



coastline

Summer 2018

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Suffolk Coastal District Council's newsletter

www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk



Get in shape for Deben

Deben Leisure Centre is just days away from reopening after a £3.5 million refurbishment, bringing state-of-the-art leisure facilities to Woodbridge.

The centre was closed in September 2017 and is the first project to be completed in Suffolk Coastal's five year programme to improve leisure facilities and encourage more people to become active and fit.

The enhanced leisure centre includes a spacious gym with 58 stations and the latest equipment. Fitness

classes will be available with two new studios for group cycling and exercise.

A new thermal suite is accessible from the pool area and features a steam room, sauna and ice feature.

Furthermore, solar panels have been installed to make the building more energy efficient.

Eight swift boxes have been placed on the side of the building, in an aim to help stop the declining number of birds.

Cllr TJ Haworth-Culf, Cabinet Member for Customers, Communities and Leisure, said: "We are very excited about Deben Leisure Centre reopening next week and hope we have created a facility that will be enjoyed by the community for years to come."

"I would like to thank members of Deben Leisure Centre, and everyone in the area, for their support while the work has been going on.

"We are committed to getting more people active and hope Deben Leisure Centre will

be an inspiration for the rest of the programme to create facilities our communities can be truly proud of."

The new facility was designed with the Council's development partner, Pulse Design & Build, and will be run by operators, Places Leisure.

For more information about the leisure programme, go to www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/leisure/sportandleisuredevelopment/

For more news about the leisure programme, see page 3.



For the latest on the east Suffolk merger see pages 8-9

An artist's impression of Deben Leisure Centre



Protecting the Tax Payer

Suffolk Coastal has pegged its annual increase in Council Tax to less than a fiver for the second year running.

At its Full Council meeting on Thursday, 22 February 2018, Suffolk Coastal District Council's Members voted unanimously to set the increase in its portion of the Council Tax for this financial year at 3.15%.

In real money, this equates to a rise of less than £5 in Council Tax for people living in a Band D property during 2018/19.

In fact, the annual increase in Council Tax on a Band D property, from £157.32 to £162.27, is a rise of just £4.95 (or by less than 10p a week), which is the same as 2017/18.

And the Council remains

committed to investing in the future prosperity of the district, as Suffolk Coastal's Leader, Cllr Ray Herring, explained.

"Our financial situation is sound, because of the tough decisions we've made over the last decade to streamline our operation and become more efficient".

"But there is no room to be complacent. There is a lot of uncertainty surrounding local authority funding from Government in the future."

"This means we need to become increasingly financially self-sufficient, if we are to maintain our frontline services at their current level. We need to make more money from our existing resources, rather than relying on central Government funding."

"This year marks a decade of successful partnership working with our colleagues in Waveney, dating back to when we were among the first councils in the country to appoint a joint Chief Executive."

"This partnership has created over £22.5 million in combined savings since 2008 – an amazing achievement when each council only has a £12 million annual budget. The councils have also nearly halved their joint workforce, from 1,353 on 1 April 2008 to 733 on 1 April 2017."

"We will continue to review



our services and adopt a more commercial approach. We are confident we can deliver quality services, while continuing to make efficiency savings and investing in the future."

Although Suffolk Coastal collects the Council Tax (on behalf of Suffolk Coastal, the County Council, Police and Town/Parish Councils), only about 10p in the pound goes towards providing our district council services.



Contact Us

You can do much more at: www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk, it's quick, easy and cost effective.

Email: customerservices@eastsuffolk.gov.uk

General enquiries: 01394 383789

Council Tax: 01394 444855

Housing Benefit: 01394 444838

- Monday to Wednesday 8:45am - 5pm
- Thursday 9:30am - 5pm
- Friday 8:45am - 5pm

Minicom/textphone: 01394 444211

Tweet and follow us: [@suffolkcoastal](https://twitter.com/suffolkcoastal)

Find us on Facebook: [f](https://www.facebook.com/eastsuffolkcoastal/)

www.facebook.com/eastsuffolkcoastal/

Linked [in](#) [YouTube](#)

[Instagram](#): @eastsuffolkcouncils

Visit us

Suffolk Coastal Customer Services is now based within the community through Felixstowe and Woodbridge Libraries and staff are available to handle enquiries face to face, over the phone and email.

From the library locations we have public access computers and free Wi-Fi.

District Council Customer Services –

Woodbridge Library, New Street, Woodbridge, IP12 1DT

Opening times:

- 8.45am – 5pm Monday to Wednesday
- 9.30am - 5pm on Thursday
- 8.45am - 5pm on Friday
- Citizens Advice Bureau drop in session Monday 10am-12pm

District Council Customer Services –

Felixstowe Library, Crescent Road, Felixstowe IP11 7BY

Opening times:

- 10am - 4pm on Mondays
- 9am - 5pm Tuesdays to Fridays

- Citizens Advice Bureau drop in session, Monday 10am-12pm

For refuse collection and recycling enquiries contact Suffolk Coastal Norse Ltd
Telephone: 01394 444000
Email: scs@ncsgrp.co.uk

Leisure centres (managed by Places for People Leisure)

- Felixstowe 01394 670411
- Brackenbury 01394 270278
- Leiston 01728 830364

We are closed on all bank holidays

Out-of-hours emergency telephone service

Contact both Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils on:
01502 527133.

This edition of coastline is also available in large print, on audio tape or CD for blind or partially-sighted residents. Call 01394 444361

Getting fitter

The completion of Deben Leisure Centre is just the first step in a bigger programme to provide high-quality, modern leisure facilities to local communities.

The next leisure centre to receive an upgrade is Leiston, followed by Felixstowe.

