

NEWSLETTER - JULY 2026

Welcome to my monthly newsletter

My role as a district councillor is not limited to East Suffolk District council policies and responsibilities, but I continue to liaise / work with all our stakeholders – contacting our Mp to assist with issues and now with Reform controlling the County Council highlight damaging policies and holding them to account .

Unfortunately our reform council's first act was not focusing on highways , cost of living crisis or environment , but removing the Ukrainian flag / declaring reversal of environmental positive policies and reversing net zero and issuing a judicial review against uk govt on local government reorganisation . The leader has also declared he is spending 18,000 pounds on upgrading his office - if I had 18,000 pounds I could replace all the roadsigns and repaint all the road markings and improve highways safety - this is about choice in spending tax payers money - I will continue to lobby the county council to focus on our issues on the Peninsula and will highlight the policies which are not consistent to our values.

Please remember Reform stands for :

Billionaire climate deniers are paying Nigel Farage millions and these are the policies they are getting from Reform in return:

1. Bring back fracking
2. More north sea oil and gas drilling
3. Tax cuts for big oil companies
4. Scrap support for renewables
5. Abandon net-zero



OPPOSITION AGAINST SCC USING TAXPAYERS MONEY ON CHALLENGING AGREED UNITARY COUNCIL

Councillor criticises Suffolk County Council over legal case

1 HR AGO EAST SUFFOLK COUNCIL



By Katie Drake
Live Reporter



0 comments

A councillor has criticised a county council's decision to launch a legal challenge he believes is worth £100,000 in taxpayer

The discussion on unitary council took many months and a lot of council time and resources. Both the district council and previous administration at the county council concluded best way to offer unitary – one council for Suffolk or 3 separate councils. Finally a public consultation took place and UK government then made a decision for best outcome for Suffolk .

Three councils agreed - better for residents and one councillor will cover all local government responsibilities , economies of scale and a better more efficient local democracy . Officers have started work on this outcome . Reform county council however now they are in power are opposed to unitary council and have declared a judicial review (J review are about process not outcome). I quickly highlighted this was a waste of tax payers money – costing minimum of 500k - funds which would help enormously to prepare and upgrade out highways on the peninsula . EAD picked up on this concern :

Deben Ward councillor James Mallinder has publicly opposed Suffolk County Council's use of taxpayer money to fight plans for a unitary authority model.

Under the proposed changes, county and district councils would be merged to create a single-tier structure, rather than the three council model which has been supported by the government.

Mr Mallinder said: "Spending £100,000 on lawyers to fight structural reform is an insult to Suffolk residents."

He added that the figure, though not specific, is an educated estimate on the basis of other councils.

"This money should be protecting frontline services, fixing our roads, and supporting vulnerable communities—not funding political posturing to safeguard outdated council hierarchies," Mr Mallinder continued.

James Mallinder, for East Suffolk Council's Deben ward (Image: East Suffolk Council)

READ MORE: Suffolk County Council mount Government shake-up challenge

Some believe that a unitary council would reduce duplication, cut costs, and offer residents a simpler, single point of contact for council services.

Mr Mallinder said that the legal action goes against Suffolk's long-term interests.

He continued: "Unitary status is a proven way to reduce waste and save millions of pounds annually.

"By blocking this transition, the leadership is choosing to protect its own footprint over the financial well-being of Suffolk taxpayers.

"We need efficient, modern governance, not costly legal battles to defend the status quo."

BAWDSEY QUAY - Vandalism



All no parking signs have been removed from Bawdsey Quay, we believe by camper vans who park over night with some staying for days and weeks. It is an on going battle with selfish individuals who block roads, the view and access to the river and ferry.

Signs are controlled by Reform county council so we are waiting for these to be replaced - until replaced no enforcement can take place - which is very frustrating

ABANDONED CAR REMOVED AT SUTTON HOO / MELTON ROAD



I reported a car which had been parked for over a month at this junction – apart from being an eye sore - I was concerned perhaps something had happened to the owner . Various checks then illustrated car was untaxed with the owner living in Nottingham - not sure if the owner had the car removed or if it had been towed away - but car has now gone

BIG THANK YOU JUDI HALLETT AND FAMILY FOR PERFORMING SCC RESPONSIBILITY OF KEEPING OUR ROAD VISIBILITY CLEAR



As a local councillor living in my area of responsibility I spend much time reporting issues when I see them - about to report the dreadful visibility of a junction known for accidents to the reform county council but a couple of days latter it had been cut back

After investigation I found out it was Judi Halletts husband who did this – so a big thank you

SUPPORTED AND ATTENDED THE MEET UP MONDAY LUNCH



Really pleased to attended the meet up Monday lunch . Through my enabling community grant I was able to subsidize the cost of lunch. I am very mindful that the cost of living crisis continues and its important to keep costs for social events as low as possible , esp when primary elderly residents - Also good for community cohesion and isolation concerns

An enjoyable event for all who attended

EAST SUFFOLK FAILURE TO IMPLEMENT NEW WASTE COLLECTIONS – A TOTAL BIN-TASTROPHE

I am shocked at the failure of the Green party to implement a new waste collection service after two years of planning. This new “twin-stream” waste collection system, has left thousands of local taxpayers facing missed collections, an influx of pests, and an unprecedented shortage of essential wheelie bins. This roll out has been plagued by operational failures on the Deben Peninsula and across East Suffolk .

