



## FULL COUNCIL

Wednesday, 23 February 2022

<b>Subject</b>	Cabinet Members' Report and Outside Bodies Representatives' Report to Council
<b>Report by</b>	Councillor Steve Gallant Leader of the Council

Is the report Open or Exempt?	OPEN
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Category of Exempt Information and reason why it is <b>NOT</b> in the public interest to disclose the exempt information.	Not applicable.
<b>Wards Affected:</b>	All Wards
<b>Purpose of Report:</b>	To receive the Cabinet Members' Report and the Outside Bodies Representatives' Report to Council, for information.
<b>Options:</b>	Not applicable.

## Cabinet Members' Reports to Council

<b>Cabinet Member:</b>	Councillor Mary Rudd, Cabinet Member with responsibility for Community Health
<b>Contact Details:</b>	<a href="mailto:mary.rudd@eastsoffolk.gov.uk">mary.rudd@eastsoffolk.gov.uk</a> Tel: 07867 372976

### COVID update

East Suffolk's Food and Safety Team continues to work closely with other Suffolk local authorities and partners organisations on COVID controls, for example via the Suffolk Joint Workplaces and COVID Tasking Group. The work includes rolling out local and government information to businesses.

The team has continued to respond to service requests from businesses and residents, examples include providing advice to employers on self-isolation and business continuity where staff have tested positive, complaints alleging inadequate working safely precautions, and allegations of COVID positive staff continuing to work.

On 30 November, as Omicron spread, the Government implemented Plan B to help prevent a surge in hospital admissions. Plan B reintroduced working from home, a requirement to wear face coverings in a range of indoor settings and for settings to give reminders to wear face coverings. The team emailed information to 1,910 settings summarising Plan B requirements and follow up work identified a high level of business compliance.

Plan B also required certain venues to check the COVID status of attendees and the team identified and visited 12 to assess their arrangements to carryout COVID status checks. I am pleased to report the level of compliance was found to be high.

In the lead up to Christmas the Government identified the need to assist poultry plants and butchery businesses who lacked the staff to cope with the impending Christmas orders and temporarily relaxed requirements to allow migrant workers to work in the UK within poultry businesses pig butcheries. The largest turkey producers are based in East Anglia and we took a lead in identifying likely poultry plants and butcheries throughout Suffolk and Norfolk. This work involved drafting and distributing to other local authorities template letters, a questionnaire and checklists for companies to use. It is pleasing to record no significant outbreaks were reported in these types of workplaces.

Since Christmas there has been a noticeable drop off in COVID related matters and with the return to Plan A on the 27 January 2022 the legal requirements on face coverings and covid passes have been removed. Some Government guidance remains.

Over this period the team have continued to prioritise inspections to food businesses in accordance with the Food Standards Agencies requirements.

## Port Health

The Port Health service continues to deliver the comprehensive range of 3<sup>rd</sup> Country import checks – its current business as usual work – however in addition to this it is preparing for the EU Exit requirements.

The revised Border Operating Model delayed the physical implementation of Port Health checks on EU origin Sanitary and Phytosanitary consignments until 1 July 2022 and introduced a multiphase approach. The required legislation and policies have yet to be published and the team continue to monitor data provided by Defra and the trade to gain an insight into likely demand in July.

Nearly 60 new colleagues have been recruited across the whole of Port Health, some supporting the new 24/7 service to meet the challenges expected by proposed changes.

I am also pleased to report that Port Health has retained its ISO 9001 Quality certification and no issues were identified at the last audit.

In addition, the PHILIS customer base has expanded by 30% and new enquiries are being received from prospective customers.

