

YOUR COUNCIL DELIVERING YOUR SERVICES

£5m boost for roads

An extra £5m is to be invested in boosting Leicestershire's roads and environment, bolstering safety and sprucing up communities.

The sizeable sum is being ploughed into maintenance – including road repairs, looking after verges, cleaning signs, emptying drains and gullies, refurbishing bus stops and improving rights of way – and into more flashing signs, supporting average speed cameras and other measures to deter speeding motorists.

The cash injection also includes a £25,000 pot for every county councillor, enabling residents to get involved in influencing the improvements they want to see where they live.

It can be used for a wide range of options, such as flashing signs to reduce speeding, flower beds and benches, as well as minor road repairs and freshening up signs and lines.

Residents will be able to talk to their county councillor and help shape how the funding is spent in their area.



Nick
Rushton

Nick Rushton, leader of Leicestershire County Council, said: "This is a welcome boost. Our roads and pavements are at the heart of our communities so it's important we invest.

"And we know the impact speeding drivers can have on residents. By further

supporting our average speed camera work and bringing in more signs, we can make a real difference.

"This is also about improving green spaces in our communities. Planting flower beds and protecting verges not only adds to an area's visual appeal but also boosts our efforts to tackle climate change.

"Importantly, this initiative enables you to get involved in shaping your community. Every area has different challenges and by working with your county councillor, residents can tailor improvements to tackle different issues."

Improvements identified through the £25,000 fund for each county councillor's area will be carried out over the next nine months.

The initiative follows our successful Parish and Communities Fund which provided a welcome helping hand to residents during lockdown. More than 90 communities bid for a slice of the money which saw new cycle racks installed, vegetation cleared to create wider footpaths and speed reduction signs brought in to help communities stay safe and get their daily exercise.

Check our website and social media channels for updates.

Investment includes:

£2.2m for highway maintenance

managing grass verges, improving road signs and lines, revamping bus stops, improving access to our rights of way

£1m to cut speeding in communities

flashing signs, traffic calming and supporting our average speed camera work

£1.4m to boost local areas

smaller scale improvements that enhance communities



Leicestershire Matters is sent to all residents in the county of Leicestershire.

It costs under 10p to print and deliver each copy. To help save money on the distribution, we work closely with Royal Mail. We're sorry if you receive Leicestershire Matters just over the border in a neighbouring county – but by using standard postal routes we actually save £750 per issue.

Contact us

leicestershire.gov.uk

Our website focuses on the most popular things that people want to do online. So next time you need to find or do something with the council, go online at leicestershire.gov.uk

Email

leics-matters@leics.gov.uk

Twitter @LeicsCountyHall

Facebook LeicsCountyHall

Instagram @LeicsCountyHall

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Welcome to Leicestershire Matters

Council leader, **Nick Rushton**, introduces our summer edition



Improving roads, tackling climate change and boosting our economy – just three of our current priorities.

We know that roads and our environment matter to people – and that's why we're investing £5m in the highways and pavements at the heart of our communities. Read the front page to find out how you can get involved in sprucing up your local area.

Reducing our carbon footprint is something we take very seriously. And on pages 12 and 16, you can see how a brand new tree charter, boosting our biodiversity and stepping up recycling is helping to make Leicestershire cleaner and greener.

The pandemic has hit our economy hard – and we're doing everything we can to help residents make a fresh start with a new job or retraining. Our newly-launched Work+ scheme does just that and I'm proud we're offering this service which is open to everyone.

And with the successful vaccine rollout, the end of the pandemic is in sight. Our residents have shown tremendous resilience during the biggest health crisis in our lifetimes. We might still be on the final straight, but brighter days are on their way.

I hope you enjoy this edition.

Nicholas Rushton

NICK RUSHTON

JOBS **KICKSTART** **SCHEME**

Kickstarting young people's careers

Twenty young people are to be given jobs with us as part of a scheme to boost their chances of getting permanent work.

