

From: **Cllr Smith** <[CllrSmith@uttlesford.gov.uk](mailto:CllrSmith@uttlesford.gov.uk)>

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Subject: July report

Dear all

I thought I would share an update on the main topics at the Council, grateful if you could share this e-mail with your Councillors. I would also like to draw attention to the attached e-mail. The council is holding a workshop for parish councils to review the call for sites which takes place next week. The local plan call for sites was supposed to have been published by the end of June, this schedule has been delayed by some technical issues and staff absence. The call for sites that have been submitted should now be available by the end of July. The Council's analysis of these sites should now be available by the end of the year (originally September). These delays are not expected to cause delays to the wider local plan project.

The administration has submitted their application to the High Court to explore whether a review can be undertaken. The costs to the Council for the Airport appeal are currently just over £1 million and we still await the submission for costs from MAG. I will keep Parish Councils up to date as more is revealed.

The Council continues its review into day centre provision and is looking to add to the services that are provided depending on local need from each location. Functions may be outsourced, and some of the new provision being considered is; employment and mental health support, debt management, Counselling, drinks and snacks, as well as providing a comfortable safe and attractive environment in which to spend time and socialise.

I encourage Parish Councils to submit proposals to the Local Highways Panel, schemes for the current financial year have been finalised but all submitted and un-allocated schemes will be reviewed for the following year. Essex County Council have doubled their usual contribution to the LHP which is fortunate as the District Council for the second year has withheld the normal contribution.

Finally, the Ward Member's initiative fund is open and you are all welcome to come to me with any community proposals that may benefit from this fund. As with previous years, the funds are £2,000 for the ward. Funding must be spent for the direct community benefit, and so could be related to parish council projects/activity, funding towards community events, local organisations, charities or sports groups. Importantly, there is no minimum value on any payment but it must be for one-off funding and must not be used to match funding from any other UDC grant.

Kind regards,  
George

Cllr George Smith  
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