

# VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



15 December 2023 Issue 17



## Living costs, food and essentials

Did you know that on the NWLDC [website](#) you can find information on a range of topics to help those in financial hardship or if you just wanted to reduce food waste or recycle more?



Information can be found on

- School uniform swap
- Food banks
- Community Fridges
- Plenty 2 Cook social supermarket
- Love food, hate waste
- Budgeting Advance or Budgeting Loans
- Household items recycled
- Cheaper mobile phone and internet services
- Warm welcome spaces

## Keep warm and well this winter

Leicestershire County Council has produced a booklet to provide information to residents about keeping warm and well this winter. You can find the booklet [here](#).

## Leicestershire Energy Support

Know someone who is worried about paying energy bills this winter?

Refer them to the [Citizens Advise energy support page](#), complete the form and someone will be in touch to help.



## Green Living Leicestershire - Grant

Green Living Leicestershire is a partnership between North West Leicestershire District Council, Leicestershire County Council and other Leicestershire district authorities, to deliver projects supporting sustainability and Net Zero.



The [Home Upgrade Grant \(HUG\)](#) is administered by the County Council's Warm Homes service together with YES Energy Solutions. HUG can provide homeowners and private tenants with fully funded energy efficiency measures improving the warmth and comfort of homes, whilst also reducing energy bills, carbon emissions and levels of fuel poverty across the county. The scheme supports households that do not have mains gas as a primary heating system such as those with electric, heating oil, LPG or solid fuel heating. Households that only use gas for cooking or secondary room heating can still apply.

Eligibility criteria includes households within priority neighbourhood areas and more widely, households with an income of £31,000 or less per year or in receipt of means tested benefits, with an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) rating of D,E,F or G (D or E in private rental). It will prioritise the most energy inefficient households.

For more information on the grants, visit Leicestershire County Council's [Green Living Leicestershire Home Upgrade Grant webpage](#) or call project delivery partner YES Energy Solutions on 0330 912 6199.

## Energy Switch Scheme



Energy Switch helps residents switch energy suppliers, move to a renewable electricity tariff and save money on their energy bills. Switching with the scheme means you can benefit from the bargaining power of a large group - and by buying a renewable tariff it helps the environment.

Why join today?

- Taking part is free
- It is simple and quick to do
- There is no obligation to switch
- 100% renewable electricity

[Register now at Coalville energy switch](#)

## WOW Project

The [WOW Project](#) stands for Warm, Optimistic and Well. Funded by Cadent on a two-year project, the aim of the project is to raise awareness about fuel poverty and hopefully help people in need along the way. They are setting up drop-in sessions for members of the community to pop along to and get involved in some fun and informative sessions.

So far, they have delivered draught excluder making sessions and slow cooker recipe swaps. They can also check if households are better off on water meters and sign people up to the priority services register if they don't have access to the internet.

To arrange a session email [WOW](#).

## Health & Wellbeing Roadshow



The Health & Wellbeing Roadshow is back for 2024. Working in collaboration with Everyone Active we are hosting an afternoon jam packed with stalls and interactive workshops from local organisations that deliver services within North West Leicestershire.

This event is a great opportunity to meet local residents and network with other organisations.

The previous events have proven to be extremely popular and a fantastic way of residents getting to know what services can offer locally. Especially for those who do not use technology!

The Roadshow is scheduled to take place on Friday 23 February (last Friday of the half term) from 12-4pm at Whitwick & Coalville Leisure Centre. Stalls are free of charge and we would welcome all types of services that contribute to the overall health & wellbeing of our residents and the wider determinants of health.

This year the roadshow is inclusive of all age ranges. Examples of services include those of a healthcare/medical nature, housing, utilities, staying safe, mental health support, community groups, social enterprises, environmental health, sports & activities to name a few.

Would your organisation be interested in attending? Please feel free to get in touch with [katie.hayes@nwleicestershire.gov.uk](mailto:katie.hayes@nwleicestershire.gov.uk) to find out more and book your place.

## Hidden Harms Domestic Abuse Video

Hidden Harms have released a [video about domestic abuse and older people](#) but also lots of learning about power and control and what it might look like. It's just been launched by the Leics Safeguarding Adults Board as part of National Safeguarding Adults Week. It's only 4 minutes long.

## Young voices on healthcare

### NHS Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Integrated Care Board (LLR ICB),

working with a range of partners, has just launched a large-scale engagement with young people aged 11 – 25 years. The insights and knowledge gained will be used to improve services and ultimately enhance the health and wellbeing of children and young people.



They also want to hear from: Families of people who are 11 – 25 years old, NHS and healthcare staff providing services to people who are 11 – 25 years old. It could be as simple as putting a [poster](#) up in your school, community sports' club, encouraging young people to complete the online questionnaire and putting a short article in your newsletter to attract the interest of families. You may want to base an activity around it.

Young people, families and healthcare staff can fill out an online survey [here](#).

## Young People Physical Activity & Sport Hardship Fund

Active Together is looking to support young people from Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland, in the greatest financial need, to access physical activity and sport. The [Young People Physical Activity & Sport Hardship Fund](#) is aimed at helping young people overcome financial constraints affecting their continued involvement in physical activity and sport as a:



- Participant
- Coach/Official
- Volunteer
- Talented Sportsperson

Timescales:

Round 1 deadline: Sunday 21 January 2024

Round 2 deadline: Sunday 17 March 2024

## Funding

### NWL Community Grants

Visit our [grants' page](#) to find out about

- [Small Grant](#)
- [UKSPF Community Grant](#)
- [Zero Carbon Grant](#)



### Monthly Funding Bulletin



Leicestershire County Council continues to produce a really useful funding bulletin every month, with a list of grants and funding opportunities.

### UKSPF Update

Hurry! Time is running out to apply for the UKSPF Community Grant.



Funded by UK Government



We look forward to receiving some great applications by 31 December.

Government have partnered with Groundwork to launch a funding scheme focussed on the VCSE sector to help with identifying measures to improve their energy efficiency.

There is initial funding for an Independent Energy Assessment and then capital grants of between £2,000 and £150,000 for implementing measures identified.

See here - [VCSE Energy Efficiency Scheme - Groundwork](#)



## COPING AT CHRISTMAS

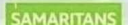
Christmas can be tough. That's why it's important to know there's always someone you can talk to.



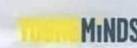
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Helpline  
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24/7 text service  
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116 123  
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Text YM to 85258  
24/7 text service  
youngminds.org.uk



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Helpline for men  
thecalmline.net



0800 068 4141  
Under 35s Helpline  
papyrus-uk.org