



## COUNCIL

Thursday 28 March 2019

### **CABINET MEMBERS' REPORT AND OUTSIDE BODIES REPRESENTATIVES' REPORT TO COUNCIL (CL 06/19)**

#### **Cabinet Members' Report to Council**

<b>Cabinet Member:</b>	Councillor Geoff Holdcroft, Cabinet Member with responsibility for Economic Development
<b>Contact Details:</b>	<a href="mailto:geoff.holdcroft@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk">geoff.holdcroft@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk</a>

#### **Sizewell C**

At a Special meeting of Cabinet of 11 March, the draft Submission to EDF Energy's Stage 3 SZC Consultation was agreed. The final version will appear on this Council's website by 29 March; the closing date for submissions to EDF Energy.

#### **Scottish Power Renewables (SPR)**

At the same Special Cabinet of 11 March, a paper was presented highlighting the issues being raised to SPR's Stage 4 Consultation on two Offshore Wind Farms and the Onshore Developments. The final version of this Council's submission will appear on its website by 26 March; the closing date for submissions to SPR.

#### **Revitalising East Suffolk Towns**

This is a piece of research that will help to identify strategic priorities and initiatives for the East Suffolk towns collectively or on an individual town basis.

The research will be used to support East Suffolk Council's strategic direction regarding town centres and will be used to influence decisions and interventions through the following services:

- Planning
- Economic development and regeneration
- Assets
- Active communities
- Housing

A methodology has been prepared by the People & Places Partnership as a basis for delivering survey work with Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils to create baseline evidence of issues to underpin the revitalisation of East Suffolk town centres.

The towns included as part of this proposal and their sizes in terms of business units are:

In Suffolk Coastal: Aldeburgh, Felixstowe, Framlingham, Leiston (72 business units), Saxmundham, Wickham Market and Woodbridge.

In Waveney: Beccles, Bungay, Halesworth and Lowestoft

The project aims to develop joined-up thinking across all stakeholders for East Suffolk's town centres. The research will seek to consider the themes associated with the Future High Street Fund alongside other identified opportunities for securing investment including digital engagement.

People and Places work commenced in January with Framlingham being the first town to be completed. Framlingham was selected so that the findings could be used to support the digital towns project. The next town to be completed was Lowestoft, this was to allow the data to be used to support the Future High Streets fund application. Chris Wade has met with the Task and Finish group to present his findings. Beccles and Bungay are to be completed next in the programme. To date the survey numbers completed have exceeded expectations and are providing some interesting findings.

The Council's Economic Development team is making a case to build a funding pot to allow projects to be developed on the back of the People and Places fund. This includes looking at external funding opportunities and utilising underspend from LABGI and core budget

### **Felixstowe BID**

Good progress is being made to introduce a Business Improvement District:

32 face to face meetings have been held of which 17 have indicated they will vote yes plus a predicted 10 (awaiting formal response), 1 has indicated no, 3 are unknown and 1 has been abandoned due to closure (Marks & Spencer). Further meetings are planned.

Presentations have been made at the February Chamber breakfast and Flyer breakfast prompting a positive response and enthusiasm. Leaflets inviting businesses to drop in and find out more on 21 March were distributed to all town centre and seafront businesses. Conversations are happening across the town and there is a sense of growing coherence and willingness to collaborate. Concerns have been raised about the Hamilton Road Shared Space which now has 12 empty units

The BID Working Group is now led by approximately 15 business champions. Their focus at the moment is the BID Governance Model, Feasibility study (due to be complete at the end of March / early April), and identifying the priorities from the intelligence that is being collected from business surveys and the one to one meetings.

The work of People and Places has been well received in the town with over 400 responses to the shoppers' survey and 100+ business surveys responses to date.

### **Tin Chapel Deben CCT**

East Suffolk Building Preservation Trust has been successful with a CRF bid of £30,000. The inception meeting took place on 4th March 2019 at Bawdsey Manor, followed by a site visit to the Tin Chapel. Tender submissions for the feasibility study were discussed and decisions made by the group.

### **Deben Coastal Community Team**

The group applied to the Community Action Suffolk Pro-Help initiative in November 2018 and have since been working with a local company called YelloBelly to produce design concepts for the branding of the Deben Peninsula. A promotional postcard is being created too, under the same

initiative, and will be used as part of the wider marketing promotion strategy in supporting the existing website offer of membership of The Suffolk Coast Ltd.

