

County Councillor Report



Walsham-le-Willows Parish Council, May 2024

Councillor Jessica Fleming, Hartismere Division. Tel. 07714-597980 Jessica.fleming@suffolk.gov.uk

Consultation on Devolution Proposals Closing Soon - The 10-week public consultation on our proposed devolution deal with the Government closes on 26th May, refer to www.suffolk.gov.uk/devolution and social media. The matter will be debated later this summer at full council. Devolution would include:

- A directly elected leader of Suffolk County Council
- Control of a new investment fund worth £480m over the next thirty years
- Local control of the Adult Education Budget each year (worth £9.4m in 2025/26)
- £5.8m one-off funding to prepare brownfield sites for development
- Multi-year transport funding plus £500,000 over two years.

School Travel – Council funded school travel notices will be sent by 10th May 2024 with details of how to opt-in. Parents or carers with a child born between 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020 who have not yet applied for a school place should apply immediately. Refer to the [School Admission pages](#) or by contacting Suffolk County Council on 0345 600 0981.

National Grid Pylons Consultation – Commenced on 10th April and runs for 10 weeks until 18th June. For details including the preliminary environmental impact report (PEIR) and a survey refer to: nationalgrid.com/norwich-to-tilbury

The following public events hosted by National Grid remain:

Friday 10 May 2024 1-6pm	Tibenham Community Hall, Pristow Green Lane, Tibenham, Norwich, NR16 1PX
Wednesday 15 May 2024 1-6pm	Diss Town Football Club, Diss, IP22 4QP

Electricity Supply Operator Offshore Coordination Study – This study is relevant to National Grid’s proposals for Norwich to Tilbury. The [ESO East Anglia Network Study](#) was published on 12 March 2024 by The National Grid Electricity System Operator, this was set up to explore options for transmitting power in Norfolk, Suffolk, and Essex including onshore, offshore and hybrid schemes, and undergrounding. National Grid has committed to take the results of this study into account in designing the electricity distribution system for this region.

A summary of ESO’s findings follows:

Following the preliminary screening assessment, network configuration options have undergone holistic assessment using the above methodology. These are set out below:

1. *Predominately offshore option – variation without EACN (connection point in N. Essex)*
2. *Predominately offshore option – variation with EACN*
3. *Onshore option*
4. *Alternative onshore option – variation without Bramford to EACN*
5. *Alternative onshore option – variation without EACN b. Alternative onshore option – variation without EACN – sensitivity*
6. *Hybrid onshore and offshore option – variation with EACN*
7. *Hybrid onshore and offshore option – variation without EACN*
8. *Onshore High Voltage (HVDC) option*
9. *Predominantly offshore option – Utilising Bradwell as a landing point.*

Waveney Valley Landscape Assessment - The "[Valued Landscape Assessment](#)" was jointly commissioned by Norfolk and Suffolk County Councils. The study provides evidence of the site's importance, sensitivity and vulnerability to various new energy proposals. It was undertaken by leading landscape consultancy, Alison Farmer Associates, look at the landscape of the Waveney Valley, outside The Broads National Park

Road Surfacing – The surface dressing programme begins this week, 102 roads will be surface dressed and a further 319 will receive full machine resurfacing during the coming year. For more information on surface dressing and to view this year's programme please visit: [Surface dressing](#) For resurfacing please visit: [Road Resurfacing](#)

Please get in touch with me if you have questions or comments: Jessica.fleming@suffolk.gov.uk
Tel: 07714-597980 Twitter: @jesstfleming