The Government's Kickstart initiative is open to those aged between 16 and 24 who are currently claiming Universal Credit. We're doubling the length of some placements to 12 months and offering positions in a variety of roles across the council.

The new employees will shadow various manual, technical and administrative staff in their roles, learning on the job and receiving additional support and training.

The aim is to equip young people with the necessary experience and skills to pursue a career either with the council or other employers.

Council leader, Nick Rushton, said: "Kickstart will give young people an insight into the working world as well as the skills they need to either continue a career within the council, or to move on to another job."

Those interested in finding out more about the roles on offer should talk in the first instance to their DWP Work Coach.

Landmark building scoops global award



We're celebrating after winning the NEC's prestigious 'building of the year' award. The accolade is for a new 100,000 sq ft office space created by our property team at Loughborough University Science and Enterprise Park and leased to tech firm The Access Group. The accolade recognises excellence from across the world and last year, was claimed by Lima 2019 Pan American and Parapan American Games Venues.



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work+

skills, training, employment

With the pandemic having changed the working lives of so many, we've launched a new scheme to help residents get back on track with their employment goals.

Work+ is a free one-to-one service offering support, advice and information to people looking for secure paid employment, plus the chance to learn new skills or to find out more about volunteering or becoming self-employed.

It's open to everyone – from those who have never been employed to those who have lost their jobs due to the pandemic, been furloughed or who are at risk of redundancy. It also helps college leavers, graduates and agency staff on zero hour or temporary contracts.

Qualified personal advisers offer impartial and professional advice to people from all backgrounds and support people on a one-to-one or group basis.

Appointments are currently being offered online due to the pandemic, but later this summer, face-to-face meetings will be held in local libraries and adult learning centres.

Everyone who signs up to the scheme has the opportunity to have a tailored work plan drawn up for them, including clear targets and steps to achieve their goal.

Help is given with CV and letter writing skills, job searches, interview techniques and digital

training, self-employment advice and business support.

Our Work+ team can also work directly with employers who may be in the unfortunate position of making redundancies and want to support their staff to find new employment.

Councillor Peter Bedford, cabinet member for Covid recovery, said: "The pandemic has been a challenging time for businesses with many people finding themselves furloughed or out of work and we want to do all we can to help residents make a fresh start with a new job or retraining.



Peter Bedford

"Our Work+ scheme is open to everyone from the long-term unemployed and those recently made redundant, to graduates and college leavers who are just starting out in the working world.

"I would urge anyone who is looking for support in seeking a new role to get in touch and see how Work+ can help you."

To find out more or to register your interest contact the Work+ team on 0800 988 0308 or go to work-plus.co.uk



**Gain
NEW
skills**

Boost your skills – and your horizons

GoLearn has hundreds of part-time day, evening and weekend adult courses across the county. Delivered as both online and classroom learning, you can fit study around life and work with expert help and support from your tutor at all times.

Courses go live for enrolment on 5 July. Everyone who enrolls between 5 July and 31 August will get 20 per cent off course tuition fees.

Visit leicestershire.gov.uk/golearn to find out more.

Search and enrol online or call GoLearn on 0800 988 0308 (lines open Monday – Friday 8am-7pm).

GoLearn!

Leicestershire Adult Learning Service

Feel inspired to care?

Come and work for us

JOBS

There have been some big success stories in the our drive to take on more social care professionals.

New recruits hired by our Inspired to Care team have included a theatre worker, former self-employed people and school leavers keen to progress their careers.

And now the team has just started another big drive to recruit the 'next generation' of care professionals to support providers across the county.

Councillor Christine Radford, cabinet member



Christine Radford

for adult social care, said: "Our recruitment drive has generated real results.

"Now, we're pulling out all the stops to

bring in more professionals. The pandemic has underlined how important it is to support our care sector - and we're continuing to do this. We've got some brilliant people – so join up now!"

The new campaign also celebrates the amazing work care professionals do day in and day out.

No experience is necessary as full training will be given. There are part-time, full-time and permanent job vacancies in community and residential care as well as supported living accommodation.

