

## **MID SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT TO CREETING ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL 3<sup>RD</sup> MARCH 2022**

**Mid Suffolk District Council freezes council tax but investment in recovery to continue.** Mid Suffolk District Council has frozen its element of council tax this year – helping residents through post-pandemic recovery while still investing in priority areas to improve quality of life. Further details on the MSDC website.

**Mid Suffolk and Babergh District Councils respond to new ‘County Deal’.** The leaders of Mid Suffolk and Babergh District Councils welcomed news that Suffolk is one of nine counties invited to negotiate a ground-breaking devolution deal – bringing more control over areas such as transport, infrastructure and skills to the region.

**Switch onto a new Digital Skills Programme for businesses.** Business owners in Mid Suffolk and Babergh who want to learn new or improve their digital skills can now access free courses as part of a new business support programme.

**A new bigger, better library for Needham Market.** Suffolk Libraries and Mid Suffolk District Council are pleased to announce that the new Needham Market Library is now open.

**Additional funding to support districts’ rough sleepers.** Mid Suffolk and Babergh District Council have been awarded £324K to provide specialised emergency accommodation for rough sleepers and those at risk of homelessness. The funding, from the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government’s Rough Sleepers Accommodation Programme, will see new energy efficient homes in Stowmarket and Sudbury, to provide emergency accommodation for vulnerable adults at risk of living on the streets.

**New Government rebate.** On 3rd February, the Government announced measures to help protect millions of households from rising energy costs - including a ‘£150 council tax energy rebate’. Further details on the MSDC website.

**Mid Suffolk and Babergh pledge their support to addressing violence against women and girls.** Mid Suffolk and Babergh District Councils have signed up to a new county-wide strategy, outlining how Suffolk will address violence against women and girls.

**Constituencies are changing - have your say now.** The Boundary Commission for England (BCE) is required by Parliament to undertake an independent and impartial review of all constituencies in England, to rebalance the number of electors in each constituency. Further details on the MSDC website.

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Representing Needham Market, Badley, Baylham, Creeting St Mary, Creeting St Peter, and Darmsden.