

# November 2020

Welcome to my monthly newsletter



# **Suffolk Domestic Abuse Helpline - 0800 977 5690**

### **East Suffolk responds to new restrictions**

East Suffolk Council has confirmed that key services will continue despite the new restrictions introduced to help combat the Covid-19 pandemic. However, we are asking residents to continue doing their very best to help combat the virus.

While some changes and adaptations have been made to ensure that the Council adheres to the new guidelines, the priority remains that services continue to be delivered as normally as possible while also supporting the efforts to reduce the virus in East Suffolk and the wider county.

So, for example, while our Leisure Centres and Marina Customer Service Centres have unfortunately had to close temporarily in line with government guidelines, waste collections are to continue as normal, public conveniences will remain open and grounds maintenance will not be affected.

# Major funding boost to help tackle homelessness

East Suffolk Council has been awarded £93,312 in funding as part of the Government's Next Steps Accommodation Programme, to help vulnerable people housed during the pandemic stay in accommodation. Working closely with key partners across the district, the funding will enable the Council to continue to provide accommodation and support for vulnerable people placed under the Covid-19 provisions, including assisting with offers of accommodation in the private rented sector; offering employment and skills support through a personalised, one-to-one coaching service delivered by Access Community Trust; and providing additional emergency beds during the colder winter months.

# Local groups to benefit from new funding schemes

Small Grant Schemes has been launched by the Felixstowe Peninsula Community Partnership and the Melton, Woodbridge and Deben Peninsula Community Partnership — both available to voluntary and community groups within the partnership areas. Felixstowe Peninsula's scheme is aimed at tackling local priorities within the partnership area, including isolation and loneliness, mental health and emotional wellbeing, physical health, financial hardship and educational attainment.

The Melton, Woodbridge and Deben Peninsula has the Youth Engagement Grant scheme aimed at young people and the Village Hubs Grant Scheme, aimed at the wider community. Both schemes offer grants between £250 and £2,500.

#### New eBook celebrates East Suffolk's volunteers

East Suffolk Council has created a new eBook to celebrate the people, organisations and businesses who have given up their time, knowledge and skills to help make a difference in their communities since the start of the Covid-19 outbreak.

The eBook tells the stories of some of our volunteers and showcases the important work they have carried out – and continue to carry out – to support the most vulnerable in their communities

### **Comments invited on planning documents**

East Suffolk residents are invited to have their say on three draft planning documents:

- The draft Cycling and Walking Strategy
- The draft <u>Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)</u>
- The draft <u>Recreational Disturbance Avoidance and Mitigation Strategy (RAMS)</u>
  <u>Supplementary Planning Document</u>

All three consultations close on 30 November 2020 and comments can be submitted online, by email at <a href="mailto:planningpolicy@eastsuffolk.gov.uk">planningpolicy@eastsuffolk.gov.uk</a> or by post to East Suffolk Council, Planning Policy & Delivery Team, Riverside 4, Canning Road, Lowestoft, NR33 0EQ.

#### Misc

I have been mindful of the increase in visitors to the area and make sure bins have the right frequency of collections and I report any particular carparking problems .

I have reported the cracking of Shingle Street tarmac.

Some cliff erosion has taken place near the Manor and East Suffolk has worked with landowners on advising on signage and securing the area.

James Mallinder
Deben Ward
Environment Portfolio holder