

January 2024 County Councillor Report

FLOOD PREVENTION

The County Council Cabinet has approved an additional £1 million for specialist flood prevention investigations.

ROAD MAINTENANCE

The County Council Cabinet has awarded an extra £10 million for road repair and resurfacing. This is in addition to this year's existing budget of £10 million. This follows the £21 million allocated in 2017 to 2021 which allowed 1000 miles of the 4000 miles of highway in Suffolk to be resurfaced.

TRAVEL INFRASTRUCTURE

The Government has also announced significant new funds as a result of the transfer of budgets from the partial cancellation of the HS2 project. The East of England region has been awarded £609 million. Suffolk will receive £107,590,000 over the next 10 years. This year's new funding totals £3.4 million. The schemes that this will be spent on include the upgrade of the A12 between Seven Hills and Wood Lane Woodbridge, and the upgrade of the Ely rail junction which will allow another 6 freight trains a day to use the rail line through Ely.

GRITTING PROGRAMME

Suffolk County Council's winter gritting programme will use 39 lorries, 80 staff, 17,000 tonnes of grit and will treat over 2000 miles of highway. This includes 1259 miles of Priority One roads – A and B class roads, plus those near hospitals and on bus routes. These total 36 roads or routes. Also to be treated are 843 miles of Priority Two roads – in villages and near schools. These come to a total of 34 roads or routes. Last year (2022 to 2023 financial year) the County Council highways team treated 177,983 miles of road.

COUNCILLOR STUART BIRD B.A.(HONS)

COUNTY COUNCILLOR FOR FELIXSTOWE NORTH AND TRIMLEY DIVISION

TOWN COUNCILLOR FOR FELIXSTOWE PORT WARD