



# Town Clerk's Update

Council news and information from Sevenoaks Town Clerk, Linda Larter MBE



**20 February 2026**

## New Dartford Road zebra crossing will soon be completed

Construction is now underway on the long-anticipated Dartford Road pedestrian crossing in Sevenoaks, a project initiated by Sevenoaks Town Council. The work, being carried out by Kent County Council during the half-term break, is scheduled for completion on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> February.

The new zebra crossing will provide a safer route for pedestrians at this busy junction particularly benefiting students travelling to and from school and commuters heading to Sevenoaks Station.

Delivering a safe crossing at Dartford Road has been a longstanding priority for the Town Council. Sevenoaks Town Council has led on and committed funding towards the delivery of this project since its initial proposal as part of Kent County Council's 2022 public consultation on the Sevenoaks Town 20mph scheme.

Sevenoaks Town Council has contributed £25,000 towards the project, comprising solely of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) income from local developers. This was met by a further £20,000 from Sevenoaks District Council's own CIL funds. The remainder of the delivery cost (£55,000) was secured by Kent County Council, via Active Travel England funding.



## Online petition about sweet shop reduced opening hours

Recently a young person and parent started an online petition worried about his favourite sweet shop needing to open reduced hours due to low profits. There was misinformation in relation to the Town Council charging business rates and rent, neither of which the Town Council are involved in. We arranged for the Mayor to meet the young person and parent, and the following response has now been posted online:

"We met with Tony, Mayor of Sevenoaks, who answered the children's concerns about the local town and how we can support local businesses. It was so lovely to meet with him, and it is wonderful to know that the Mayor is genuinely involved with the goings on of the town and wants to support the town."



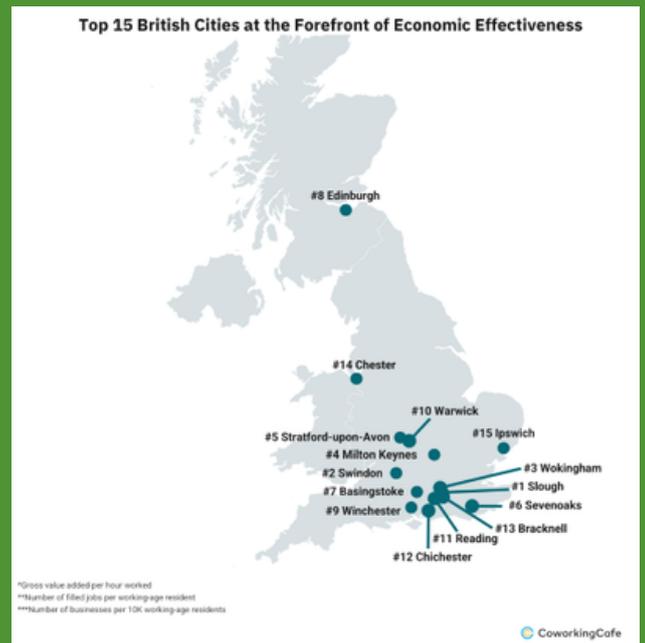
## Sevenoaks ranks #6 among Britain's most economically effective hubs in new study

A new analysis from CoworkingCafe ranks Britain's top 15 cities and towns at the forefront of economic effectiveness, assessing how well local economies convert work into output. The ranking combines five indicators: labour productivity (Gross Value Added per hour worked), average weekly hours, employment rate, job density and business density.

Sevenoaks ranks #6 nationwide for economic effectiveness, driven by its exceptionally dense business ecosystem, high labour productivity and strong employment rate.

### Key takeaways:

- One of Britain's densest business environments, with 927 businesses per 10,000 working-age residents, the 4th-highest business density in the entire dataset.
- Top-tier labour productivity, ranking 6th nationally at £52.3 Gross Value Added per hour, placing Sevenoaks firmly among Britain's highest-performing local economies.
- Consistently active workforce, with an average 38.1-hour workweek, the 17th-longest nationwide.
- Employment rate of 78.1%, ranking 21st, and pointing to a stable and well-engaged workforce.
- Job density of 0.8 jobs per working-age residents (28th), reflecting balanced job availability and a healthy local labour market.



