

County Councillor report Lighthorne Parish Council Meeting 10th September 2024

Prepare for emergencies: Key contacts

Key contacts for a range of risks in Warwickshire, on the Warwickshire Resilience Forum website?

Select a risk, add your postcode to learn who to contact. You're a couple of clicks away from being #BetterPrepared.

Visit: <https://www.warwickshireresilienceforum.org/emergency-contacts/>

Home to school transport

Warwickshire County Council is aware of the ongoing issues with bus passes and school transport and are working diligently to address them as swiftly as possible. If your family is experiencing transport issues and you submitted your application by deadline of May 2024, please e-mail WCC at to@warwickshire.gov.uk We will prioritise your enquiry

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5523/home-to-school-transport>

Funding for new schools

Warwickshire County Council has announced significant additions – totalling £20.76 million – to its Education Capital Programme for 2024/25. This funding pays for new schools and the expansion of existing sites. Find out more:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5530/warwickshire-county-council-announces-significant-further-investment-in-county-s-schools>

Local Councils' Charter

Warwickshire County Council has approved a refreshed Local Councils' Charter, reaffirming its commitment to strengthening partnerships with local communities. The Charter outlines how the County Council will work with Parish Councils to improve services and decision-making at local level. Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5532/warwickshire-county-council-welcomes-refreshed-local-councils-charter>

RSV vaccination for older people

From 1 September, people aged between 75 and 79, will be contacted by their GP surgery to book a slot for their Respiratory Syncytial Virus RSV vaccination. Please wait to be contacted. Older people are vulnerable to the disease, which can lead to hospitalisation

RSV vaccination in pregnancy

If you're 28 weeks pregnant you are eligible to have the respiratory syncytial virus RSV vaccination to protect your unborn baby.

Babies are vulnerable as they have small airways and limited immunity against RSV. Please speak to your maternity service or GP surgery.

UK is the first country in the world to offer a national vaccination programme that uses the same vaccine to protect both infants and older adults from RSV

The vaccine will protect infants and older adults, easing winter pressures on the NHS

Eligible people urged to take up offer when rollout begins in September

The UK will become the first country in the world to have a national programme that uses the same vaccine to protect both newborns and older adults against RSV.

The rollout, which will start from 1 September 2024 in England, includes a vaccine for pregnant women over 28 weeks to help protect their newborn babies, a routine programme for those over 75 and a one-off campaign for people aged 75 to 79. These are the groups at the greatest risk from RSV, based on advice from the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation

Domestic abuse survivor engagement

If you've experienced domestic abuse, or you know someone who has – please help Warwickshire to better understand why people find it hard to reach out for support. Find out more: <https://www.talk2someone.org.uk/victim-survivor/victimsurvivor-engagement/1>

Dementia Connect in Warwickshire (for anyone living with dementia and their carers)

Dementia Connect in Warwickshire is available for everyone affected by dementia. It offers practical and emotional support and can ensure people are linked in with, and supported to access the wide range of additional support that can help them to live well with dementia. This service is commissioned by Warwickshire County Council and delivered by Alzheimer's Society across Warwickshire. People affected by dementia whether they have a diagnosis or are a carer can self-refer to Dementia Connect. Contact number (charged at local rates): **0333 150 3456**.

World Alzheimer's Month 2024

This September, marks World Alzheimer's Month, and Warwickshire County Council is raising awareness about Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5534/world-alzheimer-s-month-2024-time-to-act-on-dementia-time-to-act-on-alzheimer-s>

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All-electric buses in Warwickshire

Warwickshire County Council is moving closer to its ambitions to be net zero by 2050 following the announcement that the county has allocated significant funding to commission 27 all electric buses. At the cabinet meeting on Thursday, 5 September 2024, the decision was taken to add £13.864 million to the Capital Programme for the Warwickshire Zero Emission Bus Regional Areas (ZEBRA)2 Scheme. Find out more:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5533/27-all-electric-buses-on-their-way-as-zero-emission-scheme-is-approved>

Tree planting funding

The application window for community groups to apply for funding to create new orchards and micro woods has been extended until the end of 2024.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5509/community-groups-given-longer-to-apply-for-tree-planting-funding-in-warwickshire>

Aston Martin honoured with King's Award for Enterprise

One of the UK's most iconic luxury brands - Aston Martin - was awarded the prestigious Kings Award for Enterprise earlier this year in the category of Innovation.

WCC's Cabinet Approves New Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service Operating Model

A new operating model has been approved for Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service (WFRS) by Warwickshire County Council's Cabinet. Following a review of how WFRS use their resources, a public consultation took place earlier this year on a proposed delivery model that would help the service to better align their resources to the risks and demands across all parts of Warwickshire. The feedback from the 1,300 responses that were received has been used to shape a revised model known as Model A. This new way of working offers several improvements on the current operating model. This includes, guaranteeing 14 fire engines during the day, when activity is highest, and 13 at night, when the risk is lower. This is a significant improvement from the current guaranteed 11 engines during the day and 8 at night. Providing WFRS with a 27% increase in capacity to conduct prevention work, helping to stop fires and incidents before they occur. Improving average response times for the most urgent incidents across the county by 58 seconds to under 10 minutes, ensuring quicker assistance when and where it is needed the most. It also improves the average response time for a second engine when this is needed. The Cabinet have approved the additional allocation of £1.75m to fund this new operating model.

Chris Mills

County Councillor