

Date: 1st November 2022
Email: simon.harley@suffolk.gov.uk

For information on local support during the Cost-of-Living Crisis, visit:

[Cost of living support | Suffolk County Council](#)

Latest SCC COVID information is available here:

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/>

For information on supporting Ukrainian refugees in Suffolk, email:

refugeesupport@suffolk.gov.uk or ukrainesupport@communityactionsuffolk.org.uk

the Council are actively looking for new households who could host one or more refugees.

Cost of Living Budget Survey – SCC Open up for your thoughts

SCC has released a survey to local residents, asking for their thoughts on the upcoming 2023/24 budget. A summary of responses will be considered when deciding how to spend your money. With inflationary pressures, our Group expects government to seek spending cuts – meaning public services could be cut and council Reserves may have to be used.

I asked a question at Full Council in November as to whether services would have to be cut and the answer was that it was likely as the Council is expecting a significant deficit next year (well over this year's deficit of £12M).

Please share your thoughts on how the Council should spend their money, as well as highlighting issues in your communities.

For a link to the online survey, click here: <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/7BQY0J/>

Cost-of-Living Leaflet: Updated to Show Support

Over 85,000 leaflets, highlighting information and guidance during the crisis, were distributed amongst Suffolk communities. The leaflet shows all the help Suffolk offers with finances and household expenses, as well as how to stay warm this winter. Anyone vulnerable please have a look at how Suffolk can help.

For a link to the leaflet, click here: <https://suffolk.pagetiger.com/cost-of-living-support/scc1>

There is a lot of useful information on Suffolk Infolink: [Suffolk InfoLink | Cost of living support in Suffolk](#) and if you are in a position to help others (e.g. by donating food, clothing or furniture) there is a link here to organisations you can contact.

Suffolk County Council’s Launch of ‘Winter Matters’ Campaign

SCC have launched their Winter Matters campaign, which aims to help ease the pressures of winter for Suffolk residents. This is a signposting campaign that centres around five key themes: Finances, Safety, Environment, Health and Wellbeing, and Highways.

For more information and advice on how SCC can support you during winter, visit: www.suffolk.gov.uk/wintermatters

Full Council – 20th October – GLI Motion

Suffolk GLI submitted a motion calling for Suffolk County Council to reject the idea of an “Anti-Growth Coalition”. The term, coined by a former Prime Minister, suggested anyone who criticised the government’s economic policy was part of a coordinated group against growing our economy.

Our Group wanted Suffolk County Council to denounce this term and acknowledge the importance in different opinions – including the view that growth should consider social responsibilities, community voices, sound financial policy, and environmental limits. Something we believed this government was not adhering to and should do.

The Conservatives voted against our motion, however we still feel it is important that our local authorities reject untruthful and divisive claims.

Cabinet Meeting – 11th October

The Cabinet met for the first time since the summer political recess. The Cabinet agreed to spend £2m on new care provision for Children and Young People in Felixstowe. In addition, SEND services received £10m to provide more specialist units in Suffolk. We are in support, as we want to remove the pattern of families travelling cross-county for support.

The Suffolk Local Access Forum submitted their annual report, which included their concerns about Sizewell C and its effect on green networks and Rights of Way. Our Group have strongly campaigned in support of the Forum’s position, and we will continue to voice concerns over the effects of constructing new nuclear power facilities on our coastal landscape and the wildlife that lives there.

Follow us on:

Twitter - [@SuffolkGLI](https://twitter.com/SuffolkGLI) / Twitter

Instagram - https://www.instagram.com/suffolkqli_group/

Facebook - Search ‘Suffolk GLI - Green, Liberal Democrat & Independent Group’

Website - [Suffolk Green, Liberal Democrat and Independent Group – The GLI Group at Suffolk County Council \(suffolkqli.wordpress.com\)](http://SuffolkGreenLiberalDemocratandIndependentGroup-TheGLIGroupatSuffolkCountyCouncil.suffolkqli.wordpress.com)

Simon Harley

Suffolk County Councillor for Peninsula Division