

Your briefing notes for town and parish councils



Babergh & Mid Suffolk Councils

March 2024

[Mid Suffolk agrees budget 'to back communities and drive change'](#)

'A prudent budget, but one that can deliver real change' – Mid Suffolk District Council agrees a lower council tax rise than most authorities as it sets out its plans for the year ahead.

[Go-ahead for 'exciting new sports facilities in Stowmarket'](#)

Plans for new facilities including a 3G football pitch, sports pavilion, multi-use games area, sports hall and mini athletic track, have been given the green light.

[New rural transport grants scheme launches](#)

Mid Suffolk District Council has launched a new rural transport grants scheme to help provide passenger transport routes across the district, connecting local communities and reducing emissions, by providing viable alternatives to solo car journeys.

[Tax premiums agreed for owners of second homes and empty properties](#)

Councillors at Mid Suffolk District Council have agreed higher tax premiums for owners of second homes and long-term empty properties as part of a raft of measures to bring more homes back into use.

[Council leaders warn of 'catastrophic effect' of Suffolk County Council budget plans](#)

Proposed changes to Housing Related Support 'could impact on our most vulnerable residents'.

[All aboard! Mid Suffolk gives green light to involvement in new community rail partnership](#)

Rail passengers in Mid Suffolk could be on track to see improvements to their local stations, after councillors backed the introduction of a community rail partnership.

[More of Suffolk's tree cover and orchards to be restored](#)

Suffolk County Council has secured £201,213 from the government's Local Authority Treescapes Fund for 1,877 new trees in a bid on behalf of all Suffolk councils – including Mid Suffolk District Council. The funding will go toward planting and maintaining the trees – many of which will be 'standards', which are around six feet in height when planted.

Council's loft insulation offer for Suffolk homes

Funding is available to help residents make their homes warmer and save money on their energy bills.

Making Suffolk's older properties more energy efficient and cheaper to run

A free event to explore how to make Suffolk's older homes more energy efficient is at The Hold in Ipswich on March 6.