

District Councillor Report (Mar 23) – Matt Jennings

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Covid

As this will probably be my last report on Covid I thought I would go into a bit more details and include some stats. Due to data shortage this now done in wider geographical areas – the whole of Stratford District.

Healthcare in South Warwickshire University NHS Foundation Trust – Currently there are **47** patients in hospital with coronavirus on 1 March 2023 There was **1** coronavirus patient in hospital beds with a mechanical ventilator on 1 March 2023.

In Stratford District between 19 February 2023 and 25 February 2023, there have been **1** deaths within 28 days of a positive coronavirus test. This shows a decrease of **50.0%** compared to the previous 7 days.

115,650 people had been given a first dose by the end of 1 March 2023.

112,423 people had been given a second dose by the end of 1 March 2023.

98,076 people had been given a booster or third dose by the end of 1 March 2023.

Voter ID

As you know, legislation has changed in that everyone wishing to vote at polling stations from 4th May 2023, must show an accepted form of photo ID such as a passport, photo driving licence or bus pass (the full list of documents is on the SDC website).

On 16th January, the Government portal went live so that anyone without photo ID could apply for a Voter Authority Certificate. Locally, to date, we have processed 18 applications. People wishing to vote on 4th May have until 5pm on 25th April to apply for one of these Certificates whether on-line, by paper application or in person at the SDC offices. Those electors that have photo ID or a postal vote, do not need to apply.

Consus 21 Final information

Final information is now in – I can supply copies to whoever would like it ! The main highlights are :

- Population has increased by 14,000 in the last ten years – a 12% increase to 135,000. If this cumulatively increases in 2050 we will have a population of just over 180,000 – 45,000 more !!!!
- The median age has increased from 46 to 48 – UK & west midlands average is 40
- In Stratford-on-Avon, the percentage of households in the social rented sector rose from 12.9% in 2011 to 13.3% in 2021. During the same period, the regional percentage fell from 19.0% to 18.2%. Private renting in Stratford-on-Avon increased from 12.7% to 14.1%, while the rate of home ownership decreased from 71.8% to 70.8%.
- Across the West Midlands, the percentage of residents who described themselves as having "No religion" increased from 22.0% to 32.9%, while across England the percentage increased from 24.8% to 36.7%. In 2021, 56.4% of people in Stratford-on-Avon described themselves as Christian (down from 70.3%), while 5.5% did not state their religion (down from 7.1% the decade before).
- In 2021, 1.8% of Stratford-on-Avon district residents (aged 16 years and over) said they were unemployed. This figure decreased from 2.2% in 2011.
- In 2021, 52.5% of Stratford-on-Avon residents described their health as "very good", increasing from 50.2% in 2011. Those describing their health as "good" fell from 34.2% to 33.3%. These are age-standardised proportions.
- In 2021, just under one in five households (18.6%) included a couple with dependent children, compared with 19.8% in 2011. The percentage of single family households including a couple living with only non-dependent children remained at 6.3%.

- Of Stratford-on-Avon district residents aged 16 years and over, 28.4% said they had never been married or in a civil partnership in 2021, up from 25.6% in 2011. This is an increase of 2.8 percentage points.
- In 2021, 5.3% of Stratford-on-Avon residents were identified as being disabled and limited a lot. This figure decreased from 6.4% in 2011.
- Ethnic makeup of the District – 95.5% white, 1.9 % Asian (Asian, Asian British, Asian Welsh), 1.7% Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups, 0.4% Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African & 0.5 Other ethnic groups.

Rough Sleepers

Stratford-on-Avon District Council reports the number of rough sleepers across the District on a weekly basis, using figures based on intelligence, along with a weekly spotlight street count. The District Council is also required by government to provide a figure for rough sleepers when it conducts its annual street count on a specific night in mid-November.

The District Council and its partner agencies have worked hard to significantly reduce rough sleeping across the District since 2017, at which time its annual rough sleeper count reported 17 rough sleepers. The District Council reported 10 in 2018, 6 in 2019, 4 in 2020 and 3 in 2021.

The District Council, supported by a number of support agencies which included P3, the police, CGL, Spring, the NHS and the Street Pastors, carried out its most recent annual count in November 2022, this year reporting 4 rough sleepers.

RSC Update

The first RSC Update of 2023 with news of a new season of work taking place at the newly refurbished Swan Theatre - which opens its doors on April 1. The first production on the stage is a landmark new adaptation with Neal Street Productions, in association with Hera Pictures, of Maggie O'Farrell's best-selling novel – Hamnet.

Venture House

As always I would encourage anyone looking to take advantage of the opportunities that Venture House has to offer - there are live and online events – see below or visit www.venturehousestratford.co.uk

March Events

- 8th - [Women in Tech](#) - Digital Hub, Coventry University
- 16th - [Job & Skills Fair](#) - Leamington Spa
- 27th - [FSB Business Bootcamp and Networking](#) - Coombe Abbey Hotel

March Workshops

- From 2nd - [Data Analytics for Sustainability](#) - BCU
- 3rd - [How to find and Secure Grant Funding](#) - online
- 3rd - [10 Top Tips for Self-Compassion in the Workplace](#) - online
- From 9th - [Help to Grow: Management](#) - Coventry Business School
- 9th - [Growing your Sales in a Downturn](#) - online

9th - [Entrepreneurial Mindset](#) - online

10th - [Understanding Business Rates](#) - online

13th - [Drive New Customers To Your Website!](#) - online

From 15th - [Carbon Clarity for SMEs Masterclasses](#) - Univ of Birmingham

22nd - [Protecting Family Wealth](#) - The View, Wootton Wawen

29th - [Everything about Solar](#) - online

Business Support

The CW Chamber of Commerce provides a full programme of startup and grow-on business support workshops and masterclasses - www.cw-chamber.co.uk/business-support/

Local networking

Take a look at our [list of local networking groups](#) to see what you might like to get involved with. If you run an online networking group that does not appear on this list, please tell us about it and they can add your listing.