

Cllr P McLain report June 2026

TBC has been working closely with Ubico to minimise disruption to essential services because of the highways works at Over Bridge. Cllrs will be aware that waste and recycling collections in Highnam, Minsterworth and Maisemore will take place earlier than usual, from 6am. This helps crews avoid peak congestion and prevents collection vehicles adding to delays in the area. Cllrs will hopefully have seen that TBC has been issuing social media posts to help inform residents.

I'm sure you picked up the notification last week about the “**Community Governance Review**”.

Tewkesbury Borough Council is inviting residents to share their [views on parish arrangements](#) as part of a Community Governance Review (CGR) which is underway across the borough.

The borough council recognises the vital role parish councils play in supporting and representing local communities. As neighbourhoods grow and change, it is important that parish governance remains robust, representative, and able to meet local needs. The CGR will consider whether current parish boundaries, governance structures and electoral arrangements continue to reflect the identities and interests of local communities and facilitate effective and convenient local government.

Tight deadline for comments on the first stage of the Community Governance Review consultation 26 June 2026!

The full terms of reference for the review - including a list of parish areas, parish wards, maps, councillor numbers and more - is available on the council's website at tewkesbury.gov.uk/cgr. There is also an online form that residents can use to submit comments.

Parish Clare's may well also have seen the consultation launched on enforcement. I've set it out again just in case.

People living and working in Tewkesbury Borough are being asked for their [feedback on a new enforcement plan](#) for how the council deals with building work that breaches planning rules.

The updated draft Planning Enforcement Plan 2026 aims to make the rules easier to understand and explains how the council decides which issues need to be looked at first.

A four-week public consultation is taking place (started Monday, 8 June) to Monday 6 July. Anyone can read the plan and share their feedback.

The proposed planning enforcement plan includes:

- A change from four to three clear levels of priority:
 - Category A: serious problems that could cause big or lasting damage, such as works on protected buildings or trees
 - Category B: problems that may need fixing or a new planning application
 - Category C: small issues that don't cause much harm
- A new target, of which the council aims to progress a 'next step' for most cases within 30 working days
- A revised timeline for reporting including six months reviews to keep councillors and the public informed

- Simple, clearer guidance that explains what a planning breach is, how to report one, and what happens next
- An intention to use modern tools like drone photos to help investigate cases when appropriate.

Following the closure of the consultation, the council will consider responses and take a report to Executive Committee on 2 September 2026 with any changes for adoption.

The council consultation is available at <https://tewkesburybc.commonplace.is/> and closes on 6 July 2026.

National Planning Policy Framework, encourages local planning authorities to publish an enforcement policy to promote transparency, consistency, and public confidence in the planning system.

The proposed changes comprise modernised prioritisation of cases through the replacement of the former four-tier (A–D) system with a simplified three-tier structure. It also prioritises customer-focused guidance by providing clearer explanations of what constitutes a breach, how to report concerns, and what individuals can expect both when submitting a complaint and when being investigated.

As referenced in my last report, TBC have completed the draft financial statements ahead of the statutory deadline of 30 June 2026 in order to start the external audit mid June. The draft financial statement along with the draft Narrative Statement, draft Annual Governance Statement and Notice of public inspection can now be found on our website (under Statement of accounts 2025-26): <https://www.tewkesbury.gov.uk/budgets-and-finance>

Unlike many LAs it showed a relatively stable position in the teeth of significant national cuts, however the pressures from reduced central government grant and the accelerated LGR process are having a noticeable impact on the current year's performance, both in terms of staff capacity and service provision.

Although I don't think this impacts directly on the parish, it may be of relevance to some of the advent narrow roads in future years, particularly if the parish merges with some of the adjacent parish councils. The narrow access service was successfully launched last year, moving around 80 properties onto a dedicated narrow access refuse, recycling and food waste collection round using a 3.5-tonne vehicle.

Phase 2 of the project will shortly be rolling out. This will add a further 100 properties onto the narrow access round, which are currently collected by a larger 12-tonne vehicle.

The change brings clear health and safety benefits by reducing the need for difficult or potentially unsafe manoeuvres on tight roads. Although the 12-tonne vehicle is smaller than a standard 26-tonne fleet vehicles, narrow roads can still present challenges. Letters will be delivered to affected properties from week commencing Monday, 8 June.

The below CIL application process was announced at the beginning of the month which cllrs may find of interest:

Applications are now invited for funding to support strategic infrastructure projects across Cheltenham Borough, Gloucester City and Tewkesbury Borough council areas. The ten-week bidding period runs from Monday, 1 June, to Friday, 7 August.

The funding will support both:

- Strategic infrastructure projects benefiting all three council areas; and
- Local strategic infrastructure projects benefitting one or two areas, where these deliver wider community benefits, support new development

As of December 2025, around £6.6 million remains available in the unallocated local strategic infrastructure fund. This reflects approximately £4.6 million for Tewkesbury Borough, £1.9 million for Cheltenham Borough and £100,000 for Gloucester City.

Applications can be submitted for:

- feasibility funding to establish the scope and cost of a project; or
- delivery funding where project costs and delivery arrangements are clearly defined.

Applications must be submitted online and include supporting information, such as project costs, delivery plans, and a climate change assessment, in line with the published guidance.

Full details, including eligibility criteria and application guidance, are available on the [CIL Joint Committee webpage](#) on Tewkesbury Borough Council's website.

Cllr Jill Smith

The new Strategic Infrastructure Funding applications have opened for projects in Gloucester, Cheltenham and Tewkesbury. This is using the joint pool of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) monies from the three councils for larger community projects.

Ubico has a narrow access service that has been running for 80 households over the last year. Due to their location, they need a narrower refuse truck to access their properties. A 12-tonne truck is used instead of a 26-tonne standard vehicle. This service has expanded and will take on another 100 properties. Letters will go to the affected households to let them know. In some cases, it is still tight to fit a lorry down the lanes.

The Borough's financial statement has been completed ahead of the 30th June deadline, in order to start the external audit mid-June. Details of this can be found on <https://www.tewkesbury.gov.uk/budgets-and-finance>

An Extraordinary meeting of Full Council was held on Thursday 11th June, to answer a series of questions posed by the Government's Secretary of State. These were to address the Structural Changes Orders, which are the legal process that has to occur before Councils can be dissolved and new Councils formed. It may help in the