

# intouch

WITH YOU AND WAVENEY **NOVEMBER 2015**



**Every one a winner!** Council energy efficiency scheme helps 200 businesses save money and reduce fuel bills

**Garden waste collections:**  
**Your questions answered about the new scheme**  
**Page 3**



## Contact us

You can do more online at  
[www.waveney.gov.uk](http://www.waveney.gov.uk)

Customer Services:  
01502 562111  
[customerservices@waveney.gov.uk](mailto:customerservices@waveney.gov.uk)

Accessibility:  
There are hearing loops at all of our offices.

In person:  
**St Margaret's House**  
Gordon Rd, Lowestoft  
NR32 1JQ  
**Beccles Library**  
Blyburgate, Beccles  
NR34 9TB  
**Bungay Local Office**  
Broad Street, Bungay NR35 1EE  
**Halesworth Local Office**  
London Road, Halesworth IP19 8LW

We provide public access computers at all of our offices

Opening times:  
Customer Service Centre  
St Margaret's House  
Mon-Wed: 8.45am to 5.00pm  
Thu: 9.30am to 5.30pm  
Fri: 8.45am to 4.30pm

Our busiest day is Monday and our busiest times are between 12.00pm and 2.00pm each day. Additionally, we are very busy at the beginning and end of each month. We are closed on bank holidays and weekends.

## Christmas services

Some bin collection days will change over the Christmas period (weeks commencing 21 & 28 December). Check the details below based on your usual day of collection.

Where more than one alternative day is stated, please use the online tool (search on [www.waveney.gov.uk](http://www.waveney.gov.uk) for 'bin collection day finder') or call 01502 562111 or to check your exact collection day.

**Monday** - your bins will be emptied as usual on both Monday 21 and Monday 28 December (Bank Holiday).

**Tuesday** - your Christmas collection may take place on either a Monday or Tuesday during the Christmas period.

**Wednesday** - your Christmas collection may take place on either a Tuesday or a Wednesday during the Christmas period.

**Thursday** - your Christmas collection may take place on either a Wednesday or Thursday during the Christmas period.

**Friday** - your bins will be emptied on Thursday 24 December (Christmas Eve) and Thursday 31 December (New Year's Eve).

### Christmas opening times for Council customer centres

Thu 24 Dec (Christmas Eve): 9.30am-3pm

Fri 25 Dec (Christmas Day): Closed

Mon 28 Dec (Bank Holiday): Closed

Tue 29 Dec: 8.45am - 5.00pm

Wed 30 Dec: 8.45am - 5.00pm

Thu 31 Dec (New Year's Eve): 9.30am-3pm

Fri 1 Jan 2016 (New Year's Day): Closed

Mon 4 Jan: 8.45am - 5.00pm



### New Cabinet

The Conservative Group secured an overall majority at the elections in May and Cllr Colin Law appointed a Cabinet which includes one new face and some changes of role.

This follows the departure from the Cabinet of Cllr Bruce Provan who is the new Chairman of the Council.

Cllr Law, Leader of the Council, said: "This is a hugely important period in the history of this Council and I am determined to ensure we deliver the best possible services to our

communities, provide the best possible opportunities and improve the lives of every man, woman and child in the district. This includes ensuring that we reach everyone including the most vulnerable members of our community."

**Cllr Colin Law** (Leader)

**Cllr David Ritchie** (Deputy Leader)

Planning and Coastal Management

**Cllr Stephen Ardley**

Operational Partnerships and Lowestoft Rising

**Cllr Mike Barnard**

Resources and Welfare Reforms

**Cllr Mary Rudd**

Community Health & Safety

**Cllr Frank Mortimer**

Customers & Communities

**Cllr Sue Allen**

Housing

**Cllr Michael Ladd**

Tourism, Economic Development & Rural Affairs

**Cllr Letitia Smith**

Without Portfolio

[www.waveney.gov.uk/yourcouncillor](http://www.waveney.gov.uk/yourcouncillor)

**Waveney District Council's Customer Service team has a Disability Liaison Officer to assist and support visitors to the Customer Service Centre in Lowestoft.**

Wendy Thurlby supports vulnerable customers and people with additional needs, who require information and advice. It was agreed by the Waveney Disability Forum that this would be beneficial to the community, helping users access Council Services in a supportive and more personal way.

Wendy has been trained in British Sign Language and regularly attends the Waveney Disability Forum as well as Older People's Forums, offering advice and taking customer suggestions.

If you would like to contact Wendy for advice or assistance about any of our Council Services you can e-mail:

[disabilitychampion@waveney.gov.uk](mailto:disabilitychampion@waveney.gov.uk) or call 01502 562111 asking to speak with the disability champion, Wendy Thurlby.

# Garden waste collections

**Our garden waste collection service is changing. From February 29th 2016 Waveney District Council is offering an optional, paid-for, garden waste collection service to household properties.**

Collections will be on a fortnightly basis and will run throughout the year. Signing up for the service in 2016-17 is simple and straightforward and the service costs only £42 for the whole

year. There will be 26 collections each year, working out at £1.60 for each collection. In addition, from the start date, food waste will need to be placed in the general waste bin.

Go to [waveney.gov.uk/gardenwaste](http://waveney.gov.uk/gardenwaste) for more information on how to book your garden waste collections.

To ensure you receive the first collection, please sign up to the service no later than Monday 15th February 2016.

**Just £42 for a whole year which works out at only £1.60 per collection!**



## What you CAN put in your garden waste bin:

- Grass, leaves and weeds
- Flowers and plants
- Hedge clippings
- Branches (not more than 6cm thick)
- Prunings and twigs
- Windfall fruit
- Hay / Straw (bedding from non-meat eating animals only, such as rabbits)
- Vegetable waste from the garden (not kitchen waste)



## What you CAN'T put in your garden waste bin:

- Food or kitchen waste
- Cat or dog faeces
- Vacuum dust or fire cinders
- Oil, stones or rubble
- Wood that has been treated or painted
- Plastic flower pots, trays or bags
- Invasive weeds such as Common Ragwort or Japanese Knotweed



For more information, including how to home compost, go to [www.waveney.gov.uk/gardenwaste](http://www.waveney.gov.uk/gardenwaste)

## WHY IS THE SERVICE CHANGING?

Since 2003 the garden waste service has been free to residents, funded by Waveney and Suffolk County Council. However, a decision by the latter to reduce its funding to the districts and boroughs means that the net cost to us could increase from around £800,000 per year to up to £1.7m. This is also in the context of a projected budget gap for the council of over £4 million for 2018/19. Unlike waste & recycling collection, this is not a 'statutory' service which we must, by law, deliver. So, reluctantly, we are introducing a small charge in line with many councils nationwide. We believe this is fairer than increasing council tax bills, which would penalise those who do not wish to use this service.



