Have your say about libraries in Worcestershire...

You can influence the outcome of this by having your say about the current proposals so we would encourage you to reflect on the proposals suggested in the survey and comment on your experience, thoughts and needs for this essential service. The following library options are being considered:

1. Make no change to current library provision
2. Reduce opening hours
3. Implement 'Open Library' technology to enable customers to access libraries during unstaffed, self-service periods and with potential to extend opening hrs
4. Transition community supported libraries to community managed libraries
5. Introduce new, community managed or and/or partner managed libraries
6. Co-locate with new community services (share spaces)

Give your views and make suggestions on the future of library services in Worcestershire via this survey link

New Duty to Refer

The new Duty to Refer was introduced on the 1st October with an expectation that certain statutory bodies will refer anyone at risk of homelessness or actually homeless to a housing options service.

The Worcestershire district councils don’t just want the statutory duties to refer, but want to extend this out to all partners with a view that by working collaboratively we can help resolve homelessness issues earlier.

If you would like to make a referral to Bromsgrove or Redditch please register at the ALERT portal which is a safe, secure and GDPR compliant at https://live.housingjigsaw.co.uk/alert/duty-to-refer

Autism Engagement Event

We are working to refresh Worcestershire's Autism Strategy. Please come along to an engagement event on Monday 19th November, 1:30 – 4pm, in the Council Chamber at County Hall.

There will be presentations 1:30 – 3pm about the National Autism Strategy, our local strategy – what we have achieved so far and what we want to do next. From 3 – 4pm people can drop in to input to the strategy and look at information stands.

There is a low stimulation room within County Hall from 1:30 -4pm where people can come and input to the strategy who may not want to come to the main meeting. If you would like to attend or have a stand at the meeting please contact autismgroups@worcestershire.gov.uk.

Closure of Woodrow Medical Centre

You may be aware that Woodrow Medical Centre will close on Monday 31 December 2018 meaning that patients will need to register with a new GP practice.

After the Care Care Quality Commission (CQC) took action in March earlier this year to remove the practice’s licence due to patient safety concerns, an interim provider was identified at the time to continue to provide services from Woodrow Medical Centre.

NHS Redditch and Bromsgrove Clinical Commissioning Group (CGG) has since then done everything possible to try and secure a permanent clinical provider to continue in the Woodrow area, but no other provider has been identified. After careful consideration the CGG has therefore made the decision to close the practice when the contract comes to an end.

Three GP practices are currently accepting new patients and would be happy for you to register with them – these are Winyates Health Service, Crabbs Cross Surgery, and The Medical Centre Crabbs Cross.

Please see: http://www.redditchandbromsgroveccg.nhs.uk/about-us/woodrow/ for more information

If you require further information please contact worcs.comms@nhs.net
Free First Time Gas Central Heating

The Warmer Worcestershire Network has received funding from the National Grid Warm Homes Fund to provide 150 first time gas central heating systems.

In order to be eligible for the funding, there must be no existing central heating at the applicant's property (some old night storage heaters may be eligible), the property must be in an area near to a mains gas supply, and be privately owned (improvements to social housing cannot be funded).

To meet the application criteria, the Householder/tenant must also be in receipt of qualifying benefits or must pass a low income high energy cost assessment.

Private landlords can apply for 50% funding towards the cost of a first time gas central heating system. In addition to the eligibility criteria above, the property must have an existing Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) rating in a band A – E.

Installations of the gas central heating systems are subject to technical survey by an appointed contractor and gas transporter.

Local energy charity Act on Energy are available to support applicants with any customer enquiries, eligibility checks and submitting their applications on freephone 0800 988 2881 or can be reached via email on advice@actonenergy.org.uk

The project will run until May 2021 unless all funds are allocated before this date.

Free Senior Leaders Training for the VCS

BARN have organised some free senior leaders training sessions particularly tailored to those working in the charity sector and is open to all chief executives, senior managers and trustees.

There will be two consecutive morning sessions on Tuesday November 6 and Tuesday 13th November from 9.30am-12.30pm in Redditch and the sessions will build on each other.

This short programme will explore the key business issues that contribute to running a successful and entrepreneurial charity.

