

District Councillor Report (30/11/2020) – Matt Jennings

Covid

As you will be aware we are waiting for the government review of our Tier on Wednesday. Whilst the numbers have dropped dramatically and we have been assured that we will not be tied into Coventry & Solihull figures this time - the more recent figures from the last 3 days have shown an upturn... There has also been an outbreak at Warwick Hospital which affects capacity, inpatients and staff plus threatens any change in our tiering...

Stats :

- The highest demographic for positive cases is the 10-19 year olds
- 6% positive test rate
- England
- Stratford District – 61 p/100,000
- Rugby – 123 p/100,000
- Warwick District – 147 p/100,000
- Nuneaton & Bedworth – 168 p/100,000

2nd Lockdown Payments

We have now paid out a £997,694 to 635 businesses in the District.

Tier 3 Business Grants

We have been waiting for the Tier 3 software for Business Grants last week – unfortunately glitches in the software by the suppliers have delayed this to today – we hope to start rolling this out ASAP.

Vaccinations

As you be aware from press reports – the vaccination process has started – I have enclosed the list of priorities as to who gets the vaccine with this report (see Clerk)

Council

We had full council today – highlights are :

- Adoption of the Infrastructure Funding Statement 2019 / 2020
- Adoption of the Waste & Recycling proposal – 123 + service in line with Warwick District
 - 1 weekly separate food Waste collection
 - 2 weekly mixed recycling collection
 - 3 weekly general residual waste collection
 - Plus optional (Chargeable) 2 weekly garden waste service
- Agreement that the Electoral review working Group document will be submitted to the Local Government Boundary Commission in 2021

District Matters

MyDistrict

We are still encouraging people to go online and create your online account www.stratford.gov.uk/mydistrict - You can access council services 24/7, information on services including bins, report any problems, pay for services and keep up to date with what's going on.

Leisure Centres

The Stratford Leisure Centre, Shipston Leisure Centre, Studley Leisure Centre & The Greig Leisure Centre have re-opened – not all activities will resume so it best to contact them before travelling.

Visit Warwickshire

With a bit of irony, the visit Warwickshire Marketing Campaign started a few weeks ago.
<https://visit.warwickshire.gov.uk>

Food Banks

There has been a spike in demand (double the figures from this time last year) and a surge in donations from kind residents in the District. The Arden foodbank operates in Alcester & Studley once a week (there are a number of others in the District). <https://arden.foodbank.org.uk/>

Council Budgets

Tier 3 has obviously made the situation worse as our income streams are reducing (less car parking revenue) and companies making staff redundant = less Council tax. We have been looking at ways to address this – we are going to be making very unpopular changes – nothing is being ruled out because we simply don't have the option to do so. Inevitably services will be reduced, Council tax is going to go up and we will be looking to charge for services which were previously free including things like ALL District car parks.

Venture House

Visit the website – www.venturehousestratford.co.uk - there are lots of free business seminars available !

Only a couple left in December but after the Xmas break there will be plenty more

[Start up Webinar - LinkedIn Magic](#) - CUE - 17 Dec

[Virtual festive networking](#) - CWRT - 18 Dec

[Take Action Tuesday - Business Helpline](#) - Chamber of Commerce - Every Tuesday 11am to 1pm