

2) Current petition for in-house Suffolk Highways maintenance contract

Our Group has started a petition, demanding that SCC produces an in-house bid for the new Suffolk Highways contract. The contract, which will have been held by Kier for 10 years, is up for renewal next year.

Since Kier's arrival, our Group has seen astronomical prices for the maintenance of Suffolk's highways. Some of these prices include £5,000 for a pair of dropped kerbs, £7,500 to cut down a single tree, and £10,000 to design (not build) four humps in a road.

Our Group believes an in-house bid from SCC to take back control of Suffolk Highways is needed to get things done. The bid would also provide a necessary benchmark for any competitive bid coming from external companies, making sure Suffolk taxpayers money is not exploited.

We need 3,675 signatures to bring this to debate at the Council. Please sign here (ensure you make you name public, or it won't count!):

<https://www.petitions.net/for-suffolk-county-council-to-develop-an-in-house-bid-for-suffolk-highways-maintenance>

3) Suffolk GLI AGM Meeting

Our Group had our annual group meeting in May. This was a time to discuss all the success we've had representing our divisions, as well as assigning the roles and allocations within the Group for 2022/23. The Group has decided to keep all leadership and spokesperson roles the same. With the pandemic causing disruptions, we felt it was important to keep the roles the same for next year to make sure we are best prepared to be as effective as an opposition as possible.

4) National Grid consultation

National Grid have released proposals to increase pylon networks across Suffolk's countryside, in light of the Government's strategy to grow the East of England's offshore electricity generation. Our Group are strongly against the development of more pylon networks impacting Suffolk's rural landscape and cultural heritage. The proposals are even criticised by Conservative MPs Dan Poulter and James Cartledge.

Our Group will put pressure on this Council to respond to the consultation, in collaboration with Essex and Norfolk, stressing the significant need for sea-level cables that reduce the community impacts of National Grid's proposals. Our Group will respond ourselves if the Conservative fail to address our concerns.

If you would like to voice your opinion on the matter, click here (Deadline is the 16th June):

<https://eastangliagreen.participatr.io/index.php?contentid=13>

5) Suffolk Show

The Suffolk Show is on between the 31st May-1st June. For more information, visit:

<https://suffolkshow.co.uk/suffolk-show/>

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