

ChaseMatters

Digital Magazine

SUMMER 2019



Get out and about
this summer

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What's inside



Plus more...

What's inside...

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Chase Matters

Welcome to the summer edition of Chase Matters, the magazine for residents, businesses and communities in Cannock Chase.

It has been a busy six months for everyone connected with Cannock Chase Council since the last edition of Chase Matters appeared.

Most notably we have had two elections - to the District Council; where 15 seats were contested across 15 wards making up the Council (we have 41 councillors in total and we elect by 'thirds' in three out of every four years); and for the European parliamentary elections.

You can see who makes up the new Council on page 20 - 21. About a quarter of our councillors are new to the role. The main change is that while Labour has the highest number of councillors (with 18 councillors) it no longer has overall control. It has, however, formed a working arrangement with the Green Party (which increased from three to five councillors). The opposition Conservative Party has a new leader after Paul Snape retired. She is Councillor Olivia Lyons.

We are 12 months into our new five-year Corporate Plan which can be viewed at www.cannockchasedc.gov.uk/corporateplan. This was approved by Council last July. This is what is driving a lot of our work.

In this edition you will therefore read about progress with the McArthurGlen Designer Outlet in Cannock which is on schedule to open in autumn 2020. Inevitably there will be some disruption caused by the construction works and particularly the roadworks managed by Staffordshire County Council, which are essential. The prize will be 1,000 new jobs created and a stunning new retail destination which will bring in an estimated 3million visitors a year.



Similarly, the Chase Line connecting Rugeley to Birmingham is now fully electrified and is enabling direct rail services from the District to Birmingham International (for the airport) and to London for the very first time, along with smarter and quieter trains. The Council has commissioned a business case to develop Cannock station which will also consider ways of connecting rail passengers to the McArthurGlen site.



Elsewhere, a new Engineering Academy will be officially launched this summer at the Cannock campus of South Staffordshire College. The Council has provided £500,000 match funding towards the academy following a successful bid for £500,000 to the Stoke and Staffordshire LEP (SSLEP). Students will join the new academy from September.

And there is a new Local Plan being formulated where the Issues and Options consultation has been taking place across the District since early May. Within this period the Council has received a planning application to develop the Rugeley Power Station site. Details of the application can be found via the homepage of www.cannockchasedc.gov.uk

However, large projects aside, the Council is continuing to deliver a whole range of services which we know can have major impacts on the lives and wellbeing of our residents. Some of these are detailed in this edition. We hope you enjoy reading this edition. The next Chase Matters, distributed free to residential addresses, will be in November.

Tony McGovern
Managing Director

George Adamson
Leader

Full speed ahead with Universal Credit

Since Universal Credit (UC) rolled out across Cannock Chase in November 2018, there have already been over 400 claims made by Council customers.

The Income Management team has been helping customers get to grips with this new style of benefit and has found that working closely with Housing Benefits and the DWP has really helped customers deal with the challenges that UC presents.

Since November, we have already had some great results for customers who we have helped to claim UC! These include;

- Advising a customer to apply for UC rather than Housing Benefit which has made them over £200 per month better off.
- Helping a customer with their UC claim and helping them to reduce their arrears by over £500.
- Assisting a customer with mental health issues to claim UC. We helped them to make the claim and deal with the questions raised in their online journal.
- We advised a customer who works part time that they would be better off on UC. She made the claim and is now paying her rent monthly and in advance.

Universal Credit updates

In February this year, Universal Credit rules changed and there is no longer a restriction on families with three or more children claiming. Whether you need to apply will depend on whether:



You have had a change in circumstances and what that change is or whether you would be better off on UC. This would be in very limited circumstances and anyone who believes they may be better off on UC should seek advice from a Benefit Adviser before making a claim.

It's important to remember that claiming UC may not be your best option, so please get in touch if you would like to discuss this further.

Are you part of a mixed age couple?

The rules around claiming Pension Credit have changed meaning that if you are in a mixed age couple (where one person is of working age and the other is pension age) then you will no longer be able to make a new claim for Pension Credit (PC) and/or Housing Benefit (HB) unless you are already in receipt of Pension Credit or Housing Benefit, under the State Pension Credit Age Regulations.

The rule change from the Government means that the majority of mixed age couples are at least £140 a week worse off on UC compared to how much PC and HB they would receive, based on the same set of circumstances.

Even though the deadline of 15 May 2019 has passed, you can actually make a claim up until 13 August 2019, if you can prove that you would have qualified prior to 15 May 2019 - even if you are awarded just 50p a week - this could then protect you from having to move onto UC if they have a change in your circumstances. To find out more about Pension Credit visit www.gov.uk/pension-credit or call **0800 99 1234**.

Citizens Advice: Universal Credit Help to Claim Service

Citizens Advice are now offering a new service to help people who need to claim Universal Credit. If you need any assistance making your claim, please call them on their **National Help to Claim** Freephone number: **0800 1448444**.