Contacts for further information on food and Covid matters:

Clive Pink Environmental Health Officer East Suffolk Council <a href="mailto:clive.pink@eastsoffolk.gov.uk">clive.pink@eastsoffolk.gov.uk</a> 03330 162 000 - 07919 073952	Mark Sims Food and Safety Manager East Suffolk Council <a href="mailto:mark.sims@eastsoffolk.gov.uk">mark.sims@eastsoffolk.gov.uk</a> 01394 444356 - 07786 663462
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Contact for Port Health:

Richard Jacobs Port Health Manager Suffolk coastal Port Health Authority East Suffolk Council <a href="mailto:Richard.Jacobs@scpha.gov.uk">Richard.Jacobs@scpha.gov.uk</a> 0845 6461310
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<b>Cabinet Member:</b>	Councillor Letitia Smith, Cabinet Member with responsibility for Communities, Leisure and Tourism
<b>Contact Details:</b>	<a href="mailto:letitia.smith@eastsoffolk.gov.uk">letitia.smith@eastsoffolk.gov.uk</a> Tel: 07824 865973

## **Tourism Update**

### **Performance of East Suffolk visitor economy**

Summer/ Autumn 2021 saw increased demand across all sectors of the tourism industry following the removal of Covid restrictions. Staffing however, has remained one of the largest problems for all tourism businesses.

The accommodation sector saw the biggest improvement. Following a 33% fall in bookings between 2019 and 2020 there was a 30% increase by August 2021. Still 13% down on 2019 levels but with uncertainty around restrictions this demonstrates a healthy bounce back. However, the run up to Christmas has seen this vital trading period significantly diminished for many businesses due to the uncertainty surrounding the Omicron wave. Large scale cancellations have been experienced across the sector, but particularly in hospitality.

The Economic Impact of Tourism Report, released in August 2021, reported that the ES visitor economy lost £400 million (57% fall) in 2021. The value of tourism dropped from £695 million to £297 million however, this is still larger than the combined total from Ipswich, Babergh and Mid Suffolk, demonstrating the strength and importance of the ES tourism industry.

### **Suffolk Coast DMO**

Suffolk Coast DMO, supported by ESC, continues to be among the top performing tourism websites in the region with a 60% increase in users compared to pre-covid levels and during the last 6 months of 2021 had 1.25m page views. In July, The Suffolk Coast's social media channels promoted the district's less congested areas, such as Halesworth, Bungay, Leiston and Framlingham and popular areas that had capacity to welcome more visitors e.g. Felixstowe and Lowestoft. Targeting those who would usually head straight to the popular resorts of Southwold and Aldeburgh. The Suffolk Coast social media channels continued to outperform their county and regional tourism counterparts.

During the pandemic the DMO provided a wealth of advice and guidance to ES tourism businesses including how to access grant funding. The DMO with support from ESC's ED team also created 19 short films showcasing ES towns and villages to promote lesser known destinations and take the pressure off the most popular resorts as part of the 'Respect, Protect and Enjoy' campaign

## **Visit East of England (VEE) activity**

- Regional visitor economy group and conduit to DCMS, includes Suffolk and Norfolk DMOs
- Provided advice and guidance to region's tourism businesses during pandemic
- Secured £350k from DCMS to deliver Unexplored England campaign promoting destinations in Suffolk and Norfolk, largest award in UK
- Created new Destination Development Plan with LEP and Councils to provide strategic vision for sector
- Secured visit from Tourism Minister to Suffolk including trip to Southwold

## **2022 activity**

- With DMO coalition launched new £50k Unexplored England campaign to drive demand and bookings, runs until Easter.
- Working on two bids for Visit Britain challenge funds to reinvigorate inbound tourism
  - o Unexplored England – Origin Story, how the East of England created the country
  - o Masters of the Air – based on story of the 8<sup>th</sup> Air Force based in Suffolk and Norfolk (1942-45) and linked to Apple TV major production of same name

## **East Suffolk Tourism & Visitor Economy Recovery Plan**

The development of the new plan will analyse the impact Covid-19 and other changes to the tourism & visitor economy. It will identify key programmes that ESC, in collaboration with partners, can deliver to meet the economic strategic priorities identified for the sector and contribute to the Strategic Plan objectives.

