

Warwickshire County Council ('WCC') Report for Kenilworth Town Council June 2026 – Cllr Richard Dickson

(all data is county-wide for Q3 2025/26 unless stated, all Portfolio Holders re/appointed in May 2026 unless stated). Next Full WCC meeting Tuesday 21st July

	Service Area/Portfolio Holder (PH) (new since May 26 in italics)	Status
1	Adult Social Care & Health Cllr Anne-Marie Sonko	- Recent Care Quality Commission inspection of WCC Adult Social Care services rated 'good'. More consistent engagement with providers needed - The number of outstanding requests for adult social care assessments rises to 578 (previous quarter 420) - Only 19% (21%) of Adult Social Care service users receive a Direct Payment at month end - target 25% - Delivery of agreed extra safe accommodation for victim survivors of domestic abuse still described as 'challenging' - Only 59% (60%) of eligible older people have a concessionary bus pass.
2	Business & Economy Cllr Rob Howard	73% (46%) of businesses supported to start and grow through WCC activities – target 1,692 82% (78%) of new jobs created or safeguarded as result of WCC-led activities – target 600.
3	Children & Families <i>Cllr Wayne Briggs</i>	97% (88%) uptake of funded early education/childcare places for eligible children from 9 months + and 2 year olds (working families' entitlement) - above national average comparisons.
4	Communities & Localities Cllr Mike Bannister	- The number of Delegated Community Grant Rounds for Kenilworth County Councillors for local community groups now halved to 1 but £8K/councillor preserved. Details expected by 30th June - Details of £3K/councillor grant for Crime Awareness & Prevention Programme announced August 2025 still awaited - PH wants to defund WCC's equalities service – this is likely to be subject to a call-in but, if agreed, will go to public consultation
5	Environment, Heritage & Culture Cllr Darren Cheshire	- New Warwickshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy agreed – with no input from HS2 51% (51%) of household waste re-used, recycled and composted across Warwickshire – target 53% 103,944 'trees' planted - target 566,000
6	Education Cllr Wayne Briggs	- Only 24.4% (23.7%) Education Health Care plans completed within 20 weeks, below the latest National Average figure (47%) due to increasing demand and a significant backlog - Despite chasing by Division Cllr, there is continued delay in submission of revised planning application for SEMH facilities at St John's Primary school (development was meant to have been completed by September 2024). - Meetings continue with Alison Kennedy to discuss road safety measures near Kenilworth School & 6th Form - Forecast in-year spend on Home To School transport £51m. 11,647 (11,060) users of which 2,829 (2,511) SEND.
7	Fire, Rescue, Community Safety & Flooding <i>Cllr Robert Gisbourne</i>	- Fire appliance availability 68% (62%) against 100% target - Average response time for life risk and property incidents 8m 12s (8m 47s) as a result of new response model

		• More than 100 emergency planners and responders gathered in April to strengthen joint working and improve how Warwickshire prepares for and responds to emergencies.
8	Resources/Finance <i>Cllr James Crocker</i>	• 71% (71%) of savings achieved against 2025/26 revenue savings target • 35% of Performance Measures rated as Challenging/Under-Achieving • Risk of cyber attack still shown as biggest risk to WCC.
9	Transport & Planning <i>Cllr Stephen Shaw</i> (3 rd PH in less than 12 months)	• Condition of ABC Classified Roads rated Green – 70%, 76%, 74% (67%, 73%, 71%) • A452/A46 Developer Improvement Scheme £3.2m: Scheme previously delayed due to the requirement to identify sufficient funding. Capital Control Board working group have provided confirmation for the design phases to go ahead. Construction expected 2027/28 • Division Cllr still pushing for improvements to service to Warwick and Warwick hospital • Speed survey agreed on roads around Abbey Fields, co-funded by Cllrs Dickson, Drew and Stevens • Improved signage installed at Glasshouse Lane/Thickthorn Gardens junction to improve road safety. • Consultation on cycle route on Warwick Road from Pavilions site to St John's gyratory delayed still delayed. • Start of works at new Stansfield Grove roundabout set for 15th June (February 2026). No news on parking consultation amongst residents near Kenilworth School. • Meeting held with previous PH, WCC Highways staff and Persimmon representatives to improve pedestrian safety on eastern side of Warwick Road near LILO junction at Kenilworth Gate. Progress slow • Pedestrian safety measure on Bertie Road crossing from Waitrose carpark to Castle Medical Centre being investigated at request of Division Cllr • Roadmarkings now restored on Rosemary Hill junction • Completion of A46 Stoneleigh Junction Bridge To Nowhere still set for summer 2027, but no details of total cost despite WCC Council agreeing max budget in December 2025 • A452 Kenilworth to Leamington Cycle Route: March briefing held with local councillors. Work on Phase 1B now underway but still uncertainty over Phase 2 at Riverside Hotel bridge.
10	Leader/Strategy <i>Cllr George Finch</i>	• Council Plan agreed in April 2026 with new Performance Measures. Council Delivery Plan expected to be presented July 2026 • Climate Change Emergency revoked in May 2026 • Cabinet reshuffle May 2026 reduces no. of female PHs to one out of nine • Local Government Reorganisation/Devolution proposals response still expected July 2026 • New Chair and Vice Chair elected May 2026, both male. Only three female Chairs in past 15 years • Number of complaints against county councillors increased by 500+% from April to March 2025, compared with 2045/25, 80% of then against Reform councillors.