In addition, Destination Research has been commissioned by the Economic Development team to undertake a Deben Peninsula Visitor Survey and Economic Impact Report. This project will commence in March and conclude in October 2019.

<b>Cabinet Member:</b>	Councillor Tony Fryatt, Cabinet Member with responsibility for Planning
<b>Contact Details:</b>	<a href="mailto:tony.fryatt@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk">tony.fryatt@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk</a>

### Suffolk Coastal Local Plan – Final Draft

The final stage of consultation for the Final Draft of the Local Plan (the Test of Soundness) closed on 25 February. It is now scheduled to be submitted to the Planning Inspector on 29 March.

Below is a summary of Representations received during the consultation period.

<b>1,522</b> Representations
<b>568</b> Respondents

### For Which Sections were representations submitted?

Section	Representations
1. Introduction	52
2. Wider Strategic Planning Area	44
3. Suffolk Coastal Spatial Strategy	188
4. Economy	82
5. Housing	99
6. Tourism	23
7. Transport	25
8. Community Facilities and Assets	21
9. Climate Change	31
10. Natural Environment	39
11. Built and Historic Environment	50
12. Area Specific Strategies	4
12. Neighbourhood Plans	19
12. Approach to Site Allocations	2
12. Strategy for Felixstowe	111
12. Strategy for Communities Surrounding Ipswich	96
12. Strategy for Aldeburgh	7
12. Strategy for Framlingham	2
12. Strategy for Leiston	0
12. Strategy for Saxmundham	70
12. Strategy for Woodbridge	18
12. Strategy for the Rural Areas	510
Appendices	14
General Comments	15

## Which sites generated the most representations?

<b>SCLP12.52</b>	Land to the West of Chapel Road, Grundisburgh	<b>122</b>
<b>SCLP12.3</b>	North Felixstowe Garden Neighbourhood	<b>66</b>
<b>SCLP12.35</b>	Land at Innocence Farm	<b>63</b>
<b>SCLP12.29</b>	South Saxmundham Garden Neighbourhood	<b>49</b>
<b>SCLP12.61</b>	Land between High Street and Chapel Lane, Pettistree (adjoining Wickham Market)	<b>42</b>
<b>SCLP12.64</b>	Land opposite The Sorrel Horse, The Street, Shottisham	<b>42</b>

<b>Cabinet Member:</b>	Councillor Richard Kerry, Cabinet Member with responsibility for Housing
<b>Contact Details:</b>	<a href="mailto:richard.kerry@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk">richard.kerry@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk</a>

### Private Sector Housing

The team has had a full and challenging year with new legislation affecting the licensing of Houses in Multiple Occupation, new energy efficiency standards for private rented properties and the opportunity to now enforce serious breaches in legislation with a Civil Penalty Order. Alongside that the team has become more integrated with the rest of the East Suffolk Housing Team with more joined up working on empty properties, homelessness prevention and gypsies and travellers. Looking forward to the new East Suffolk Council; a Private Sector Housing Strategy has been written and adopted by the Council which unifies the two Councils' approach to this sector. The strategy identifies challenges, current good practice and future actions to address the priority areas.

### Fuel Poverty – Warm Homes Healthy People

In November the Council was successful in obtaining £80,000 of Transformation Funding from Ipswich and East Suffolk CCG to deliver the Stepping Home project which helps to find solutions for housing related issues that are keeping people in hospital after they are medically fit to be discharged. The project has secured two units of accommodation which can be used by patients whilst issues at home are resolved to make it safe and suitable for their return. By the end of February, the project had saved an estimated £15,000 in healthcare costs and will run until November 2019.

Warm Homes has also secured funding to work with the Rural Coffee Caravan to deliver energy advice and help with bills, insulation and heating referrals, financial advice and general signposting to other organisations to resolve a variety of problems experienced by more remote communities. The caravan will go to GP practices signed up to Social Prescribing, to Meet-Up-Monday venues and other places, tackling social isolation alongside fuel poverty.

### Long Term Empty Homes

There are approximately 600 properties in the Suffolk Coastal District that have been empty for six months, or more. The make up of this number changes constantly as properties become empty or are returned to use, but there are a small number that remain empty for many years and it is these which have been the focus of the team's work this year.