Severe Disability Premium (SDP)

Check if you are entitled to an SDP in your Income Related Employment and Support Allowance, Income Based Jobseekers Allowance, Income Support or Housing Benefit as it could make you around £65 per week better off.

Don't Miss Out!



For more information go to www.gov.uk/disability-premiums-income-support



Food and Safety team working in the community

The Food and Safety team enjoy working with schools and community groups in Cannock Chase District to promote food hygiene awareness.

The team has provided bespoke practical food hygiene training for community groups such as the Friends of Hednesford Park, as well as giving talks and practical demonstrations to schools and youth groups on a variety of topics.

Officers from the team visited Etching Hill Primary School to talk to Year 4 about food safety and hygiene and carried out some fun activities with the children. This included organising a game with the children, informing them about food poisoning bacteria, how bacteria spreads and the different symptoms people suffer from.

The children got involved in a practical handwashing session with glitter bug potion, which glows under ultra violet lighting, to see how well the children washed their hands. They also watched a demonstration of some of the sampling equipment that the Food and Safety team use in food businesses which gives an instant numerical indication of the effectiveness of their cleaning practices.



Everyone seemed to really enjoy the day and the children asked some really insightful questions. The children enjoyed the afternoon and got a lot out of the session. They were able to relate it to a topic in their curriculum which was about the digestive system which brought a "real life" element to the subject.



If anyone runs a community group in the District and you feel the group could benefit from an interactive, fun and educational session on food hygiene, nutrition and healthy options please contact our **Food and Safety team** to find out what we can do for you.
Email environmentalhealth@cannockchasedc.gov.uk or call **01543 464621**.



Hednesford Park community book is still on sale!



A community book about Hednesford Park and War Memorial is still available to purchase thanks to the help of park users - past and present.

The book includes a variety of activities that can be enjoyed by all the family and a DVD showing local people sharing their personal memories of the park.

An online history book is also available which combines the detailed history with audio of those individuals featured in the DVD. Alternatively, copies

can be purchased from the Museum of Cannock Chase, the Parlour in Hednesford Park and the Prince of Wales Centre.

This initiative has been funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund as part of the ongoing redevelopment works of Hednesford Park which started in 2013.

The book is available to purchase for £4.50 from the main Council offices in Cannock.



For further information or to download a copy of the online history book visit www.cannockchasedc.gov.uk/poolstopark

ALL NEW

Chase Leisure Centre

“Innovative, creative and state-of-the art.”

The £1million development of Chase Leisure Centre completed at the end of March and has been a great hit with existing and new leisure centre members.

The leisure centre now boasts multi-use functional spaces that host a variety of classes and events and a state-of-the-art cycle studio.



The new Functional Zone includes a fixed functional rig, accessories and cardio equipment to support high intensity, small group training.

Classes include Battle Fit as well as being the new venue for the Les Mills GRIT series.

This year the new gym opened with Technogym kit including the SKILLROW, SKILLBIKE, SKILLRUN, SKILLMILL and Stair Climbers. A new Tanita machine was installed to bring members fast, accurate body composition results.

A Kinesis Core Station and brand new Olympic half rack and platform completed the transformation.

The new cycle studio features Les Mills 'The Trip', an immersive indoor cycling experience which creates a digital world in front of you while you cycle, bringing a workout that is breath taking in more ways than one.



Town Centre Partnership

The newly formed Cannock Town Centre Partnership is supporting improvements to the town centre, including initiatives that increase footfall and improve the visitor experience with a clear focus on making Cannock town centre an attractive place to eat, drink, shop and visit.



The Partnership co-hosted the Emerge Festival on 6 April which saw a large number of people coming into the town centre keen to have a creative experience and a taste of Shakespeare.

Anybody can join the Partnership so long as there is a desire to help to create a strong and diverse town centre for the future.

The Partnership are also arranging the annual Christmas Event scheduled for 30 November, so put the date in your diary. They are looking for sponsorship and any support from local businesses and residents to make the event a success.

For more information, please contact the Partnership by emailing ourcannocktcp@yahoo.com or visit the Cannock Town Centre Partnership Facebook page www.facebook.com/Our-Cannock-2382604701962862/

Food Safety and Allergen Awareness Campaign

Businesses receive shock tactic leaflet

Recently there have been some high profile cases in the UK where members of the public, with food allergies, have died after eating food purchased from commercial food businesses.

Businesses are required to identify all allergens within the food they prepare and sell, and have to make customers aware if there are allergens in the food. This can be through a notice on a counter, information as part of a menu, a tick box on an order form or simply a verbal communication asking if you have any allergens at the point of sale.

As part of a regional campaign, the Food and Safety team has sent a "Shock Tactic" leaflet to approximately 500 food catering businesses in the District to remind them of their responsibilities to identify and manage allergens in their food. The team will also be assessing allergen management controls as part of any routine visit or inspection if the business offers allergen free choices.



