# Contents

1.Cost of Living		3
1.1 House of	f Bread	3
1.2 Here to h	nelp - cost of living support	3
1.3 Help for Hou	useholds	4
1.4 Staffords	shire Warmer Homes	4
1.5 Beat the	Cold	4
1.6 Hearts and	Hands	4
1.7 Money savir	ng expert - Martin Lewis	5
2. Care and Supp	ort	5
2.1 Staffordshire	e County Council list of Care Providers	5
2.2 Age Concer	n, Stafford and District	5
2.3 Care Plus		5
2.4 Staffordshire	e Together for Carers Service	6
3. Council Directo	ry	6
3.1 Staffordshire	e County Council	6
3.2 Stafford Bor	rough Council	7
3.3 Staffordshire	e Local Councillors	7
4.Local Services		8
4.1 Local Police	<b></b>	9
4.2 Safe and W	/ell	9
4.3 Staffordshire	e Fire and Rescue Service	9
4.4 Citizens Adv	vice Bureau	9
5.Churches		10
5.1 Love Staffor	rd	10
5.2 Contacts for	r Staffordshire churches	11
5.3 Rising Broo	k Church	11
5.4 Elim Hope F	Foodbank	12
5.5 Stafford Stre	eet Pastors	12
5.6 Fountains C	Counselling Service	12
6.Community Hub	os	13
6.1 Warm Spac	es	13
6.2 Stafford Libi	raries	13
7.Housing		14
7.1 Housing Ad	vice - Rough Sleeping	14
7.2 Stafford Bor	rough Council	14
	art, Eagle House	
7.4 Stafford and	d Rural Homes	15
8.Health & Wellbe	eina	15

	8.1 Samaritans Support Line	.15
	8.2 Cerebral Palsy Mid Staffordshire	.15
	8.3 Organisations across Staffordshire offering support with mental health	.15
9	Finance	.16
	9.1 Aspire	.16
	9.2 Turn2us	.16
	9.3 Benefit calculator	.16
	9.4 Stop loan sharks	.17
	9.5 Worried you have been scammed	.17

# 1.Cost of Living

Includes links to a range of Staffordshire based organisations offering support for those affected by the Cost of Living Crisis. Support includes food and clothing banks, insulation to homes, help with heating bills, tips on Money Saving from Martin Lewis and financial support.

### 1.1 House of Bread

Supports vulnerable and homeless people in Stafford and the surrounding area. They hold activities and drop-in sessions providing food, friendship, support and advice

- Practical support Food, Toiletry and Clothing Banks (Adult and Children). Our Food Banks are available and accessible to all. You don't need a referral from a professional.
- Advice, guidance on a range of issues as well as signposting to professional organisations.

### **Contact Details:**

Office Address: Staffordshire Technology Park 22 Unit 124 Centurion House Anson court,

Beaconside, Stafford St 18 OGB

Telephone Number: 01785 243492

E mail: info@hobstafford.co.uk

Anyone can make a referral via this link

https://hobstafford.co.uk/referral

# CAFE43: 43 Browning Street Stafford ST16 3AX

### **Opening Hours:**

Monday 12 - 2:00 PM, 3.00 - 5:00 PM

Wednesday 9.30 - 11:00 AM, 12 - 2:00 PM, 3 - 5:00 PM

Thursday 9.30 - 11:00 AM, 12 - 2:00 PM, 3 - 5:00 PM

### Click on the link below to see other Food banks in the area

https://www.staffordshireconnects.info/kb5/staffordshire/directory/results.page?coverage=stafforddistrict&familychannel=9-5

### 1.2 Here to help - cost of living support

Across Staffordshire many people are feeling the pressure from increasing cost of living.

If you're struggling financially or concerned about the future, getting help early can make a big difference.

Lots of support is available from many different organisations, and it is often closer than people think.

