

Councillors' briefing notes for town and parish councils - January 2021

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To: All BDC Members

Councillors' briefing notes for town and parish councils



January 2021

Dear councillor,

As you know, you are currently receiving [regular updates](#) on our response to COVID-19 in our districts and **we suggest that you review the latest update to see the most up-to-date situation** in terms of our support for local business, communities and impact on our services ahead of your town or parish meetings.

You have continued to receive all media releases as they are issued and can [see them on our website here](#), but to assist you in giving your towns or parishes a rundown of activity during December, we include all recent announcements below:

An update on Covid-19 in Suffolk

Regular bulletins are being produced to give a snapshot of the current Covid-19 situation in Suffolk - along with updates on the work being carried out as part of Suffolk's Local Outbreak Control Plan. You can find the bulletins through existing updates for councillors, or [via the Suffolk County Council website](#).

Rapid rise in COVID-19 cases and pressure on health and care force Suffolk into Tier 4 restrictions

An alarming rise in COVID-19 infection rates across Suffolk and pressure on hospitals, care homes and social care has resulted in the county entering Tier 4.

[Read the full story.](#)

Support payments available for those told to self-isolate on low incomes

More residents on low incomes or benefits can now get financial help if they are told to self-isolate due to COVID-19 as Suffolk councils extend support payments to help more people.

[Read the full story.](#)

Councillors to consider budget for 2021/22

Councillors are set to discuss the first draft of Babergh District Council's budget for 2021/22 – designed to deliver financial stability post-Covid while still delivering the council's commitment to climate change.

[Read the full story.](#)

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Babergh's parking proposals

Parking provision across the district is also on the agenda for Babergh's cabinet – seeking a way to retain an element of subsidised parking, while encouraging more sustainable transport options for the future, and strengthen the council's finances.

[Read the full story.](#)

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Councils look to slash fleet emissions

Babergh and Mid Suffolk will consider proposals to cut their fleet's carbon emissions by up to 90% – supporting the councils' carbon neutral aims.

[Read the full story.](#)

Sudbury Vision builds a strong foundation for 2021 and beyond

Covid-19 may have forced a refocus of elements of the Sudbury Vision, but partners insist the town has strong foundations for recovery in 2021 and beyond.

[Read the full story.](#)

Council pledges continued town presence

Babergh District Council has reassured residents that it will continue to have a town centre presence in Sudbury following proposed changes in

2021.

[Read the full story.](#)

100th business joins the Virtual High Street

Shoppers in and around Sudbury have even more choice as the Virtual High Street welcomes its one hundredth business.

[Read the full story.](#)

Babergh communities set to benefit from £338,000 funding boost

Housing growth in Babergh will fund a range of local projects, following agreement by councillors – including upgraded CCTV in Sudbury and Hadleigh, electric vehicle charging points and new community facilities.

[Read the full story.](#)

Financial support for leisure trust gets go ahead

Babergh's cabinet have agreed further financial support for their leisure partner, Abbeycroft Leisure, to help keep residents fit and healthy well into the future.

[Read the full story.](#)

Leisure centre throws open doors after £2.4m refurb

The new-look Kingfisher Leisure Centre in Sudbury has officially opened its doors following a £2.4m extension and refurbishment – providing leisure facilities for the town for years to come.

[Read the full story.](#)

Work to improve Cavendish Way and Minden Road area to begin

Plans to regenerate the Cavendish Way and Minden Road area of Sudbury have taken a major step forward, as the £900K restoration of four council housing blocks is underway.

[Read the full story.](#)

Babergh residents to benefit from slice of Government Green Home funding

Residents in Babergh are set to benefit following recent Government announcements about its Green Homes Grants.

[Read the full story.](#)

Voting safely at next year's elections

On Thursday 6 May 2021, residents in Suffolk will go to the polls to have their say on who represents them at Suffolk County Council and who will represent them as the Suffolk Police and Crime Commissioner. The elections may be a way off, but we are already making plans to help residents stay safe while casting their vote.

[Read the full story.](#)