

June 2017 Monthly Parish Newsletter

Deborah Cadman to take up new Chief Executive role in West Midlands

Suffolk County Council's Chief Executive, Deborah Cadman OBE is to take up a new role as the first permanent Chief Executive of the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA).

She joined Suffolk County Council in 2011 and since then has overseen a dramatic improvement in education attainment levels in Suffolk, improved staff morale and led the careful implementation of over £200million of savings made necessary by reductions in funding from government.

Suffolk County Council Cabinet 2017/18

Leader of the Council, Councillor Colin Noble

Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Infrastructure

Deputy Leader of the Council, Councillor Jane Storey

Cabinet Member for Broadband and Rural Issues

Councillor James Finch

Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport

Councillor Tony Goldson

Cabinet Member for Health

Councillor Matthew Hicks

Cabinet Member for Environment and Public Protection

Councillor Beccy Hopfensperger

Cabinet Member for Adult Care

Councillor Gordon Jones

Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Skills

Councillor Robin Millar

Cabinet Member for Families and Communities

Councillor Richard Smith, MVO

Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation

Councillor Paul West

Cabinet Member for Ipswich

To find out more about Cabinet portfolios and contact details please visit <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/the-council-and-its-committees/cabinet/#tab2>

Ipswich Park & Ride Launch

The new Park & Ride commercial service run by First Eastern Counties launch took place on Monday 3 July. The new service will run every 15 minutes from 7am to 7pm, Monday to Saturday. First's proposal has enabled SCC to achieve its proposed saving of £0.5m each year. It is important that we take every opportunity to promote First's Park & Ride service and use it ourselves.

Highways Transformation

A new Highways Senior Leadership Team was established with effect from 6 March 2017, with appointments made to all Head of Service roles under Phase 1 of the organisational change process.

Heads of Service have assisted in the finalisation of the new organisational structure for Suffolk Highways, the preparation of 47 new job and person profiles (JPPs) and the conversion of 43 existing JPPs into the new Suffolk Highways JPP format (which sets out appropriate organisational values and behaviours). The selection process (including interviews) for unmatched staff took place between 13 and 29 June 2017, with appointments made during week commencing 3 July 2017.

Whilst a significant proportion of the changes to Rougham, Halesworth, Lowestoft and Brome Depots are due to be completed by the end of July 2017, accommodation works at Phoenix House will continue into August 2017. The timetable has been impacted by the need to tackle asbestos located in the building and any other traces discovered will further impact upon the accommodation works delivery programme.

Following the introduction of the new Highway Maintenance Operational Plan in May 2016, the number of reactive works orders has reduced from the previous year, even though intervention levels have been enhanced (e.g. to pick up potholes at an earlier stage in their formation). This has assisted in achieving a reduction in the proportion of temporary carriageway reinstatements overall through a revised gang composition and better forward programming of works to undertake multiple repairs of defects at individual sites. The highway maintenance operational gangs have also received follow-up 'toolbox talks' to reinforce the message that they should treat any additional potholes found when attending any site to undertake a pre-arranged repair.

The following outlines our current status with carriageway maintenance treatments:

Area of Surface Dressing & Machine Surfacing (including Micro Asphalt) 2017/18				
Treatment	Carriageway area completed at 21/06/17 (m2)	Remaining area scheduled for completion by 31/08/17 (m2)	Total (m2)	Approximate total length treated (km)
Surface Dressing	1,528,501	471,499	2,000,000	308
Machine Surfacing	203,171	43,603	246,774	38

Total carriageway length in Suffolk (km) 6,588

Total carriageway treated 2017/18 (%) 5.25%

During the 2016/17 winter season, although it may have appeared mild, we undertook a total of 80 Priority 1 (P1) route and 26 Priority 2 (P2) route gritting runs (compared with the 10-year average of 78 P1 route and 22 P2 route gritting runs).