The Easy to ASK campaign is designed to empower young people (16 -24 yrs) to ask about allergens when eating out, so that they can make safe choices.

However, it is important that anyone with a food allergy asks a food business about allergens in food before they order. This can be at the time they order online, at the counter or at the table so they can be assured that if the food has been made or prepared on the premises the business has identified the right allergen and taken the necessary steps to make the food safe. Ask them what they do and how they do it, if there are any doubts walk away and keep safe.

Always ask about allergies
Speak Up
Keep Safe

New research on young people with food allergies

60% of young adults with a food allergy/intolerance avoid eating out because of their condition

59% report that they often revisit the same food outlets

Only 55% say that they research the menu for allergens before ordering a meal

If you have made a food business aware that you have an allergen before ordering and they have provided food which has resulted in you suffering anaphalaxis, make the business aware at the time and contact our **Food and Safety team** on environmentalhealth@cannockchasedc.gov.uk or 01543 464621.

New Pay & Display Car Park for Hospital Patients



Brunswick Road (Rear Civic Centre) Pay & Display Car Park

The newly refurbished car park is now open to the public, seven days a week. The car park was re-developed by Cannock Chase Council, with hospital patients in mind. Adjacent to the hospital it is an ideal location to assist patients and their family, friends and visitors.

Car park charges apply between 7.30am and 6.30pm Mondays to Saturdays; while Sundays, Public Bank Holidays, Christmas Day and Good Friday are all free.

Parking charges are below and are payable at the pay and display machines before leaving the car park. The machines take all denominations of coins.

Did you know...

The car park has 115 pay and display spaces along with 15 disabled spaces.

0-2 hours	£1.20
2-3 hours	£3.00
3-4 hours	£4.00
4-5 hours	£5.00
5-6 hours	£6.00
Up to 24 hours	£7.00

Map (not to scale)



£1million Cannock Engineering Academy will provide industry with skills for the future

The £1million academy is the result of a successful bid for £500,000 to the Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire LEP (SSLEP) and match funding from Cannock Chase Council, with potential further funding to follow.

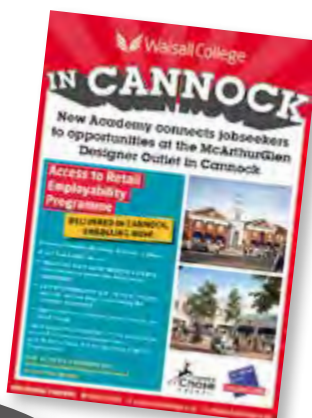
The new academy is equipped with the latest engineering machinery and resources and will be based at the Cannock campus, part of South Staffordshire College.

The state-of-the-art facility will open in September and will provide courses, training opportunities, short courses and apprenticeships for all levels and abilities.

New Academy connects jobseekers to opportunities at the McArthurGlen Designer Outlet in Cannock

A new training academy, which connects jobseekers to employment opportunities at McArthurGlen's new Designer Outlet in Cannock has launched.

The Access to Retail Employability Programme is a free course, delivered by Walsall College at Trademark House in Cannock.



Did you know...

The programme has been developed with the Designer Outlet in mind and aims to give applicants a competitive edge ahead of the official recruitment process, when it opens in 2020.

Over two weeks, trainees will receive an overview of retail operations, as well as develop an understanding of brand image and the customer experience.

Cannock Chase Council is supporting this programme together with Cannock Job Centre Plus and McArthurGlen.

For more information
call 01543 579462

Campaign launches to protect vulnerable adults and children

Everyone has a part to play in keeping vulnerable adults and children safe from abuse and neglect.

Improving the way people work together to safeguard, promote and improve the welfare of vulnerable adults and children is crucial.

The Community Safety Partnership has developed a promotional campaign to raise awareness of abuse and encourage people to report any concerns they may have about an individual.

'See something, Say something', launched earlier this year targeting vulnerable adults and children. It focuses on the key categories associated with child and adult abuse.

Campaign messages are prominently displayed across the District using online adverts on social media, the Council's website, refuse vehicles, housing vans, internally on Arriva buses and on plasma screens in South Staffordshire College and local doctors' surgeries.

Printed material has also been distributed to key venues including posters and leaflets.



If you suspect adult abuse, call 0345 604 2719.

If you suspect child abuse, call 0800 131 3126.

Chase Line Electrification Launch

In May the first electric train travelled on the line, carrying invited passengers to a special ceremony, where a plaque was unveiled at Walsall railway station by Rail Minister, Andrew Jones and partners in the electrification of the line.

The electrification to the line means there has been significant improvements to train services between Walsall and Rugeley.

Four carriage Class 350 electric trains started operating in the main timetable on the line on 20 May. These trains have more seats, are quieter and more environmentally friendly than the old diesel trains on the route. From Rugeley Town, Hednesford and Cannock, there is an now hourly cross-Birmingham service to Coventry and London Euston, with half hourly services to Birmingham International (Airport/NEC), (Mondays to Saturdays).

Did you know...