To get all the latest information on the project, go to www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/leisure/sportandleisuredevelopment/

£3.5m upgrade approved for Leiston

Suffolk Coastal is bringing state-of-the-art leisure facilities to Leiston, after plans for a £3.5 million refurbishment was given the go ahead in April.

Work is due to start in September. The centre will be closed for four months to undergo structural work, with the pool due to reopen in January and the whole centre expected to be fully open next summer.

Cllr TJ Haworth-Culf, Cabinet Member for Customers, Communities and Leisure, said: "With the reopening of Deben Leisure Centre only a matter of weeks away, it is great news that Leiston has got approval for much-needed work."

"We have worked closely with the communities to make

sure we create a facility they can be proud of, and I would like to thank everyone for their feedback and support so far."

"We apologise for any inconvenience caused during the closure of Leiston Leisure Centre, and assure members that other options will be made available to them nearer the time."

Consultation has been carried out and the feedback received has been positive, with some constructive comments on the plans and design. Where possible, these have been included in the revised plans and will continue to shape the programme on an ongoing basis.

The new enhanced facility will feature a large gym with modern equipment, and a high-quality village style

changing area by the pool.

A new thermal suite, featuring a sauna and steam room, a feature shower and a relaxation area, will be accessible from the pool.

There will be more fitness classes available with two new dance studios and a group cycling studio, which will also serve as multi-bookable rooms.

The two squash courts had been removed from the original plan, but following feedback from the squash club and other users, these have been retained in the new plan.

Our operators, Places Leisure, will be contacting members of Leiston Leisure Centre, with options available to them during the closure.



An artist's impression of the new Leiston Leisure Centre

www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk

Local people have had their say on Felixstowe

Thank you to everyone who took part in our consultation on what leisure in Felixstowe should look like in the future.

By having your say, you're helping us gain a better understanding of what you want from your new leisure facility.

The consultation was launched in February and ended in April. We have received over 1,000 responses which are now being processed and analysed in detail and will be available soon.

As well as carrying out the consultation, our Leisure Team have been making personal presentations and holding meeting with key groups in the local community.

Leisure News

Stay up to date with all the latest news and progress of the leisure redevelopment programme with our regular newsletter. To subscribe, please email the Leisure Team on leisure@eastsuffolk.gov.uk



LEISURE NEWS
www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/leisure

Issue 5 April 2018



DEBEN ALMOST READY
Just weeks away from completion

LOOKING AT LEISURE IN LEISTON
How it will have been submitted

HAVE YOUR SAY ON FELIXSTOWE
Tell us what you want from your leisure centre

This is an exciting time for our leisure redevelopment programme as we are nearing the completion of the first centre and looking forward to starting the next.

Suffolk Coastal are committed to encourage more people to become active and fit, with the impending opening of our first redeveloped leisure centre, we are optimistic about the future wellbeing of our communities.

I am pleased to say that the new Deben Leisure Centre is going to plan and the facility is on track to be fully open this summer.

Our focus will then shift to Leiston Leisure Centre. We have spent the first part of the year talking to the local community to find out what you want from your new leisure centre and the final plan was submitted in March.

We are currently carrying out a consultation to find out what the local people want from their leisure centre in Felixstowe. So far, we have had an excellent response with nearly 750 people completing the online survey. So a big thank you to those who have participated.

I would like to remind you that the deadline for taking part is fast approaching, so if you haven't already, I would urge you to have your say now!

It is a busy time but we are already interested in feedback or want more information about one of the projects, please email the team on leisure@eastsuffolk.gov.uk

Cllr TJ Haworth-Culf
Cabinet Member for
Customers,
Communities &
Leisure at Suffolk
Council



Women's Tour returns to Suffolk

East Suffolk is once again delighted to be hosting a stage of the OVO Energy Women's Tour which returns to the region this week.

The opening stage, on Wednesday 13 June, begins in Framlingham and finishes in Southwold.

Over 100 of the world's top cyclists will race to the seaside town, home of race sponsors Adnams, taking in a 130-kilometre route through Suffolk, including Wickham Market, Woodbridge, Ipswich, Stowmarket and Halesworth.

It will mark the fourth time that Britain's biggest women's cycling event has returned to the county, and in a boost for fans there will also be a chance to ride much of the route, in the OVO Energy Tour Ride sportive event supporting Breast Cancer Care on Sunday 1 July.

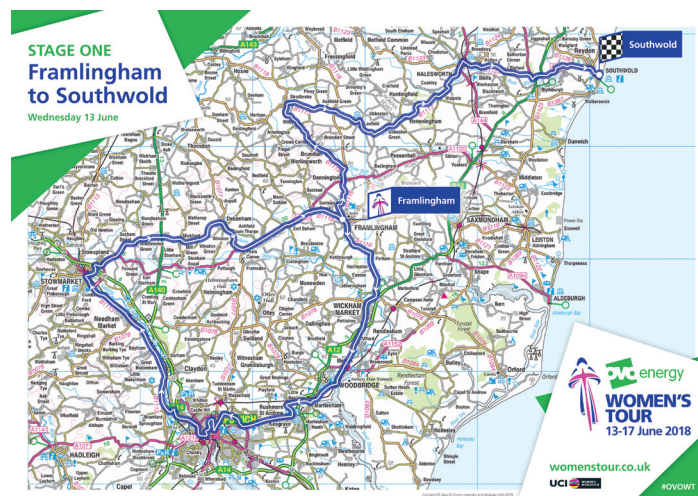
Cllr TJ Haworth-Culf, Cabinet Member for

Customers, Communities and Leisure and Cllr Michael Ladd, Waveney District Council's Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Tourism said: "This popular event brings many visitors to our region and provides a real boost to the local economy. As always, we will be working closely with local communities, businesses and schools to get them involved with Tour-related activities."

