

BY STEPHEN BURROUGHES - APRIL - MAY 2017

- **ARCHITECTS SELECTED FOR UPPER ORWELL CROSSING**

Following a competition run in partnership with the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA), Suffolk County Council is very pleased to announce that Foster + Partners has been selected as the architectural team to join the Upper Orwell Crossings project in Ipswich. The crossings will be the second project Foster + Partners has undertaken in the town, following the construction of the architecturally significant Willis Building in Ipswich town centre.

The Panel, chaired by Sir Michael Hopkins CBE, selected Foster + Partners from a strong shortlist of five internationally renowned teams that included (in alphabetical order of design firm lead): Adamson Associates with William Matthews Associates and Ney & Partners; Knight Architects; Marc Mimram; and Wilkinson Eyre with FHECOR and EADON Consulting. Foster + Partners impressed the panel by the quality of their overall approach and thinking, including the initial design concepts presented for the project's three crossings. The approaches were considered to have the potential to enhance Ipswich's thriving waterfront, as well as acting as a catalyst for regeneration of the wider harbour area.

The county council and key partners, including Ipswich Borough Council and Ipswich Vision, keenly anticipate seeing the initial design ideas developed further with the wider project team and in consultation with local businesses, communities and residents. Competition concept design images can be downloaded from here <https://www.flickr.com/photos/suffolkcountycouncil/>

A video is also be available online at www.youtube.com/user/SuffolkCC

- **SUFFOLK FOSTERING AND ADOPTION LAUNCH NEW APPROACH TO SUPPORT FOSTER FAMILIES**

Suffolk Fostering and Adoption Service is launching the Mockingbird Family Model of foster care in Suffolk, in partnership with The Fostering Network.

The Fostering Network has already introduced the pioneering Mockingbird Family Model to the UK, and it has been piloted with 7 organisations across the country since April 2015. They have now been successful in securing an additional £3.76m in funding through the Department for Education's Children's Social Care Innovation Programme to extend the model to a further 5 organisations in the UK, including Suffolk Fostering and Adoption Service.

The model was developed by The Mockingbird Society in the USA and is based on the idea of an extended family. It uses a 'constellation' where 6 to 8 fostering 'satellite' households living near each other are offered support from a dedicated 'hub home' fostering household of specially recruited and trained carers. The hub home carer offers regular planned respite care and emergency respite care to the satellite carers. They will also assist with peer support, regular joint planning and social activities. Relationships are central to the model, with hub carers and foster carers providing frontline care and with social workers able to concentrate on successful relationship building. For more information about how to become a foster carer in Suffolk, visit www.fosterandadopt.suffolk.gov.uk

- **BURY ST EDMUNDS TO RECEIVE £2.8MILLION FOR SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT SCHEMES**

A significant transport investment scheme to improve facilities for walking and cycling in Bury St Edmunds is being announced today. A total of £2.8million is being spent on sustainable transport schemes, which will also

accommodate increased car demand associated with growth in the town. The project, jointly funded by New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership and Suffolk County Council, will be delivering the first four schemes in the town over the next 12 months. The schemes include:

Parkway/Cullum Road

- Replacement of two mini roundabouts with single roundabout.
- Signal upgrades.
- Widen pedestrian footways.

Tollgate Lane roundabout

- Improve flow of gyratory
- Signal upgrades.

Signalisation of Tayfen Road roundabout and improvements to Northgate roundabout

- Improve facilities for pedestrians and cyclists to cross Tayfen Road
- New cycle infrastructure, such as cycleway provided on Out Northgate Street and Toucan crossing installed on Northgate roundabout/Tayfen Road
- Widening of some vehicular approach lanes.

Spread Eagle Roundabout

- Signal upgrade to make the junctions more efficient
- Some reconfiguration of crossings to allow better pedestrian and cycle movement.

Works on the schemes will be phased to start at different periods to avoid major disruption to the town. The first development is due to start in the summer, with the final project due to be completed by April 2018. All four projects are part of a package specifically planned for Bury St Edmunds, with other transport plans being developed for delivery in the future.

