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| **Launch of Mid-Suffolk Taxi Bus and Rural Connect Community bus service** | The Mid Suffolk Taxi Bus will have 2 routes available initially – Stowmarket Circular via Thurston and Stowmarket Circular via Bacton with more routes to be added later. Coddenham will be served in Phase 2.  [Mid Suffolk Taxi Bus | Stowmarket, Suffolk](https://www.suffolktaxibus.com/)  The demand responsive pre-bookable door to door service will initially cover 3 geographical areas initially: Eye and Diss, Eye and Debenham and Stowmarket connecting with outlying villages.  <https://www.communitiestogethereastanglia.org/community-transport/> |
| **Comprehensive Recycling** | MSDC have now agreed how they will adapt their waste collection service in line with the new government regulations. Every week there will be a weekly food waste collection plus one other. Each household will receive a food waste bin for collection as well as a caddy to use in the kitchen. This will reduce the amount of waste in the black bins, so from 2026 we will move to twin-stream recycling so each household will have 2 recycling bins (one for card and paper, the other for plastic, glass and cartons) and a black bin. These will be collected on a 3-week cycle in line with many other councils around the country who have improved their recycling rates. |
| **Motion Calling for Urgent Government Action to end Council Housing Funding Crisis** | Along with 100 other Councils the full council called on the government to:  • Establish a new fair and sustainable Housing Revenue Account model – including an urgent one-off cash injection, and long-term, certain rent and debt agreements.  • Reform unsustainable Right to Buy policies  • Remove red tape on existing funding  • Announce a new, long-term Green & Decent Homes Programme  • Fund the completion of new council homes |
| **Abandonment of Suffolk Devolution Deal** | The original plans for the Suffolk Devolution (including the directly elected leader of Suffolk County Council) have been abandoned by national government. Further talks are ongoing about a potential replacement. |
| **Thurston By-election** | Harry Richardson (Conservative) was elected as the new ward councillor for the Thurston Ward on 24th September with a turnout of 21%. |
| **Public Realm Enhancements** | Agreed at cabinet:   * To form a new REACT service to deliver non-scheduled demand led street cleansing, grounds and environmental enforcement services outside Stowmarket such as litter, fly tipping, graffiti, access clearance and fixed penalty notices.   To invest in enhancing the scheduled cleansing and grounds maintenance specification for Stowmarket Town Centre |
| **Living Well in Winter Grant** | The annual Living Well in Winter Grant was launched this year in order to support communities through the winter months. This includes assistance with financial management, improved accessibility for recreational activities and the creation of new connections to allow community ties to flourish during the winter months. |

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