



The Household Support Fund which provided grants or supermarket vouchers for carers was closed on 31st March 2026

From 1 April 2026, the new Crisis and Resilience Fund was launched in England. It provides grant funding to local authorities to provide preventative support to communities, as well as assisting people when faced with a financial crisis. The Crisis and Resilience Fund guidance provides detailed information to support local authorities design their schemes. Funding for the Crisis and Resilience Fund covers the period 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2029. For more information about the fund go to: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/crisis-and-resilience-fund-guidance-for-local-authorities-in-england-1-april-2026-to-31-march-2029/the-crisis-and-resilience-fund-guidance-for-local-authorities-in-england-1-april-2026-to-31-march-2029>

Hampshire Dementia Strategy - Have Your Say

NHS, local government and voluntary / community sector partners across Hampshire are working together to create a Dementia Strategy. We want to make sure our plans are based on what matters most to people with dementia, unpaid carers, families and professionals.

If you have experience of supporting people with dementia in either a professional or personal capacity, please share your views to help shape the future of dementia support and services in Hampshire.

Survey closes 11.59pm on Sunday 12 April

Survey link: Dementia Strategy for Hampshire

<https://documents.hants.gov.uk/consultation/2026-DementiaStrategySurvey-PaperForm.pdf>

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/aboutthecouncil/haveyoursay/consultations>

Easy Read Version: <https://documents.hants.gov.uk/consultation/2026-DementiaStrategySurvey-EasyRead.pdf>

Carers Together

Easter Party

Friday 10th April 2026
12:30pm to 3.30pm
 at: Hampshire Carers Centre
 9 Love Lane Romsey, SO51 8DE

Cream Tea Lunch
 Easter Quiz
 Easter Prize Draw
 Handmade gifts to purchase
£6 per person

To book a place Tel: 01794 519495 or
 email admin@carerstgether.org.uk

Our Charity Shops are open 9.30am - 4.30pm Monday - Saturday

Chandlers Ford	4 Falkland Court, Chandlers Ford SO53 3GA
Romsey	4 Market Place Romsey SO51 8YZ
Totton	6 Water Lane, Totton SO40 3DP

Tel: 02380 265489
Tel: 01794 521763
Tel: 02380 873911



Easter Bank Holiday 2026 Pharmacy Opening Hours

Link: https://cpsc.org.uk/application/files/1217/7443/4673/Hampshire_-_Easter_BH_2026_-_Pharmacy_Opening_Times_-_Updated__23.03.2026.pdf

Details of local pharmacies can also be found by scanning the code opposite or by visiting www.nhs.uk or **Telephoning : 111**

Happy Easter from all the staff, volunteers and trustees at Carers Together.

The office will be closed on:
 Good Friday 3rd April 2026 and
 Easter Monday 6th April 2026.

Our Call Line will be available for carers to chat in confidence from 10.00am-4.00pm between 3rd to 6th April 2026
 Telephone: 08000 323456





STOIC (Southern Test Older Independent Campaigners)
Romsey Older Peoples Partnership



Meets on the 4th Friday of each month except December. It is an independent organisation for residents of southern Test Valley aged 55 & over.

Membership is £2 per person per month or you can pay a discounted price for the year.

Refreshments of tea/coffee and cake are provided (by a professional baker).

Next meeting: Friday 24th April 2026

2.10pm - 4.00pm at: Romsey Community Wellbeing Hub, 9 Love Lane, Romsey SO51 8DE

Activities at STOIC meetings include, chatting, socialising, meeting friends, games, quizzes, information sharing and interesting speakers.

All welcome! Just turn up on the day, or to book a place or for more information about the meeting:

Call: 01794 519495

Please note parking is limited at the location.