The reasons for the long term vacancy are many and varied and establishing the reason why, and engaging with the owner to find a way forward is key to a successful outcome. This is often the most time consuming part of dealing with an empty property, as owners can be very reluctant to consider its future even when help is available; it can also be difficult to locate some owners, particularly

where the property is unregistered or where the address given for the owner is that of the empty property.

There are a range of ways in which the Council can help owners return their homes to use and one of these which has been used with great success recently is assisting the owner to sell the property using an auction. While selling through an estate agent can take many months and require the regular involvement of the owner to deal with offers and various queries following surveyor reports etc., the auction process is fast and straightforward. Once the hammer comes down in the auction room, the purchaser is required to pay a 10% deposit on the day and complete the sale within 28 days. This can be an important aspect for an empty home owner who may have taken some considerable time to reach the difficult decision to sell a much loved family home. Having made the decision, it can be helpful to conclude the process as quickly as possible.

A recent auction saw the sale of two empty properties, one of which had not been occupied for 4 years and the other for over 10 years. There was significant interest from buyers and both properties made considerably more than the reserve prices. It is anticipated that the new owners will now renovate the properties ready for a further sale, letting or for use as their family home.

Having established valuable contacts and favourable fee rates from the auctioneer, it is hoped that more empty home owners can be persuaded to pursue this option with full support from the Council with the process as needed.

The team are also working with colleagues in the Planning and Council Tax sections to find solutions for empty homes. Several enforcement notices have been served under Planning legislation to remedy overgrown gardens and while these do not immediately result in the re-occupation of the property, they can assist in moving a case forward and undoubtedly improve the appearance of the area while a longer term solution for the property is sought.

These cases require considerable officer time but can pay dividends with long neglected homes returned to use, where they would otherwise remain empty for the foreseeable future.

### **Working with the Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service**

Over the last 12 months Private Sector Housing has participated in three Fire Impact Days alongside the Protection team from Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service, targeting Woodbridge, Aldeburgh, Framlingham and the surrounding villages. This proactive approach identifies an area/town to inspect and is an opportunity for the Fire Service and PSH to carry out joint inspections of commercial premises with residential accommodation above. An officer from PSH visits the area with a Fire Officer prior to the Impact Day to identify premises which are of interest to both. The premises are then notified of the inspection 5 weeks before. There are Prevention Officers from the Fire Service available on the day in the town to raise awareness of the risks of fire and to offer advice to other premises which are not being inspected on the day. The initiative came after a near fatal fire in Sudbury back in 2015 where a fire spread from commercial premises to the accommodation above leaving 20 people homeless.

Out of 30 premises inspected over the last three Impact Days, PSH have served 3 Improvement Notices, sent 7 advisory letters and 1 Hazard Awareness Notice for premises where improvements needed to be made. The Fire Service have sent 14 Notice of Deficiencies, found 4 premises classed as 'Dangerous Conditions' which required works to be completed on the day to avoid prohibition and served 1 Prohibition Notice.

These premises may not have otherwise been identified without this key piece of proactive work, which are so successful due to the dedication of the teams involved. The results from the Impact

Days mean numerous premises now have adequate fire safety measures in place protecting the lives of the tenants in the residential accommodation.

### **HMO Licensing**

The law relating to Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) changed on 1 October 2018. Previously only properties of 3 storeys and above, with 5 or more unrelated occupiers i.e. not one family, required a licence. The recent change in legislation has removed the 3 storey element to expand the licensing so that all properties with 5 or more unrelated occupiers now require an HMO licence from the Council.

Since the changes in October, Suffolk Coastal District Council has received 15 applications for properties which now fall into the new licensing criteria. The team are working hard to identify other properties being used as HMOs which are not currently licensed to ensure these are being managed correctly and are safe environments for the occupiers residing there.

<b>Cabinet Member:</b>	Councillor Steve Gallant, Cabinet Member with responsibility for Community Health
<b>Contact Details:</b>	<a href="mailto:steve.gallant@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk">steve.gallant@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk</a>

The 'Felixstowe – Through the Ages' intergenerational event in December was attended by 160 people, including those from 5 care homes and 3 schools. Activities were themed around the past, present and future of Felixstowe. A booklet was produced and delivered to every resident that attended as a memento of the day.

The Kesgrave 'Rockin' Around the Christmas Tea' intergenerational event was attended by 60 people including those from 2 schools and local residents. Kesgrave High School students made food, and created crosswords to share together. Christmas Carols were performed by the Gorseland Primary School. Hand made bird feeders and cards were given out as presents.

