

SODC Councillor's Monthly Report September 2026

Don't lose your vote – residents urged to respond to voter registration email
Residents who receive a Voter Registration Canvass email this September are being urged to respond as soon as possible. South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse Districts Councils are sending requests to more than 88,000 properties requiring the householders to check and confirm their voter registration details are correct.

Equalities Roadshow to visit towns across South and Vale

Roadshows offering information ranging from how to get more active, who to contact if people need help with bin collections and the opportunity to chat about all things equality related are coming to towns in South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse this autumn. South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils are back on the road for a second year travelling to seven market towns across the two districts starting with Abingdon on Monday 7 September. Council officers will be speaking to the public about what the councils do to support equality – this includes the Move Together and You Move programmes with the council's Active Communities team, financial help for people with disabilities and more.

The roadshow will visit locations on the following dates:

7 September – Abingdon Market 8am-3pm
12 September – Didcot Market 9am-2pm
16 September – Wantage Market 8am – 3pm
25 September – Wallingford Market 9am-2pm
6 October – Faringdon Market 8.30am – 1pm
13 October – Thame Market 8am-2.30pm
22 October – Henley Market 9am-2pm

Fully refurbished changing rooms and a new gym area: Thame Leisure Centre's major makeover is complete.

South Oxfordshire District Council has completed wide-ranging upgrades at Thame Leisure Centre, with a new lower gym area and much improved changing facilities – all part of a major refurbishment project.

Councils express concerns on coming government changes to planning process .

South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils have expressed concerns for the government reforms to planning committees set to come into force at the end of October 2026. Awaiting full details.

New high energy performances coming soon to Cornerstone Arts Centre in Didcot.

The latest high energy performances at Cornerstone will be a bit different than the dance, comedy and musical shows South Oxfordshire District Council's arts centre is best known for. Next week work begins installing solar panels and air source heat pumps on Didcot's landmark building. Details on website.

Cash for community groups with councillor grant scheme

Published 4 August 2026. A total of £270,000 is available to support community projects with this year's round of the Councillor Community Grant Scheme from South Oxfordshire District Council. The grant scheme launches on Monday 17 August and is open to non-profit organisations including community and voluntary groups and town and parish councils. **Please get your applications in early.** The deadline for applications is midday Friday 4 December.

David Turner
2nd September 2026