On these pages you'll find information, advice, and support to help you manage cost of living pressures.

https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Community/Cost-of-living-support/Here-to-help.aspx

# 1.3 Help for Households

### Help for Households (GOV.UK)

Guidance on getting an extra payment to help with the cost of living if you're entitled to certain benefits or tax credits.

### 1.4 Staffordshire Warmer Homes

A means tested scheme run by Staffordshire County Council, in partnership with district and borough councils. Our goal is to combat fuel poverty across the county and help residents to heat their homes for less using greener and more energy efficient solutions.

https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Warmer-Homes/Staffordshire-Warmer-Homes.aspx

Who can apply?

You could be eligible for help if you meet one of the below criteria:

- Earn under £31k per household
- · Claim a means tested benefit

The application process:

The whole process from enquiring to installing can take weeks or months, but we're hoping to finish installations before April 2023. The process will be:

- 1. Fill out the application form
- 2. E.ON will give you a call after application to discuss eligibility and the different solutions on offer
- 3. A survey will be carried out on your house to choose the best energy saving option for house.
- 4. Install by a Staffordshire County Council partner

### 1.5 Beat the Cold

A Staffordshire based charity, whose aim is to reduce fuel poverty, and cold related ill health. We're a trusted partner within Stoke on Trent, Staffordshire, and surrounding areas, and have over 20 years' experience in energy advice and support. Beat the Cold is committed to helping those who live in, or are at risk of fuel poverty, or whose health could be detrimentally affected by a cold home. We pride ourselves in going the extra mile to support every service user, regardless of the complexity of their situation.

Address: Beat the Cold, The Bridge Centre, Stoke-on-Trent, ST2 8DD

Phone: 01782 914915 Freephone: 0800 389 2258 https://www.beatcold.org.uk/

### 1.6 Hearts and Hands

Hearts and Hands is a local non-profit organisation initially set up to assist those who had been affected by reduced income, reduced hours or furlough due to COVID in Stafford and surrounding villages. We now predominately deal with working people who need a bit of help, zero contracts, part time and self-employed.

The voluntary team at Hearts and Hands have the needs of the community foremost in their mind with the mission to help wherever they can to those who are in need, breaking the social barriers and giving assistance where needed.

Our aim is to help as many families and individuals as we can.

To do this we seek assistance from the public and often put out requests for support and details of the support we can offer.

Hearts and Hands collection points are scattered throughout the area, outside the homes of community minded people who collect dry food and tinned food goods to add to the stock at Hearts and Hands to be given freely.

# https://heartshands.uk/

# 1.7 Money saving expert - Martin Lewis

Offers advice to household on a range of money savings.

https://www.moneysavingexpert.com

# 2. Care and Support

Includes links to Private Care and support agencies in the community including Age Concern UK and Care Plus also a link to the Staffordshire's Carers Support Service.

### 2.1 Staffordshire County Council list of Care Providers

https://www.staffordshireconnects.info/kb5/staffordshire/directory/results.page?coverage=stafforddistrict&serviceoffered=4&attributes=5&adultchannel=2-2

# 2.2 Age Concern, Stafford and District

Age UK Stafford & District offers lots of services for older people and their carers.

### **Contact Details:**

Address: Bradbury House, Weston Rd, Stafford ST16 3RS

Telephone Number: 01785 607060

**Opening Hours:** 

Monday - Friday 8.00 AM - 4.00 PM

https://www.ageuk.org.uk/staffordanddistrict/about-us/contact-us/

### 2.3 Care Plus

Care you can trust, in your own home. Our support is individually tailored to meet your requirements and includes a specialist service for complex and palliative needs.

We can help you get up and dressed in the morning, provide high quality personal care or lend a hand with shopping, cleaning and looking after your pets.

Personal care

Assistance with medicines

Complex care

Palliative care

Dementia support

Meal preparation

**Acton Court** 

**Acton Gate** 

Stafford

ST18 9AP

Contact us | Care Plus (care-plus.org.uk)

# 2.4 Staffordshire Together for Carers Service

Staffordshire Together for Carers service is delivered in partnership with a range of organisations committed to supporting Carers.