Intergenerational events are part of a programme of activity to reduce social isolation and build connections within communities. This is a key issue which impacts on both mental and physical health and I am delighted to be able to confirm that both of the Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) covering the new East Suffolk Council area have agreed to continue funding the Communities Team in 2019/20.

The first terms reports from the Youth Voice boxes have been widely distributed with infographics used to present main findings and statistics. Fellow Councillors have made a huge impact in responding to the community issues raised by the young people. The second term is shortly coming to an end, and Councillors and other organisations will be asked to comment on the issues raised from the second week of April onwards.

The Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) consultation relating to alcohol related anti social behaviour in public spaces is now live until 1 May. This has been promoted via a press release and an advert in the paper with a link to the survey and all parish/town councils in the relevant areas - Woodbridge, Saxmundham, Leiston, Martlesham, Rushmere, Kesgrave, Felixstowe, Kelsale, Framlingham and Wickham Market - have been notified. This builds on a series of meetings where SCDC shared information from Suffolk Constabulary which indicated that there was little or no evidence that supported the continuation of current PSPO's and that there is new, more relevant legislation to tackle alcohol related ASB, such as dispersal orders and community protection orders, which are easier to implement and have the same outcome.

A further programme of dates has been agreed for PREVENT Training in May, June and July for Council staff to ensure that tackling extremism remains high on the agenda locally.

The County Lines Tactical Action Plan (TAP) has been revised and a range of activities to deliver the actions have been included. All relevant partners have now been asked to ensure that they feedback to the Community Safety Partnership on progress. A programme of events is planned to ensure that key messages are received and understood by partners and front line professionals.

### **Export Health Certificates**

As part of the Council's preparation for the exit from the EU, potentially without a deal, the Food & Safety Team has been reviewing its Export Health Certificate (EHC) procedures and capacity within the team to deliver the service. DEFRA anticipate a significant additional demand for certification should the UK leave the EU without a deal.

The issuing of Export Health Certificates is a discretionary service for which the Council can make a charge. At present there are only a small number of requests received from food manufacturers and exporters in the district who sell their goods to third countries outside of the EU and who need certification to meet the import requirements of the countries they export to.

Export Health Certificates need to be signed by Official Veterinarians in the case of products of animal origin (POAO) but fish and fish products and composite products of animal origin can be signed by officials in local authorities.

If the UK leaves the EU without a deal those businesses that export to EU member states may need to supply an Export Health Certificate with their goods which verifies that the products are fit for human consumption and have been prepared, handled and packaged in conditions that meet current food hygiene requirements.

It has been estimated that the UK may need to produce three times as many EHCs in the event of a no deal exit from the EU than are currently required. To meet this anticipated demand the government is providing additional training with some free training places on offer to ensure sufficient capacity across the country to provide this service. Whilst local authorities do not have a statutory obligation to provide this export health certification, they are well placed to support local businesses and are being encouraged to expand their service as mitigation against the impact of the UK's exit. Local authorities can charge on a full cost recovery basis for providing export certification services.

We are currently in the process of trying to identify any businesses in the district that export fish, shellfish or composite products of animal origin to the EU.

<b>Cabinet Member:</b>	Councillor Carol Poulter, Cabinet Member with responsibility for the Green Environment
<b>Contact Details:</b>	<a href="mailto:Carol.poulter@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk">Carol.poulter@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk</a>

## **Business Energy Efficiency Anglia**

BEE Anglia (Business Energy Efficiency Anglia) is a three-year programme which aims to provide free support to at least 1,000 SMEs (small and medium sized enterprises) across Suffolk and Norfolk to become more energy efficient. It has been developed by Suffolk County Council in partnership with Suffolk Coastal and the other Suffolk district and boroughs, Groundwork, NWES and Norfolk County Council and is part funded through the European Union European Regional Development Fund (ERDF).

The project has provided businesses with a programme of support covering the following areas:

- Energy efficiency audit support from a Groundwork advisor: a detailed on site energy efficiency review providing practical guidance on the best energy saving opportunities that exist for a business. The advisor undertakes a review during which they gain an understanding of the business and how it uses its building. Following the visit, a tailored energy report and action plan is produced to summarise the recommendations for energy, cost and emissions reductions. Following this, there is further distance support to help progress actions. All of this support is fully funded.
- Accreditation to the Carbon Charter – a recognised, local standard. The Carbon Charter recognises environmental commitments and progress against a three-tier standard that has been specifically designed to be of practical benefit to SMEs. Accreditation brings membership to the active Charter network, with extensive opportunities for sharing best practice and developing business contacts. Accreditation with the Carbon Charter is fully funded through BEE Anglia project.
- Access to grant funding for next-phase technologies. Grants are awarded in around 28% of interventions at an average amount or £4,500 (maximum £20,000) to implement recommendations which will support businesses to improve their energy efficiency. Eligible activities include but are not limited to: – Comprehensive heating upgrades and controls – LED lighting, occupancy and PIR sensors – Heat recovery systems and new compressor technologies – Renewable energy storage – Electric vehicle charging points – Building Energy Management Systems – Voltage optimisation
- Further specialist support, for example through Travel Planning or by joining an Environmental Leadership Programme, or by accessing specialist consultancy e.g. product and package design.

The project has been running from April 2016 and has delivered:

In Suffolk Coastal:

- 49 business audits
- Potential savings of 1,027 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>(e) with 267 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>(e) delivered
- Potential bill savings of £237,550 with actual savings of £61,762 delivered

In total across Suffolk and Norfolk the project has delivered:



- 789 business audits
- Potential savings of 31,700 tonnes CO2(e)
- Potential bill savings of £4,646,170
- Grant applications totalling £1,196,400 with £671,360 grant funding awarded to date.

Given the success of the project a further funding bid will be submitted with a view to extending the life of the project for a further 3 years.

## Outside Bodies Representatives' Report to Council

<b>NuLeAF Nuclear Legacy Advisory Forum</b>	
<b>Representative:</b>	Councillor Geoff Holdcroft

As a reminder NuLeAF (Nuclear Legacy Advisory Forum) is a Special Interest Group of the LGA (Local Government Association). NuLeAF's remit encompasses all aspects of the management of the UK's nuclear legacy. Full details of the Group can be found at [www.nuleaf.org.uk](http://www.nuleaf.org.uk)

I last reported to Full Council on this Group in March 2018 and, since then, I have regularly attended meetings in either London or Manchester as well as the now Annual Stakeholder Summit which was held in Gloucestershire on the site of the former Berkeley Nuclear Power Station that is now home to a technical and engineering college.

Our conversations over this past year have focused on three broad strands; the decommissioning of the now closed Magnox reactors, including Sizewell A, radioactive waste management and the Geological Disposal Facility (GDF) siting process.

Whilst the first two remain the immediate interest of NuLeAF, much of the past year has been taken up in advising Government via the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority of how the public should be consulted on the GDF and what the role of local authorities should be in the process.

After a very long delay, the Government commenced the Geological Disposal Facility siting process in December 2018 by publishing the Working with Communities policy <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/implementing-geological-disposal-working-with-communities-long-term-management-of-higher-activity-radioactive-waste> along with supporting geological evidence <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/about-national-geological-screening-ngs>.

In addition a Site Evaluation consultation <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/site-evaluation-how-we-will-evaluate-sites-in-england> has opened which will seek comment on the criteria by which sites in England will be evaluated.

In summary, the GDF will be a highly engineered structure at a depth of between 200 and 1000m, which will be used to isolate radioactive waste behind several barriers to ensure that no harmful amount of radioactivity ever reaches the surface environment. The structure will feature vaults and tunnels built inside a suitable, stable rock, within which packaged solid waste in purpose-built containers will be placed and then backfilled and sealed. The GDF will be a multi-billion-pound infrastructure investment and will provide skilled jobs and benefits to the community that hosts it for more than 100 years.

There is no preferred location for a GDF and the Government are adopting a consent-based process to identify a suitable area to host the facility. A suitable site will be determined jointly by the willingness of a community to host a GDF and the suitability of the geology in the area.

The process to find a location for the GDF will be led by RWM (Radioactive Waste Management Ltd), a subsidiary of the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority, who will work in partnership with local authorities and other community representatives to find a suitable location. Local authorities will have a key role in the decision-making process and will be required to test public support in the local area for a GDF being located there before construction can proceed. The host areas will receive £1m a year during the selection process and this would increase to £2.5m a year when test boreholes were drilled. Once selected, the community could expect long-term payments, up to 1,000 jobs during the construction phase and 550 permanent jobs.

NuLeAF has circulated draft responses to the Site Evaluation consultations in England and Wales to its members and is currently finalising its response ahead of the deadline. The consultations close on 31st March (England) and 14th April (Wales) respectively.

The next meeting of the NuLeAF Steering Group will take place on 20 March in Manchester. The meeting will include updates on the Geological Disposal Facility siting process and other developments in radioactive waste management. A draft socio-economic paper will be circulated for discussion. The afternoon session will be taken by Jacq Longrigg of NDA who will speak on nuclear skills and the review of the NDA socio-economic policy.

<b>Kyson (River Deben) Fairway Committee</b>	
<b>Representatives</b>	Councillor Geoff Holdcroft

In addition to currently representing SCDC on this Committee I also represent Woodbridge Town Council.

This Fairway Committee manages most of the moorings on the river Deben from Methersgate Quay to the Tide Mill. It holds a lease from the Crown Estate and provides annual licences specifying a site where individuals can lay their own mooring to secure their boat. The Committee is responsible for allocating sites in such a way as to allow safe navigation of the river and to buoy that fairway appropriately. Having recently taken over the area previously managed by the Knoll Fairway Committee, it now manages nearly 200 moorings and is responsible for 13 navigation buoys.

The entire operation is run by volunteers and they report annually to an Annual Public Meeting normally held every April.

The Mooring Fees for 2019 were set at:

Wet Mooring (water all round at low water springs) £85

Dry Mooring (some visible mud adjacent to mooring at low water springs) £55

Mooring fees are still cheaper than Ramsholt and Waldringfield.

Much of the work of the Committee this year has been concerned with agreeing giving up its lease to 'the mud' near to the Whisstocks and the Tide Mill in favour of Woodbridge Town Council. Woodbridge Town Council has sought to consolidate its rights to moor boats in front of these two sites, both of which are owned by the Council, with a view to managing the whole area. The two parties are close to agreement.

Overall 16 fewer moorings have been licensed in 2018 than in 2017 and by the end of the 2018 season there were 47 empty moorings, not including the Knoll, and a lot of the allocated moorings had not been used. Access to the river appears to be one of the major factors causing this decline.

<b>Suffolk Coastal Norse Partnership Liaison Board</b>
Councillor Carol Poulter

At the most recent meeting of the Partnership Liaison Board held on Wednesday 27 February 2019 the Board received a quarterly report giving details of the operational and financial performance for the year April 2018 to December 2018.

#### *Environmental Services*

- Suffolk Coastal Chargeable Garden Waste Scheme: By the end of December 2018, 34476 bins were subscribed to the Scheme, compared with 25156 for the Waveney Scheme.
- Enforcement Actions: 215 fly-tipping incidents were reported in the period. Suffolk Coastal Norse (SCN) continues to work with Waveney and Suffolk Waste Partnership (SWP) on actions/campaigns to address fly-tipping.
- Three Fixed Penalties Notices (FPNs) were served for offences of littering, 11 FPNs were served for offences of fly-tipping and 1 FPN was served for the offence of dog fouling. Eight other enforcement letters were issued relating to other waste related complaints.
- Operation Quartzite took place in Felixstowe in October 2018; a high impact multi agency enforcement day organised by Suffolk Constabulary. Nine vehicles were searched by enforcement officers in connection with waste offences.
- In line with the Love East Suffolk community litter picking scheme, approximately 8 litter picks took place throughout the district, carried out by various different organisations, charities, parish councils and businesses, helping to keep our district free and clean of litter.

#### *Facilities Management*

- East Suffolk House (ESH): Norse has submitted a scheme for reconfiguration of the reception area. The relocation of the reception desk will improve security and increase storage.
- Phase two of the refurbishment of The Dip public convenience has been completed with external cladding and a defibrillator having been installed.
- Quality Assurance (QA) ratings of cleanliness of public conveniences during the period October 2018 to December 2018 remained at 'good' across all these facilities, with an average score of 83% being achieved.

#### *Risk Management*

The up-dated Partnership Risk Register was presented to, and reviewed by the Partnership Liaison Board. The register shows the current control measures for each risk.

## Partnership Projects Register

A Partnership Projects Register was presented to, and reviewed by the Board. This shows the status, progress, benefits and timetable for projects being managed on the Council's behalf.

<b>Suffolk Coasts and Heaths AONB Joint Advisory Committee</b>	
<b>Representative</b>	Councillor Maureen Jones

The AONB team has been awarded c£72,000 from the Water Environment Grant fund to undertake river restoration project on the Stour and its tributaries. Work will include the creation of 'natural features, control of non-native invasive plant species and significant tree planting. The works will seek to improve the environmental conditions of the river.

