

# The future of Housing in East Suffolk

**Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils are asking residents and stakeholders for their views on the future of housing in east Suffolk.**

As councils throughout the country seek to address a number of critical housing issues, the first ever joint Housing Strategy for East Suffolk sets out the councils' ambitions and priorities for housing services from 2017 to 2023.

Cllr, Suffolk Coastal's Cabinet Member for Housing, Cllr Richard Kerry, said: "With plans for the creation of a new super district council for east Suffolk in place, it is a logical step to set out our joint ambitions for housing across the two districts. East Suffolk is a great place to live, work and visit but we have some significant local challenges.

"Our area is diverse - including rural villages, market towns, coastal resorts and commercial ports - so one size does not fit all and we need a strategy that meets the different needs of different places and people. We now want people to look at our strategy and let us know what they think about our ambitions for the next 20 years or so."

Cllr Chris Punt, Cabinet Member for Housing in Waveney said: "There are key challenges for housing in East Suffolk – demand, affordability, homelessness and meeting the changing needs of the population. The number of homes being built is not keeping pace with demand and an increasing number of households face difficulty in finding an affordable home that meets their needs

"House prices mean that home ownership is out of reach for many people in the area, including young families. This increases the demand for privately rented homes and high number of people applying for social housing. It is complex and complicated picture and it is up to us to plan and manage a coherent approach to ensure we deliver the best possible outcomes for our local communities."

The full strategy can be found at [www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/housing2023](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/housing2023) and as well as establishing the challenges that the councils face it also maps out the key areas of focus for the two councils

- Increasing the supply of Housing to meet a range of needs
- Getting the most out of existing homes and improving access to housing
- Providing specialist support and accommodation for groups with special needs
- Working in partnership to support successful communities, regeneration and economic development
- Providing well-managed and maintained homes – promoting professional standards and value for money.

Residents, businesses and stakeholders are welcome to comment on the document and any feedback should be emailed to [housing@eastsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:housing@eastsuffolk.gov.uk) no later than Friday September 29.

**ENDS**