# Hailing high standards for taxis

**Waveney District Council's Licensing Team ensure your safety by checking that the drivers of hackney carriage and private hire vehicles are suitable and competent people to hold a licence. Initial checks are done on application and regularly thereafter. As customers, do you know what to look out for?**



## Is the driver correctly licensed?

All licensed drivers should wear a badge displaying photo ID and their unique drivers' licence number.

## Is the vehicle correctly licensed?

Hackney carriage vehicles are those that can be hailed in the street but they will be mostly found plying for trade in designated taxi ranks. Private Hire vehicles can be pre-booked. Both types of taxi should display a licence plate, which shows the expiry date of the licence, on the outside rear of the car and additionally a smaller version of the licence, with dates, on the front screen.

## How about comfort & service?

The taxi should be clean and tidy both inside and out and the driver courteous and helpful. You should have room to sit comfortably and there should be room to take a reasonable amount of baggage. Private hire vehicles are operated by companies who must ensure that the booking contract has been correctly fulfilled – any queries about your booking and trip can be dealt with by

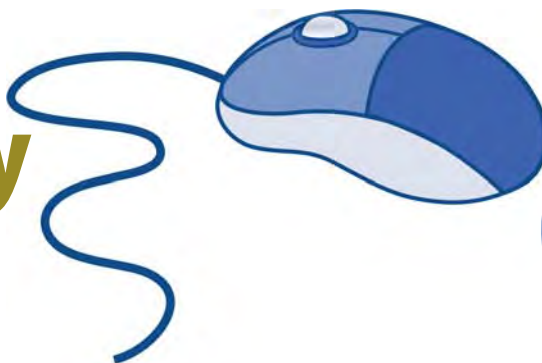
the company you booked with or else, if you prefer, by the Licensing Team.

## And cost?

There is a maximum amount that hackney carriages can charge per mile; this is set by the Local Authority. Proprietors can offer discounts but should not charge more than the set amount. The initial set charge for Waveney is £3 (or £3.20 after 11pm). Check that this is what the meter shows when you start your journey. Private Hire operators can charge what they choose so make sure that you ask for a quote when you book. Either way, if you think that you have been charged wrongly, ask the operator or make a note of the cost and journey details and ask the Licensing Team.

If you have had a bad experience, if you are unsure about who you travelled with or indeed if you would like to compliment a driver or operating firm please email the Licensing Team: [alison.woodley@eastsoffolk.gov.uk](mailto:alison.woodley@eastsoffolk.gov.uk) or call 01394 444362.

# Getting Waveney online!



**Waveney District Council helps a wide range of communities to embrace modern technology, with both Council tenants and local businesses benefiting from recent training.**

Not only that, but Waveney's sheltered housing schemes are now enjoying free internet access. Jubilee Court in Halesworth and Crick Court in Southwold now have Wi-Fi and are enjoying new computer hardware to get them online. Funded by the Housing Team, free beginners training was given to residents to help them understand using email and the internet. This has proven to be extremely popular and many residents are

now becoming real 'Silver Surfers', having purchased their own tablet or computer. Further training will be given to encourage residents to Skype with their families around the world and learn to shop online to save themselves time and money. Meanwhile, Waveney businesses have also been learning about the benefits of being online, through a series of recent training sessions organised by the Waveney Business Forum (WBF). Delivered by local PR company Hot Gossip Media, the training focused on social media and showed how social media can be used to help promote businesses. 82 participants from 63 local businesses undertook the training,

as well as 12 which enjoyed one-to-one sessions. Funding was secured from the Vibrant Economy arm of the East Suffolk Partnership (ESP) which aims to build on economic prosperity, growth and infrastructure development working with the local business groups across East Suffolk. The ESP brings together organisations from the public, business, community and voluntary sectors to support each other and work together to achieve common priorities. Funding contributions from both the ESP and Waveney District Council have also gone towards employing the services of a WBF co-ordinator.

**New council website is coming soon!**  
The new Waveney website will be easier to use and more accessible from smartphone devices and tablets. We want to help reduce costs and devote more 'face to face' time with people who need it most. Once we have launched the new website, we'd love to hear your feedback. You can also send us any comments about our existing site and things you'd like to see in the future by emailing [web@eastsoffolk.gov.uk](mailto:web@eastsoffolk.gov.uk)

Local business owner and former Chair of Beccles Business & Tourism Association Christine Pinsent has been working with groups in Beccles, Bungay, Halesworth and Kirkley support their development and progression with a number of initiatives. With the majority of the business groups in Waveney run by volunteers, Christine adds capacity to ensure a collective and cohesive approach is taken to developing activity across the Waveney area.



**Three of Waveney's beaches were ranked amongst the best in the country following this year's Keep Britain Tidy Blue Flag and Seaside Awards.**

Announced in May, the Waveney winners were Lowestoft's South Beach and the beach at Southwold Pier, which both retained their Blue Flag status. Kessingland once again received a Seaside Award for its stretch of beach. All three award-winning beaches are jointly maintained by Waveney Norse, Anglian Water and Sentinel Leisure Trust. The Blue Flag Award is the international standard for beach quality and is only awarded to coastal destinations that boast the highest standards of water, facilities, safety, environmental education and management. The Seaside

Award recognises and rewards beaches in England that achieve the highest standards of beach management and, in the case of bathing beaches, meet the required mandatory standards for water quality.

Cllr Colin Law, Waveney District Council leader said:

"We are delighted that both Southwold and Lowestoft have retained their Blue Flag Awards for another year. This is excellent news for the Suffolk Coast and we hope it encourages even more people to visit our area.

"The award for Lowestoft's South Beach is particularly pleasing as it underlines, despite the coastal protection work taking place, what huge areas of fantastic, clean and safe beaches there are available for everyone to enjoy."

