

## **Report from Your District Councillors – January 2025**

### **HS2 Diversions Hardwick-Boddington-Wormleighton-**

Despite a series of meetings which Nigel has attended with the MP, the County Councillor, and at the last one the MP for West Northamptonshire, ad HS2 and the contractors EKFB. Unfortunately, no success has been achieved in improving the Boddington to Hardwick Road with passing bays in advance of the extended diversion period. The dates for diversions also continue to be unclear. There is a unified opinion among elected representatives that HS2 and their contractors must help the community and local authorities more than they appear to be planning to do. Nigel spoke to the MP's offices in the new year with a view to a further meeting with contractors.

### **English Devolution White Paper**

The English Devolution White Paper was presented to Parliament by the Deputy Prime Minister on 16 December 2024. Local government in Warwickshire is currently a two tier system: County Council and District and Borough Councils more locally. The English Devolution White Paper proposes moving all local government in England to a one tier system ie. the abolition of District and Borough Councils and the formation of unitary authorities over a larger geographical area.

There are currently a number of proposals being discussed for Stratford District and the wider county area and how this might look going forward. Whilst it is difficult to say at this early stage what the future of local government looks like for our district, *it is clear that this administration will be doing their utmost to protect the valuable assets and finances raised by and for the people of Stratford District to be kept and used by, for and in Stratford District.*

The link to the English Devolution White Paper is here: [English Devolution White Paper - GOV.UK](#)

The link to Cllr Susan Juned's initial thoughts on the White Paper is here: [District Matters | Stratford-on-Avon District Council](#)

### **South Warwickshire Local Plan**

Councillors from Warwick and Stratford-on-Avon District Councils met on Thursday 12 December 2024 and approved the recommendation for a Preferred Options consultation on the South Warwickshire Local Plan.

**The Consultation opens on 10 January 2025 and will run until 7 March.** Details of how to take part in the consultation will be published in the new year as well as the link to the

online consultation. We will circulate details to all of the parish clerks in the ward and report to Parish Councils with those details once they are available.

One of the simplest ways to respond will be online, which will be live from the start of the consultation in January until the deadline in March. Although the more traditional ways of responding via email and by post will still be available.

Further information on the South Warwickshire Local Plan may be found by following the link here: [South Warwickshire Local Plan](#)

## **Environmental Services**

### **Refuse and Recycling**

Collections will return to normal from Monday 13 January 2025.

### **Garden Waste Collections**

There will be no garden waste collections from Friday 27 December 2024 through to Thursday 9 January 2025. Please take any garden waste to your local recycling centre.

[And don't forget to sign up to our Podback coffee pod recycling services](#)

### **PSPO on Dog Fouling**

Stratford-on-Avon District Council is carrying out a six-week Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) consultation on dog fouling.

There have been dog fouling orders across the District since 2009, which has been subject to regular reviews, with the last review taking place in 2020.

A PSPO gives a local authority powers to tackle a particular nuisance by banning or restricting certain acts or behaviour in an area where it is having a negative effect on people's quality of life. A PSPO can remain in place for three years. The consultation is now open and runs until 24 January 2025.

Further information may be found here: [Proposed PSPO \(Dog Fouling\) Consultation | Stratford-on-Avon District Council](#)

Together with the link to the online consultation here: [PSPO Consultation 2024](#)

## **Community Safety**

### **Appointment of the New Chief Constable**

As a member of the Warwickshire Police and Crime Panel representing Stratford District, Natalie attended the Confirmation Hearing for the appointment of the new Chief Constable on Monday 16 December. After a robust question and answer session, the Police and Crime Panel resolved to confirm the appointment of Alex Franklin-Smith as the new Chief Constable for Warwickshire. Further information including the webcast of the meeting together with a BBC article may be found here:

[Information and Documents – Warwickshire County Council](#)

[Warwickshire Police appoints new chief constable - BBC News](#)

With best wishes to all residents for a happy and healthy 2025.

Nigel Rock  
[nigel.rock@stratford-dc.gov.uk](mailto:nigel.rock@stratford-dc.gov.uk)

Natalie Gist  
[Natalie.gist@stratford-dc.gov.uk](mailto:Natalie.gist@stratford-dc.gov.uk)