



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from the Chief Executive

Welcome to our festive edition of Parish and Partners where we look back over the previous year and look forward to what will face us in the New Year.

It has been another really busy year for the Council and as the year is coming to an end, we are expecting significant news surrounding future devolution plans from Government, more about that later on.

Firstly, though I just wanted to highlight a number of issues which the Council has supported this year which are designed to improve the partnership working between the Council and the Town and Parish Councils within the District area:

▪ Local Councils Charter

The Council was the first of the principal Councils to approve this document in July this year. I had worked very closely with the County Council, WALC, the other District and Boroughs and representatives from Town and Parish Councils on the redrafting of this document. Included within this review were slightly amended responsibilities for the Parish Champions. I can now confirm, following our Council meeting on 9 December that given the number of Town and Parish Councils across our District, there will be two Parish Champions for SDC, these being Cllr Louis Adam and Cllr Stuart Keighley. Louis will predominately cover the east of the District and Stuart the west.

▪ Parish and Town Councils Forum

Thank you so much for taking the time to respond to our survey in which we were seeking your thoughts about how such a forum would operate. The first meeting of the forum will be held on 30 January 2025, further details will be circulated in the new year. At this inaugural meeting we will consider issues including the Terms of Reference for the Group and the consultation exercise in relation to the development of the South Warwickshire Local Plan.

▪ Civility and Respect Pledge

The Council formally supported the pledge at the meeting which was held on 14 October 2024. At this same meeting it was agreed that the Council will be providing refresher training on Respect, Civility and the Code of Conduct. The Council will also be updating the Council's website to demonstrate support for the Pledge for Town and Parish Councils.

▪ Parish Liaison Officer

Finally, as part of the Council Plan and Change Programme, funding has been agreed initially for 2 years for the Council to employ a Parish Liaison Officer. The purpose of the role is to help us work more closely together; we will be advertising for this position early in the new year.

This year we also undertook a Local Government Association Corporate Peer Challenge. The review was undertaken in March and the Council received the feedback early in June. It was a really positive report for the Council with the review team finding:

Stratford-on-Avon District Council (SDC) is well-run, recognises its challenges and is ambitious for the future of the District. There is much to be proud of in how the Council is delivering for the communities of this large and diverse area.

The review team made a total of 10 recommendations all of which we have made strong progress in implementing. We are now looking forward a follow up visit from the review team in January next year.



continued on next page.



