

**Norfolk County Council
Member for Necton and Launditch
Report August 2022**

Social Infrastructure Fund:

A third round of funding for voluntary, community and social enterprise organisations who are helping Norfolk's communities during the pandemic recovery and the cost-of-living crisis was agreed by the county council.

The council's cabinet considered a report that will see another £1 million of capital funding for major voluntary sector projects from the Norfolk Social Infrastructure Fund - the same level of funding as in 2021.

This year's proposal sees £775k made available to community organisations to bid for, with £225k already committed to continue the successful partnership with Norfolk Community Foundation in expanding their Nourishing Norfolk food hubs across the county, with an ambitious aim of 15 being open by the end of 2022.

The Social Infrastructure Fund provides funding for voluntary and non-profit making groups and organisations to support community initiatives that benefit Norfolk residents.

Budget 2022/2023:

Proposals to save £13m were considered this month, as the first step towards meeting next year's £60m target.

Norfolk County Council's cabinet will discuss the first batch of proposals, with a further £47m due to be considered in October.

Cabinet considered proposals to save:

- £6.45m from adult social services, including use of reserves and more savings from existing programmes
- £3m from children's services, including withdrawing from the Professional Development Centre in Woodside
- £2.1m from community and environmental services, including a review of the mobile library service, Wednesday closures of recycling centres and reduction of weedkilling on highways to one treatment per year
- £200,000 from strategy and transformation, through professional leads
- £50,000 from governance, by increasing income from the registration service
- £1m from finance and commercial services, through annual income from the council's company, Repton Property Developments Ltd

The public will be consulted over the summer to inform a redesign of the mobile library service, to save £200,000 from its £422,000 per year budget. Further consultations on other budget proposals will take place in the autumn.

The Council will propose a Council Tax level for 2023/24 later this year, once it has received guidance from the Government. Until then, the Council's planning assumption is 2.99 per cent, including a one per cent adult social care precept.

Finalised budget proposals will be considered by cabinet, early next year, before the full council takes a final decision in February 2023.

Census 2021:

There were 916,200 people living in Norfolk on Census Day, 21 March 2021?

That's an increase of around 58,300 people, or an increase of 6.8% compared with Census Day 2011. This compares with an 8.3% increase for the East of England and a 6.3% increase for England and Wales.

Within Norfolk, South Norfolk had the highest percentage increase (14.4% increase), with Great Yarmouth having the lowest increase (2.6% increase), compared with the last census.

The first results from Census 2021 were released on 28 June 2022.

The census is a survey that happens every ten years and gives us a picture of all the people and households in England and Wales.

Win a free Compost Bin:

Rooting for Nature, Norfolk County Council's popular composting campaign is back to encourage more people to switch to composting at home and help reduce and recycle more of their waste.

Find more information about composting and how to buy a compost bin at Norfolk Recycles www.norfolkrecycles.com/home-compost.

Mark Kiddle-Morris.