Working with
Hampshire
County Council



Free NHS Health Checks in Hampshire
(aged between 40 –74yrs)

at Romsey Community Wellbeing Hub
9 Love Lane Romsey SO51 8DE

Tuesday 7th, April (09.30 – 17.00)

Tuesday 4th & 19th May (09.30—17.00)



BOOK YOUR APPOINTMENT TODAY

<https://nhshchampshire.randox.com>

or scan our QR Code

Alternatively call us on **0800 2545 452**

Are you aged 55+ and have experienced a major health event in the last 5 years?

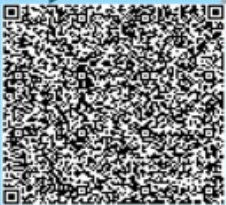


The study involves filling in a set of questionnaires, is completely anonymous, takes around 30 minutes, and is conducted entirely online

Take part in a University of Southampton research study exploring how older adults adjust emotionally and psychologically after life-changing health events. These may include (but are not limited to):

- Stroke
- Cancer diagnosis or treatment
- Heart attack or major surgery
- Serious accident (e.g., fall, car crash)
- Chronic illness (e.g., Parkinson's, COPD, long COVID)
- Loss of mobility, or changes in senses like vision, hearing, or touch

Thank you for helping us improve support for older adults around the world



If you require further details, please email: bodymind@soton.ac.uk

Participants can enter a prize draw to win one of twenty £20 Amazon vouchers



Our Carers Together
Charity Shops in
Totton and Romsey

would be grateful for more donations of

Men's & Children's CLOTHING!

Men's Clothes

Kids' Clothes

Donations

Puzzle & Book Exchange



We have restocked our **Free** puzzle & book exchange at the Romsey Community and Wellbeing Hub, 9 Love Lane. Why not pop into the Hub between 9.45am-2.15pm Tuesday-Friday (Except Bank Holidays) to pick up a puzzle or book or have chat.

Staff are also available for advice & support or to book an appointment





The Care Quality Commission (CQC) is taking steps to improving how they assess health and social care by introducing a sector-based approach, replacing the single framework with more tailored ones.

Following strong support from last year's consultation, They have created four draft frameworks for:

- Adult social care
- Mental health care
- Primary care and community services
- Hospitals (secondary & specialist Care)

These aim to provide clearer, more consistent quality ratings.

The CQC is now seeking feedback from colleagues, providers, service users, and partners. Review the drafts and complete the survey:

<https://orlo.uk/UJFBP>

www.cqc.org.uk/about-us/how-we-involve-you/consultations/give-your-views-draft-sector-specific-assessment-frameworks

The period for sharing feedback closes: **12 June 2026**



The government has announced major local government changes, with most of Test Valley set to join a new Mid-Hampshire Unitary Council alongside Winchester, New Forest and East Hampshire.

However, Chilworth, Nursling, Rownhams and Valley Park will instead become part of a South West Hampshire Council with Southampton and Eastleigh.

Hampshire County Council will be abolished, with all services moving to new single-tier (unitary) councils. These changes aim to simplify the current two-tier system into one authority per area.

Five new councils will be created, going live on 1 April 2028:

Northern Hampshire (Basingstoke, Hart, Rushmoor)

Mid-Hampshire (Test Valley, Winchester, New Forest, East Hampshire)

South West Hampshire (Eastleigh, Southampton)

South East Hampshire (Portsmouth, Havant, Gosport, Fareham)

Isle of Wight

The decision follows consultation with councils, partners and the public.

Councils will now work together to prepare for the transition, including shadow council elections in May 2027, ahead of the new authorities launching in 2028.

Are you over 60?

If you are 60 or over or have a disability, you may be eligible for public transport concessions – from a senior rail card to a free bus pass.