You can find the full analysis, data table and methodology here:  
<https://www.coworkingcafe.com/blog/most-efficient-cities-uk/>

## Solar energy at Quakers Hall Lane Allotment Site

Sevenoaks Town Council has provided funding to install solar panels and batteries at Quakers Hall Lane Allotment site to the benefit of the allotment tenants.

The Town Council are grateful to the Sevenoaks Allotment Holders Association for their assistance in project managing this and voluntarily digging necessary trenches.



## Local Government Reorganisation – public consultation

The Local Government Reorganisation consultation started on Thursday 5th February for 7-weeks and will finish on 26th March.

Please see [www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk](http://www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk) for links to further information.



**Local Government Reorganisation**

What does it mean for you?

The consultation runs from **5<sup>th</sup> February to 26<sup>th</sup> March**

A printed summary is available at Sevenoaks Town Council offices

The poster features a green background with a white rounded rectangle containing the text. To the right, there is a small illustration of a person with a question mark above their head, and a document with a pencil icon.

## Greatness Recreation Ground - New Pavilion

Bricklayers have completed most ground-floor internal blockwork, with scaffold adapted to first lift to allow external walls to progress.

Steelwork to the first-floor and roof has been fully completed. Bricklayers will now finish the remaining ground-floor blockwork, then begin raising the external walls ahead of the next scaffold lift.



Join us at the  
**Sevenoaks Annual Town Public Meeting**  
**Monday 9 March 2026**  
Bat & Ball Centre, Sevenoaks, TN14 5DN



**Have your say on matters relating to Sevenoaks Town**

Come along at **6.30pm** to talk to Town Councillors and visit voluntary organisation stands. **The meeting will start at 7pm.**

Please submit questions you would like to ask the Town Council by 12pm on Friday 6 March to [council@sevenoakstown.gov.uk](mailto:council@sevenoakstown.gov.uk)

For more details, please contact us:

- By telephone: 01732 459953
- By email: [council@sevenoakstown.gov.uk](mailto:council@sevenoakstown.gov.uk)

Find out more at [www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk](http://www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk)

**Agenda:**

- **Welcome from the Mayor of Sevenoaks**, Cllr Tony Clayton
- Presentation of **Sevenoaks Town Council's Annual Report**
- Presentation about **Kent Family Hub** by Ellen Shaw, Family Hub District Manager
- Presentation of **Sevenoaks Town Council Grant Awards** to Voluntary Organisations
- Presentation of **The Stag's Annual Report** by Tony McEwen, Deputy Chief Executive
- **Comments and queries** from local people on any matters relating to Sevenoaks Town

We are collecting donations for **Sevenoaks Leaves and Fishes Foodbank** at the meeting: non-perishable food, hygiene products and cleaning materials. Thank you!



## My recent meetings included:

- Planning & Development Committee\*
- Sevenoaks in Bloom

\*All of Sevenoaks Town Council's Meetings are open to the public and available to watch live on YouTube see [www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk](http://www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk) for details.

## Save the date

Visit our events page for more information: [www.tinyurl.com/STCNewsEvents](http://www.tinyurl.com/STCNewsEvents)

| Date                           | Event  | Venue                       |
|--------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| Friday 6 March                 | International Women's Day Event                    | Bat & Ball Centre           |
| Monday 9 March                 | Annual Town Meeting                                | Bat & Ball Centre           |
| Thursday 19 March              | <u>Mayor's Charity Concert - Swing into Spring</u> | Stag                        |
| Saturday 4 April               | Vegan Market                                       | Vine                        |
| Saturday 2 May                 | Climate Fair                                       | Vine                        |
| Saturday 30 May                | Health & Wellbeing Event                           | Vine                        |
| Friday 12 and Saturday 13 June | Beer on the Vine                                   | Vine                        |
| Tuesday 4 August               | Family Fun Day                                     | Greatness Recreation Ground |
| Friday 20 November             | Sevenoaks Business Awards                          | Bat & Ball Centre           |

Wishing you a good weekend

Linda

