



COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S COLUMN

February 2020

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.

Biffa, Newhurst Quarry, Ashby Road East, 2019/VOCEIA/0292/LCC

An application has been lodged with County to accommodate proposed changes to the design of the plant including materials used in the construction and the external appearance of the plant; the removal of the IBA maturation area and relocation of the car park into the IBA area; rearrangement of external ancillary equipment and internal site roadways.

For more information about this proposal or the likely timescale for its determination then please contact planningcontrol@leics.gov.uk or 0116 305 7045, the case officer is Steve Marriott.

Community Safety Strategy

At the Cabinet meeting held on 17th December (This was after the cut off date of 13th December for the January issue), a report was presented regarding Community Safety and this strategy will be submitted to the Full Council at County on 19th February for approval.

The Strategy includes the following County-wide priorities –

- Identify and protect the most vulnerable
- Reduce crime and fear of crime
- Reduce incidence and impact of Anti-social behaviour (ASB)
- Reduce harm from alcohol and substance misuse
- Reduce risk of harm to young people from cybercrime and bullying
- Increase reporting of domestic abuse and protect and the most vulnerable
- Increase confidence in reporting of hate incidents

Consultation with stakeholders in relation to the draft Strategy took place over 8 weeks between 16th September and 11th November 2019. The consultation involved consideration of the Strategy by the Scrutiny Commission on 6th November, and via



an online surgery which was forwarded to stakeholders; the CSPSs for the district areas, the Police, Combined Fire Authority, Fire and Rescue Service, Leicestershire CCGs, the Probation Services, Public Health, and Leicester City and Rutland Councils.

Re-commissioning of substance misuse treatment and recovery services

A report from the Director of Public Health mentioned the re-commissioning of substance misuse treatment and recovery services was presented to the Cabinet on 17th December. The future delivery model for substance misuse treatment and recovery services was the subject of substantial research and engagement activity between July and September 2019.

The current model for substance misuse treatment services comprises an integrated community substance misuse treatment service across Leicestershire and Leicester City commissioned jointly, an inpatient detoxification service commissioned jointly with Leicester City and substance misuse residential rehabilitation placements funded separately by each authority.

The new model will streamline these separate services into a Fully Integrated Treatment Pathway comprising community treatment, in-patient detoxification and residential rehabilitation placements. In addition, a separate service will provide recovery community support. Services will continue to be commissioned jointly.

The model is comprised of;

Lot 1 – Integrated Substance Misuse Treatment Service. This includes the community drug and alcohol service for adults and young people, a criminal justice/vulnerability service, the in-patient detoxification service and residential rehabilitation placements. Placements for in-patient detoxification and residential rehabilitation will be agreed and funded by the service provider.

Lot 2 – Recovery Community Support Service. These are services to engage those unable to access structured treatment service and will enable people to start their recovery journey and provide the aftercare recovery support and integration into purposeful activity. This is independent of the treatment service.



Charnwood Local Plan (2019-2036)

County have commented on the above and the full report can be found on the link to the Cabinet papers 17th December and at Charnwood's local plan link. As your County Councillor I have commented on these proposals.

Budget Consultation

The County Council are currently consulting on its latest budget proposals and you can find out more about the four-year plan at <http://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/budget>

A 20 per cent surge in demand for children's social care and special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), combined with inflation, is driving up County's costs by £117m.

The main components of the £117m risings are £59m of service pressure and £58m inflation costs, covering increases such as supplier charges and the National Living Wage.

The latest four-year plan sets out the need for £80m of savings, but also £16m of investment in tackling climate change, an extra £34m to support vulnerable people and £7m next year to top up road maintenance budgets.

The £80m breaks down as £24m of detailed savings and a plan to reduce SEND costs by £17m, leaving a £39m gap.

The £24m detailed savings include:

- Recruiting more in-house foster carers to reduce expensive placements
- Reducing adult social care costs by simplifying processes and speeding up support
- Bringing together early help and prevention services – and delivering some in-house
- Reduce disposal costs by recycling and re-using more waste
- Generating more income from property investment

Adults and Communities Overview an Scrutiny Committee

At the meeting of the above scrutiny committee held on 20th January the medium term financial strategy for 2020/21 was discussed.



