



Peter Aldous MP
The Kirkley Centre
154 London Road South
Lowestoft
NR33 0AZ

Your ref:
Our ref:
Date: 02 November 2020
Please ask for: Cllr James Mallinder
Customer Services: 03330 162 000
Direct dial: 07810815879
Email: james.mallinder@eastsuffolk.gov.uk

Dear Peter

The Local Electricity Bill 2019-21

At East Suffolk Council's full council meeting in September, Members of the Council debated a Motion regarding the Local Electricity Bill 2019-21, of which you are of course the principal sponsor.

The Motion called upon the Council to:

- Support you in your work to promote renewable energy and to tackle fuel poverty, including your efforts to introduce the Local Electricity Bill, and
- To refer this matter [community energy companies] to the Environmental Task Group for it to investigate the initiative and to provide a report to Cabinet

One of the first actions East Suffolk Council took when it was formed in 2019 was to set 'Caring for the Environment' as one of its strategic priorities. Since then, the Council has formally recognised the Climate Emergency, as a result of which it has set itself the target of becoming a carbon neutral Council in terms of its own estates and operations by 2030, as well as committing to strong partnership working alongside the Suffolk Climate Change Partnership and other stakeholders in our shared ambition to help Suffolk as a whole to also achieve carbon neutrality in that time. We have a clear Environment Vision which we are developing and implementing.

As a direct result of declaring our recognition of a climate emergency, a cross party task group has been established, primarily to keep the focus on our target for carbon neutrality for 2030, but also to look at other environmental positive initiatives, all of which contribute to the development and implementation of a new Climate Action Plan.

I am therefore pleased to be able to advise you that our Full Council meeting resolved to make clear their support for the work that you are doing to promote renewable energy and to tackle fuel poverty, in particular your efforts to introduce the Local Electricity Bill. The council also resolved to refer consideration of community energy companies and the benefits that they can generate in their localities to the East Suffolk

LEGAL ADDRESS East Suffolk House, Station Road, Melton, Woodbridge IP12 1RT
DX: 41400 Woodbridge

POSTAL ADDRESS Riverside, 4 Canning Road, Lowestoft NR33 0EQ
DX: 41220 Lowestoft

Environmental Task Group for a full investigation into whether, and if so how, East Suffolk Council might be able to directly support such an initiative.

In the meantime, thank you for all the work you are doing to bring forward the Bill and to champion the further development of renewable energy while tackling fuel poverty.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'James Mallinder', with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

CLlr James Mallinder

Cabinet Member the Environment & Chair East Suffolk Environment Task Group