

## **District Councillor Report January 2026**

### **Council Tax and Government Grant**

The Government has sent out the figures for its grant/support for local Council services for the next 3 years.

It appears to reward those councils who have performed badly over the last few years and penalised those who have done well. South Norfolk is one of those councils that have maintained their services, kept council tax rises to a minimum, saved and invested wisely.

The Government Grant has rolled into the grant, the New Homes Grant (a payment made for every new house built) has been abolished, the Business Rates Reset has been abolished and consequently the grant is £1.4million less than last year and is some £0.5 million less in the next 2 years.

SNC will do everything it can to absorb the decreases of the grant and try to keep council tax rises as small as possible while maintaining its services.

### **Food waste**

I have been informing you of the roll out of this new service for some time, however the Government have now informed SNC that it will no longer offset the cost of introducing this mandatory new service it must be paid for by SNC (or should I say the residents).

It is understood that approx. 35% of all rubbish collected is food waste and the collection of it should reduce what is put into landfill.

The waste collection service will start to be rolled out in April this year and residents will be informed when their post code will be included.

### **The Environment**

Nearly all SNC diesel vehicles are made to run on HVO (a vegetable-based fuel) it is more costly overall but vehicles are slightly more efficient e.g. a waste vehicle can now do 4 mpg instead of 3 MPG. As other vehicles are replaced they will be electric.

Where possible all buildings are being converted to solar power and heat source pumps. Swimming pools will still use power from the grid to heat the water.

This year SNC reduced its carbon footprint by 730 tonnes.

### **DISS Sports Centre and Park Road Developments**

The sports centre should start being built in April this year. Morrisons have agreed to sell the strip of land next to the fire station so that the new bus terminal can be built.

The old bus terminal and associated land was to be a new doctor's surgery and health centre. Unfortunately, neither of the doctors surgeries in Diss wanted to move there and

the site was turned down by the Integrated Care System. It will now probably be used to build a block of flats.