

NORTH: The news from where you live

Community Involvement Officers

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York is your home

We are showing our support for the city's international and European communities with additional backing and community events offering advice.

The council has appointed a new community officer, Bianca Vartic to help York's international communities with any concerns they may have over the EU Settlement Scheme.

The news follows a public letter sent last year with a clear message of warmth to EU Citizens and reminding them of the help on offer with their EU Settlement Scheme application.

This community service is in addition to our communities team who work closely to support residents across the city.



Bianca Vartic

Talking about her new role as community officer, Bianca Vartic said: "I'm really pleased to be in this role and helping EU nationals living in York. My main focus initially is working to make sure everyone who needs it has access to the latest information about the EU Settlement Scheme and ensure they feel part of the city which we're proud they call home."

Clifton Community hub

Join us every Tuesday from 12pm - 2pm at St Joseph's Church Hall, where you can enjoy pay-as-you-fee refreshments; receive weekly benefits and adult social care advice, hear from a local area-coordinator about future goals and learn how EU nationals living in York can receive support.

**St Joseph's Church Hall, 169 Burdyke Ave,
York YO30 6JX**



Applications for the EU Settlement Scheme are now open and the process needs to be completed online. All EU citizens currently living in York are strongly encouraged to apply for pre-settlement or settlement status via the www.gov.uk website. The current deadline for applying is 30 June 2021 (31 December 2020, should the UK leave without a deal).

Advice is available at: www.york.gov.uk/EUSettlementScheme and we will keep talking to communities across York to make sure everyone feels welcome.

Local support

Citizens Advice York offer full guidance to applicants, including help filling out the form and advise on any issues which may arise during the application process. Call **03444 111 444** or visit the drop-in at West Offices (Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 9.30 am to 12.30 pm) for help with your application.

Book an 'assisted digital' help session with 'We Are Digital' when completing the EU Settlement Scheme online application. If you don't have the appropriate access, skills or confidence to complete the form you can contact us by telephone on:

03333 445675 or text: 'VISA' to **07537 416944**

EU citizens who do not wish to send their documents by post or are not able to use the government's 'EU Exit: ID Document Check' app, can make an appointment at York Register Office to have their ID documents scanned and verified, before applying to the EU Settlement Scheme.

Call **01904 654477** to book an appointment.

New lease of life for Haxby Hall

Elderly residents in York can start looking forward to the arrival of a modern new care home after the redevelopment of Haxby Hall moves one step closer.

We are being asked to approve land transactions and lease agreements so the company, Yorkare Homes Limited can redevelop the Hall. The redevelopment will help meet the need for good quality care in high-quality care homes across the city.

As part of our Older Persons' Accommodation Programme, the redevelopment will see Haxby Hall extended and modernised while not impacting the lives of residents currently living there.

The council's Executive is being asked to agree to a long lease for the site with Yorkare paying the council £450,000.

Paws for thought

A ward funded Community Dog Café which launched two years ago is leading the way when it comes to helping York residents and dog owners spend time together and make new friends in the community.

On the last Thursday of every month, St. Luke's Church Hall opens its doors to dog lovers who come with or without a dog to enjoy a cup of tea and a chat.

So make sure you head down between 10:30am and 12:30pm and don't forget to bring a dog treat or two!

York LGBT+ Pride Festival 2020

York Pride raises awareness of LGBT+ issues by promoting and staging events, taking part in campaigning and providing support to other LGBT+ charities and voluntary organisations. We also promote the provision of information, advice and support that celebrate LGBT+ lives and history. We aim for York to be a place where everybody knows that the diversity offered by the LGBT+ community is something to be celebrated and where LGBT+ people can feel safe and accepted.

Join us at The Knavesmire between 1pm and 7pm on 6 June for a fantastic and colourful afternoon of free family-friendly, on-stage entertainment, plus a funfair and over 100 stalls, including food outlets, community stalls and a fully-licensed bar.

For more information please visit www.yorkpride.org.uk/