The roles involve working closely with adults, some with learning and/or physical disabilities. There are also opportunities in mental health support services.

Working with us...

Our home care teams are proud to provide short term support to around 3,200 people in Leicestershire each year.

Due to expansion within these teams, we are looking for enthusiastic, caring, committed and reliable people to join us as reablement support workers and community response support workers, delivering care across the county in people's homes.

The services help people return home from hospital, or prevent them from being admitted to hospital, and to regain their independence.

If you are dedicated, flexible and enthusiastic and have the passion and reliability to support people – within their own homes – with compassion, this role will be right up your street. For more information about the jobs call 0116 3054978 or 07593 527553.

The Working Ages Adults Disabilities team is also continuing to look for experienced social workers – leicestershire.gov.uk/jobs-and-volunteering/working-for-the-council/social-worker-recruitment

If you're interested in finding out about opportunities working for the council, visit our website – leicestershire.gov.uk/working-for-the-council

MEET OUR STAFF



Fiona is one of our reablement support workers. She said: "The best thing about my job is making a difference to people's lives, by providing support and confidence where needed.

"Seeing the difference we make from the initial contact until we close the door on the last visit makes this job so worthwhile.

"It never fails to make me feel happy knowing we have helped that person regain as much independence as possible, even after the worst of situations.

"I would recommend this rewarding job to anyone who wants to make a difference to someone's life."

**For more information and to apply for jobs,
visit inspiredtocare.co.uk/joinus
or call 0116 305 1313**

Passport to support



We want to encourage more of our unpaid, and often unseen, carers to come forward and register for a Carer's Passport.

The support unpaid carers provide to their family members, friends and neighbours is vital, so we want to make sure they can access the information they need.

We know that caring can have an impact on health, relationships and finances – and by registering with our Support for Carers Service on 01858 468543 or visiting supportforcarers.org – you

can apply for a Carer's Passport, as well as access invaluable advice and peer support.

If you look after someone who lives in Leicestershire and you're both over 18, you may be entitled to some support with your caring role. For more information visit leicestershire.gov.uk/carers-assessment

Over
4,000
passports issued
to unpaid carers
in Leicestershire
since launch in November 2020

Carer's Passport
is supported by

**SUPPORT
FOR CARERS**
LEICESTERSHIRE

VASL
Vulnerability Assessment Support
Leicestershire

Leicestershire
& Rutland
ageUK

Leicestershire
County Council

Rutland
County Council

Leicester
City Council

Improving lives through independence

A new adult social care development in Markfield, which a Leicestershire woman with a learning disability helped design, has officially welcomed its first tenants.

Copton Ash is a brand new supported living facility which helps people with autism and other learning disabilities to leave hospital and live within local communities,

supporting them to gain their independence.

Four residents have now moved into the bungalows which have been specially designed with help from Ruth Neal, who made her own move from hospital into supported living several years ago.

Councillor Christine Radford, cabinet member for adult social care, said: "This new accommodation provides residents with the opportunity to live as independently as possible within the community, while still ensuring their needs are met.

"We have made a huge commitment to investing in adult social care. We are developing housing for older people, adults with learning and physical disabilities and adults with mental health needs as a priority."

We have worked with national charity Affinity Trust and NHS England to develop Copton Ash.

We're investing £15m in new adult social care developments and have secured eight properties across the county in the last two years.



Councillor Christine
Radford in the garden
at Copton Ash

What councils do

From vital support to looking after our county's heritage, we deliver a wide range of services day in, day out.

Councillor Lee Breckon, cabinet member for resources and finance, sets out our budget



Every day, we transform lives, keep Leicestershire moving and support our local economy – and provide a wealth of services to our residents. These wide-ranging responsibilities mean our yearly budget is £400m – plus a four-year £450m plan to spend on one-off projects such as new schools, roads and a solar farm.

Those numbers might sound large – but our finances face significant pressure. With growing demand for infrastructure to support new homes, and for special educational needs support, we're doing everything we can to keep costs down.

