

Good evening

TJ sends her apologies for not being with you this evening but she is at the Special Cabinet Meeting this evening where as you know, EDF and SPR responses are on the agenda.

Period Poverty (Press Release not until 12.03.19)

Pupils at Felixstowe Academy have launched a campaign to end period poverty - inspiring Suffolk Coastal councillors to call for a similar roll-out across the District.

The Felixstowe Academy campaign, titled 'Proud, Period!' aim to support young women throughout their periods by providing boxes filled with free sanitary products. It comes after national investigations showed some girls were forced to miss school because they can not afford sanitary protection.

The idea for the campaign came from pupils Chloe Mills, Kat Walker, Katie Bridges-Burns, Megan Hobby and Jasmine Smith. With support from their Subject Leader for Health and Social Care, Mrs Couto, they made it a reality.

Speaking on behalf of the girls, Katie Bridges-Burns said: "Sanitary products aren't a luxury, they are a necessity, and every girl and woman should have access to them. Through 'Proud, Period!' we've helped achieve that for the girls at Felixstowe Academy. We now aim to take it further and help people in the wider community."

"I am so proud of the 6th Form Health and Social Care students who have championed 'Proud, Period!' such an important initiative. Their energy and passion to destigmatise 'that time of the month' is something that will be remembered in years to come," said Mrs Couto.

Felixstowe Academy now has six boxes with sanitary products at the school - two on every floor. The boxes include sanitary towels, tampons, wipes, tissues and information pamphlets. Toilets containing the boxes are marked with a red glitter heart on the door.

Inspired by the 'Proud, Period!' campaign, Suffolk Coastal councillors have joined together to start a scheme, titled 'Period Poverty'.

Some Cllrs from SCDC have donated money from their Enabling Communities Budget for the scheme and are challenging local businesses and organisations to get involved to help end period poverty in east Suffolk.

Speaking on behalf of the Cllrs, Cllr TJ Haworth-Culf, Suffolk Coastal Cabinet Member with responsibility for Customers, Communities and Leisure, said: "We very much wanted to support the 'Proud, Period!' campaign because no girl should ever have to feel embarrassed or miss school because they can't afford sanitary products.

"The girls at Felixstowe Academy can be very proud of what they have achieved and it has really inspired us to try and tackle this issue across the District.

“Therefore, we have set up the ‘Period Poverty’ scheme so we can work towards ending period poverty in east Suffolk once and for all. Our goal is to see it rolled out in places such as libraries, schools, food banks and community centres etc.

“However, in order to make it a success, we need the support of local businesses and organisations. Not only do we need to raise awareness of the scheme, we need locations where people can donate sanitary products and also locations where we can place boxes for those who need it.

“We know that some businesses and organisations are already supporting period poverty through various national schemes and we would like to urge them to get in touch to discuss how we can work together to achieve our goals.”

If you are a local business or organisation and would like to get involved in the ‘Period Poverty’ scheme, please contact Chloe Winlow on chloe.winlow@eastsoffolk.gov.uk

ECB Spend

Our ECB pot is fulfilled for this year. Many thanks to all the groups and projects:

Local - Enabling Communities Budget:

We have helped various groups and projects throughout the year: fully funded 2 defibrillators in Aldeburgh for Aldeburgh Town Council and a joint funded one at the Parrot and Punchbowl in Aldringham. Funding for Aspect living to deliver nutritious meals locally, Seaside events including the Carnival, a Tommy for remembrance for the town, fencing, village plan funding, ATC sports week, legal costs for the transfer of a village hall into the local community group, fire doors, a projector and screen, new windows, croquet, club and towards the Period Poverty project, headed up by TJ.

