

District Councillor Report March 2017

Councillor Joan Bland

Landlords with properties to let in Henley are being encouraged to sign up to White Horse Lettings.

Run by South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils, White Horse Lettings offers long-term rental accommodation to people on the housing waiting list. Around 250 landlords are already registered but more are required to provide much needed homes for families on lower incomes.

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White Horse Lettings is looking for good quality flats, houses and rooms, and tenants are ready to move in. All tenants are carefully vetted beforehand to make sure they are suitable.

White Horse Lettings staff are part of the councils' housing advice team with many years' experience in managing rental homes and providing accommodation. They support landlords throughout the tenancy and all services including paperwork, inventories and tenancy advice are free of charge.

If you have a suitable property please contact White Horse Lettings on 01235 422422, or visit

“There's a real need for rental homes in Henley for those on low incomes. Anyone who lets their property out via White Horse Lettings will play a big part in helping us tackle this important issue.”

White Horse Lettings is a free service provided by our experienced housing team. They do all the paperwork and checks, and will make sure that only people who are suitable for your property move in.”

South Oxfordshire District Council is to provide more than £1million in grant funding to 16 community groups, charities and support organisations across the district. The funding will help to ensure that important services such as support for disabled people, carers, and the elderly, can continue to be available locally for South Oxfordshire residents.

The revenue grant funding from South Oxfordshire District Council will help groups to pay for things such as salary costs, rent and rates, marketing and publicity, and transport and utility costs.

The groups receiving funding are:

- [Age UK Oxfordshire](#) - £93,289
- [Berinsfield Information and Volunteer Centre](#) - £56,814
- [Community First Oxfordshire](#) - £74,250
- [FISH Volunteer Centre](#) - £12,000
- [Home-Start Southern Oxfordshire](#) - £66,706
- [My Life My Choice](#) - £16,840
- [Nomad Youth & Community Project](#) - £80,000
- [Oxfordshire Association for the Blind](#) - £25,000
- [Oxfordshire Sexual Abuse & Rape Crisis Centre](#) - £52,500
- [Riverside Counselling Service](#) - £65,000
- [South & Vale Carers Centre](#) - £83,508
- [South Oxfordshire Food and Education Alliance](#) - £94,000
- [Style Acre](#) - £66,000
- [The Chiltern Centre for Disabled Children](#) - £100,000
- [Thomley Activity Centre](#) - £97,500
- [TRAIN](#) - £79,297

Henley Rowing Club put in a rushed application for revenue funding but unfortunately it did not meet the council's criteria. The council's grants officers will work with them to submit a new application. Hopefully they will be lucky next time. Community groups in Henley looking to improve their facilities, such as carrying out building improvements, can now apply for Capital Grant – for more information visit www.southoxon.gov.uk/grants.

People aged 60 and over living in South Oxfordshire can claim a month's swimming sessions for just £5.

GO Active Gold is offering vouchers to use at district council leisure centres from 1 April to 31 May. Residents can sign up for the offer by visiting www.getoxfordshireactive.org/go-active-gold or by calling 01235 422240. To claim this offer you must register by Saturday 1 April.

The leisure centres where the offer can be used are:

- Henley Leisure Centre
- Abbey Sports Centre, Berinsfield
- Didcot Wave
- Faringdon Leisure Centre
- Thame Leisure Centre
- Wantage Leisure Centre
- White Horse Leisure and Tennis Centre, Abingdon

In 2016 GO Active Gold reached over 1,000 residents across 20 rural communities. 24 new communities have been added for 2017 – for details about where and when activities are taking place please visit www.southoxon.gov.uk/gold or www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/gold