Parish and Partners Briefing



From the Chief Executive *continued*

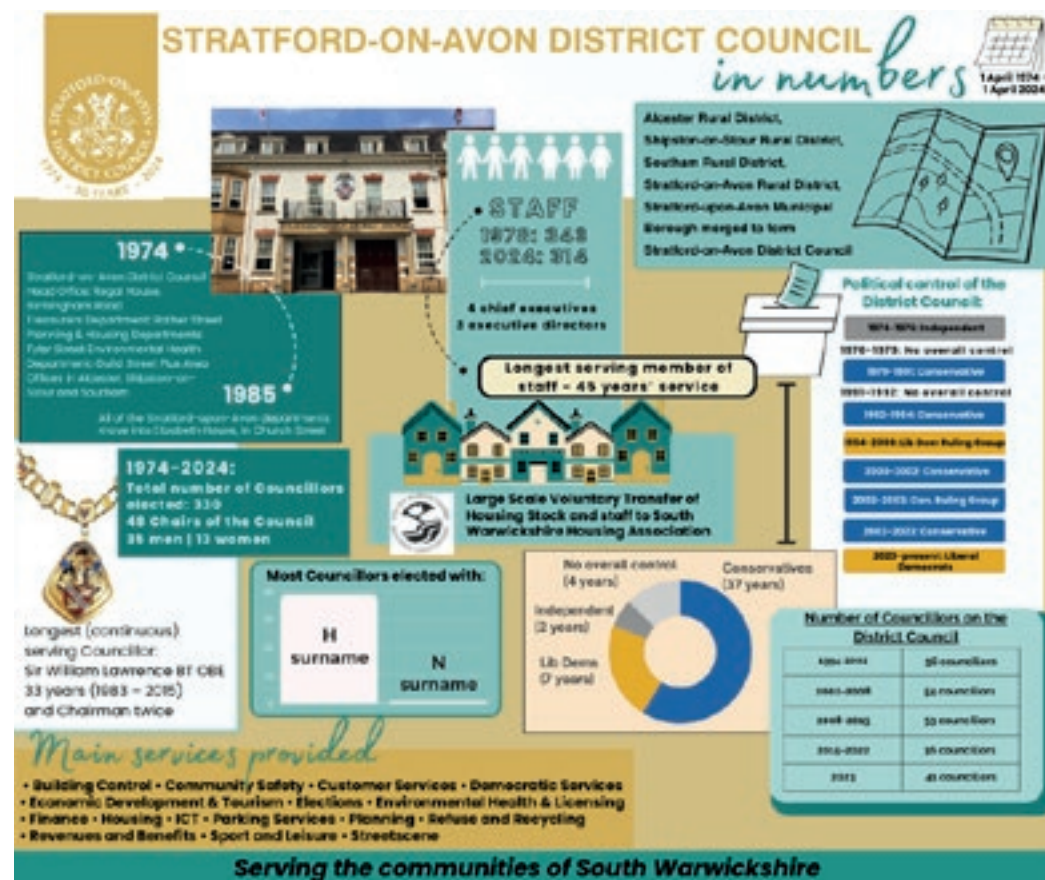
2024 marked the 50th anniversary of the creation of Stratford-on-Avon District Council. In 1972 Government approved the Local Government Act, which locally approved the abolition of Alcester Rural District Council, Shipston-on-Stour Rural District Council, Southam Rural District Council, Stratford-on-Avon Rural District (except parish of Hockley Heath, which went to Solihull) and Stratford-upon-Avon Municipal Borough. Stratford-on-Avon District Council was one of 332 District Councils which were formed at the time.

Today, following several rounds of local government reviews there are now 164 District Councils, and 62 new Unitary Councils. At the time of writing, we have not received the much-awaited English Devolution White Paper. However, ahead of this in her budget speech on 30 October, the Chancellor of the Exchequer stated: *"The upcoming English Devolution White Paper will set out more detail on the Government's devolution plans, including on working with Councils to move to simpler structures that make sense for their local areas, with efficiency savings from council reorganisation helping to meet the needs of local people."*

This was followed up in the Local Government Financial Policy Statement in November, which included: *"In addition, the Government has been clear on its long-term vision for simpler structures. There are significant opportunities available to areas from the creation of suitably-sized Unitary Councils."* Hopefully, we will have some clarity on Government's plans soon and how they may affect us all, I will ensure that we will keep you updated on what these changes may mean locally.

Finally, thank you again for all your support. I hope that you all manage to get some down time over the Christmas period, and I would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and a very happy new year.

Best Wishes, David



UPDATE: We have now received the English Devolution White Paper. It's still very early days and we need a lot more information on this, which we are expecting in the New Year. We will be holding discussions and emergency meetings to formulate our response to Government by March 2025. We do need to understand the consequences of the proposals and all the implications it will have for our services.



2024 Year Review

January

- Storm Henk causes flooding disruption across the District.
- SDC's Cabinet approves, in principle, the development of a new community and medical facility in Upper Lighthorne, a joint project with the NHS Coventry and Warwickshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) and Warwickshire Police.
- SDC's Cabinet approves, in principle, the use of hydrotreated vegetable oil (HVO) for the refuse collection fleet.
- SDC joins together with the Heart of England Forest for the 'Free trees for farmers' scheme, offered trees to landowners and farmers in a bid to encourage more tree planting to help renew and restore existing woodland and vegetation, as well as replacing trees which have been affected by diseases.



Free trees for farmers

January *continued*

- Budget consultation takes place with local businesses.
- First phase of SDC's Community Climate Change Fund (CCCF) opens for expressions of interest. The CCCF will invest in work to tackle the climate emergency and allow the District Council to formally invest in initiatives proposed by either community groups and charities or Town and Parish Councils to enhance local climate change agendas.