Over the last 4 years: Aldeburgh Town Councils annual Sports week; Village hall chairs, kitchen doors, floors and ceilings; dog bins, heated cabinet for a defibrillator, cricket equipment, specialist matting, civic flag for Aldeburgh RNLI, community workshop, toddler music sessions, Aldeburgh Primary School club, Aldeburgh Christmas lights events, Aldeburgh Library, The Queens 90th birthday local events within the whole ward, The rifle club, Rugby club, Play equipment at Knodishall and Aldeburgh, The Jubilee Hall, The Aldeburgh Hospital Garden, The Church car park resurfacing, goal posts for Kemps Field and more.

Suffolk Coastal Cabinet – Last Tuesday, 5 March 2019,

Asset Divestment/Disposal – Two Play Areas, Felixstowe – As part of our on-going Enabling Communities agenda, we are transferring of two play areas to Felixstowe Town Council. Allenby Park and Ferry Road/Gosford Way Park were historically acquired by the Council through Section 106 Agreements. The proposal is to transfer the freehold of two parks to the Town Council, subject to the imposition of a covenant restricting their use to the current recreational use. Under the terms of the leases the Town Council will be responsible for all future grounds maintenance and play equipment maintenance costs. The transfer of these parcels of land meets the Council’s Business

Plan objective to “Empower local town and parish councils by continuing to transfer amenity and community assets to them with their agreement”.

East Suffolk MyGo Youth Employment Service – (TJHC and GH Cabinet paper)

Young people not engaged in employment, education or training (NEET) continue to be a challenge within Suffolk generally and East Suffolk in particular relative to the country as a whole. As part of East Suffolk’s twin objectives of supporting economic growth and enabling communities it is imperative that we continue to address this problem by supporting young people to access employment, education and training opportunities. This is of benefit to the individual, local employers and the families and communities within which these young people live. This paper sets out the current issues and proposes an initiative to tackle these. The purpose of the paper is to gain approval for East Suffolk, in partnership with Suffolk County Council, to procure a service that will proactively support young people to become positively engaged within the local economy.

Adoption of the Private Sector Housing Strategy and Associated Policies - In

2017, the Council adopted the East Suffolk Housing Strategy which set out joint ambitions for Housing, across Suffolk Coastal and Waveney. This high level strategy provides the overarching framework for all housing services. The Private Sector Housing Strategy is the more detailed review and plan for this service area. It identifies the challenges facing the sector, identifies what we have achieved to date and specific actions detailing how we will deliver solutions to the most pressing issues between now and 2023.

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government External Funding to Prevent Homelessness - The Homelessness Reduction Act 2017 requires Suffolk Coastal to develop and provide enhanced, tailored housing pathways for groups of people that maybe more vulnerable to homelessness than others (i.e. people with mental health issues, victims of domestic abuse, former prisoner and care leavers). The Government has acknowledged that these extra duties will require additional resources if local authorities are to fulfil them. The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) has invited local authorities to apply for grant funding to address some of the gaps in homelessness service provision.

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Local Planning Enforcement Plan - In order to be prepared for the new East Suffolk Council on 1 April, we are required to ratify all our existing policies. This report is put before Members as consultees requesting authorisation for formal adoption of the new Local Planning Enforcement Plan for East Suffolk Council. The proposed Local Planning Enforcement Plan aims to set out how enforcement action will be taken in East Suffolk by taking into account both the common issues that require planning enforcement action and the resources at the Council’s disposal.

A Special Meeting of Cabinet – is being held in the Deben Conference Room, East Suffolk House, on Monday 11 March 2019 at 6.30pm. This special meeting is being held to consider Suffolk Coastal’s response to two high-profile important consultations which are currently being held. These are: East Anglia One North and EastAnglia Two Offshore Windfarms Phase 4 - Consultation from Scottish Power Renewables Sizewell C Stage 3 Public Consultation

Enabling Broadband Programme Board Update. Under this programme, the Council had allocated funding to fund wireless broadband provision in order to cover those 2% of properties across the District that won't benefit from the Suffolk Better Broadband scheme - these properties will be predominantly be in rural areas. It is our ambition (TJ is part of the board) to bring a free WiFi initiative to our market towns.

