

County Councillor Report

Lighthorne Parish Council Meeting 8th July 2025

Social Care/Direct Payments?

Many people who need social care support take a direct payment so that they can employ their own personal assistant. There are direct payment support services available to help manage direct payment and Penderels Trust is a leading provider. A direct payment is a cash payment made directly to you so you can buy your own support rather than having it delivered to you by your local authority. The payment must be enough for you to buy services that meet your care needs and the money must be spent on services that meet those needs. Find out more: <https://www.penderelstrust.org.uk/directpaymentsupport.php>

Warwickshire's Children's disability and additional needs register

Families with children and young people who have special educational needs or disabilities (SEND) are encouraged to join the county's disability register. Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/6469/warwickshire-families-urged-to-sign-the-disability-register-to-shape-local-support->

Centres support local families

Warwickshire families are being helped through support from local centres with a focus on children and young people. Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/6467/centres-support-local-families>

Childhood immunisations

The NHS vaccination programme is free and provides protection from many different illnesses throughout our lives, including #measles, #HPV and #meningitis. Read more: <https://ukhsa.blog.gov.uk/2023/04/24/protectingyour-children-through-vaccination/> #VaccinesWork #Vaccination

Help shape Autism support in Coventry and Warwickshire

People with experience of autism services in Coventry and Warwickshire are being asked to share their views. Coventry and Warwickshire All Age Autism Strategy was launched in 2021 to outline plans for improvement of services and support provided by Warwickshire County Council, Coventry City Council, Coventry and Warwickshire Integrated Care Board, and partner organisations and providers, to autistic people and their families, living in the area.

This five-year strategy was coproduced with support from autistic people and their families and people working in services and organisations that support them. The Strategy is divided into five priority areas that were identified through engagement and coproduction. A delivery plan is in place that describes how the Strategy will be delivered and to identify the roles and responsibilities of various organisations and services in delivery of the five priorities.

Priority 1 Support autistic people and people with social, communication and emotional health needs to help themselves pre and post diagnosis

Priority 2 Reduce inequalities for autistic people and make Coventry and Warwickshire autism friendly places to live

Priority 3 Develop a range of organisations locally with the skills to support autistic people

Priority 4 Develop a specialist support offer

Priority 5 Co-produce, work together and learn about autism

Find out more and have your say:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/6434/help-shape-the-future-of-autism-support-in-coventry-and-warwickshire->

Household Support Fund

Warwickshire County Council is continuing to distribute its Household Support Fund grant allocation via its established Warwickshire Local Welfare Scheme (WLWS). The offer to residents is wide ranging and has been commended by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). It includes an extended welfare offer to all eligible residents by application, a countywide energy voucher campaign, automatic cost of living support for families/carers of children eligible for benefits-related free school meals, specific grants to Act on Energy and the Local Community Food Forum, as well as welfare grants for community-led groups and initiatives, including schemes led by district and borough councils that meet the funding criteria. The primary objective is to provide support with the **cost of essentials, including food, energy, water and wider essentials to those most in need**. In addition to providing immediate relief, this grant also aims to prevent poverty in communities related to these essential needs, enhancing local resilience through long-term, sustainable support. **Application form sent to Parish Clerk 6th June**

Does your child need to change school in September?

Families in Warwickshire who want their child to start at a new school this September are being reminded that they can submit their application from 25 June. Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/6452/apply-now-if-your-child-needs-to-change-school-in-september>

Have your say on local transport services

Warwickshire County Council is calling on residents to have their say in the 2025 National Highways and Transport Public Satisfaction Survey, which began rolling out from 6 June 2025. The responses will help shape the future of local highways and transport services across the county. Warwickshire is one of 111 local authorities taking part in this national initiative, which offers residents the opportunity to comment on a wide range of services – from road conditions and footpaths to cycling infrastructure and public transport. At least 3,300 randomly selected residents across Warwickshire will receive the 12-page questionnaire by post, with the option to complete it online using a unique access code. A reminder will follow, and results will be published in late October 2025. Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/6436/warwickshire-resident-invited-to-have-their-say-on-local-transport-services>

HAF

HAF summer activities (Holiday Activities and Food) are now LIVE for booking! Activities will run from the 21st July – 29th August

Please contact the activity providers directly to book a place. Visit <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/HAF> to view the activity programme and for further information

Pay and Display machine scams

Fake QR codes spotted on Pay & Display machines in Warwick!

Do NOT scan any QR/barcodes on machines — they're not from Warwickshire County Council. Use cash or the official RingGo app to pay for parking.

Stay alert & spread the word! #Warwick #ParkingScam

County Councillor Grant Fund

Just a reminder that the application window for Round 1 of the Councillors' Grant Fund 2025-2026 opened on Monday 9 June at 9.00am, closing on Sunday 20 July at 5.00pm.

Chris Mills County Councillor Lighthorne