- SDC and partners help deliver 45 energy efficient measures for residents across Stratford-on-Avon District through the Sustainable Warmth funding.

February

- SDC's Rural Crime Advisors receive a Neighbourhood Policing Award from Warwickshire Police for their ongoing contribution to reducing rural.



SDC's Rural Crime Advisors, Rebecca and Alison (left to right) pictured with Chief Superintendent Jill Fowler, Head of Local Policing

- Everyone Active launch Sporting Champions scheme.
- Girls invited to attend new girls' football club at Shipston Sports and Social Club as part of Everyone Active's community outreach programme.
- Venture House serviced office client, Sooper Books pitch to BBC One's Dragons' Den and make history, as all five dragons invest in their business for 1% share at £1 each.
- Cabinet agree to support and vote in favour of the Business Improvement District for Stratford-upon-Avon.
- SDC expand online access to its meetings with all Council meetings webcast and retained for future viewing.



2024 Year Review

February *continued*

- Community Safety Partnership Plan published.
- SDC 5th in recycling league table in England with a recycling rate of 60%.
- Free business support funded through UK Shared Prosperity Fund
- Council Tax set for 2024/25 – all services provided by SDC cost £3.16 a week for a Band D household.



March

- SDC's Cabinet approves new Council Plan actions and performance Management Framework for 2024-25.
- SDC launches a 7-week Public Space Protection Order consultation for Stratford town centre.
- "Young Traders Fridays" launched, offering young visionaries the opportunity to showcase their talents and products with a free stall at Rother Street Market in Stratford-upon-Avon.
- Applications open for Year 3 UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) and Year 2 Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF).
- SDC participates in the Local Government's Association's Corporate Peer Challenge aiming to further improving the Council's work.
- SDC's 30th neighbourhood development plan referendum takes place for Long Marston – 143 vote yes.



March *continued*

- SDC supports new dedicated diagnostic facility at Stratford Hospital with £1m Community Infrastructure Levy grant.



Ground breaking at Stratford-upon-Avon Hospital

- Stratford Leisure Centre hosts prostate screening event.
- SDC awarded £283,000 from the Swimming Pool Support Fund to install Photo Voltaic (PV) panels on Stratford Leisure Centre's roof.
- Free Easter activities for children at local leisure centres.

2024 Year Review

April

- SDC celebrates 50th anniversary after the Local Government Act of 1972 came into force in April 1974.
- SDC awards new grounds maintenance contract across the District to Continental Landscapes Ltd.



- Local leisure centres support people with Parkinson's by offering free membership.
- SDC Cabinet approves revised approach to allocating Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Receipts.

- SDC Cabinet approves funding of £625,000 to Stratford-upon-Avon College to establish an Automotive Electric Vehicle (EV) Training Academy.



- SDC's Cabinet agrees to establish a Management Steering Group for the future management, operation and funding of the Stratford-upon-Avon Local Nature Reserve.



April continued

- SDC opens two new changing places toilets at Bell Court Shopping Centre in Stratford-upon-Avon and the British Motor Museum in Gaydon.



Left to right: Julie Lewis (Head of Environmental and Neighbourhood Services), Cllr Lorraine Grocott (Environmental and Neighbourhood Services Portfolio Holder), Elizabeth Dixon (Accessible Stratford) and Cllr Victoria Alcock (Chair of the Council 2023-24)

- SDC's Cabinet passes eco-emergency motion.
- Council adopts Long Marston Neighbourhood Development Plan.
- Council adopts new open space planning guidance.
- Council adopts Gateway Masterplan Supplementary Planning Document.

May

- SDC participates in No Mow May.
- Police and Crime Commissioner Elections Philip Secombe elected with 45,638 votes Total Turnout for Warwickshire: 25.95%
- SDC's Cabinet approves grant funding of £200K from UK Shared Prosperity Fund to carry out vital work to upgrade CCTV infrastructure, software and equipment.
- Changes to The Cabinet announced at Annual Council meeting.
- Councillor Jenny Fradgley elected as new Chair of SDC.
- Local projects awarded funding from the Community Climate Change Fund.
- SDC's 31st neighbourhood development plan referendum takes place for Beaudesert and Henley-in-Arden – 834 vote yes.
- SDC's 32nd neighbourhood development plan referendum takes place for Hampton Lucy – 96 vote yes.