Interviews and surveys with key local stakeholders have now been completed and will be followed by three workshops with stakeholders, across all sectors, in late January to further unpack key issues, priorities and items to address within the plan.

A data dashboard will be created to effectively monitor the delivery of priorities identified in the strategy and their impact on the local visitor economy.

A draft plan will be completed by late March 2022 and will be presented to Cabinet for approval.

## **ES investment in Tourism assets**

### **Martello Café, Felixstowe**

- Building completed in autumn 21 and handed over to operator
- £1.5m (part funded by Coastal Community Fund) iconically designed café
- Operator now fitting out and expected opening date of March 2022

### **Beach Village and Activity Park, Felixstowe**

- accessible beach village with rentable beach pods and traditional huts for sale plus new changing places toilet block and outdoor shower for general public use
- Emphasis on accessibility and flexibility of use & design landscaping excellence

- Separate activity park including outdoor table tennis, exercise space, petanque, climbing wall etc
- Planning permission for both sites approved in Jan '22
- 6-8 month build project with start date September '22 to avoid major south seafront disruption over the summer months
- Aim is to have all facilities open by late Spring 2023

#### **East Point Pavilion, Lowestoft**

- Work started in January to redevelop into a contemporary food and beverage offer, performance venue and 'pop-up' offer, completed end of March
- £1.18m investment by ESC
- Will be operated by First Light Festival CiC with strong links to festival and support financial sustainability of the event and the CiC
- Part of wider seafront vision and Lowestoft Town Investment Plan

#### **Jubilee Terrace, Lowestoft**

- Jubilee Parade beach hut development currently in development and due for completion end of March.
- Will provide bold, contemporary beach huts to modernise tourism offer, £1.06m investment by ESC

#### **Welcome Back Fund Projects that support the visitor economy**

The Welcome Back Fund (WBF) is a continuation of the ERDF funded 'Reopening High Streets Safely Fund' from 2020. The aim of the fund was to support our high streets but also support the visitor economy to help local economies bounce back from the pandemic. ESC was awarded an allocation of £287k.

Initial discussions were held with all ES Town Councils to determine their priorities and in partnership with their respective business/tourism groups the ED team facilitated the creation of a recovery programme. The programme is now fully developed and part way through delivery.

WBF funded programmes include:

##### Digital Trail and experiences

- Using Go Jauntly (digital platform provider) to deliver digital trails throughout East Suffolk via a mobile App.
- Engage visitors and residents and encourage them to explore our towns through the promotion of walking routes and trails.
- Promote each town's individual character and assets to support an increase in town centre footfall.
- Total of 40 – 50 miles of existing East Suffolk routes have been digitised
- Additional 20 miles of new walk curation
- Aim is to ensure that each town has 2/3 trails on the platform and a mixture of children friendly trails focusing on history, food and drink and arts

## East Suffolk Towns Celebrations

- Series of ‘celebration markets and events’ each one specific and original to the specific town.
- Aimed at attracting out of season visitors to our town centres and supporting towns to develop a full events calendar.
- Full liaison with the relevant Town Council and businesses throughout each event development.
- First phase will deliver events to four towns by March 2022.
- ED successful in securing additional funds from April 2022 onwards to extend programme to a further two towns.
- Programme includes a consultancy package (delivered by First Light Festival CiC) to advise Town Councils and local business groups on best practice for event development to encourage greater footfall to support recovery.

## Town Pocket Guides

- Commissioned Xtrahead Ltd and Drab Ltd to produce pocket-sized guides for all towns
- Will promote towns, their history, heritage, key attractions and general offer to visitors and available via Visitor Information Points and on the Suffolk Coast website.
- Completes in March ‘22.

