

District Councillor Report Upper Lighthorne Parish Council 19th October 2023

New Council Plan

Stratford-on-Avon District Council is preparing a new Council Plan that will be in place for the next four years.

Stratford-on-Avon District residents, local businesses, parish and town councils, voluntary groups and partners are being given the chance to help create this new plan, as the District Council begins a consultation.

This is an opportunity for residents to have a say on a plan that will govern the actions taken by the District Council over the next four years which includes the following core areas of focus:

- Residents and Communities
- Delivery of Service
- Climate Change
- Health and Wellbeing
- Housing
- Local Economy

The draft Council Plan is now out for consultation and residents and businesses are invited to complete the questionnaire on the District Council's website: <https://online1.snapsurveys.com/councilplan>

Paper copies are available on request by email to consultation@stratford-dc.gov.uk, telephone 01789 267575 or in person at the District Council Offices in Stratford-upon-Avon.

The consultation runs until Tuesday 24 October 2023.

The aim is to have the Strategy ready for formal approval by The Cabinet and Full Council by December 2023.

Statement of Community Involvement Consultation

Stratford-on-Avon District Council is updating its Statement of Community Involvement (SCI), to reflect changes in national planning legislation and remove references to COVID restrictions.

Planning decisions affect land and buildings, so it is important that local communities, businesses and other interested parties have the opportunity to engage in the processes for plan-making and development management decision-making. A SCI identifies how and when they can be involved.

The SCI sets out how the District Council as the Local Planning Authority will engage stakeholders in the following planning documents and applications:

- Development Plan Documents
- Supplementary Planning Documents
- Neighbourhood Plans
- Community Infrastructure Levy
- Planning Applications
- Permission in Principle

This SCI is a Local Development Document and once adopted will supersede the District Council's previously adopted SCI from October 2020 - [Statement of Community Involvement | Stratford-on-Avon District Council](#)

The consultation has started and runs until 5pm on Friday 3 November 2023 - [Statement of Community Involvement \(snapsurveys.com\)](#)

You are encouraged to submit your comments electronically on the draft revised SCI. This can be done either by using the on-line form on the website at <https://www.stratford.gov.uk/planning-building/statement-of-community-involvement.cfm> or by attaching [a form](#) to an email and sending it to planning.policy@stratford-dc.gov.uk.

Council Tax Help

Council Tax Help and save money off your Council Tax bill For more information please contact Revenues on 01789 260990 revenues@stratford-dc.gov.uk

Are you, or someone in your household, living with a degenerative brain disorder such as Alzheimer's, other kinds of dementia, a learning disability, a severe stroke, severe or chronic mental illness then you may be entitled to a Council Tax discount and are entitled to one of the following benefits:

Employment Support Allowance. Severe Disablement Allowance. Increased Disability Pension. Personal Independence Payments (PIP). Income Support that includes a disability premium. the care component of high or middle rate Disability Living Allowance. Constant Attendance Allowance. Incapacity Benefit, then you may be entitled to a Council Tax discount and save money off your Council Tax bill. For more information please contact Revenues on 01789 260990 revenues@stratford-dc.gov.uk

Save Time, two new services for all residents

You can now claim Housing Benefit online. Go to www.stratford.gov.uk If you want to make a payment for Council Tax or Business Rates use our dedicated payment line 0345 600 6956

Ubus

To register or for more information please 01789 264491 UBUS@stratford-dc.gov.uk If you live in an area with limited public transport or you struggle to use public transport because of mobility or health issues then UBUS could be for you. UBUS is a dial-a-ride service for people of all ages in the Stratford-on-Avon District, operating between 9:30am and 7:00pm, Monday to Friday.

Play area

If you are looking to modernise your play area or build a new one, we can help. SDC has experience of supporting parish and town councils in developing better and inclusive play spaces. If you wish to consult your residents about this subject, please email simon.purfield@stratford-dc.gov.uk or melanie.jeffery@stratford-dc.gov.uk

Concessionary parking permit re-introduced.

The re-introduction of the concessionary parking permit in Stratford-upon-Avon for residents of state pension age was formally agreed by the District Council's Cabinet in September. District residents who are of state pension age will be able to use the permits from 1 October 2023. They will cost £50 a year. The use of the concessionary parking permit will be limited to a maximum of four hours a day and will allow permit holders parking at Bridgeway Multi-Storey and Bridgeway Surface Car Parks only.

Rubbish and Recycling

One year on - rubbish and recycling collection changes a success Changes to Stratford-on-Avon District Council's rubbish and recycling collections introduced a year ago have been a success, with figures showing a reduction in the amount of rubbish being disposed of and residents recycling more than two-thirds of all household waste collected in the District. In the first year of operation, figures show that 68% of the District's rubbish has been recycled and 26% less residual waste was collected. During the period August 2022 to July 2023, 16,226 tonnes of residual waste was collected, which is 5,635 tonnes less than the same period the previous year. The introduction of a separate weekly food waste collection service has seen 4,888 tonnes collected between August

2022 and July 2023. The new 123+ waste collection service was introduced on 1 August 2022 to boost recycling rates and reduce the amount of general waste.

Chris Mills

District Councillor
Upper Lighthorne