announce the award of two new highways maintenance contracts that will start on 1 April 2025. **FM Conway** will deliver drainage cleansing and **VolkerHighways** will be responsible for the Core Maintenance contract, which includes reactive service delivery and other maintenance activities. Over the coming months, our teams will be working hard to ensure a smooth transition to the new contracts. For more information please visit [West Sussex County Council awards highways maintenance contracts](https://links-2.govdelivery.com/CL0/https:%2F%2Flinks-2.govdelivery.com%2FCL0%2Fhttps:%252F%252Fwww.westsussex.gov.uk%252Fnews%252Fwest-sussex-county-council-awards-highways-maintenance-contracts%252F%2523:~:text=After%252520a%252520competitive%252520procurement%252520process,Asset%252520Management%252520Policy%252520and%252520Strategy.%2F1%2F010101953d6a7889-a4ddc89d-7d8f-4a62-9c40-7a7b65a7b695-000000%2FCPdNWntVacGBi4-A6wTjcLcpM-R1eF_UZbNjstL2F2Y=393/1/01010195ec1209a8-02f277f1-3cf7-4b76-8a6b-77f7b2e43b9a-000000/xsaHb0GiVX-LvaXyCl0Y0LM9ENFvt_aYTwBU7sxKOi4=398) and there will be more information in the April edition of this newsletter.   |  | | --- | |  |   **Business As Usual with Cyclical and Jetting Operations**  As the winter period comes to an end and spring approaches, the County Council's drainage systems continue to be maintained and jetted.  In February the ad hoc jetting works completed across the county were on par with previous years, currently the contractor has completed 82 jetting jobs and 24 CCTV jet jobs.  Approximately 7,283 gully assets were routinely cleansed across the county in February.   |  | | --- | |  |   **Scheme Updates**  **Drainage works at Muster Green South, Haywards Heath**  West Sussex County Council is replacing the defective highways drainage on Muster Green South in Haywards Heath due to frequent carriageway flooding. Major gas works are currently being undertaken by Southern Gas Network (SGN) on this road and WSCC is taking the opportunity during this road closure to repair and replace parts of the drainage system. This helps minimise the overall duration of the works when the team returns in summer to complete the rest of the drainage system installation.  The Phase 1 drainage repair and installation works will take place from 17 March to 25 April between 7:30 am – 6 pm. A road closure will be in place and diversion route will be signed on site. Pedestrian access will be maintained at all times. We apologise for any inconvenience. Further details can be found on [one.network](https://links-2.govdelivery.com/CL0/https:%2F%2Fone.network%2F/1/01010195ec1209a8-02f277f1-3cf7-4b76-8a6b-77f7b2e43b9a-000000/jCCrX6BZcchdji8xIntY_h-XllO-WkVxsWdsY9zful8=398).  **Recently refurbished controlled crossing in Chichester**  Refurbishment of an existing signal controlled staggered puffin crossing on Portfield Way near Sainsbury’s, Chichester has been successfully completed before the estimated completion date. The works included refurbishing equipment such as detectors, heads, and controllers. Due to previous issues with leaning poles caused by ground conditions, a socketed solution is now being used. This allows for the use of standard poles instead of the previously used fabricated ones.  Before and after images showing a leaning traffic pole and the newly refurbished traffic signal at Portfield Way, Chichester  **Local Safety Scheme on A259 Cathedral Way, Chichester**  West Sussex County Council is due to start local safety works on A259 Cathedral Way in Chichester from 21 March to 7 May 2025 between 7:30 am – 5:30 pm. This scheme originates from concerns raised regarding the number of road traffic collisions at A259 Cathedral Way and the right turn lane into Fishbourne Road East. The works will involve:   * Introduction of 30mph on Cathedral Way, including the Westgate Roundabout. * Adjust the northbound lane markings on the approach to Fishbourne Road East. * Improve the signing, particularly for southbound approach, to the Fishbourne Road East right turn lane. * Replace section of verge in the central reservation with hard porous footway landscaping to maintain inter-visibility between northbound traffic and right turn traffic at the Fishbourne Road East junction. * From the Fishbourne Road East Junction going north change the northbound centreline markings with hazard warning lines. * Extensive vegetation clearance along this corridor.   Temporary lane closures with traffic management will be in place. There will be a minor overnight road closure towards the end of the works at some of the critical locations on the route. Alternative pedestrian and cycle routes will be provided where the works require temporary footway and cycleway closures.  **Traffic Signals crossing refurbishment in Chichester**  West Sussex County Council is intending on refurbishing the existing traffic signals crossings on Market Road, near Eastgate Square/The Hornet, Chichester as part of the ongoing Halogen Replacement Programme. All obsolete equipment will be replaced with the latest technology including low energy LED signal heads. The works will take place from 31 March to 4 April 2025 between 9:30 am – 3:30 pm.  Unfortunately, nearby bus stops are having to be suspended to ensure safe working area for contractors. Temporary pedestrian crossings will be used whilst the work is taking place. Motorists may experience delays due to the use of temporary traffic signals.  Access will be maintained at all times so if the delivery is directly onto a property or driveway this will not be affected. If the delivery is to be on street, then the driver will not be able to park in the barriered works area but will otherwise be able to deliver any portable packages direct to the property.   |  | | --- | |  |   **Follow us on BlueSky!**  Updates on emergency reports are posted every day. Just search [@wshighways.bsky.social](https://links-2.govdelivery.com/CL0/https:%2F%2Fbsky.app%2Fprofile%2Fwshighways.bsky.social/1/01010195ec1209a8-02f277f1-3cf7-4b76-8a6b-77f7b2e43b9a-000000/TRazcPxrjYgZ936fEOQjuw7yVU9YILPpiUy_KuV2Z9s=398).   |  | | --- | |  |   **Follow us on X!**  Updates on emergency reports are posted every day and project updates are posted frequently on the West Sussex Highways X account (formerly Twitter). Just search [@WSHighways](https://links-2.govdelivery.com/CL0/https:%2F%2Fx.com%2FWSHighways/1/01010195ec1209a8-02f277f1-3cf7-4b76-8a6b-77f7b2e43b9a-000000/3rCxlmVbVvsRKtEVEDgA65LwMaoQTXYTvrgUFJ-WniQ=398).   |  | | --- | |  |   [Fight against food waste](https://links-2.govdelivery.com/CL0/https:%2F%2Fbit.ly%2F3Wv2mtI/1/01010195ec1209a8-02f277f1-3cf7-4b76-8a6b-77f7b2e43b9a-000000/70z9sUJPYZduwFzMXGHRcLWPwRfN7cN7O0JvAEac4Hk=398)   |  | | --- | |  |   Produced by the Stakeholder and Partnerships Officer, Highways Transport and Planning. Please contact [active.communities@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:active.communities@westsussex.gov.uk) with any comments or suggestions. | | | |