Soaring demand for services, plus uncertainty over national funding, means we need to look at all options to help protect services. And with over £220m of savings made since 2010, and our books balanced for two years, we're in a much better position compared to most other councils. And importantly, we're continuing to deliver for our residents.

Our yearly budget is
£400m

A simple guide to council services >



Leicestershire County Council is responsible for services across the whole of the county, including:



Education

Managing support for schools



Planning

Dealing with minerals and waste plans



Environment

Boosting biodiversity and tackling climate change



Libraries

Books, computer access, community events and more



Social care

Protecting and supporting thousands of children, adults and families



Waste management

Waste disposal as well as helping residents recycle



Public health

Helping people stay active and healthy



Trading standards

Protecting consumers and businesses



Roads and transport

Looking after 2,575 miles of highway

Leicestershire is split into seven smaller district council areas

- Blaby District Council
- Charnwood Borough Council
- Harborough District Council
- Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council
- Melton Borough Council
- North West Leicestershire District Council
- Oadby and Wigston Borough Council

They are responsible for services like:



Waste collection

As well as helping residents recycle



Council Tax collections



Housing



Planning

Local plans and planning applications



Leisure/recreation



Environmental health

Parish and town councils

These operate at a level below district and borough councils – they're elected and can advise on a number of local issues, including:



Allotments and cemeteries



Bus shelters



Community centres



Play areas and play equipment



Parish-owned parks and open spaces



Consultation on neighbourhood planning

They also have the power to issue fixed penalty fines for things like:



Litter



Graffiti



Fly posting

Working with our communities

Our role extends to working hand-in-hand with community groups.

One example of this is litter 'wombles' who we've supported to keep communities tidy this summer.

The fund, which closed in May, has supplied much-needed safety and litter picking equipment to groups across the county.

From the 300 successful applications received, we've already given out 643 hi-vis vests, 284 road signs, and 623 litter pickers.

Over the next few weeks this will rise to 1,200 hi-vis vests, 560 road signs, and 1,275 litter pickers.

Councillor Pam Posnett, cabinet member for communities, said: "The response to this fund has been incredible.



Pam Posnett

I'm pleased we have worked successfully with voluntary groups and parish councils across the county, tidying up our environment."

So far we've given out

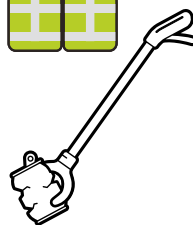
643

hi-vis vests



623

litter pickers



Your County Councillor for Leicestershire



The Cabinet



Nicholas Rushton CC
Leader

- Leadership of the Council locally, regionally and nationally
- Growth and Infrastructure



Deborah Taylor CC
Deputy Leader

- Children and Family Services (the designated lead member for children and young people)
- Regulatory Services
- Community Safety and Safeguarding
- County Council representative on Police and Crime Panel



Peter Bedford CC

- Post-Covid Recovery and Ways of Working.
- Transformation



Ozzy O'Shea CC

- Highways, Transportation and Flooding (includes the flooding responsibilities of the Environment and Transport Department, and the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy)



Pam Posnett CC

- Community and Staff Relations (Includes broadband)



Louise Richardson CC

- Health
- Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board



Lee Breckon CC

- Resources (Including finance, property, ICT and human resources)



Blake Pain CC

- Environment and the Green Agenda (Includes waste management and disposal, county planning and environment strategy)



Christine Radford CC

- Adults and Communities



Richard Shepherd CC

- Support for Resources portfolio

Blaby

Blaby & Glen Parva



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The role of scrutiny in the council

Our overview and scrutiny process has always been crucial in supporting the delivery of high-quality council services – and this has continued during the pandemic.

By providing challenge, receiving questions and petitions from residents and driving improvements, our scrutiny bodies play a vital role in making sure our services are delivering for you.

Specific roles include holding our cabinet to account, monitoring the performance of services, helping develop our budget and playing an important role in scrutinising the performance of other agencies such as the NHS.



