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# **Parish Report – July 2022**

# **Councillor: Penny Otton**

For information on local support during the Cost-of-Living Crisis, visit: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/suffolk-advice-and-support-service/>

Latest SCC COVID information is available here: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/>

For information on supporting Ukrainian refugees in Suffolk, email: refugeesupport@suffolk.gov.uk

**Suffolk GLI to declare a Cost-of-Living Emergency**

Full Council is on the 7th July. Our Group submitted a motion calling for SCC to declare a Cost-of-Living Emergency, and for the Council to redirect funds and efforts towards targeting those most vulnerable. . Our Group calls on this government for further support to those falling below the poverty line.

In addition, we are calling on the government to make it easier and cheaper to insulate homes. Our motion asks to waive VAT on energy-saving materials, such as insulation, and adequately fund a retrofitting programme so communities can save money on their bills during winter where energy price caps are due to rise even further.

Despite being told of the unprecendent numbers asking for help and advice, this was voted down.

**Petition for in-house Suffolk Highways maintenance contract: Still need signatures!**

. We need 3,675 signatures to bring this to debate at the Council. Please sign here (ensure you make you name public, or it won’t count!): still many more needed!

<https://www.petitions.net/for_suffolk_county_council_to_develop_an_in-house_bid_for_suffolk_highways_maintenance>

**£150,000 FUND FOR ACTION ON CLIMATE EMRGENCY**; I have sent all my clerks the info on this

**HIGHWAYS INVESTMENT FUND;** also this asking for you to send in requests for areas where footpaths need cutting back . this is on top of the usual verge cutting schedule.

**FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE**; due the extreme hot weather there have been a series of fires across the county. It is essential people are very sensible with BBQs and to not leave anything likely to cause combustion when out walking, eg bottles etc

HGV REVIEW; this has now been finalised. I and many of my group are unhappy about the findings and that no changes are being made where we feel that should.

MID SUFFOLK

FUTURE CHANGES TO RUBBISH COLLECTION; the government has insisted that all councils have a food waste collection service, so officers are now looking into how and when this will be introduced. Possibly with a small “caddy” for food waste.

MORE TREES AND PLANTS; again these are on offer from mid Suffolk. Info passed on to clerk.

ENERGY REBATES; I have forwarded to all clerks info on latest which now may available to more people.

NEW POT OF MONEY FOR COMMUNITY PROJECTS; I have sent details to clerk.

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**Instagram -** <https://www.instagram.com/suffolkgli_group/>

**Website** - [Suffolk Green, Liberal Democrat and Independent Group – The GLI Group at Suffolk County Council (suffolkgli.wordpress.com)](https://suffolkgli.wordpress.com/)