



Council and district news

Update: Local Plan Review

In late 2022, we carried out a public consultation on our emerging Local Plan which was intended to be the final stage before we submitted the plan to the Secretary of State for formal examination.

However, the government published proposals in December 2022 to change national planning policy, in particular around green belt. This was pertinent for South Staffordshire and the plan was paused awaiting the outcome of the changes; however, these have not yet been published.

A summary of the comments made to the public consultation in 2022 have now been published online. You can view these comments via our online consultation portal here: <https://sstaffs.oc2.uk/document/3>



The comments made to us last year have been taken on board as we work to update the evidence underpinning the plan. We hope to have a strategy in place for further consultation in spring 2024, once the outcomes of the changes to national planning policy are known.

If you would like to be kept up to date about progress on the Local Plan Review, then sign up here: <https://sstaffs.oc2.uk/login>

My Login: Report issues at any time, from anywhere



You can now report a range of issues directly to us through our new My Login system.

This allows anyone in the district to let us know about fly-tipping, littering, abandoned vehicles, antisocial behaviour and more - at any time, from any location.

With our new map of the district there will be no confusion about whether something has already been reported to us or not, the map will show these and you will be able to sign up for updates so that we can notify you when the issue has been resolved.

[Create a My Login account here](#)

Cemetery community bulb planting events



This year we'll be at our cemeteries on the following dates between midday and 3pm:

- Sytch Lane Cemetery, Wombourne, WV5 0JP on Saturday, November 18
- Strawberry Lane Cemetery, Great Wyrley, WS6 7AU on Saturday, November 25

We'll be planting a variety of bulbs including snowdrops, daffodils, tulips and bluebells and you can also take home a **FREE** bag of bulbs to plant in your own gardens.

Please wear sensible footwear and warm clothing and we will provide gloves, hi-vis vests and all other equipment.

We hope you can join us.

Locality enablers: Working to benefit local communities

Please see a range of updates below on what our locality enablers have supported, working alongside parishes and communities in the district

- Lapley, Stretton and Wheaton Aston Parish Council have recently secured section 106 investment to support the development of a new community allotment site with Wheaton Aston.
- Staffordshire Library Services are working with Wild about Perton and a number of local community groups to develop a nature trail in Perton. Planning and outreach workshops will take place over the winter, with Perton's Men in Sheds support group constructing bespoke interpretation features to be installed in the spring.
- A menopause support café will be opening in Bilbrook during November – more details and venue TBC.

Vacancies



- **Assistant Team Manager - Environmental Health and Licensing**, closing November 29th
- **Customer Services Advisor**, closing November 17th
- **Relief Leisure Assistant - Penkridge Leisure Centre**, closing December 31st
- **Relief Swimming Instructor - all centres**, closing December 15th

All vacancies can be viewed in full and applied for on our recruitment site:
<https://www.sstaffs.gov.uk/vacancies>

Leisure latest

Temporary pool closures



Cheslyn Hay and Wombourne Leisure Centres swimming pools will be temporarily closed from Monday, December 4th, while work is carried out to install new air handling systems.

It is planned that the pools will re-open around the end of December/beginning of January.

Swimming lessons will finish on Sunday, December 3rd 2023. It is anticipated that swimming lessons will resume on Saturday, January 6th, 2024.

To stay up-to-date on progress, follow the leisure centres on Facebook.

Free healthy lifestyle services

Did you know that one of our partners, 'Everyone Health' provide free access to healthy lifestyle services which are available to eligible people living in South Staffordshire?

See the below criteria to find out if you are eligible:

Adult Weight Management

- Live in South Staffordshire
- Are 18 years or over
- Have a Body Mass Index (BMI) of 30 or over
- Have a BMI of 27.5 with co-morbidities or are Black African, African-Caribbean or Asian origin

To check your BMI [click here](#).

NHS Health Checks

- Live in Staffordshire

- Are aged 40-74
- You have not had an NHS health check in the last 5 years
- If you have not had a stroke, diabetes, kidney disease, or heart condition including diagnosed high blood pressure or high cholesterol

Stop Smoking

- Live in Staffordshire
- Are aged 18 or over

To find out more, [click here](#), email eh.staffs@nhs.net or call 0333 005 0095.

Hockey sessions at Cheslyn Hay Leisure Centre



Cheslyn Hay Leisure Centre has linked up with Bloxwich Hockey Club.

The coaches from the club are delivering indoor hockey sessions every Tuesday from 6 to 7pm.

This session is for ages eight and over, with all abilities welcome.

The first week is free and will be £3 thereafter.

It is advised that those attending wear shin pads and gum shields.

Partnership updates

Ditch the Blade: Are you a parent, carer or teacher?

Staffordshire Police is appealing for your help to encourage young people to make the right choice and to Ditch the Blade:

Some young people carry because they feel worried so it's really important that we tackle the reasons behind this together, and provide support to reassure our young people that knives are not the answer.

To bring communities together to tackle knife crime, we're supporting the Ditch the Blade campaign in Staffordshire. Through education and prevention work, the campaign aims to encourage community conversations about knife crime to show our young people that carrying a knife isn't ok.

By bringing this topic into the spotlight we hope to make our young people aware of the risks and consequences they face if they decide to carry a knife.

[Find out more here](#)



Counter Terrorism Police: Trust your instincts



We're supporting Counter Terrorism Policing's campaign, which aims to encourage everyone to stay alert and help keep each other safe this winter.

It only takes a couple of minutes to report anything that doesn't feel right when you are out and about.

Simply tell staff, security or police or report to gov.uk/ACT and share your concerns.

In an emergency call 999.

Trust your instincts.
