

**Kineton Parish Council**  
**October 2024**  
**District Councillor Report**

## Rural Crime Action Week 2024

This week (21<sup>st</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> of October) is National Rural Crime Action Week and Stratford-on-Avon District Council is taking this opportunity to raise awareness of the work being done to tackle rural crime and the support available in South Warwickshire.

The District Council's Rural Crime Advisors are proactive in providing advice and preventive services for those living in rural communities. Their aim is to engage with rural communities and provide bespoke advice and solutions to victims of crime.

Within South Warwickshire the two Rural Crime Advisors (RCAs) in the District Council's Community Safety Team, carry out dedicated work with individuals, businesses and communities to reduce the impact of crime in rural areas.

The posts are jointly funded by the District Council and the Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner. The Rural Crime Advisors work alongside the Warwickshire Police Rural Crime Team, local policing teams and other partner agencies, including the Community Safety Partnership.

If you have a farm or rural business and have been a victim of crime or are concerned that you may become a victim of crime, the RCAs can visit your property and discuss any improvements that might be made to help enhance your security.

If you feel that your community could benefit from wider crime prevention, the Rural Crime Advisors can run a 'Community Crime Prevention Toolbox' event in your village. The toolboxes contain a variety of crime prevention equipment such as: window alarms, shed alarms, can hides, personal alarms, property marking kits, switch timers, faraday pouches, TV simulators, along with plenty of crime prevention information leaflets and Warwickshire Connected z cards / Safe in Warwickshire cards. Attendees are encouraged to chat with the RCAs whilst there, then the box is left with a local custodian who can champion and share the equipment according to the needs of the villagers, such as loaning particular items, running their own property marking event. If you are interested in being a custodian of a crime prevention box in your community, please fill out the online enquiry form below.

In addition to the above, one of the RCA's current projects aims to reduce the impact of vehicle crime on local trades people by identifying villages to target and providing free crime prevention equipment and advice on the doorstep.

Stratford-on-Avon District Council's Rural Crime Advisors have been recognised by Warwickshire Police for their ongoing contribution to reducing rural crime and in February this year were presented with a Neighbourhood Policing Award.

For more information about the work being done or for support and advice on rural crime prevention, [please visit the Rural Crime page here](#).



### Contact details

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## Stratford-on-Avon District Council Cabinet decisions - 7 October 2024

### Tackling Food Insecurity and Promoting Food Justice

Cabinet agreed a number of Recommendations to Council to respond to the Notice of Motion. These include lobbying Government through the 'Right to Food' campaign, enhanced local activity, the development of a more focussed strategic approach, improved understanding through research, promotion of community food production, harnessing the South Warwickshire Local Plan, Licensing Policy and Climate Change Panel to further efforts, enhancing the approach to distribution of surpluses and the improvement of opportunities for children and young people in relation to

nutrition and food insecurity/injustice.

### **LGA Corporate Peer Challenge Action Plan - Monitoring Report**

Cabinet received an update on the action plan which was approved following the recent LGA corporate Peer Challenge, that took place in March 2024. All of the actions which were due for implementation by the end of September 2024 have been achieved. A further monitoring report will be considered by The Cabinet ahead of the follow up review on 13 January 2025.

### **Review of the Housing Strategy Action Plan**

Cabinet agreed the revised Sustainable Homes Sustainable Communities Stratford-on-Avon District Housing Strategy 2021-2026 Action Plan.

### **Delivering Local Needs/Local Choice Rural Housing**

Cabinet agreed to continue the existing approach to deliver homes for local people in rural areas with the Rural Housing Enabler (RHE) working with partners to enable local communities to deliver Local Needs/Local Choice rural housing schemes.

### **Proposed Digital Strategy for Stratford-on-Avon District Council 2024-2029**

Cabinet approved the proposed Digital Strategy for the District Council.

The Digital Strategy is a comprehensive and ambitious plan that will enable the District Council to leverage the power of digital technologies to enhance services, improve efficiency, and better serve the needs of residents. The Strategy aligns with the Council's strategic objectives and has been developed following extensive consultation and evidence-based analysis. It represents a significant step forward in the Council's digital transformation journey, with the potential to deliver substantial benefits for both residents and the organisation.

### **Communications Strategy 2024-2029**

Cabinet approved the Communications Strategy together with the additional funding request.

The Council Plan included the objective of adopting a Communications Strategy for the Council to ensure that the organisation has a clear understanding of how and what the Council should promote. The Communication Strategy builds upon the existing good practice within the Council and also takes into account the views expressed within the Residents' Survey and the comments made as part of the LGA Communications Health Check. In order to fully implement the Communications Strategy 2024-29 additional funding will be required. This funding relates to the content within the Council's website, the reinstatement of the View Magazine and sustaining the initiatives which have been implemented since the Council employed the Corporate Communications Officer.

Cllr A Scorer

