

Issue 19 November 2022

If you have any queries, please contact the team on 01902 696000 or email info@sstaffs.gov.uk





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1. GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

Please see annual schedule of works below for Street Scene operations.

SCHEDULE	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Grass cutting HV			2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		
Grass cutting open spaces			1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2		
Weed spraying / including Knotweed sites												
Sightline pruning												
Annual prune												
Meadow grass												
Hedge cutting flail												
Tree works												
Leaf collecting												
Balsam prevention												
Street cleansing	Continuous											
Highway Sweeping	Continuous											

Grass Cutting

Grass cutting has now ceased for the winter period.

Shrub Pruning

The annual shrub pruning has started and will be concentrated in the Perton area in the first instance as this is where most of the work is located.

2. STREET CLEANSING

Sweeping Update

Sweeping continues in the district and it is anticipated that this will take place in Codsall, Bilbrook, Featherstone and Essington areas over the coming weeks. We will also be tackling the hot spot areas of leaf fall.

Please note that only arterial routes are swept as part of the sweeping schedule.

Bin Emptying and Litter Picking

Our teams have been bin emptying and litter picking all over the district to schedule.

For further information regarding Street Scene services, please visit our website: <u>Street Scene South</u> <u>Staffordshire Council (sstaffs.gov.uk)</u>



3. ENVIROCRIME

		New investigatio		Flytips November	Flytips November	Jan - Nov	Jan-Nov
Locality	Flytips	ns	FPN	2021	2020	2021 Total	2022 total
1	10	2					
2	5						
3	31	1					
4	9	2					
5	35		1				
Total	90	5		122	78	1199	1140

The fixed penalty notice was for a Duty of Care offence, whereby address evidence from a fly tip on Railway Walk at Baggeridge was traced back to a household who had paid someone to dispose of their waste but were unable to provide any details of who this was.

We are awaiting an update relating to a littering offence due in court.

We have a number of ongoing investigations at various stages, including a fly tip which was witnessed in Essington who is due in for interview next week.

We're continuing the Parish Council presentations about Household Duty of Care to engage with people about their responsibility to ensure their waste goes to authorised carriers and supporting this with social media posts.

4. TREE WORKS

Our tree team are now completing tree works for our residents and businesses bringing additional income into the council, we have received very positive feedback from customers.

We have quoted on 94 Jobs since April 2022 and have been successful in the customer accepting the quote in over 50%. We are also seeing repeat customers which is a credit to the team and the hard work they undertake.

We have ensured that any normal and emergency works will been completed by the in-house team rather than outsourcing to Contractors, when possible, which in turn provides saving to the council.



Community Bulb Planting Events – Thank You!

A big thank you to staff and volunteers, (including staff from the Wombourne branch of Co-op Funeralcare), that came along to plant bulbs and sow wildflower seeds at Strawberry Lane Cemetery in Great Wyrley and Sytch Lane Cemetery in Wombourne on 21st and 25th November.

At Strawberry Lane we had a very wet morning, but the volunteers carried on despite being soaked through. On the Friday at Sytch Lane saw a total change in the weather with beautiful blue skies and winter sunshine.

Everyone enjoyed getting some fresh air and gentle exercise, connecting with people from the local community and making a difference at our cemeteries.



Cemetery Opening & Burial Times

The cemeteries are open to the public seven days a week from 9.00 to 4.30 (including public holidays) and are open for burials, including the interment and scattering of ashes, Monday to Friday between 9.00 and 2.30.

Our seasonal opening times are 1st October to 31st March - 9.00 until 4.30 and 1st April to 30th September - 9.00 until 8.00

Pre-Purchasing of Plots

Although considered by many to be a taboo subject that most of us want to avoid, funerals are an inevitable part of life and being organised and planning ahead can relieve some of the emotional stress and financial pressures on your loved ones.

It isn't uncommon for people to make arrangements for when they die, in fact 15% of people in the UK have already done just that *, but did you know that whilst many pre-paid funeral plans offered by funeral directors include everything from a coffin to flowers, they may not include your final place of rest or burial plot.

At each of our two cemeteries we have plots available to purchase in advance whether your preference is burial or cremation. Choosing your exact plot and purchasing it at today's prices can give invaluable peace of mind to both you and your loved ones.

* Competition & Markets Authority (CMA) Funerals Market Study – March 2019



Useful Contact Details

For enquiries about our cemeteries and the services we offer please call 01902 696000 or email <u>bereavementservices@sstaffs.gov.uk</u>

You can also visit our website for further information including useful links to plenty of organisations that can offer advice and support. <u>Arranging a Funeral South Staffordshire Council (sstaffs.gov.uk)</u>

Bereavement Services Video

Visit the Council's You Tube page to see our Bereavement Services video. On the video you can hear about the different options available and see stunning views of our cemeteries and surrounding South Staffordshire Countryside.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n9HG4UmIBIM&t=4s&fbclid=IwAR2hEeOnAdDFac5i1tqx811iynWzY9aPj6TqB1t-2nBKVIOGRK1vDSJNtI

6. AD-HOC AND OTHER WORK

Bin Replacement

We are auditing and replacing various bins across the district which are damaged, and this is going to be a rolling program throughout the year, so please let us know if you have a damaged bin in your area.

Sign Replacement

We are replacing damaged signs across the district, so please let us know if you have damaged ones in your area

Street Sweeping

We do offer an ad-hoc service which we try to undertake areas which are not on normal sweeping route. Please email <u>Bob.Taylor@sstaffs.gov.uk</u> regarding queries.

7. OTHER NEWS

We understand that it can be quite difficult to find the correct person for your queries, so I have put the below together to try and help.

Street Scene Contact Details:

Routine Scheduled Street Scene Operations – Bob Taylor or John Davies <u>info@sstaffs.gov.uk</u> Tree Operations/Ad-hoc work/Quotes – Andy Aston <u>Treeworks@sstaffs.gov.uk</u> Bereavement Services – Bec Morgan <u>r.morgan@sstaffs.gov.uk</u> or <u>bereavementservices@sstaffs.gov.uk</u> Envirocrime – Andy Aston, Rachel Porter or Louize Butler <u>envirocrime@sstaffs.gov.uk</u>

Opportunities with Residents, Parishes, Businesses and Schools

We are looking at potential new customers to use our in-house service and if you know anyone who may need a quote, please get in touch with myself on <u>a.aston@sstaffs.gov.uk</u> or call me on 01902 696000 for a **free quotation.**

