**SUFFOLK COASTAL DISTRICT COUNCILLOR’S REPORT**



***Cllr Stephen Burroughes – July 2018***

* **Proposed East Suffolk Area Parking Plan**

Local authorities applying for CPE powers need to provide evidence of their parking policies and strategies. In order to fulfil the requirement the Suffolk Civil Parking Enforcement Working Group (SCPEWG) agreed a two-part process. The County Council will draft the Suffolk Parking Management Strategy (SPMS) as a high level policy document. While each enforcement district will produce their own Area Parking Plan.

The East Suffolk Area Parking Plan (ESAPP) is a completely new parking policy document. It has been drafted with the objective of setting out the broad parking policy objectives that will be adopted by East Suffolk. It is based on the assumption that CPE powers will be granted to Suffolk and will be administered and operated by East Suffolk under an Agency agreement and Service Level Agreement with the County Council.

Suffolk Public Sector Leaders continue to lobby the Secretary of State for Transport to grant a CPE implementation date of April 2019. The County Council submitted the Application on the 25 April. The supporting documentation for the application should ideally be submitted by October 2018. This will need to include a copy of the adopted East Suffolk Area Parking Plan and a statement on the review process undertaken.

* **Revised East Suffolk Equality and Diversity Policy**

The Equality Act (2010) introduced the requirement for public authorities to have ‘due regard’ to the following things in carrying out their functions:

• Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation

• Advance equality of opportunity between those who share a protected characteristic and those who don’t (equality of opportunity)

• Foster good relations between those who share a protected characteristic and those who don’t (community cohesion)

To reflect various changes since our original Equality and Diversity policy was produced, the East Suffolk Equality and Diversity Policy has been revised. The Policy outlines our aim of encouraging a supportive and inclusive culture amongst our workforce, striving to promote diversity and eliminating all forms of unlawful and unfair discrimination.

* **Garden Waste Scheme UPDATE**

As of the end of May, the Garden Waste Scheme had received 26,993 sign-ups from households. This equates to approximately 46% of households have joined the scheme. The Suffolk Coastal garden waste scheme has now exceeded the Waveney scheme for the total number of subscriptions in year 1, and the total continues to climb, with people continuing to sign up at a rate of over 200 subscriptions a day with no indication yet of a significant lessening in demand.

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

* Go online at: **my.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/MyServices**.  People need to register, or login to, your My Eastsuffolk account and then complete the form for garden waste
* Call Customer Services on **01394 383789**, and choose option ‘0’
* Or, pop in to see our Customer Service staff in the Customer Service Centre in Felixstowe and Woodbridge Library

People 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**)**. Also, we need to remind people that they can say ‘YES’ to an upgrade to a larger (240ltr) green bin.

You can find more information about the Garden Waste Scheme, composting and re-purposing your old brown bin at [www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/SCDCgardenwaste](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/SCDCgardenwaste)

* **Get in shape at the Deben**

With the re-opening of the updated Deben Leisure Centre, people can sign up for their membership now! The centre closed in September 2017 to undergo a £3.5million refurbishment as part of Suffolk Coastal’s five year programme to improve leisure facilities and encourage more people to become active.

Memberships and prices information is at: [www.placesforpeopleleisure.org/centres/deben-leisure-centre/](http://www.placesforpeopleleisure.org/centres/deben-leisure-centre/) or pop down to see them on site.

A sales cabinet is located near the entrance of the community hall and is open weekdays 10am to 7pm and weekends 9am to 4pm. On the weekend of 5 and 6 May 2018, it will be open from 9am to 3pm.

* **Leiston set for £3.5m refurbish**

With Deben now completed, we are already well on the way to planning the next phase of the leisure redevelopment programme – after plans for a £3.5million refurbishment of Leiston Leisure Centre were given the go ahead. Work on Leiston is due to start in September 2018. The centre will need to be closed for 4 months to undergo structural work, with the pool due to reopen in January 2019 and the whole centre is expected to be fully open in summer 2019.

Leiston is the second leisure facility to undergo refurbishment in Suffolk Coastal’s leisure redevelopment programme, and will be followed by Felixstowe. Extensive consultation has been carried out throughout the redevelopment programme with the local communities, including sport groups and users, the Town Council, Alde Valley Academy and the general public.

The new enhanced facility will include an extension and the first floor will feature a large gym with modern equipment, including zones for cardiovascular, strength and resistance. The reception area will have a coffee shop and a soft play area for children, which will provide a great view of the pool.

* **Healthy staff**

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. We 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.

* **Make Use Of That Spare Room**

We are running a joint scheme with Solo Housing, matching up householders with a spare bedroom with single people in need of affordable accommodation. The ‘Lodgings Service’ scheme aims to reduce homelessness by encouraging local people to become potential landlords. It was launched in 2017/18 and has now been extended into the current financial year.

Suffolk Coastal householders with a spare room are being asked to consider whether they could become Lodgings Landlords. Support and information for new landlords will be provided by Solo Housing, including information on the rights and responsibilities of both landlord and lodger; advice on health and safety and other relevant regulations as well as a home visit.

Solo will also provide the landlord with template documentation, advice about rent setting, collection of payments and most importantly, discuss with landlords about who they may like to share their home with to provide the best match between landlord and lodger. Those in need of accommodation will be referred to the Lodgings Service by the Council and other agencies. A detailed assessment is then carried out, by Solo Housing, into the person’s needs. In 2017/18, the Lodgings Service maintained or secured 51 lodging spaces in the Suffolk Coastal area. To find out more, see: [www.solohousing.org](http://www.solohousing.org) or telephone 01379 640250.

* **Felixstowe Photo Competition 2018**

The seaside town of Felixstowe in Suffolk is a unique, exciting and diverse location for photographic opportunities - seaside fun, beautiful gardens, huge container ships, historic buildings and rich wildlife habitats.

Now photographers of all ages and abilities are being invited to submit their favourite shots into the annual Felixstowe Photo Competition. Organised and supported by Visit Felixstowe, Felixstowe Town Council and the Landguard Partnership, entrants could WIN a prize of £100 to put towards photographic equipment.

There are **three competition themes to choose from:**Theme 1: **Fun Felixstowe** - on the beach, family days out, seaside amusements…
Theme 2: **Iconic Felixstowe** - the pictures that ‘say’ Felixstowe.
Theme 3: **Undiscovered Felixstowe** - let loose your imagination. Close ups, wildlife…

Entrants can submit their photograph by emailing: visitfelixstowe@eastsuffolk.gov.uk - including full name, age, contact telephone number and the theme you would like to enter.

***Closing date for entry is 12pm on Wednesday 20 March 2019.***

Full competition details, plus terms and conditions can be found on the Visit Felixstowe ([www.visitfelixstowe.org.uk](http://www.visitfelixstowe.org.uk)); Felixstowe Town Council ([www.felixstowe.gov.uk](http://www.felixstowe.gov.uk)); and Discover Landguard ([www.discoverlandguard.org.uk](http://www.discoverlandguard.org.uk)) websites.

**For further information or to ask questions etc. I can be contacted at:** stephen.burroughes@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk

**Cllr STEPHEN BURROUGHES**

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Suffolk Coastal District Council

Chairman of East Suffolk Shadow Authority