## The East Suffolk Towns Initiative – supporting the visitor economy

The East Suffolk Towns Initiative (ESTI) is the first phase in delivering a district wide town centre revitalisation programme. Place marketing and promotion have been key facets of plans developed in partnership with the towns. The table below provides a snapshot of some of the funded projects which have a visitor economy theme:

Beccles	Updates and enhancements to the Visit Beccles website (security, loading speed, GDPR etc).  Printing of new vinyls for the 10 x town maps/noticeboards which are located throughout the town centre.
Bungay	Undertook a town branding and marketing exercise with a PR company to develop a set of brand guidelines (to include font, colours etc) with the aim to create a consistent look and feel across all town marketing materials.
Felixstowe	To support further development of the Visit Felixstowe web platforms whilst creating an online space where the new BID could clearly communicate with the levy payers.
Leiston	The creation of a new Visit Leiston website incorporating an updated and visitor friendly business directory with content imported from the existing site.  The installation of 4 town maps within key locations in the town centre with a QR code linked to the Visit Leiston website.

Saxmundham	The recruitment of two part time town marketing coordinators to support with event development and the creation of digital town marketing assets.
Southwold	<p>Creation of a Town App that engages with tourists, residents and businesses through one digital platform. It offers real time engagement and the ability to communicate key marketing messages e.g. COVID safety messaging, new events, business offers, walks etc.</p> <p>Enhancement of a town event booking website allowing visitors and residents to book tickets directly from the website from a range of event organisers.</p>
Woodbridge	<p>To update and create 8 new town maps which are located in different parts of the town. The map will include a QR code linked to an electronic version of the map. A free hard copy of the map will also be available in a waterproof box next the maps.</p> <p>Creation of a new town website - the old one was expensive to run, using an out-of-date platform with limited admin access for members to update information.</p>

\* Please note: list is not exhaustive, many of the towns are in the project development stage with the aim to submit funding applications before March 2022.

### **Energy Projects Tourism Mitigation Funding**

- ESC secured over £12m of funding to mitigate any adverse impacts caused by construction of proposed Sizewell C and East Anglia Hub offshore wind developments
- Funding available across lifetime of construction and will focus on marketing and developing the tourism product
- Mitigation will be deployed via annual implementation plans which will operate from construction commencement, anticipated Q1 2023 should the development be approved
- ESC will work with EDF, SCC and the LEP to identify how best to deploy these resources to protect and enhance the district's tourism offer



<b>Cabinet Member:</b>	Councillor Stephen Burroughes – Cabinet Member with responsibility for Customer Services, ICT and Commercial Partnerships
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- **CUSTOMER SERVICES & EXPERIENCE TEAMS**

The teams continue to provide an excellent service albeit with increasing workstreams and a rise in enquiries covering all aspects of council activity, many of these can be in the form of further information around planning and environmental queries. Staff ‘churn’ is also a factor in the challenging nature of this type of work environment and we have successfully recruited 5 new members of the team to fill the vacancies. Additional factors can sometimes be around limited career development opportunities which equate to some staff members leaving the organisation. East Suffolk offers great opportunities for everyone wishing to join us at whatever level and in various capacities, so we will be seeing what can be done to address this.

We offer a comprehensive support service to customers particularly for those who have limited online experience and ability or who are simply nervous about going online, that is why we have been trialling our ‘digital champions’ offering help and guidance to assist in building user confidence and walking customers through the online journey helping them access services with confidence. Clearly, there are residents within areas of East Suffolk who are vulnerable and challenging and that is where we offer specific customer access points to offer specific assistance where required. This gives us greater flexibility to react and adapt where demand is needed at less cost. We were always looking to evolve the service post Covid based on activity and data gathered during the pandemic and the service clearly reflects that.

Finally, there is so much detail in the important role the Customer Service and Experience Teams deliver that it’s impossible to cover it all in such a short snapshot. I would welcome the opportunity to provide a tour of our customer service centre in Lowestoft to members when safe to do so and I will be sending out further details in due course.

- **COMMERCIAL PARTNERSHIPS**

With a milder winter than is usual (and which seems to be becoming the norm) pressure on work crews was not impacted and indeed performance has been good. The workstream with Norse around transitioning over to a LATCo is moving forward very positively but there are many challenges ahead with a huge amount of work to get through from collating data, rigour testing processes, examining functionality, making sure the various systems are fit for purpose and generally working collaboratively to ensure East Suffolk is in a strong position ready for 2023.

