



- South Somerset News was publicised on Monday 29 June. The publication is available online at www.southsomerset.gov.uk/latest-news and a paper copy can be picked up at all our area offices across the district. The delivery of the newsletter online will be trialled for one year initially.
- SSDC's Housing team passed a challenge from the National Practitioner Support Service which administers the framework for providing continuous improvement in front line housing services through the development and delivery of the Gold Standard Challenge. The team passed the challenge not to place any families in Bed and Breakfast accommodation, unless in an emergency, for no longer than six weeks. There are 10 challenges in total. By achieving between 1-3 challenges; SSDC is classed as a Bronze Standard authority. Between 4-7 is Silver. Over 8 is Gold.
- Officers from SSDC's Communications Team will be attending the University Centre of Yeovil (UCY) Fresher's Fair again this year on Monday 21 September to engage with new students who have moved to the area to inform them of council services such as housing standards, leisure services, ways to contact the council and to ensure they are registered for any forthcoming elections.
- The Octagon Theatre continues to break box office records – during the financial year 13/14 The Octagon set a new record when it sold 101,000 tickets. For the year 14/15 the theatre sold over 119,000 tickets!

Latest headlines:

- The Community Health and Leisure team has secured £194,000 of National Lottery Funding from Sport England to deliver a range of physical activity interventions in the Chard, Ilminster and Crewkerne GP Federation targeted at inactive patients with diabetes, pre-diabetes or hypertension. The focus will be on reducing health and social care costs and to get more inactive people active.
- 20 communities will benefit from free Playdays this coming summer when SSDC brings Playdays to towns and villages right across the district. SSDC has organised Playdays in 13 communities and provided small grants to 7 other communities to organise their own events. For more information on Playdays near you, visit www.southsomerset.gov.uk/playdays.
- A joint project between SSDC's Countryside team, Equalities Officer Jo Morgan and Yeovil Shopmobility, has produced annotated maps of easy-access routes around Ham Hill and Yeovil Country Parks. The maps show accessible routes for residents and visitors to enjoy, with information on parking, toilets and refreshments and tips on features and wildlife to look out for along the way.