

Suffolk County Council Report October 22

Dear All,

Please see below an update for October 2022. As always please email or telephone me if you have an issue that you would like my help with.

Best wishes,

Bobby Bennett
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On the death of Her Majesty the Queen

I was honoured to represent Clare Division at the County proclamation of the King in Ipswich and at the proclamation in Clare, and at the official Suffolk Mourning ceremony in Bury St Edmunds, all of which were incredibly moving.

Cost of Living

Find out what help is available to support you through the cost of living pressures.

Further advice and guidance around the subject can be found at www.suffolk.gov.uk/costofliving

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/community-and-safety/communities/healthier/cost-of-living-support/>



Homes for Ukraine

We continue to publish a news bulletin providing an update on the situation in Suffolk along with information about the work of the county council and partners within Suffolk's Ukraine Task Group and answers to frequently asked questions.

We are grateful for your support and our regular updates will include further information on how you and your communities can get involved, as we continue to work together to do all we can to help those fleeing the conflict in Ukraine. If you are not already receiving the newsletter you can sign up by emailing refugeesupport@suffolk.gov.uk

Window now open to apply for primary and secondary school places

Parents and carers can now apply for primary and secondary school places for September 2023.

The deadline for applications to secure a place at a Suffolk secondary school is Monday 31 October 2022.

The deadline for applying for a primary school place, including infant and junior schools, is Sunday 15 January 2023.

Campaign launched to boost metal packaging recycling rates across Suffolk

A new initiative encouraging households to recycle food and drink cans, aluminium foil and trays, empty aerosols and metal screw caps has been rolled out by the Suffolk Waste Partnership.

'MetalMatters' will see residents targeted with educational messages via a communications campaign comprising social media and outdoor advertising activities.

Expected to reach more than 350,000 households, the programme will run for a six-week period, commencing on Monday October 3.

The Suffolk Waste Partnership is proud to support the MetalMatters, which is run by Alupro, the Aluminium Packaging Recycling Organisation.

Designed to improve metal packaging recycling rates, the programme has reached more than seven million households nationwide since its launch in 2012.

For more information about MetalMatters visit: www.metalmatters.org.uk. To find out more about recycling in Suffolk visit www.suffolkrecycling.org.uk

Suffolk Roadsafe Partnership rolls out ANPR devices to target speeding motorists

Speeding motorists are to be targeted with a mobile number plate recognition system to be rolled out across Suffolk.

Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) will be rotated around sites where there is a problem with speeding or rat-running on roads with a 20 or 30mph speed limit.

The devices, 10 in total, will display the speeds of drivers to them as they approach, encouraging them to slow down.

If they continue to ignore the speed limit the ANPR camera will take a picture of them and record the date, time, speed, vehicle registration and a photo of the vehicle.

In certain cases, persistent offenders will be reported to Suffolk Constabulary and, while no one will be prosecuted as a direct result of the devices, they may be visited by a police officer who will speak to them about their driving.

The information shared with the police may also influence the deployment of speed enforcement vans to problem areas.

This project is part of the Suffolk Roadsafe Partnership between Suffolk County Council and Suffolk Constabulary.

Suffolk County Council provided £400,000 from the 2020 Fund to support a two-year trial.

A grant of £30,000 has also been awarded by the Road Safety Trust to evaluate the project and establish whether the camera scheme is effective in reducing speeding.

Cost of living to impact council's budget

Suffolk County Council is keen to hear from Suffolk residents, businesses and local communities, as it decides its budget for next year.

[An online survey](#) has been launched, and a number of focus groups will be held, for you to have your say on the services which are important to you.

A summary of your responses will be included in the report considered by the council when agreeing the budget in February 2023.

The budget setting process includes your thoughts, advice from council officers, elected members from political groups, businesses and partners in health and other public service organisations across Suffolk.

[The online survey](#) is open throughout October and November, and focus groups are being organised with local community groups and for members of the public. Details of these will be shared on the council's website and social media channels in due course.

Council to boost electric vehicle charging across Suffolk

Suffolk's residents and visitors will see further improvements to the county's electric vehicle (EV) charging network, following Suffolk County Council's successful bid to fund more charging points. The council submitted a bid of £1,362,000 to the Department for Transport, as part of the Local EV Infrastructure (LEVI) pilot scheme.

With additional contributions such as commercial funding, the project will see a total investment of around £2.75m.

The new LEVI funding will allow the council to develop the county's EV charging network by:

- Installing PV solar power and battery storage upgrades to approximately 10 existing sites
- Installing community EV charging, PV solar power and battery storage at over 30 further sites in urban and rural areas
- Identifying key commercial sites for 7kW, rapid and ultra rapid chargers, which will benefit the local community

Suffolk County Council has led the way in EV charging, following the launch of Plug In Suffolk in 2019. It was the UK's first 'fully open' public EV fast charging network and has seen other local authorities around the country follow that model.

Plug In Suffolk has now installed 100 charging points around the county, with an emphasis on installations in rural locations and supporting households without off-street charging capabilities.