

District Report - December

Achievement Report

The Council's achievements over the last few years are highlighted in a new report - titled **'What have we done for you?'** Millions of pounds of investment, action to combat climate change, and support for thousands of residents and businesses are amongst the achievements captured in the report published last month. Please see the website to access the report.

Levelling Up Bids

Last year English councils put in 229 bids - just 76 bids (33%) from English councils were successful. The government awarded £1.7bn to English councils in the first round and the total value of the rejected bids was £2.4bn. The government has set aside £4.6bn for distribution through the fund. East of England made 17 bids with only 29% being successful. Babergh's £6,362,000 bid to regenerate Sudbury town centre was one of the unsuccessful ones.

Water Quality

Councillors at both Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils voted unanimously this week to support measures to protect local rivers and waterways. The motions are designed to address concerns over water quality, and the impact of regular wastewater discharge – including untreated sewage – into local rivers and seas.

Measures agreed include inviting officers from Anglian Water, together with representatives from the Environment Agency and Natural England to a public scrutiny meeting to answer questions on current levels of sewage discharge. The councils will also introduce requests for further information as part of the planning process.

Suffolk's Industrial Revolution

Coming to fields near you? – Solar farms; pylons; sand and gravel extraction; waste processing; concrete batching and huge warehouses – all of which will bring significant increases in traffic. We could be seeing the blight of our countryside and the urbanisation of villages around Ipswich. Please encourage residents to write to James Cartlidge and their County Councillor.

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