Monthly Report for May

Ukrainian Refugee update

Our officers are responsible for carrying out property inspections of homes, once sponsors in the district have been matched by the Home Office to a Ukraine family or individual. The Private Sector Housing Team have been out and about across the districts and in the first 3 weeks carried out over 60 inspections, ensuring our Ukrainian guests have safe and suitable homes in which to stay. It is anticipated that numbers of inspections will increase, and additional resources will be put in place as required, to keep up with demand.

Suffolk County Council are producing weekly bulletins, with updates on the situation in Suffolk along with the work of the county council and partners within Suffolk's Ukraine Task Group. Members of the public can sign up to receive a weekly email by sending their details to Refugee Support.

Supporting Afghan and Ukrainian refugees | Suffolk County Council

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Changes to Babergh Cabinet

Babergh's new Cabinet was announced this week.

- Cllr John Ward (Ind Con), leader and cabinet member for Economic Development
- Cllr Clive Arthey (Ind), deputy leader and cabinet member for Planning
- Cllr Dave Busby (Lib Dem), cabinet member for Finance, Assets and Investments
- Cllr Jane Gould (Green), cabinet member for Climate Change, Biodiversity and Sustainable Transport
- Cllr Liz Malvisi (Ind), cabinet member for Environment
- Cllr Alastair McCraw (Ind), cabinet member for Customers, Digital Transformation & Improvement
- Cllr Mary McLaren (Ind Con), cabinet member for Communities & Wellbeing
- Cllr Jan Osborne (Ind Con), cabinet member for Housing

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New annual resident survey

We recognise that we need to develop a more strategic approach to our engagement and communications. The need to improve our resident engagement was also identified by the LGA Corporate Peer Challenge in this March. One of their recommendations is to deliver an annual resident survey which will help us to baseline some of the customer and community measures in our new Outcomes Framework that was agreed

in January 2022. The Framework creates the golden thread between the corporate plan, the six strategic priorities and our service plans to ensure we are delivering the right activities for our residents and communities.

We want to hear from residents about their personal and community resilience and about how our councils are performing and how we can improve our customer experience.

Our new annual residents survey will enable us to measure some of our short-term outcomes such as resident satisfaction, feeling informed, influence, communication preferences, personal wellbeing, community resilience, and feelings of safety across our districts.

The survey, delivered by an external research agency, will be representative across Babergh and Mid Suffolk and at a district level and the results benchmarked where possible. We are using a mixed methods design combining online and telephone responses which is now standard for these types of survey. The agency we are commissioning will approach residents directly to take part in the survey. The sample will be weighted for key groups across both districts.

We aim to start fieldwork in June 2022 for two months. Results will then be analysed and shared later in the year through our performance reports. We will also use these results in the end of term performance report in Autumn 2022. We will also share the results across the councils to maximise value from the procurement and to inform improvement.

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Women's Tour

This month saw the full route for this year's Women's Tour revealed, which will travel through both districts on Monday 6 June.

Some of the locations the world-class riders will race through include: Cattawade, Brantham, Holbrook/Stutton, Wherstead/Tattingstone, Capel St Mary/Bentley, Hadleigh, Bildeston (x2), Stowmarket, Needham Market, Monks Eleigh/Brent Eleigh, Lavenham, Cockfield

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Free Compost

2 Bags of free compost will be available from Morrisons car park in Hadleigh, this Sunday from 9.00am to noon.

Dave Busby