

## **Parish Council Report January 2019 – District Councillor Barbara Williams**

### **Local Government Finance Settlement 2019/20**

The Government announced in December that Worcestershire's bid to be a pilot for 75% business rates retention in 2019/20 has been approved. We will be working through what this means for us, but it will be recalled that we agreed that there will be no detriment for each participating council and the additional revenue – expected to be £4.5m – will be used to invest in services that help to prevent or reduce the cost of social care

### **National waste strategy published**

The Government's resource and waste strategy was published in december.. The most immediate headline for us is consultation on the requirement for weekly food waste collections by 2023 and potentially free charge for garden waste collection

### **The 2021 Census of Population and Housing in England and Wales**

The UK Statistics Authority has made its recommendations on the content and conduct of the 2021 Census. The census is planned to take place on 21 March 2021, and a [White Paper](#) has been published. The recommendations include the proposal that, for the first time, the 2021 Census for England and Wales will be predominantly online. The Office for National Statistics (ONS) intends to make it easy to respond online on all devices, including mobiles and tablets, with Assisted Digital face-to-face help available for those who need it. Paper questionnaires will also be available

### **Great British Spring Clean**

Once again we will be taking part in the Great British Spring Clean in 2019. To launch the spring clean on 22 March, we will be taking part in a number of picks, and we will also be supporting litterpicks across the district throughout April.

Happy New year to you all

Cllr Barbara Williams