Two weeks after the race a special sportive will take place on Sunday 1 July, starting and finishing in Southwold, giving members of the public the chance to ride one of two routes, both of which will use the Stage One route.

Further details of the OVO Energy Tour Ride supporting Breast Cancer Care, including how to enter are available on the Tour Ride website.

Claire Pulford, Head of Events at Breast Cancer



Care said: "We are absolutely delighted to be partnering with the OVO Energy Women's Tour for a second year. It is particularly exciting for Breast Cancer Care to be involved in this year's OVO Energy Tour Ride."

"More than 500 people in Suffolk will be diagnosed with breast cancer this year and the funds raised from the Tour Ride will help our charity continue to support and make a positive difference to these people and the lives of the

thousands of people facing breast cancer in the UK."

A one-hour highlights programme of every stage will be broadcast daily on ITV4 and Eurosport and available on demand via the ITV Hub and Eurosport Player.

The OVO Energy Women's Tour is a part of the UCI Women's WorldTour, comprising 23 events around the world in 10 different countries.

For more information, go to www.womenstour.co.uk/



Britain's biggest event for women's cycling returns to Suffolk

Not too late to sign up



GARDEN WASTE SCHEME

The new Garden Waste Collection Scheme in Suffolk Coastal went live at the beginning of May.

But local people are being reassured it is not too late to sign up.

“We have already had a good response, with over 40% of households joining the scheme”, said Carol Poulter, Cabinet Member with responsibility for the Green Environment.

“However, I would like to stress that May was just the start of the new scheme, not the deadline for joining. In fact, you can join at any time of the year and the one-off payment of £43 pays for your garden waste to be collected for an entire calendar year, from the date you sign up.”

The new scheme is optional. However, if you don't sign up, your garden waste will no longer be collected by the Council.

It's quick and easy to sign up, either:

- Go online at: my.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/MyServices
- Call Customer Services on **01394 383789**, and choose option '0'
- Or, pop in to see our Customer Service staff in the Customer Service

www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk

Centre in Felixstowe and Woodbridge Libraries

You will need a debit or credit card to pay. The fee for each bin is £43 for a year (the equivalent of paying about £1.65 per fortnightly collection). You can place your order now and don't forget to say 'YES' to the upgrade.

You can continue to put organic waste, such as food waste, in your brown bin at this stage.

One of the other key benefits of joining the scheme is that you have the option of an upgrade – receiving a free, larger (240 litre) green bin. They will be delivered during the autumn (2018).

“This is not about the council trying to 'profit' from garden waste collection. Each year we spend £3.5million on dealing with waste disposal. So the funds raised through the Garden Waste Scheme will allow us to off-set some of that cost, and take pressure off the Council Tax payer, for years to come,” explained Cllr Poulter.

For more information and to join the scheme, go to www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/waste/waste-collections-and-disposal/garden-waste/suffolk-coastal-garden-and-food-waste-collection/

Make use of your old bin

Wheeled bins can be put to use in many different ways such as tool stores, feed stores, water butts and compost bins, to name a few.

If you no longer want your brown bin, we will collect it, but are encouraging local people to keep and re-use their brown bins - so here are just a few ideas:

- It's never too late to sign up. So you could just hold on to your bin, just in case you change your mind and decide to opt-in to the scheme later this year.
- If you prefer the idea of taking your garden rubbish to the tip, use your old brown bin with some strong bin liners to collect up your grass cuttings, hedge clippings and leaves.
- Wheelie bins make excellent water proof storage for all kinds of things such as:
 - Garden tools, canes, nets, plastic sheeting, plant pots
 - Fire wood
 - Food for your pets/chickens
 - Hay and wood shavings essential for your rabbits and guinea pigs
 - Kid's garden toys
 - Sports equipment
 - Out of season garden furniture and cushions
- With a little bit of DIY your



Image courtesy of Sunnybins.com

old brown bin can make an excellent water butt for collecting rainwater. Most hardware and DIY stores sell conversion kits for a lot less than the cost of a new butt.

- Wheelie bins can make quite exotic planters for growing potatoes and other root veg. The more adventurous gardeners might like to try drilling a few judiciously placed holes in your bin to create a cascade of flowers, strawberries, or tomatoes.
- And for outdoor music lovers, the internet even has a design for a solar powered garden sound system. But please be considerate of your neighbours.

If you don't join - please compost!

The Suffolk Waste Partnership, which includes Suffolk Coastal District Council, funds a scheme making home compost bins available at subsidised prices - from as little as £8.99 for a 220 litre compost bin or £9.99 for a 330 litre bin.

The scheme also includes subsidies on several composting systems which can deal with some cooked food waste. To order a home compost bin or for details, visit www.suffolk.getcomposting.com or call **0844 571 4444** quoting SUF 17L.

Suffolk Coastal elects its **last Chairman**

Suffolk Coastal elected its last chairman on 24 May 2018 and it is Councillor Nicky Yeo.

Councillor Yeo, who represents the Nacton and Purdis Farm Ward, takes over from Councillor Chris Blundell.

Suffolk Coastal is in the process of merging with Waveney to create a new super district, East Suffolk Council, which will come into existence around next year's local elections (2019). As such, Cllr Yeo will be the last person to hold this post solely for Suffolk Coastal.

"I'm really looking forward to my year in office, particularly as I am fulfilling the role at

such a historic time for east Suffolk. As the last Chairman for Suffolk Coastal, I want to make sure I really make a mark, so our chain of office can be retired on a high note," said Cllr Yeo.

"I am particularly interested in working to bring young people and the elderly together across the District, so will be looking to carry out charitable work which supports young and old working together."

