

## County Council Report for Palgrave Parish Council

**March 2019**

By County Councillor Jessica Fleming, Hartismere Division, Suffolk

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**New School Transport Policy (2019)** - Children are eligible for SCC funded school travel if over 2 miles (under 8 years old) or 3 miles (aged 8 or over) walking distance from their nearest suitable school. Full details about funded school travel, including arrangements for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), can be found at [www.suffolkonboard.com/schooltravel](http://www.suffolkonboard.com/schooltravel)

**Important Opt-in (apply) Requirement for School Transport** – For the September 2019 year, families with eligible child/ren must opt-in **by 31<sup>st</sup> May (2019)** to receive funded transport. This is a change from previous years. Parents of new secondary/upper school children should be notified about eligibility, but if in doubt contact Customer Service promptly on 0345 606 6173 or email [customer.services@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:customer.services@suffolk.gov.uk). Children already receiving SCC funded school travel in the 2018/2019 school year will continue to receive this whilst they attend the same school.

**Highways/ Traffic Calming** – waiting on traffic surveys on Lion Rd and Local Access Road.

**Budget Approved for 2019/2020** – £519m total budget was approved at February's council meeting. Three quarters of the total spend goes to Adult and Community Services (£243m) and Health, Wellbeing and Children's Services (£147m). General council tax will rise by 2.99%. The Council's transformation programmes continue to reduce expenditure by over £12 million annually.

**North Ipswich By-pass Consultation Plans** - Suffolk Co Co has released a timescale for moving this project forward. A stage one study was completed in 2017, options are currently being assessed.

- Summer 2019 - Public consultation on route options and junctions with the A14 and A12
- Autumn 2019 - Completion of the Strategic Outline Business Case to be shared with government, local MPs and the public.

**Suffolk Fire & Rescue Risk Management Consultation** - Areas which the fire service is seeking feedback are: Automatic Fire Alarms; Response to Road Traffic Collisions; Shift Patterns; Specialist Rescue Capabilities, and Response to Emergency Incidents. The consultation runs from 11 Feb. until 7 April 2019. The details and online consultation are available at [www.suffolk.gov.uk](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk)