



COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S COLUMN – November 2019

As your County Councillor, I am always on hand to try and deal with any concerns you may have about services provided by Leicestershire County Council. Such as street lighting, highways, footpaths, overhanging trees and hedges onto the highways/footpaths, social services etc.

Cabinet report 22nd October

At the Cabinet meeting the below was discussed, I have expanded on a couple of the items:-

- Special Educational Needs and disabilities funding
- Request for an addition to the 2019/20 capital programme for the social care accommodation development plan
- Exceptions to the contract procedure rules for supported living provision
- A vision for local Government in Leicestershire
- Country Parks and Open Spaces strategy 2019-2029
- East of Lutterworth Strategic Development Area
- Draft Equality Strategy 2020-2024 and progress report for 2016-2020.
- Development of a new model for homelessness prevention and housing-related support
- Leicestershire Suicide Prevention Programme – “start a conversation” and the suicide bereavement support service
- Leicester and Leicestershire Tourism Growth Plan
- Proposals from Leicester City Council regarding the transforming cities fund and air quality directive
- Response to Blaby District Council’s new local plan issues and options consultation
- Waste Transfer Station at interlink business park, Bardon.

New provision for SEND - Ambitious plans to develop local provisions for children with special educational needs (SEND) across the county are well on track.

Planning, building and refurbishment work at 15 new ‘resource bases’ has continued across the summer months as part of the county council’s commitment to invest over £30m in SEND and create almost 700 extra places, some of which had already opened for the start of the academic year.



The 'resource bases' will cater for pupils with communication and interaction needs (C & I) which includes ASC (autism Spectrum Condition) or social, emotional and mental health needs (SEMH).

Plans for dementia care facility – Plans are being drawn up for a £5.5m scheme which would see a council-owned site in Highfield Street, Coalville, transformed. If approved, the ambitious scheme would see accommodation for up to 36 people built, with the aim of supporting those with complex dementia to live as independently as possible. This is a great opportunity for County to reduce the gap in provision for people with dementia.

The scheme forms part of a wider plan to provide more adult social care accommodation across the county. As part of this, county are looking to spend £4.5m on developing supported living accommodation across the county before the end of the financial year.

County are developing housing for older people, adults with learning and physical disabilities and adults with mental health needs as a priority. Living in suitable accommodation is a vital part of a person's wellbeing. County want people to have the opportunity to live as independently as possible within the community, while still ensuring their specific support needs are met.

Thomas Harley's Charities

If you have a child who will be leaving full time education summer 2020 and will either be going onto University/college or doing an apprenticeship the Thomas Harley's Charities gives out grants.

The Charity is already helping young adults from Shepshed. Grants are available for books, accommodation etc. They also offer grants for equipment, tools, hairdressing, car mechanic and building trade if they are doing an apprenticeship or further education training.

Income of the family must be below £36,000. Applicants need a letter from a tutor confirming they support them going onto further education and grants are looked at in March and September.



The Charity's contact details have altered and you can now contact them at Charity link via sue.stevenson@charity-link.org or go to the web site www.theharleytrust.org

Men and Women in Sheds

I recently attended an event held in the Town Council offices where there was an exhibition of the work being carried out by Men in Sheds and Women in Sheds.

What is a Shed?

These sheds are a larger version of the typical man's shed in the garden – a place where you can feel at home, somewhere to pursue practical interests with a high degree of autonomy.

Building on the success of Men in Sheds and response to local demand Women in Sheds project started up. The members share the tools and resources they need to work on project of their own choosing, at their own pace and in a safe, friendly and inclusive venue. The Shed is a place for skill-sharing and informal learning, of individual pursuits and community project, of purpose, achievement and social interaction. It is a place of leisure where men come together to work and a venue for women to get stuck into hobbies old and new, get creative and make new friendships.

Projects are very varied such as, woodworking (picture frames furniture renovation), electronics, bike repairs, arts/crafts (painting, calligraphy, pottery), IT/communication (computers etc.) and much more.

Reclamation, reuse and restoration features strongly. For more information contact Age UK on 01509 211 603.

Missing Yellow Lines Kirkhill

A number of residents have contacted me regarding missing yellow lines on Kirkhill following its resurfacing. County are aware and said this was due to a parked car. County's highway contractors will return to the area to complete the works as soon as possible. Unfortunately, at present they have not been able to provide me with an exact date when this work will be carried out.



Advance Notice of a Temporary Traffic Regulation Order (TTRO)

A TTRO is to be made for the following location: A512 Ashby Road and Rempstone Road Coleorton. The purpose of the TTRO is to allow LCC to safely facilitate carriageway patching.