We provide information, advice and a wide range of specialist support services designed to help adult and young Carers continue in their caring role for as long as they choose and reduce the impact the caring role can have on their own health and wellbeing.

We work directly with individual Carers to discuss their concerns and needs and design a tailored personalised support package.

Watch these short videos to hear more about our offer for adult and young carers.

https://www.n-compass.org.uk/our-services/carers/staffordshire-together-for-carers-service

### 3. Council Directory

# Includes links to Stafford Borough Council and Staffordshire County Council and all Local Councillors

# 3.1 Staffordshire County Council

Generally, the county council is responsible for the more strategic functions and services such as education and social care. They offer help and advice about services they provide including school admissions, Adult Social Care, bus passes, blue badges, Registrations of Births, deaths, and marriages.

The SCC Website will link into numerous other agencies providing services across the County such as Fostering, Adoption Services, Adult Services, Childcare services.

https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Contact/Contact.aspx

Email: contactus@staffordshire.gov.uk

Telephone number: General enquiries (Contact Centre): 0300 111 8000

Opening times - Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm.

# 3.2 Stafford Borough Council

Our focus is to constantly improve the quality of life of local people by providing a safe, clean and attractive place for residents to live and work, and encourage people to engage in developing strong communities

Stafford Borough Council Civic Centre Riverside Stafford ST16 3AQ.

Customer Contact Telephone Line: 01785 619000 Email: info@staffordbc.gov.uk

 $Responsibilities: Bins \ \& \ Recycling \cdot Council \ Tax \cdot Housing \cdot Planning \cdot Environment \cdot Leisure \cdot Car \ Parking$ 

# 3.3 Staffordshire Local Councillors

Councillor	Ward	Telephone	Mobile Number	Political party
Councillor Christine A Baron	<u>Forebridge</u>	01785 604128	07782 231051	Independent (Ind)
Councillor Jenny Barron	Weeping Cross and Wildwood		07702 172843	Borough Ind
Councillor Ray Barron	Weeping Cross and Wildwood		07702 172843	Borough Ind
Councillor Frances Beatty MBE, JP, ARAgs	Milwich	01785 240667		Conservative
Councillor Alexander R G Brown	Haywood and Hixon		07508 194 992	Conservative
Councillor Ralph P Cooke	<u>Penkside</u>	01785 242100		Labour
Councillor Andrew G Cooper	Milford	01889 881 895		Conservative
Councillor Bryan M Cross MBE	Holmcroft	01785 601009		Conservative
Councillor Michael G Dodson	<u>Fulford</u>	01782 399855		Conservative
Councillor Ann P Edgeller	Baswich	01785 664501		Conservative
Councillor Patrick M M Farrington	Gnosall and Woodseaves	01785 824162		Conservative
Councillor Ian D Fordham	St Michael's and Stonefield		07801 575 625	Borough Ind
Councillor Aidan T A Godfrey	Common		07975 767031	Labour
Councillor Mark Green	Walton	01785 747 105	07791 185 267	Borough Ind
Councillor Andrew S Harp	Milwich	01889 505400		Conservative
Councillor Anne D Hobbs	Manor		07981 871 230	Labour
Councillor Michael V Holmes	Highfields and Western Downs		07474 450 660	Labour

Councillor Jill Hood	<u>Walton</u>	01785 818889		Borough Ind
Councillor Roy James	Swynnerton and Oulton	01785 760880	07881 943735	Conservative
Councillor Gareth Jones	Barlaston	01782 372349		Conservative
Councillor Peter W Jones	Eccleshall	01785 851381		Conservative
Councillor Jack Kemp	Coton	01785 253930		Labour
Councillor Robert Kenney	St Michael's and Stonefield		07980 591 719	Borough Ind
Councillor Philip A Leason MBE, JP	St Michael's and Stonefield	01785 817 980		Borough Ind
Councillor Angela M Loughran	Manor	01785 254109		Labour
Councillor Brendan McKeown	Haywood and Hixon	01889 272 666	07966 135 536	Borough Ind
Councillor D McNaughton	Highfields and Western Downs		07834 253 986	Labour
Councillor James A Nixon	Swynnerton and Oulton		07855 295 917	Conservative
Councillor Tony Nixon	<u>Littleworth</u>		07494 698 711	Labour
Councillor Louise Nixon	Coton		07377 890249	Labour
Councillor Gillian P K Pardesi	<u>Littleworth</u>		07496 864 059	Labour
Councillor Tony Pearce	Doxey and Castletown	01785 244 558	07949 597 125	Green
Councillor Jeremy Pert	Eccleshall		07740 924659	Conservative
Councillor Marnie Phillips	Baswich		07932 879 015	Conservative
Councillor Jonathan Price	Holmcroft	01785 240903	07792 024858	Conservative
Councillor Peter Roycroft	<u>Fulford</u>	01889 505240		Conservative
Councillor Mike Smith	Gnosall and Woodseaves	01785 280648		Conservative
Councillor Raymond M Sutherland	Seighford and Church Eaton	01785 244739		Conservative
Councillor Carolyn Trowbridge	Rowley		07787 708 575	Conservative
Councillor Mark Winnington	Seighford and Church Eaton	01785 822 224		Conservative

# 4.Local Services

Includes details of the non-emergency police and Fire & Rescue services and the Citizens Advice Bureau.

### 4.1 Local Police

Address: Eastgate St, Stafford ST16 2DQ

Non-Emergency Phone Number: 0300 123 4455

https://www.staffordshire.police.uk/contact/af/contact-us/

### 4.2 Safe and Well

Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service offer a Safe and Well visit for those residents who qualify to ensure they are safe at home. For those that do not fit the criteria, a tailored help and advice service is offered instead.

### Get in contact

For Safe and Well advice and guidance contact the Contact Centre on 0800 0241 999.

Residents who are deaf or hard of hearing can text a request or enquiry to the following telephone number - 07528 983 101.

We also have a dedicated phone-line in the Contact Centre for Olive Branch Partners to make referrals - 0300 3300 200.

If you are a partner agency and would like to make a referral for a client to receive a Home Fire Safety Visit, please complete the partner referral form.

### 4.3 Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service

Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters Pirehill Stone Staffordshire ST15 0BS

In an emergency always dial 999.

General enquires: 0300 330 1000 (freephone)

Enquiries regarding smoke alarms: 0800 0241 999

Safe and Well: 0800 0241 999

General enquiries: contact@staffordshirefire.gov.uk

### 4.4 Citizens Advice Bureau

At Citizens Advice we believe no one should have to face problems without good quality, independent advice. That's why we're here: to give people the knowledge and the confidence they need to find their way forward – whoever they are, and whatever their problem.

Address: 17 Eastgate St, Stafford ST16 2LZ

Phone: 0808 278 7874

https://citizensadvicessw.org.uk/how-can-we-help/

# 5.Churches

Includes links to all *Love Stafford* member Churches and affiliated groups such as Street Pastors and Fountains Counselling Service.

### 5.1 Love Stafford

Churches in the Stafford area Associated with Love Stafford These people are called to Love Stafford as God loves Stafford If you want to contact one of these groups, please use the direct details below rather than via Love Stafford.

http://www.lovestafford.org.uk/

Church	Website
Beacon Church (Sandon Road Baptist Church)	www.thebeaconchurch.com
Berkswich Methodist Church	www.berkswich-church.org
Castle Parish Church	www.castlechurch.org.uk
Church Lane Evangelical Church	www.church-lane.org.uk
Elim Hope Church	www.elimhope.church
Harvest Community Church	www.hccstafford.org
Holy Trinity Parish Church, Baswich	www.berkswich.org.uk
Life Church All Nations	www.allnations.org.uk
Mid Trent Team of Parishes	www.midtrentchurches.org.uk
Mount Peniel Church	www.mountpeniel.org
New Testament Church of God, Doxey	www.ntcgrenewal.org.uk
Redeemed Christian Church	www.rccgharvestcentre.org
Rising Brook Baptist Church	www.risingbrook.org
Rising Brook Methodist Church	www.risingbrookmethodist.wordpress.com
Salvation Army	www.salvationarmy.org.uk/stafford
St Annes Roman Catholic Church	www.st-annes-st.org.uk
St Austin's Roman Catholic Church	www.saintaustins.org.uk
St Bertelin's Parish Church, Holmcroft	