## Seafront safety

**Three new CCTV cameras have been installed on the lower promenade at Lowestoft.**

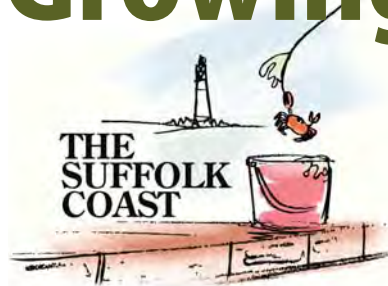
Working in partnership, Waveney District Council, Sentinel Leisure Trust, Suffolk Police and Waveney Norse delivered funding for the cameras, which were operational ahead of the summer season.

The cameras, which are monitored 24 hours per day, are linked to the Waveney Norse CCTV room which has a direct link to the police. The new cameras fill a historical 'blind spot' on the seafront and allow continuous surveillance along the lower prom.

Perpetrators can be identified and followed via existing cameras until the police arrive.

Cllr Stephen Ardley, Waveney's cabinet member for Operational Partnerships said: "Community safety is extremely important and although the seafront is a fantastic place to visit and spend time, this can be spoiled by the thoughtless actions of a silly minority. Hopefully this partnership scheme will make a difference."

## Growing tourism



**Waveney has contributed £20,000 to the Suffolk Coast Destination Management Organisation, which is responsible for promoting tourism along the Suffolk coastline.**

Tourism is an economic pillar for the whole area and Waveney District Council is supporting the DMO's efforts to increase visitor numbers.

Cllr Michael Ladd, Waveney's Cabinet

Member for Tourism and Economic Development said: "This is a fantastic opportunity for us to tell the story of the Suffolk Coast to the nation and beyond and we are delighted to be playing a role in efforts to boost the local tourism economy.

"Thousands of jobs in Waveney depend on visitor numbers and the Suffolk Coast DMO will harness the abilities of key partners for the benefit of our businesses and communities."

In 2013 over 10 million people visited the Suffolk coast generating over £500 million in tourism spend. In Waveney the value of tourism grew to £281 million in 2013. It is estimated that 10% of all jobs in the Suffolk coast area are in tourism and that figure is even higher in Waveney, where it is around 14.8%.

# Recycling hits at



**The Suffolk Waste Partnership was a hit at this summer's Latitude Festival showing people how to create fantastic fun items out of recyclable materials!**

The festival at Henham Park is on the Suffolk Coastal/Waveney border takes place each July and officers from the eight Suffolk councils which make up the SWP provided various recycling and re-use craft activities at the Suffolk Recycling stand in the Children's Area.

Around 500 children plus their parents, carers, and friends visited the Suffolk Recycling stand

over the weekend to make badges, bangles, bandanas, bottle flowers, Brazilian hooters, headbands, flippy fish and Mexican mirrors all by re-using and recycling scrap materials. Latitude provides a great opportunity for the Suffolk Recycling team to showcase what a wonderful, green county we have and allows us to promote our excellent recycling rate! See some of the creative and inspiring ways in which Suffolk's recycling officers re-use scrap materials:

[www.greensuffolk.org/recycling/campaigns/latitude-2015](http://www.greensuffolk.org/recycling/campaigns/latitude-2015)



## Cap campaign

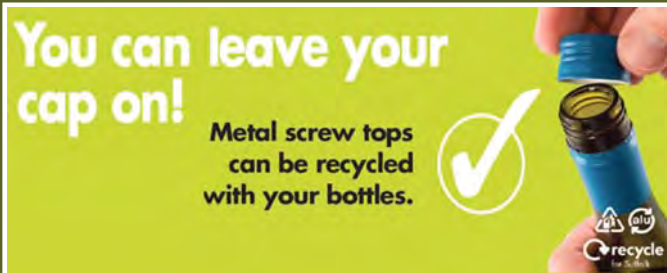
**Did you know you can leave the caps and closures on bottles and jars when you recycle them at local glass banks?**

The Suffolk Waste Partnership has launched the 'Leave Your Cap On' campaign to encourage residents to recycle the aluminium screw tops from glass bottles and jars such as those for wine, spirits and cooking ingredients, along with the glass bottles and jars themselves, at any of the 1500 glass recycling banks in Suffolk.

Like all aluminium and glass packaging, the screw tops are 100% recyclable, so every screw top and bottle or jar deposited in a glass bank can be transformed into something new, including

more bottles, metal packaging, mobile phones and even car parts. Cllr Clive Arthey, chair of the Suffolk Waste Partnership, said: "Aluminium is a valuable recyclable metal and, like glass, can be recycled over and over again. Thanks to modern sorting methods, it is now easy to recover the metal tops from glass bottles and jars, so they can be taken to the bottle bank with the tops on and we can all help to recycle even more."

So when you next recycle your empties from meals and celebrations this autumn and winter, remember you can 'Leave Your Cap On.' For more information go to: [www.suffolkrecycling.org.uk](http://www.suffolkrecycling.org.uk)



## Litter ye not!

**As winter approaches, it's time to give our local area a very well-deserved clean!**

Nobody likes to see litter spoiling our environment – so why not do your bit by picking up any litter you come across whilst out and about to help make a real difference? Waveney Norse work around the clock to deal with litter and community support is gratefully received.

Cllr Stephen Ardley, Waveney's cabinet member for Operational Partnerships said: "Community litter picks are a great way to show pride in your community and environment. We are happy to support anyone's efforts, large or small, at any time of year, as every effort helps improve our environment. Simply decide where and when you'd like to pick litter, and register your activity with us."

Waveney Norse will provide sacks for recyclable and non-recyclable litter and can also remove and dispose of any litter collected. Call 01502 527100, or email [waveney.info@ncsgrp.co.uk](mailto:waveney.info@ncsgrp.co.uk).

However people should not just presume issues will be dealt with and everyone must play their part in being a responsible citizen! Cllr Ardley added: "I would urge everybody to remember not to drop litter in the first place and to keep their recycling and waste fully contained in their wheeled bins to prevent animals from scattering it – prevention is better than cure!"



# Award winners are growing for gold!

## Waveney's beautiful towns, villages and parks have celebrated a number of awards this summer.

In July, Nicholas Everitt Park in Oulton Broad was awarded Green Flag status for the fifth consecutive year.

A Green Flag recognises the best parks and green spaces across the country and is a sign to the public that the space boasts the highest possible standards, is beautifully maintained and has excellent facilities.

Nicholas Everitt Park has facilities for bowling, tennis, crazy golf, trampolining and canoeing, as well as hosting regular powerboat racing meetings. There is also a children's play area, toilets and tearooms, and due to its picturesque location alongside the broads, it also offers fishing and sailing access.

