

Report from County Councillor Rebecca Hopfensperger

Local Government Review

I've already talked to the Parish Council about this at previous meetings but just to recap, the government have decided to push the agenda for devolution and local government reorganisation in Suffolk. With regards to devolution, Suffolk and Norfolk were successful in being accepted onto the Devolution Priority Programme which will mean the creation of a county combined authority of Suffolk and Norfolk which will be governed by a mayor. The likely powers the mayor will have will be strategic transport, population health, potentially blue light services and economic development. Running alongside this there will be a local government re-organisation which is formation of unitary council/councils in Suffolk and Norfolk. There will elections for the mayor in May 2026.

The government asked councils in Norfolk and Suffolk to submit interim business cases of what unitary structures can look like in the areas by the end of January. Suffolk county council submitted a business case for one unitary Suffolk and the districts and borough put one in on multiple unitaries with either two or three but have since come out in favour of three. We have since heard from the government that all proposals will be asked to be developed into a full business case to be submitted to government by the end of September, I have attached the press release and full feedback from the government to this e-mail.

Bus Stop Old Bury Road

I was pleased to be able to pay for the installation of the bus stop in old bury road which I think looks great and will hopefully be an asset to the village.

Locality Budget and Highways Budget

Just to remind any community group that have locality budget that can be used in the village, in the past I've supported the village hall, parish council and the church and also various highways projects.

Kind Regards

Beccy

Councillor Beccy Hopfensperger
Suffolk County Council Cabinet Member for Adult Care

Suffolk County Councillor for Thingoe North
West Suffolk Councillor for The Fornhams & Great Barton

West Suffolk Leader of the Conservative Group
Mobile: 07876 683 516
Twitter: @RHopfensperger
Facebook: @CllrBeccyHopfensperger