Roadworks.org initiative

You can now find current and planned roadworks or road and street closures and how this affects you and information about road improvements projects in Suffolk.

roadworks.org is the most comprehensive source of up-to-date information about roadworks, road closures and diversions, traffic incidents and other disruptions affecting the UK road network

The interactive map can be found at www.suffolk.roadworks.org

2017 Tour of Britain

Stage 6 of the 2017 Tour of Britain will take place in Suffolk on Friday 8 September. The stage is 183km long and will start in Newmarket and finish in Aldeburgh. The last time the Tour was here (2015) it generated an economic impact for Suffolk of £2.2million, even though only half the stage was in the county – the whole stage, which was shared with Norfolk, generated £4.5million. The event also provides the opportunity to engage communities along the route to use the event to showcase their locality to a national and international audience, bring communities together and inspire people to be more active.

The Great East Swim

About 2,000 swimmers took part in the Great East Swim on Saturday 17 June, swimming distances between 250m and 10km, with some including the new Swim/Run challenge event. An estimated 6,000 spectators supporting family and friends were there from all over the UK and it was an opportunity to show some of what the county has to offer as a future tourist destination.

Amongst the participants were 71 people who had been on the Great East Swim outreach programme. This is a 12 week programme which supports individuals who are inactive or suffering from a long term physical or mental health condition.

The first Great East Run will be run in Ipswich on Sunday 24 September and is 13.1 miles (a half marathon). It has proved very popular and reached its capacity (3,000 runners) six months before the starting pistol sounds. The event has also inspired a 5 month programme led by the Make A Change team, to support inactive people and those living with a long-term physical or mental health issue to train for and take part in the event.

Raising the Bar Awards 2017

The Raising the Bar Awards Ceremony at Trinity Park on 26 June 2017, which celebrated and recognised those going the extra mile - Suffolk children, young people, schools, staff, Governors, volunteers and businesses. . More information about the Raising the Bar Awards and its winners is available at www.rtbawards.com.

First Suffolk Research School Announced

Samuel Ward Academy has been designated as Suffolk's first Research School, funded through the strategic partnership of the Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) and Raising the Bar. The Research School will be part of a prestigious national network, coordinated through the EEF and the Institute for Effective Education (IEE), and will be the first one in the Eastern Region. Suffolk's Research School will be a key strategic development to bring educational best practice to Suffolk and develop our own evidence based programmes. It will be building on the important work of the School to School Support Partnership of sharing best practice. Samuel Ward Academy's Research School will be launched in September 2017.

For further information, please contact: Maria Hough,
Email: maria.hough@suffolk.gov.uk Telephone: 01473 263952

Care Quality Commission (CQC) Inspection Update

The CQC have published their report following the Inspection of the CYP Health Services: http://www.cqc.org.uk/sites/default/files/new_reports/AAAG4724.pdf

The content of the report is very positive, in particular regarding the quality of the practice of staff. Whilst acknowledging the staffing issues, the CQC were impressed with the effectiveness, and responsiveness of the service as well as the caring attitude of staff.

The service was not given a rating under a revised approach by the CQC for small to medium providers where there are no service specific frameworks or knowledge of comparable services to support consistent ratings decisions.

The report contained recommendations regarding policy and process for which an action plan will be submitted and monitored for completion through our governance systems.

Broadband

Suffolk's Better Broadband Programme continues to go well, having moved above 90% coverage of superfast broadband in the county - so nine out of ten Suffolk premises can sign up to superfast broadband. This is a massive achievement, having raised coverage from around 50% when we started the programme to 90% today.

We have just extended the contract targets of the programme, so that by 2020 98% of all Suffolk premises will have access to fibre broadband. This is through re-investment of the public subsidy paid back by BT to SCC as take-up of the new services increases. Over recent months, we have worked with some communities on "self-dig" initiatives to connect some hard to reach properties to the network. Government is currently developing a "Universal Service Obligation" for the final few percent, and we are following with interest what this obligation will look like.

We continue to offer via our website vouchers for satellite / Wi-Fi connections for those who would like an interim, stopgap solution whilst the fibre rollout progresses.

to access information about the progress and plans for broadband roll-out visit www.betterbroadbandsuffolk or email broadband@suffolk.gov.uk