

County Councillor Report Lighthorne Parish Council 10th January 2023

Warwickshire County Council Highways

Following last December's cold spell, WCC received questions about their winter service:

WCC have 29 gritting routes across Warwickshire, which cover 46% of our highway network. Our 29 gritters run out of various depots across Warwickshire (Coleshill, Dunchurch, Henley, Budbrook, Wellesbourne) to ensure that all gritting routes are completed within our target of 3 hours.

Our gritting policy is to grit:

All main traffic routes, A roads, most B roads and some other strategic routes
In urban areas, the accesses to hospitals and main industrial estates
A single route into all villages

Where we have accumulations of snow, we will prioritise the roads on the gritting routes. We also aim to keep at least one route into villages clear of snow.

Further information:

- Up to date information on if we are gritting is on Twitter: [www.twitter.com/WarksHighways](https://twitter.com/WarksHighways) we publish the times we will be gritting on Twitter.
- Webpage for Warwickshire Gritting: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/gritting> this includes a map showing the routes & all of our gritbins
- Link to our full published winter service policy: <https://api.warwickshire.gov.uk/documents/WCCC-899-215>

Warwickshire Cost-of-Living Summit

At the Warwickshire Cost of Living summit, Warwickshire County Council focused on practical help and advice for the most vulnerable and those groups likely to feel the pressure most. WCC will tailor their help to local needs and support mental health and wellbeing about the help that's available.

Support for the most vulnerable – WCC will focus their help on those who need it most. We will work to minimise the impact of cost-of-living pressures on the mental health of children and young people. WCC will provide help to ensure

our residents receive their full benefit entitlement and free school meals where applicable.

For older people - we will provide support to access and use digital means of support. We will provide help to ensure the full benefit entitlement and support for utility bills. For people with disabilities - we will ensure that information is available in a format that suits all needs. For people whose first language isn't English - we will produce information in a variety of languages.

Think Active Together Fund and Winter Warm Hub Physical Activity Fund: Open for Applications

Think Active are accepting applications for the following two grants, the closing date for both is 16th January 2023. If you could help us share this information with community organisations across Warwickshire we would really appreciate it

Together Fund

Together Fund offers grants of up to £10,000 to help reduce the impact of the cost-of-living crisis and Covid-19 pandemic for community groups that are working to help people be more active. If you've got an idea to get people active, we'd love to hear from you! Closing date, 16th January 2023. Further information can be found here - <https://thinkactive.org/funding/together-fund/>

Winter Warm Hub Physical Activity Fund

Grants of up to £2000 are available for Warm Hubs to support their communities to be active. Closing date, 16th January 2023, further information is available here - <https://thinkactive.org/funding/winter-warm-hub-physical-activity-fund/>

2 Single bus fare cap in 2023

Warwickshire residents are encouraged to get around by Bus in 2023 thanks to a new Government-backed scheme to save money on fares.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/3678/getting-around-warwickshire-by-bus-gets-cheaper-in-2023>

Tackling child modern slavery

Responsibility for decision making around child victims of modern slavery in Warwickshire is being granted to Warwickshire County Council.

Find out more:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/3666/warwickshire-leading-a-new-approach-to-tackle-child-modern-slavery>

Lonely, scared or vulnerable-d1omestic abuse

Warwickshire County Council are reminding residents of the mental health and domestic abuse support services available to help those in need of assistance.

Domestic Abuse.

There have been 494 fewer domestic abuse incidents reported to the Police during the period April-September, than the previous year. However, it is determined that the figures were so high previously due to the Covid-19 pandemic as well as other factors, such as football events and changes in police recording. There was a targeted campaign during the recent World Cup and a focus on male victims of domestic abuse.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/3680/feeling-lonely-scared-or-vulnerable-help-is-available>

New Year's Honours List 2023

The extraordinary achievements of five people living in Warwickshire have been recognised in the King's first New Year's Honours list.

Professor Robert Alan Dover from Leamington Spa CBE, for Services to the Automotive Industry

Mr John Hares Kenilworth OBE, for services to the Financial Services Sector

Mr Aston Moore from Rugby MBE, for services to Athletics

Mrs Joanne Amy Horne BEM for services to the community in Stratford-upon-Avon

Mr Douglas Shorter from Nuneaton BEM for services to Young People in Warwickshire

Self-Assessment Tax Returns

There's less than a month for Self-Assessment customers to file their tax return.

Find out more and complete yours here: <https://www.gov.uk/browse/tax/self-assessment>



Chris Mills
County Councillor
Kinton and Red Horse