

**HAMPSHIRE COUNTY CLLR JAN WARWICK  
PARISH COUNCIL REPORT  
JANUARY 2026**

### **M27 Improvement Works – Early Reopening**

Hampshire County Council has confirmed the successful completion of improvement works at **M27 Junctions 10 (Whiteley) and 11 (Fareham)**. The motorway **reopened 24 hours ahead of schedule**, at **04:00 on Saturday 3 January**.

Further details are available here:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20260201M27UpdateReopening>

### **Elections Update**

There have been two recent developments regarding elections:

- **Mayoral Election Postponement**

The Government has postponed the mayoral election until **2028**. While the election itself is delayed, the **creation of a Combined Authority**, along with the **transfer of powers and funding from Westminster**, remains essential and should not be affected by this delay. Hampshire and the Solent contribute to the UK economy at a level comparable to **Wales**, with a population similar in scale to **Northern Ireland**. Ordinarily, the Mayor would sit on the **Council of Nations and Regions**, and the absence of this role reduces the area's ability to influence national policy.

- **Local Elections and Local Government Reorganisation (LGR)**

In mid-December, the Government suggested that councils should consider whether local elections scheduled for **May 2026** should proceed in light of proposed Local Government Reorganisation. Our position is that the **Government has set the timetable for LGR**, and it is for them to determine whether delivery is achievable. We will **not be seeking a postponement of local elections**.

### **Securing a Greener, Healthier Hampshire**

Hampshire County Council has launched its **Local Nature Recovery Strategy**, a major step towards protecting and enhancing the county's natural environment.

The strategy sets out priorities for nature recovery across Hampshire and highlights the importance of collaboration between communities, landowners, and partner organisations. Parish and town councils are encouraged to support and engage with this work. A thriving natural environment underpins Hampshire's future, supporting residents' wellbeing, strengthening communities, and ensuring that wildlife and green spaces can be enjoyed by future generations.

The full strategy can be viewed here:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/nature-recovery-hampshire/hampshire-strategy>

## Consultations

### Hampshire Minerals & Waste Plan

Hampshire County Council and partner authorities are inviting feedback on **proposed modifications to the Hampshire Minerals & Waste Plan**.

Have your say here:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/planninganddevelopment/mineralsandwaste>

*Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) – Final Call for Responses*

The **Government's public consultation on Local Government Reorganisation across Hampshire and the Solent** closes on **11 January**.

Parish and town councils are encouraged to ensure their views are submitted before the deadline.

Further information and consultation details:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/aboutthecouncil/governmentinhampshire/local-government-reorganisation>

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