

South Somerset *Tourism News*

October
2021
update



Included in this update issue:

- Hospitality workshop
- Climate and ecological business survey and support
- Exciting news about the Yeovil Literary Festival

Important workshop for hospitality businesses

This event has just been brought to my attention and might be of interest.

Free workshop for small and medium sized hospitality businesses on how to successfully **recruit new staff** for your business and keep your **team engaged** and motivated.

Date and time: 7th October 2021 10:30 am - 12:00 pm.

For information and to book your place, **[Recruitment and skills workshop for Hospitality businesses in the SW](#)**

Green Business Survey – Addressing the Climate and Ecological Emergency.

In an effort to understand where our business community is at with addressing the climate and ecological emergency, and to gain information that will help us identify where we can offer advice and support going forward, South Somerset District Council are asking local businesses to take part in a short survey designed with specific focus on this topic.

How is your business reducing its carbon footprint?

Help us understand how we can support.
Take part in our Business Environment Survey.



 South Somerset
District Council



Committed to be carbon
neutral by 2030

To complete this survey, visit our consultation hub on the South Somerset District Council website [here](#). The survey closes at midnight on the 5th November.

Since declaring a **Climate and Ecological emergency** in 2019, SSDC have been working together with stakeholder groups to identify interventions that will help to achieve a significant reduction in our carbon

emissions across the district. Our South Somerset Environment Strategy aims to make SSDC a leading Council in developing and adopting a Green Agenda to promote sustainable environment, economy and communities. The strategy sets out our commitment to achieve a significant reduction in SSDC's carbon emissions and aspiration to be carbon neutral by 2030. You can read the strategy [here](#).

The survey is simple and focuses on the five key themes within SSDC's Environment Strategy;

- carbon emissions,
- energy efficiency,
- travel and transport,
- biodiversity
- sustainable waste and recycling practices.

Councillor Sarah Dyke, Portfolio Holder for Environment at SSDC said: "South Somerset District Council is committed to supporting our local businesses to reduce their carbon footprint. We know many businesses across the district are already working hard to reduce their carbon emissions, but we also know others face barriers and challenges or want to learn more. It is really important that we get a clear understanding in order to advise and support where needed, and of course share best practice. I would strongly urge business owners to fill in this short survey, as it will enable the Council to tailor its support accordingly."

There is a wealth of practical advice available to improve your carbon footprint and businesses of all sizes across South Somerset and around the UK are committing to do their bit to cut carbon emissions and protect the planet.

If you would like to learn more about how to improve your carbon footprint, here are some useful links:

- Somerset County Council's [Carbon Audit Toolkit for Businesses](#)
- The Government's SME Climate Hub '[Together for our Planet](#)

Business Campaign'

- [Green Business Friendly Guide](#), easy steps for retail sector businesses to act upon

We encourage South Somerset businesses from all sectors and varying stages of reducing their carbon footprint to take part in our survey addressing the climate emergency. To take the survey please visit our consultation and survey hub on the South Somerset District Council website [here](#).

YEOVIL LITERARY FESTIVAL: BACK WITH A STAR-STUDED LINE-UP FOR 2021

Tickets for the 2021 Yeovil Literary Festival are now on sale, with a star-studded line up of writers, celebrities and thinkers announced. The 2021 festival runs from Thursday 28 October to Wednesday 3 November, with over 50 events taking place across multiple venues.

Following the scaled-back festival last year as a result of the coronavirus pandemic and subsequent national lockdowns and restrictions, **The Octagon Theatre** and **Westlands Entertainment Venue** has once again joined forces for Yeovil Literary Festival with **Waterstones**, Yeovil, the **Yeovil Community Arts Association** and **Somerset Libraries** to bring you names that will inspire and leave you wanting to hear more.

This year's line-up boasts some exceptional names, including royalty joining us in the form of Sarah, Duchess Of York discussing her first novel for adults. We also welcome comedy-royalty, with Michael McIntyre taking to the stage at a post-festival event to talk about the highs and lows of his rise to the top and desperate attempts to stay there.

Alongside royalty, well-known literary figures, comedians and emerging writers will be providing fascinating insights and extracts from their current books and bringing inspiration to South Somerset. The full programme and to book tickets, visit the yeovilliteraryfestival.co.uk

Anything to contribute?

The tourism newsletter is generally distributed quarterly (March, June, September and December) with additional editions produced if there is important and relevant information to share.

It is emailed to South Somerset businesses on the tourism database and appears on the trade pages of www.visitsouthsomerset.com

We love to hear and share your news and success stories, so please email items for the next issue to Becky.Cotterill@southsomerset.gov.uk

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If at any time you wish to unsubscribe to the newsletter and have your details removed from the database, please email tourism@southsomerset.gov.uk or click

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www.visitsouthsomerset.com

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