

Suffolk County Council Report to Acton Parish Council from Cllr Philip Faircloth-Mutton 16 September 2026

1. Local Government Reorganisation for Suffolk Withdrawn

HM Government, following the legal challenge from the Suffolk County Council Reform UK Administration, has withdrawn proposals to reorganise council structures in the county of Suffolk.

This means Suffolk will continue to be organised on the existing structure. Elections will now take place concurrently for Babergh District Council and Acton Parish Council on 6 May 2027.

I welcome this decision, which will halt the costly disaggregation of high value care services for residents across Suffolk and enable the County Council to move forward with long term planning of public services.

2. Acton benefits as Suffolk creates 648 new school and SEND places

More than 600 new school and SEND places will be available for children and young people this academic year as Suffolk County Council continues to invest in education provision across the county.

The new capacity includes 405 mainstream school places and 243 additional SEND places.

As a local member, I am pleased to have secured 8 additional places at Hillside Special School for Acton children.

The programme supports the council's newly published strategic priorities, which includes a commitment to give children and young people the best possible start in life by ensuring they can access the right support at the right time and in the most appropriate educational setting. It also reflects the council's ambition to strengthen local education provision and ensure that children and young people with additional needs can receive support closer to home wherever possible.

3. Sudbury's Fire Station Commended

I wish to extend my thanks to our local firefighters for their bravery played in the recent Dunwich Heath fire in the north of the county.