

County Councillor Report



March 2022

Walsham-le-Willows Parish Council

Councillor Jessica Fleming, Hartismere Division, Suffolk

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Ukraine - Information on Suffolk's support for Ukrainian refugees is available on [Suffolk County Council's website](#), including links for The Red Cross Ukraine Crisis Appeal.

Suffolk County Council also announced that it will cease its contract between Vertas and Russian government-controlled fuel company Gazprom as soon as practical.

Council's 2022-23 Budget Passed – SCC approved its budget for 2022-23 alongside a first time Net Zero carbon budget on 17 February, with focus on children's services and adult care. Total expenditure will rise by 4.5% (from £598.2m to £625.4m) with a 1.99% increase in council tax, a further 1.00% from the Adult Care Precept, and an increase in grants received from the Government.

The Queen's Jubilee - Plans for a Festival of Suffolk with many community events can be found at: www.festivalofsuffolk.org/. A Suffolk wide Jubilee Lunch is planned on Sunday 5 June and people are encouraged to host a street party or gathering. SCC will waive fees for road closures and offer free assistance with traffic management, apply by Sunday 27 March.

www.suffolk.gov.uk/PlatinumJubileeEvent

The council is supporting the Queen's Green Canopy project and aims to plant about 775,000 new trees – one for each resident. Visit suffolk-lieutenancy.org.uk/queens-green-canopy/ to participate.

Women's Tour Cycle Race - Suffolk will host the finish of Stage 1 of the 2022 UCI Women's Tour, which will start in Colchester and finish in Bury St Edmunds on Monday 6th June. With the Queens Platinum Jubilee also taking place over the weekend the Women's Tour promises a fitting finale to celebrations in Suffolk. The route in Suffolk will be revealed in the coming weeks when it has been finally agreed and ratified by the race organisers.

Sunnica Solar Farm Project in West Suffolk/ Cambridgeshire – Cabinet has found that plans for this 2,792-acre 500-MW scheme are unacceptable in their current form and assessments inadequate. A link to the papers can be found [on the committee minutes page](#). Plans to build the Sunnica solar farm are currently with the Planning Inspectorate for examination

Fostering and Adoption - Suffolk's service currently has over 850 children in care and with more entering every year, the need for foster carers and adoptive parents to come forward has never been greater. These children need someone who can understand what they have been through, look at the world through their eyes and provide warmth, consistency and emotional support.

To find out more about fostering or adopting in Suffolk, visit: www.suffolk.gov.uk/fosteringandadoption or call 01473 264800.