The TTRO will incorporate a temporary road closure.

The duration of the restriction is not anticipated to exceed a period of one overnight closure commencing on the 29th November 2019. Works are scheduled to take place between 20.00 and 06.00 am.

A TTRO is to be made for the following locations: The works are planned as follows:-

- B591 Copt Oak Road (Charley) will be closed on Saturday 9th November and Sunday 10th November also Saturday 23rd November and Sunday 24th November. The road will be closed between Whitwick Road (Copt Oak Cross Roads) and Ingleberry Road.
- B591 Copt Oak Road (Copt Oak) will be closed on Saturday 7th December and Sunday 8th December 2019 also Saturday 11th January and Sunday 12th January 2020. The road will be closed between A511 (Flying Horse Roundabout) and Whitwick Road (Copt Oak Cross Roads)

The purpose of the TTRO is to allow LCC to safely facilitate carriageway patching.

A TTRO is to be made for the following location: Forest Lane, Belton/Shepshed.

The duration of the restriction is not anticipated to exceed a period of 2 days commencing on the 16th December.

The purpose of the TTRO is to allow LCC to safely facilitate carriageway patching.

Cancelled TTRO

The proposed TTRO which was due to commence on 21st October for the temporary closure of Church Street to enable Cadent Gas to carry out works has been cancelled until further notice.



I will keep you informed as and when I have further information and have asked that residents living in this area are kept informed.

Launch of Consultation on Admissions Policy and arrangements for entry Autumn 2021 onwards:

Leicestershire County Council is consulting on proposed changes to its School Admissions Policy and arrangements to take effect from Autumn 2021. Residents are invited to make comment on the proposed changes to policy, briefly they comprise of:

- Do you agree with the removal of the current criterion 7 in Leicestershire's Oversubscription Criteria, which will no longer prioritise applications of grounds of 'belief'
- Do you agree with the revised Leicestershire School Admissions Policy and associated co-ordinated schemes for entry Autumn 2021?
- Do you agree with the amended catchment boundary changes for Primary Schools in Leicestershire for entry Autumn 2021?

Schools, parents of children between the ages of 2 and 18, residents and other members of the public will have the opportunity to have their say on these proposed changes until 29th November 2019.

Please see the link below to read the full consultation document which includes details on how to respond:

<https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/have-your-say/current-consultations/leicestershire-schools-admissions-consultation-for-2021-entry>

Once the consultation is closed recommendations will be provided to the County Council's Cabinet for a decision.

For more information please contact Head of School Admissions and Pupil Services Gurjit Singh Bahr at: 0116 3056324 Gurjit.Bahra@leics.gov.uk



Health and Wellbeing Board

As County Councillor and part of my portfolio I sit on the above Board and at the recent meeting we discussed the Suicide Prevention Campaign. Suicides are often the end point of a complex history of risk factors and distressing events but they are not inevitable.

In September, 2019 the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Suicide Audit and Prevention Group (LLR SAPG) launched its website '@Start a Conversation, Suicide is Preventable'. <https://www.startaconversation.co.uk/about-us>. The website brings together into one place local resources, support and advice that help keep our residents safe and supports them to reach out for help in times of crisis and distress. Since its launch there have been over 27,000 hits on the website, with the most popular page after the home page being the 'Advice and Support' page. The website has also attracted 126 pledges of support from individuals and organisations. It is clear that the campaign has made a real difference. In the coming year, the campaign and website will continue to evolve and develop.

A suicide prevention conference was held in September and a further major focus supporting people who have been bereaved by suicide through the launch of a local suicide bereavement support service.

We also looked at the Annual Reports from Leicestershire and Rutland Safeguarding Adults Board and Leicestershire and Rutland Local Safeguarding Children Board.

Charley Road Cross Roads

Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) have now been erected and more works is due to take place around this area over the next few weeks.

Your help

Again I would like to thank the residents who keep me informed regarding issues around Shepshed, such as overgrown hedges, litter, dog mess, inconsiderate parking (on pavements, yellow lines, outside of schools) etc., without your eyes and ears I could not get them reported and sorted.



If for some reason you do not receive your copy of the Eye. I now have my information posted on my web page at County. This will also help you to keep track on road closures etc.

For help and advice on County matters, I can be contacted on 01509 502974 or christine.radford@leics.gov.uk or come along to my monthly Surgery on the FIRST Saturday of the month in the Town Council Offices, 47a Charnwood Road 10.00 a.m. -11.00 a.m. No appointment is necessary.