

RDC Monthly Report – September 2025

With September fast approaching and the monthly meetings starting up again we should be sending you an exciting report about what went on in August. But as you are all aware no meetings and little activity on the council front. On saying that we have continued to engage with our residents over the past month hopefully helping them with their queries, in planning and enforcement issues.

Our PCSO reports will be communicated verbally at your meetings as we are awaiting their reports.

WHAT CAN AND CANNOT GO INTO YOUR BINS

Residents with green wheelie bins **PLEASE DO NOT place recycling into sacks, just clean off any food residue and place it loose in your green bin. Remember to squash plastic bottles replacing the lids afterwards and flatten any cardboard.**

It's important that you put the correct rubbish or recycling in the right bin.

The below covers your main household collections, further materials are now also collected separately at the kerbside. For more information see our [small WEEE and battery recycling](#) page (small WEEE is small electrical items)

Recycling (green wheelie bin or pink sacks)

Our neighbouring District Council Wealden who are partners on our waste contract have an excellent recycling look up which you can use to check items <https://www.wealden.gov.uk/recycling-and-waste/recyclopedia/>

PLEASE DO NOT place recycling into sacks, only shredded paper should be placed into a carrier bag or clear bag. Anything in sacks, especially a black sack, looks like household waste and therefore can result in recycling being rejected due to contamination. Unnecessary time would be wasted checking through sacks to make sure the contents are right.

PLEASE DO NOT recycle black plastic pots, tubs or trays. Currently black plastic cannot be processed by the sorting equipment at the recycling sorting facility. Place any black plastic items in your household waste bin.

Please make sure you rinse out bottle, jars and food trays and squash any cardboard. Recycling should be clean, separated and not contain any food residue.

Please place your glass recycling directly into your recycling bin, you no longer need to separate it.

Accepted

- Glass bottles and jars (leave lids off and place in separately as made from another material)
- Cardboard (please flatten and place in your green bin, not outside your bin stacked up)
- Newspapers
- Cardboard egg boxes
- Paper (including shredded paper in clear bags)
- Envelopes (white and brown)
- Telephone directories
- Books
- Junk mail, leaflets and circulars
- Food and drinks cans
- Metal lids from glass bottles and jars
- Clean kitchen foil and foil food trays
- Aerosols
- HDPE only toothpaste tubes <https://www.wrap.ngo/resources/case-study/revolutionising-recycling-journey-toothpaste-tubes>
- Plastic bottles (clean, squash and then screw on lids and include for recycling)
- Plastic food pots, tubs and trays
- Plastic film and bags (supermarket carrier bags)

Batteries (please place in a separate carrier bag and place next to or on top of your bin (NOT INSIDE YOUR BIN))

Small Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) – Please place in a separate carrier bag and place it next to or on top of your bin (NOT INSIDE YOUR BIN)

Rejected

- Drinks cartons (Tetra Paks)
- Bubble wrap
- Garden Waste
- LDPE type plastic such as chocolate bar wrappers, sweet pouches etc, low grade plastic cannot be recycled.

- Foil-lined plastic pouches and bags (crisp packets, baby and pet food pouches)
- Dog waste/cat litter
- Building materials
- Hard plastics (toys and plant pots)
- Black refuse bags
- Light bulbs
- Polystyrene
- Food waste
- Nappies
- Wood
- Rubber
- Ceramics
- Sand
- Pyrex
- Window panes
- Mirrors
- Drinking glasses
- Black Plastic

Refuse (black wheelie bin or sack collection)

To keep your wheelie bin hygienic we recommend residents use refuse sacks or bin liners for their waste and not to place waste loose directly into the wheelie bin. A wheelie bin with loose waste particularly in warm weather will quick become unpleasant and unhygienic.

Accepted

- General household waste
- Food waste
- Nappies
- Plastics that cannot be recycled (includes polystyrene)
- Tetra Pak i.e. Juice, milk and soup cartons

- Black Plastic

Batteries (please place in a separate carrier bag and place next to or on top of your bin (NOT INSIDE YOUR BIN))

Small WEEE (please place in a separate carrier bag and place next to or on top of your bin (NOT INSIDE YOUR BIN))

small WEEE is small electrical items

Rejected

- DIY waste
- Garden waste (see below)

Garden Waste – Only if subscribed (brown wheelie bin)

Please be aware all soil / compost must be removed from plants and shrubs before they are placed in the brown bin. Please shake off soil from roots. Soil must be taken to your household waste site or re used on your garden.

