

# Your briefing notes for town and parish councils



Babergh & Mid Suffolk Councils

## Last chance to complete our LGR survey

Our Local Government Reorganisation runs until 26 July. We are keen for as many people as possible to have their say, so please continue to share it with your networks and communities.

## Thousands of listed building owners could benefit from innovative planning change

Thousands of listed building owners could find it easier to make windows more energy efficient under innovative proposals from Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils.

## New council chair elected, with outgoing chair appointed to cabinet role

Cllr Elisabeth Malvisi has been elected as chair of Babergh District Council – resuming the role she has carried out for most of the last two years.

## Council will share in celebrations for artist John Constable's 250th birthday anniversary

In 2026, Babergh District Council will be supporting a national celebration marking the 250th anniversary of the birth of iconic Suffolk-born artist John Constable (1776-1837).

## Rentable electric cars arrive in Babergh and Mid Suffolk

Six electric vehicles have arrived at three locations across Babergh and Mid Suffolk for communities to use as part of the Plug In Suffolk Car Club.

## £38k boost for community facilities in Babergh

Improvements to village halls and community hubs are amongst the latest projects to receive a funding boost from Babergh District Council.

## Councillors unite to defend democracy in local planning

Cross-party councillors have unanimously condemned Government criticism of local planning authorities and attempts to “rob them” of their democratic powers.

## 'Trek, treat, repeat' – Beautiful walks and foodie gems celebrated in new project

Stunning walks and fantastic places to eat are showcased across Babergh and Mid Suffolk in a new initiative.

### Public Switched Telephone Network

Landline phones are switching to digital, which could stop telecare alarms working.

This means that all landline providers need to know which of their customers use telecare, so they can keep them safe.

The switchover is already happening, so you need to act now. If you, a resident, or someone you know uses a telecare alarm, make sure to contact the landline provider for support. Visit the [digital phone switchover website](#) for more information.

### Community Fun Days July 2025

Community Fun Days are returning to the districts at the end of July, providing families with a series of free days out packed full of activities. Events are taking place between 10am and 2pm at:

- Sudbury, Belle Vue Park – Monday, 21 July
- Hadleigh Pool and Leisure Centre – Friday, 25 July

Each event is free attend and has activities for all ages - people just need to turn up on the day. However, children that receive means tested free school meals are able to pre-book some activities and order a free lunch by [visiting the Abbeycroft website](#) - our partners for this year's fun days.

### Rural Housing Week event

Parishes across the districts are being invited to a Rural Housing Week event, hosted by Community Action Suffolk, from 10am to 3pm on **10 July** at the John Peel Centre.