The £110m Network Rail electrification project began in 2012 as part of Britain's Railway Upgrade Plan, with overhead electric lines being installed along 51km of railway line and the complete reconstruction of six road bridges along the route.





McArthurGlen Designer Outlet in Cannock is taking shape!

Work to deliver McArthurGlen's new West Midlands Designer Outlet in Cannock is progressing well ahead of opening in 2020. A new drone image has been released showing the steelworks nearing completion as the development contractors, Bowmer & Kirkland, continue to deliver the exciting new £160million designer outlet.

In summer 2018, McArthurGlen, Europe's leading owner, developer and manager of designer outlets, started construction of the new outlet, spanning 285,000 sq ft of retail space across two phases. The development will become their seventh centre in the UK, joining existing centres like Cheshire Oaks Designer Outlet near Manchester and East Midlands Designer Outlet near Nottingham.

The £160million investment will create a landmark retail destination and community hub in the West Midlands, creating 1,000 jobs for the local area, supporting around £20million of employment income for the local economy every year.



Did you know...

The centre is set to attract more visitors to the area, growing local tourism spend by more than £3 million annually.



Phase I will be home to around 80 sought-after premium and luxury brands offering year-round savings of up to 60%, a selection of restaurants and cafés, a children's play area, bike parking for cyclists and 1,400 car parking spaces.

To help alleviate any anticipated congestion, McArthurGlen has committed £15million to a highway improvements programme. Highways contractors Amey are progressing with these improvements on behalf of Staffordshire County Council, which includes a new dual carriageway along Eastern Way, between Lichfield Road and Hayes Way.

McArthurGlen will also deliver an additional £1.5million investment in various projects that will bring significant benefits to the local community, which forms part of their planning agreement with Cannock Chase Council. This investment programme will include the enhancement and ongoing maintenance of the Mill Green Nature Park, improvements to Cannock town centre and the railway station, and support for developing skills and employment prospects for local people.

In order to carry out the road improvements safely Staffordshire County Council Highways team, will unfortunately need to put some full closures in place on the A460.

























There will be a full closure on the A460 between the Hayes Way roundabout and the Lichfield Road roundabout between 17 June and 1 July and night time closures between the Hayes Way roundabout and McDonalds roundabout on 3, 4 and 5 July.

Your District Councillors

2019-20

Members of the public can contact councillors about any local issues on the numbers below.
Councillors also hold regular surgeries in their ward. Find out more: www.cannockchasedc.gov.uk/Surgeries

1 Cannock North  Gordon Alcott 01543 573 897 Re-election: 2020	 Frank Allen 01543 506 743 Re-election: 2022	 Andrea Layton 07792 236 410 Re-election: 2023
2 Cannock West  Doug Smith 07931 458 690 Re-election: 2020	 Hyra Sutton 01543 577 506 Re-election: 2022	 Val Jones 01543 571 056 Re-election: 2023
3 Cannock South  Maureen Freeman 01543 437 565 Re-election: 2020	 Paul Witton 01543 579 428 Re-election: 2022	 John Kraujalis 01543 504 601 Re-election: 2023
4 Cannock East  Chris Mitchell 01543 322 112 Re-election: 2020	 Muriel Davis 01543 423 148 Re-election: 2022	 Tony Johnson 01543 428 461 Re-election: 2023
5 Hawks Green  Daniel Snape 07449 803 591 Re-election: 2020	 Phil Hewitt 07802 531 710 Re-election: 2022	 Adrienne Fitzgerald 07919 161 336 Re-election: 2023
6 Hednesford South  Paul Woodhead 07930 120 077 Re-election: 2020	 Stuart Crabtree 01543 323167 Re-election: 2023	
7 Hednesford Green Heath  George Adamson 01543 468 426 Re-election: 2022	 Bryan Jones 01543 871 763 Re-election: 2023	
8 Hednesford North  Alan Pearson 01543 877 048 Re-election: 2020	 Sheila Cartwright 01543 424 950 Re-election: 2022	 Mandy Dunnett 07547 627 940 Re-election: 2023
9 Etching Hill and The Heath  Justin Johnson 07812 436 348 Re-election: 2020	 Paul Startin 07525 167 856 Re-election: 2022	 Mike Sutherland 07595 654 360 Re-election: 2023
10 Western Springs  Carl Bennett 01889 800 727 Re-election: 2020	 Olivia Lyons 07969 525 216 Re-election: 2022	 Anthony Boucher 07592 466 961 Re-election: 2023
11 Hagley  Christine Martin 01889 584 874 Re-election: 2020	 Robert Hughes 07985 765 698 Re-election: 2023	
12 Brereton and Ravenhill  Alan Dudson 01889 574 868 Re-election: 2020	 Paul Fisher 01889 802 287 Re-election: 2022	 Gerald Molineux 01889 801 408 Re-election: 2023
13 Rawnsley  Claire Wilkinson 07970 420 403 Re-election: 2022	 Andrea Muckley 07882 243 217 Re-election: 2023	
14 Norton Canes  Zaphne Stretton 01543 276 959 Re-election: 2020	 John Preece 01543 270 789 Re-election: 2022	 Josh Newbury 07884 111 382 Re-election: 2023
15 Heath Hayes East and Wimblebury  Diane Todd 01543 278 778 Re-election: 2020	 Martyn Buttery 07951 150 771 Re-election: 2022	 Samantha Thompson 07817 265 438 Re-election: 2023

