

What we are doing to lead the recovery

Supporting local communities

Stroud District Council has been working with other Gloucestershire councils, towns and parishes, as well as other local organisations to make sure support gets to those hardest hit by the current health emergency. This has included:

✓ *Allocating government grants of £25 million to 2,279 local businesses including retail and hospitality, and a further £1.5 million to B&Bs, charities and market traders, to help to maintain the local economy*

✓ *Setting up the Community Resilience Fund with joint funds from the District and County council, allocating nearly £50,000 so far to 55 community groups who are providing a range of local support to those most affected by the crisis.*

✓ *Working with partners to keep people off the streets and in safe supported accommodation, and ensuring there is enough temporary accommodation for those at risk of becoming homeless*

✓ *Working with the county highways team, town and parish councils to reopen high streets safely, supporting local businesses with advice and coordinating the 'shop local' campaign*



Meeting the challenges to come

Our local economy, and the health and wellbeing of local people, is suffering as a result of the current crisis. As Labour and Cooperative councillors, what matters to us is listening to the needs of our local communities, and investing resources to help with recovery. Our four key areas are: local economy and market towns; housing and homelessness; environment; and community. Work so far includes:

- ✓ *Regular forums with market towns to share best practice and identify ways to invest in and support the long term health of our town centres*
- ✓ *Continuing the council's building programme of new affordable homes, with schemes delivering homes for local people in Woodchester, Nailsworth, Eastington, Cashes Green, Cam and Dursley*
- ✓ *Launching a public consultation on our plans for being a carbon neutral district by 2030*
- ✓ *Reviewing leisure provision across the district to ensure local residents can access the best services to help their mental and physical health and wellbeing*



Local Dursley candidate Danae Savvidou fighting for her local community

Stroud Constituency Labour Party

Stroud CLP covers a large area from Hardwicke down to Berkeley and Wotton-under-Edge, and from Frampton-on-Severn across to Bisley.

We believe everyone in our district deserves to be treated fairly and given the same opportunities regardless of their background.

Politics is a little different in these times of restrictions, but we continue to work with our communities on

campaigns that matter to local people.

If you do have any local issues you'd like us to help with, your local Labour Party is always interested to hear from you.

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“ Make sure your voice is heard! ”

Register to vote: www.gov.uk/register-to-vote

Former Stroud MP David Drew is standing in Stroud for the 2021 local elections

Local elections 2021

The 2020 local elections have been postponed until May 2021. You'll be voting for district and county councillors, police and crime commissioner, and your town and parish councillors. Campaigning is



likely to be different until we see an end to restrictions, so we won't be out door knocking or holding street stalls.

This newsletter is being delivered to you by Royal Mail, and the national Labour Party has issued guidance as to how leafletting locally can be done safely, so if you do get a local newsletter hand-delivered from us, it will comply with covid-safe guidelines.



Welcome to our autumn newsletter

These last few months have been challenging for all of us, but it has been inspiring to see how our communities have pulled together to support each other through tough times.

Despite the restrictions, Stroud District Council has continued to provide essential services such as collecting your waste and recycling, as well as providing specific support for individuals and businesses who have been most affected by the crisis. Through the coming months we will continue to work with our partners in the public sector, as well as charities and volunteer organisations, to invest time and resources into supporting our communities.

A strength of our district is the diversity of our towns and

communities, and this is reflected in our political makeup. The council has been run since 2012 by an alliance of Labour, Green and Liberal Democrat councillors, and much of our work also has cross party support from the Conservative group. When the crisis hit us in March I invited the other group leaders to work closely with me and the council's senior officers so we could respond quickly to the challenges of the health emergency. As long as the current crisis continues, this collaborative way of working will continue, as we all need to work together for everyone's best interests.

Whatever the next few months bring, I hope we'll continue to find strength in the people and places where we live, to help us get through these days together. Please do take care of yourself, let's all continue to look out for our neighbours, and above all, stay safe.



Cllr Doina Cornell, Leader, Stroud District Council

Doina making PPE with her family

**THANK YOU
NHS STAFF
RETAIL STAFF
REFUSE STAFF
KEY WORKERS
DELIVERY
DRIVERS
+ ALL
OTHERS
YOU ALL MATTER**



Useful Information

- ✓ *The most up to date advice and guidance on coronavirus: www.gov.uk/coronavirus or call 111 for advice on coronavirus and all health matters*
- ✓ *Book a test www.nhs.uk/coronavirus or call 119*
- ✓ *Download the NHS Covid 19 app on your smartphone to help stop the spread of the virus*
- ✓ *If you need help, the Gloucestershire Community Help Hub can connect you to local community groups and volunteers, call 01452 583519 Monday to Friday 8am to 8pm, and weekends 9am to 4pm or online at www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/helphub*

Stroud District Council Services

SDC's website has the latest information at www.stroud.gov.uk. Many of the district council's services can be applied for and paid for online, visit the website to order new recycling containers, a bulky waste collection or subscribe to the garden waste service.

