

Walton & The Trimleys County & Town Councillor Report for July 2026

During the month of June, the following have been achieved:

1. Felixstowe Peninsular ASB meeting covered several topics, one of which was anti-social speeding. There is work being carried out by SCC and a feasibility study to have SID posts placed around the Town of Felixstowe and Parish of Trimley St. Martin. Further updates will be forthcoming in due course.
2. East Suffolk Council (ESC) are in the consultation phase to prepare a new Local Plan. The local plan will set out where new homes, jobs, infrastructure, and community facilities should be located. It will be the Council's main planning document and used to help make decisions on planning applications. The following [LINK](#) will take you to the ESC Local Plan where the consultation phase will close on 31st July 2026.
3. There was a County Council Cabinet Meeting on 16th June where 2 cabinet papers were presented:
 - The A140 bypass around the junction of Stonham where the traffic currently backs up. The County Council is going forward into the consultation and feasibility stage.
 - The SEND home to school transport budget was voted through for the forthcoming budgeting year. There were no changes to the budget from last year.
4. Felixstowe Town Council Meeting contained the following relevant agenda points which effect the wider community:
 - The cancellation of the proposed 20mph speed limit in and around the old Felixstowe side of the town.
 - Felixstowe School Sixth Form Provision – Statutory Consultation

The report of Unity Trust closing the post 16 education was objected to strongly from the town council and a letter has been sent to the County Council with the concerns.

5. I attended a Manufacturing Round Table event which was held at Suffolk New College. This is a consortium of manufacturing businesses and companies that are keen to develop the engagement from post 16 skills colleges and into the workplace apprenticeships/placements. Due to the current situation of the post 16 option at Felixstowe School which I raised, there is a great deal of work going on to try to maintain some form of further education in Felixstowe. There are meetings being

scheduled with the DfE and Unity Trust to see if there are future options that can be found for Felixstowe post 16. There are a lot of vested interest to pick up on the post 16 education in Felixstowe and discussions are also being held between the Executive Director at the County Council for Education, Suffolk New College, Manufacturing Roundtable, Trinity College and Level 2 Youth Project. Further updates will be given when there is more to report on.

6. The RBL held their Armed Forces Celebration on the Triangle in Felixstowe during Saturday 20th June. There were numerous stalls and vintage militaria vehicles raising funds for the Felixstowe RBL Branch. It was a very well received event and managed to raise £650 of which £430 went to the Felixstowe Poppy Appeal 2025/2026.
7. The Armed Forces Flag was raised at Endeavour House to start the Armed Forces Week Celebrations on Monday 22nd June. Further services and celebrations continued around the county.
8. There was a meeting on the 23rd June with the Joint Leadership Team of the County Council where the administrations Strategic Plan was discussed and it is now being finalised. The Reform UK administration's Strategic Plan will be published soon, and I will update the Parish when it is available.
9. On the 24th June there was a fire at Sidegate Primary School in Ipswich where a fault with the solar panel or wiring caused a fire to start on the roof of the building. All children were evacuated and no injuries were sustained. Due to the age of the solar panels, there are approximately a further 80 schools in Suffolk that have had their panels turned off awaiting further inspections.
10. Trimley Station Regeneration Project held its AGM and formation of the CIC at the Felixstowe Town Hall on 25th June. The Trustees and committee were formulated to enable the next stage of the planning to go ahead and fundraise for the building to be made watertight. I have put my name forward as a Trustee to the project and will keep the parishes updated as future developments progress.
11. An Extraordinary Cabinet Meeting was held on 29th June to discuss and vote to proceed with the Judicial Review (JR) against the government from Suffolk County Council. As a new administration, we have engaged with the Council Officers to find out where the benefits and pit fall of proceeding with LGR. The most detrimental impact would be the SEND service that is provided to the County. If the County was to be split into 3 unitary, then 2 of the unitary SEND provisions would be bankrupt immediately and the 3rd unitary would shortly follow. There are impacts to all other services that the Council provides, however, this was the most important and largest impact. This was a decision that the whole Cabinet made on review from the information given by the officers of the council. To proceed to a JR was unanimously decided to try and save/secure the services that are provided to the constituents.
12. On 30th June, I held a meeting with the Citizens Advice Bureau in Felixstowe to learn more of what they can do for the parishioners. They have asked me to share their contact details and expressed that they are using a hybrid service where they will either be able to engage with the community by phone/email or in person at their Felixstowe Branch at 2-6 Orwell Road. If anyone needs to contact them, call

08082787866, email advice@caes.org.uk or visit their website on <https://www.citizensadviceeastsoffolk.org.uk>

It is not an immediate service and they do run a waiting list for individuals, however, they can help with the following subjects:

- Debt & Money, Housing, Benefits, Consumer, Family, Work, Immigration & Health.

13. I am pleased to confirm that, following its most recent inspection, the Care Quality Commission (CQC) has once again rated Suffolk County Council's Adult Social Care services as **"Good."**

The report highlights a number of areas where Suffolk is performing well, including the work of committed and compassionate staff, strong safeguarding arrangements, effective partnership working with health colleagues, and a clear focus on supporting people to remain independent and in control of their lives.

While the overall rating is Good, the report also identifies areas where further improvement is needed, including reducing waiting times in some parts of the system and improving consistency in how services are delivered. These are areas we are already focused on through our ongoing improvement and transformation work.

You can [read the report in full on the CQC website](#).

For constituents that wish to get in contact with myself, my email address is tristan.gale@suffolk.gov.uk and is the preferred method of contact, phone number is 07860 910565 which is a SCC phone that is not always monitored.

Councillor Tristan Gale

County Councillor for Walton & The Trimleys Division
Cabinet Member for Planning, Devolution & The Fire Service
Felixstowe Town Councillor for the Walton Parish Ward