25

committee
meetings held
last year

Key council issues scrutinised over the last year include:



Covid

From finance to child protection, scrutiny leads received updates on how all services responded to the pandemic. As well as hearing assurances that the right care was in place, committees thanked staff for their hard work and professional approach.



Planning reform

Our Scrutiny Commission considered the Government's White Paper and felt our consultation response should say more about homelessness, climate change and affordable social housing, comments taken on board by our cabinet.

113

reports
considered



Flooding

A review panel scrutinised our role and heard from the Environment Agency, Severn Trent Water, the Local Resilience Forum, district councils and local residents. The 25 recommendations included improving communication with residents to help them prepare and were agreed by our cabinet – which also agreed to lobby Government to strengthen flooding legislation. View the report at leicestershire.gov.uk/flooding-review



Care homes

Scrutiny kept a close eye on the difficulties facing care homes, and agreed adult social care leads should continue to work closely with service providers and others to monitor the situation and provide support wherever possible.

57

hours of public
debate



Read the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report at:
leicestershire.gov.uk/scrutiny

Staying safe this summer

With the country emerging out of lockdown, we're offering a wealth of support to help you stay safe. Here are just some of the schemes and advice available.

Ask for Angela

This supports people who feel unsafe while on dates or with someone they are out with in pubs and bars.

Available in more than 170 venues in the county, it enables people who feel uneasy to approach staff and use the code phrase 'Ask for Angela'. They will then offer support – which may include calling a taxi or helping them to leave discreetly.

More information, including a list of participating venues: leicestershire.gov.uk/AskforAngela



Anti-social behaviour

With sunnier days and more people out and about, we are asking you to be mindful of respect and tolerance.

For example, is your behaviour impacting your neighbours? Are those children outside being anti-social – or are they simply playing? To report anti-social behaviour call 101 or visit leics.police.uk/reportonline

Domestic abuse

If you are experiencing domestic abuse, or know someone who needs help, you can call our helpline on 0808 80 200 28. There's more information about available support at uava.org.uk/contact

Beat the scammers

A handy card helping residents to protect themselves from doorstep scams and cold calls has been produced by our Trading Standards Service.

The A5-sized sheet provides practical advice and is a very useful resource for people who may live alone and be particularly vulnerable to cold callers.

If you, a family member, friend or neighbour would benefit from an advice card, please get in touch by calling 0116 305 8000 or email tradingstandards@leics.gov.uk

Keep up-to-date with the latest warnings about scams: facebook.com/leicstradingstandards



Call for residents to continue with Covid tests

Residents are being urged to continue to take care in the fight against coronavirus through regular Covid testing and taking up the vaccine when offered.

More steps are being taken to prevent the spread of coronavirus with door-to-door testing, rapid flow tests kits – now available at more than 50 new sites – and walk-in vaccination clinics popping up across the county and city.



Louise Richardson

Councillor Louise Richardson, cabinet member for health, said: "We're offering rapid home test kits and making them readily available in numerous places across the county. We know this type of testing can help identify people who are infected, but who don't have symptoms."

Mike Sandys, the council's director of public health, added: "It's vital that people



Mike Sandys

stay vigilant. To protect yourself and others, keep two metres apart, wear a mask to help to reduce the spread of the virus and regularly wash your hands."

Rapid flow home test kits are a convenient way to stay safe. Complete with instructions and your results back in 30 minutes, it's quick and easy to do and could prevent your friends and family from getting infected. Kits can be collected at various places including libraries, leisure centres and community spaces. As part of the national programme, there are also 140 pharmacies across Leicestershire offering rapid home test kits so visit maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk where you'll find all locations and test sites.

Visit leicestershire.gov.uk/covidhometest

NET
ZERO
council by
2030NET
ZERO
county by
2045

Leicestershire is a green county

Our plans to boost biodiversity, plant trees and roll out eco-friendly buses are making it even greener.



BIODIVERSITY BOOST

We're setting out a new approach to protecting and improving our natural environment and biodiversity.