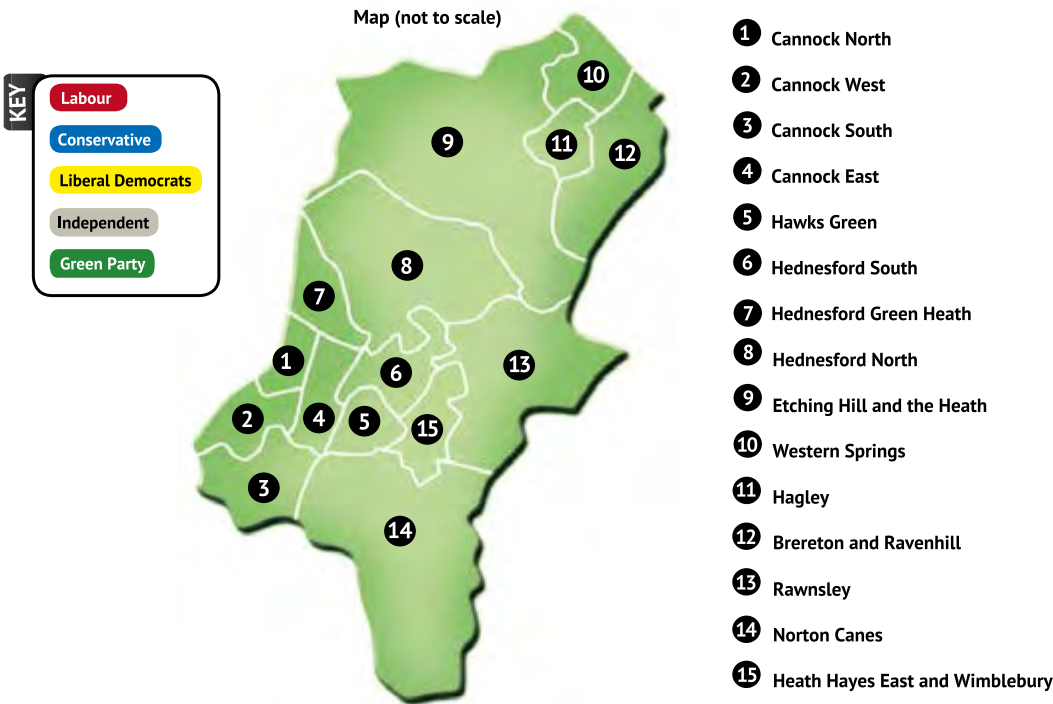
N.B Dates under Councillors refer to when their seat is up for election

Cabinet:

George Adamson	Leader of the Council
Gordon Alcott	Deputy Leader of the Council and Town Centre Regeneration Portfolio Leader
Alan Pearson	Corporate Improvement Portfolio Leader
Carl Bennett	Crime and Partnerships Portfolio Leader
Christine Mitchell	Culture and Sport Portfolio Leader
Tony Johnson	Economic Development and Planning Portfolio Leader
John Preece	Environment Portfolio Leader
Christine Martin	Health and Wellbeing Portfolio Leader
John Kraujalis	Housing Portfolio Leader

Shadow Cabinet:

Olivia Lyons	Leader of the Opposition
Paul Startin	Deputy Leader of the Opposition and Economic Development and Planning Shadow Portfolio Leader
Michael Sutherland	Corporate Improvement Shadow Portfolio Leader
Bryan Jones	Crime and Partnerships Shadow Portfolio Leader
Martyn Buttery	Culture and Sport Shadow Portfolio Leader
Justin Johnson	Environment Shadow Portfolio Leader
Doug Smith	Health and Wellbeing Shadow Portfolio Leader
Adrienne Fitzgerald	Housing Shadow Portfolio Leader
Philip Hewitt	Town Centre Regeneration Shadow Portfolio Leader



Funding for adaptations

Cannock Chase Council has received an increase in funding from the Government towards adaptations to properties in the District.

If you have a disability yourself, or live with someone who does, and need to make adaptations to your home then you might be eligible for a grant from the Council. It's called a Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) and can be worth up to £30,000.

Contact **Staffordshire Cares** on **0300 111 8010**

Staff there will be able to provisionally assess your eligible needs and determine if they can be met by providing suitable aids and equipment.

Did you know...

You can apply for a grant whether you're a tenant or own your own home, but you must sign a certificate to say you intend to stay living there for at least five years. Landlord permission will be required for tenants.



Where they think you may need more complex adaptations they will make a referral to Cannock Chase Council.

