

A Joint Report to Hasketon Parish Council from the Suffolk Coastal District Councillors for Woodbridge Ward

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Brown Bins

At its Cabinet Meeting on 3 Nov SCDC decided not to charge its residents extra money for collecting organic waste (brown bins) for the coming year 2016/2017, after SCC was forced to cut its financial support (recycling credits) for this service. Suffolk Coastal has an excellent track record on recycling. In 2013/14, we were in the top 10% of local authorities in the country (coming 19th out of 352 authorities) with a recycling rate of 57.44% and we are keen to maintain that status if at all possible. This decision will be reviewed annually and will depend on a number of factors including affordability and the availability of disposal/treatment centre.

Norfolk and Suffolk Coastal Management Team

At a Joint Cabinet Meeting with Waveney DC on 9 Nov a proposal to create a joint Norfolk and Suffolk Management Team, made up of staff from Suffolk Coastal, Waveney, North Norfolk and Great Yarmouth Councils will be debated. This will allow staff to pool their knowledge and resources, while improving efficiency.

Syrian Refugees

The Suffolk Public Sector Leaders have unanimously agreed to support the Syrian Vulnerable Person Scheme and believe Suffolk should offer to take up to 200 Syrian refugees via the current resettlement scheme. Due to the location of suitable housing, health, education and support services, the refugees will be settled predominantly in the greater Ipswich area.

While not all local authorities will have refugees living in their areas, all local authorities are supporting this initiative alongside health, police and voluntary sector partners. All partners are represented on a countywide task group which is responsible for developing plans to make sure that Suffolk is ready to accept refugees.

Opportunities about how the public may be able to help will be released in due course. If you are approached by anyone wanting to know how they can help, suggest they call the Red Cross helpline on 0800 107 8727.

More detailed information is available from the LGA at www.local.gov.uk/refugees

Devolution

The Challenge Session Team is due to present Suffolk & Norfolk's proposals to Government on 4 November, at a meeting with senior national politicians and civil servants. If the Team is successful in persuading the Government of the ambition and robustness of the proposals, we will develop the offering with all of the councils' leaders and the New Anglia LEP before our proposals will be submitted to Government in the period leading up to the Comprehensive Spending Review on 25 November.

This will be a long process, which is likely to involve formal consultation, to develop the finalised proposals. This is a long-term change to public service delivery for the benefit of people in Norfolk and Suffolk. It is likely to take months, if not years, to be finally worked through.

Annual Budget Review Meeting

Just a reminder that the annual Town & Parish Liaison meeting is being held on 16 November at 6.30pm. This meeting allows SCDC to inform and consult about its budget and medium term financial plan, as well as highlighting and discussing the key issues and the continued financial pressures we are under. Representatives from SCC and the Police will also be there to discuss the challenges they are facing and to answer any questions.

Emergency Planning

An information leaflet about the nuclear emergency arrangements has been developed following public consultation and has now been sent out to the community on the Sizewell off-site emergency arrangements. Historically only properties within the Sizewell Detailed Emergency Planning Zone received detailed information and advice from the Sizewell site operators EDF Energy and Magnox. This new information is being posted to every property and business beyond the Detailed Emergency Planning Zone up to 15km radius to improve awareness of Sizewell nuclear emergency arrangements. The Suffolk Resilience Forum has produced this leaflet in consultation with the Sizewell Site Stakeholder Group and Town and Parish Councils and will be used to inform approximately 15,000 households and businesses.

Full details of Sizewell's Off Site Emergency Plan are posted on the Suffolk Resilience Forum website, including a copy of the new leaflet, at: www.suffolkresilience.com

Preferred Options Consultation

The Site Allocations and Area Specific Policies Preferred Options consultation is now open. PDFs of all the consultation documents, including the Interim Sustainability Appraisal and Habitats Regulation Assessment are available to read at <http://www.suffolkcoastal.gov.uk/yourdistrict/planning/policy/local-plan/site-allocations-and-area-specific-policies/preferred-options-consultation/>

Comments on the Preferred Options documents can be made during the six weeks' consultation commencing on Monday 19 October 2015 and finishing on Friday 30 November 2015 at 5pm.

This consultation is being run in parallel with the Preferred Option consultation for the Felixstowe Peninsula Area Action Plan.

The Preferred Options document details how the district will look in 2027 and how this will be achieved through new residential allocations, increased economic opportunities, retail opportunities and protection of the unique environment.

The Preferred Options document builds on work undertaken at the Issues and Options stage which was subject to consultation from December 2014 to February 2015. An analysis of all the comments received at the Issues and Options stage is available to view alongside the latest consultation documents.

SCDC welcomes comments in all formats but the preference would be for responses via the on-line consultation software at <http://suffolkcoastal.jdi-consult.net/localplan/>

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