Our leisure partners, (Places Leisure and Everyone Active) report positive growth in the numbers of customers using the facilities following the festive period with a surge in bookings for swimming being the strongest. This is certainly helping the bottom line particularly after a challenging 24 months during Covid. At both the partnership board meetings we have been exploring the development of an outreach service to take the message out to more remote

parts of the district to highlight the importance of healthy lifestyles and publicising what great facilities our leisure centres have to offer. There is considerable excitement about the potential new customers looking to get involved at the Waveney Valley Leisure Centre near Bungay with the 500 or so new homes now under construction, this could raise demand from future residents massively, so fingers crossed.

- **ICT & DIGITAL**

East Suffolk's Digital Towns project moves from strength to strength and will provide free public Wi-Fi in 11 towns across East Suffolk alongside a package of business support to digitally enable businesses. Plans for the public Wi-Fi and footfall monitor installations are progressing well with the first towns, Lowestoft and Felixstowe, on track to be installed in March and launched in April 2022. The other towns will follow in a phased approach, completing by October 2022.

The new Wi-Fi zones will be created by installing equipment in each town that will give visitors access to the internet in the main pedestrian areas. When residents access the free Wi-Fi, they will be asked to create an account and provide some basic information, and they can also sign-up to receive marketing emails about the town. Once they sign-in to the Wi-Fi they will be directed to a landing page which will be set to the town's local website e.g. Visit Felixstowe or Discover Woodbridge. This will give greater visibility to the existing town promotional assets and direct visitors to relevant local information.

Renamed 'Digital Towns' project previously known as 'Smart' towns. The ambition and drive to secure these digital towns to help them understand their digital profile is a fundamental part of the council trajectory for delivering transformational change.

As reported previously, East Suffolk Council online services continue to attract excellent star ratings with 4.26 out of 5.0 stars from a response of 13,370 ratings. We should all be pleased that we have one of the highest performing councils in the country providing excellent online choice.

## Outside Bodies Representatives' Reports

<b>PCC Precept proposals to the Suffolk Police and Crime Panel</b>	
<b>Representative:</b>	Councillor Mark Jepson
<b>Contact Details:</b>	<a href="mailto:mark.jepson@eastsoffolk.gov.uk">mark.jepson@eastsoffolk.gov.uk</a> Tel: 07825 720601

On Friday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2022 the Police and Crime Commissioner presented his Precept proposals to the Police and Crime Panel, his proposal was a precept increase for 2022/23 of £9.99 (4.25%) per annum for a Band D property. The additional funding of £1.4m would help to 'Improve and transform the Contact and Control Room to provide the public with a more efficient, effective and modern service when contacting the Constabulary'.

Following his presentation which was supported by the Chief Constable and the Chief Finance Officer the Panel agreed to support the PCC's request for a 4.2% precept increase. Reservations were expressed regarding the amount that had been requested but felt to help improve the performance of the Contact and Control Room there was no alternative.

<b>Safer Suffolk Foundation Grant Panel</b>	
<b>Representative:</b>	Councillor Mark Jepson
<b>Contact Details:</b>	<a href="mailto:mark.jepson@eastsoffolk.gov.uk">mark.jepson@eastsoffolk.gov.uk</a> Tel: 07825 720601

As Chair of East Suffolk Community Safety Partnership, I sit on the Suffolk Safer Foundation Grant Panel together with the Police and Crime Commissioner and the two other District Community Safety Chairs.

The first section details the PCC's funding allocation followed by details of the funding agreed through this Panel

Geographical areas covered by the grants made by the PCC in 2020-2021

The following is a list of grants awarded in 2020/21 and the geographic areas covered. It should be noted that, particularly in 2020/21 due to the Covid-19 pandemic, many services were provided to victims and other beneficiaries online and therefore referrals / participants could have been outside of traditional locations organisations cover (as an example this was the case for delivery of the domestic abuse related 'Freedom Programme'.)