### **Suffolk Coast & Heaths AONB Boundary Review**

The draft Order for the Suffolk Coast & Heaths AONB boundary variation project led by the Government's advisors on conservation is open until 22 March. Full details of the consultation are available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/suffolk-coast-and-heaths-area-of-outstanding-natural-beauty-boundary-variation>

### **Grants for Communities, Groups and Businesses to support AONB Objectives**

Around £100,000 is available for projects to support the environmental, social and economic well-being of the Dedham Vale and Suffolk Coast & Heaths AONBs. Grants are awarded by a panel representing the AONB Partnerships, Environmental Organisations and Business interests. Further information is available at: <http://www.suffolkcoastandheaths.org/grants-and-funding/>

### **Sizewell C and Scottish Power Renewables Consultations: AONB Partnership Responses**

The response from the AONB Partnership to the Sizewell C stage 3 consultation is currently in draft form and will be put on the AONB's website as soon as it is endorsed by the Partnership. Similarly, the AONB Partnership's response to the stage 4 (section 42) consultations on EA1N and EA2 will be posted on its website once endorsed by the Partnership.

<b>Association of Suffolk Museums</b>	
<b>Representative</b>	Councillor Tony Cooper

Suffolk Museums welcomed over 440,000 people through their doors in 2017/18. This is worth £6m to the local economy. There are 135 people employed in Suffolk Museums, together with more than 1,350 volunteers giving over 188,000 hours of their time last year.

### **Suffolk Museums Partnership**

The Suffolk Museums Partnership is governed by the Association for Suffolk Museums (AfSM). The core support enables the AfSM to work together with its members and partners to draw in additional inward investment to Suffolk for museum projects from external sources. Grants secured with support from the SMP totalled £718,320 in 2017/18.

### **Transforming People to Transform Museums**

Colchester and Ipswich Museum Service, the Museum of East Anglian Life in Stowmarket, The Long Shop Museum in Leiston, and the National Heritage Centre for Horseracing & Sporting Art in

Newmarket are working together to create high quality, paid work-based training opportunities for local people. Transforming People to Transform Museums is one of only 18 projects selected from 81 applications to the National Lottery Heritage Fund's Skills for the Future programme. It was awarded £568,000 in 2017 and is ensuring that those that work in museums better reflect the diversity of their locality. It will create opportunities for local people to get their foot in the door of a career in museums, which may not be something they have considered before. The project is supporting The Long Shop Museum to recruit 1 trainee each year, over 3 years, who better reflect the diverse demographic of Leiston and the surrounding area. The trainees will make a real difference to their local communities by applying their new skills to support relevant and creative engagement programmes. A total of 9 trainees were recruited across 4 museums in Suffolk in 2018, including 1 at The Long Shop Museum. Since October the trainees have attended 3 formal training sessions, and all registered and started work on a formal qualification. Other museums in the Suffolk Coastal area have expressed an interest in hosting a trainee on a work placement in 2019. Orford Museum is one of the museums that has been successful in securing a placement. For more information: <https://suffolkmuseums.org/projects/transforming-people-to-transform-museums/>  
<https://cimuseums.org.uk/what-we-do/transformmuseums/>

### **Summer in Suffolk Museums**

Summer in Suffolk Museums is a museums marketing campaign for children and families' summer holiday activities. This year it built on the success of the 2016 and 2017 campaigns. 2018 was the third, successful season for the Summer in Suffolk Museums (SiSM). The project aims to support museums in publicising their family-friendly activities/events throughout the school summer holidays. 32 museums from across Suffolk took part, including 10 from the Suffolk Coastal area, Bawdsey, Bawdsey Radar Museum, Dunwich Museum, Felixstowe Museum, Orford Museum, Parham Airfield Museum, Saxmundham Museum, The Long Shop Museum, The Red House and The Tide Mill Living Museum.

Activities in 2018 included archery, yoga, shadow puppets, touring Shakespeare productions, arts and crafts sketchbooks and a Kids Only behind the scenes tour. Regional Benchmarking research shows that child visitor figures to museums in Suffolk increased by 35% in 2016/17 (SHARE Benchmarking Report 2016-17). This increase can partly be attributed to the hard work of Suffolk museums in developing their family-friendly offer and the promotional work of the SiSM campaign.