St Giles Parish Church, Haughton and allied parishes	www.haughton-staffs.org.uk
St John's Parish Church, Littleworth	www.stjohnsstafford.org
St Lawrence Parish Church, Gnosall	
St Mary's Collegiate Parish Church (with St Chads)	www.stmarysstafford.org.uk
St Patricks Roman Catholic Church	www.stpatricksstafford.co.uk
St Paul's Parish Church, Lichfield Road	www.staffordstpauls.org.uk
St Peter's Parish Church, Rickerscote	www.stpetersrickerscote.co.uk
St Thomas and St Andrew Parish Church, Doxey	www.doxeychurch.co.uk
Stafford Methodist Circuit	www.staffmc.org.uk
Stafford Baptist Church (The Green)	www.staffordbaptistchurch.co.uk
Trinity United Reformed / Methodist Church	www.trinitychurchstafford.org.uk
Wildwood Church	www.wildwoodchurch.co.uk

### 5.2 Contacts for Staffordshire churches

https://www.findachurch.co.uk/Search.aspx?address=stafford&secret=42cace

# 5.3 Rising Brook Church

**Contact Details:** 

Address: Rising Brook Baptist Church Centre, Burton Square, Stafford ST17 9LT

Telephone Number: 01785 214750

Email address: church@risingbrook.org

Rising Brook Food Bank

For those in need of food or other necessities, we run a food bank that supports our local community. Anyone is welcome to come in and chat to a member of our team.

**Opening Times:** 

Monday - Friday 9:30AM - 11:30PM

# Information and advice

We offer assistance with debts, utilities, benefits, budgeting, employment, plus more.

Food shopping and prescriptions

If you do not need the Food Bank system and can afford to pay for your own food and other provisions then we are able to shop and deliver food and prescription items to you or connect you with another local service who can.

If you cannot leave the house yourself.

If you do not have a relative/friend or neighbour who can shop for you.

If you are unable to access a delivery service by the supermarket.

### Repairs

If you are stuck with a basic house repair that requires the help of a volunteer handyman, please use our Repair Service. We are not professionals, merely enthusiastic amateurs, willing to respond as quickly as possible. We are unable to help with electric or gas problems or where a certificate or qualification is needed.

### Other needs

If you need help with other things such as dog walking or more specific needs, we have volunteers who may be able to help.

# 5.4 Elim Hope Foodbank

Elim Hope Foodbank is designed to help local individuals and families in crisis, through the provision of emergency food supplies. The foodbank is managed by Elim Hope Church works with a number of local charities, churches and organisations who refer individuals to the foodbank.

If you need help from the food bank you will need to be referred by one of our partner agencies. For more details on how to do this please call.

Address: St Patrick's St, Stafford ST16 2PL

Tel Number: 01785 242373

Open: Tuesday and Thursday

Times: 10.30am to 3pm

https://elimhope.church/elim-hope-foodbank/

### 5.5 Stafford Street Pastors

We offer caring, listening, and practical help to anyone on our streets between 10.30pm and 4am on Friday and Saturday nights in the town centre.

### Contact Details:

Address: Church Lane Evangelical Church, Church Lane, Stafford ST16 2AW

Mobile Number: 07507567072

E mail address: staffordstreetpastors@gmail.com

Referrals: https://streetpastors.org/locations/stafford/contact-us

### 5.6 Fountains Counselling Service

By telephoning Fountains confidential phone line on 07980387847.

