

15 January 2019

For immediate release:

Find out more about becoming an East Suffolk councillor

Local people who want to find out more about becoming a District Councillor for the new East Suffolk Council are invited to attend one of two information days being held next month.

On 1 April, East Suffolk Council will be formed – a new ‘super district’ authority, serving the residents, businesses and communities of both Suffolk Coastal and Waveney. The new district will be served by 55 councillors, each representing a ‘ward’, with 29 separate wards in total.

Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils are hosting two special information events in February open to anyone interested in becoming an East Suffolk councillor, regardless of experience. Those interested are invited to book a 30 minute appointment with council officers where they will have the opportunity to ask any questions they have about what the role of a councillor involves and how to stand for election.

The information days take place on:

- Thursday 21 February – Riverside, 4 Canning Road, Lowestoft, NR33 0EQ
- Friday 22 February – East Suffolk House, Station Road, Melton, Woodbridge, IP12 1RT

Stephen Baker, Chief Executive for Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils said: “We have a very busy time ahead of us in East Suffolk! Our new councillors will have a keen interest in representing and leading their community, and will bring energy and commitment to the new council. Formal qualifications or previous council experience are not required and we would encourage anyone meeting the eligibility criteria who is keen to represent their community to consider standing for election; anyone elected for the first time will be given all the training and support they need, for as long as they need it.

“The information days are a perfect opportunity to ask questions and find out more about what being an East Suffolk councillor will involve and we would encourage anyone interested to book an appointment at their nearest event.”

Thirty minute informal appointments are available between 9am and 4.30pm on both days. To book your preferred location and time, please go to eastsuffolk.gov.uk/beacouncillor

More...

For further information please contact:

Communications Team: (01394) 444361 / 4347

Communications Team: (01502) 523637 / 3602

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News release

Evening appointments are also available on request. To arrange an evening time slot, please email newcouncil@eastsuffolk.gov.uk or call 01502 523213.

To be eligible to stand for election, applicants must be:

- 18 or over
- and a UK, EU or Commonwealth Citizen,
- and either be registered to vote on the current register with the local council
- or have either worked or lived in the council's area for one year
- or have been an owner or tenant of any land or premises in the council's area for one year

Elections to the new Council will be held on 2 May 2019.

ENDS.

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