Additionally, a number of towns and villages across Waveney enjoyed success in the recent Anglia in Bloom awards, including a first-ever gold award for Lowestoft. These awards are a credit to the hard work and dedication of the In Bloom volunteers

and sponsors who help to make our district look beautiful, not just on the day of judging but throughout the summer.

Cllr Stephen Ardley said: "These awards reflect the dedication of the volunteers around Waveney, who have given their time to improve and promote our environment for the benefit of the whole community."

Some of the In Bloom groups are supported by Waveney Norse to ensure these award-winning green spaces are kept at their best.

As well as supporting the volunteers, Waveney Norse grounds maintenance staff manage the 66 acres of Waveney parkland and support the various 'friends' groups in place at some parks.

Additionally, Norse grounds maintenance staff are available to help residents and businesses maintain their own green spaces through private gardening work.

Please call 01502 527100 for a quotation for either one-off works or regular garden maintenance.



**Halesworth**  
Gold Award - Best Small Town (pictured)

**Lowestoft**  
Gold Award – Coastal category

**Kensington Gardens, Lowestoft**  
Silver Gilt Award – Best Small Park

**Blundeston**  
Silver Gilt Award – Best Village

**Halesworth Town Centre**  
Certificate of Achievement - Best Community Project

**Bonds Meadow**  
Certificate of Achievement - Best Conservation Project

**Spectra Packaging, Halesworth**  
Certificate of Achievement - Best Commercial/Industrial area

Local  
award  
winners

## Help us catch the flytippers



**Fly-tipping is the illegal dumping of rubbish and is punishable by a maximum sentence of five years imprisonment and an unlimited fine. It is unsightly, anti-social and also costs the Council money to clear. We always try to remove reported fly-tipping, but this is a time-consuming process which last year cost the Council £49,000.**

Successful prosecution for fly-tipping is notoriously difficult. However, if members of the public can help by reporting fly-tipped rubbish promptly, the Council stands a better chance of

securing evidence and tracing the perpetrators. If you find some fly-tipped waste on public land, please call our Customer Services Centre on 01502 562111. In order to provide us with the best information possible, preserve evidence and help us to prosecute those responsible, please follow this guidance.

### **If you discover fly-tipped waste after the tippers have left, please:**

**DON'T** touch the waste as it may be dangerous.  
**DO** visually inspect it and try to determine its contents and how much there is.  
**DO** take note of its exact location and whether it is in or near water.

**DON'T** disturb the site - there may be evidence that could help identify the culprits and lead to their prosecution.

**DO** tell us by telephoning 01502 562111.

### **If you see someone fly-tipping, please make a note of:**

The day, date and time you saw the tipping and what you saw:  
How many people and what they looked like;  
What they were doing and what was tipped;  
Vehicles involved (make, colour, registration

number);

Where you were when you saw the fly-tipping;  
What kind of view you had, how far away you were and weather and light conditions.

### **But remember: don't put yourself at risk!**

To report bigger incidents of fly-tipping, please call the Environment Agency's 24 hour incident hotline on 0800 80 70 60. You can help reduce fly-tipping by ensuring only people who will dispose of the waste responsibly are allowed to take your waste away.

Anyone other than the Council who takes waste away from your premises must be a Registered Waste Carrier. Please call 03708 506 506 for an instant check. For those residents without suitable transport, Waveney Norse offers a bulky waste collection service where up to three bulky items such as fridges, freezers or sofas can be collected. For more details, please call 01502 527100.

Finally, remember that you can take excess and bulky waste for disposal, free of charge, to the County Household Waste Recycling Centres such as Haddenham Road in Lowestoft.

[www.greensuffolk.org/recycling/fly-tipping](http://www.greensuffolk.org/recycling/fly-tipping)



# ECCE triumph!

**A joint project helping businesses to become more energy efficient has been given an Environmental Award.**

Groundwork Suffolk, Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils have won the Green Apple award for their joint East Coast Carbon Efficiency (ECCE) project. ECCE offered small and medium-sized businesses (SMEs) in Suffolk Coastal and rural Waveney the opportunity to become more efficient with their resources, improve the sustainability of their supply chain, access finance, and gain recognition for their carbon

reduction efforts through a local environmental accreditation. Since September 2012, the project has helped 200 local businesses through on-site reviews, Energy and Green Procurement Reports and Action Plans. This has resulted in economic and environmental savings, lowering fuel bills and shrinking carbon footprints. Over the last three years, the project has provided over £197,000 of grant money to 59 businesses and awarded 100 businesses the Suffolk Carbon Charter. The on-site reviews identified potential annual savings of more

than £1.2 million and 6,200 tonnes of carbon dioxide. The project's success was testament to the strong and flexible partnership working between Groundwork Suffolk and the two councils. Anna Martin, Groundwork Suffolk's Operations Manager, said: "We're thrilled to have received the award. It's great to get recognition for the scale of savings - both financial and environmental - that we've helped local businesses to achieve. They should all feel as proud as we do!"

## Keeping it green

**A new document identifying the quantity and quality of Waveney's green spaces has been launched, following the completion of a public consultation.**

The Green Infrastructure Strategy identifies key issues relating to green spaces in Waveney such as quality, public access and biodiversity value. Green infrastructure comprises interconnected green spaces, both private and public, which provide recreation and wildlife habitat. This infrastructure is an important part of creating attractive places to live where people have good access to open space. This document is now available online, accompanied by maps which show existing green spaces. To further improve these areas for communities and wildlife, a list of recommendations for

consideration is provided. Cllr David Ritchie, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Planning and Coastal Management said: "Green spaces are vital for local communities and are integral to the character of our towns and villages. Waveney has a rich variety of green spaces which are essential for wildlife and also for providing recreational facilities. The adoption of the Green Infrastructure Strategy ensures we can continue to effectively manage Waveney's green spaces and address any issues as they arise." Along with Waveney's Open Space Needs Assessment and Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Facilities Assessment, the Green Infrastructure Strategy will be used to support decision-making and inform the Local Plan.

[www.waveney.gov.uk/greenspaces](http://www.waveney.gov.uk/greenspaces)

## Moving home...?



**Whenever you move house you need to update your details on the Register of Electors.**

It's now easier than ever to register - you can update your details in minutes online at [www.gov.uk/register tovote](http://www.gov.uk/register tovote) or you can telephone Waveney's Customer Services Team on 01502 562111 to register over the phone.

