

**Suffolk County  
Council Election**  
**6 May 2021**



 **Conservatives**

# Build Back **Better** Build Back **Stronger** Build Back **Greener**

Since early 2020, our world has changed dramatically. With our public sector partners, we supported Suffolk's vulnerable residents through the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Home But Not Alone phone line enabled vulnerable residents to call for help including food parcels and medicines.

The £1.5m Suffolk Hardship Fund assisted struggling families and individuals with food and fuel vouchers, and help with buying items ranging from school uniforms to white goods.

Suffolk Conservatives' post-Covid recovery plan prioritises our vulnerable residents while strengthening our local economy, protecting and enhancing our environment, and delivering real value for money to the taxpayer.





## Vulnerable people

**During the past 4 years we spent over £1bn caring for our vulnerable residents.**

By 2031, a fifth of Suffolk's residents will be aged over 70. We will harness new technology and support our care workers, so elderly residents can live independently at home for as long as possible. We are developing virtual-reality sets and digital hubs to help residents with dementia and their carers.



## Post-Covid Recovery

**With partners we will build back a stronger, fairer local economy.**

We will promote procurement opportunities for Suffolk businesses; work with our partners: the Local Enterprise Partnership, Chamber of Commerce and councils developing jobs, skills and infrastructure through the Government's *Getting Building* fund. We will enhance the Kickstart scheme helping young people into work and older people to switch careers or start a business.

Over  
**£1bn**  
spent since 2017  
caring for  
vulnerable  
residents





## Environment

**Conservative-led Suffolk was among the first councils to declare a climate emergency, pledging to be carbon neutral by 2030.**

We will conserve natural habitats and open spaces promoting clean air and carbon capture through nature. We are installing hundreds of EV charging points and supporting discounts on solar panels and energy efficiency grants. We are investing £14.5m in upgraded or new waste recycling centres at Foxhall, Haverhill, Ipswich and Stowmarket while enhancing others.



## Roads and pavements

**We invested more than £207m in our road network over the last four years: including resurfacing 1,000 miles of road.**

We will launch an ambitious £20m programme to spend £10m tackling highways flooding and a further £10m improving and upgrading 500 miles of pavements and footpaths. We introduced stronger controls on road closures and invested in smart technology to improve winter gritting. We have identified over £20m of upgrades to our cycle network.

over **100**  
new EV charging  
points being  
installed



## Families and young people

**Suffolk's Children's Services Team is rated Outstanding by Ofsted.**

We are investing £45m building over 800 new school places for children with Special Educational Needs. With partners, we will drive up educational standards through an inspirational project led by the National Literacy Trust. We are creating a network of Family Hubs and employing extra staff to support vulnerable families.

Children's  
Services rated  
**OUTSTANDING**  
by Ofsted





## Infrastructure

**We boosted business at Beccles, Bury St Edmunds and Eye Airfield through £30m of key road schemes.**

We will build the £126m Lowestoft Gull Wing Bridge. We lead strategic rail campaigns: the national east-west rail link and £20m track works at Haughley, and improving services from Ipswich to Norwich/Cambridge. We are backing the business cases for £150m+ upgrades at A12/14 Copdock Interchange and A11 Five Ways. We will invest in new electric bus services.



## Finance

**We have a strong track record of sound financial management of our £600m budget.**

Nearly 75% of our budget is devoted to caring for our vulnerable residents. We will invest in smart technologies, improving services and our efficiency, for example through digital care phones for the elderly; loaning laptops to adult learners; deploying automatic number plate recognition devices to tackle speeding traffic; and installation of dimmable LED streetlights.

**1,000  
miles of road  
resurfaced  
since 2017**





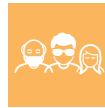
## Suffolk countryside

**We will develop more Quiet Lanes and invest in our long distance footpaths.**

We are promoting biodiversity by planting hedgerows, 200,000 trees including healing woods; piloting wildflower verges; and increasing roadside nature reserves by a third. We are determined that large energy projects should be co-ordinated to respect Suffolk's unique landscape and have the minimum impact on our communities and natural environment.



**200,000 trees** being planted between **November 2020 and March 2022**



## Health and wellbeing

**We believe healthy communities are resilient and with NHS partners will prioritise physical and mental health.**

As we emerge from Covid, we will continue working with the NHS, Mental Health Trust, and partners to support people needing help. We will enable residents to lead healthier, active lives through the Keep Moving Suffolk Campaign and with projects to address health inequalities; enhance wellbeing; combat loneliness and tackle obesity.





**£24m**  
invested in  
**Suffolk Libraries**  
since 2017



**Libraries,  
heritage & culture**

**We invested £24m since 2017 in Suffolk's libraries and are one of very few areas nationwide where no library has closed.**

We will support libraries to remain at the heart of our communities and deliver innovative services, training, and outreach. We built the Hold, the new £20m county archives and heritage centre on Ipswich waterfront. We invested £2.5m in Suffolk's theatres and museums over the last four years and will continue to support them.



## Our post covid priorities



**prioritising  
our vulnerable  
residents**



**strengthening  
our local  
economy**



**protecting and  
enhancing our  
environment**



**value for money  
to the taxpayer**

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