



## Mid Suffolk District Council

### Report for The Stonhams Ward – August 2018

#### One Million Square Feet of New Business Space for Stowmarket

**Gateway 14 Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of Mid Suffolk District Council, has purchased 100 acres of land to the East of Stowmarket, directly adjacent to junction 50 of the A14 trunk road. Known as 'Gateway 14', the site is ideally situated to provide vital links to the Port of Felixstowe in the East, to the Midlands and the UK motorway network beyond.**

With outline planning consent establishing the principle for employment development, there is the potential to accommodate over 1 million sq. ft. of logistics, warehousing, advanced manufacturing and business space.

It is envisaged that the site will be developed over the next 10 years to deliver high quality sustainable buildings for local and national businesses. This will also create a range of opportunities for local businesses to be involved in the construction, servicing and running of the Business Park, and will generate employment opportunities for Stowmarket and the surrounding area. The site benefits from both an Enterprise Zone and a Food Enterprise Zone designation offering further benefits to businesses locating to this site.

The Leader of Mid Suffolk District Council, Cllr Nick Gowrley said: "The development of Gateway 14 is an exciting venture that will help Mid Suffolk's economy to thrive whilst promoting opportunities to support new and existing local businesses."

Chris Haworth, Chair of the Board of Gateway 14 Ltd, said: "Gateway 14 Limited's acquisition of this 100-acre site is a bold and entrepreneurial move by Mid Suffolk District Council. The Eastern A14 is gathering serious attention from major occupiers and investors because of the lack of supply in other established markets and the great value offered by sites in this region. This is an exciting time to be acquiring a site of this size and quality."

GVA, a major National property consultancy, is the appointed agent for the site, supporting Gateway 14 Limited in the options for development, and discussions are already underway with potential occupiers for the site.

For further information on availability on the business park please contact the Managing Director of Gateway 14 Limited Emily Atack on 01449 724 856 and/or email [John Allan](mailto:John.Allan@gateway14.co.uk).



## Foyer Scheme to Open Doubling Homelessness Provision

**A restored facility at The Foyer in Stowmarket is set to more than double the Council's provision of accommodation for families and vulnerable people in the Mid Suffolk District that find themselves without a home when it opens on 10 September.**

The Foyer, previously owned by Flagship Housing, has been unused for over a year. Mid Suffolk District Council has now purchased the building and carried out repairs to bring the building back into use.

The new scheme will provide housing for 17 vulnerable families and individuals while the Council investigates their housing needs and requirements. The Foyer will provide a mix of single, double and twin rooms and enables the council to place larger families in more than one room.

The scheme will be able to provide accommodation for local people in need who meet certain criteria from September. The location and capacity of the Foyer will allow more families to remain in the area and gives children the option to be in close proximity to their school and help to reduce the effect of what is a difficult time for families.

Cllr Jill Wilshaw, Mid Suffolk District Council's Cabinet Member for Housing, said: "The restored Foyer building will be a great asset to the local community and will increase our ability to provide accommodation to vulnerable families and individuals. Being homeless or under the threat of homelessness is distressing for any family and to remain in the area you know helps. Our focus remains on preventing homelessness in Mid Suffolk over the provision of temporary accommodation."

Cllr Wilshaw along with ward councillors and members of Mid Suffolk's Homelessness Team will be opening The Foyer on Monday 10 September at 10am, 29-37 Hill Rise, Stowmarket IP14 2HB.

## Councils Demonstrate Housing Land Supply

**Both Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils have demonstrated a Housing Land Supply of greater than five years, meeting their obligation under the National Planning Policy Framework.**

A Five Year Housing Land Supply is a demonstration that a local authority is seeing enough homes built to meet housing need over the next five years. With the publication of the updated 5 year land supply position planning officers will now be reviewing all current application and pre-application enquiries on which this has a bearing. This includes all applications for which formal planning permission has not yet been issued.



You can read more online about the [Mid Suffolk Land Supply](#).