Called 'Action for Nature', it highlights the increasing vulnerability of watercourses and habitats on rivers and wetlands such as the River Anker and parts of the River Soar near Quorn and a decline in mature trees and grassland areas.

We're taking action to raise awareness of biodiversity, make sure it's embedded in our policies, capture data and identify how we can benefit nature on our land.

The last 18 months have given us an opportunity to reconnect with the

environment – and there are many things you can do to protect Leicestershire's biodiversity including:

- Plant a small tree or plants that encourage bees and other wildlife or why not let a large patch of grass grow wild in your garden and let the wonders of nature come to you!
- Record Leicestershire's wildlife – get involved in NatureSpot or the Big Garden Birdwatch
- Parish councils and community groups can become hedgehog heroes, provide homes for swifts or get involved in many other ways.

Tree charter starts to take root

We've worked with the National Forest Company to draw up a new 'tree charter' – underlining our commitment to preserving our woodlands for our residents and visitors.

Trees enhance the quality of our lives – by improving air quality, providing habitats for wildlife and allowing us

to enjoy and connect with nature. Under the charter, we've pledged to plant more trees, support landowners to increase cover on their land and raise awareness of the benefits that trees provide.

Councillor Blake Pain, cabinet member for the environment, said: "By signing this charter, we're



Blake Pain

committing to work in partnership to ensure a better future for our trees

and woodlands, and for all those who live in and visit Leicestershire. It will also help towards our ultimate aim of being a net zero county by 2045."

We manage
321,000 trees

We're planting
700,000 new trees
in Leicestershire –
one for every resident

FOSTERING

New appeal to care for teenagers



There are 400 children in care in Leicestershire over the age of ten – and we're appealing for more foster carers to support teenagers like Oscar*.

Fourteen-year-old Oscar was struggling at home, having witnessed domestic violence. His mum, Rachel*, said: "It was horrendous. We'd had a really bad period over Christmas and I begged for help. He was in crisis."

Oscar spent some time in residential care, due to the shortage of foster carers approved to support teenagers one-to-one, before being placed with specialist foster carer, Lewis* (35) and his partner, Jenny*.

Lewis said: "It's important for kids to have consistency, and that's hard in residential care with different members of staff."

"I think teenagers get a bad rap unnecessarily, certainly teenagers in care, but actually they're just scared half the time."

After having the right support and guidance from Lewis, Oscar is on track to move back home to his mum this summer.

Lewis added: "He knows now he can achieve something if he works hard for it. The best bit is that this is what he's wanted all along, the best place for him to be is with his family."

Rachel said: "Oscar needed to be in a family environment where they could demonstrate good relationships and stability."

"There need to be more foster carers like Lewis. I just look at what he's done for Oscar... You can change a kid's life and future."

Councillor Deborah Taylor, cabinet member for children and families, said: "You don't have to be an expert to be a great foster parent, just a caring and understanding person, who can offer patience and support."

"I would encourage anyone curious about fostering, especially for older children, to come forward and find out how they can make a difference."

Contact the Fostering Team on **0116 305 05 05**
or visit **fosteringleicestershire.com**

*Names have been changed

**Dream
come
true**

As seen on
Channel 4

**STEPH'S
PACKED
LUNCH**

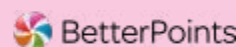
A young refugee placed with our foster carers at the age of 12 has achieved his dream of qualifying as an architect. – Salman, now 25, shared his inspirational story on Channel 4's **Steph's Packed Lunch** last month, alongside Councillor Deborah Taylor



**Great rewards for walking and cycling
with the free app**



Enter code **'HEALTHY'** and start earning rewards



LEISURE

Welcome Back

There's a summer of fun ahead at our attractions around the county



Kerri Godliman at Century Theatre

Historic Leicestershire



Bosworth Battlefield Heritage Centre and Country Park

Sutton Cheney, Leicestershire, CV13 0AD
bosworthbattlefield.org.uk
Tel: 01455 290429

Visit our award-winning exhibition, explore the Battlefield trail, stop for refreshments in the 1485 Tithe Barn or join us for one of our exciting events.