You will need to have your National Insurance number to hand as part of your application. As well as enabling you to vote in forthcoming elections and referendums, being on the Register of Electors also has other benefits, such as improving your credit score. It's important to register your details whenever you move house so that your record is always up-to-date. Further information about registering to vote and upcoming elections can be found on our website at [www.waveney.gov.uk/elections](http://www.waveney.gov.uk/elections) or by contacting the Electoral Services Team on 01502 523238.

**...Don't forget to register to vote at your new address!**



# South Beach works near completion

**Essential work to repair and protect the Children's Corner area of Lowestoft's South Beach is progressing well, with promenade and beach structure works likely to be completed soon.**

The works are part of a two-phase scheme funded by a £2.9m contribution from the Environment Agency, with a further £450,000 provided from Waveney District Council's Coastal Management budget to repair the damage caused by the 2013 storms and protect a vulnerable area of coastline from future damage.

With a 'reef' and 'knuckle' structure now in place to offer protection to the Children's Corner area, which has been badly affected by erosion pressures, work is now focusing on the completion of the promenade guard-rail foundation and the construction of a new concrete access ramp to replace the original which collapsed in 2013. Promenade resurfacing will then take place and as work progresses, fencing will be moved back towards the sea opening up a wider area of promenade for public use. Cllr David Ritchie, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for

Planning and Coastal Management at Waveney District Council, said: "This second phase of essential coastal protection work is progressing really well. We appreciate that this work has been disruptive to residents and businesses and we are really grateful for their ongoing co-operation and understanding."

Beach recycling work will also take place and, once complete, the rock placing machinery will return to complete further final structures in the New Year.



[www.waveney.gov.uk/LSBPhase2](http://www.waveney.gov.uk/LSBPhase2)



## Corton Prom

**In the interests of public safety, the coastal promenade at Corton is now temporarily closed for the winter.**

The closure began on Monday 2 November and the gates near Baker's Score, Tibbenham's Score and below Cliff House have now been locked to prevent access to the promenade.

As has been the case in previous years, the promenade will be monitored throughout the winter and any required, minor maintenance work will be carried out during this period.

The prom is expected to re-open in March.

## East coast vision

**Working with Great Yarmouth Borough Council, Waveney is now considering the findings of a public consultation which offered people the chance to share their views on the future of the coastline from Gorleston to Pakefield.**

Organised jointly by the two Councils, a series of public drop-in meetings were held in September in Lowestoft, Corton, Hopton and Gorleston. The Councils are working together to develop a strategy for the future management of this area and anyone living, working or visiting this important stretch of coastline was invited to give their views on the possible options. As well as the drop-in sessions, the proposals were available to view online or at public offices. Cllr David Ritchie, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Planning and Coastal Management at Waveney District Council said: "We are really grateful to those who

took part in the consultation. The strategy is a vital step in identifying how we manage this part of the coast now and in the future. We know that it is important to the local community, businesses and those who visit the area."

This first phase of consultation finished on 31 October 2015 and details of further activities will be announced in due course.



# Recognition for rising star Joe



**Lowestoft boxing club member Joe Kerrison, 14, has been recognised as a potential star of the future by Suffolk SportsAid.**

Joe was recently crowned national 65kg schoolboy champion after winning the title at the Bristol Sports Academy and in recognition of his achievements and his future potential, Joe was presented with a cheque for £750 by Adam Baker, a trustee for SportsAid. The funding is to help with the cost of training and competing at the level he has achieved. Supported by Waveney District Council, SportsAid, a national charity established 40 years ago, helps young sports people overcome the financial challenges they face in their bid to become Britain's next generation of sporting heroes. Their research shows that young athletes face huge challenges and make great sacrifices every day of their

lives. On average they will train 15 hours a week after school, travel more than 600 miles a month to train and compete and they will spend £6,000 a year on their sport, relying almost entirely on their families for support. Joe said: "It is a great honour to receive a grant from SportsAid. It will make a big contribution towards the cost of training and travel to competitions. To be recognised by the charity and follow in the footsteps of some of the amazing sportsmen and women that SportsAid has helped over the years spurs me on to keep working hard and striving to be the best I can be." Joe follows in the footsteps of some of the most iconic names in British sport by receiving support from SportsAid including Bradley Wiggins, Steve Redgrave, Jessica Ennis and Lowestoft's own Olympic hero Anthony Ogogo.

## Sporting chance

**An innovative education centre has launched in Lowestoft, offering young adults a new way of gaining employment skills whilst learning.**

Working in partnership, Sentinel Leisure Trust and the Active Development Foundation (ADF) have opened the new facility at Barnard's Soccer Centre in Lowestoft.

The ADF is a local organisation providing a new era of education, with the centre offering young adults 'active learning' in a safe and exciting environment. Cllr Stephen Ardley, Waveney's Cabinet Member for Operational Partnerships, said: "Sentinel have proven they are great partners to work with and this new venture is no exception offering opportunities for training people for the future. This opportunity is not only for Lowestoft residents but for Waveney as a whole with many courses and projects available." The ADF Education Centre was

officially opened by Peter Aldous MP and Mayor of Lowestoft, Cllr Stephen Ardley, on 3 September. As well as the new education centre, Sentinel has also recently expanded its leisure offering following the acquisition of Broadlands Health & Fitness Centre in Oulton Broad. Working in partnership with Tingdene Holiday Parks, Sentinel now operates the fitness suite and pool at the site, with plans already in place to invest significant capital into new fitness equipment and a website which will enable online bookings and payment for leisure services. The Broadlands facility will provide leisure services for residents and visitors south of Lowestoft and enhances Sentinel's existing Waveney portfolio, which already includes Waterlane Leisure Centre in Lowestoft and Bungay Pool and Gym. For more details about Broadlands Health & Fitness Centre, call 01502 517452.



## 2015 Active Waveney Sports Awards



Photo by Mick Howes

**The 18th annual Active Waveney Sports Awards were held at Rookery Park Golf Club, in Carlton Colville in July.**

The awards are designed to reward individuals and organisations that have achieved great success either as an individual or team player, or have made a significant contribution to sport in a non-playing capacity. Examples include the highest standard of coaching and development, raising the profile of sport and disability sport, encouraging involvement at all levels or providing sporting opportunities to all ages and abilities.