People aged over 65 accounts for the majority of the Department's care expenditure. This financial growth is required to meet the increasing numbers of older people with substantial and critical needs as well as the increasing fragility of existing service users. Future changes in demand are initially estimated using historic trends to produce a baseline forecast of the likely number and average cost of service users. During 2019/20 there has been an increase in the average number of home care hours provided. It is anticipated that this trend will be set to continue.

Other areas with growing costs will be Children with learning disabilities transferring to Adult services and adults with mental health issues. The total budget for this department is just over £143m.

Advance Notice of Temporary Traffic Regulation Order (TTRO)

I shall carry on bringing to your attention any temporary road closures if I have them in time for the cut off date at the Eye. Sometimes the diversions proposed seem very long, but County has to take note of HGV's who cannot use some minor roads and L drivers who cannot use the Motorway.

At Tickow Lane, there were 2 way lights at the end of January. From 20th of January for 4 weeks, Tickow Lane will be closed at its junction with Belton Street/Hallamford Road/Oakley Road. While Tickow Lane is closed 3 way lights will be utilised on Belton Street, Hallamford Road and Oakley Road. From 17th February. Oakley Road will be closed at its junction with Hallamford Road, Tickow Lane and Belton Street for 4 weeks. While Oakley Road is closed, 3 way lights will again be utilised on Tickow Lane, Hallamford Road and Belton Street.

These works/road closures are to safely allow for the construction of a new roundabout at the junction of Hallamford Road, Belton Street, Oakley Road and Tickow Lane. These improvements at this junction have been needed for a number of years.

There will be a further closure of the whole junction of Tickow Lane, Hallamford Road, Belton Street and Tickow Lane approximately 16th March for 1 week, these will be overnight closures to enable resurfacing works to be undertaken at the whole junction.

The dates I have mentioned are dependent on the weather.



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 duration of the restriction is not anticipated to exceed a period of one overnight closure commencing the 13th March. Works are scheduled to take place between 20.00 and 06.00. These were originally planned for 29th November but had to be postponed.

Imposition of 50 mph speed limit order

The Leicestershire County Council (Ashby Road West, Shepshed in the Borough or Charnwood and Ashby Road, Belton in the district of North Wes Leicestershire). The order came into force on 22nd of January 2020. No person shall drive any motor vehicle at a speed exceeding 50 mph.

Tickow Lane – speed cushions and raised table

Leicestershire County Council are proposing to install Traffic Calming measures (speed cushions) and a Zebra Crossing on Tickow Lane Shepshed in front of the Jelson new housing development. The speed table ramps at the junction of Hallamford Road and Belton Street are also to be extended as part of the scheme. The traffic calming consists of six sets of speed cushions. Associated signing and lining are also to be part of the scheme. Works are anticipated to last 3-4 weeks and will be mostly carried out during weekdays. Pedestrian access will be maintained throughout the duration of the works.

A copy of the proposals, together with a plan and an explanatory statement giving the Council's reasons for proposing to make the changes may be inspected during normal office hours at Shepshed Town Council and at my monthly surgery on 1st February or it can be viewed online at www.leics.gov.uk/tro_consultations.htm.

Following concerns raised by residents who live near to these proposals I have asked County to look at putting speed ramps rather than speed cushions.

Flood Wardens

Recent flooding has highlighted the need to recruit new Flood Wardens and conduct refresher training for existing wardens. The Resilience Partnership which provides emergency planning for all Local Authorities within Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland will be conducting training events across the county, the nearest location to Shepshed is 26th March in Coalville 18:00-20:00. The training will cover the role and



responsibilities of a Flood Warden, there will also be additional training carried out for those wardens who wish to have the ability to assist the Highways Authority in closing roads due to flooding. These will assess on a case by case basis and should not be carried out unless the warden has attended the relevant training.

Anyone who wishes to become a Flood Warden should email emergency.management@leics.gov.uk or call 0116 305 6101.

Your help and support

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 e mail christine_radford@hotmail.com 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 10-11am. No appointment is necessary.