"I am challenging my colleagues to use their Enabling Communities budgets to engage with people of various ages within the community, with the older generation giving



New Chairman Nicky Yeo

their life's experience and the younger generation imparting their knowledge of computers and social media."

"Little things can often make a difference for instance. I

recently donated £200 to Nacton Primary School, which was used to buy wildflower seeds, which they have planted throughout the village and brightened up the whole of Nacton for everyone!"

Art comes to East Suffolk House

The ever-changing scenery of the River Deben has gone on display at Suffolk Coastal's offices after local artist Emma Green unveiled her artwork on 15 May.

The piece, entitled

"Lingering Tide, Soft Light (The Deben)" reflects and celebrates Suffolk's coastal landscape and its natural elements while complementing the building itself and its surroundings.

Emma said: "My oil paintings explore Suffolk's coastal landscape in a semi abstract way, emphasising the light and atmosphere of the place. Much of my work focuses on the River Deben, where I grew up and

continue to live and work."

"The painting draws upon my favourite elements of the river – the boatyards, with their clamouring noise and jumble of rigging and cranes, with the river ebbing and flowing around them and the ever-changing sky above, which alters the colours and the light of the land below."

Suffolk Coastal moved into new offices in December 2016. As part of the move, the Council launched a art competition to give local artists the chance to showcase their artwork in the new reception area.

Emma, who lives and works locally in Woodbridge, was chosen as the winner by the panel and had four months to complete the work.



Artist Emma Green and Cllr Geoff Holdcroft

[@eastsuffolkcouncils](https://www.instagram.com/eastsuffolkcouncils)

Adastral Park Gets Go Ahead

Plans to build 2,000 much-needed new homes on the outskirts of Martlesham have finally been given the go ahead.

Suffolk Coastal District Council, Suffolk County Council and Carlyle Land, the owner of the land east of the A12 at Martlesham and east and south of Adastral Park, have now signed the S106 legal agreement, meaning the £300 million development can get underway.

The development, to be known as Brightwell Lakes, will bring £96 million of infrastructure investment into the area, along with approximately £40 million of S106 contributions and £15 million of highways investment, as well as creating almost 1,000 new jobs.

The proposals include:

- Up to 2,000 new homes, including affordable, starter, family and elderly accommodation
- New infrastructure provision on the site including schools, local shops and services
- A comprehensive multi-million pound package of transport improvements



Philip Ridley of Suffolk Coastal District Council and Peter Village of Carlyle Land Ltd signing S106

including junction and highways improvements to enhance vehicle flows, bus lanes, cycle and walking routes and a new A12 crossing

- New jobs within the school, shops and extended business park
- 34 hectares (85 acres) of formal and informal open spaces including woodland, meadows, heathland, a variety of play areas, a trim trail, a variety of circular walks, sports facilities and ecological areas

Cllr Tony Fryatt, Suffolk Coastal District Council's Cabinet Member with responsibility for Planning, said: "The Adastral Park development is an exceptional scheme, bringing much-needed new homes, jobs and investment into the area. This development plays an important role in allowing us to deliver the Suffolk Coastal Local Plan, which sets out this Council's long-term strategy for bolstering the economic and social health of the District."

New Horizons for Felixstowe

Felixstowe is developing fast and there is a real buzz around the resort.

Businesses and community organisations with an interest in the future of Felixstowe are invited to join Felixstowe Forward at the annual consultation event:

www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk

July 6th, 09.30am to 1pm for a consultation event – Public drop-in access from 2pm at The Orwell Hotel

If you want to find out about the latest plans and initiatives, including proposals for a new iconic leisure centre, future ideas for the South Seafront,

as well as getting a better understanding of how a Business Improvement District will benefit the town centre and resort, come along.

If you would like further information please contact **felixstowe.forward@eastsuffolk.gov.uk**.

Local Plan Update

Thank you to everybody who responded to the Local Plan Issues and Options Consultation in 2017.

We received over 6,000 comments from approximately 640 individuals, stakeholders and interested organisations.

These comments are informing work on the First Draft Plan, which is scheduled to go out to public consultation in summer 2018.

This will be the second round of consultation and will include draft policies and site allocations to outline the Council's plans for Suffolk Coastal to 2036.

The First Draft Plan will outline the Council's preferred approach to the delivery of infrastructure, support for the economy and provision of appropriate jobs and housing opportunities across the district.

The First Draft Plan will be available on the Council's website supported by a robust and comprehensive evidence base. Copies will also be available for viewing at local libraries.

The consultation on the First Draft Plan will be used to inform the Final Draft Plan which is scheduled for a final round of consultation in 2019.

For more information about the Suffolk Coastal Local Plan, please email the Planning Policy Team on **suffolkcoastallocalplan@eastsuffolk.gov.uk** or telephone **01394 444558**.

Parliament approves **historic new council**

Parliament has approved the historic creation of a new super district council for east Suffolk, bringing a decade of partnership work between Suffolk Coastal and Waveney to a culmination.

Following the issuing of a public statement by the then Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government Sajid Javid, agreeing to the new authority, officials from the two councils were present at Westminster in May as a Parliamentary Order was presented by Rishi Sunak MP in the House of Commons and by Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth in the House of Lords.

Welcoming the news, the Leaders of Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Council, Cllrs Ray Herring and Mark Bee, said in a joint statement: "This is a truly momentous decision for us and for the people of east Suffolk. Although this approval is a national first, for us in east Suffolk it is the next logical step on a decade-long journey. We are used

to breaking new ground, as we have been finding innovative ways to cut costs and manage our business since Suffolk Coastal and Waveney started working in partnership 10 years ago."

"We have already made over £22million in efficiency savings and halved our joint workforce, while still investing in our communities. The creation of an East Suffolk Council will enable us to build on this decade of co-operation to give greater value for money, while continuing to improve service delivery."

Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils both voted to approve the proposal to create a brand new 'super district' council, delivering services to communities in the east of the county, in January 2017. A business case was then submitted to the Department of Communities and Local Government in February 2017.

This is the first time that the Secretary of State has given his backing to such a plan and now gives the councils the go ahead to proceed



Parliament approves historic new council

with getting everything in place to create the new council by May 2019.

"We have a proud record of achieving success through innovative partnership working between Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Council. We are glad that the Secretary of State has recognised this in agreeing the creation of this new 'super district' for east Suffolk," said Cllrs Herring and Bee.

"We need to evolve, if we are to successfully address the shared opportunities and challenges that both councils face. There have

been significant reductions in Central Government funding for councils, but we need to be able to drive and invest in growth and infrastructure projects, as well as providing more much-needed housing."

"A larger, more influential East Suffolk Council will enable us to fulfil our potential in driving development, while keeping costs low."

The new Council will come into being, and begin operations, following the local council elections in May 2019. The two existing councils will then be formally dissolved with elections to the new authority.

East Suffolk: **so much in common**

The two councils have so much in common and have enjoyed a long and successful partnership from which the new east Suffolk Council will be born. This is a vital, exciting partnership with shared challenges, issues and ambitions to ensure better outcomes for communities.

Both are coastal authorities

Shared economic opportunities (energy coast, tourism, agriculture)

Shared economic challenges (skills, low wage economy in parts)

Emerging areas of economic growth (film and media)

Demographic issues (ageing population)

Shortfalls in digital infrastructure (broadband and mobile signal)

Challenges in healthcare provision (access to services)

Impact of major projects (Sizewell C)

Single, joint, Business Plan, performance report and website

Created a new town council in Lowestoft

Shared policies and strategies (communications, digital, investment, etc.)

Single, joint, responses to consultation at regional and national level

Single ICT infrastructure, providing efficiency and resilience

Building new council houses for the first time

Leaders hail **new council decision**

2018 marks a decade of successful, cutting-edge partnership working in east Suffolk, culminating in our district councils making history by creating one 'super' council delivering the best possible services for local people.

Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils have been jointly streamlining operations and reducing costs, while providing high quality frontline services since 2008 and we have made over £22 million efficiency savings in that time. An amazing achievement when each council only has a £12 million annual budget (2017/18 figures).

And yet the councils continue to invest, developing partnerships to provide improved services and even both moving to new headquarters. The councils now have a shared workforce,

joint website and a single East Suffolk Business Plan.

This quiet revolution, with two councils acting like one for almost 10 years, is now moving towards its logical conclusion and this will create the largest district council in the country, allowing the councils to bring in extra savings and improvements across its 487 square mile area.

The east Suffolk district councils of Suffolk Coastal and Waveney have proudly established themselves as pioneers of adaptation and strength in the face of adversity. The two councils have long been recognised as innovators, keeping council tax low and yet still enjoying a reputation for high standards.

And yet, both councils understand how important it is to continue this progres-



Council leaders, Cllrs Ray Herring and Mark Bee.

sive evolution with the creation of a new council to represent and serve the communities of East Suffolk - the largest district council in the country; a powerful and influential force for good in a time of uncertainty.

- A win for east Suffolk – continue to deliver front line services, investment in communities, financial

resilience and giving local communities a stronger voice

- A win for local government – demonstrating we can deliver reform, are innovative and able to transform ourselves
- A win for national government – reducing costs, streamlining and strengthening local government and providing a model for others to follow.

10 years in the making

The two councils have long been recognised as innovators, working in partnership since 2008 under one of the country's first shared Chief Executive.

Since then, both councils have been at the forefront of the shared services agenda, with a combined senior management team established; quickly followed by a fully integrated workforce supporting both Councils. It has enabled the two councils to save £22 million since 2010, keep council tax low and yet still enjoy a reputation for high standards.

www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk

Today there is a single Corporate Management Team for both councils which is less than half the size of the original two management teams – delivering annual savings of around £1 million. 64% of staff are already working in single staffing teams that operate a shared service across the two councils (over 73% of the services).

And yet, both understand how important it is to continue this progressive evolution with the creation of a new council to represent and serve the

The story so far ...	
2008:	Appointment of Joint Chief Executive
2009:	Creation of joint Senior Management Team
2010:	First simultaneous Cabinet
2013:	Full assimilation of east Suffolk workforce
2016:	Council decision to create new single council
2016:	Submission to Government
2017:	Minister 'Minded to'
2018:	Ministerial approval and Parliamentary decision
2019:	New Council created and first elections

communities of east Suffolk - the largest district council in the country; a powerful and influential force for good in a time of uncertainty.

Dementia friendly town

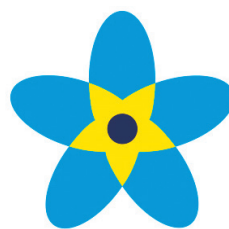
Felixstowe is working to become the first dementia friendly town in Suffolk Coastal to help make lives easier and support more available to people affected by dementia. Leiston and Woodbridge will also become dementia friendly.

It is estimated that around 12,800 people in Suffolk are currently living with dementia, a number due to rise in the future. The introduction of the Alzheimer's Dementia

Friendly Communities programme in Felixstowe will help improve the community's understanding of dementia.

Many local businesses and organisations have attended Dementia Friends information awareness sessions and are committed to take actions to promote dementia awareness and accessibility.

Two support groups have been established to help



Dementia Friends

An Alzheimer's Society initiative

support people living with dementia. The groups are run by dedicated volunteers and give people the opportunity to make friends, enjoy conversation, find support

and take fun in activities in a friendly and relaxed environment.

