

Local Voices, Local Solutions

Lewes District Council are suggesting a new way of communicating, one that makes it easier for local people and organisations to get together, and helps you to be part of making local life better.

It's a big idea, we have a lot to do – and we need your help.

What are we going to do?

The name for what we are doing is “Locally Sorted”. It is a way to make it easier to make local connections, get things done and improve things where you live.

We don't have a big plan that's already been decided. We have some early ideas, and now we want yours. We want to plan this in the open, not behind closed doors, so that everyone can have their say.

During 2014 we will be working with residents, councillors, businesses, voluntary and community groups and other partners to create Locally Sorted.

Why now?

We're doing this because you've told us you want more – services that are delivered the way that suits you, and more ways to join in and improve things in your community.

We also think that if people, businesses and communities are more involved in how our services are delivered, we can improve what we do, support new local ideas and save taxpayers' money.

Our principles.

We said there was no big plan, but there are some principles we are going to stick to. We want to create a joined up Locally Sorted space - something that is:

Online – making connections through one, easy to use, website, which you can use in the same way on a mobile or from a computer.

In the real world – making new connections in person, in your local area, at the council, or with others who share your interests.

For everyone – this space should be for everyone whatever their needs.

Open – anyone can take part at any stage

Working together – we will collaborate with you to create this new way of working and invigorate our communities.

Public – we will tell you what we are doing, with public meetings and online information at every stage.

Our first ideas.

What Locally Sorted will look like, and how it will work, will be designed with you. Our first ideas are that it should have three different parts:

“Local Voice” – so you can make suggestions, and find out about and have your say about changes and decisions to be made in your area.

For example, you could:

- vote for and talk about other people’s ideas for neighbourhood or council action
- suggest ways services can be better
- influence what councillors talk about in regular open cabinet meetings
- participate in consultations
- see what your councillor has been working on, and get in touch with them easily
- network with other people in the area.

“Locally You” - so you can find ways to get involved in your area

This lets you know what is going on around you. For example, you could:

- find out or tell people about community events
- find ways of helping... or ask for help with a project that’s important to you
- discover local opportunities
- collaborate to solve problems

“Local services” - so you can reach council services easily, on your phone or on the web.

This is a point to access council services, with a simple one-click link to our website, and possibly those of other councils or organisations too. Through the website you can:

- see information about how the council is doing and how it spends your money
- access services – find out your bin collection days; report a noise nuisance; make a planning application; find out about housing benefits... and much more.

How to get involved

You can get involved by signing up to the mailing list at locally.sorted@lewes.gov.uk so you receive a regular updates on our progress.

Come to our first workshop on Wednesday 9 April at 6.30 – 9.00 p.m. at the [Clinton Centre](#), Clinton Place, Seaford, BN25 1NG. It’s free, and a light buffet will be provided.

Book online through [Eventbrite](#). Alternatively, send us an email, or write to us at Locally Sorted, Lewes District Council, Southover House, Lewes, BN7 1AB.

On social media? The project is on Twitter at [@lewesdc](#) or join the discussion at www.simpl.co