1620s House & Garden

Donington le Heath, Coalville, LE67 2FW
1620shouse.org.uk
Tel: 01455 290429

Explore the beautiful gardens, discover the house full of history, try the homemade cakes in the Barn Tearoom or come along to special events like outdoor theatre or Haunted Heritage.



Check what current coronavirus restrictions are in place at gov.uk/coronavirus



Snibston
COLLIERY PARK

Ashby Road, Coalville, Leicestershire, LE67 3LN
leicscountryparks.org.uk

Visit our newly-opened park at Snibston where fantastic facilities, rich ecology and mining history are combined to give you the ultimate day out. From mountain biking and scooting to outdoor play and wildflower meadows, there's something for everyone to enjoy.

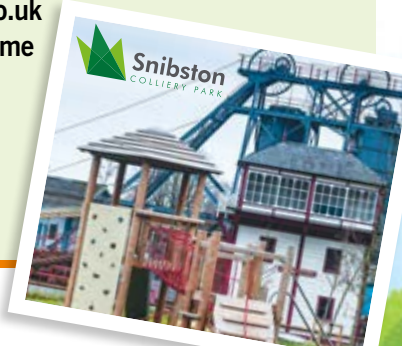
After all that exercise and exploring, you can take a seat at the adjoining Century Theatre which dates back to 1948. Not only is it the UK's oldest surviving travelling theatre, it is also contributing to making the arts more accessible in North West Leicestershire with its CT Academy. The academy hosts a range of workshops and performances for all to get involved with.

Programme highlights from the Century Theatre include Kerri Godliman, The Great British Seaside Show (D-Day Darlings), Suzi Ruffell and Musicals LIVE!

Visit centurytheatre.co.uk to view the full programme and book tickets.



CENTURY
THEATRE





Beaumanor

Woodhouse, Leicestershire, LE12 8TX
beaumanorhall.co.uk
 Tel: 01509 890119

Now that restrictions are easing and venues are reopening, you can relax with an afternoon tea or Sunday lunch in the beautiful surroundings of Beaumanor Hall, where there's also survival skills, archery and high ropes at the kids' activity clubs.

Outdoors

The last year has been spent uncovering hidden gems on our doorstep. With so many green spaces thriving at this time of year and our new summer menus in the cafes, it's an outdoor experience not to miss. Find us on social media to plan your next adventure.

collierycafe 1485TitheBarn beaconhillcafe

Museums



Harborough Museum
 The Symington Building,
 Adam and Eve Street,
 Market Harborough, LE16 7LT
harboroughmuseum.org.uk
 Tel: 0116 305 3627

A little Roman figurine was recently unearthed near Market Harborough by metal detectorists – working with permission from the landowner. It's been donated to our Museums Service and is already raising a smile. The copper alloy figure – which dates from AD50-AD150 – has been nicknamed 'Eric' by staff, as his pose is very similar to that made famous by Morecambe and Wise. Eric – also known as the Harborough Man – is due to go on display at **Harborough Museum** later in the summer.

There's loads to see at our museums around Leicestershire



Charnwood Museum
 Granby St, Loughborough, LE11 3DU
charnwoodmuseum.co.uk
 01509 233754



Melton Museum
 Thorpe End, Melton Mowbray, LE13 1RB
meltonmuseum.org
 Tel: 0116 305 3860

The Record Office for Leicester, Leicestershire & Rutland
 Long St, Wigston Magna, LE18 2AH
recordoffice.org.uk Tel: 0116 2571080

UNCOVER THE STORY

A new tourism campaign is aiming to bolster the visitor economy, and help local businesses and attractions recover after the lockdown.

The remarkable King Richard III discovery may be Leicester's best-known story, but the city and county have many other well-kept secrets to share with visitors. From beautiful market towns to the city's heritage, there is something new for everyone to uncover, escaping the everyday and exploring what's on the doorstep.