The awards are organised by Waveney District Council and

supported by Sentinel Leisure Trust, the Active Waveney Sports Partnership, Waveney Sportsability and the Lowestoft Journal. Speaking at the awards ceremony, Mayor of Lowestoft Stephen Ardley said: "Once again this was another difficult year for the judging panel, with a number of very worthy entries. Congratulations to all of our winners. It's also important not to forget the huge number of coaches, teachers and parents who make successes like these possible." Leading junior cyclist Christopher Jackson was crowned Best sportsman and Lowestoft Ladies footballer Marcie Prettyman took the sportswoman crown.



# Streets ahead!

**Lowestoft was on the move this summer as residents took part in a walking and cycling challenge to increase physical activity and to raise money for local charities.**

Lowestoft residents rose to the challenge of Beat the Street and walked more than 150,000 miles in just four weeks.

The town walked, cycled, ran and scooted its way to the 150,000 mile

target, which means that local good causes will benefit from £1,500 donated by Lowestoft Rising plus a further £1,500 for hitting the initial target.

The actual distance walked was 161,600 miles with Pakefield Primary School topping the overall leader-board with more than 363,000 points, while Corton Primary School won the average

points leader-board.

Pakefield Primary School head teacher Martyn Payne, said: "It has been wonderful to see all of our community join in with Beat the Street. All the children have wanted to take part and the initiative has brought together and included all ages and abilities with one common goal in mind, to become as active as possible. It has motivated us to

continue the recent good work. I am proud of all the efforts of the children and staff."

Surveys carried out before and during Beat the Street showed a 30% increase in cycling from May to July and first estimates reveal that almost 20% of the town took part in Beat the Street.

Phil Aves from Lowestoft Rising said: "Beat the Street has really captured the imagination of everyone in Lowestoft. As well as the obvious health benefits of being more active, we've also heard heart-warming stories of local people who have found new places to explore, having the opportunity to talk to people they don't yet know and more community spirit.

"We're thrilled with the feedback and levels of people and would urge participants to keep up the good work and to continue walking wherever and whenever possible."

Dr William Bird, director of Intelligent Health which runs Beat the Street, added: "It has been a real pleasure to see so many people in Lowestoft enjoying Beat the Street. It's proved to be a real talking point amongst the community and literally life-changing for some of the people who took part."

# Beach fun brings best summer yet

**It was the best year yet for Waveney's programme of free summer activities!**

Open to children aged between nine and sixteen, there were a variety of sports to try, including cycling, futsal, dodgeball, rounders, beach golf, boxing, tag rugby, cricket and climbing.

Over the six weeks, a total of 335 children took part in the summer activities, with many returning each week for repeat sessions. This is a huge increase in participants compared to 2014, when around 220 children took part in the programme.

Cllr Mary Rudd, Waveney's Cabinet Member for Community Health, said: "This has been a record year for our summer activities, with a significant increase in the number of children taking part. The activities

are always popular and offer local children the chance to engage in sporting activities which keep them occupied during the long holiday period, as well as enhancing their health and well-being. We hope to continue to provide these activities again next summer."

A survey revealed the participating children enjoyed the opportunity to be active, with the most popular sports being dodgeball, football and handball. Without the activities, participants reported they would have spent that time playing on a device or watching TV.

The activities were delivered by Waveney's Active Communities Team in conjunction with Catch22 Suffolk Positive Futures, funded by the Suffolk Police and Crime Commissioner. Volunteers from Dreamworx – an organisation

providing support to local young people, provided assistance throughout the activities.

Funding for the programme was provided by Birds Eye, Sentinel

Leisure Trust and the Community Safety Partnership, with additional support and equipment provided by Ultimate Boxing, Harrod UK and Rookery Park Golf Club.



# Calling all self builders...

**Are you interested in a self-build or custom housebuilding project? By signing up to our register, you will help the Council find out more about the demand for custom and self-build plots in Waveney, where people would like to live and the type of house that they would like to build.**

The Self-Build and Custom Housebuilding Act 2015 requires local councils in England to maintain a register of people who are interested in self build or custom build projects in their area. The information will be used to explore ways in which it might be possible for people and plots to be brought together. Registration does not however guarantee that a suitable plot will be identified, or become available.

## What is self build and custom build?

Self-build projects are defined as those where you directly organise the design and construction of your own home as a DIY project or where

you directly employ someone to build your home for you. Custom build homes are where you work with a developer as an individual or a group to help deliver your own home. The developer may help to find a plot, manage the construction and arrange the finance for your new home. This is more of a hands-off approach but your home will be tailored to match your individual requirements.

## How to register

If you would like to register your interest for a custom or self-build plot, please complete the online registration form at

[www.consult.waveney.gov.uk/consult.ti/selfbuild](http://www.consult.waveney.gov.uk/consult.ti/selfbuild)

## Further information and advice

If you would like to know more about the Right to Build project, have any queries about the registration, or would like a copy of the registration form sent to you, please contact Julie Fox on 01502 523082 or [julie.fox@eastssuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:julie.fox@eastssuffolk.gov.uk).



## An eye on developments

**Want to keep up to date with what's going on in your area? If so, why not join the growing number of people who have registered to use the Planning Public Access System on the Council's website?**

Registering is optional, however registered users can benefit from automated email alerts, linking directly to newly validated planning applications within their own parish or ward. Registered users can also request to be notified when a planning decision is issued. Over 4,500 people have already registered to benefit from this extra functionality and the overall use of the system continues to grow, with 25% more searches being carried out between April and June 2015 when compared with the same period in 2014. In March, an online planning search was being undertaken on [waveney.gov.uk](http://waveney.gov.uk) every 47 seconds! Further improvements have been made to the planning system, including faster download times, clearer identification of documents, improved design and highlighting the last viewed document.

Registered users are also able to submit their comments on planning applications directly through the system, speeding up the whole process. Cllr David Ritchie, Waveney's Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Planning and Coastal Management said: "The Councils' investment in a modern web-based system and the continued efforts of officers to make as much information as possible available means that customers can review planning applications from the comfort of their own front rooms at a time that suits them. "The volume of use confirms the public's interest in planning matters but we are not resting on our laurels as we continue to explore and introduce other improvements as opportunities arise. This is a great example of how the shared service agenda with our Suffolk Coastal District Council partners has helped deliver added value." Register at [www.waveney.gov.uk](http://www.waveney.gov.uk) by clicking planning on the left hand side of the homepage and choosing 'View Planning Applications'. There is help available under 'Hints & Tips'.

