## MID SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT TO CREETING ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL 14<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2022

**Shaping social housing for the future.** Councillors at Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils will consider the future of social housing this month – with a blueprint for quality and sustainable homes in safe neighbourhoods for tenants.

**Councils' commercial property arm makes £6m profit in 2021/22.** Babergh and Mid Suffolk's commercial property company CIFCO made a £6m profit last year – generating £3.75m in net income for the councils to plough back into services, according to a report published this week.

**First occupier confirmed at Gateway 14.** Gateway 14 Ltd, wholly owned by Mid Suffolk District Council, has exchanged conditional contracts to develop a distribution unit with home, garden and leisure products retailer The Range.

**Stowmarket wellbeing and leisure hub to be taken to the next stage**. Plans to improve leisure and wellbeing facilities in Stowmarket are set to move forward following agreement from Mid Suffolk District Council to fund the next stage of development.

A rural fleet transformed. Babergh and Mid Suffolk's HVO journey towards net zero carbon emissions. Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils, along with their waste collection provider Serco, are leading the way when it comes to transitioning from standard diesel to Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO), after becoming the first rural councils in the UK to start the switch to the new fuel back in September 2021.

**Helping local communities to tackle the climate emergency.** A £150,000 fund has been opened to applications from not-for-profit organisations looking to deliver community-based carbon reduction projects in Suffolk. Further details are available from the Council's website.

Chance to help shape councils' final parking strategy. Residents, businesses, and visitors are being invited to have their say on Babergh and Mid Suffolk's parking strategy for the next 20 years.

Councils urge 'joined-up thinking' over energy infrastructure in the east. Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils are calling for an urgent government review of the number and scale of 'potentially devastating' energy infrastructure projects for local communities.

**Changes to Building Regulations.** Building Regulations changed on June 15. These amendments have been billed as the biggest changes to building regulations for over 30 years and will have significant impact on those planning building works after this date. More details available on the Councils' websites.

Mid Suffolk Chairman shows support for children and teenagers with ASD (Autism Spectrum Disorder). A local charity in Stowmarket, the Stowmarket ASD Saturday Clubs, is set to benefit from a fundraising boost having been selected as the chosen charity by new Mid Suffolk District Council chairman, Cllr. James Caston.

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