

# Ian Shenton

Wootton Wawen Ward District Councillor

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## Wootton Wawen Ward - District Councillor's report as at 22/11/2021



### Garden Waste subscription

**The new rate that I have proposed is £42 per year which is a 5% increase on last year's rate. There won't be an early bird discount this year as it was an introductory discount to the scheme. The lines will open later in February for applications.**

### General

At this time of the year we are focussed on budgets (at PC and at District level) and today the Cabinet met to review the budget and the medium term financial strategy that covers the next 5 municipal years. What is clear is that over the course of the next five years we will be under increasing financial pressures as central government funding is rebalanced and reset. At this point in time we are not anticipating cutting services in any way but we are looking at alternative funding models for the Visitor centre and the Business centre.

The budget will go before the Council over the next few weeks for debate so I'll keep you updated on this.

### Climate Change

I am the Chair of the Climate Change Panel and two weeks ago I help the 2nd public question time which was well received and is broadcast live on You Tube. The next one is due to be held on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2022 at 4pm. It is broadcast live on Youtube or you can attend in person (subject to conditions and pre booking at this moment in time) so if you have any questions regarding the SDC response to Climate Change then get in touch and ask your questions either in person at the meeting or over the internet via Teams as I have changed the format to allow for a hybrid meeting where attendance can be in person or virtually. Questions must be submitted by Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2022 and if accepted you will be asked whether you want to ask the question yourself or whether you want me as the Chair to ask the question on your behalf. The public sessions are always a great opportunity for you to have your say and ask the panel of six, specific questions about Climate Change.

### Waste and the 123+ service (reminder)

There has been increased interest in this but very little information given out and this is deliberate. The new 123+ system does not start until 1<sup>st</sup> August 2022 and between now and then there will be food waste caddies issued to every household (one large one for outside and a small one for the kitchen) and a lot of messaging to encourage everyone to reduce, reuse and recycle more. The latest analysis still shows that around 30% of waste in the grey bin should be in the blue bin or the green bin and we will be getting lots of messaging out to help clarify what should be in each bin. In addition we will be using bin hangers to get the 123+ details and messages out. These are small pieces of paper with a paper hook that fits on each bin. This will ensure that everyone who has a bin gets the details and messaging on how the system will work. Basically it works as follows:

1. **Each week – food waste is collected and emptied**
2. **Every two weeks – the blue and green bins will be emptied. You will need a permit for the green bin as you do now.**
3. **Every three weeks – the grey bin will be emptied**

The new waste contract starts, as mentioned above, on the 1<sup>st</sup> August 2022 and we will have a new fleet of vehicles, mostly diesel powered as the electric versions are just not capable of travelling the distances required before needing recharging. We will aim to replace these before 2030 with either electric, hydrogen powered vehicles or other climate friendly fuel sources (if technology advances by then).

### Proposal to merge with Warwick DC

Both district councils have agreed to submit an application to the Secretary of State asking for permission to merge. The application was submitted at the end of December but it could be late this year before we get a decision and in the meantime it is always possible that the County will be invited to submit their proposals for a single unitary. Where the process differs is that the two District Councils can apply to merge but the County have to be invited.

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## Community Speedwatch Team (CSW)

I am aware that there is some interest in setting this up but at present I haven't been given any names. For me to get a survey carried out by the Police I need to have the names and contact details of those interested in joining a group. There is no definite commitment in terms of time but the bigger the group the easier it is to arrange convenient times to go out and monitor traffic speed.

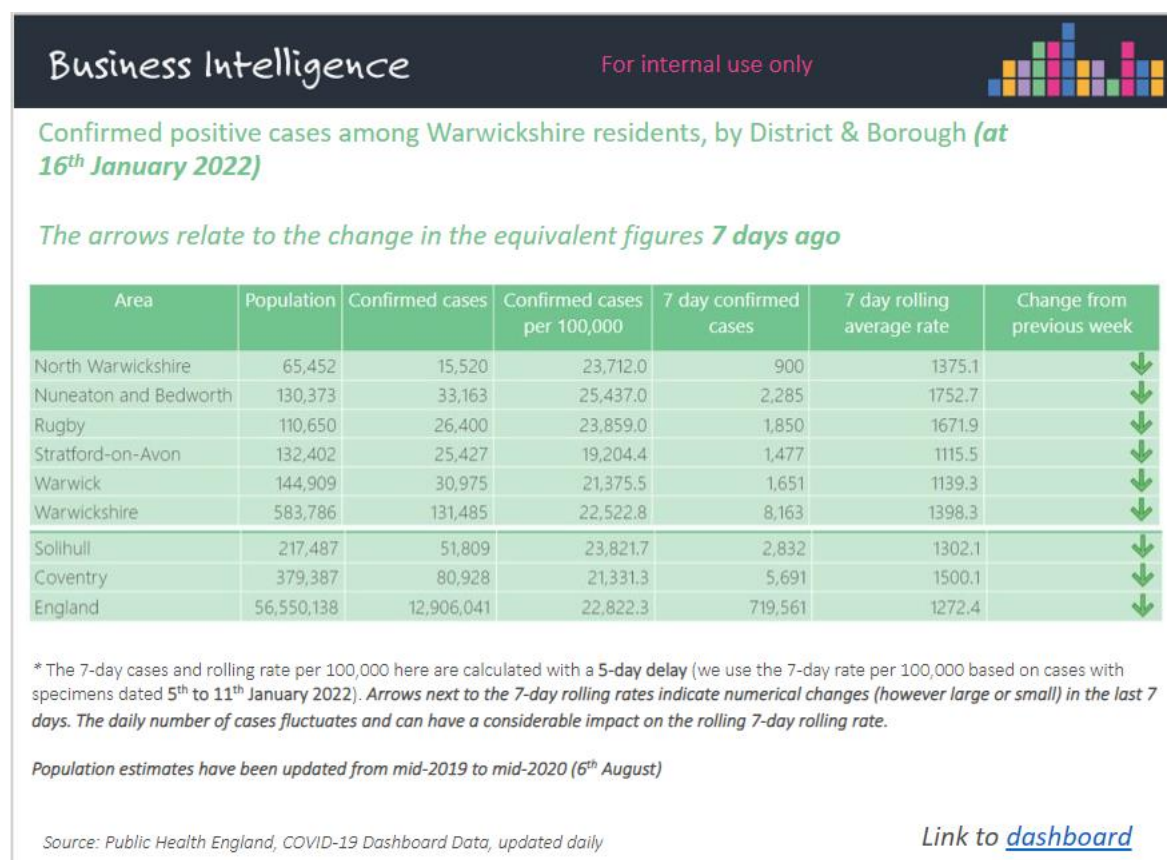
## G & T site Pathlow

I am meeting with Nadhim Zahawi, the Police and County Council officials on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> January to review the issues that I've set out in my log that covers the last few years. Incidents have tailed off as the weather has deteriorated but it is probably only a matter of time before they increase again.

## Covid – 19

As we know all know, Covid has not gone away and the number of infections remain high but thankfully hospitalisations and deaths remain very low and the rates of infection are falling as the table below shows. The rolling average in November when I last published this data was rising but was only around 450 so you can see that whilst it is falling it is from a very high rate.

It is essential that everyone that can have the booster takes it up as it increases the effectiveness to 93%



**Feel free to contact me if you need further details.**

**Cllr Ian Shenton**

**District Councillor for Wootton Wawen Ward (Wootton Wawen, Langley, Preston Bagot, Billesley, Bearley, & Wilmcote) – Tel 07971 343073 or 01564 795360**