

District Councillor Susan Glossop's Report for Lackford Parish Council Meeting on 10th March 2025

West Suffolk Budget 2025- 2026 update

Council tax 2025-2026

Band D £203.67 increase of 11p per week £5.85 per year extra

Band A £3.90 per year extra

Band B £4.55 per year extra

Band C £5.20 per year extra

Brown bins increased to £53 from £50.00

Car parking Ram Meadow increased from £2.50 to £3.00 all day

Ram Meadow weekly, season tickets increased by 16.67%

Blue badge £3.00 increased from £2.50 all day

All other short stay Bury St Edmunds cars parks increase of 20p to all tariffs

Devolution

As you know the Government's plans for devolution, which are set out in the English Devolution White Paper [English Devolution White Paper: Power and partnership: Foundations for growth - GOV.UK](#) includes the creation of mayoral authorities and the reorganisation of Local Government.

The Government invited areas to apply by 10 January 2025 to be part of its Devolution Priority Programme which would see mayors elected in May 2026. County or unitary councils are the only authorities that can request this. Suffolk County Council made the request as well as asking to postpone their May elections.

Angela Rayner MP, the Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, confirmed in parliament today (5 February) Suffolk will be part of the Devolution Priority Programme which would see a Mayoral Authority set up covering Suffolk and Norfolk. It is expected that mayoral elections will take place in May 2026.

In addition, it has agreed Suffolk County Council's request to delay its elections in May 2025.

Suffolk County Council has released a statement in response to the latest announcements by Government [Suffolk on the fast-track towards complete council restructuring and devolution - Suffolk County Council](#)

Government has said today it will be writing to all two tier areas nationally regarding Local Government Reorganisation. As yet we have not received this letter but once I have it I will share its contents and make sure you are briefed.

Whatever solution comes forward from Local Government reorganisation it must benefit West Suffolk's communities, the focus must make sure we keep the local in Local Government.

Update

Councils invited to submit interim plans by the 21st March 2025

Consultation deadline 13th April 2025 led by the Government

Final detailed business proposals submissions 26th September 2025

Election of Mayor for Norfolk/Suffolk 26th May 2026

Shadow unitary elections May 2027

New unitary April 2028

Growth – we have promoted a Start Up grant for businesses and a Jobs and Skills Fair that is being held in Mildenhall.

[Facebook – Start Up grant](#)

[LinkedIn – Mildenhall Jobs and Skills Fair](#)

Community

We have been promoting volunteering, announced that the Thriving Communities Fund will contribute over £260,000 into 44 separate projects to benefit residents, highlighted the Building Resilience and Nutrition fund is open to applications, shared HAF half term details and announced the Capital Sports Fund outcome.

[Instagram – Master Composter volunteers](#)

[Instagram – Thriving Communities Fund](#)

[Facebook – Building Resilience and Nutrition Fund](#)

[Facebook – Holiday Activity and Food programme](#)

[LinkedIn – Capital Sports Fund](#)

Environment

We have encouraged people to use newly installed EV chargers in Newmarket and Bury St Edmunds.

[Instagram – EV chargers](#)

Council

We are inviting year 10 students to apply for work experience and university students to apply for summer internships at West Suffolk Council.

[Instagram – work experience](#)

[Facebook - internship](#)