The programme will explore participants issues and focus on tools and techniques that used to create an entrepreneurial culture within their organisations.

It will be in a workshop format and look at options and sharing experiences/best practice on the topics below.

- Strategic Planning and Management
- Vision, Mission and Objective Setting
- Values and Culture
- Becoming an Entrepreneurial and Innovative
- Income Generation
- Balancing Budget Needs with Charitable Objectives
- Building a Team and Organisation Structures Fit For Purpose

The training will be delivered by Business Development Midlands Ltd (BDM) and is co-financed by the European Social Fund and the Skills Funding Agency.

If you wish to book please email office@barn.org.uk or phone 01527 60282 asap. Places will be booked on a first come first served basis and only one place per organisation initially.
HEART OF WORCESTERSHIRE COLLEGE

HERE TO HELP SUPPORT YOUR CUSTOMERS

WE’RE RUNNING THE FOLLOWING COURSES:

**Team programme**
Prince’s Trust

This action-packed course will provide your customers with the skills they need to succeed. Through a variety of practical activities and fun tasks, we’ll help them find the key to unlock their potential!

**12 WEEKS FULL-TIME**

**16-25 YEARS OLD**

**Employability Skills Course**

We’re providing short employability skills courses to unemployed people. They build confidence, promote teamwork and offer skills to help them take control. They’re FREE to claimants of JSA, ESA, UNIVERSAL CREDIT and other major benefits.

**19+ YEARS OLD**

**FOR MORE INFO...**

**CONTACT**
PAUL STEPHENS
pstephens@howcollege.ac.uk
07535627764

**CONTACT**
CARL WHITEHOUSE
cwhitehouse@howcollege.ac.uk
07789 754163

HOWCOLLEGE.AC.UK
BROKEN GAS BOILER?

Funding is available in Worcestershire until end of March 2019 for fuel poor households who have a broken gas boiler. Eligibility criteria apply.

How it works

1. Contact your local Energy Charity Act on Energy Freephone 0800 988 2881 who will complete an eligibility check over the phone.

2. Eligible households will be referred to the contractor for a technical survey which will determine if works can be completed.

3. Install appointment booked and works completed.

For more information and an eligibility check contact your local energy charity Act on Energy 0800 988 2881.
Registered charity number 1075679
Stay ahead of the chill this Winter

Ensuring your home is energy efficient can help you stay warm in winter.

Age UK Bromsgrove, Redditch and Wyre Forest are offering FREE home energy checks for older people who are finding it difficult to keep their homes warm in Winter.

As part of the Energy Check:

- One of Age UK’s Bromsgrove, Redditch & Wyre Forest’s handypersons will visit your home at a time that is convenient for you
- During the free assessment they will check the temperature inside your home and whether there are any draughts. They will inspect your heating system and any insulation measures you have
- Depending on the outcome of the assessment the handyperson will fit appropriate energy saving equipment, such as energy saving lightbulbs, reflective panels behind the radiator, socket timers and night lights free of charge
- The handyperson will also offer you some practical tips on how you can save energy and keep your fuel bills down without compromising on the warmth of your house. They may also inform you of other Age UK services available in North Worcestershire

For more information and to book an appointment, please call: Sam Jones on 01527 871840
Feeling crafty?

Learn to make beautiful decorations and gifts for your loved ones with our Christmas workshops!

**Christmas Decorations Workshop - Running at St John's Library and Bromsgrove Library**

Learn how to make beaded and wire Christmas decorations or a wirework centrepiece for a candle. Perhaps you'd prefer to make wirework napkin rings and wine glass charms to make your Christmas table truly unique. All materials and tools are provided so come along and get crafty creating a range of beautiful items either for yourself or as gifts for friends and family!

**Christmas Flower Arranging Workshop - Available at Broadway Library and Evesham Library**

Learn seasonal flower and foliage names. Learn how to arrange flowers in floral foam. Gain knowledge of the Principles and Elements of Design. Create your own Christmas floral arrangements following tutor demonstration!

**Crafty Christmas Baubles - Join us at Kidderminster Library and Bromsgrove Library**

Make a lovely Christmas decoration. Crafted in buttons, glitter, ribbon and all sorts of exciting materials, the decoration will be a talking point for your festive visitors. Join us and enjoy a fun few hours making this great craft project!

