

May 2023 Parish Report
East Suffolk Council GLI Group – Councillor Update

Parish councillors,

I'm the new Green Party district councillor for Carlford and Fynn Valley ward and I look forward to working with you all over the next 4 years. As you'll read below, the council's Green/Lib-Dem/Independent Group was voted in as the council's new administration this week. I'll be able to tell you more in later reports about how we will be working with you to create a green, fair, and flourishing East Suffolk. I, personally, will be vice-chair of the council's scrutiny committee, ensuring that its policies are fit for purpose and provide value for money. In the meantime, I hope to see you all soon at parish council meetings.

All the best,

Dan Clery

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The GLI Group are East Suffolk Council's New Administration

At May's Full Council, elected members voted to install the GLI Group as the new administration of East Suffolk Council, replacing the previous Conservative majority. Councillor Caroline Topping was voted in as the new Leader of East Suffolk Council, becoming East Suffolk Council's first female Leader.

The GLI The Green, Liberal Democrat and Independent Councillors on East Suffolk Council formed a cross-party group called the 'GLI' Group after officially adopting an agreement on 16 May.

The Group's Leader, Beccles and Worlingham Councillor Caroline Topping, is now Leader of the Council and said: "I am pleased and humbled that they have elected me as the Leader of East Suffolk Council. In that role I would like to welcome all 55 Members who have been elected to represent our communities at East Suffolk Council".

#ShakeltOut

The #ShakeltOut campaign has been launched by the Suffolk Waste Partnership to encourage households in Suffolk to help improve recycling rates across the county by making sure black bin bags and other plastic sacks are not thrown in with recyclable materials.

The Partnership, made up of the county, district and borough councils in Suffolk, says more than a quarter (26%) of the materials in Suffolk's recycling bins in 2022/23 were not able to be processed as they were spoiled.

Items that contributed to spoiled recycling collections included:

- Materials that were not clean and dry, or contained food and drink residue
- Rubbish sacks or plastic bags containing recycling
- Non-recyclable items, such as nappies and food waste

Plastic bags and rubbish sacks are a particular problem – recycling handlers can't see what's inside them and they are often full of rubbish or other non-recyclable items.

For more information, visit: www.suffolkrecycling.org.uk/shake-it-out

UK Shared Prosperity Fund

East Suffolk Council has been allocated £2.75m to invest across two and a half years (2022/23 - 24/25) in initiatives that will address inequality and contribute to levelling up. This is in addition to the £3.75m Multiply element of the UKSPF, which Suffolk County Council can apply for to support adult numeracy across the county. The funding can only be unlocked upon submission of an Investment Plan which is signed off by both the council and the government. To develop the East Suffolk Investment Plan, the council gathered stakeholder input through a public survey to invite local stakeholders to give their views on what are the most pressing local challenges that need to be addressed, and the projects and initiatives that could best address them. This input was combined with data about the local area and existing funding, the Government criteria and wider strategic priorities to inform the development of the East Suffolk investment plan. East Suffolk Council received official approval from the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities for our UKSPF Investment Plan on 5 December 2022.

East Suffolk Council have launched a series of grant schemes as part of our eight key programmes, including: Events, Art and Culture Grant; East Suffolk Pantries Grant and the Move to Net Zero Grant. There are multiple rounds of applications for these grants; for example, the East Suffolk Pantries Grant Scheme is a three-year programme which aims to help people in need to access affordable food in their local community. The pantries will provide a welcoming space, similar to a shop, where people can pay a subscription of less than £5 per week and receive food worth at least £15 in return. Pantries can also provide additional support, signposting to other local services and help to reduce social isolation.

Following a successful first round, the second round of funding applications is now open. Grants of up to £4,500 are available and applications close on 30 June.

For more information, visit: www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/business/uk-shared-prosperity-fund

East Suffolk Council Apprenticeship Opportunities

East Suffolk Council is offering the chance for people to enhance their skills and boost their career ambitions with the return of its successful apprenticeship scheme.

Apprenticeships provide the opportunity to gain workplace experience, high quality training, and a recognised qualification, while in paid employment. This year, the successful scheme, which has seen over 80% of participants stay beyond their apprenticeship, has nine new opportunities available in a number of teams, including Legal, ICT, Climate Change and Sustainability, Customer Services, Finance, HR, Asset Management, Housing and Procurement.

Applications close on 25 June and successful applicants start in September.

For more information, visit: www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/news/east-suffolk-council-apprenticeship-jobs

For the most up to date information regarding East Suffolk Council, please visit:
www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk