

District Cllrs Report September 2026

LGR decision for Suffolk withdrawn



On Monday the Government announced it had withdrawn its decision over local government reorganisation in Suffolk, to allow further review.

Staff and councillors were immediately informed, with council leaders responding in the local media.

You can [read the message to staff from Kathy and Tom in full](#) and also [see the leaders' responses](#).

A statement was made in Parliament on Monday afternoon.

BDC continue to work through the implications of what exactly this means for us and will be back in touch with further information as soon as possible.

In the meantime, a staff Q&A session has been arranged for later this month (see below), by which time we hope to have received further clarity from the Government to help us answer questions you might have.

The New NPPF has landed

[National Planning Policy Framework.pdf](#)

There was an all members training session on the New NPPF during which time certain words resonated with me;

This is a re write

The layout is completely different

Previous NPPF's were laid out in paragraphs this one is more like bullet points – short and sharp.

It is LEGALLY binding – end up in appeal and you will get penalised!

Also soon to be published is the Design & Placemaking Planning Practice Guidance which pulls together four documents into one, you might find this of interest;

Blog MHCLG in the Media - **Coverage of our Design and Placemaking Planning Practice Guidance**

Two thousand tonnes and counting

Since launching food waste collections in June, our councils have now collected over 2,040 tonnes of food waste from residents' caddies.

That's roughly equivalent to 340 large African elephants worth of food they've collectively diverted from the rubbish bin, to be recycled into biofuel and biofertiliser.

[Read BDC Facebook post for some more food waste collection facts](#)

Sign up for emergency responder role training

Last week, Mark Emms (Director of Operations and Climate Change) encouraged all staff to sign up for emergency responder role training.

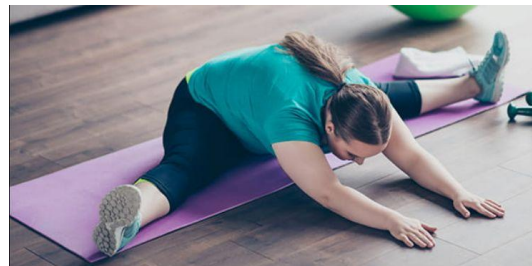
Recent events have demonstrated more than ever the need for our councils to have trained staff and volunteers ready to support in response to an emergency.

There are a number of training dates available and if you're interested, please discuss with your line manager before booking onto a training session.

[Find the message in full and sign up to a course](#)

Time to get active

Wednesday 16 September marks [National Fitness Day](#), a UK-wide campaign led by UK Active that celebrates the benefits of physical activity for our health and wellbeing.



What's happening in our districts:

- **Local Parkrun events**

These take place every Saturday and welcome all abilities, and include Great Cornard, Chilton Fields and Alton Water.

[Visit the Parkrun website to find out more](#)

- **Suffolk Wellbeing Walks**

Guided walks that take place with Feel Good Suffolk in various locations.

[Find out more and sign up](#)

- **Walking and cycling activities**

Hosted regularly by Suffolk County Council's 'The Way To Go' team.

[Find an interactive map and more information](#)

National Fitness Day isn't just about one day of activity. It's about finding simple, sustainable ways to move more, improve your wellbeing and build healthy habits that last.

Trusted Trader Week

This week is Trusted Trader Week - a campaign run by Norfolk and Suffolk Trading Standards.

The campaign shines a light on their Trusted Trader schemes, which requires every member to be checked and approved before joining, helping to stamp out rogue traders.

We're supporting the campaign on our social media channels and encouraging residents to [use the Suffolk Trusted Trader website to find reputable tradespeople](#).

Keen to support? [Consider becoming a trading standards champion](#)