

intouch

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LOWEST COUNCIL TAX INCREASE FOR 15 YEARS

COUNTY COUNCIL KEEPS TAX DOWN, AS MSDC BECOMES THIRD MOST EFFICIENT COUNCIL

Conservative councillors at West Sussex County Council have delivered the lowest Council Tax increase for 15 years... despite receiving the lowest possible Government grant for the seventh consecutive year.

West Sussex receives just £124 per resident against a national average of £194. If the County Council had received the average grant, it could cut Council Tax by 15%!

Meanwhile, Mid Sussex District Council has been recognised as the third most efficient council in the country after the Government published a league table of efficiency savings over the past three years. The Council has also been rated 23rd out of 388 councils by the Audit Commission



Councillors are improving frontline services and delivering value for money

for its rate of service improvement.

Campaigner Christine Field says: "Conservatives are making resident's Council Tax work harder by prioritising back office efficiency savings, improving frontline services and keeping Council Tax as low as possible".

CLAMPING DOWN ON FLY-TIPPING

Residents may have recently seen an increase in fly tipping in some of the rural parts of High Weald.

Cllr James Temple-Smithson says: "It is important to get fly-tipped waste removed quickly, as part of our commitment to working for a clean, safe local environment. Please do report any fly-tipping to MSDC on 01444 477440 so we can ensure prompt action is taken".

Cllr James Temple-Smithson helping to clear litter from local roadsides



MORE CASH TO TACKLE POTHOLES

County Councillors have allocated an additional £1.5million to tackle the large number of potholes which have appeared as a result of the recent bad weather.

Highway engineers are currently assessing local roads to prioritise necessary repairs to the road surface.

Cllr Margaret Johnson says: "I am pleased that the County Council has decided to release extra funding to tackle the increase in local potholes. I have been pressing highway engineers to produce a programme of repairs as soon as possible and would urge residents to report potholes to the County Council so they can be assessed and repaired".

ACTION TO SAVE FINGERPOSTS

Fingerposts, the historic direction signs which are such a feature of local rural villages, are in danger of disappearing through lack of maintenance, or increasingly are being replaced by modern medal signs.

The County Council is not legally required to keep old style wooden fingerposts. However, Cllr Margaret Johnson has been pressing the Council to develop a programme whereby a partnership approach can be adopted involving the parish councils, to ensure that these much-loved rural signs are properly maintained.