



Parish Report – JUNE 2020

East Suffolk Council: Councillor update

Cllr. (NAME)

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COVID-19 Update

Please accept that the detail in this report is accurate at the time of writing (30/06/2020)

- As at 23/06/20, 625 people had tested positive for coronavirus across the District, which is a rate of 251.8 per 100,000 residents.
- We have now had 1703 referrals through 'Home But Not Alone' service. Referrals have dropped by 75% since the first month of the pandemic. We are now focussing on helping repeat customers to find a sustainable source of support. Meanwhile, 68 groups have now been supported through the Hardship Fund with just over £25,000 in funding remaining.
- Over 5,000 businesses have received business grant payments to support them through the pandemic
- ESC is continuing to operate the discretionary grant fund aimed at those businesses who did not meet the criteria for earlier rounds of grant funding. Over 300 applications for this scheme have been received to date and a third of these have now been paid.
- We are delivering the "Reopening High Street Safely Fund" in partnership with Town Councils covering our 12 principal towns. This funding covers measures to assist with social distancing, temporary public realm changes and communications to support the safe reopening of high streets in our towns.
- The Suffolk COVID-19 Outbreak Control Plan is published on 1 July with the aim of protecting the health of the people of Suffolk by; preventing spread of COVID-19, containing and suppressing outbreaks of COVID-19, early identification and proactive management of outbreaks and co-ordination of capabilities across agencies and stakeholders to deliver this. The Plan builds on existing and well established health protection infrastructure which includes at a regional level Public Health England (PHE) and at a local level the Public Health Team at SCC and Environmental Health Teams in the districts and borough which already respond to different types of outbreak where needed.



- The government announced last week that outdoor leisure spaces can reopen, but not gyms or pools at this stage. We are anticipating that this may be eased in coming weeks, so we will need to continue to work with our leisure centre operators to plan how we can safely reopen.
- Government has announced that play areas will open on the 4th July. East Suffolk grounds teams are working to ensure that all of them are ready to open – with grass cut, inspections completed, and cleaned. Signage will be in place reminding parents that it is their responsibility to ensure that children’s hands are cleaned before and after using the facilities.
- Another announcement from government was that caravan and camp sites can reopen from the 4th July. We are working with the government guidance to understand how the Southwold Caravan Site can safely reopen – which is a challenge, as all of the facilities on the site are shared. We are working to install additional toilets and showers, with a view to at least a partial reopening in July.
- Council meetings including Cabinet, Full Council, Planning and Scrutiny meetings are all taking place via Zoom, and are streamed on East Suffolk’s youtube channel for residents and interested parties to view democracy in action. If you subscribe to the channel and set to receive reminders, you will receive notifications as meetings go live

General update

- EDF Energy’s submission to the Planning Inspectorate has been accepted as of 24/06/20 and so will enter then next phase of Planning. The Green, Liberal Democrat and Independent (GLI) Group will ask a Question of the Council Leader at the 22 July Full Council Meeting to request an additional Council Meeting to fully discuss the proposal and share the views of those we represent across the District. This meeting will be broadcast on the East Suffolk Council Youtube channel
- The revised charging tariffs are starting to be rolled out across the District carpark by carpark. This includes the ability for visitors to use the Ringo app to pay for their parking in a contactless manner. Signage and machines are being installed over the coming weeks.
- East Suffolk took over the Civil Parking Enforcement (CPE) powers from Suffolk Police earlier this year. A new online reporting tool has been launched in order for individuals to reports any instances of parking contraventions such as parking in loading bays, parking on yellow lines and School entrances;
[https://my.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/service/Report a suspected parking contravention](https://my.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/service/Report%20a%20suspected%20parking%20contravention)
- East Suffolk Council’s first Shared Ownership properties are on the way to completion and to be occupied in October 2020. The site in Brampton is just 5 miles



outside of Beccles and hosts 6x 2 Bedroom Houses, all with private gardens and parking. The properties are being built by Wellington Construction.

- We continue to make good progress with the refurbishment of Bungay Pool and Gym (to be renamed Waveney Valley Leisure Centre on opening). Tiling of the pool is currently taking place, and the gym area features an entirely new mezzanine deck and spin studio. Behind the scenes, the plant room, heating system, air handling units and filtration system have all been upgraded. The facility will open towards the end of the year and will be one of the region’s premier gyms – including those operated by private firms.
- East Suffolk Council has joined with the three local Citizens Advice services to launch a campaign “Money Matters – Managing Debt Together” to encourage those facing financial issues to seek the free, independent and confidential advice available through the Citizens Advice. To talk to someone from one of the Citizens Advice teams, call 0330 107 5627 or email moneymatters@nescab.cabnet.org.uk Monday – Friday between 9.30am – 4pm or to find your nearest Bureau, go to www.citizensadvice.org.uk/about-us/contact-us/contact-us/search-for-your-local-citizens-advice/?q=&q2=&c=SERP-BUREAU

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