## Sites wanted for new Local Plan

**The Council is in the early stages of preparing a new Local Plan for the district, which will cover development in Waveney up to 2036.**

The new Local Plan will set out the strategy and policies that will help guide development over this period. Part of the review process involves the identification of land where new development will be appropriate and we are seeking potential sites for new housing, employment, retail, recreation, community uses etc. If you are aware of any sites or have a site you wish to be considered through the Local Plan process please let us know by completing the online form at [www.waveney.gov.uk/newlocalplan](http://www.waveney.gov.uk/newlocalplan) where you can also find further information.

You can also call us on 01502 523029 / 523079. Each form submitted must be accompanied by an Ordnance Survey site plan with the site boundary clearly edged in red. As a guide: Housing sites must be able to deliver at least 5 dwellings. Employment and other use sites must have a minimum area of 0.25 hectares or at least 500m<sup>2</sup> of floor space. All submissions should be received by January 2016. Please note that your submission and any information provided, including supporting documents, will be available for public inspection. Formal public consultation on all sites put forward for development will take place in the spring of 2016.



## Business brains of the future!

### An enterprise challenge run exclusively for Waveney primary schools has helped pupils learn more about becoming entrepreneurs!

The annual competition, organised by Young Enterprise and supported by Waveney District Council, is inspired by the national Virgin Fiver Challenge. Both schemes are targeted at 5-11 year

olds and help build essential business skills such as communication, risk-taking and problem-solving. Primary schools were provided with a £5.00 starting fund and pupils were given one month to turn this fund into as much profit as possible, involving families, friends and local communities. Somerleyton Primary School, won

the challenge with two winning teams: Sweet Treat Raffle, who baked and sold a range of flavoured pancakes, and Sweet Stationery, who sold chocolate pencils and iced drinks. Cllr Michael Ladd, Waveney's Cabinet Member for Tourism and Economic Development, said: "We are delighted that this initiative has been so well re-

ceived by local primary school pupils, who all worked hard to develop interesting and creative business ideas. Enterprising activities such as this are a great way to inspire learning and help develop essential employment and business skills for the future." Both teams donated the monies raised to the school council to support science activities.

Photo by Peter Eyles

# Young people are showing the way



### Local secondary school pupils are taking the lead in helping young people through the transition from primary school, thanks to a scheme supported by Waveney District Council and Lowestoft Rising.

Students from Benjamin Britten High School, East Point Academy, Pakefield High School, Beccles Free School and The Ashley School Academy Trust attended an official launch event for the 'Transition Ambassadors project' during the summer. The project, developed by the Waveney Youth Council with support from the Council's Active Communities Team, Access Community Trust and Lowestoft Rising, is designed to ease the transition from primary to secondary school - a process which can be a challenge for many students. Around 90 Year 9 & 10 students from participating schools com-

pleted the Transition Ambassadors training, providing support and guidance for new students as they began secondary school in September.

Initial funding for the project was provided by Suffolk Community Foundation, with further financial support from Lowestoft Rising.

Meanwhile, members of the Waveney Youth Council have also been working to improve the content and delivery of Personal, Social Health Education (PSHE) across Waveney. A student survey identified that PSHE is a key area of concern for students with over 500 young people responding and indicating which topics, covered by PSHE, concerned them most. These include; being a parent, understanding democracy, avoiding debt, relationships in adult life, handling money, avoiding drug and alcohol problems, finding work, making safe sexual health decisions, recognising and dealing with abusive relationships, living independently and self confidence. The survey also revealed that young people felt schools were not preparing them for adult life across all PSHE-related subjects.

As a result, Waveney Youth Council students organised a conference, to discuss issues raised. Phil Aves, Lowestoft Rising Change Manager said: "The Youth Council has been instrumental in developing these projects, which support young people as they embrace new stages of their lives. We are always looking for ways to help young people achieve their highest potential, both whilst in school and once they leave education."



# Coastal economy focus

**Lowestoft has been selected as one of the first coastal communities in the UK to have a dedicated team which will focus on coastal issues to kick-start the local economy and create jobs.**

The town was awarded £10,000 from the Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) to set up a team and to create a vision and action plan. The team is made up of a number of key organisations and businesses from across the town including Lowestoft Rising, Lowestoft Vision, Kirkley Business Association, Lowestoft Tourism Group, Community Action Suffolk and key business owners.

The action plan will cover the East of England Park (North Denes) and Lowestoft South Beach, and their

links to the town centre. The Team has been seeking the views of the local community, businesses and visitors to help influence the plan. Surveys have been conducted over the summer and a consultation event was held at the Kirkley Centre in September.

Further consultations will take place in November when the draft plan will be available for comment, and the final plan will be published early next year. The plan will be used to help shape ideas and priorities for the seafront areas, and will be used to support future funding applications.

For further information, email [AAP-Projects@eastssuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:AAP-Projects@eastssuffolk.gov.uk) or visit: [www.coastalcommunities.co.uk/coastal-teams/lowestoft](http://www.coastalcommunities.co.uk/coastal-teams/lowestoft)



## Park progress

**Do you want to be part of an exciting community project to transform North Denes in Lowestoft?**

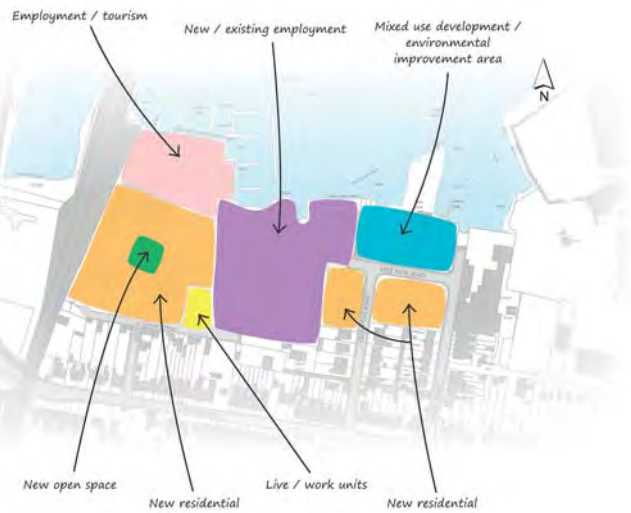
The East of England Park site is owned by Waveney District Council and is located east of Whapload Road, south of the Birds Eye factory and east of the Beach Industrial Estate. It covers an area of around 8 hectares. The Area Action Plan identified the potential to transform this underutilised location into an exciting new park and community space which celebrates the history of the area. The location also includes the seafront walkway and the most easterly point in the UK, Lowestoft Ness.

