

Ipswich Northern Bypass Task Group to assess alternatives for Ipswich town traffic congestion.

A task force is to be formed to examine how to improve traffic congestion in Ipswich as the County Council prepares to formally mothball plans for a northern bypass because of the strong opposition against it and the seven figure sum needed to move on to the next stage. Instead, the council's Conservative Cabinet will be asked to form a task force which will look at ways of improving capacity at key junctions, and encourage other ways of travel such as walking, cycling and public transport. The council will also continue to lobby central government for A14 investment and a solution to the Orwell Bridge closures.

Coronavirus precautions.

MSDC has received a small number of queries about their approach to the Coronavirus. The risk to individuals remains low, but should you have any queries you can find the latest advice and information here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-information-for-the-public>. MSDC will continue to work closely with Public Health England, the Department of Health & Social Care and other partners.

MSDC environment briefings for staff.

In 2019 both Mid Suffolk and Babergh declared a Climate Emergency and the intention of the briefings was to raise awareness and encourage behavioural change, with growing concern about the impact we are having on the health and stability of our environment and the urgency at which we need to make changes to reduce the impacts. The briefings were held in conjunction with Groundwork Suffolk, who work closely with MSDC through the Suffolk Climate Change Partnership.

Vital link for communities in Mid Suffolk and Babergh districts.

The LifeLink social prescribing initiative, which gives people more confidence, improves wellbeing and reduces loneliness, increasing a sense of community, is now being rolled out in Mid Suffolk and Babergh districts in Woolpit and Sudbury. The scheme is funded by West Suffolk Council, Primary Care Networks, and the NHS West Suffolk Clinical Commissioning Group.

Needham Lake Visitor Centre.

The next Member Working Group Meeting will be held on 9th March 2020 at Endeavour House, Ipswich, and will consider such items as:

- Scheme progress update – high level project plan and clean water permit update.
- Tender update – results of construction contractor interviews.
- Tenant negotiations regarding the operator lease.
- Cabinet paper.
- Risk Register.