For more information, visit www.fxttaa.onesuffolk.net/

Best Small Visitor Attraction

Felixstowe Museum is now officially the 'Best Small Visitor Attraction' in the area after winning at the EADT EDP Norfolk and Suffolk Tourism Awards 2018 in February.

The awards are a celebration of what the area has to offer, and rewards organisations and individuals who live and love the place they call home.

Based at the Landguard Peninsula, Felixstowe Museum has 14 galleries displaying military and social history. The building itself is also of historical interest as it was once a submarine

mining establishment.

The museum is managed by a team of friendly, dynamic volunteers, whose expertise is second to none and is always delivered with enthusiasm and a passion for history.

Hot on the heels of the award, Felixstowe Museum was awarded £4,320 from the Association for Independent Museums (AIM) Sustainability Grant Scheme in March. The grant will support the museum to carry out a governance review, recruit new volunteer trustees, and review their forward plan.

Parkrun

443 runners attended Felixstowe's first Parkrun in April, bringing a mixture of experienced runners and beginners together.

Parkrun now takes place every Saturday at 9 am from Undercliff Road West and it is free to join.

To register, go to www.parkrun.org.uk/felixstowe.

The success of the event relies entirely on volunteers, so if you are interested in volunteering, email felixstowehelpers@parkrun.com.

Get snapping



Photographers of all ages and abilities are being invited to enter their shots for the annual Felixstowe Photo Competition for their chance to win a £100 prize towards equipment.

The competition, which is organised and supported by Visit Felixstowe, Felixstowe Town Council and the Landguard Partnership, has three different themes to choose from:

- Iconic Felixstowe
- Undiscovered Felixstowe

Entrants must submit their photograph by 12 pm 20 March 2019 by emailing visitfelixstowe@east-suffolk.gov.uk Please include your full name, age, a contact number and the theme you would like to enter.

For more information, and terms and conditions, go to www.visitfelixstowe.org.uk

- Fun Felixstowe

@east-suffolk-councils

Haven for Seafarers

Hidden away within the bustling Port of Felixstowe is a quiet safe haven for the men and women who brave the high seas to keep us supplied with goods.

“When people go into shops to buy things, they don’t stop and think where the goods come from, how they got here or about the lives of the people that crew the ships that brought the goods to our shores,” explained Cllr Doreen Savage.

“This place is a little gem, hidden away in the Port of Felixstowe. Not many people know about it but it provides a vital service, giving respite

from the hardships the seafarers endure while at sea.”

Cllr Savage has been involved in the centre for over 40 years, since its opening in 1976. As well as being a volunteer gardener, she is Suffolk Coastal’s appointee to the Merchant Navy Welfare Board (Port Welfare Committee).

“People need to realise that these people exist in very harsh conditions. There is no job security. They can be abandoned anywhere in the world and have to make their own way home. They also work round the clock while at sea, in what is a very dangerous environment, and often face a very quick turn around in port,” said centre manager, Anita Mazur.

The Seafarer’s Centre, which is run by Felixstowe & Haven Ports Seafarers Services (FHPSS), is a stand-alone charity, which relies upon donations and volunteers to carry out its vital service.

It currently has 11 volunteers and 9 staff, providing a caring service to some 13,000 seafarers a year, between 10am and 10.30pm daily – 365 days a year.

The centre is not just for seafarers. It is open to local people and port workers, providing a bureau de change, free wi-fi, shop, bar, coffee, library: chapel and multi-faith prayer room, pool table, garden/quiet area, table tennis and much more. “This place relies upon volunteers in a whole range of roles, such as drivers, maintenance people and gardeners. We even have a minibus



Cllr Doreen Savage and centre manager Anita Mazur outside the centre

which picks crew up from ships, bring them to the centre, then takes them back again,” said Anita.

“Many of the crew work at sea for more than 9 months every year. This place provides a haven, when they are in port, to rest, relax and enjoy a few home comforts for a short while.”

“We also have welfare officers who go on to the ships. On one occasion, they went on board and found the crew was exceedingly thin and hungry. They checked and all they had on board was rice, no other food. So the ship was stopped from sailing until they restocked properly.”

“But we are all part of a caring international network. So if a seafarer from east Suffolk turns up in a strange port anywhere in the world, hopefully there would be somewhere like this to look after them there.”

Help and support comes in many forms – there is even a hamper of woolly hats, knitted by volunteers across Essex and Suffolk, which the seafarers can help themselves to in the cold weather!

If you think you can help in any way, contact Anita at: manager@fhps.org or telephone the centre at **01394 673599**

Sea Factfile

The UK’s ports handle half a billion tonnes of goods a year. That is 8tonnes (or a small lorry load) per person in the UK.

There are 1.65 million seafarers employed in the global shipping industry.

As an island nation, the UK relies on shipping for 95% of its imports and exports.

The average container ship will travel three quarters of the way to the moon every year during its trips across the oceans.

A large container ship contains as much steel as 8 Eiffel Towers, and has the capacity to carry 22,000 20-foot containers – enough to carry 863 million cans of baked beans!

An average container could carry 746million bananas in a single voyage – enough to give everyone in Europe and North America a banana for breakfast!

www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk

Help make **Suffolk the greenest county**

Suffolk Waste Partnership is keen to support local community efforts to clean up towns, villages and countryside by getting involved in a litter pick.

Around 200 litter pick groups and events were registered last year in Suffolk, involving over 4000 volunteers. This year, over 1700 volunteers have already carried out a litter pick or have one planned, giving their neighbourhoods a well-deserved spruce up.

Cllr David Bowman, Chairman of the Suffolk Waste Partnership, said: "I

would like to thank everyone that got involved in a litter pick so far, and encourage anyone who cares about their local environment to follow the lead of these dedicated volunteers."