### **Police and Crime Commissioner Budget**

2020/21

Bury Women's Aid £60,000 West

Catch 22 Mediation £7,333 Countywide

Catch 22 Positive Futures £85,000 Countywide

Compassion £8,000 West (Sudbury)

Framlingham Youth Action Partnership £11,137 East (Framlingham)

Fresh Start - New Beginnings £60,000 Countywide

Leeway - IDVA service £522,461 Countywide contract

ISVAs £34,535 Countywide

Lighthouse Women's Aid £60,000 Ipswich

Victim Support - Norfolk and Suffolk Victim Care £315,000 Countywide contract

Restorative Justice Service £40,000 Countywide

Suffolk County Council - Modern Slavery £4,500 Countywide

Suffolk Rape Crisis £60,000 Countywide

Survivors in Transition £60,000 Countywide

Target Hardening £2,500 Countywide

Town Pastors £15,500 Countywide

Waveney Domestic Abuse Forum £20,000 East

Youth Justice Criminal Exploitation Worker £31,214 West

Covid-19 Extraordinary funding

Alumah CIO £14,784 West / Countywide

Anglia Care Trust £24,983 Countywide

Bury St Edmunds Women's Aid Centre £18,920 West

Compassion £12,988 West / Countywide

Fresh Start-new beginnings £45,436 Countywide

Home Start Mid & West Suffolk £5,000 West

Leeway £59,277 Countywide

Lighthouse Women's Aid £30,791 Ipswich / Countywide

One Voice 4 Travellers £7,654 Countywide

Orwell Housing Association £17,788 East / Countywide

PHOEBE: £52,482 Ipswich / Countywide

Restitute £18,916 Countywide

Suffolk Rape Crisis £38,032 Countywide

Waveney Domestic Violence and Abuse Forum: £9,959 East / Countywide

### **PCC FUND**

#### **February 2021 Panel**

Green Light Trust £10,000 Countywide

St Giles Trust £20,000 West (Stowmarket)

The Albany Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) £8,895 West (Bury St Edmunds)

The Prince's Trust £17,120 Ipswich

#### **December 2020 Panel**

Ormiston Families £15,325 Ipswich / Countywide

Suffolk Lowland Search and Rescue £5,439 Countywide

The Mix Stowmarket £16,253 West (Stowmarket)

YMCA Trinity Group £20,000 Ipswich

#### **September 2020 Panel**

Combat2Coffee £2,153 Ipswich

Fresh Start Future Enterprises £17,712 Countywide

Northampton Saints Foundation £20,000 Ipswich (Gainsborough)

Room 4 £2,500 West (Haverhill)

Suffolk FA £19,563 Ipswich Suffolk Refugee Support £20,000 Ipswich / Countywide

The Forward Trust £20,000 Countywide

#### **May 2020 Panel**

Anglia Care Trust £12,696 Countywide

Emmaus Suffolk Ltd £19,630 Ipswich and East (Felixstowe)

RFEA - The Forces Employment Charity £20,000 Countywide

The Racing Centre £10,000 West (Newmarket)

The Reader £7,527 Countywide

Note the geographic location of PCC Fund grants is published on the PCC's

website: <https://suffolk-pcc.gov.uk/the-commissioner/grants/suffolk-policecrime-commissioners-fund>.

Whilst I recognise there is a lot of information contained in this paper I have purposely included it to demonstrate the opportunity for funding but the lack of funds being delivered in the East of the County. This is not the fault of the PCC, he can only consider applications. I

hope this will encourage District Councillors to identify opportunities within their respective areas and promote the fund to local organisations.

