

Council Services Over Christmas and New Year 2024/25

A guide to council services over the Christmas and New Year period when the council offices are closed to the public.

Abbey House – Reception will close at Abbey House from 4pm on Tuesday 24 December 2024 and will reopen on Thursday 2 January 2025 at 8.30am.

Waste collections – all you need to know about waste collections over the Christmas and New Year period – including the changes to the collection dates and what to do if collections are disrupted – is on our [Christmas waste page](#).

Housing – If you know anyone who is at immediate risk of being made homeless while our offices are closed, contact our out-of-hours service, which is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The number to call 01235 422410. If you see someone sleeping rough and in an emergency situation you can call Streetlink on 0300 500 0914.

Cost of living help – The Community Hub will be closed from 4.30pm on Tuesday 24 December 2024 and will reopen on Thursday 2 January 2025 at 8.30am. If you need support or advice over the festive period please go to our [cost of living help pages for more information](#) or please contact our emergency out of hours phone number – 01235 422420.

Planning – Any planning applications or post submitted after we close for Christmas, including electronic submissions, will be treated as having been received on our next working day, Thursday 2 January 2025.

Council tax and benefits services – If anyone needs urgent help with council tax or benefits during the holidays, Capita's phone lines will be open as usual on 27 and 30 December.

Emergency situations – There are details of what to do and who to contact during an emergency on our website – [emergency situations](#).

Leisure Centres and Warm Spaces – over the Christmas period there will be changes to the opening times of our Better Leisure Centres, please check via the [Better UK website](#) or with staff at your local centre for details.

Our Leisure Centres are also open as [Warm Spaces](#) this winter from 9am to 2pm weekdays. Pop in and charge your phone, have a hot drink and chat with others.

Festive events – Discover what's happening across Vale of White Horse this Christmas at [SouthernOxfordshire.com](#), a helpful guide to seasonal events and activities.

The Beacon in Wantage is celebrating the festive season with events and activities for all ages to enjoy. Find out more on [The Beacon's website](#).