


District Councillors' Report – November 2023

<p>Flooding</p>	<p>After Storm Babet, the Council has been working hard to help residents in affected homes and businesses.</p> <p>Householders are being urged to report flood damage via Suffolk County Council's reporting tool. Government has announced some financial support and we are waiting to see how this can be distributed.</p> <p>Affected businesses should also contact Mid Suffolk to register for support.</p> <p>Please visit www.midsuffolk.gov.uk for full details.</p>
<p>Solar and Low Carbon Energy</p>	<p>As Mid Suffolk's Council meeting on 26th October, a position statement on Low Carbon Energy was agreed. In absence of Government policy, the Council cannot make planning policy regarding renewable energy such as solar farms or solar PV on roof-tops. We can only provide a statement of intent in terms of how we wish to see developments proceed. In January next year we expect to produce a full Supplementary Planning Document on this which takes longer to put together as it has to be consulted on and provide relevant evidence.</p>
<p>Sustainable Transport</p>	<p>At the same meeting it was agreed to form a working group to review sustainable integrated transport in the district – particularly for walking and cycling. It is hoped to review this in relation to commencing schemes in villages in the district.</p>
<p>Home insulation</p>	<p>The <i>Cosy Homes</i> initiative is being launched on 15th November. Eligible households will be able to apply for energy efficiency measures in their own homes, including if privately rented. Full details to be available soon.</p> <p>Particularly vulnerable households can continue to access this via the wider Suffolk scheme, www.warmhomessuffolk.org</p>
<p>Council housing repairs</p>	<p>The new Administration at Mid Suffolk is focussing on the backlog of housing repairs that are needed. This backlog will be dealt with via a separate contractor allowing the in-house team to concentrate on day-to-day repairs.</p>
	<p>The consultation to get residents' feedback on the planned priorities for the District is open until 15th November. We are hoping to engage with as wide a section of the district as possible, including some groups which seldom get involved, as well as businesses and Town and Parish Councils. Please have your say via our online survey: https://baberghandmidsuffolk.citizenlab.co/en-GB/projects/setting-the-future-direction-of-your-councils</p>
<p>Locality Award</p>	<p>A reminder that this year's locality awards are still open for applications. Any group or organisation can apply for amounts of £250 or more. Please contact one of us for an application form.</p>

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