

County Councillor report Lighthorne Parish Council 8th November 2022

Latest COVID-19 behaviour messages from UKHSA

As Covid-19 cases are on the rise in the West Midlands, Warwickshire County Council are continuing to support our residents to reduce their risk of catching and spreading COVID-19

For further information, visit www.gov.uk/guidance/people-with-symptoms-of-a-respiratory-infection-including-covid-19

The Sure Start Maternity Grant

The Sure Start Maternity Grant is a one-off £500 payment to help with the costs of having a child if you're expecting your first child, or expecting a multiple birth and have children already, and you or your partner already get benefits.

Find out more: <https://gov.uk/sure-start-maternity-grant/how-to-claim>

Warwickshire SENDIAS Review

Residents' views are being sought on the Warwickshire SENDIAS Service, which provides information, advice and support to disabled children and young people, and those with special educational needs and disabilities

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/3357/tell-us-your-views-about-warwickshire-sendias>

Support Fund

£421 million has been made available to County Councils and Unitary Authorities in England to support those most in need to help with global inflationary challenges and the significantly rising cost of living. The objective of the Household Support Fund is to provide support to vulnerable households in most need of support to help with significantly rising living costs, specifically food, energy and water bills. This phase of the grant runs from 01 October 2022 to 31 March 2023 and Warwickshire has again been allocated £3.47-million, which is being distributed through the existing Local Welfare Scheme.

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/localwelfarescheme>

Green Business Grants

Businesses can benefit from a new Warwickshire County Council grant scheme offering up to £20,000 towards the cost of installing energy efficiency measures.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/3462/green-business-grants-supporting-a-greener-business-sector>

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/costofliving> <https://helpforhouseholds.campaign.gov.uk/>

Cost of living Advice

There is a lot of support available for families in Warwickshire. Warwickshire's Family Information Service (FIS). You can contact FIS by phone on 01926 742274 or via email fis@warwickshire.gov.uk Family support workers are also available across Warwickshire Call the Family Support Helpline on 01926 412412 visit warwickshire.gov.uk/childrenandfamilies Food and energy Help is available if you are struggling to afford food or pay household bills this winter.

Warwickshire County Council's Cabinet has also agreed a package of measures to relieve the financial burden on residents who may be struggling with rising living costs.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/3430/up-to-4-5m-cost-of-living-support-package-for-warwickshire-residents>

Stratford Energy Support Fund

£500 for households with children
£300 for households without children

Eligibility criteria

A gross annual household income under £30,000 **and** no savings **and** at least one of the following

A long term diagnosed and treated health condition e.g., COPD

Self-employed but unable to work/ income impacted by Covid 19

Households with unmanageable debt

Recently made redundant

Pregnant

In receipt of DLA or PIP

In receipt of free school meals

Other vulnerabilities accepted at our discretion – please call Act on Energy to discuss

This funding is available to residents living within Stratford upon Avon District (subject to eligibility and availability):

For more details [Warwickshire Archives - Act On Energy](#)

Loneliness

Loneliness and social isolation affect around nine million people in the UK and contributes to a range of physical and mental health conditions. Walking, finding ways to communicate with others, befriending services and keeping a healthy daily routine can help. For support in Warwickshire visit warwickshire.gov.uk/loneliness

Reporting abuse

If you think that an adult with care and support needs is experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect, contact Warwickshire County Council on 01926 412080.

Our adult social care teams can offer advice and support to the person and/or their carers and, where necessary, arrange appropriate services.

Depending on the type of abuse, you may wish to contact Warwickshire Police on 101. If it is an emergency, always dial 999.

Domestic abuse cost of living support

In recognition of the impact of cost-of-living concerns on victims and survivors of domestic abuse, Warwickshire County Council and partners are raising awareness of support.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/3460/cost-of-living-support-for-those-affected-by-domestic-abuse->

Adult Safeguarding

Safeguarding means protecting an adult's right to live in safety, free from abuse and neglect. It is about people and organisations working together to prevent and stop both the risks and experience of abuse or neglect.

At the same time, it is about making sure that the adult's wellbeing is promoted. This includes, where appropriate, having regard to their views, wishes, feelings and beliefs in deciding on any action.

Due to illness or disability, many adults may be unable to protect themselves from abuse. Adults with care and support needs include some people from each of the following groups:

older people, people with learning difficulties, people with physical disabilities, people with mental ill-health issues and people with a short or long-term illness.

The Council will make enquiries, or ask other agencies to make enquiries, whenever we think an adult with care and support needs may be at risk of abuse or neglect in Warwickshire.

For more support information on many topics, go to: Warwickshire County Council Homepage www.warwickshire.gov.uk

What3words App when call emergency Services

Warwickshire Road Safety Partnership is launching an online campaign to raise awareness of ‘What3Words’ in a bid to get more residents in Warwickshire using the app to provide emergency services with the location of a collision or emergency. What3words has divided the world into 3 metre squares and given each square a unique combination of three words – what3words address. For example, [///silver.label.smile](https://www.what3words.com/silver.label.smile) will take you to a precise 3 metre square for Warwick Castle.

If a collision or emergency occurs, callers can give the call handler the three words and this will help dispatch emergency services to the precise location. This is even more important in rural locations where it’s even more difficult to communicate location accurately. The app gives the caller a simple way to describe precisely where help is needed, enabling responders to find and get resources to the scene as quickly as possible. It is hoped that this simple change, could help save more lives and reduce the seriousness of some injuries due to patients getting treatment more quickly.

The system works offline, making it ideal for use in areas with an unreliable data connection. what3words addresses cover the entire world and can be used in over 40 languages.

This is just one of many initiatives being developed by Warwickshire Road Safety Partnership to help achieve our target of a 50% reduction in those killed or seriously injured on our roads by 2030.”

To read more about our strategy and safe systems approach please visit our website: <https://warksroadsafety.org/our-strategy/>

Avian Influenza – Dead bird warning

Warwickshire County Council has issued advice to residents on what they should do if they find a dead wild bird.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/3472/avian-influenza-what-to-do-if-you-find-a-dead-wild-bird>

Chris Mills. Kineton and Red Horse