

## 17th March report

1. Major topic, which I would have also raised last month, is that we need to make residents aware and prepared for is the change to recycling process and collections –

- a. <https://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/bins/better-recycling/>
- b. In Summary –

New recycling and food waste collections start in June 2026. Exact dates will be published before the change.

Most homes will get -

A **new** paper and card recycling bin, these are in the process of being delivered, some residents may already have these, however, please tell residents not to use these until informed to.

A food bin for outside and a food caddy for indoors.

We are aiming to deliver the new bins between February and May, some residents may already have had these delivered, I know I already have my green lidded bin. All bin deliveries are logged for verification purposes.

Most households will receive:

one extra 240 litre green lidded recycling bin for their paper and card - approximately 110 cm high by 59 cm wide by 75 cm deep,

23 litre food caddy (outside) - 39 cm by 29 cm by 34 cm,

5 litre kitchen caddy (inside) - 21 cm by 25 cm by 19 cm.

Your current **blue bin will continue** to be for recycling but will now also include being able to recycle glass bottles and jars, plastic film, metal and cartons (including Tetra Pak). Do not include the additional items for recycling until the exact date has been published by the Council (please)

Due to the new service your bin collection days and schedules may change but we will keep changes to a minimum. We will confirm these changes with you by post nearer the time. Again, **please don't do any changes prior to confirmation of dates.**

From June households will have:

- Food waste collected **weekly**
- Paper and card (grey recycling bin with green lid) collected once **every four weeks**
- Mixed recycling (blue bin) collected once **every four weeks**
- Non-recyclable (black bin) waste collected once **every two weeks**
- Garden waste (paid for service) collected once every two weeks
  - Your garden waste collection day will not change.

Also please be aware of the Easter Break revised bin collections, which have been sent out, and please encourage residents to purchase additional blue sacks should their standard bin not be sufficient for holiday periods, such as Easter and Christmas.

2. The next major topic, is the Forest City, and I have no issue with my opinion being in the public domain.

West Suffolk Council has been contacted by the applicant, West Suffolk as a council would need to understand the impacts on our current towns and residents.

My personal view is that this will have a negative impact on our towns and residents.

- I believe it will compete with resources (including water) and serve as a centre of gravity taking investment and funding away from the current areas, such as Cambridge City, Newmarket, Haverhill, Bury St. Edmunds, Brandon, Mildenhall, Clare.
  - It will also compete for potential new residents, if there's a million new homes in an area, why would you consider moving to Haverhill or Newmarket.. ?
  - For me the infrastructure map is unclear, how do people travel to this new forest city, is there going to be a High-Speed Link to London , what would that mean for the current Cambridge line ? What about traveling to other parts of the county ?
  - There are a lot of questions that just simply are not answered.
  - The scale and location are wrong in my opinion.
  - The developer states that we want to live in beautiful places, where business wants to set, yes of course that's true, but why can't we invest in our current towns to make that vision real, why do we have to set up something brand new, and here ?
  - The developer states they'll put the infrastructure in first, this is admirable, and most likely desirable, but again why do we have to make a new "city" to identify a flaw in the planning system, maybe they should spread the ability to put "infrastructure in first" in smaller scale developments up and down the country.
  - Why was this not including in Sir Michael Lyons' English New Towns Task Force ? Does the new forest city undermine it?
  - I believe it also undermines the work of West Suffolk with the Brandon Commission and the A11 Corridor Growth work we've been doing under my portfolio
3. West Suffolk passed our budget for the next 2 years, this included an amendment that will see parking charge reductions across Bury St. Edmunds, Newmarket and Haverhill, and a review of our pavement licence fees.. More details can be found at - [Two year balanced budget to deliver millions in improvements across West Suffolk](#) .
4. Is anyone aware of the term "unmarked bus stop" ? I ask this as part of my portfolio for Growth, I've got transport in my remit, I conducted a Bus Review recently, and I'm trying to gauge what else we can raise to SCC to improve the bus links in the area, including if anyone knows about the unmarked Bus Stops.