Accepted

- Grass cuttings
- Shrub cuttings
- Plant cuttings
- Flower cuttings
- Weeds
- Leaves
- Branches (up to 10cm/4in diameter only)
- Herbivorous pet bedding i.e. Rabbit, Guinea Pigs

Rejected

- Cardboard
- Paper
- Food waste
- Cat litter and dog waste
- Japanese Knotweed
- Soil

- Rubble
- Plastics e.g. plant pots
- Glass

HOUSING SUPPORT FUND

The Council has received additional funding from East Sussex County Council, through the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), as part of the Household Support Fund (HSF). This limited funding is intended to help households most in need with essential costs, including food, energy, and water bills.

This scheme will close on **31st March 2026**, or **earlier if funds are fully allocated**.

Eligibility criteria

To apply, you must meet **all** the following conditions:

- You are over 18 years of age
- You live within the Rother District Council, local authority area
- You are struggling to afford food, energy, or water
- You are receiving one of the following:
 - Universal Credit (with the Housing Cost element)
 - Housing Benefit
 - Council Tax Reduction

Award

- A one-off payment of £195 will be awarded to each eligible household.
- Payment will be made directly to the applicant's bank account.

Multiple applications

- Only one application per household is permitted during the period 1st April 2025 to 31st March 2026.
- Any additional applications from the same household will be automatically refused.
- If a household moves to a different local authority, a new application may be submitted (subject to eligibility in that area).

Verification

If our internal verification checks are inconclusive, we may request additional evidence before issuing payment. This may include:

- A recent bank statement showing the applicant's name and address.

Apply for Support

If you have applied for the Household Support Fund before, you can use your existing account.

- Log in or register an account on the application portal.
- Use the quick code **573B4L** to find the correct scheme.

To find out more about the benefits and financial support available to help with the cost of living please visit: www.gov.uk/cost-of-living

You can view the Household Support Fund Easy Read document here:

<https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/media/nooknbv4/household-support-fu>

FINANCES RE ROTHER

There is much talk in local authorities up and down the country about the need to find new ways to deliver services as councils continue to face unprecedented financial pressures.

Soaring costs and reductions in Government funding mean councillors of every political persuasion are having to make difficult decisions about services, particularly those they are not legally obligated to deliver.

For us in Rother, one such service is our public toilets. We simply no longer have the money to maintain all the facilities in the district as we have been and have tried a number of ways to address this issue with permanent closures, seasonal opening times and devolving responsibility to town and parish councils.

Whilst this has gone some way to addressing shortfalls in our limited budget, our officers have been working hard on an innovative way of maintaining access to public toilets, reducing the cost to the taxpayer and boosting the local economy.

We are currently working with potential new businesses that wish to redevelop nine public toilet buildings in the district, incorporating access to toilet facilities for the public during their opening hours.

There is still some way to go before these plans become a reality, but it could save nine public toilets across the district from permanent closure.

I am extremely grateful to the officers who have worked so hard on this and the businesses who are showing an interest and look forward to seeing these plans come to fruition.

It's been a mixed bag with the weather so far this summer which means we have yet to see the sustained pressure that comes with an influx of visitors to our beaches.

So far, the plans we and our partners have been putting in place since the end of last year's summer season have been working well.

But we are fully aware that a spell of warm weather will put those plans to the test, particularly at Camber where as many as 25,000 people use the beach on a hot day.

I would continue to encourage people to consider their plans on warm days when the area will be considerably busier. Changing plans could save you a long wait in a line of traffic or a wasted journey.

This week we have launched a joint call for sites to meet gypsy, traveller and travelling showpeople's accommodation needs.

Along with district and borough councils in East Sussex and the South Downs National Park Authority, we are asking landowners, developers, community groups and the public to put forward potential sites.

The council is required by Government to ensure that the accommodation needs of these communities are met in a fair and sustainable way, and it is important that any site taken forward is in line with our own policies. All suggestions will be fully assessed for suitability.

The call for sites is open until Sunday, October 5 and more information can be found at [Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Needs – Rother District Council](#)