As you delve into the wealth of experiences, you'll have the opportunity to discover Leicester is known as the Space City, reveal intriguing royal connections, explore a forest of nine million trees and see why our market towns paint a portrait of England.

Leicestershire is packed full of hidden treasures and we're proud to be working with colleagues and partners across the county on this intriguing campaign.

We have hotspots for visitors who love history, grand open spaces and rolling landscapes, impressive architecture and country parks for those that admire the foundations of something great and attractions packed full of plotting, secrecy and in some cases, even sorcery.

Explore visitleicester.info now and start your voyage of discovery today

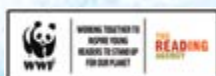


Our libraries are urging youngsters to discover their wild side by signing up for this year's Summer Reading Challenge.

This year the national initiative has teamed up with WWF for a special nature-themed challenge to inspire children to stand up for the planet.

Thousands of four-to-12-year-olds take part every year and this summer, they will be able to collect six special stickers for their colourful collector's poster and a medal – as they read, listen to, or share six library books, eBooks or audiobooks over the summer.

Children taking part get free admission to Bosworth Battlefield. The challenge runs until 4 September – find out more at leicestershire.gov.uk/libraries



YOUR LiBR@RY
 KNOWLEDGE • DISCOVERY • ENTERTAINMENT

CUT OUT
AND KEEP

Don't let your **Recycling** go to **WASTE**

**Recycling right can make a big difference.
Putting the wrong items in can damage machinery
and cause recycling loads to be rejected.**

Tips to help us make every item count:

- Ensure it's clean and dry
- Put lids back on jars and bottles before recycling
- All packaging should be empty
- Items should go in loose/separate
- Flatten cardboard and cartons – keep it dry and leave next to your recycling bin

The following lists don't cover North West Leicestershire. For further information on kerbside collections in this area visit nwleics.gov.uk

Cartons and tetra paks

- ✓ Food and drink cartons, such as milk, soups etc
- ✓ Crisp tubes, such as Pringles

Glass

- ✓ Glass bottles and jars
- ✗ Flat glass, mirrors, drinking glasses, pyrex etc as these have different melting points and cannot be recycled in the same way

Nappies

- ✗ Nappies can't be recycled, so put them in your general waste bin

Metals

- ✓ Drinks cans and food tins
- ✓ Biscuit and chocolate tins
- ✓ Empty aerosol cans – but avoid aerosols that contain hazardous materials such as WD40 or fly killer
- ✓ Clean aluminium foil crumpled into a ball
- ✓ Clean foil trays
- ✗ Metal tubes such as tomato puree
- ✗ Cooking oil tins
- ✗ Paint tins

Plastics

- ✓ Bottles from the kitchen or bathroom (but no pumps or trigger sprays); pots, tubs, trays, punnets, bags and film
- ✗ Black plastic, crisp packets, sweet wrappers, plant pots, tubes such as toothpaste and rigid plastics such as toys, CD cases or Tupperware

Textiles

Textiles can't be recycled with other materials so please use a separate collection if provided or a clothes bank

Buses make
switch to
electric



A fleet of electric buses powered by 100 per cent renewable energy has replaced diesel vehicles on our three park and ride routes, which we run jointly with Leicester City Council.

Councillor Ozzy O'Shea, cabinet member for highways, said: "Decarbonising transport



Ozzy O'Shea

is the future and will massively contribute to the reduction of our carbon footprint."

Get on board our bus consultation

We have bold plans to improve buses – and want to hear your views.

We're working closely with local bus operators on a plan to secure Government money and need your help.

What do you think would improve local bus services and what would make you use them more?

We'd like to hear from people who already use buses, those who currently don't and from public, private and voluntary organisations. Have your say by completing the questionnaire at leicestershire.gov.uk/bus-strategy-survey

The closing date is Friday, 30 July.

**For more tips on how you can reduce, reuse
and recycle right, visit lesswaste.org.uk**