

Charlton Cllr ELIZABETH EYRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT June 2021

County Issues

Covid

Confirmed cases in Worcestershire have decreased by **2%** in the last 7 days, as of yesterday Worcestershire rate stands at **21** cases per 100,000. The current England rate is **64**. The West Midlands rate stands at **46** per 100,000. **16** cases per 100,000 in Worcester. Redditch is **45** cases per 100,000, Malvern Hills is **5** per 100,000, Wychavon is **6** cases per 100,000, Wyre Forest is **23** per 100,00 whilst Bromsgrove is **35** cases per 100,000.

Community Collect service is now available for people to collect lateral flow tests designed for use at home.

Here2Help Worcestershire continues to support individuals and is pro-actively working with individuals who have been asked to self-isolate.

Planning support is being provided to schools for school testing for pupils.

Care Homes: indoor visits to care homes are now permitted with 5 nominated visitors, although only 2 at any one time.

100% of schools in Worcestershire are open compared to the national rate of 99.9%. Attendance is 84.5% currently with a national average at 84.1%.

There is more than 3 months stock for all PPE items at current issue rates. The supply of free PPE has been extended to unpaid carers.

Museums could open on the 17th May.

Libraries are now open from browsing and face to face sessions are also returning including story time sessions. The mobile library service is back in operation.

Registration Services continue to be open but by appointment only, with limitations to available services during the national

Economy & Infrastructure

home to school transport has resumed following schools reopening.

Household Recycling Centres across the county are all operational and have been very busy.

Traffic volume is at 93% of pre-Covid levels.

Bus travel is currently at 21% of pre-Covid levels

Major infrastructure project work continues, within current Covid restrictions.

13% of Worcestershire employees were furloughed through the job retention scheme at the end of March.

Reminder that the Here2Help website www.worcestershire.gov.uk/here2help is the first point of contact if people want to offer assistance or gain support. The other option is the telephone contact number which is staffed 8am-6pm 6 days a week – 01905 768053.

Carers who support a family member or friend who require support should contact the Worcestershire Association of Carers on www.carersworcs.org.uk or call the Helpline 0300 012 4272.

Local Issues

Minerals Local Plan –zoom meeting? **'Planning permission will be granted' wording versus 'planning permission will be supported' wording:** debated during the examination hearing sessions, Inspectors made their position clear in the hearings. “planning permission will be granted” is followed in each policy by the tests which need to be met. The Plan to be read as a whole and within the context of planning law. This means that decision-makers will give appropriate weight to each policy and other material considerations at the time of each planning application.

(in their view) the suggested change of phrase would be beyond what could be considered to be an Additional Modification. The original wording was not “unsound”, if any party were to submit additional evidence or legal interpretation as to why the phrase IS unsound, they would consider it.

Inspectors' Report procedure: the last stage in the examination procedure. Before this is issued, we will be consulting on the Main Modifications arising from the examination process. Consultation on the Main Modifications as soon as practicable after the Council Elections.

The Inspectors will take into account any representations made in response to that consultation. They could choose to hold further hearing sessions if significant issues are raised, before issuing their report. Once their final report is received, likely towards the end of this year, it will be put to Cabinet and Full Council for a decision as to whether to adopt the plan.

Broadband – Airband oversight, open reach vouchers awaited delay due to huge number of projects, which were submitted in February – well in excess of 1,300, all of which have to be fully reviewed. For projects in Charlton’s position the current timeline for review and vouchers being issued is July.

Highway maintenance and speeding issues – Kieran meeting Monday 21st

Yessell Lane:

Sewer update: company that is carrying out a sewer connection to the caravan park has incorrect signage and traffic management, so the County Council has stepped in. Not going ahead until sorted

Why were others not asked to connect?

What about capacity – bubbling over brook lane

Bridleway: working with Fiona Argyle – visiting site

Evesham to Pershore Cycleway: no update

Haselor Lane