

June started with the Jubilee celebrations and what a fantastic weekend that was! It was great to be at the Rearsby Jubilee Celebrations along with my family and some friends we had staying with us, we very much enjoyed the cakes on sale in the village hall (and maybe that's why Parish Council Vice-Chairman Anthea Byrne tried to persuade me to take part in some of the races on the playing field!). Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to organise the event and make it such a success.

#### Residents encouraged to explore hidden walks and public footpaths this summer

Walkers and ramblers are being invited to use an interactive map to explore Leicestershire's 1,800 miles of public footpaths. The interactive map allows people to see right of way footpaths across the county as well as highlighting over 150 specific walks.

The map also allows users to filter by routes distance and elements of interest, such as historic locations or family-friendly walks that pass play areas. The walks can also be seen by their difficulty so people of all abilities can know which ones they can attempt.

Leicestershire County Council is encouraging people to use their public footpaths over the coming months while stressing the benefits which include improved health and getting around without adding to carbon dioxide emissions. Research has shown most county residents going walking, cycling, or riding at least once a month and many residents have said they see access to the countryside as important. Leicestershire's public footpaths make up 40 per cent of highways in the county and are also used regularly in both town and rural locations for practical travel and leisure.

Leicestershire County Council is encouraging everyone to try out our great network of public footpaths. Our county has some beautiful walks, to help people improve their health and helping us reach our net zero targets too. The interactive map makes it easy to plan journeys and help people make the most of our fantastic countryside.

The website also has a wide range of leaflets for download or for use on mobile phones. To find out more, use the interactive map and plan your own footpath walk please go to: <https://www.choosehowyoumove.co.uk/walks/>

#### Have your say on the proposed Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Carers Strategy

People are being urged to share their views on plans to support carers across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland over the next three years. A consultation was launched on the 6<sup>th</sup> June, the start of Carers' Week, on the Leicester, Leicestershire, and Rutland (LLR) Carers Strategy 2022-2025 and it will run until the 17<sup>th</sup> July.

It is estimated there are around 100,000 carers in Leicestershire. The strategy has been developed jointly by Leicester City Council, Leicestershire County Council and Rutland Council and the Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) and is a refreshed version of the LLR Joint Carers Strategy 2018–2021: Recognising, Valuing and Supporting Carers. The refresh aims to make the strategy clearer and more accessible.

The consultation will seek the views of public, carers themselves and the people they look after as well as organisations that work with carers, and council staff. Views are being sought through an online questionnaire and via targeted group consultation with carers, particularly those who are currently accessing support from the county council.

An engagement exercise last year demonstrated that Leicestershire carers continue to identify with the priorities contained in the 2018-2021 Strategy. These included recognising and valuing carers, helping them have their own lives alongside their caring responsibilities and making sure they have the support they need at the times they need it.

The consultation will shape the final version of the refreshed Carers' Strategy for the coming three years, establish future plans across the partnership, and set out specific actions for the county council to address in Leicestershire. The consultation outcomes, the final refreshed strategy and an action plan for Leicestershire will be discussed by the council's Adults and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the County's Cabinet in the autumn. To take part in the consultation visit <https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/have-your-say/current-engagement/leicester-leicestershire-and-rutland-llr-draft-joint-carers-strategy-2022-2025>

If you need my help with anything please do get in touch.

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