

Appendix C – County Cllr. Penny Otton’s Report to Full Council –

- For information on local support during the Cost-of-Living Crisis, visit: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/suffolk-advice-and-support-service/> Latest SCC COVID information is available here: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/>
- For information on supporting Ukrainian refugees in Suffolk, email: refugeesupport@suffolk.gov.uk
- Suffolk GLI to declare a Cost-of-Living Emergency - Full Council is on 7th July. Our Group have submitted a motion calling for SCC to declare a Cost-of-Living Emergency, and for the Council to redirect funds and efforts towards targeting those most vulnerable. Our Group calls on this government for further support to those falling below the poverty line. In addition, we are calling on the government to make it easier and cheaper to insulate homes. Our motion asks to waive VAT on energy-saving materials, such as insulation, and adequately fund a retrofitting programme so communities can save money on their bills during winter where energy price caps are due to rise even further.
- Cabinet Meeting: SEND Capital Programme - Cabinet met on 20th June to vote on funding the next phase of SCC’s programme to build more capacity for children with SPECIAL EDUCATION NEEDS The cabinet agreed a package of £15.9m, as part of a £45m programme. Currently, there is a high demand for SEND services, with requests for placement going up by 32% since 2020. The funding Cabinet have agreed will create three new specialist units across Suffolk. I am pleased about this, but it will take time. The council has been found guilty again and fined for not providing such a place for a child.
- Petition for in-house Suffolk Highways maintenance contract: Still need signatures - Our Group’s petition continues, demanding that SCC produces an in-house bid for the new Suffolk Highways contract. The contract, which will have been held by Kier for 10 years, is up for renewal next year. We need 3,675 signatures to bring this to debate at the Council. Please sign here (ensure you make you name public, or it won’t count!):
https://www.petitions.net/for_suffolk_county_council_to_develop_an_in-house_bid_for_suffolk_highways_maintenance
- Linage at New Green: I have agreed to fund the re-instatement of the lines to sperate cyclists form pedestrians, from the small highways budget.
- CIL FUNDS: agree that CIL funds form the surrounding area should be used in Thurston when providing wider facilities, e.g. schools.
- £150,000 FUND for Action on Climate Emergency: I have sent all my clerks the info on this
- Highways Investment Fund: also this asking for you to send in requests for areas where footpaths need cutting back. This is on top of the usual verge cutting schedule.

Appendix D -

District Cllr. Harry Richardson’s Report to Full Council –

- Praise for ‘ambitious’ councils from local government peers Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils are looking to learn from other authorities to further improve their services to residents. [Find out more](#)
- Shaping social housing for the future Councillors at Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils will consider the future of social housing this month – with a blueprint for quality and sustainable homes in safe neighbourhoods for tenants. [Find out more](#)
- Councils’ commercial property arm makes £6m profit in 2021/22 Babergh and Mid Suffolk’s commercial property company CIFCO made a £6m profit last year – generating £3.75m in net income for the councils to plough back into services, according to a report published this week. [Find out more](#)

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- First occupier confirmed at Gateway 14 Gateway 14 Ltd, wholly owned by Mid Suffolk District Council, has exchanged conditional contracts to develop a distribution unit with home, garden and leisure products retailer The Range. [Find out more](#)
- Stowmarket wellbeing and leisure hub to be taken to the next stage Plans to improve leisure and wellbeing facilities in Stowmarket are set to move forward following agreement from Mid Suffolk District Council to fund the next stage of development. [Find out more](#)
- A rural fleet transformed: Babergh and Mid Suffolk's HVO journey towards net zero carbon emissions Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils, along with their waste collection provider Serco, are leading the way when it comes to transitioning from standard diesel to Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO), after becoming the first rural councils in the UK to start the switch to the new fuel back in September 2021. [Find out more](#)
- Helping local communities to tackle the climate emergency A £150,000 fund has been opened to applications from not-for-profit organisations looking to deliver community-based carbon reduction projects in Suffolk. [Find out more](#)
- Chance to help shape councils' final parking strategy Residents, businesses, and visitors are being invited to have their say on Babergh and Mid Suffolk's parking strategy for the next 20 years. Find out more Councils urge 'joined-up thinking' over energy infrastructure in the east Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils are calling for an urgent government review of the number and scale of 'potentially devastating' energy infrastructure projects for local communities. [Find out more](#)
- Changes to Building Regulations Building Regulations changed on June 15. These amendments have been billed as the biggest changes to building regulations for over 30 years and will have significant impact on those planning building works after this date. [Find out more](#)
- New Deputy Leader for Mid Suffolk District Council announced Cllr Harry Richardson (Con) has been appointed as the new Deputy Leader of Mid Suffolk District Council, with immediate effect. He will also continue to serve as the cabinet member for Health and Wellbeing. [Find out more](#)
- Mid Suffolk Chairman shows support for children and teenagers with ASD A local charity in Stowmarket is set to benefit from a fundraising boost having been selected as the chosen charity by new Mid Suffolk District Council chairman, Cllr James Caston. [Find out more](#)

District Cllr. Austin Davies' Report to Full Council –

- MSDC Meeting – The Mid Suffolk District Council AGM was held in June. Our Officers presented the proposed council housing strategy. Although it is planned to add 65 new affordable homes each year our number of social homes is currently predicted to decline. Our current waiting list is above 500 persons.
- Plans to improve leisure and wellbeing facilities in Stowmarket are set to move forward following agreement from Mid Suffolk District Council to fund the next stage of development. The draft masterplan outlines how new and improved facilities for a wide range of sports, leisure and health organisations can be brought together across a single site in Stowmarket. The proposals include a multi-agency wellbeing hub, a 4g football pitch and a multi-use 2g pitch, a mini athletics track, new multi-sports pavilion, a multi-use games area, four new indoor sports courts and new cricket square and nets. With the funding now agreed, Mid Suffolk District Council can develop detailed designs for the project.
- Housing Revenue Account - Mid Suffolk District Council tenant satisfaction survey will now be conducted each year so that progress can be tracked.
- MSDC District CIL funds - the use of CIL District funds for Feasibility studies was questioned particularly for network rail.

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- Parking Strategy - Online survey. To ensure our strategy is relevant, and meets both our current and future aims, there are a number of recommended actions for you to comment on. Parking affects everybody - so whether you drive a car or not - we'd really appreciate it if you could spare just 15 minutes to share your thoughts with us and complete our [parking strategy online survey](#). Parking strategy roadshow drop-in events happened 22nd June at New Green, Thurston.
- Planning - Have asked for a call-in ref DC/22/00398 Thurston. Have lobbied for the inclusion of an objective facilitator in the Peer group review committee meetings.
- Locality grants - Supported purchase of new tents by the Thurston Scout Group