<b>Norfolk Health and Well Being Board</b>	
<b>Representative:</b>	Councillor Mary Rudd, Cabinet Member with responsibility for Community Health
<b>Contact Details:</b>	<a href="mailto:mary.rudd@eastsoffolk.gov.uk">mary.rudd@eastsoffolk.gov.uk</a> Tel: 07867 372 976

I sit on the NHWB as the northern part of the District comes within the Norfolk & Waveney Healthcare System. At our next meeting we will be discussing the new The Integrated Care Partnership (ICP) which will be a system leader within the new Integrated Care System (ICS) which will come into place later this year. It is key that we develop and position the ICP to fulfil this role. The Board will need to ensure they have the right governance, structures and arrangements in place to support the Partnership, including:

- An agreed approach to the appointment of the Chair Designate
- An outline Terms of Reference and a set of agreed partnership principles to frame the work of the Partnership going forward.
- A clear understanding of the role of local place-based partnerships, and the relationship between the ICP and local place-based arrangements.

An effective partnership requires strong relationships between the members and the agenda of all partners to be represented. With a partnership of 33 members, they will want to ensure there are effective working relationships, supported by:

- An outline forward programme for the year.
- An approach to developing the Integrated Health and Care Strategy, including its relationship to the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

As more is known about the new ICS I will update members.

<b>James Paget University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust Governors' Council</b>	
<b>Representative:</b>	Councillor Mary Rudd, Cabinet Member with responsibility for Community Health
<b>Contact Details:</b>	<a href="mailto:mary.rudd@eastsoffolk.gov.uk">mary.rudd@eastsoffolk.gov.uk</a> Tel: 07867 372 976

On behalf of East Suffolk Council, I sit on the Council of Governors at the JPUH. As you can imagine the hospital has been under intense pressure with Covid but the staff have coped

extremely well. Not only has there been patients with Covid, this is reducing at the moment, but it has affected the staff as many have had it themselves, so maintaining sufficient staff on duty has been a priority.

As you will know it was announced in 2020 that the JPUH would receive national funding to explore all options for the building of a new hospital, one of 40 which will be built across the country by 2030. This is an exciting project for everyone living in the area. I will keep you updated about this project.

The Chief Executive Anna Hills is leaving in the not too distant future so work is under way to find a replacement and I will be sitting on of the Stakeholder Groups once the applicants have been shortlisted. When a new CEO is announced I will inform you all by email.

<b>Felixstowe Landguard Partnership Committee</b>	
<b>Representative:</b>	Councillor Stuart Bird
<b>Contact Details:</b>	<a href="mailto:stuart.bird@eastsoffolk.gov.uk">stuart.bird@eastsoffolk.gov.uk</a> Tel: 01394 275128

## **MUSEUM**

This will be opening on 02 April for its 40th anniversary year (established in 1982). Admission price will increase by £1 to £4.

## **NATURE RESERVE**

The new Learning Area is almost complete. New Public Space Protection Order signage has been installed to ensure any fines imposed will be legally enforceable.

## **FORT**

This will be opening on 01 April. Further improvements have been made to the shop and tea room. In 2021 visitor numbers were reduced ( at 14000 ) compared to 27000 in 2019, however total retail income was higher.

## **FERRY**

In 2021 a total of 48 operating days were lost either due to excessive wind speeds or technical reasons. Some engine repairs have been carried out and a second engine purchased as a back up in the event of failures. An enhanced online ticket booking system has been introduced, which is easier to use on smart phones.

## **CAFÉ AND CAR PARKS**

Visitor numbers at the café are also not yet back to 2019 levels. The car park income for 01 April to 31 December 2021 was £73000.

## 2022 EVENTS

Landguard is planning an extensive visitor offer for the Jubilee weekend. It will also take part in the Festival of the Sea, which takes place on 17 to 19 June.

## BUDGET

The s106 contributions from the Port have now ceased and café rental income ( based on the previous year's takings ) is down, but the shortfall is being offset by car park income.

## LANDGUARD TRUST

The Trust will take over from the Partnership in due course. This requires CIC status for the Trust from the Charities Commission. The application was submitted in August 2021 but is still pending.

Next Partnership meeting is on 06 May 2022.

## Appendices

Appendices:
None.

Background reference papers:
None.