

COUNTDOWN TO 1 APRIL 2019

**119 DAYS TO GO**



### LATEST INFORMATION

We're putting these newsletters together to keep you up-to-date with the latest information about the work to create Dorset Council, and what the new council is starting to look like.



Let us know what you'd like to see included in these newsletters by emailing us at [shapingdorsetcouncil@dorsetcc.gov.uk](mailto:shapingdorsetcouncil@dorsetcc.gov.uk).

You're also welcome to come along to any of the meetings of the full Shadow Dorset Council or committees. You can find details of all of these meetings and guidance on how to submit questions for these meetings on our website: [dorsetareacouncils.wordpress.com](http://dorsetareacouncils.wordpress.com).

### A NEW CONSTITUTION

We've now reached an important stage in the drafting of the constitution for Dorset Council.



The draft constitution, which is the new set of rules on how Dorset Council will work, is currently being considered by elected members. The document reflects the desire to be a new, modern council. The constitution will go before all 172 Members of the Shadow Dorset Council in February for ratification.

Take a look at our FAQs on the next page.



### DORSET COUNCIL ELECTION TIMELINE

#### March

- 15** Notice of election published and purdah starts
- 18** Start of nomination period

#### April

- 3** Deadline for nominations
- 4** Publication of who's standing - full list at [dorsetforyou.gov.uk](http://dorsetforyou.gov.uk)
- 12** Deadline to register to vote
- 15** Last day to apply for postal vote
- 24** 'Notice of poll' published listing where all 321 polling stations are

#### May

- 2** Election day - polls are open from 7am - 10pm
- 3** The count takes place at Redlands Leisure Centre, Weymouth
- 4** Votes for town and parish councils' elections are counted

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

We know that town and parish councils will have lots of questions about what the new council means for services, communities and residents. Read our FAQs to find out answers to some of the key topics.

### What will happen to local plans?

Existing local plans will transfer to Dorset Council. However, legal orders specify that a new local plan covering the whole of the new council area must be adopted within 5 years of the reorganisation date. The Shadow Executive Committee has agreed that current work on local plan reviews will continue until any decisions are made by the new Dorset Council about the future of local plans.



### What will happen to the current council buildings?

No decisions have been made yet as to which buildings will be kept in the longer term. This is subject to a comprehensive asset review and disposal of commercial buildings is a lengthy process.

Dorset Council needs to have a principal office for service of legal documents and other matters, so the new council will be legally registered at South Walks House, Dorchester. No decisions have been made about future use of buildings or where services will operate from.



### What is happening with the Dorset Waste Partnership?



The Dorset Waste Partnership (DWP) will continue to deliver waste services across the Dorset Council area. For 1 April 2019, collection days and types will remain the same as they are now, with no changes to household recycling centres.

Dorset and Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Shadow Executives have decided that the DWP should continue to deliver waste services in Christchurch for an interim period of one year from 1 April 2019. A legal agreement is now being worked on that needs to be in place before the new council launches.



Send your questions to [shapingdorsetcouncil@dorsetcc.gov.uk](mailto:shapingdorsetcouncil@dorsetcc.gov.uk). We won't always be able to answer all questions immediately as lots of decisions about Dorset Council are yet to be made, but we will get back to you and include them in the newsletter as soon as we can!



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