

September 2024 report for the Martlesham Division

Suffolk adults urged to take up potential life-saving opportunity

People across Suffolk aged between 40 and 74, who don't have a pre-existing health condition, are being encouraged to take-up a potentially life-saving opportunity.

The call to action comes after Suffolk GP Federation were awarded a contract to deliver over 23,000 NHS Health Checks in the county annually.

Suffolk County Council have also become one of 45 local authorities in England to receive funding from the government as part of the national Workplace Cardiovascular Disease Health Check Pilot. Working with Suffolk GP Federation 2,000 additional NHS Health Checks will be delivered in workplaces in the county by March 2025.

NHS Health Checks play a really important role in preventing disease and helping people live healthier lives for longer. They can be lifesaving as they help spot increased risk of stroke, kidney disease, heart disease, type 2 diabetes, and dementia early, before the conditions develop. They also give people an opportunity to talk to a health care professional about how to reduce their risk.

For more information about the Suffolk NHS Health Check Service visit [the Suffolk GP Federation website](#).

Window now open to apply for primary and secondary school places

Parents and carers can now apply for a place in the normal year of entry at a primary (including infant and junior) school and secondary school for September 2025.

The deadline for applications to secure a place at a secondary school is Thursday 31 October 2024 and for primary school places, including infant and junior schools, the deadline is Wednesday 15 January 2025.

All applications received by the relevant closing date are processed at the same time using the schools' oversubscription criteria to prioritise applications when necessary. Late applications are processed after all of those received on time.

Last year, Suffolk County Council received just under 15,000 on time applications for pupils wishing to start at a primary or infant school, or to transfer to a junior school, or into Year 7 at a secondary school from September 2024.

94.7% of applicants received offers for their first preference school and 98.5% of applicants received an offer for one of their top three preferred schools.

Further information on SCC's School Travel Policy can be found at www.suffolkonboard.com/schooltravel.

Parents and carers should apply online at www.suffolk.gov.uk/admissions as they will receive confirmation that their application has been received. If for any reason they are unable to apply online they should apply on a paper application (CAF1). Suffolk County Council is unable to acknowledge receipt of paper applications and therefore suggest that proof of posting is obtained.

If families are planning to move house or think their circumstances may change before next September, it is still important to make an application on time using the current address. It is recommended to apply for schools based on the current address in case the proposed move falls through. Advice and guidance about this process is available at www.suffolk.gov.uk/admissions.

Families who apply online will be able to log on to the Online Service on the National Offer Day, which is Monday 3 March 2025 for secondary school places and Wednesday 16 April 2025 for primary school places, to see their offer of a school place, and they will receive an email to confirm this offer on the same day. Offer letters will be sent by second class post to applicants who made a paper application.

Information to help parents and carers make their application is available at www.suffolk.gov.uk/admissions.

Up to £2.5 million in funding available for agrifood innovators

Suffolk organisations are invited to apply for a share of up to £2.5 million in grant funding for business-led agrifood projects in Eastern England. Two new competitions have been launched as part of Innovate UK's Eastern England Launchpad, a partnership between Innovate UK, Suffolk County Council, Greater Lincolnshire LEP, Norfolk County Council, and Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority. The Launchpad aims to boost innovation in the region's agri-tech and food technology sectors while strengthening its reputation as a top hub for food production and sustainability.

The competitions offer a share of up to £2.5 million in two strands:

- The first competition, 'MFA', is open to micro, small and medium sized businesses. Grants between £25,000 and £100,000 are available for projects lasting 6 to 12 months.
- The second competition is for collaborative research and development (CR&D) projects. Applications can be led by businesses of any size and consortia must include at least one small or medium enterprise. Grants between £150,000 and £300,000 are available for projects lasting 6 to 18 months.

The competitions open on Monday 23rd September and will close at 11am on 6th November 2024. For more information and to apply, visit <https://www.gov.uk/apply-funding-innovation>

Projects can focus on one or more of the following themes:

- enhancing the productivity of primary crops, livestock, aquaculture or ornamental crops
- biotechnologies related to agriculture, aquaculture, food processing and nutrition
- food that promotes safe, lower carbon or more sustainable healthy and nutritious diets
- resource efficient production and processing methods for low emission foods.

Suffolk County Council launches £500,000 Culture Project Fund to Boost cultural activity across the county

Suffolk County Council is pleased to announce the launch of its new £500,000 Culture Project Fund. This initiative is aimed at strengthening and supporting local arts and museum projects in our local communities across the county.

This fund's goal is to improve the cultural landscape in Suffolk, benefiting communities through diverse and impactful initiatives that align with the council's key priorities: health and wellbeing, economic development, environmental protection, and value for money.

The fund offers three tiers of grants:

Small grants up to £1,500

Medium grants up to £15,000

Large grants up to £50,000

This inclusive approach ensures that both grassroots ventures and larger, more established organisations have equal opportunities to access funding. Eligible applicants include Arts and Museum organisations, skilled freelancers, registered charities, community interest companies, non-profits, and social enterprises based in Suffolk.

The fund supports both capital and revenue projects, with a maximum of £25,000 available for capital expenditure.

The culture project fund will support projects that have been designed to reach, engage and inspire people and communities to take part in and enjoy arts and museums. The fund is particularly to support projects that reach some of our most vulnerable people and communities with an application process that is streamlined and accessible. This includes activities designed for those on low incomes, isolated individuals, and marginalised groups, the fund aims to support projects that enhance both mental and physical health, creating resilience and improving overall wellbeing through inclusive and accessible activities.

Furthermore, the fund aims to strengthen Suffolk's economy by supporting projects that enhance skills development, promote social enterprises, and attract visitors. By focusing on these areas, the Council seeks to foster a thriving cultural sector that contributes to the county's growth.

Key Dates:

Fund opens for applications: Monday 23 September 2024

Medium and Large grant applications deadline: Friday 29 November 2024

Medium and Large grants awarded by: Friday 14 February 2025

Small grant presentations: Monday 17 March, Monday 14 July, and Monday 15 September 2025.