2024 Year Review

June

- SDC's Cabinet approves new planning practice advice note to protect public houses.
- SDC's Cabinet approves the allocation of £1.562m from the Council Plan and Change Programme budget towards a number of initiatives.
- SDC's Cabinet agrees a new Active Communities Strategy for 2024 to 2027, starting on 1 July 2024. The Strategy will be delivered by the District Council's leisure provider, Everyone Active.
- SDC receives extremely positive feedback following the Corporate Peer Challenge.
- Stratford Leisure Centre launch free dance sessions for people aged 55 and over.
- SDC's Cabinet agrees funding for 49 projects across the whole District as part of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) and Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF).

- SDC raises the flag for Armed Forces Day.
- Leisure centres host free CPR training as part of community open weekend.



July

- Applications open for Free Trees for Farmers initiative again.
- UK Parliamentary General Election. Manuela Perteghella (Liberal Democrats) elected with 23,450 votes. The turnout was 70.2%



- SDC's CCTV system receives the British Standard Accreditation, which recognises good management and practice for the 17th year.
- Council adopts a revised Warwickshire Local Councils Charter.
- Council adopts Beaudesert and Henley-in-Arden Neighbourhood Development Plan.
- Council adopts Hampton Lucy Neighbourhood Development Plan.

July continued

- Pop-up Safe Spaces introduced to Stratford-on-Avon District.
- SDC supports a new policing initiative called Operation Talkative to encourage reporting of knife carrying.
- The West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) agrees a multi-million-pound investment that will help to kickstart the regeneration of the Gateway site in Stratford-upon-Avon.
- SDC and Stratford Town Trust appoint Trust Nature Services Ltd, (a wholly owned subsidiary of Warwickshire Wildlife Trust), as partners to assist with the long-term management of the Stratford-upon-Avon Local Nature Reserve.
- SDC launch The Skills Escalator Fund with Warwickshire Skills Hub.
- SDC's Cabinet agrees additional funding of £70k for replacement UBUS service.
- Free activities for kids across Stratford-on-Avon District over the summer at leisure centres.
- Government's annual planning data, shows SDC has the busiest Planning Department in the Midlands.



2024 Year Review

August

- Stratford Leisure Centre hosts a Pride Swim.
- SDC and WDC's Joint Cabinet Committee endorse a study which set out that 1,679 dwellings a year should be delivered to meet the area's future housing needs in the next version of the emerging Local Plan as part of the Local Plan for South Warwickshire.
- The yearly process of updating the electoral register, the annual canvass, starts.

September

- SDC hosts its first Climate Assembly Event.



- SDC's CCTV team assist Warwickshire Police in stopping over 91 suspected drink and drug drivers leading to arrest and prosecution from April 2023 to May 2024.
- Leisure Centres take part in free week-long fitness event for people with disabilities.
- SDC helps install two new community noticeboards have been installed in Bishopton and Clopton.

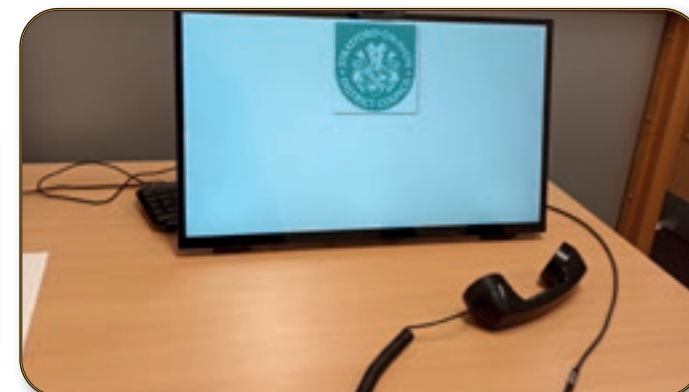


October

- SDC supports Cyber Crime Awareness month
- SDC supports and funds new virtual reality to help educate young people on the realities of carrying a knife.