The failure to collect food waste in particular is causing problems with vermin and even family pet cats and dogs eating the rotting food if the caddie is not locked . This has been compounded by the Green party decision to move the general waste collection to a three weekly schedule - (to point Ipswich is a twice a week collection)

For the record as previous chair of Suffolk waste partnership I repeatedly highlighted the problems we are likely to encounter - but I was ignored and the policy was designed behind closed doors with no cross party involvement .

I continue to push for better focused services .



Please ask residents who have had no collections since June or have had missed garden waste collections to contact me directly .

SUMMER SURGERY

I am committed to be accessible and connected to all my villages and residents and recently had my summer surgery . it was well attended with main issues raised - planning ,bins and highways



BROMESWELL OPEN GARDENS

Popped into Bromeswell Open gardens - lovely to see the back of houses – such amazing gardens – then finished with tea and cake by the church listening to a brass band - great way to spend a Sunday afternoon - met a number of supporters who thanked me for my hard work .

CORONATION AVENUE HOLLESLEY

After much negotiation and lobbying by myself I have arranged for entire resurfacing to take place mid July - this will greatly improve the road for residents and visitors alike

BAWDSEY BINS

When I was in charge of bins as cabinet member of the environment I spent much of my time micro managing bins and frequency of collections in our tourist pinch points

Bawdsey Quay in particular is a sensitive area and the green party has now removed a couple of bins and change the frequency of collection . I continue to push hard to have the solid system reinstated - bins by water should be treated as a priority - any rubbish entering our water system is difficult to extract and is a danger to our marine biodiversity , not only this as it breaks down it also enters food chains which can eventually harm sea birds and humans.



ATTENDED FETES ON THE PENINSULA

Summer always busy - fetes at Hollesley , Alderton and Eyke





And I popped into the pub to wish the new owners the best of luck - and to offer support and get to know them – great the pub is open again in Eyke

PRESS RELEASE ON COUNTRYSIDE FIRE PREVENTION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COUNCILLOR JAMES MALLINDER URGES VIGILANCE TO PROTECT DEBEN PENINSULA FROM COUNTRYSIDE FIRES

Councillor James Mallinder, representative for the Deben Ward at East Suffolk Council, is today issuing an urgent appeal to residents and visitors to practice extreme caution in order to prevent devastating wildfires across the Suffolk countryside. As dry weather conditions



elevate the risk of crop and heathland blazes, Cllr Mallinder highlights the catastrophic long-term impacts these fires have on local biodiversity, rural economies, and community safety. A strong advocate for embedding environmental protection into public policy, he emphasizes that preventing countryside fires is a shared social responsibility.

Protecting Our Shared Environment

"Our unique landscapes, from the Deben peninsula to our local heathlands, are a haven for biodiversity, but they are incredibly vulnerable during dry spells," said Cllr James Mallinder. "We have seen firsthand how quickly a small spark can tear through hectares of tinder-dry crops, threatening homes, destroying wildlife habitats, and leaving scars on the landscape that take years to heal.

"A healthy environment means healthy communities. While our emergency services do a heroic job, the most effective tool we have against wildfires is prevention. I am calling on everyone enjoying our beautiful countryside to adhere strictly to the Countryside Code and take proactive measures to ensure a disaster is averted."

To minimize wildfire hazards, Cllr Mallinder and local environmental partners urge the public to follow these essential safety steps:

- **Ban disposable BBQs:** Never use disposable barbecues in public open spaces, forests, or near dry grass.
- **Pack a picnic:** Swap hot grills for packed lunches when visiting local nature reserves.
- **Dispose of cigarettes safely:** Ensure all stubs are entirely extinguished and never throw them from moving vehicles.
- **Take litter home:** Bottles and discarded glass can act as magnifying lenses, concentrating sunlight and triggering intense fires.
- **Report smoke immediately:** Dial 999 at the very first sign of fire to ensure emergency crews can contain it early.

The call for heightened awareness is also deeply tied to the safety and accessibility of rural infrastructure. In addition to environmental devastation, countryside fires jeopardize single-access village routes, creating severe health and safety risks for isolated residents.

By eliminating preventable fire hazards, residents can protect local farmland, safeguard vital emergency service resources, and preserve Suffolk's fragile ecosystems for generations to come.

James Mallinder

Deben Ward - A voice for parishes and residents of the Peninsula