

Your briefing notes for town and parish councils



Babergh & Mid Suffolk Councils

District and Borough Councils' clear message to communities: "Let's shape the future of Suffolk together!"

Suffolk's five district and borough councils are launching a county-wide survey asking people for their views on the future of vital local government services. Make sure you [take the survey](#) yourself and share it with your community.

We will also be sending promotional materials to each clerk and would be grateful for your support in encouraging local residents to have their say.

Response to Government feedback on Suffolk councils' plans for Local Government Reorganisation

At the start of May, the Government provided feedback to the interim proposals for Local Government Reorganisation submitted by Suffolk's councils.

Mid Suffolk new Chair selects Stowmarket Relief Trust as charity

Cllr Keith Scarff has been elected the new Chair of Mid Suffolk District Council and has selected Stowmarket Relief Trust as his chosen charity for the year.

'Ensuring respect and fairness' - Councils restate commitment to Armed Forces Covenant

Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils have restated their commitment to the Armed Forces Covenant – an important pledge for thousands of families in the districts.

A message from our Chair on the 80th anniversary of VE Day

Former Chair Cllr Daniel Pratt issued a message to mark the last month's 80th anniversary of VE Day.

Councils pledge to continue improving services for social housing tenants

Housing teams at Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils have turned the tide for tenants, transforming the service they provide and promising further improvements still with the launch of their new 'repairs pledges'.

Mid Suffolk's outgoing Chair raises a tasty sum for Food Museum

Mid Suffolk's outgoing Chair, Cllr Daniel Pratt, has presented a cheque for £1,200 to his chosen charity – the Food Museum.

Free tree for every Babergh and Mid Suffolk baby born in 2025

Applications for a popular free tree scheme are now open for families in Babergh and Mid Suffolk celebrating new arrivals.

Pride in your place grant window reopens

Mid Suffolk's Pride in Your Place grant has reopened for applications. The grant awards funding for a variety of projects which seek to promote local identity, explore the district's heritage and history, tidy up the environment and help people be proud of where they live.

It is open for town councils, parish councils and local voluntary, community, faith and social enterprises (VCFSE) organisations to apply for, with grants between £250 and £5,000 available.

Suffolk Community Awards open for nominations

Nominations for the Suffolk Community Awards 2025 are now open. The awards aim to celebrate all those that have improved the quality of life for communities across the county. Nominations can be made on the [Suffolk Community Awards website](#).

Funding available for sports facilities

A reminder that funding toward major infrastructure improvements to sports facilities across Mid Suffolk is also now available - supporting the development of community sport across the district.

The funding is aimed at charities and organisations such as community groups, parish councils and sports club outside of Stowmarket.

Groups can apply for between £20,000 and £250,000 for projects which provide new or upgraded community sports facilities.

[Find out more](#), or [to submit an expression of interest, see our website](#). We have also produced a poster that will be shared with all town and parish clerks in the hope that it may be displayed locally.