

County Councillor Report



Parish Councils, October 2024

Councillor Jessica Fleming, Hartismere Division. Tel. 07714-597980 Jessica.fleming@suffolk.gov.uk

Flood Mitigation - initial flood investigation reports including but not limited to S19 have identified that a further £20 million is needed to complete mitigation and response work. This would include working with landowners setting up retention ponds, supporting water catchment projects and improving highways. The council has written to the Flooding Minister, Emma Hardy MP, seeking funds to plug the funding gap.

Agri-tech Grant Funding - Suffolk organisations are invited to apply for a share of £2.5 million for business-led agrifood projects in Eastern England. There are two strands:

- The first competition, 'MFA', is open to micro, small and medium sized businesses. Grants between £25,000 and £100,000 are available for projects lasting 6 to 12 months.
- The second competition is for collaborative research and development (CR&D) projects. Applications can be led by any sized business, consortia must include at least one small or medium enterprise. Grants between £150,000 and £300,000 are available.

Projects can focus on one or more of the following themes:

- enhancing the productivity of primary crops, livestock, aquaculture or ornamental crops
- biotechnologies related to agriculture, aquaculture, food processing and nutrition
- food that promotes safe, lower carbon or more sustainable healthy and nutritious diets
- resource efficient production and processing methods for low emission foods.

The competitions open on Monday 23rd September and will close at 11am on 6th November 2024.

For more information and to apply, visit <https://www.gov.uk/apply-funding-innovation>

Culture Project Grants - This initiative is aimed at strengthening and supporting local arts and museum projects in our local communities across the county, particularly those affected by general reductions in arts funding. The fund offers three tiers of grants:

Small grants up to £1,500; Medium grants up to £15,000; Large grants up to £50,000

Eligible applicants include Arts and Museum organisations, skilled freelancers, registered charities, community interest companies, non-profits, and social enterprises based in Suffolk. The deadline for applications over £1,500 is 12 noon Thursday 29 November 2024.

To apply, please book to speak to a member of Suffolk's arts and museums team:

<https://suffolk.gov.uk/culture-heritage-and-leisure/culture-project-fund/culture-project-fund-overview/booking-a-culture-project-conversation>

NSIP Community Engagement Guidance - Suffolk County Council has produced guidance to help protect the wellbeing of local communities impacted by large Nationally Significant Infrastructure

Projects (NSIPs). The new guidance - [Community Engagement and Wellbeing Supplementary Guidance](#) - complements the council's Energy and Climate Adaptive Infrastructure Policy, and is aimed at project promoters, parish councils and local communities.

School Places for year commencing September 2025 - The deadline for applications to secure a place at a secondary school is Thursday 31 October 2024 and for primary schools including infant and junior schools, the deadline is Wednesday 15 January 2025. Make an application at www.suffolk.gov.uk/admissions.

For transport purposes, it is important that parents and carers check which is their child's nearest suitable school on our Nearest School Checker because this might not be their catchment area school. This can be found at <http://nearestschool.suffolk.gov.uk/>."

Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service and Trading Standards Honours - Firefighters, staff, and volunteers have been honoured at Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service's annual awards ceremony on October 2nd at the Trinity Park Showgrounds in Ipswich. More than 50 long service and good conduct medals and clasps plus accolades and certificates for outstanding service to the community were presented in the ceremony.

The awards also recognise the work of Suffolk County Council Trading Standards and emergency planning. The Miles Hammond Trophy, awarded for excellence by an individual or team during an emergency incident, has been awarded to Firefighter Matthew Brown.

Please get in touch with me if you have questions or comments: Jessica.fleming@suffolk.gov.uk
Tel: 07714-597980 Twitter: @jesstfleming