

**Report for January 2022 to the Parish Councils of Peninsula  
Division from Simon Harley (SCC Councillor)**

Date: 30/12/21

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Latest SCC information is available here: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Latest Government advice is available here: [www.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)

Vaccination Appointments can be booked here: [www.sneevaccine.org.uk](http://www.sneevaccine.org.uk)

### **Cabinet Meeting**

The Cabinet met on the 7<sup>th</sup> December and voted unanimously to approve additional investment in highway drainage and footway infrastructure. £10m has been approved to replace broken pipes, as well as new installations, and £10m has been approved to increase the maintenance of selected footways. The Cabinet also voted to approve Suffolk County Council's new Housing Joint Venture. The Council wish to enter a contractual agreement with a private developer, aiming to deliver up to 3,000 new homes across Suffolk.

### **Scrutiny Meeting on SEND Report**

The Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee met to discuss the damning SEND report, which outlined the various failings of the local service in dealing with children with special needs and disabilities. A new report from the SEND services was presented, which included the progress of improving the service. This included extended training, newly appointed managerial posts, and new accountability structures to help deal with the issues outlined in the previous report. Our Group brought up issues of a lack of representation in their ideas, and asked for a wider pool of representatives.

### **Significant Investment in Firefighting Equipment**

Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service has recently added to its lifesaving kit – cementing the service's commitment to protecting its staff and Suffolk residents. A significant investment has enabled improved digital radios, smoke hoods and smoke curtains to be provided to every crew in the county.

This equipment can be used in a range of incidents, with it already proving invaluable in Lowestoft, when two occupants were rescued after a kitchen fire. Although crews are ready to attend emergencies with this new kit, it's important that every home has its own lifesaving equipment – smoke alarms, which should be fitted and tested regularly.

For more information, visit: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/council-news/show/significant-investment-in-firefighting-equipment-secures-safer-future-for-suffolk>

### **Free Bus and Taxi Services for All Travelling for a Vaccination**

Stuart Keeble, the Director of Public Health at Suffolk County Council, expanded the 'Vaxi Taxi' service to all members of the public. The original campaign was for those who were strictly eligible, but the Council has opened up the offer to anyone who needs it, in order to get to their appointment for a first, second or booster vaccination.

For a list of the taxi companies who have signed up to the scheme, please visit [www.suffolk.gov.uk/GetVaccinated](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/GetVaccinated) - or for further information, go to <https://sneevaccine.org.uk/>

### **'Support Social Care' Campaign**

A new campaign was released in December aimed to help the public understand more about the Social Care sector in Suffolk. The campaign wants to celebrate the care professionals, and asks the public for a little patience and flexibility whilst the Council navigates through another tough winter.

Every day, Suffolk receives 551 calls from people on adult social care, and on Christmas there will be around 1,200 care home staff working to ensure Residential and Nursing Homes have a good Christmas.

You can support for Social Care on social media by using the hashtag #SupportSocialCare, or by offering to collect a neighbour-in-need's prescription, or simply paying them a visit.

### **Councillor's Locality Budget**

Most of you will be aware that I can recommend local small projects for part funding from the SCC Locality budget. Recent examples are benches, video equipment for village halls, play equipment, and speed indicator devices. I still have some funds available for this year but they must be committed to by the beginning of February so let me know as soon as possible if there are any other local projects that need help with funding!

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**Website** - [Suffolk Green, Liberal Democrat and Independent Group – The GLI Group at Suffolk County Council \(suffolgli.wordpress.com\)](#)

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