

DEVOLUTION WHITE PAPER

Leader of Mid Suffolk District Council, Cllr Andy Mellen said: "I remain open-minded about reorganisation as long as it is done in the right way and has the interests of our residents at its heart – but local authorities must remain close to the communities they serve, with the necessary funding and autonomy to deliver the services they need. I believe that decisions are best taken at the lowest possible level to ensure democratic accountability, so I will resist any drawing-up of powers away from local people. "Together with our neighbours in Suffolk we will now be looking at the proposals in more detail. Ultimately, this should be an opportunity for meaningful public sector reform in order to make a real difference to the quality of life of our residents, not just a redrawing of council boundaries."

However, it not considered for the postponement of county council elections to be necessary to achieve this and fear their postponement would damage local democracy. This is, though, for Suffolk County Council and the Government to decide.

PROPOSED COUNCIL TAX FREEZE

Mid Suffolk District Council proposes to freeze its element of council tax for the upcoming financial year – helping residents to navigate the cost-of-living crisis while continuing investment in priority areas to improve quality of life in the district.

PROPOSED BASE STATION UPGRADE AT CS 10986025 CREETING HILL, PIPPS FORD, NEEDHAM MARKET, SUFFOLK, IP6 8PZ, NGR E: 609783 N: 255491. To upgrade to 5G

Consultation closes 24th January, Clerks have been sent the response details.

From the agents.

A number of options have been assessed in respect of the site search process and we consider the best solution is as above. This is the preferred option as we are upgrading an existing telecoms site. Therefore, the number of telecoms sites in the area will remain the same and the visual impact will only have a minor increase on its environment.

Our technical network requirement is as follows:

- CS 10986025 (Cornerstone, VMO2) • Proposed 22.5m pole to replace existing 14.70m pole
- Proposed 6no. antennas • Proposed 15no. RRU's • Existing dishes to be relocated
- Proposed 1no. 300 dishes • Proposed 3no. ERR's • Proposed GPS module
- Proposed cable ladder • Proposed cabinets to be upgraded

JOINT LOCAL PLAN REVISION

The Government's new requirement is that the District Council increases the annual number of new build housing from 535 to 734 units per year; an increase of 37%. Needham Market and surrounds sit in what is considered a sustainable strategic corridor for development, which is within 4 Km of an A road and additionally served by the rail network and a station. The pressure to build housing estates over a field near you will be enormous. It will need a lot of extremely hard work to try and ensure that any housing development is allocated and restricted to areas best judged suitable. Blanket refusal will not be an option. Local neighbourhood plans are considered Local Neighbourhood Development plans. Mid Suffolk District Council will now start a full review of part one of the joint local plan with Babergh, to include consideration of these new stringent requirements.