At the start of the project, a Community Group was set up to represent the 'users' of North Denes and ensure the project supports community needs whilst still providing interest or future visitors and tourists. The group has clear aims and objectives to ensure the community can influence the project.

Neil Kelsey, who sits on the project's Community Group, said: "I came to Lowestoft in 1967 and the juxtaposition of a bustling fishing port, with cargo ship and ship-building next to the beauty of the Broads struck a chord with me. Lowestoft has been a frequent port-of-call for me ever since and following my retirement in 1999, I arrived in my own boat and have lived here ever since. "Lowestoft has played a long and important part in the history of our country, including revolutions, sea battles and historic trading links, as well as being a key to our defences in both World Wars. We must never let it be forgotten. This is why I am passionate about being a member of the East of England Park community."

If you would like to join the group, please call 01502 523354 or email [activecommunities.wdc@eastssuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:activecommunities.wdc@eastssuffolk.gov.uk). You can also write to the Active Communities Team, Waveney District Council, Riverside, 4 Canning Road, Lowestoft, NR33 0EQ.

## Lakeside plans



**A draft 'Concept Statement' for the Western End of Lake Lothing has been prepared to guide developers in drawing up plans for the area.**

The Western End of Lake Lothing covers the area to the south west of Lake Lothing between Stanley Road and the railway line. In July, local residents and businesses were asked for their views on the future of the site.

Following consideration of the comments received, the Council has published a draft Concept

Statement for consultation.

To view the draft Concept Statement and give your views, please visit

[www.consult.waveney.gov.uk](http://www.consult.waveney.gov.uk).

The closing date for comments is 4th December 2015. Comments received will be taken into account when producing the final Concept Statement, which is expected to be completed in early 2016. The finalised Concept Statement will be used as a framework for assessing new planning applications on the site.

# Sign to show your crossing support!

## Sign the petition at locations across Lowestoft



**“Sign the petition and show the Government how important a new crossing is for Lowestoft!” That’s the message from local leaders as a business case is prepared for the Department for Transport.**

Having received a commitment from the Prime Minister and the Chancellor for the delivery of a scheme by 2020, New Anglia LEP and Suffolk County Council have now been asked by

the Government to undertake a new feasibility study and produce a business case which will provide the robust evidence that the project is deliverable and offers good value for money.

The business case will need to provide sufficient information to enable Department for Transport

officials to recommend that the scheme should be progressed to the next stage and for a further announcement to be made as part of the Chancellor’s 2016 budget. However, Peter Aldous, MP for Waveney, believes that ‘people power’ can also influence decision making and, with this in mind, he has established a petition for local people and businesses to sign and show their support for the scheme. He said: “We have never before

come this far and the promise of funding for the scheme if the business case can be proved is fantastic progress in the right direction. But no-one knows better than those who live and work in Lowestoft how much the scheme is needed and the weight of public and business opinion could make a real difference.”

The business case needs to show that a broad range of options have been assessed and clear evidence provided to show why one preferred option would be the best performing. As part of this, engagement with local stakeholders is imperative and will play an important part in establishing the best and most appropriate solution for the town of Lowestoft and wider region.

A project group made up of Suffolk County Council, Waveney District Council, New Anglia, the Highways Agency, the local Chambers of

Commerce and Associated British Ports (ABP) is working hard to ensure that the best possible solution for Lowestoft can be determined.

Cllr Colin Law, Leader of Waveney District Council (left) said: “There has been no hotter topic in Lowestoft than a new crossing and it is hard to find anyone locally who does not have an opinion either way. All parties agree that it is vital for local people to have a voice and this petition could drive home the message loud and clear.”

You can sign a copy of the petition, at any one of three locations from November 16th:

Lowestoft Library, Clapham Road, Lowestoft NR32 1DR;

St Margarets House Customer Centre, Gordon Road, Lowestoft NR32 1JQ;

Riverside, 4 Canning Road, Lowestoft NR33 0EQ

## Council moves: saving money... better for customers

A shared ‘one-stop shop’ for Council services in Lowestoft will open soon with the redevelopment of the Marina Customer Services Centre in the town centre.

Previously occupied by Waveney alone, Suffolk County Council teams will also move in, creating a single, convenient facility for accessing council services. The scheme is part of a wider

accommodation project which has seen 480 staff from Suffolk County Council and Waveney District Council move in to the Riverside offices on Canning Road in Lowestoft – a building project which was completed on time and within budget.

Leader of Waveney District Council, Cllr Colin Law said: “In challenging times, and with the money available to us reducing all the time, local authorities must find ways to protect essential services in new and innovative ways.

“It would have cost the councils over £20 million over the next 10 years to maintain a range of old and inefficient buildings. However, this £13.6 million scheme will ultimately save taxpayers money.” More details about the the Marina Centre and other aspects of the project can be found at:

[www.waveney.gov.uk/wehavemoved](http://www.waveney.gov.uk/wehavemoved)

## 5-star service

In August, Riverside’s in-house café, Café East, received a 5 star food hygiene rating from the Council’s Food Safety officers.

The café now joins 693 other food outlets in Waveney which have a Food Hygiene Rating Scheme (FHRS) of 5/Very Good.

Cllr Mary Rudd, Waveney’s Cabinet Member for Community Health & Safety said: “The dedicated Food and Safety team inspect hundreds of premises each year, closely following the Food Standards Agency’s inspection guidelines for food businesses.



We are tough on businesses which are not compliant with food hygiene law as that is the right way to protect the public from poor hygiene in food outlets.

To check the rating of an establishment: check the FHRS window/door sticker, check [www.food.gov.uk/ratings](http://www.food.gov.uk/ratings) or download the FHRS app.

## Dog control

**New legislation came into force last year which requires councils to review existing Dog Control Orders before October 2017.**

A previous council consultation set out to establish some reasonable controls over dogs in the District.

The result was the Waveney 2007 ‘Dog Control Order’ which required: 1: Owners to clean-up after their dogs, 2: Dogs to be kept on leads in certain areas, 3: Dogs to be excluded from certain areas and at certain times

The full Dog Control Order can be viewed at [www.waveney.gov.uk](http://www.waveney.gov.uk) (enter dog control order in the search box).

Whilst the Council fully intends to undertake a review at some stage, there are no immediate plans to review or replace the current order; however, if you have any comments or suggestions you would like us to consider please email [environment@eastssuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:environment@eastssuffolk.gov.uk) and include the words “dog control” in the subject line of your email.

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