- New Customer Access Terminal (CAT) at Southam Library.



2024 Year Review

October *continued*

- Stratford Leisure Centre hosts free senior event for Silver Sunday.
- SDC's Rural Crime Advisors raise awareness of work during National Rural Crime Action Week.
- SDC and WDC hold joint Landlords Forum.
- New mural at Stratford Visitor Centre by Paint Stratford.



- SDC and WDC launch Hate Crime Survey.
- SDC's Leader writes to the Deputy Prime Minister and Chancellor of the Exchequer about the Government's decision on winter fuel payments.
- SDC's E-cargo bike trailed in Upper Lighthorne by Trustgreen Community Champion, Emma Hills.



November

- New Demand Responsive Transport Service launched to replace the UBUS service.
- SDC's Cabinet approves the District Council's Armed Forces Covenant Pledge.
- SDC's Leader attends WCC Covenant signing ceremony.
- SDC publishes Annual Review: Affordable Housing Development Programme - and enabled 354 new affordable homes (from April 2023 to March 2024). Also delivered more affordable homes than any other local authority in the local area in last five years
- SDC supports the launch of consultation for new Arts and Culture Strategy for Stratford-upon-Avon town.
- SDC supports ASB Awareness Week.
- Stratford Leisure Centre launches a swim class to support adults living with long-term health conditions.
- SDC backs county-wide campaign to support residents in staying safe, warm, and well this winter.
- SDC unites with 55 local authorities to demand fair funding in local Government Finance settlement.
- SDC publishes Long Marston Airfield Garden Village Transport studies.



December

- First Christmas Market weekend (7 and 8 December) postponed due to Storm Darragh.
- Community drop-in engagement event takes place for proposed new Community Hub in Upper Lighthorne.
- SDC celebrates £1.5m in grant funding secured for Voluntary and Community Groups
- SDC's Community Climate and Nature Fund Phase Two opens for applications.
- Ten projects received funding from the first phase of the fund - [Community Climate Change Fund Case Studies | Stratford-on-Avon District Council](#)
- Christmas Market scheduled on 14 and 15 December takes place and alternative dates agreed for the postponed event takes place on 21 and 22 December on a smaller scale.
- SDC holds a 6-week consultation on dog fouling Public Space Protection Order.



Spotlight on some of SDC's Economic Support during 2024

At the beginning of the year, SDC's Cabinet approved a new approach to Year 3 Shared Prosperity and Rural England Prosperity Fund comprising:

- Working with Warwickshire County Council to deliver the Education, Skills and Training element of the UKSPF for Year 3.
- Continuing to manage the commissioning of a capital project under the Skills project directly.
- Extending some of the selected Business Support grant agreements awarded under Year 2.
- Continuing to manage in-house the open calls for Year 3 Community and Place and Rural England Prosperity Fund projects.

Also as part of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF), working together with Warwickshire County Council, North Warwickshire Borough Council, Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council, Rugby Borough Council and Warwick District Council, SDC developed and jointly commissioned a £4.6 million [Business Growth Warwickshire Programme](#), offering six strands of support for businesses, in Warwickshire or residents looking to start a business, via a number of specialist organisations.

- **Business Growth Warwickshire Programme** delivered by Coventry and Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce
Designed to engage with over 2,000 businesses, more than 500 of which will receive intensive, bespoke support.

- **Warwickshire Start Up Business Programme** delivered by Coventry and Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce
Offering one to one bespoke business advice and also online and face-to-face workshops.

A local business helped by this programme is:

EquiBetter Ltd, in Ashorne offering physiotherapy to horses, received free business support.



- **Business Ready - Warwickshire High Growth and Innovation Programme** delivered by University of Warwick Science Park
Helping innovative businesses access finance and mentoring.

Local businesses helped by this programme include:

Quicktanks, a supplier of heating oil tanks, based just outside of Stratford-upon-Avon, increased its turnover by more than £450,000 in twelve months after receiving advice on its marketing strategy.