Our dedicated co-ordinator will normally be the first person you speak to and they will take your contact details and arrange for a counsellor to call you back.

If our co-ordinator is not available, please leave your name and contact number and she will return your call as soon as possible.

fountainscounselling.org.uk - A place to be heard

### 6.Community Hubs

Includes details of various community venues, including libraries, in and around Stafford offering "Warm Spaces" for people to meet others for company and refreshments during the cold weather.

### 6.1 Warm Spaces

The rising cost of living means that many of us are worried about energy bills. This winter, a network of community organisations, churches, libraries and businesses are opening their doors as safe and friendly 'warm spaces'.

Lounges in some of our retirement living communities in Stafford, Stone and nearby villages will be offering a warm welcome, along with a hot drink and a biscuit.

Thank you to all the organisations below who have joined in our 'Warm Spaces' initiative.

# Dobree Close, Colwich ST17 0XF

Open: Wednesday to Friday Times: 11.30am to 2.30pm

Shakespeare Road, Stafford ST17 9TY

Open: Wednesday to Friday Times: 11.30am to 2.30pm

Sycamore, Stone ST15 8NJ

Open: Monday, Tuesday and Thursday

Times: 11.30am to 2.30pm

Marsh and Hopton Court, Stafford ST16 3BH

Open: Monday, Wednesday and Friday

Times: 11.30am to 2.30pm

Impstones, Gnosall ST20 0DJ

Open: Monday and Friday Times: 11.30am to 2.30pm

Gough and Crispin Close, Stafford ST16 1LE

Open: Tuesday, Thursday and Friday

Times: 11.30am to 2.30pm

### 6.2 Stafford Libraries

### **Community Library Events**

# 7. Housing

Includes links for SBC Emergency Housing Advice and links to several Housing Associations in the borough including Midland Heart Housing Association and Stafford and Rural Homes.

### 7.1 Housing Advice - Rough Sleeping

Stafford Borough Council and partner organisations work together in to ensure that during freezing temperatures anyone sleeping rough has access to shelter.

If you, or someone you are aware of, is facing the prospect of sleeping rough during severe weather, please contact the Housing Options Team on 01785 619000 or Emergency Out of Hours number 01785 619170.

We are committed to ensuring that there is a practical approach to supporting rough sleepers in the area and are working with StreetLink to do this. Therefore, if you are sleeping rough or come across someone who is sleeping rough, please call 0300 500 0914 or visit StreetLink Service.

https://www.staffordbc.gov.uk/housing-advice-rough-sleeping#:~:text=We%20are%20committed%20to%20ensuring,0914%20or%20visit%20StreetLink%20Service.

### 7.2 Stafford Borough Council

There are a number of housing associations that have properties available to rent within Stafford Borough and you can contact them directly to register with them.

https://www.staffordbc.gov.uk/housing-associations

### 7.3 Midland Heart, Eagle House

Housing Association providing affordable Housing, supported accommodation and Retirement living accommodation to households within local communities.

### **Contact Details:**

Address: Newport Rd, Stafford ST16 2GH

Telephone Number: 01785 228484

Mobile Number: 07871 578813

Email: eaglehouse@midlandheart.org.uk

**Opening Hours:** 

Monday - Thursday 9.00 AM - 1.00 PM

https://www.supportstaffordshire.org.uk/organisation-directory/midland-heart-eagle-house

### 7.4 Stafford and Rural Homes

SARH is a housing association, we own and manage over 6,000 homes across Stafford and the surrounding areas. We also deliver a number of local Independent Living schemes.

The Rurals

1 Parker Court, Dyson Way

Staffordshire Technology Park, Beaconside,

**STAFFORD** 

**ST18 0WP** 

Phone 0800 111 4554

https://www.supportstaffordshire.org.uk/organisation-directory/stafford-and-rural-homes

### 8. Health & Wellbeing

Includes links to organisations offering help and support to specific groups including Samaritans, Cerebral Palsy Mid Staffordshire, and Brighter Futures supporting those with Mental health issues.