Ipswich Northern Route Project Timescale – The County Council has outlined the timescale for the next steps in producing the Strategic Outline Business Case to examine and ultimately clarify the feasibility of an Ipswich northern route. The stage one study and report into possible highways options was completed in 2017, with the options assessment and development commissioned in May 2018 currently being evaluated and prepared for shortlisting, prior to consultation. The timescale going forward is: • Public consultation on the route details, alignment options and junction options with the A14 and A12 - to begin in the Summer 2019 • Completion of the Strategic Outline Business Case to be shared with government, local MPs and the public - Autumn 2019. Suffolk County Council has been working with District and Borough Councils to develop the project and will continue to do so in the future. Councillor Ray Herring, Leader of Suffolk Coastal District Council, said: “We welcome the publication of the timetable and the upcoming public consultation which will allow communities in east Suffolk to have their say on the possible routes. The Ipswich northern bypass will benefit many businesses in east Suffolk, particularly those along the A12 and those associated with the Port of Felixstowe. However, these benefits need to be balanced against the concerns of the communities that might be affected by any new route.” For more information visit the County's website:

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-andtransport/transport-planning/consultations-and-studies/>

Community groups help keep East Suffolk clean - The winners of a prize draw held as part of a community litter pick scheme in East Suffolk have been announced. Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils are keen to encourage, enable and reward people to show more love for the environment we live in. As part of the 'Love East Suffolk' scheme, community groups have a winning way of cleaning up their neighbourhood while helping themselves. Last year, a total of 94 litter picks was carried out in Suffolk Coastal by 1,928 volunteers and 38 litter picks was carried out in Waveney by 836 volunteers. Community groups that took part between 1 March and 31 May 2018 were entered into a prize draw with the chance to win £200 for the benefit of the community and the winners have now been drawn. Suffolk Coastal's prize draw winners are Martlesham Parish Council, Wickham Market Village Volunteer Group, Knodishall PC, Chediston & Linstead PC and 1st Old Felixstowe Guides. The rewards are funded through the Councils' partners, Suffolk Coastal and Waveney Norse. The Love East Suffolk initiative will be repeated again this year and any community groups that take part will receive £20 for their nominated community fund or charity, and will also be entered into a £200 grand prize draw. More details will be released in the spring. Both Suffolk Coastal Norse and Waveney Norse can provide volunteers with equipment to groups on request and will also arrange for gathered litter to be collected. Litter pick sticks, bag hoops, and green vests can also be loaned out, subject to availability. To register a community litter pick at any time, please visit: www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/litte

Councils remain deeply concerned about the impact of coastal energy projects

Suffolk Coastal District Council are continuing to raise serious concerns around plans for windfarm projects proposed by Scottish Power Renewables, and the lack of coordination with other energy projects proposed on the coast.

Authorities continue to support the principle of offshore wind to reduce carbon emissions and provide significant economic benefits in the county and the UK, **but** have made it clear that this should not be achieved at any cost to Suffolk.

Reports have been jointly written and will be presented at each authority's [Cabinet meetings](#), in response to Scottish Power Renewables proposals for the [East Anglia Offshore Windfarms One \(North\) and Two](#). They contain recommendations of co-ordinated actions to protect Suffolk's coastline.

The reports contain over 100 points, covering a wide range of concerns about the East Anglia Offshore Windfarms One (North) and Two. These range from the impact on our land and seascapes, to the Government's role in managing a variety of projects on Suffolk's coast.

We stand shoulder to shoulder with our colleagues at Suffolk County Council and will continue to raise our huge raft of concerns about these windfarm projects. We will provide our joint response to this current consultation phase and at every opportunity in the future. We want to assure residents in our coastal communities that we will continue to do everything possible to protect our heritage and the scenery that we hold so dear. At a local level, there are many issues and we maintain that siting an onshore substation at Friston is not the right location.

Thank you to everyone that has responded to the SPR and EDF Sizewell C consultations. Not long left to respond if you have not already done so. Please copy us in.

