# SCDC 2 Colour Wave News Release

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## Communications Team: (01394) 444361 or (01502) 523637 Suffolk Coastal … *where quality of life counts*

**Suffolk Coastal – First Draft Local Plan Published**

**20 July 2018**

Suffolk Coastal District Council has published a First Draft Local Plan for public consultation.

The Suffolk Coastal Local Plan is a framework document which will outline how the council sees the district developing over the next couple of decades.

This First Draft Local Plan covers the period to 2036 and contains the suggested planning policies, which will be used to determine planning applications in the area in the future.

It also sets out the level of growth which needs to be planned for and identifies where that growth could be located and how it should be delivered.

And now the public are being asked to have their say on the first draft plan – with consultation on the document running until mid-September.

“This is an ambitious document, which lays out how we see the district developing in the future, so it is important that local people take this opportunity to have their say on the first draft plan, before the proposals go any further,” explained Cllr Tony Fryatt, Suffolk Coastal’s Cabinet Member with responsibility for Planning.

“A lot of work has already gone into shaping these proposals, with the First Draft Local Plan being prepared after extensive consultation between August and October 2017 into what we called the ‘Issues and Options’.”

“The responses from the Issues and Options consultation, coupled with the robust, credible evidence, helped create the strategy, policies and site allocations found within the First Draft Local Plan.”

“As a Council, we see this Local Plan providing the framework to deliver continued economic growth and much-needed new homes, as well as the infrastructure to support them, targeting young people but also taking into account our ageing population.”

“However, this is just a draft document. This consultation period is another opportunity for the local community to shape their district’s future, as well as providing other options for development should they wish.”

“I would encourage everybody to get involved with the consultation and attend a drop in session to learn more about the First Draft Local Plan.”

The First Draft Local Plan aims to support a diverse economy, while providing attractive and affordable homes for current and future generations.

It suggests ways of boosting the delivery of homes to contribute to addressing the national housing shortage, responding to need for a greater mix of homes and increasing delivery of affordable housing.

However, it also recognises the need to protect and preserve our unique, but vulnerable, environment.

A First Draft Local Plan which seeks to be ambitious in growing the district’s economy, in particular recognising the opportunities presented by the Port of Felixstowe, the energy sector and key transportation routes, while improving infrastructure provision.

Members of the public, Town/Parish Councils, local businesses, stakeholders, partners and landowners are invited to engage with the consultation and let us know their thoughts on the policies and site allocations within the document.

Copies of the First Draft Local Plan can be found on the Council’s website at: [www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/planning/local-plans/suffolk-coastal-local-plan/local-plan-review/](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/planning/local-plans/suffolk-coastal-local-plan/local-plan-review/)

Alternatively copies of the document are available at local libraries (including mobile libraries) across the district.

Comments on the First Draft Local Plan can be submitted via:

The Council’s online consultation portal: <http://consult.suffolkcoastal.gov.uk/consult.ti>

Emailing: [suffolkcoastallocalplan@eastsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:suffolkcoastallocalplan@eastsuffolk.gov.uk)

**Or** writing to Planning Policy & Delivery Team, East Suffolk House, Station Road, Riduna Park, Melton, Woodbridge, IP12 1RT.

**Consultation on the First Draft Local Plan runs from Friday, 20 July, to 5pm on Friday. 14 September 2018.**

However, this will not be the end of the process to develop the Local Plan. The consultation responses received on the First Draft Local Plan will be considered during the autumn and winter this year, ahead of the production of the Final Draft Plan, which will go to Suffolk Coastal’s Full Council for its consideration and approval.

After this, in January 2019, the Final Draft Local Plan will be published for a further six-week of consultation, ahead of the document being submitted to the Planning Inspectorate for Examination in Public in March 2019.

The final document will then be open for Examination in Public by the Planning Inspectorate during the summer 2019, before it can be adopted as Suffolk Coastal’s agreed Local Plan.

**Drop-In Sessions:** Public consultation and engagement is an important part of the Local Plan process and throughout the consultation period a series of drop-in sessions have been arranged.

These drop-in sessions are open to anybody who wishes to find out more about the consultation and are being held in the following venues on the dates listed below:

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| **Venue** | **Date and Time** |
| **Kirton Recreation Ground (The Pavilion)** Back Road, Kirton, Ipswich IP10 0PW | Tuesday 24th July 18  16.00-19.30 |
| **Saxmundham Market Hall**  29 High St, Saxmundham IP17 1AF | Tuesday 31st July 18  16.00-19.30 |
| **Felixstowe Town Hall (Council Chamber)** Undercliff Rd W, Felixstowe IP11 2AG | Thursday 2nd August 18  16.00-19.30 |
| **Suffolk Coastal District Council (Deben Room)** East Suffolk House, Station Road, Melton, IP12 1RT | Monday 6th August 18  16.00-19.30 |
| **Wenhaston Village Hall** Narrow Way, Wenhaston, Halesworth IP19 9DP | Wednesday 8th August 18 16.00-19.30 |
| **Rushmere St Andrew Village Hall**  Humber Doucy Lane, Rushmere St Andrew, IP4 3PD | Thursday 16th August 18  16.00-19.30 |
| **Yoxford Village Hall (Main Hall)** Old High Road, Yoxford, IP17 3HN | Thursday 23rd August 18 16.00-19.30 |

The Council looks forward to the local community engaging in the First Draft Local Plan and helping to shape the future growth of the district through public consultation and engagement.

Queries about the consultation should be directed to the Planning Policy and Delivery Team in the first instance.

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