Ward Report – Tysoe Ward.

Including the Parishes of Compton Wynyates, Halford, Honington, Idlicote, Oxhill, Pillerton Persey, Pillerton Priors, Tysoe, and Whatcote.

Overview for October

Since last month Central Government have "paused" the Devolution and Local Government Reform process due to legal challenges. There is no clear indication of what will happen next, but a great deal of time and money has been expended on this sinking Flagship policy.

The public consultation for the South Warwickshire Local Plan has been conducted with a stronger than expected level of responses. Time is running out for the final submission draft for Regulation 19 to be ready in time before the December cutoff.

We have had a summer of exceptional weather. Heat and draught will soon give way to the approaching Winter. Experts are indicating that the 'super' El Nineo will cause a severe Winter at a time of Cost of Living and Energy Crisis. I have included details of some grants that are available to help to keep people warm and not isolated.

Devolution and Local Government Reform Up-date

DLGR is now paused. What that means is unclear, but the Government have instructed all Local Authorities to 'suspend' all work. The cost to SDC is probably in the order of £200k which, if the project does not recommence, will be demanded from central government. The decision by HMG at this late stage was because of legal challenges made by some authorities sighting a failure to follow the process and procedure agreed by parliament, and illegal changes to electoral boarders and accusations of gerrymandering. An update to the current position is due on the 12th of October; we shall see.

South Warwickshire Local Plan and Regulation 19 Public Consultation

A huge circa 12,500 response was received by SDC regarding the public consultation on the SWLP Regulation 19 draft proposals. This has delayed the processing and analysis of the responses. Consideration to the responses must be shown to have been undertaken in the final draft. The final submission date is the 31st December 2026 so time is getting short.

Current Grants & Funding

Stratford Energy Support Fund

Eligibility

To be eligible households must meet the income and vulnerability criteria listed below.
Income criteria:

- Gross household income of up to £31,000 (not including PIP or DLA)
- No household savings
- A vulnerability from the list shown in the next section

You will be required to provide evidence of income:

- For those on means tested benefits – evidence of award dated within the last three months
- For those not on means tested benefits – bank statements for three months

Applicants must also confirm that someone in the home is vulnerable. This is quite a broad measure so please contact Act on Energy if you are unsure.
Vulnerabilities typically include:

- Long term diagnosed and treated health conditions e.g. COPD
- Households with unmanageable debt
- Pregnant or have young children under the age of five
- Disabled and in receipt of DLA or PIP
- In receipt of related benefits related (not universal) free school meals
- Other vulnerabilities disclosed by households not on the list but accepted at Act on Energy's discretion

A one-off payment for financial support will be made direct to your provider or as a pre-payment voucher for those paying by card or key.
The amount received will be determined by your household composition:

- Families with children under the age of 18 (or young adults up to age 21 in full time education) could receive £500 via direct payment to their energy supplier or as pre-payment energy vouchers for those paying by key or card
- Single occupants or couples could receive £300 via direct payment to their energy supplier or as pre-payment vouchers for those paying by key or card

You will be required to provide supporting evidence of your vulnerability and a copy of a recent energy bill.
How to apply
If you need support or want to find out more about eligibility criteria, please visit the **Act on Energy website** .
Or you can contact Act on Energy directly:
Phone: 0800 988 2881
Email: advice@actonenergy.org.uk

Community/Warm Hub Support Scheme 2026

The Stratford-on-Avon District Council 'Community/Warm Hub Grant Support Scheme 2026' is now open for applications.

What is the 'Community/Warm Hub Grant Support Scheme 2026?

Following the closure of Warwickshire Rural Community Council and an assessment of the impact of this closure, Stratford-on-Avon District Council is seeking to support existing community/warm hubs, encourage the creation of new hubs, and ensure that they are fully prepared for the coming winter.

We plan to distribute financial support to qualifying applicant organisations to enable them to achieve our aim of:

Support, prolong and enhance community wellbeing activity through community/warm hub events bringing together members of the whole community, but with a focus on more vulnerable residents.

What can we fund?

We are looking to support community/warm hubs meeting the below objectives:

- Improving the sustainability of community/warm hubs through providing funding for venue hire or similar,
- Improving experience through enhancing activities held at the community/warm hub,
- Improving the administration of the community/warm hub through funding administrative costs, including insurance, compliance costs, DBS checks, energy bills or similar; and,
- Provision of funding to cover other costs associated with the development and delivery of community/warm hubs.

We cannot fund community/warm hub sessions that have already taken place.

Who can apply?

This scheme is open to not-for-profit organisations such as:

- Town and Parish Councils,
- Registered charities,
- Voluntary or community groups,
- Residents associations.

The following organisations are not eligible for this scheme:

- National organisations or individuals, unless working in a partnership with a local organisation already delivering activities to communities in the district,
- Party political groups,
- For-profit organisations.

There are also a series of eligibility criteria that organisations must meet to be eligible:

- Your organisation must deliver a Community/Warm Hub for residents in a community within Stratford District.

- Your organisation must have a bank account (we cannot pay into an individual's account).
- Your organisation is not-profit making (see list above).
- Your project will support, prolong and enhance community wellbeing activity through community/warm hub events bringing together members of the whole community but with a focus on more vulnerable residents.

How much is available?

There is a total of £25,000 available for this scheme. Grant applications are invited for between £250 and £1,000.

When is the deadline for applications?

This is a rolling grant programme. After opening, the scheme will close when funds are exhausted or on the 31st March 2027, whichever is soonest.

When will I find out if I have been successful?

Applications will be assessed within 4 weeks of application. Applicants will be informed of the outcome as soon as possible after this assessment period.

How do I apply?

You can complete an application either via the online form or by printing the pdf version and posting it to us.

To complete the online application form, you can access it here.

To complete a paper version, you can print this document and post to us at Community Hub Grant Team, Stratford District Council, Elizabeth House, Church Street, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire, CV37 6HX.

Where can I find more details?

Details about the scheme can be found in the Scheme Specification.

The Stratford-on-Avon District Council 'Healthy and Sustainable Food For All - Community Food Projects Grant 2026' is now open for applications.

The Healthy and Sustainable Food For All - Community Food Projects Grant 2026 is a new fund to reduce food insecurity and increase accessibility to nutritious and affordable meals in Stratford District.

Who can apply?

The scheme is open to not-for-profit organisations such as:

- Charities,
- CIO's or CIC's,
- Town or Parish Councils,
- Community groups.

The Scheme Guidance document includes a checklist of eligibility that all organisations will need to meet to be eligible for funding. This can be found **here**.