

Council news round-up

Your weekly guide to the latest news

Issue 155

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This week's news from around the Council.

Latest funding awards

Five more community-led projects in the district are celebrating after being awarded grants from the South Staffordshire Community Innovation Fund. The Community Innovation Fund distributes money raised by the South Staffordshire Community Lottery and grants are available for not-for-profit groups, community projects or charities.

£987 to **A Child of Mine** to hold support sessions for bereaved parents who have lost a child.

£893 to **Cheslyn Hay Tennis Club** to promote tennis in the community through festivals.

£1,000 to **Perton Brownies** for further resources and for future activities.

£540 to the **Good Life Wellbeing Association** for crafts and arts sessions to be held at Lifestyle Roadshows around the district.

£750 to **Support Staffordshire** to support local Community Connectors.

The next round of funding will be open this autumn. Don't forget, you can support local good causes by buying a lottery ticket in the South Staffordshire Community Lottery. As well as supporting a good cause you might even win a cash prize ranging from £25 up to a jackpot of £25,000. To buy a lottery ticket, simply register on the website (www.southstaffslottery.co.uk) or telephone **01902 213777**.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) update

Click [here](#) for the latest advice from the Public Health England blog and click [here](#) to view a video about the best way to slow the spread of almost any germs, including Coronavirus.

Changes to Council Tax discounts

From Wednesday 1 April 2020, the Council is making changes to its Council Tax discounts to encourage owners to bring empty homes back into use to provide homes that people need. Click [here](#) for further information.

South Staffordshire business survey and roundtable events -

If you're a local business, make sure you complete the south Staffordshire business survey. The Council is committed to creating the right conditions for economic growth across the district and supporting local businesses and your thoughts and opinions are key. Click [here](#) to take part in the survey, which closes on Sunday 23 February 2020 (5pm). This piece of research will be instrumental in informing South Staffordshire Council's future strategic plans.

To accompany this, Staffordshire Chambers of Commerce are hosting a series of small business roundtable events on behalf of South Staffordshire Council. Click [here](#) to find out more and to book a place at the business roundtable being held on Friday 28 February 2020 at the Council Offices in Codsall from 10am to noon.

Dunston Business Village drop in

Dunston Business Village in association with Staffordshire Chambers of Commerce will be holding a free drop in session for local businesses on Wednesday 26 February 2020 from 9am to 4pm. Click [here](#) for more information.

2020 Support Staffordshire Volunteer Star Awards

Nominations for this year's Volunteer Star Awards are now live. These awards celebrate the contribution that volunteers make to our local community and you can find out more on the Support Staffordshire website - click [here](#) for more information. Nominations close on Friday 3 April 2020 (5pm) and the results will be announced at a ceremony at Rodbaston Hall in Penkridge on Tuesday 23 June 2020. Any queries, please contact Maggie Quinn (m.quinn@sstaffs.gov.uk)

Half-term activities at the Leisure Centres

Next week during half-term, Penkridge Leisure Centre is offering a selection of craft-related sessions. Click [here](#) for more information or visit the website [here](#) to find out more about its school holiday activity camps. To book, call **01785 714152**. Activity camps are also taking place at the Leisure Centres in Cheslyn Hay, Codsall and Wombourne. To find out what's on click [here](#) and click [here](#) to book.

Changes to swimming programmes next week

Due to the school holiday next week, the swimming times at the Council's Leisure Centres will change during the day. Find out more at www.sstaffs.gov.uk/leisure

Next week's Council Committee/Panel meetings

- **Cabinet** - Tuesday 18 February 2020 - 2pm - Committee Room 2.
- **Planning Committee** - Tuesday 18 February 2020 - 6.30pm - Council Chamber.

Council job vacancies

- **ICT Support Officer (fixed term)** - click [here](#) for more information.
Closing date - Tuesday 25 February 2020 (12 noon).
- **Solicitor** - click [here](#) for more information. Closing date - Thursday 27 February 2020 (10am).

Trustees required for new CIC

Together Active, a new charitable incorporated organisation (CIC) formed from Sport Across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent (SASSOT) is looking for new Trustees. If you believe in the life-changing benefits of physical activity and sport and have the skills to help lead this new charity forward, then click [here](#) for more information about how to apply. Closing date is Friday 28 February 2020 (5pm).



South Staffordshire Connect service now available

The South Staffordshire Connect dial-a-ride bus service is now available. This local, bookable bus service is once again helping many people who struggle to get out and about and it is aimed at residents who live away from regular bus routes or who find it difficult to use a standard bus. The new Connect service operates between 10am and 3pm to three zones. For more information, please click on the following for more information - [Zone 1](#), [Zone 2](#) and [Zone 3](#).

5 Rating

The following organisations have achieved a 5 Rating following their food inspection this week - Wightwick Hall School in Wightwick and Evelyn's Kitchen in Huntington.

Everyone is encouraged to submit news items, please email: comms@sstaffs.gov.uk