• • • • • Warwickshire County Council • • • • • • **COUNCIL PLAN 2020-2025 ENGAGEMENT TOOL**







Welcome



Cllr Izzi Seccombe Leader, Warwickshire County Council



Monica Fogarty Chief Executive, Warwickshire County Council

As a county council we want Warwickshire to be the best it can be, sustainable now and for future generations.

Our county, with its vibrant mix of towns and rural areas, heritage and culture, businesses of all sizes and great connectivity is brimming with opportunities, but our world is also facing significant challenges. We want your views about how to build on our many strengths to make Warwickshire the best it can be, sustainable now and for future generations.

Our vibrant economy must be sustained. Traditional sources of council funding are diminishing, and our environment is under threat. The council has declared a climate change emergency and we want your views about how we can address this to ensure Warwickshire's future sustainability.

We know we face pressures arising from increasing demand for services and further uncertainty on our long term resources; particularly in adult and children's social care, special educational needs and disability, and waste. We are tackling these challenges from a strong base: we manage our finances responsibly and our staff are engaged, committed and passionate about delivering the best possible outcomes for our communities.

We are focused on the future and want to set out our plans for the next five years. What are our objectives, how do we prioritise our actions, and how will we fund them? We also welcome your suggestions about specific things we should do to deliver our objectives and achieve our three priority outcomes.

It's important for us to know if what we are planning is important to you. Where would you prioritise the council's work? Should we be spending more on certain services? Are there areas where you think we could spend less in order to afford to do this?

We want to know what you think, and we want your views to inform our five-year plan. Over the coming weeks please do engage with us, respond to our questionnaire, and talk to us at our roadshows.

This is our vision and supporting strategic outcomes

Warwickshire's communities and individuals are supported to be safe, healthy and independent



Warwickshire in 2025

Future perfomance, trends and demands



7,800



Dementia represents the biggest growing cause of disability and rates are predicted to increase by

in people aged % 65 or over

Warwickshire will also see an increase in mental health issues

The quantity of waste being managed will increase due to housing and business growth.

Government strategy aims to minimise waste and maximise reuse, recycling and composting. This could radically change the way waste is managed by 2025.



Responding to climate change

On the 25th July 2019 Warwickshire County Council unanimously declared a climate change emergency. As part of the emergency declaration the council has established a cross party Climate Change Task and Finish Working Group. The group will oversee the design and delivery of a carbon reduction programme across the council.

This is a key theme of our engagement and we would welcome ideas, suggestions and input to inform the development of the Council Plan and action plan on climate change.

We want all our plans and actions to take account of climate change so that it becomes part of everything that we do and not just an additional objective. But what do you think?



Our objectives... what do you think?

Support our most vulnerable and disadvantaged children, providing early support, before situations become complex



Support the most vulnerable and disadvantaged adults in Warwickshire to enjoy life; achieve and live independently





Support Warwickshire residents to take responsibility for their own health and wellbeing and reduce the need for hospital or long term health care





Work with communities to promote safety, prevent harm and reduce crime and disorder across Warwickshire



Support communities and businesses to develop the digital skills and tools they need in an increasingly digital economy



Attract economic investment and maximise the rate of employment, business growth and skill levels in Warwickshire



Increase reuse, recycling and composting rates and reduce waste across Warwickshire



Manage and maintain Warwickshire's transport network in a safe, sustainable and integrated way



Support and enable children and young people to access a place in a high quality education setting and achieve their full potential



Put our resources in the right place to support the organisation's priorities and balance the books

Develop our workforce so that it has the right skills and capabilities to get the job done

Pursue leadership excellence and high performance at all levels



Reduce demand and reduce cost through innovative service design and focussed prevention interventions



Make it easy for customers to access our information and services so they have a positive experience of our services



Our financial strategy

In 2018-19, Warwickshire County Council's controllable spend was £478m. Our funding levels and income are key to delivering the Council's objectives. We recognise we live in a world of uncertainty. We welcome new one year Government funding announced in the recent Spending Round. This provided certainty about future funding for the 2020-21 financial year but not beyond as a result of delays in decisions about key issues affecting local government funding, such as the outcomes of the government's Fair Funding Review, allocation of business rates and the delayed green paper on adult social care.

Whatever happens to funding beyond 2020-21, increasing demand for Council services is such that we need to find new ways of working, including with our partners, in order to meet changing demand within the available resources. Demand pressures are particularly felt in: waste; school transport; children's services; meeting the needs of those with special educational needs; and in adult social care arising from an ageing population.

In this context, we will maintain our focus on long-term outcomes, sustainability and managing demand more effectively, while reducing our costs through our programme of change. We plan to prioritise investment in long-term infrastructure, including investment to mitigate the impact of climate change.

Nevertheless, the council will need to make some tough choices over the next 5 years in order to maintain our sustainable financial position, but we have a strong track base on which to build. The Council has a strong track record of delivering savings where it needs to, totalling over £100m since 2014. Going forward, in an uncertain financial context, we will maintain our focus on improving outcomes, generating income, reducing our costs and maintaining a sustainable financial position for the Council. We will build on our strong starting position to prioritise our resources to maximise value for money, and be in the best possible shape to respond to the next Government Spending round or any other changes in our operating environment.

To help us, we'd like to know where you think the Council should spend its funding.

Here is how much the council spent on different services last year.



(Excludes financing costs, fees, charges and expenses)