## Funding for Shop Fronts Unveiled

**Businesses in Mid Suffolk's Market Towns are being invited to apply for funding to make improvements to their shopfronts and make their businesses more accessible under two new grant schemes launched Friday 31<sup>st</sup> August.**

Businesses in Stowmarket, Needham Market, Eye and the surrounding villages can apply for grants to both make their buildings more attractive on the high street and help create a better experience for visitors. The improvements can be funded under a Shop front Grant or an Accessibility Fund grant, both of which are available to shop owners. Information can be found in the [Shop Front Scheme leaflet](#).

The grants are being offered by Mid Suffolk District Council as part of its commitment to the prosperity of its Market Towns. This commitment has seen £350,000 allocated to fund the two new programmes to assist local businesses create a better experience for visitors.

The Shop Front Scheme and the Accessibility Scheme grant funds will be awarded for a range of applications including new shop fronts, painting, lighting, cladding, shop front signage and new awnings, and for improvement works that will make buildings more accessible including; widening of doorways, removal of steps, power assisted doors and training.

Under the Shop Front Grant Mid Suffolk are offering funding to cover up to 75% of the costs of shop front improvements worth £15,000. In addition, the Accessibility Fund Grant can provide up to £5,000 to improve access to businesses. These schemes support changes to buildings that will make a significant difference to the local street scene, creating a more welcoming and vibrant atmosphere.

The scheme is also open to owners of listed buildings, with Council Officers ready to help applicants with any necessary planning applications and other permissions needed to improve their shopfront. This will make sure that important heritage assets can be upgraded in a sympathetic way.

Cllr Julie Flatman, Mid Suffolk District Council's Cabinet Member for Communities, said: "Our communities have really excelled themselves in creating welcoming atmospheres for everyone, from Needham Market's Dementia Action Alliance to Stowmarket's Community Luncheon Club. These grants will support our businesses in making the bricks and mortar of their shops as accessible and welcoming to shoppers as the people who run them."



Cllr. Gerard Brewster, Mid Suffolk District Council's Cabinet Member for Economy, said: "Our high streets are at the heart of the local economy, not only for residents who use them regularly but for visitors who travel from far and wide to see our historic towns and their attractions. This scheme provides businesses the chance to revitalise their shop fronts, keeping our high streets attractive, interesting and accessible making them good places to visit and enjoy."

For advice and more information regarding the scheme shop owners can [email the Economic Development Team](#) or call 0300 1234000 or contact the team via:

Mid Suffolk Shop Front Grant Scheme  
Economic Development Team, Mid Suffolk District Council  
Endeavour House, 8 Russell Road  
Ipswich  
Suffolk, IP1 2BX

Nominate your Stars of Mid Suffolk

The search is on to find the Stars of Mid Suffolk!

This new award scheme was launched on 1 June 2018 by Mid Suffolk District Councils at the Oaksmere Hotel in Eye.

There are 17 categories, split between community awards and business accolades including five business awards, five community awards, seven Individual Community Awards.

People from across the districts are encouraged to make nominations and our media partner, Archant, will feature some of the stories of the nominees in the East Anglian Daily Times and the Ipswich Star.

The awards will be presented at a glittering ceremony on Thursday 18 October at St Mary's Church in Hadleigh, hosted by BBC Radio Suffolk breakfast show presenter Mark Murphy.

The Leader of Babergh District Council, Councillor John Ward said: "We are delighted to be launching the first Stars of Babergh and Mid Suffolk awards which recognise ordinary people doing extraordinary things for the benefit of others, as well as the achievements of our thriving business community. We are looking forward to receiving your nominations for these exciting new awards."

The Leader of Mid Suffolk Council, Councillor Nick Gowrley said: "The Stars of Babergh and Mid Suffolk awards are for the unsung heroes in our communities and we encourage you to nominate people you know who have made a difference. These awards also celebrate the success of the businesses which drive our local economy."



The Stars of Babergh and Mid Suffolk is part of a larger Stars awards scheme which is now in its 12th year and is run across Suffolk and Norfolk by Parker Communications.

To nominate your Stars of Babergh and Mid Suffolk, please cut out and submit a nomination from printed in the East Anglian Daily Times

The closing date for nominations is midnight on Friday 28 September.

## **STARS Nomination Categories**

### **BUSINESS AWARDS**

1. Business in the Community Award - for helping to increase prosperity, employment or access to the borough through business initiatives. rewarding a business that actively supports their local community through positive action; going the extra mile to demonstrate its commitment to supporting the districts and their communities.
2. Business Growth Award
3. Customer Focus Award
4. Green Award - this will go to an organisation such as a school or community group. It could go a group of litter pickers, a gardening enthusiast or enthusiasts, or a recycling champion - just anyone who promotes the green and clean message
5. Team of the Year - This category is open for the nomination of any 'team' from any organisation within Suffolk. The objective of this award is to recognise the enormous contribution the made by teams who's combined effort makes a significant contribution to the people of Suffolk.

### **COMMUNITY GROUP AWARDS**

6. Community Group of the Year - This category is open for the nomination of groups who have made a significant contribution to their community. This is a wide-ranging category and judges will consider any nomination that can be clearly seen to have 'made a difference'.  
Examples of a 'good' nomination would include – groups who have brought people together to deliver a local service, or have improved an aspect of their environment, a school that has delivered a specific benefit to the community or represented their community to deliver improvement.



7. Community Spirit Award - for bringing the community together through community events, clubs or projects.
8. Best Community Group/Community Achievement - for a group that has improved the quality of life within the Districts. The award honours the achievement within the group's community and the difference they make to local resident
9. Community Project of the Year – for outstanding community projects
10. Outstanding Sporting Achievement of the Year  
This category is open for the nomination of non professional individuals or teams who have achieved significant success in any area of sport. This can be in the role of performance or as manager / coach.

The objective of this award is to recognise achievement in any sport whether in winning or tremendous improvement for the individual or team.

Examples of a 'good' nomination would include consistent performance over a year or longer period of time. It might be a coach who has taken individuals to tremendous levels of performance or who has performed brilliantly over a period of time - or an individual who has achieved beyond expectation or a team who have worked together to perform beyond expectations.

### **COMMUNITY INDIVIDUAL AWARDS (individuals)**

11. Community Champion of the Year - This category is open for the nomination of individuals who have made a significant contribution to their community. This is a wide-ranging category and judges will consider any nomination that can be clearly seen to have 'made a difference'.

Examples of a 'good' nomination would include – an individual who has brought people together to deliver a local service, has improved an aspect of their environment, has delivered a specific benefit to the community or someone who has represented their community to deliver improvement.

12. Volunteer of the Year - for an inspirational individual who gives freely and selflessly their time to helping others.
13. Young Volunteer of the Year For young people aged up to 24 years old; this award looks to honour a young person who has given up their time and energy to supporting a local voluntary, community or faith group, cared for someone in their community or made a mark on a community project.
14. Young Person of the Year - This category is open for the nomination of young people who have made a real difference, shown great courage, shown incredible





determination in the face of adversity or achieved a goal or goals beyond what would normally be expected.

Examples of a 'good' nomination would include someone who has shown great courage, tremendous loyalty and determination or incredible talent. Perhaps someone who has faced health issues; has made a real difference to their family or community, or someone who has performed brilliantly to reach goals in sport, music or the arts.

15. Good Friend/Good Neighbour - For a person who goes out of their way to make everyday life better for a friend or neighbour(s) by helping out or providing selfless companionship.

16. Dedication Award For long service in voluntary or community work - This award will go to someone who has spent many years carrying out voluntary work to benefit their local community.

17. Carer of the Year - This category is open for the nomination of individuals or groups who have dedicated themselves in caring for an individual or group. Caring should be outside of a paid or work environment and the nominated individual should have the sole or primary care role.