

Hi there,

I hope you are well and having a good week so far.

If you have anything you would like to add to future Bulletins or have questions about items on the Bulletin, please let me know at mtidey@swindon.gov.uk

There are a few 'repeat notices' this week, that are time sensitive or I thought would be good to highlight again.

<https://www.swindon.gov.uk/costofliving> <https://padlet.com/SBCFood/food>

<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/> <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/>

<https://www.worryingaboutmoney.co.uk/swindon>

*

Community Organisations Cost of Living Fund- Grant for Charities and Community Groups

Charities and community organisations carrying out vital work to help vulnerable people are invited to apply for a major government support package worth £76 million.

The fund will support frontline charities and community organisations struggling to meet increased demand for their critical services, such as the provision of food, emergency provisions, shelter, safe spaces, warmth and financial or housing advice.

Organisations can apply for grants worth between £10,000 and £75,000 to cover project and core costs, including office rent, utilities, staff and volunteers, from now until the end of March.

The funding will be distributed by The National Lottery Community Fund, with a closing date of **16th October 2023**.

You can [find more information on the funding here](#).

If your organisation is too small for the grant, it may be worth trying the [National Lottery Awards for All England | The National Lottery Community Fund](#) (tnlcommunityfund.org.uk)

LifeSkills from Family Action

As mentioned in previous Bulletins, Family Action are looking to find partners in Swindon to help deliver the Barclays LifeSkills course which looks to go beyond crisis support to empower people to move forward into hope and resilience by addressing barriers to employability, financial stability and social confidence.

The LifeSkills project equips settings with a wide range of training for individuals who would gain from support with social networking, employability skills and financial awareness. There is even a small grant to help cover costs.

Emily from Family Action has agreed to lead an online information session for anyone interested in delivering this course in their setting on

Wednesday 27th September at 9am.

If you would like further information, please contact Emily at

Emily.phelps-jones@family-action.org.uk

You can find out a bit more at:

www.family-action.org.uk/what-we-do/children-families/holidayhub/lifeskills/

Cost of Living Roadshow Event

We will be holding another Cost of Living Roadshow Event on

Monday 16th October from 10.30am until 4pm at Central Library to help residents at this challenging time. It is also a great chance to meet and chat with colleagues.

Thank you to those of you who have responded and committed to attend; but there is still space for anyone wishing to come along. Please do let me know if you would like to get involved and share your services, expertise and experiences.

Feeding Swindon Partnership Meeting

Wednesday 18th October at 1pm at the Civic Offices, Euclid Street.

The Partnership Meeting toffers the chance to hear about and share the great work going on addressing poverty in Swindon.

As well as the roadshow and the meeting, we are also planning other events. If you have a particular idea, or would like to be involved, please do let me know.

New Academic Year Adult Learning Opportunities

September is not just the time children go back to school, but an opportunity for anyone to learn new skills to help them in life- it could be the chance to start the journey to a new job or career, or just enjoy a new hobby.

SBC Adult Community Learning

Please find attached details of opportunities offered by SBC Adult Community Learning. You can also find out about their courses at

<https://www.swindon.gov.uk/adultlearning> or contact the team at acl@swindon.gov.uk

ACL are also delivering **Multiply** activities including courses which are designed to help people feel confident with maths. Those who feel anxious when thinking about numbers, or regularly say they are rubbish at maths, are not alone.

Multiply aims to support eligible adults who do not currently have Level 2 GCSE maths at grade 4 or above, previously known as a C grade or an O Level.

The free courses and support will focus on practical maths skills including:

- building basic numeracy skills
- reducing maths anxiety and increasing confidence
- work related maths skills
- helping your child with maths
- bitesize practical solutions to budgeting and cost saving

If you would like to find out more about the opportunities available in Swindon, call or text 07989 717800 or e-mail multiply@swindon.gov.uk

New College Adult Education Centre

Please also find attached and see below details of courses taking place during September/October 2023 at New College Adult Education Centre.

These courses are FREE to those that meet the eligibility criteria (see individual posters for full eligibility criteria). If you would like any further information or have anyone interested in attending please contact Ed at Ed.Kirk-Browne@newcollege.ac.uk to discuss and arrange registration.

Citizens Advice Swindon: Advice and Financial First Aid

The AFFA team from Citizens Advice Swindon will be out and about in the community for the month of September at the following locations

- Thursday 7th Sept: Beechcroft Library Beechcroft Rd, Upper Stratton
10am-12.30pm
- Sunday 10th Sept: Rainbow Fete, Olive Tree Café, Manor Garden Centre
11am-4pm
- Wednesday 13th Sept: Old Town Library, Swindon Arts Centre, Devizes Rd
1pm-3pm
- Thursday 14th Sept: Park Library, Cavendish Square, Park South
10am-12pm
- Monday 18th Sept: Central Library, Regent Circus
10am-1pm
- Wednesday 20th Sept: Bakers Café, 16 Emlyn Square
11am-1pm
- Thursday 21st Sept: Food Cycle, Pinetrees Community Centre, The Circle
From 6.30pm
- Friday 22nd Sept: Wroughton Library, Ellendune Community Centre
9.30am-11.30am
- Monday 25th Sept: Community Fridge, Gorse Hill Baptist Church
11am-2pm
- Thursday 28th Sept: Badbury Park Library, Badbury Park Community Hub,
Homington Avenue- 10:30am-1:30pm

Swindon WOW Guide

Please find attached the new WOW Guide for Swindon September to December 2023 compiled by Cat Attewell at Home Instead.

This is a listing of many local groups and activities suitable for older people including, but not limited to, those living with dementia.

If you would like to be added to the distribution list my emailing Cat at cat.attewell@homeinsteadswindon.co.uk or download from

<https://www.homeinstead.co.uk/swindon/blog/swindon-wow-guide/>

This guide is not intended as an exhaustive list, and if you know of any other activities that would be good to include or amends then please let Cat know for future editions. If new events and activities or changes arise before end of December, please let Cat know.