### **Men's Sheds**

Men's Sheds are community spaces for men to connect, converse and create. The activities are often like those of garden sheds, but for groups of men to enjoy together. They help reduce loneliness and isolation, but most importantly, they're fun. A Men's Shed is well established at The Long Shop Museum, and offers opportunities for volunteers to use, develop and share their engineering skills by working on the Museum's collection of engines. The participants are now affectionately known as Shedders, and now include two women within the group. This year a new Men's Shed has been established at Felixstowe Museum. The volunteers support the museum with a range of craft, carpentry, and general maintenance activities. Their most recent project involves making display boxes for the Museum's collection of ship models. They are also making wooden planters for the terrace outside the museum, which forms part of the Museum's café area.

### **Be inspired by Suffolk Museums**

Suffolk Museums play a key role in developing a sense of place and improving the quality of life of its residents. The Association for Suffolk Museums works with around 60 museum members and associate members with related interests to help make Suffolk an attractive place to live, work and visit. The Summer in Suffolk Museums, and Suffolk Museum of the Year initiatives are further raising

the profile with visits in 2018 including over 138,000 children, which is a significant increase of 35 per cent from the previous year.

### **Creative Heritage in Mind**

The Creative Heritage in Mind (CHIM) project evaluation report was published in 2018 on the Suffolk Museums' website [www.suffolkmuseums.org](http://www.suffolkmuseums.org). CHIM was a year-long heritage and art in mental health project, which delivered a programme of 12 creative courses across four Suffolk Museums. The Association for Suffolk Museums and Norfolk & Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust (NSFT) worked together to provide a meaningful experience for people experiencing primary mental ill health, thereby addressing issues of social isolation, and helping to improve people's confidence and resilience. Participants experienced meaningful change in art and heritage engagement, social engagement, confidence, motivation, and a more positive self-view regarding capability and potential.

The people taking part have felt more connected to their local community and report a positive and meaningful impact on recovery and wellbeing, and local museum services have developed their understanding of mental health and are investing in making their services more inclusive and inviting. Overall, the project has been an excellent example of what can be achieved by people working together with openness and shared ambition.

<b>Internal Drainage Board</b>	
<b>Representative</b>	Councillor Christine Block

The working arrangements of an Internal Drainage Board (IDB) are quite complex. They manage water levels for agriculture and undertake works to reduce flood risk to people, property and infrastructure over given districts.( ref. attached map ). Operating largely within the Land Drainage Act 1992, an IDB is defined as a Risk Management Authority, working alongside the Environment Agency, local authorities and water companies.

The majority of the work undertaken lies in the management of minor watercourses, sluices and pumping stations. While previously not responsible for waterways designated as main rivers, IDBs are extending their remit and locally developing their involvement to include main river and coastal defences – we see this in the work to strengthen flood defence walls on the Alde and Ore estuary and the preparatory planning being undertaken for work on the Deben Estuary.

IDBs scrutinise planning proposals for new development in their drainage districts. Board meetings now include a report on planning applications. Attention is paid to ensuring that mitigating measures are put in place to offset any environmental and flood risk impacts on the drainage network. The IDB can also impose a charge for handling additional drainage waters.

Present objectives for the East Suffolk IDB include efforts to secure a change in legislation which would enable the Board to extend its area and introduce a sustainable investment programme, primarily for the main river network that water courses discharge into. Such objectives clearly have an impact on the complex funding arrangements which support the IDB – the additional work requires a larger work force and a corresponding increase in funded projects.

Current work that the IDB is undertaking in our District includes the Holistic Water Management project on the Felixstowe Peninsula. Here a partnership with the EA, ESW AG and local landowners will improve water catchment and storage. As landowners experience increased pressure over extraction licences there will be a requirement to move to surface water capture and reuse. By collecting and recycling freshwater before it is pumped out into the estuary and sending it to a series

of reservoirs, local farmers will be able to access a more secure supply of water for irrigating arable land. Funding the work has depended on grant aid – which has now been secured. It is hoped that the learning which will come from this project will encourage and inform other schemes along the coast.

On the Alde and Ore officers have undertaken some further work to establish levels of flood risk at Iken. Modelling has shown that until all the walls in the upper estuary are improved there is a possible increased flood risk to some estuary properties. Information produced by the IDB will be used to advise on the most pragmatic approach to delivering wall improvements.

Appended to this report is a map of the IDB drainage districts.