"Joining a litter pick is a great way to involve the community, get active and improve the habitats of local wildlife – as well as being really satisfying to see the difference it can make."

"Of course, it's a shame that anyone has to pick up other people's litter in the first place. To help keep our beautiful county clean and green, I



would urge all residents and visitors to remember to use a litter bin or take litter home."

If you want to organise a litter pick in your own community, or favourite beauty

spot, Suffolk Coastal Norse can help by providing free disposable rubber gloves and sacks, and arrange to collect and dispose of the rubbish collected. Call them on **01394 444 000** to arrange.

Air Quality Plan for Stratford St Andrew

An Action Plan to reduce air pollution on the A12 at Long Row in Main Road, Stratford St Andrew was given government backing in March.

Studies suggested the traffic accelerating just prior to the end of the 30 mph speed limit sign was a large part of the problem.

Therefore the main measure in the Action Plan is to move the 30 mph sign further south of the village in an aim to reduce overall speed and any accelerating at Long Row itself.

This was done in December 2017 and we are now monitoring the impact of the measure and working closely with the County Council to determine if we need to take forward any other measures in the plan.

Rubbish job for staff

It's a rubbish job but someone has to do it, so staff at the Council have been giving up their lunch breaks to clean up litter.

Some very distasteful items have been collected over time, such as a bottle of urine and a used nappy in a tree, as well as some unusual items like the front of a scooter and a cymbal. The most common items found include cigarette butts, cans and bottles.

There is an organised litter pick lunch on the last Wednesday of every month, but if any of our staff get a sudden urge to get out there and clean up litter, we always have sticks and sacks available.

Remember to always dispose of your rubbish responsibly and by using facilities provided.

Do you have a spare room to rent?

In a joint scheme run by Suffolk Coastal and local charity, Solo Housing, single people in need of affordable accommodation are being matched up with householders with a spare room.

The scheme secured 51 lodging spaces in the Suffolk Coastal area in 2017/18, and has now been extended into the current financial year. Therefore, householders with a spare room are being asked to consider becoming a landlord.

Cllr Richard Kerry, Suffolk Coastal's Cabinet Member for Housing said: "Many people can find themselves in need of accommodation as a result of a relationship breakdown, relocation to a new area, bereavement or ill health. By becoming a Lodgings Landlord, householders can make a real difference to local people

who may otherwise struggle to find accommodation."

Solo Housing can explain what is involved and if you decide to join the scheme, they will provide a landlord information pack covering the legal and tax implications, health and safety issues, and support and advice.

They will also discuss with landlords who they may like to share their home with to provide the best match between landlord and lodger.

Solo Housing's Chief Executive, Carolyn Howell said, "We are extremely pleased to be extending our longstanding partnership with Suffolk Coastal so that we can help more single people."

If you want to find out more about the scheme, visit **www.solohousing.org** or phone **01379 640250**.

@SuffolkCoastal

Join the fight against plastic

Most people have been appalled by the shocking scenes we regularly see about how plastic is polluting our seas, choking the lives out of our aquatic wildlife.

To address the problems, Suffolk Coastal hosted a special event in March, entitled "Plastics know your place in the community", which had a great turnout with 98 people attending.

The event was staged by Greenprint Forum, who has designated 2018 to be the year of #plasticaction.

17 stallholders and 13 speakers gave more information about the situation in this area, as well as inspiring personal stories and experience.



This event supports two of Suffolk Coastal's aims in its Business Plan - 'Protecting, enhancing and making sustainable use of

our environment.'

For more information on the Greenprint Forum and its forthcoming events, see:

www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/environment/east-suffolk-greenprint-forum/events/forthcoming-events/

Extra help for vulnerable customers during power cuts

UK Power Networks has significantly reduced the frequency and duration of power cuts. Although they now happen less often, for some customers, especially those in vulnerable circumstances, power cuts

can be inconvenient and worrying, but extra help is available.

The free Priority Service Register helps identify older and disabled customers, families with young children

and more, who may need extra help during a power cut.

If you want to register for the Priority Service, call **0800 169 9970** or go to www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk

Enjoy a peaceful summer

Noise complaints are more common over the summer months as people tend to spend more time outside, enjoying the warmer weather and lighter evenings.

In preparation for this, the Council has relaunched the seasonal 'out of hours' hotline, enabling residents to report any nuisance noise.

Residents can call **01502 527132** Friday and Saturday 7pm - 1am to report a noise concern.

The hotline is open from 4 May to 30 September.

Warm Homes project wins funding

A project which helps vulnerable people and families in Suffolk make their homes warmer and cheaper to heat, was awarded funding to support patients leaving hospital in January.

Warm Homes Healthy People (WHHP) plan to use the £10,000 funding from National Energy Action's (NEA) Warm and Safe at www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk

Home innovation award to reduce the heating related delayed transfers of care (DTC) at Ipswich Hospital Trust. The project will ensure no patients are discharged into a cold home, by providing temporary heating and then assisting with a longer term solution.

WHHP provides support

and advice to Suffolk residents who are struggling to stay warm. The service is run from Suffolk Coastal District Council on behalf of all the councils in Suffolk.

The WHHP team are working closely with the Ipswich hospital's Discharge Planning Team and Operations Centre to identify vulnerable patients.

PHILIS wins national award

Suffolk Coastal has received a national accolade for its hi-tech approach to dealing with imports.

Over 1,000 of the most senior figures in British local government gathered at Grosvenor House, London on 21 March to celebrate the sector's greatest innovators as they attended the annual LGC Awards ceremony.

Winning the Innovation category was the Port Health Interactive Live Information System (PHILIS) developed by Suffolk Coastal's Port Health Authority for handling imports at the Port of Felixstowe, the largest container port in the UK.