FusionTek, a rapidly-growing electric vehicle charging installer based in Stratford hoping to double turnover following major external investment.



Some of SDC's Economic Support during 2024 *continued*

- **Warwickshire Business Energy Advice Service** delivered by Coventry City Council

Designed to support the creation of a green, growing and sustainable economy across Warwickshire through promoting energy efficiency.

- **Warwickshire Manufacturing Growth Programme** delivered by Oxford Innovation Advice

Designed to propel Warwickshire manufacturing SMEs to new heights by identifying and eliminating barriers to growth.

A local business helped by this programme is:

Trident Hydraulics Ltd, based in Southam, who received essential guidance and strategic advice, facilitating their ambitious growth and sustainability initiatives.

- **Project Warwickshire - Visitor Economy and Hospitality Support Programme** delivered by Coventry and Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce

Offering specialist one-to-one business coaching, workshops, and networking.

Local businesses helped by this programme include:

The Antelope, in Lighthorne, helped by the Visitor Economy and Hospitality Support Programme to grow its customer base.

For more information, please visit: [Business Growth Warwickshire Programme - Warwickshire County Council](#)

Other local businesses that have received support from the District Council from the Rural England Prosperity Fund include:

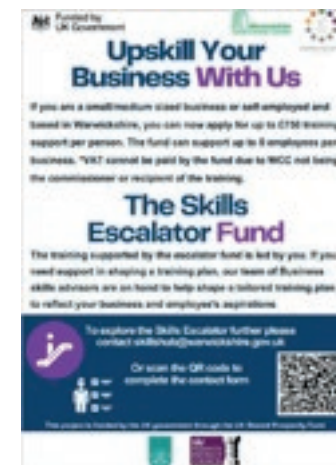
Go Cotswolds, based in Alcester providing guided tours of the Cotswolds secured £2,460 worth of funding.



The Lost Pug in Northend, secured £50,000 for a new commercial kitchen and re-establish the pub in the community.



Working in partnership with Warwickshire Skills Hub, the District Council launched **The Skills Escalator Fund**, to help small/medium sized business, self-employed, voluntary or charitable enterprises, with training plans by providing up to £750 training support per person for up to 5 employees.



The District Council was also the headline sponsor of the 2024 Stratford Herald Business & Tourism Awards in October.



Joe Richards receiving his Employee of the Year award from Cllr George Cowcher. (Photo Stratford Herald)

In November, SDC also offered dedicated support at an event for local businesses in Bidford-on-Avon and Welford-on-Avon who have been impacted by the bridge repairs to help them access business support services across the area.



Changes to refuse and recycling collections over the festive period



Your refuse, recycling and food waste collections will change over Christmas

There will be no refuse, recycling or food waste collections on Christmas Day, Boxing Day or New Year's Day. Your collections will be affected by the following changes:

Normal collection date	NEW collection date over Christmas
Wednesday 25 December 2024	→ Friday 27 December 2024
Thursday 26 December 2024	→ Saturday 28 December 2024
Friday 27 December 2024	→ Monday 30 December 2024
Monday 30 December 2024	→ Tuesday 31 December 2024
Tuesday 31 December 2024	→ Thursday 2 January 2025
Wednesday 1 January 2025	→ Friday 3 January 2025
Thursday 2 January 2025	→ Saturday 4 January 2025
Friday 3 January 2025	→ Monday 6 January 2025
Monday 6 January 2025	→ Tuesday 7 January 2025
Tuesday 7 January 2025	→ Wednesday 8 January 2025
Wednesday 8 January 2025	→ Thursday 9 January 2025
Thursday 9 January 2025	→ Friday 10 January 2025
Friday 10 January 2025	→ Saturday 11 January 2025

Normal collections will resume on Monday 13 January 2025.

Please ensure your bins are presented at the edge of your property by 6am on your new collection day.



Residents are advised to place their bins, boxes or sacks out for collection by 6am on their scheduled collection day during the festive period.