• COMMUNITY FIRE VOLUNTEERS WANTED BY SUFFOLK FIRE AND RESCUE

Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service are currently on the lookout for enthusiastic and caring people who want to make a difference to their community. Community Fire Volunteers are fully trained volunteers who share fire safety advice in their area, visiting elderly and vulnerable people in their homes to undertake a Safer Home Visit for them, fitting smoke alarms if required and offering fire safety advice. Those who become Community Fire Volunteers will also be able to get involved in other ways, such as attending community events and fairs or giving talks to community groups about fire safety. Applicants must be older than 18 years old and be available for at least 12 hours every month. Volunteers will receive ongoing training and uniform for when they undertake their duties. Support will also be given to allow volunteers to extend their skills and expenses will be paid to cover any costs incurred while on duty.

To download an application form and information pack go to <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/suffolk-fire-and-rescue-service/working-and-volunteering-for-fire-and-rescue/apply-to-be-a-community-fire-volunteer/> or call 01473 260588. The vacancy is also available on the Volunteer Suffolk website at <http://volunteersuffolk.org.uk/>

• TRAVEL IN TIME – ONLINE!

Suffolk Record Office now offers online resources at www.suffolkarchives.co.uk to help you search for a particular person or piece of information. The new website allows users to access catalogues for the records from the comfort of their own home and means many more people will be able to use the service.

Since December, residents both inside and out of Suffolk have been able to purchase and download digital copies of wills and request quotations for copies of other documents and photographs. More records are

being digitised and added to the collection on an on-going basis. To find out more about the services available online, visit www.suffolkarchives.co.uk

In January, Pringle Richards Sharratt were announced as the design team behind the planned heritage centre, 'The Hold'. 'The Hold' will house 900 years of Suffolk's historical archives and is expected to open in 2019. As well as providing a teaching and research space, it will also form a unique visitor attraction and important cultural resource for the community. For more information about the project, visit www.suffolkarchives.co.uk/the_hold.

• SUFFOLK RECOGNISED IN INCLUSIVE EDUCATION AWARD

Suffolk SACRE has received a Special Commendation for its Teaching Controversial Issues Toolkit. Suffolk County Council's Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE) has been recognised in a national award celebrating those SACREs that work hardest at promoting the growth of mutual understanding between those of different religious beliefs.

Each local authority in England and Wales is required to convene a SACRE that monitors the assemblies and Religious Education (RE) that are taught in most local schools. Though often overlooked, SACREs can have a crucial role in boosting the growth of respect and empathy between those of different religions and beliefs, given the potential of high quality RE to advance these aims.

The Suffolk SACRE has been granted a Special Commendation by judges of the 2017 Accord Inclusivity Award for its '[Teaching Controversial Issues Toolkit](#)', which seeks to give confidence and offer practical guidance to local teachers in delivering controversial issues linked to:

- A School and teacher's 'Prevent' duty to stop people being drawn into terrorist-related activity
- A School's obligation to promote pupils' Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) development
- The requirement on schools to teach Fundamental British Values (of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect for and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs)

The toolkit was produced with support from Suffolk County Council's Localities and Partnerships team who secured Prevent grant funding from the Home Office. This funding was used to commission the work, project managed by the SACRE, which drew on established relationships it had forged with members of local religion as well as belief groups and classroom teachers. The SACREs work included consulting with local teachers about their needs and wishes from the proposed resources.

The SACRE's flexible and non-prescriptive kit provides a '6 Step Plan' to structure the delivery of sensitive and controversial issues, and is accompanied by a bank of resources to support teachers, which focus on 9 themes related to the Prevent duty. The nine themes are: sense of belonging; terrorism; extremism; hate crime; tolerance; being British; radicalisation; world events; culture and faith.

• PUBLIC HEALTH SUFFOLK WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU!

A consultation has been launched to help shape the future of pharmacy services across Suffolk. The questionnaire has been opened to enable Suffolk residents to provide feedback on pharmacy services across the county. The views, experiences and opinions of respondents will be fed into a wider piece of work that is looking at the health needs of Suffolk, the level of accessibility of pharmacy services and how these will be maintained and developed moving forward.

The survey can be accessed on www.healthysuffolk.org.uk and the closing date is Friday 31 March 2017. Hard copies of the questionnaire can be requested by emailing healthandwellbeing@suffolk.gov.uk or by telephoning 01473 260079. Any information provided will be treated as confidential.

For further information or questions please contact me at: stephen.burroughes@suffolk.gov.uk

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