Cllr Steve Gallant, Cabinet Member for Community Health said: "PHILIS has been a great success. Suffolk Coastal's Port Health team has developed cutting-edge bespoke technology, which has been adopted nationwide to make handling huge amounts of imports faster and more efficient, saving time for our staff but also helping speed up the import process that our country depends upon."

Speaking about the system, the LGC Awards judges said: "Our winner shows genuine evidence of national innovation. The outcomes are already delivering significant savings, increased productivity and food security for the UK. The judges were truly impressed."

Promoting health at work



The east Suffolk Councils receive Workforce Wellbeing Charter reward

The east Suffolk Councils have been recognised for encouraging staff to lead healthier lifestyles.

The Councils' commitment to staff health, safety and wellbeing has been rewarded by a Suffolk Workforce Wellbeing Charter after being assessed in different areas, including health and safety, mental health, physical activity and leadership.

Neil Wood, Health and Wellbeing Programme manager at Public Health England, said: "I'd like to congratulate Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils on their accreditation to the Workplace Wellbeing Charter. This is an impressive achievement and is testament to the positive

ethos of the teams working at both local authorities.

"Through the assessment, we were impressed with the passion and enthusiasm of those we met, the range of

actions and activity already undertaken and future plans, and the commitment and recognition of the essential role that leadership plays in supporting the health and wellbeing of the workforce."

There are three levels of achievement for each area: Commitment, Achievement and Excellence.

The results were announced in April and the Councils have done extremely well in achieving the highest rating in six of the eight areas assessed. The Councils achieved:

Leadership	Excellence
Absence Management	Excellence
Health and Safety	Excellence
Mental Health	Excellence
Smoking and Tobacco	Achievement
Physical Activity	Excellence
Healthy Eating	Excellence
Alcohol and Substance Misuse	Achievement

The Wellbeing Team will be working on an improvement plan with the aim of achieving 'Excellence' in the remaining two areas by January 2019.

Suffolk Waste Partnership awarded £10,000

Following a successful bid, the Suffolk Waste Partnership has been awarded £10,000 from the Government's Litter Innovation Fund to run innovative local

projects aimed at reducing litter.

Suffolk Waste Partnership's member authorities are responsible for clearing

litter from public land and highways, with the cost of removing litter from Suffolk's major A-roads the A14, A12 and A11 standing at £300,000 per year.

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Universal Credit is here

Universal Credit was introduced at Ipswich Jobcentre on 25 April 2018 and affects those living in the Kesgrave, Rushmere, Martlesham Heath, Kirton or Otley areas, where Ipswich is the local Jobcentre, this affects you.

It is expected to be introduced to Leiston, Felixstowe and Woodbridge Jobcentres in October this year.

Universal Credit is a single monthly payment paid by the Department for Work and Pensions for people in and out of work, and has replaced the following working-age benefits and tax credits;

- Child Tax Credit
- Housing Benefit
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)

Universal Credit was introduced to Ipswich Jobcentre on 25 April 2018


If you live in the Kesgrave, Rushmere, Martlesham Heath, Kirton or Otley areas, where Ipswich is the local Jobcentre, this affects you.

Universal Credit is a single monthly payment which replaces Housing Benefit, Income support, Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, Income-related Employment and Support Allowance, Child Tax Credit and Working Tax Credit.


Information about Universal Credit is available online. You can also contact your local Citizens Advice in Felixstowe or the Customer Services Team at Suffolk Coastal District Council for further information, advice and support.

Citizens Advice Felixstowe & District
2 - 6 Orwell Road, Felixstowe, IP11 7HD
Tel 0333 358 3970

Suffolk Coastal District Council Customer Services
Tel 01394 383789
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 8.45am - 5pm
Thursday 9.30am - 5pm



Suffolk Coastal & Waveney District Councils
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- Working Tax Credit

Find out more about making an online claim and how Universal Credit works at www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/benefits/universal-credit

If you need some help with making and managing your Universal Credit claim, our Customer Services team are happy to advise - visit us at Felixstowe or Woodbridge libraries.

There are also helpful videos from Universal Credit in Action at www.youtube.com/channel/UC7Km4IXfVJB1n8SQUm-kJD0Q

iESE Award for Support Partnership

The work by East Suffolk Councils to support people through their transition to Universal Credit has received national recognition.

To help customers with their transition to Universal Credit, the Councils implemented a multi-agency approach to offer assistance with making and maintaining a Universal Credit claim online and help with Personal Budgeting Support to manage the transition to a monthly payment.

The approach saw the Councils' Benefits (Anglia Revenues Partnership), Customer Services, Housing

www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk

and Housing Needs teams working together with the Department for Work and Pensions Partnership Manager for Suffolk, Lowestoft Jobcentre specialist officers and North East Suffolk Citizens Advice.

This partnership approach has helped us tailor services to meet the needs of different customers, to ensure our services are accessible and that any barriers to claiming Universal Credit are identified and managed. The Partnership also had an important role in representing key findings to government on behalf of residents, business and the sector.



iESE award for The east Suffolk Councils

Earlier this year, this unique Support Partnership won Silver in the Reinventing Local Services category

at the iESE Public Service Transformation Awards 2018.

MAKE PAPER BILLS A THING OF THE PAST

Paper billing is slow, wasteful and costly. Like the dinosaurs, we can make paper Council Tax bills a thing of the past! Signing up for online billing is quick, easy, secure and is better for the environment.

Sign up to direct debit and you can make Council Tax transactions and payments, instantly at any time of the day or night, from your phone, tablet or computer.

You can also check payments, make claims for Council Tax discounts or Housing Benefit; and update your information.

Register now at: www.angliarevenues.gov.uk/online/



JOIN UP AND WIN!

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