Support available for Universal Credit claimants

From 1st April, East Suffolk residents will be able to receive help to claim Universal Credit under a new model provided by Citizens Advice.

Universal Credit, which is assessed and awarded by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), is a benefit for people who have not yet reached pension age which brings together six of the existing 'heritage benefits'; Jobseekers Allowance, Income Support, Employment and Support Allowance, Housing Benefit, Working Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit. It aims to simplify the benefits system and help ensure people are better off in work. It is claimed online and paid as a single monthly payment, direct to the customer, similar to a wage.

Currently, anyone living in East Suffolk who requires assistance to make or manage their claim for Universal Credit online can visit any of the Councils' Customer Services centres where public access terminals and self-serve computers are available, with support available from Customer Service staff if

necessary. Personal Budgeting Support to help people manage their new monthly payments is also available.

Following an announcement from the DWP in October last year, this service – which will be known as ‘Help to Claim’ - will become the responsibility of Citizens Advice from 1st April 2019. From this date, customers needing support should contact their local Citizens Advice centre; a national telephone helpline and web chat service will also be available.

In a joint statement, Cllr TJ Haworth-Culf, Suffolk Coastal’s Cabinet Member for Customers, Community and Leisure and Cllr Craig Rivett, Waveney’s Cabinet Member for Customer Services, said: “East Suffolk was one of the first areas to implement support for those claiming Universal Credit and by sharing our learning with Citizens Advice, we are confident that the new service will provide our customers with the support they need.”

Universal Credit has been fully rolled-out nationally; at present it only needs to be claimed by those that have had a change in their circumstances which would have previously resulted in a new claim being made for one of the six benefits that Universal Credit replaces.

The self-serve computers will continue to be available at the Councils’ Customer Service centres in Lowestoft, Beccles, Felixstowe and Woodbridge. To find other locations with computers or free WiFi, [please check the digital map](#).

There are three branches of Citizens Advice in East Suffolk; [Felixstowe](#), [Leiston](#), [Saxmundham and District](#) and [North East Suffolk](#).

Leiston Leisure Centre is on track to reopen in July 2019, as updated verbally at the Annual Town Meeting.

Work at Leiston Leisure Centre is going well and the facility is on track to fully reopen in summer 2019.

However, the plan to reopen Phase One in March 2019, including the swimming pool, reception area, soft play area, thermal suite and village changing rooms, has been put back until June 2019 due to circumstances outside of the Council’s control.

Cllr TJ Haworth-Culf, Suffolk Coastal Cabinet Member with responsibility for Customers, Communities and Leisure, said: “The reopening of Phase One has had to be put back as some of the tiles in the swimming pool have lifted over the last few weeks. We need to rectify this and retile the whole surround of the swimming pool to avoid any issues in the future.

“We are working hard to ensure that the leisure centre will be fit for the future and can be enjoyed by the local community for years to come. However, we

understand that this may cause some inconvenience and apologise for the slight delay.

“The overall refurbishment is still on schedule and Phase Two, which includes the sports halls, squash courts, fitness studio and dance studio, is due to reopen in July 2019.”

More information will be published as opening dates are confirmed on the Council’s website and social media accounts. You can also sign up to the Leisure Newsletter and receive the latest updates by emailing leisure@eastsuffolk.gov.uk

Beccles confirmed as start venue for 2019 OVO Energy Women’s Tour Grand Depart

This year’s OVO Energy Women’s Tour Grand Depart in Suffolk will take place between Beccles and Stowmarket, marking the first time that both market towns will host Britain’s leading women’s procycling race.

Ninety-six of the world’s best female riders will line up in Beccles on Monday 10 June to [tackle a 157.6-kilometre \(98-mile\) route](#) that will take in the northern and central parts of the county before finishing in Stowmarket. Fans watching the action unfold at the finish on Ipswich Street will benefit from seeing a field comprising Olympic, world and national champions pass through the line twice during the stage.