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localcounciljobs.gov.uk



Make a difference

Work for your local council

www.stratford.gov.uk

This campaign is funded by UK Government



www.stratford.gov.uk



info@stratford-dc.gov.uk



www.facebook.com/StratfordDC



twitter.com/StratfordDC



www.linkedin.com/company/stratford-on-avon-district-council

Garden Waste Collections

There will be no garden waste collections from Friday 27 December 2024 through to Thursday 9 January 2025. Please take any garden waste to your local recycling centre.

Extra waste

Please note that no additional general waste (refuse) placed by or on top of your grey refuse bin will be collected.

If you have any additional recycling, you can place it in a box or rigid container next to your blue-lidded wheeled bin for collection. Please flatten or cut cardboard pieces no larger than 1mx1m.

Please remember to put all your food waste in your food caddies and do not dispose of any batteries or electrical waste in your grey bin (general waste).

Click here to find out more information about what we collect. [What We Collect | Stratford-on-Avon District Council](#)

Visit our Christmas Recycling Page for more information [Christmas Recycling and Rubbish Collections | Stratford-on-Avon District Council](#).

You can also download our app [Waste and recycling app | Stratford-on-Avon District Council](#) and use it to look up what items can be recycled.

And don't forget to sign up to our coffee pod recycling services [Coffee Pod Recycling with Podback | Stratford-on-Avon District Council](#)

In the event of adverse weather affecting collections, please check the District Council's website at www.stratford.gov.uk or the District Council's app, as well as the District Council's social media accounts on X (formerly Twitter) and Facebook.

Download our app 'Stratford District Council'

Find out which day you need to put your bin out, where and how to recycle different materials and report a missed collection to us all in one place!



Don't forget to renew your subscription for the garden waste collection service

The subscriptions for 2025/26 (1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026) open on 14 January 2025

You can pay for your subscription on our website <https://www.stratford.gov.uk/waste-recycling/garden-waste-service.cfm>

Or call 01789 260628

For more information email streetscene@stratford-dc.gov.uk



Staying safe this Christmas

The District Council's Rural Crime Advisors are issuing a reminder that, the Christmas holiday period can provide a particularly good opportunity for criminals.

Here are some of the things you can do to reduce your risk of becoming a victim of crime during the festive season.



What can I do to protect my home at Christmas?

- Always keep windows and doors secure.
- Keep presents and valuables out of sight of a window.
- Make your home look lived in when you are out. Consider external lighting, use of switch timers on lamps in different rooms of the house and a TV simulator, these all help to give the illusion that the home is occupied.
- Take care when disposing of wrapping and boxes, particularly from expensive presents, and do not leave them on show outside the house.
- You might also consider registering the items using the free service: [immobilise.com](https://www.immobilise.com)
If items are then stolen and recovered, it will enable the Police to reunite the items with the owner.
- Avoid keeping large amounts of cash at home.
- Keep entrances of your home and dark corners well lit.
- Consider installing an alarm system / CCTV.
- Where possible, security mark gifts and valuables with your postcode and house number.

In addition you can review security advice on:

- [Rural Watch](#)
- [Neighbourhood Watch](#)
- [Horse Watch](#)
- [Business Watch](#)

Also, keep up to date with what's happening in your area by signing up to [Warwickshire Connected](#) a free messaging service brought to you by Warwickshire Police where you decide when and how you hear about the issues that matter most to you, whether that be getting regular crime updates, the latest information on ongoing incidents and emergencies or learning more about what your local police are doing.

This is also the place where you can get involved in helping to make your local area a safer place, tell the Police what they should be doing in your area, shape the initiatives that help to keep people and property safe and let the Police know what matters are causing your communities harm.

What about when I'm out shopping?

- Park in a secure car park if one is available to you.
- Park in a busy and well-lit area of the car park, where the view of the car is not obstructed eg by hedges.
- Close windows, sunroof, lock doors and activate security alarms when leaving your car.
- Take all valuables with you when you leave your car.
- Plan your shopping trip to avoid returning to your car to drop off gifts.
- If you have no choice but return to your car to unload, make sure valuables and shopping are locked in the boot; be observant to your surroundings to take care that no-one is watching you.
- Don't unlock your car until you have arrived at your vehicle.
- Always keep your bag and / or wallet with you - take care not to put them down whilst you load the car or rearrange your shopping bags.
- Carry your bag in front of you when shopping or if you have a wallet, carry it in a front pocket. Make sure bags and wallets are securely fastened.
- Don't leave your vehicle running if unattended.
- Consider using a faraday pouch for your car key if you have a car that has keyless entry. The code from the key is constantly transmitting, thieves can steal this code, and relay it to your car; once they have the code, they don't need your key.



Have yourself a safe and Merry Christmas





SAVE TIME

DO IT ONLINE

Did you know 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



Council Tax Help

**Are you,
or someone in your household,
living with:**

- a degenerative brain disorder such as Alzheimer's
- a learning disability
- other kinds of dementia
- a severe stroke
- severe or chronic mental illness

**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

Need HELP... with the survey for your Plan?

A personalised consultation service is available, totally independent from the Parish, Town or Neighbourhood Plan process in your area.

Stratford-on-Avon District Council's Consultation & Insight Unit offers you:

- > Pick and Mix flexible approach
- > Survey design from draft questionnaire to final report
- > Low cost one-stop shop for all your market research needs
- > Data processing via an unconnected, unbiased third party
- > Anonymity assured
- > Work carried out to Market Research Society guidelines

Satisfied clients include Parish Councils from both within and outside Stratford-on-Avon District.



Feedback received includes:

"Just wanted to say a big thank you for doing a cracking job on our village survey"

"Again thanks to you and your staff for a professional job - and lots of patience!"

Get professional assistance for your consultation

Contact Simon Purfield on

01789 260118

simon.purfield@stratford-dc.gov.uk

www.stratford.gov.uk



SDC MEETING DATES

Date	Time	Meeting
Tuesday 7 January	4.00pm	Climate Change Panel
Wednesday 8 January	6.00pm	Planning
Friday 10 January	10.00am	Overview & Scrutiny
Monday 13 January	10.00am	The Cabinet
Wednesday 22 January	6.00pm	Planning
Wednesday 5 February	6.00pm	Planning
Friday 7 February	10.00am	Overview & Scrutiny
Monday 10 February	10.00am	The Cabinet
Wednesday 19 February	6.00pm	Planning
Monday 24 February	2.00pm	Council
Tuesday 4 March	4.00pm	Climate Change Panel
Friday 7 March	10.00am	Overview & Scrutiny
Monday 10 March	10.00am	The Cabinet
Wednesday 19 March	6.00pm	Planning

Go to: [Monthly meetings calendar - January 2024 | Stratford-on-Avon District Council](#) to see the District Council meeting calendar

Webcast of Meetings

All District Council meetings are streamed live, recorded and loaded onto the District Council's YouTube channel - <https://www.youtube.com/user/StratfordDC>

Things to look out for in 2025

January - Consultation opens on South Warwickshire Local Plan Preferred Options

February - Council Tax set for 2025/26

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC) scrutinises The Cabinet and some external bodies (though it has limited influence), as well as reviewing and developing policy.

Recent work has included the creation of a planning advice note on public houses, scrutiny of housing associations and a meeting with Warwickshire County Council Highways on roadworks.

Councillors are currently suggesting ideas for the 2025/26 Annual Work Programme. If there are any matters affecting your local area which could benefit from the OSC's input, please discuss these with your local ward member ([contact details here](#)).

All the OSC meetings are recorded and can be found on the District Council's Youtube channel <https://www.youtube.com/@StratfordDC>



March - Covid-19 Day of Reflection

April - Shakespeare's Birthday Celebrations 2025

May - Warwickshire County Council Elections



Stratford-on-Avon District Council offices will be closed between Christmas and the New Year

Stratford-on-Avon District Council will be closed on Tuesday 24 December and will reopen on Thursday 2 January 2025

Office opening hours are:
8.45am - 5.15pm Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays and
8.45am - 5.00pm on Thursdays and Fridays.

District Council services can still be accessed online at www.stratford.gov.uk

Emergency out-of-hours contact is available on 01789 267575.

