

# Your briefing notes for town and parish councils



Babergh & Mid Suffolk Councils

## **Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation – update**

Councillors at a meeting of Babergh District Council last week gave the green light to progress plans for three new unitary councils as part of the biggest shake-up of local government in 50 years: [Babergh agrees to progress plans for three new unitary councils](#)

The district and borough councils are continuing to work together on our proposals and will share our plans as soon as they are ready. Please look out for further information soon.

Also during July, the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government confirmed that Suffolk and Norfolk was amongst the [six locations to become priority areas for English devolution](#). This means we are now set to get our own mayor with powers over housing, transport and other vital areas, having met key legal tests to proceed.

You may also be interested in this [summary of the measures in the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill](#), also published by the MHCLG during July.

## **Tributes paid to Babergh District Council deputy leader**

Tributes have been paid to Babergh District Council's deputy leader Cllr David Busby, who died on Sunday 27 July after a long illness.

## **Suffolk's Big Weekend announced, with attractions encouraged to sign up**

Tourism, leisure and hospitality businesses across Suffolk are being invited to showcase what they offer by taking part in the newly expanded Suffolk Big Weekend.

## **£415k pot for improving rural businesses**

From cowshed conversions to solar power transformations, rural businesses are receiving a helping hand to grow and diversify, thanks to a new grant from Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils.

## **Babergh and Mid Suffolk to host second stage of the Lloyds Tour of Britain Men**

Britain's biggest professional cycle race and the UK's largest free-to-spectate live sporting event will return to Suffolk this September, as the opening stages of the race take place in the region on Tuesday 2 and Wednesday 3 September.

**Pioneering partnership helps Suffolk residents 'Feel Good Vibes' this summer**

Feel Good Suffolk is launching a new campaign to promote the free support available to help the county's residents enjoy a healthier summer.