The grant can pay for a range of adaptations including:

- Accessible kitchen facilities
- Through floor lifts
- Door widening
- Accessible toilet
- Walk in shower
- Ramps
- Stairlifts

Did you know...

If you are an owner-occupier and get a grant of more than £5,000, the Council is obliged to place a local land charge on the property which means you may need to repay part of the grant if you move within 10 years.

The grant is means tested, so the more income you have the less grant you are likely to get unless the adaptations are for a child or you receive one of the following benefits, in which case the means test does not apply:

- Income support
- Income based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income related ESA
- Guaranteed pension credit
- Housing benefit
- Working or Child Tax Credit where the income is less than £15,050.

The maximum grant you can normally get is £30,000.



Staffordshire Warmer Homes

Staffordshire Warmer Homes is an initiative managed to deliver funded First Time Central Heating Systems to eligible homes across Staffordshire.

To deliver this initiative Cannock Chase Council is working with Staffordshire County Council, E.ON, and local district and borough councils from across Staffordshire.

This fantastic initiative will help you keep your home warm.

If you say “yes” to the questions below you may be eligible

- Does your house have no central heating?
- Are you using just electric heaters to warm your home?
- Do you receive benefits or have a low or no income?
- Are you elderly or infirm?
- Do you have very young children?
- Does your property have a mains gas supply?

If two or more of the above apply to you, you may be eligible to get help from Staffordshire Warmer Homes regardless of whether you receive benefits.

Note: From August 2019 the scheme is set to be extended to properties in areas of the District that do not currently have a mains gas supply - so that they can be connected and provided with First Time Central Heating Systems.

Did you know...

The £150m Warm Homes Fund (WHF) has been established by National Grid to support local authorities to address some of the issues affecting fuel poor households. Other funding for the initiative has been provided from public sector partners.

In particular Staffordshire Warmer Homes would like to hear from you if you receive one or more of the below benefits:

- Pension credit guarantee credit element
- Income related employment and support allowance (ESA)
- Income based job seekers allowance (JSA)
- Income support
- Working and child tax credits
- Universal Credit or receive Child Benefit

How to apply

Visit www.staffordshirewarmerhomes.co.uk or you can freephone the **Staffordshire Warmer Homes Team** at **E.ON** on **0333 202 4481**. Alternatively, you can email your details including name, telephone number, email address and home address to whfapplications@eonenergy.com



Brereton Park

Thursday 1 August, Friday 2 August,
Thursday 15 August Friday 16 August
10am - 2pm (8-12 year olds)
2pm - 8pm (13-17 year olds)

Football, Circuit Training, Dodgeball,
Kwik Cricket, Kick Tennis, Tag Rugby,
Tug of War and Archery!

**FREE
ACTIVITIES**
throughout the
summer for
8 - 17 year olds

Cannock Park

Monday 22 July, Tuesday 23 July,
Wednesday 24 July,
Monday 5 August, Tuesday 6 August,
Wednesday 7 August,
Monday 19 August, Tuesday 20 August
10am - 2pm (8-12 year olds)
2pm - 8pm (13-17 year olds)
.....
Saturday 10 August, 12noon - 4pm
(8 - 17 year olds)

Norton Canes Park (Community Centre)

Saturday 27 July, Saturday 3 August
12noon - 4pm (8-17 year olds)
.....
Wednesday 14 August
10am - 2pm (8-12 year olds)
2pm - 8pm (13-17 year olds)

Hednesford Park

Monday 29 July, Tuesday 30 July,
Wednesday 31 July, Monday 12 August,
Tuesday 13 August, Wednesday 21 August,
Thursday 22 August
10am - 2pm (8-12 year olds)
2pm - 8pm (13-17 year olds)
.....
Saturday 17 August
12noon - 4pm (8 - 17 year olds)

Pye Green Park

Thursday 25 July, Friday 26 July,
Thursday 8 August, Friday 9 August,
Friday 23 August
10am - 2pm (8-12 year olds)
2pm - 8pm (13-17 year olds)
.....
Saturday 24 August
12noon - 4pm (8 - 17 year olds)

For more information, please contact
Achieving Goalz and Dreams on
07525 169440.

The Right Stuff Project



Want to get fit? Learn to defend yourself? Improve self esteem and discipline? If so, the Right Stuff is for you!

The Right Stuff is a registered charity that uses Olympic style amateur boxing to achieve the above and much, much more! They are an accredited club and are registered to the national governing body - England Boxing.

All of the coaches are fully accredited and have passed enhanced DBS checks.

They have been included in the 'Space' programme this year, meaning they are able to offer **FREE** sessions, as described below:

Monday 22 July - Friday 23 August,
12.30pm to 2pm (11 - 17 year olds, both
genders) at Cannock Chase High School

Only 30 spaces are available per day.

To book your place, call **Andy Whitehall MBE**
(England Boxing Coach and Right Stuff
Project Lead) on **07779 059375**.





