

District Councillor Report January 2026

Devolution and local government reform – election delays	<p>The government has delayed the election for a Mayor for Norfolk and Suffolk until May 2027.</p> <p>The government has also offered the option for Councils undergoing reorganisation to further delay local elections i.e. the County Council election currently planned for May 2026.</p> <p>There is a County Council vote on this on January 12th.</p> <p>The Green Party position is that we must have elections at the allotted time not decided by politicians when it's convenient for them.</p>
New 3G football pitch	<p>A new 3G football pitch is set to be delivered in Stowmarket after funding from the Premier League, The FA and Government's Football Foundation was secured.</p> <p>Mid Suffolk District Council, has secured 51% of the project costs from the Football Foundation, with the pitch due to open in spring 2026.</p> <p>It will be built on the grounds of the high school and made available for community use.</p> <p>The pitch will use cork infill –as part of research by the Football Foundation that is looking at the use of a variety of different pitch systems.</p>
Stowmarket Innovation Gateway	<p>Construction work on a state-of-the-art skills and innovation centre at Gateway 14 in Stowmarket has reached a key milestone with the core construction now complete and the centre due to open in June next year.</p>
New Community Darts Venue	<p>A new community darts venue has opened with £125k in matched funding. The venture which will be an accessible community darts hub, offering everything from darts equipment and accessories to coaching sessions and pay-and-play lanes.</p>
Waste education in schools	<p>This year sessions were held for over 1700 children and staff at primary schools in Mid Suffolk to provide education about what happens to our waste.</p>

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