# 8.1 Samaritans Support Line

Samaritans offer emotional support to anyone in need, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

You don't have to be suicidal to ring Samaritans. Many people call because they are stressed, depressed, anxious, bereaved, lonely or struggling with everyday life.

Anyone can contact Samaritans for free, any time, from any phone - even from a mobile without credit.

Call 116 123

### 8.2 Cerebral Palsy Mid Staffordshire

We are Cerebral Palsy Mid Staffordshire and we offer support and information to individual members and their families. We exist to enable adults and children to claim their rights, lead full and rewarding lives and play a full part in society.

Open: Tuesday and Wednesday

Times: 11.30am to 3.30pm

**Information and Directions** 

# 8.3 Organisations across Staffordshire offering support with mental health Support lines include:

North Staffordshire urgent mental health helpline: 0800 0 328 728 option 1 (covers Stoke-on-Trent, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffs Moorlands)

South Staffordshire urgent mental health helpline: 0808 196 3002 (covers Stafford, Stone, Rugeley, Cannock, South Staffs, Lichfield, Burton, Uttoxeter, Tamworth)

Staffordshire Mental Health Helpline - a confidential emotional support helpline run by Brighter Futures, offering a safe place to talk if you're feeling worried, stressed or low, or if you're concerned about someone else. Call 0808 800 2234 Text 0786 002 2821, email <a href="mailto:staffordshire.helpline@brighter-futures.org.uk">staffordshire.helpline@brighter-futures.org.uk</a> or online chat at <a href="https://www.brighter-futures.org.uk">www.brighter-futures.org.uk</a>.

### 9 Finance

Includes links to organisations to help people claim benefits, including Aspire and Turn2us; and the SCC Benefits Calculator to check eligibility, and contact details to report Loan Sharks and Scams.

### 9.1 Aspire

### Claiming benefits

Aspire helps people claim benefits, they, we can do what is called a better off calculation to see if you should change/claim welfare benefits.

### Debt awareness

If you've fallen into debt, you don't have to cope on your own. Our team is on hand to help you get your finances under control.

Our specialist team are training to tackle debt, we can redress the balance so that you are back in control. We have a list of options that we can share with you to help you get back into credit. We can help you to find the right solution for you and your money issues.

Need help budgeting? Ever considered how you can save more money? Speak to one of our advisors who will help you to change utility suppliers, change phone suppliers, apply for grants and get better banking providers.

Have a chat with one of our advisors

If you have a question about money advice, send a message through your account, email us, text us on 07851260728 or call one of the team on 01782 635200.

https://www.aspirehousing.co.uk/our-services/money-advice

### 9.2 Turn2us

We help people in financial need gain access to welfare benefits, charitable grants and other financial help – online, by phone and face to face through our partner organisations.

https://www.turn2us.org.uk/About-Us

### 9.3 Benefit calculator

Staffordshire County Council benefits calculator will help you find out what benefits you can claim.

The calculator is free to use, and the details you provide are anonymous.

Before you start, make sure you have information about your savings, income, pensions and existing benefits (for you and your partner).

If you run out of time, you can save your calculation and come back to it later and pick up right where you left off.

https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Business/Workplace-health/Entitled-To-Benefit-calculator.aspx

# 9.4 Stop loan sharks

We investigate and prosecute illegal money lenders and provide support for borrowers in the UK. if you have borrowed from a loan shark or are worried about someone else, we are here to help and keep you safe. our specially trained staff will provide you with emotional and practical support that is tailored to your needs.

Call us anytime 0300 555 2222

https://www.stoploansharks.co.uk

# 9.5 Worried you have been scammed

- End all communication immediately
- Call your bank and cancel any payments, especially recurring ones, if you can
- Report to the police Action Fraud service 0300 123 2040
- Further advice Citizen Advice Scams Action helpline 0808 250 505029