**Chase It! to
GROW UP GREAT**

this summer

The summer holidays should be a time of fun, adventures and discovery. However, it's not too long before those dreaded words are spoken... "I'm bored!" Here in Cannock Chase we are so lucky to have a wealth of information and opportunities from free to affordable, right here on your doorstep.

As a family with early years and children aged 5-11, take advantage of Grow Up Great. Discover what's happening across the whole District and learn about local clubs, activities, events, family support and fun ideas, all in one place. This fantastic resource will help your children grow up great in Cannock Chase - www.growupgreat.co.uk

**GROW UP
GREAT**

The 'Chase It!' scheme is just one of the many opportunities for your children to experience. The 'GREAT DAYS OUT' to 'ACTIVE CAMPS' based at each main leisure centre, will help your child learn new skills, make new friends and grow in confidence. Find out this year's programme, eligibility and who the partners are by visiting www.inspiringhealthylifestyles.org/cannock



**CHASE
IT!**

Inspiring healthy lifestyles Activity Referral

In recent years, mental health and wellbeing is at long last being recognised as important as your physical health. Your local Activity Referral service led by Inspiring healthy lifestyles has always provided many opportunities to maintain and improve a person's emotional and mental health with support.

Getting involved in social activities, like arts and crafts clubs, team sports and regular physical activity like swimming have an enormous benefit, and gives you the strength to manage and cope with life's events.

Make time for yourself, discover support and feel connected to a great community through doing great activities with us at Inspiring healthy lifestyles.

Find out more by contacting **Lynn, George** or **Kay**.

Tel: **01543 504065** or **01889 586260**

Email: wellbeingcannock@ihlmail.org



Chase Fit - Be Active Outdoors!

The Great Outdoors - let's go and explore Cannock Chase and the wide range of parks, canals and nature reserves that the District has to offer. Whether it be walking, running, cycling or gardening - Chase Fit has something for you.

Love gardening?

There are two community gardens that need a helping hand to grow!

Join in on a Tuesday 1pm - 3pm at The Chase Fit Garden, next to St Luke's Church, Cannock WS11 1DE or on a Thursday 1.30pm - 3pm at the Museum of Cannock Chase WS12 1TD.

All abilities welcome, no experience or equipment needed. Please call before to ensure the group is meeting that week.

For more information visit www.chasefit.co.uk or email chasefit@ihlmail.org



Hednesford Festival

Saturday 10 August 11 - 4pm
in Hednesford Park

Come along and join in the fun this Summer!

Take part in a number of activities including...

Savage Skills stunt display

Savage Skills are the UK's leading freestyle mountain bike stunt team providing interactive, jaw dropping shows.

Live music stage

Bouncy castles and slides

Inclusive cycling

Toddler area and games

Punch and Judy Shows

Dog show 'Scruffs'

Fun fair rides

Classic cars, bikes and trucks

Market stalls and displays

Balloon Modeller

Arena displays

And much much more...

For more information about this event contact
Hednesford in Partnership on **07930120077**
or email lesley@hednesfordinpartnership.co.uk

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The Council is in the process of preparing a new Local Plan for the District, which will determine where development should go in the future, balancing this with protection of the environment.

The Planning Policy team would like to thank everyone who responded to the consultation. Results will be published on the planning policy web page at www.cannockchasedc.gov.uk/planningpolicy

Information about our consultations will be posted on our web page and via the Council's social media feeds, but if you would like to be added to our database to be personally kept up to date you can email the team at planningpolicy@cannockchasedc.gov.uk



CCTV upgrade



Cannock Chase Council is in the process of upgrading over a quarter of its CCTV cameras in the District.

The 26 cameras are being replaced with state-of-the-art 'hybrid' CCTV cameras, utilising the latest developments in surveillance technology.

It is hoped that the new cameras will improve public confidence and community safety in the District, by assisting with intelligence gathering and the prevention and detection of crime.

DO YOU KNOW ANYONE WITH A BUSINESS IN CANNOCK CHASE?



>>> Are they looking to grow or take on new staff?

Then let them know there is funding available from **£5,000 to £200,000** to help them achieve this.

Pass on the Economic Development team's number below and ask them to give them a call for more details.

We are able to support businesses in writing applications for the grants



Lets Grow
has a **100%**
approval rate

BGP programme
has **100%**
approval rate

Lets Grow
has created
41 jobs
since 2015

BGP programme
has created
60 jobs
since 2016



DON'T GET BITTEN BY A LOAN SHARK

Anyone can be a victim of a loan shark - your family, friends, neighbours and even you.

It's not always easy to spot a loan shark as they come in all shapes and sizes and will at first appear friendly, just part of the community. It is when you can't pay that they will turn on you.

A loan shark is someone who lends cash as an unauthorised business.

If someone is struggling to pay a debt the loan shark will resort to threats, violence and intimidation to get what he/she thinks you owe, even if the debt has been paid off several times over.