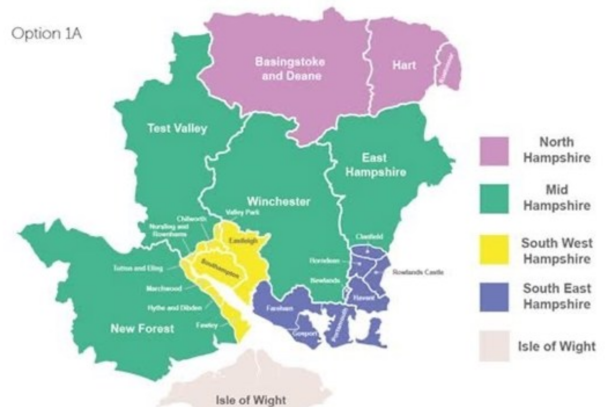
Over 60 free bus pass, senior railcard and transport concessions

What are you eligible for?



Check out the Age UK website and find out what you could apply for:

www.ageuk.org.uk/information-advice/money-legal/benefits-entitlements/free-bus-pass-and-transport-concessions/



Please note: The boundaries shown on this map are illustrative and not to scale. They are intended as a visual guide only and may not accurately represent exact geographic borders.

For more information about anything in this Newsletter, or to book one of our meeting rooms or desk spaces, available to hire at reasonable prices, contact:

Carers Together 9 Love Lane, Romsey SO51 8DE Open Tue - Fri 9.45am - 2.15pm

Email: admin@carerstgether.org.uk Tel: 01794 519495

Web: www.carerstgether.org.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/carerstgetherhampshire





Activities at Romsey Community Wellbeing Hub - March 2026



Romsey Community Wellbeing HUB Drop-in for a chat, have a cup of tea or coffee, meet a friend and/or find information & support	Tuesday to Friday	9.45am - 2.15pm
Warm Welcome Space Warm welcome, dog friendly, refreshments available	Tuesday to Friday	9.45am - 2.15pm
Romsey Knitters & Hookers - No meeting 6th April	Every Monday	7.00pm - 9.00pm
Diabetes Aware - 1st April	1st Wednesday	2.15pm - 4.00pm
Dementia Drop-in - 2nd April	1st Thursday	1.30pm - 3.30pm
Parkinson's Café - 9th April	2nd Thursday	11.00am - 12.30pm
Macular Society - No meeting 3rd April	1st Friday	1.30pm - 3.30pm
Unpaid Carers SHARE Group - 8th April	2nd Wednesday	1.30am - 2.30pm
Parent Carers Support & Chat - 3rd April	1st Friday	10.30am - 12.30pm
Romsey Carers Café - 17th April - Special meeting with Adult Services to discuss the Dementia Strategy 11-12.30 followed by optional fish and chips lunch	3rd Friday	10.45am - 1.15pm
Pain Clinic (by referral only)	3 weekly - Tuesday	1.30pm - 3.30pm
Quaker Worship - 12th and 26th April	2nd & 4th Sunday	10.45am
Free NHS Health Checks - 7th April By Appointment only - Tel: 0800 2545 452 to book	Tuesdays	9.30am - 5.00pm
STOIC Romsey Older Peoples Partnership - 24th April	4th Friday	2.10pm - 4.00pm
Andover Mind (by referral only) Fortnightly	Alternate Wednesdays	9.30am - 1.30pm
Easter Party 10th April Bookable event £6 per person	Friday 10th April	12.30pm– 3.30pm

Romsey Community Wellbeing Hub is open Tuesday - Friday 9.45am - 2.15pm

- Support from Carers Together and other organisations
- Disabled friendly facilities & access
- Information, Support, Signposting and Advice.
- Advice on benefits and assistance with some forms.
- **Visit our Free Puzzle & Book exchange in the Hub**
- Get a Free Blood Pressure check (no appointment required)
- Registered Warm Welcome space. Come in for refreshments and a sit down in our Hub.
- Laptop available to use free of charge (with or without support) and access to free Wi Fi
- Help with tablets and mobile phones (by appointment)
- Free Counselling Referral service for unpaid carers
- Meeting rooms (different sizes) and desks to hire.
- Regular Groups, activities and events and some training educational days.
- You can follow us on Facebook & Instagram for updates and information

