

# Parish Report – May 2021

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## **Elections to take place on May 6<sup>th</sup>**

Local elections will take place on Friday May 6<sup>th</sup> for SCC's 75 county councillor seats, as well as several district councillor seats and the Police & Crime Commissioner. Suffolk County Council's annual general meeting will take place on May 27<sup>th</sup>.

## **COVID-19 Home testing kits available from libraries and pharmacies**

The public can now obtain free Lateral Flow Devices (LFD) from any library in the county, along with 130 NHS pharmacies, subject to stock availability and opening times. Regular testing is seen as key in controlling the spread of the virus as the UK's vaccination programme continues.

For more information see the link below:

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/council-news/show/home-testing-now-available-from-libraries-and-pharmacies>

## **95% of Suffolk children receive a place at their first preference school**

School places for the coming year have been confirmed, and 95% of children have been offered a place at their first preference school. 99.15% of children were offered a place at one of their top three preferred schools. SCC received 7207 applications from parents indicating which primary school they would prefer their child to join in September 2021.

Parents will now need to consider school transport. If children are eligible for Suffolk County Council funded school travel parents will receive an email by 14 May 2021 with details of how to opt-in.

## **Suffolk Waste Partnership composting campaign launches**

To celebrate International Compost Awareness Week in the first week of May, Suffolk Waste Partnership are launching several initiatives to support residents to begin composting. Free bagged compost will be handed out at several events (see link below for details), and cheap composting equipment can be ordered through the Partnership.

On average, more than a third of the contents of Suffolk's rubbish bins could easily be composted at home. Theoretically each household in Suffolk could compost 150kg of organic material a year, turning waste into free soil improver.

See link below for more details:

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/council-news/show/free-compost-a-hot-competition-and-cheap-bins-to-help-green-fingered-residents>

## **'Our Parks' fitness classes to begin in East Suffolk**

Working with East Suffolk Council and Suffolk County Council, 'Our Parks' will be running free workouts on Britten Field and Normanston Park in Lowestoft as well as at Leiston Recreation Ground and King George's

Park in Leiston. The programme of weekly classes being offered will be suitable for all fitness levels and will start on May 1<sup>st</sup>. All classes will be Covid secure and are bookable at [www.ourparks.org.uk](http://www.ourparks.org.uk)