Victims keep paying because they can afford the agreed weekly sum, but they don't realise how much their weekly payments add up to or they are too afraid to stop payments.

The advice is that you should never go to a loan shark. They are simply out to make money.

Loan sharks:

- Are running an unauthorised business under the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000
- Often refuse to tell the borrower how much they still owe, when they will finish repayments
- Often increase the debt or add additional amounts
- May take items as security - including passports, bank cards and driving licences
- May resort to violence, threats and intimidation

What is being done to stop this?

The Illegal Money Lending team investigates illegal money lending and any related offences - in the past this has included violence, blackmail, drugs offences, threats, kidnap and rape.

Did you know...

A loan shark will typically have little paperwork and, will add penalty charges for late payments. Sometimes they will add random sums to the bill.

STOP LOAN SHARKS
Intervention . Support . Education

If you think you may be involved with a loan shark, call the team in confidence on **0300 555 2222**

Text **078600 22116** | Website www.stoploansharks.co.uk

Email reportaloanshark@stoploansharks.gov.uk

WANTED FLYTIPPERS

**£100
CASH
REWARD**

**ARE YOU CONCERNED ABOUT THE DUMPING OF
RUBBISH IN OUR DISTRICT?**

**HAVE YOU SEEN ANYONE DUMPING WASTE OR ACTING SUSPICIOUSLY
AT A SITE WHERE WASTE HAS BEEN DUMPED?**

**WOULD YOU BE PREPARED TO HELP THE COUNCIL TACKLE FLYTIPPING
BY REPORTING THE INCIDENT?**

By phone **01543 462621** | Email: environmentalhealth@cannockchasedc.gov.uk
Online at www.cannockchasedc.gov.uk | Via our Facebook page - **Cannock Chase Life**

To date the Council has rewarded five public-spirited residents with £100 following their assistance in identifying and taking enforcement action against those involved in flytipping incidents in the District. Four offenders have received fines ranging from £120 up to £250 after being convicted of waste-related offences and a fifth offender paid a £400 Fixed Penalty after admitting to flytipping.

The Council is continuing to offer this reward to anyone who provides evidence that leads to successful enforcement action against any person, business or other organisation involved in flytipping waste in the District.

SO CAN YOU HELP?

The key information to pass on includes:

- The location, date and time of the incident
- The model, make, registration number and colour of any vehicle used
- A description of the offender or offenders.

FOR YOUR OWN SAFETY WE WOULD NOT RECOMMEND APPROACHING THOSE INVOLVED.

Council supports communities to clean up as part of country's biggest environmental campaign



Last month, the Council pledged its support for this year's Great British Spring Clean, led by environmental charity Keep Britain Tidy.

The campaign ran from 22 March to 23 April and saw up to half a million people taking action to clean streets, parks and beaches across the country.

The Council's Street Cleansing team encouraged local residents and community groups across Cannock Chase District to get involved by providing litter picking equipment to organised clean up events.

This year's campaign not only saw tonnes of litter being removed from the environment on our doorstep, it also aimed to rescue thousands of the plastic bottles and aluminium drink cans that are simply thrown on the ground but could very easily be recycled.

Volunteers were asked to separate the litter they found into separate bags for general rubbish and recyclable waste i.e. plastic bottles and aluminium cans.

Did you know...

Thanks to your efforts, the team collected a total of 160 bags of litter with 39 of those bags being recyclables.



Air Aware Staffordshire is a new campaign which is being

launched to raise awareness of the impact of poor air quality and inspire long-term behaviour change.

Small actions make a big difference to the air we breathe.

Did you know...

Children and babies are most at risk from air pollution and 30% more likely to develop asthma due to air quality.

Council spreads the message to 'Bin the Butt!'

The Council has teamed up with Keep Britain Tidy to roll out a national campaign #BinTheButt to stamp out cigarette litter across the District.

The campaign is due to launch later this month and will raise awareness among smokers and highlight the link between the cigarette butt they drop on the street or down the drain and the impact it has on the marine environment.

Promotional material will be displayed in local pubs across the District, outside schools, local parks and town centres. Local pubs will also be offered additional wall mounted ashtrays to encourage smokers to bin their butts rather than simply flicking them on the ground.

In addition to this, the Council will be installing ballot bins in Cannock, Hednesford and Rugeley town centres in the coming weeks to tackle the problem of cigarette butt littering.

The ballot bins will display a question and two answers. Smokers will vote by putting their cigarette butt in the slot underneath their preferred answer. The litter stacks up behind the clear glass columns showing which answer is the most popular.

It is hoped by using interactive and gamification it will bring about positive behaviour change towards the environment. This has been supported by an independent evaluation which shows that using the ballot bin approach reduces littering of cigarette butts by 46% in the surrounding area.



Contact us...

Cannock Chase Council, Civic Centre, Beecroft Rd,
Cannock, Staffordshire WS11 1BG



Information correct at time of print

Front cover image:

Courtesy of Michelle Williams Photography