

**Haverhill echo**

Address Haverhill Echo, Iliffe Media, Kings Road, Bury St Edmunds IP33 3DE

Newsdesk 01440 761307  
news@haverhillecho.co.uk  
Advertising 01284 757880  
jobs@iliffepublishing.co.uk  
bmd@iliffepublishing.co.uk  
Subscriptions 01223 320369  
www.iliffemediasubs.co.uk  
www.haverhillecho.co.uk

@Haverhill

Haverhill Echo

EDITOR & HEAD OF PRINT

**Barry Peters**

barry.peters@iliffemedia.co.uk

CHIEF REVENUE OFFICER  
ILIFFE MEDIA GROUP

**Ricky Allan - 01223 320321**  
ricky.allen@iliffemedia.co.uk

SENIOR REPORTER

**Steve Barton - 01440 761307**  
steve.barton@iliffemedia.co.uk

CULTURE EDITOR

**Debbie Rodman - 01284 757823**  
debbie.rodman@iliffemedia.co.uk

SPORTS EDITOR

**Liam Apicella**

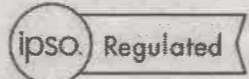
liam.apicella@iliffemedia.co.uk

HEAD OF COMMERCIAL

**Matt Drummond - 07734 714011**  
matt.drummond@iliffemedia.co.uk

MEDIA CAMPAIGN MANAGER

**Ruth Newman - 07852 697626**  
ruth.newman@iliffemedia.co.uk



The Haverhill Echo and its journalists are committed to abiding by the Society of Editors' Code of Practice. If you have a complaint, contact the editor Barry Peters (barry.peters@iliffemedia.co.uk). If your complaint cannot be resolved, you can contact the Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO), c/o Gate House, 1 Farringdon Street, London, EC4M 7LG, or email complaints@ipso.co.uk. Visit www.ipso.co.uk for more.

**SUBSCRIBE AND SAVE**

You can get up to 20% off the cover price if you subscribe to the Haverhill Echo. Visit iliffemediasubs.co.uk to start saving now. Or call 0800 525450



The 'Just About Managing This Winter' leaflet was launched by Reach Community Project in partnership with The Link, Citizens Advice and town councillor Joe Mason.

**Partnership launches leaflet to help pensioners**

Town organisations have joined forces to share information about the support available to Haverhill pensioners facing financial difficulties.

The 'Just About Managing This Winter' leaflet was launched by Reach Community Project in partnership with The Link, Citizens Advice and town councillor Joe Mason.

This initiative is part of a campaign to raise awareness on the financial support available to pensioners locally, particularly in light of changes to the winter fuel payment.

The leaflet lists what Reach can assist with, including completing benefit applications, reductions, social tariffs and emergency food as well as offering budgeting advice. It also lists local warm spaces.

Cllr Mason urges residents to help in spreading awareness.

**Gas works end date in sight to pave way for relief road finish**

**Paul Derrick**  
paul.derrick@iliffemedia.co.uk

Gas works which have delayed the completion of a much-needed relief road at a housing development are due to finish in the new year.

Persimmon Homes said Cadent's gas main diversion works for the North Haverhill homes scheme have progressed well and are expected to end in mid-January.

A hold up to the start of the gas works in the summer caused a further delay to the completion of a £9.7 million relief road, which is two years behind schedule.

It was the fourth delay to the road, which is needed to take traffic from the development around Haverhill to the Cambridge side of town, avoiding Wratting Road and the residential section of Withersfield Road.

When West Suffolk Council gave planning permission for the housing scheme a requirement was set for the relief road to be completed either

**“The remaining works will be completed once Cadent have finished on site, with the aim of finishing the road in spring.”**

**Persimmon**

within five years of the start of construction – March 2023 – or once the first 500 new homes have been occupied. Almost 1,200 homes are to be built in total.

In a community update, Persimmon said it had been in discussion with Cadent to explore the possibility of remobilising groundwork contractors while it finishes commissioning the diverted gas main.

All works need to be done under Cadent's supervision and include

completing the tie in of the relief road to Hales Barn Road roundabout and constructing the culvert and roadway across the ditch.

It said: “These works require Minor Works Agreements which are being finalised and with Suffolk County Council and we aim to start in January.

“The remaining works will be completed once Cadent have finished on site, with the aim of finishing the road in spring.

“Landscaping works along the relief road are also scheduled to take place from early January.”

Initially the road completion was put back to March 2024, with Persimmon saying it was hoping to secure funding in time for Cadent to start work on diverting a gas main that is in the way.

It was then announced that the road would be delayed until September 2024 before the completion date was put back again – to December 2024.

Persimmon said the hold up was

due to its contractual agreement with Cadent taking longer to finalise than expected.

Last May, West Suffolk Council, as the local planning authority, said it was serving two breach of condition notices on Persimmon to ensure it stuck to the new delivery timetable that it had put forward.

Planning applications have been submitted for 112 and 83 new homes as well as a local centre with a supermarket and two commercial units.

Meanwhile, the community update said play equipment at the development had again been targeted by vandals.

Persimmon said it was arranging for the equipment to be replaced and would cover the cost.

However, if the vandalism, which has also seen trees damaged, continues, it said the cost may have to come from management fees in the future.

It added that two further play areas will be delivered next year.