You can report a range of issues including overflowing dog bins, a breach of planning rules, antisocial behaviour or flytipping.

If you can't get online, call customer services on 01453 766321 (out of hours emergencies 01453 222104)

Extra support for individuals

If you are experiencing financial hardship due to coronavirus, you may be able to get help with your council tax. Find out more at www.stroud.gov.uk (direct link: <https://tiny.cc/7dkysz>)

Looking after your wellbeing

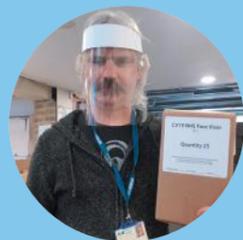
Gloucestershire County Council has lots of useful advice including how to get help and support www.gloucestershire.gov.uk (direct link: www.tiny.cc/zckysz). If you are feeling very distressed you can get help 24/7 by calling the Samaritans on 116 123 or texting 'Shout' to 85258.

Support for businesses

Gloucestershire's network of Growth Hubs offer lots of free online support, events and advice for businesses wanting to grow, sign up at www.thegrowthhub.biz

Your Labour councillors working for you

Stroud District Labour councillors and party members have been supporting and working with their local communities throughout the crisis.



Paul Denney (Cam)

"I headed up a local team of volunteers including Labour members to help assemble PPE when it became clear we were facing shortages, and donated face visors for GP surgeries and local NHS hospitals. It was really great to see how much the community and local businesses were prepared to offer help."



Cllr Mattie Ross (Stonehouse)

"The community spirit I've seen in the last few months has moved me. Volunteers and community organisations have stepped up when they were really needed. I've been the leading councillor on our community response team at the district council to support these organisations, and we've given nearly £50,000 to support their valuable work".

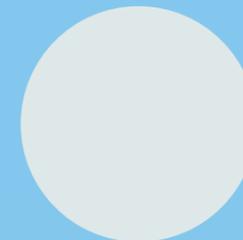


Cllr Trevor Hall (Dursley), Former Unite official

"I've been visiting workplaces to advise people facing redundancies. I'm worried that we're seeing more job losses now as businesses suffer with the impact of covid-19. If you're a member of a trade union like Unite, there is a lot of support you can get and you can join for as little as £2.38 a month if you are out of work." To join a union - <https://findyourunion.tuc.org.uk>

Find your local councillor

Visit the district council's home page www.stroud.gov.uk and enter your postcode to find your district councillor, as well as information on your local council services.



Cllr Jenny Miles (Cainscross)

"Our real concern is for our most vulnerable residents. I've been part of the SDC councillors and officers team that has worked to take people off the streets and prevent people from becoming homeless through the pandemic. We've worked really hard to make sure people are housed in local settings where they can still receive support, and we do our very best not to put people into hotels."



Cllr Steve Lydon (The Stanleys)

"I was very pleased to see local councils being put at the heart of the Covid response. We're keeping a close eye on local cases, as part of the community outbreak board that I sit on, representing SDC. The Environmental Health team at SDC are working closely with Public Health and colleagues across Gloucestershire. We will continue to constructively challenge on key topics such as shortage of PPE, availability of testing and access to NHS services. We will also continue to lobby so our care homes are given all the support they need."

Coronavirus Local Outbreak Management Plan (LOMP)

All local areas in the UK have a LOMP in place so that Public Health, local councils, NHS, Police and emergency services can work together to manage local outbreaks. You can find Gloucestershire's LOMP on the county council's website www.gloucestershire.gov.uk

Gloucestershire Coronavirus (COVID-19) intelligence website, with latest data and analysis <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk> (direct link: <https://tiny.cc/bekysz>)

Your local Councils

Gloucestershire has what is known as 'two tier' local government, and in Stroud District we also have 52 town and parish councils. The County Council delivers county-wide strategic services such as public health, adult and children's services, transport and highways.

There are six districts in the county, responsible for neighbourhood services such as waste collection and recycling, planning and environmental health.

