

**District Councillor Report – Onehouse Ward - September 2025**

<p><b>Local Government Reorganisation (LGR)</b></p>	<p>The council has released draft proposals for its 3-unitary model, which forms “Western”, “Central &amp; Eastern”, and “Ipswich and Southern councils. A full website on the 3-unitary model, including the proposed map effecting these changes, is available here: <a href="https://threecouncilsforsuffolk.org">https://threecouncilsforsuffolk.org</a> It is important to remember that the decision will be made by Government ministers, not locally.</p> <p>There will be 2 public sessions about LGR where you are invited to come along and ask questions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> Sept, 6-8pm, Food Museum Marquee, Stowmarket</li> <li>• Monday 15<sup>th</sup> Sept. 6-8pm, Eye Town Council.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Introduction of new electrical recycling banks</b></p>	<p>6 new electrical recycling banks have been installed across the District. This is part of a new scheme to help reduce e-waste. Banks are located at Iliffe Way carpark in Stowmarket, Stowmarket Leisure Centre, Elmswell Station, Needham station and Thurston New Green Centre.</p>
<p><b>Temporary Emergency housing</b></p>	<p>Mid Suffolk Cabinet have agreed to invest in up to 30 new properties in the district to be used for temporary emergency accommodation. To be eligible to be accommodated someone must be legally homeless and meet all the necessary immigration and residence conditions and have a priority need for housing. This investment will reduce the Council’s reliance on having to use B&amp;B accommodation and will save revenue in the long term.</p>
<p><b>MSDC secures 62-acre site at Thorndon for Nature and Flood Resilience</b></p>	<p>The site which contains a mixture of habitats and permissive footpaths was previously owned by the Kerrison Trust, a charity supporting young people, and was recently put up for sale. MSDC recognised the potential to protect improve the site which contains habitats including enhancing wet grassland and grazing marshes, pond habitats, lowland meadows and pastures, and deciduous woodland. MSDC will develop a management plan for the site following an ecological survey and consultation with local residents. There will be no change to public access arrangements with permissive paths being preserved.</p>
<p><b>September 25<sup>th</sup> Full Council</b></p>	<p>This meeting will debate and finalise the Mid Suffolk submission to Government proposing that 3 Unitary Councils would be the best balance of efficiency, democracy and public services.</p>
<p><b>Locality Budget</b></p>	<p>I have received more requests recently but there is still money left, so please get in touch if there are projects that may be eligible. Details at <a href="https://midsuffolk.gov.uk/w/locality-awards">https://midsuffolk.gov.uk/w/locality-awards</a></p>