The opening stage of Britain’s longest-running professional women’s race - which forms part of the prestigious UCI Women’s WorldTour series - will notably pass through Bury St Edmunds and Framlingham, both of which have previously hosted the event’s Grand Depart (2015 and 2017 respectively).

Today’s announcement coincides with International Women’s Day and was celebrated with a launch event at the historic Eye Castle this morning. There was also confirmation that, for the second year running, the race’s prize fund will match that of the OVO Energy Tour of Britain to continue on the path towards gender equality in cycling.

Commenting on the announcement, OVO Energy Women’s Tour Race Director Mick Bennett said: “I am delighted to unveil the route of the 2019 Grand Depart in Suffolk, especially given the amazing response generated by the announcement of our return to the country last month. We’re looking forward to visiting Beccles and Stowmarket on a route that will see the race take in a mix of familiar roads to the event, as well as many new towns and villages that have been crying out to feature.”

Adrian Letts, CEO of Retail, OVO Energy, said: “This is our third year sponsoring the OVO Energy Women’s Tour, helping to enable a free-to-view sporting event to be brought to fans across the UK. Last year we announced the top cyclists at the Women’s Tour would compete for equal prize money, taking a meaningful

step towards gender parity in cycling. We're proud to have committed to matching the prize money again, helping to provide an equal platform and inspiring more women to ride bikes.”

Local pro cyclist Sophie Wright, whose Bigla Pro Cycling Team are set to compete in the race, added: “The Women’s Tour coming to East Anglia this year is exciting for me as a racer but also inspirational for local cyclists. It will definitely encourage more people to jump on their bikes and even have a go at riding the route, as well as providing so many locals with the opportunity to enjoy the spectacle from the roadside.

“I think it will give our sport some great exposure within the region, and I’m really looking forward to seeing that. It should be a brilliant day of racing, and hopefully there will be some nice weather to match”

Cllr James Reeder, Suffolk County Council Cabinet Member for Health, said: “It’s significant that we are announcing details of the OVO Energy Women’s Tour Grand Depart in Suffolk on International Women’s Day and we very much hope that the race will inspire women and girls across Suffolk.

“This event provides a fantastic opportunity to showcase Suffolk to an international audience, while engaging communities across the route from Beccles to Stowmarket to get on their bikes, get active and help us to make Suffolk the most active county in England.”

In a joint statement, Cllr TJ Haworth-Culf, Suffolk Coastal District Council’s Cabinet Member for Customers, Communities and Leisure and Cllr Michael Ladd, Waveney District Council’s Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Tourism said: “We are delighted that the OVO Energy Women’s Tour will once again be coming to East Suffolk and especially pleased that the Grand Depart will take place in Beccles for the first time. We are looking forward to working with local schools, businesses and the community to really get behind the event and show our support for some of the world’s best riders as they race through our towns and villages.”

Also unveiled at the launch was the OVO Energy Women’s Tour’s link-up with the Suffolk-based Blossom Charity, who will become the event’s first-ever Community Partner.

Blossom founder Bridget McIntyre said: “We are thrilled to be the first Community Partner for the OVO Energy Women’s Tour. As a charity we support women to achieve their dreams, build their confidence and be their best, all of which are goals clearly aligned with the event.

“We will be following the route of the tour; we hope to work with 500 women over the six days, offering training and goal-setting at each stage. The team are already preparing and are looking forward to this year’s race.”

In its four previous visits to Suffolk, the OVO Energy Women's Tour is estimated to have attracted in excess of 250,000 spectators to the roadside and created a net economic impact for the county's economy of in excess of £3.5 million.

Almost 70% of spectators surveyed following last year's opening stage, held between Framlingham and Southwold, said that the event inspired them to cycle more often. The race will also return to the county in 2020, as Suffolk County Council and the East Suffolk Councils have partnered with event organisers SweetSpot Group in a two-year deal.

Further details of this year's OVO Energy Women's Tour, including the full race route and competing teams, will be released in the coming weeks.

Many thanks

TJ & Maureen.