

Council news round-up

Your weekly guide to the latest news

Issue 157

28 February 2020



This week's news from around the Council.

- **Coronavirus (COVID-19) update**

There have been no cases of coronavirus in South Staffordshire at the present time and South Staffordshire Council and health partners continue to keep a close watch on the development of the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

Nationally, Public Health England is leading on the health response and their website is updated on a daily basis with the latest information and guidance. 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. Residents should dial NHS **111** if they are worried about any symptoms. The Government and NHS are well prepared to deal with this virus and the Council is monitoring the situation closely and coordinating with Public Health England.

- **Community safety**

Today, marks the launch of an awareness campaign about County Lines. The primary aim of the campaign, working with Stoke-on-Trent City Council and Staffordshire County Council, is to safeguard children and young people being exploited by organised criminal gangs. Click [here](#) to download the leaflet.

- **South Staffordshire online chat**

Staffordshire Police is holding a series of online chats giving residents the opportunity to chat live with local police officers regarding any issues or concerns relating to South Staffordshire. Online chats will take place on Monday 2 March, Thursday 19 March 2020 at 7pm. Click [here](#) for more information about the next online chat.

- **Your March motivation starts here**

This March, members of the Council's leisure centres in Cheslyn Hay, Codsall, Penkridge and Wombourne are being encouraged to complete and log 16 fitness sessions throughout the month to be in with the chance of winning some amazing prizes. Prizes include a Fitbit Charge 3, Hybrid resistance bands, a 'Lean in 15' cookbook, Grenade protein bars, swimming goggles,

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water bottles and towels and discounts off monthly fees. To enter, collect a log card from your local leisure centre and have it stamped every time you work out at your leisure centre.

- **Falls prevention class**

A new strength and balance class has started at Penkrige Leisure Centre on Tuesday afternoons from 2.30 to 3.30pm. The class is open to residents in Penkrige and in the surrounding villages with the aim of increasing strength and improving mobility. Classes on Tuesday 10 and 17 March 2020 are free of charge and from Tuesday 24 March 2020 there will be a nominal fee of just £1.50. Places are limited so please call to book on **01785 714152**. Click [here](#) for more information.

- **Special offer on swimming lessons**

There's no better time to learn to swim at the South Staffordshire Swim Academy at Cheslyn Hay and Penkrige Leisure Centres. New joiners can start their swimming lesson journey at any point in March, pay £10 and get April free, with normal payments starting on 15 May 2020. Click [here](#) to find out more or visit www.sstaffs.gov.uk/swimacademy

- **NHS health checks**

Did you know that the NHS Health Check programme offers eligible people between the ages of 40 and 74, with no underlying health issues, free advice to help prevent diseases such as heart disease, stroke, type 2 diabetes, kidney disease and certain types of dementia? Everyone Health are carrying out free health checks in the South Staffordshire area now. Click [here](#) to view a poster and for more information call **0333 005 0095**, email eh.staffs@nhs.net or visit the website at www.everyonehealth.co.uk/staffordshire

- **Defibrillator now at Baggeridge**

There is now a defibrillator machine at Baggeridge Country Park. At present, it is situated in the Rangers' Office but it will be moved to an outside cabinet shortly.

- **Staffordshire Day**

Creativity will be the focus of this year's Staffordshire Day when it returns for the fifth time on Friday 1 May 2020. Coordinators Enjoy Staffordshire, in conjunction with Staffordshire County Council and other local authority partners, are encouraging the people of Staffordshire to

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embrace their creative side and show the world why they love their county. Details of how to get involved in Staffordshire Day, alongside a full listing of Staffordshire Day events, can be found at www.enjoystaffordshire.com/staffsday

- **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)

- **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](#).



- **Together we win!**

Good causes in South Staffordshire need your support and one way you can help is by buying a lottery ticket in our weekly 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**.

- **Next week's Council Committee/Panel meetings**

- **Your Community Challenge Panel** - Monday 2 March 2020 - 4.30pm - Members' Room.
- **Standards (Hearing) Sub Committee** - Thursday 5 March 2020 - 10am - F13

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- **Council job vacancies**

- **Customer Services General Advisor** - click [here](#) for more information.

Closing date - Friday 13 March 2020.

- **5 Rating**

The following organisations have achieved a 5 Rating following their food inspection this week - Greggs MFG in Gailey and The Oaken Arms in Oaken.

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