**Updates for Sector 3 bulletin – 8th March**

**International Women’s Day**

Today is International Women’s Day, a day to celebrate the achievements of women across the world. Here in Stockport, we’re lucky enough to have lots of inspirational women who help shape our borough and our communities.

This year’s theme is ‘Embrace Equity’, and on the council social media they’ll be sharing videos of female leaders from across the borough talking about what the theme means to them, and how they incorporate it into their work. Make sure you look out for these videos on the day, from inspirational women across Stockport. You can also read about what’s happening to reduce digital inequalities for women in Stockport in the [#DigitalStockport blog](https://www.digitalstockport.info/).

There are lots of events going on across the borough to help celebrate International Women’s Day. Join Stockport libraries in partnership with the Stockport Women’s Networking Group for an afternoon of female led talks, workshops and demo ranging from Laughter Yoga to Mirror Work! Hosted at Central Library from 1pm – 4.30pm, the event is free to attend and features a range of inspirational female speakers. Anyone is welcome to attend! Book your place via [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/international-womens-day-event-tickets-551722204967?aff=ebdssbdestsearch).

On Friday (10th March) join the Stockport Women and Girls Network along with Make a Difference for their 2nd annual Community Awards! With guest speakers, performers, a cultural lunch and even a prize raffle, it should be a fantastic event celebrating all the work that’s going on by our inspirational women in Stockport. Tickets are sold out online, but a small amount are available on the door for £10 per person. The event takes place from 9.30am – 2.30pm at The Guildhall (169 Wellington Road South, SK1 3UA).

Following International Women’s Day, Stockport museums are hosting an event at the Hat Works museum on the 15th March. The event gathers makers, researchers and creatives from a range of disciplines to examine what women mean to archives today. This event is hosted and facilitated by Hat Works Museum and Stockport Local Heritage Library with funding from Greater Manchester Combined Authority. It is developed in partnership with Manchester School of Art. Book your ticket now on [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/women-archives-tickets-544166405367).

**Funding available to celebrate His Majesty The King Charles III’s Coronation**

If you work with local organisations who are planning a celebration on the Coronation Bank Holiday weekend in May, please let them know about [this funding opportunity](https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/news/blog/2023-02-03/how-you-can-commemorate-the-kings-coronation) which is available through the National Lottery. Grants are available from £300 - £10,000 for community activities to help celebrate the Coronation, and can be used to fund any event happening on or around the weekend of the 6th May.

Apply for funding on the [National Lottery webpages](https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/programmes).

We’re also encouraging people to get their applications in for street parties over the weekend by the deadline of **7th April 2023.** Find out more on the [council newsroom](https://www.stockport.gov.uk/news/plan-your-street-party-for-his-majesty-king-charles-iiis-coronation-today).

**Spring Clean**

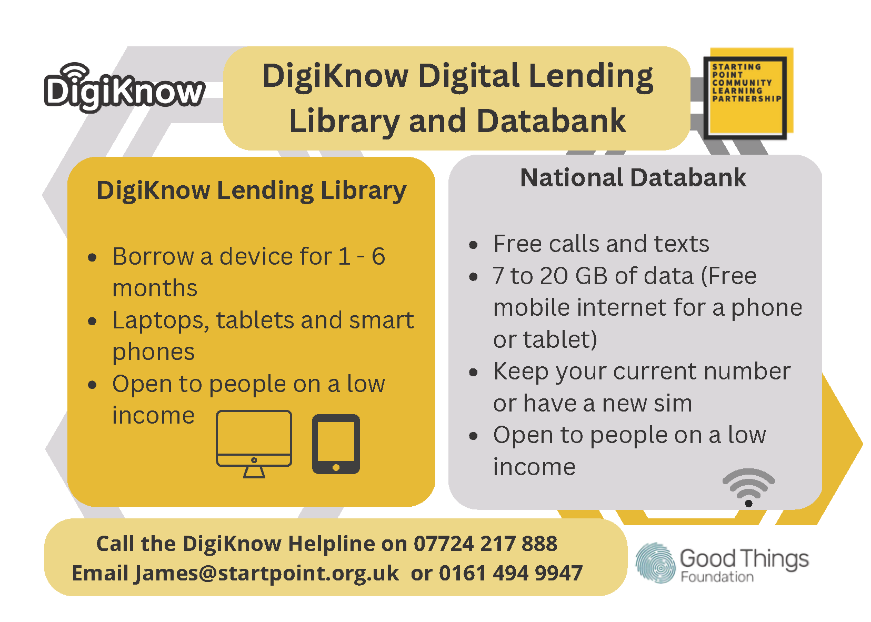
On Wednesday, along with volunteers including staff and partners, the council kick started an eight-week campaign by tidying up the area around the Civic Complex. Over the next eight-weeks, they’ll be highlighting some of the great work that goes on across Stockport to keep our streets clean and safe, as well as a number of clean up events and activities. They will be getting to work on tidying up District and Local Centres, parks and greenspaces, removing graffiti and collecting waste, with the help of ‘Friends of’, groups, schools and volunteer groups and much more. Visit the council’s social media channels or [newsroom](https://www.stockport.gov.uk/news/stockport-council-launch-spring-clean-campaign-and-invite-the-stockport) to find out more.

**Warm spaces scheme still open for everyone**

With the weather turning cold again, a reminder to all residents that warm spaces remain open, with a warm space in every ward of the borough offering a free space to spend time, often with a hot drink and community activities for all the family. You can find your local space by using the [interactive map](https://www.stockport.gov.uk/warm-spaces).

This winter has been particularly challenging for many, with the cost of living impacting on many residents. Support is available through the cost of living hub, which rounds up all of the help on offer for residents.

**Devices and data for people on low income**

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People on a low income may be able to borrow a laptop, tablet or smartphone for free from the DigiKnow Device Lending Library. Free data (sim cards) are also available from the National Databank. Call the DigiKnow Helpline on 077724 217888 or contact James at Starting Point on 0161 494 9947 or by email james@startpoint.org.uk.