



Report – November 2018

Ward boundaries finalised for new East Suffolk Council

Ward boundaries for the new East Suffolk Council have been published by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England. The final recommendations propose that East Suffolk's 55 councillors should represent eight three-councillor wards, ten two-councillor wards and eleven one-councillor wards.

Free Parking Announced

SCDC and WDC are supporting shoppers and traders in the build up to Christmas, particularly with events such as Christmas markets and Christmas lights being switched on. Obviously, in the build up to Christmas, there is a larger variety of events being held over a longer period of time. So, the council are offering periods of free parking during the weeks leading up to Christmas.

SCDC and WDC will offer two-hour blocks of free parking to support local shops and community organisations, which can be used to link to specific events twice during the build up to Christmas (so two sessions of free parking in the four-week period before Christmas). Town and Parish Councils can decide which days they would like to operate the two-hours of free parking, and in which car park(s) across east Suffolk, then contact Sue Keeble at Norse to express their interest and take up the offer. Sue can be contacted at: Susan.Keeble@ncsgrp.co.uk

Support available as Universal Credit rollout continues

The rollout of Universal Credit continues across Suffolk Coastal, and the council has ensured that there is support in place to help people through the transition. This includes making sure they are supported through the application process as well as having all the information they need about the benefit changes. In the Suffolk Coastal area the final Jobcentres to move over to Universal Credit Full Service were Leiston, Felixstowe and Woodbridge, which became Full Service Jobcentres in October. A huge amount of information is already available on our website. We are also working with a whole range of partners to make sure that people in this area can access the support they need to take the worry and uncertainty out of the change to Universal Credit. Find out more about Universal Credit at: www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/universal-credit

Green Bin Rollout & Removal of Unwanted Brown Bins

Phase one of delivering the new garden waste bins to homes in Suffolk Coastal is now nearing completion, although the council will continue to deliver the new bins to those who signed up for the scheme later on. All unwanted brown bins will now be collected. This is being done area by area, according to the normal routes and dates for collection. A week before the removal of the brown bins, refuse crews will leave a hanger on all grey bins when they empty these. The hanger will explain what to do and when to put the brown bins out for us to take away.

If the brown bin is no longer required, households are being asked to put the unwanted bin out with their blue bin on the normal collection day, and re-use the bin hanger. Please securely attach the hanger to the unwanted brown bin so that the 'tick' is clearly visible. Residents can also put a note on any unwanted brown bin, asking for it to be taken away. Just make sure it is securely attached and clearly visible. On collection day, the refuse crews will empty ALL brown bins as well as green bins. Any unwanted brown bins will then be sprayed with temporary paint and left on the side of the road. The removal crews will pick these up later on the same day. The removal crews will only take the bins with the sprayed marking. If there is any doubt as to whether the bin is wanted or not, it will not be removed.

SCDC will aim to publish a weekly schedule on the website of the roads from which the bins will be collected. This may change, depending on how many bins are left out for removal.

Polling Station Review

Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils are currently reviewing the polling stations before the elections taking place in May 2019. As part of the review, everyone has the opportunity to comment on the polling stations used, and their suitability, facilities and accessibility. The Acting Returning Officer published his report and recommendations last month, which is open for public consultation until 30 November 2018. The final proposals will be presented and considered at a full meeting of the East Suffolk Shadow Council on 28 January 2019.

Comments or representations can be made in writing to:

- Electoral Services, Suffolk Coastal District Council, East Suffolk House, Riduna Park, Station Road, Melton, Woodbridge IP12 1RT
- Electoral Services, Waveney District Council, 2 Canning Road, Lowestoft, NR33 0EQ or by email to elections@eastsuffolk.gov.uk

More details about the review and a schedule showing the current polling district areas and their allocated polling station venues can be found on the East Suffolk website:

www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/elections/review-of-polling-districts-polling-places-and-polling-stations-2018/

For more information, please contact the Electoral Services Team on 01394 444 685 or 01502 523 238.