**Create a Christmas Wreath - Starlight Cafe, Bromsgrove Library, Pershore Library, Kidderminster Library**

Create a festive wreath for your front door using a wide range of natural materials and festive decorative embellishments.

**Decorative Decoupaged Christmas Bunting - Workshops at Rubery Library and Worcester Cathedral**

Bunting makes a great addition to any venue, from birthday, wedding, baby shower or garden party or simply as a decorative addition to your house at Christmas time. Come and discover the tips and techniques that will give your decoupaged Christmas decorations that professional finish!

**Floral Christmas Garlands Workshop - At Worcester Cathedral**

Bring the festive spirit of the season to your home by crafting your own Floral Christmas Garlands to decorate a mantelpiece or a door frame. All materials will be provided and you'll be guided through the design process learning top tips and techniques from an expert.
Jewellery as a Christmas Gift - running at
St George's Hall in Bewdley

Would you like to make some jewellery to give as a Christmas gift to friends or family? Make unique pieces of jewellery from silver plated wire and pretty beads using basic jewellery making hand tools. Suitable for absolute beginners or those with some prior knowledge as projects can be differentiated to enable all to create professional end products.

Papercraft for Christmas Workshop - At the Fairfield Centre and Warndon Library

Make your own cards, gift boxes and bags, tags, garland, crackers and more - just in time for the festive season. Learn different techniques such as die-cutting, stamping, stencilling, inking, ideas on embellishments, etc. and have fun along the way.

Book online at www.worcestershire.gov.uk/courses
Live Well - Batchley

Are you living with:

DEPRESSION/ANXIETY • OBESITY • ASTHMA • FIBROMYALGIA
ARTHRITIS • DIABETES • LOWER BACK PAIN • STROKE • HIGH CHOLESTEROL
HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE • PARKINSON'S • MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS • COPD

Do you want to improve your health?

Starting 18th October
Thursdays 9am to 10.15am
Batchley Community Centre

• 8 week course
• Lifestyle and dietary advice
• £2 per week
• Free access to our community exercise sessions

For more information telephone 01527 881404 or email hayley.gwilliam@bromsgroveandredditch.gov.uk

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

making a difference
www.redditchbc.gov.uk
You are invited to a White Ribbon Campaign Event hosted by The North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership and West Mercia Women’s Aid

The aim of the event is to raise professionals’ awareness of the existing domestic abuse services available to adults and young people and how your organisation can access them

Date: 30th November 2018
Time: 10.00am - 13.00pm
Venue: Parkside Suite, Bromsgrove District Council, Parkside, Market Street, Bromsgrove, B61 8DA

If you wish to book a place please confirm your attendance by email before 16th November to: CommunitySafety@bromsgroveandredditch.gov.uk

The international White Ribbon Campaign/16 Days of Action runs from 25th November until 10th December each year and aims to raise awareness of domestic abuse and violence against women. Our campaign in North Worcestershire seeks to engage people regardless of gender to stand against domestic abuse in all its forms
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ROTARY CLUB OF REDDITCH

Big Band Christmas

The award winning MYJO Directed by John Ruddick MBE

Monday 10th December 2018, 7.30pm
Trinity High School
Off Other Road, Redditch B98 8DT.

Tickets £10 from The Music Shop, Kingfisher Shopping Centre, or call: 01675 442050 / 01527 450382
Seasonal Refreshments - Ample Car Parking

In support of Rotary
Sajid Javid’s
BROMSGROVE PENSIONERS’ FAIR

Retired or approaching retirement?
Come along and find out about the local services available for pensioners
Over 45 exhibitors confirmed includes:
- Age UK
- Sight Concern
- Artrix
- Home Instead
- Phoenix Group
- Helping Hands

Friday 16 November 2018
10am – 12noon

COME TO
Parkside, Market Street, Bromsgrove
B61 8DA Entrance via the Stourbridge Road

FOR MORE INFORMATION
t: 02072 190930
e: sajid.javid.mp@parliament.uk

SPONSORED BY
AFH Wealth Management
Bromsgrove Partnership
Salt Road

SAJID JAVID MP Here to Help

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