1. **Fly Tipping**

Suffolk Wins Prestigious Award for Fly-Tipping Campaign. The Suffolk Waste Partnership has triumphed at the Sustainability and Resource Industry Awards 2014 for its “Tip-Off – Stopping Fly-Tipping in Suffolk” campaign. The campaign was nominated for an award in the ‘Communication Campaign’ category at the Chartered Institution for Wastes Management’s (CIWM) Sustainability and Resource Industry Awards. In 2013, the Suffolk Waste Partnership was awarded a grant of £25,800 by Defra to develop a campaign, branded ‘Tip-Off - Stop Fly-Tipping in Suffolk’, to improve the prevention, reporting, investigation and clearing of fly-tipped waste - whilst reducing associated costs across Suffolk. The Suffolk Fly-Tipping Action Group (STAG) has representation from all 8 Suffolk local authorities that make up the Suffolk Waste Partnership, plus the Environment Agency, Suffolk Trading Standards, the National Farmers Union and the Country Land and Business Association. With the input of all partners, the campaign used a range of innovative methods to raise awareness among and advise householders, businesses, and landowners about the issue of fly-tipping and how they can help prevent it.

In addition the campaign urges anyone who sees someone dumping waste illegally to call their local council. With the assistance of the Police, the partners undertook a series of “Operation Tip-Off” crackdown activities, in which coordinated multi-agency enforcement actions were conducted across Suffolk to deter and detect illegal waste carriers by checking that they held the correct documentation and authority to carry waste. The CIWM award judges, said: “This campaign highlights the way in which a wide range of interested parties can work together to tackle environmental crime and bring about change.”

2. **Recruitment**

We have recently successfully recruited to both Corporate Manager posts in Waste and Public Realm. The Public Realm Corporate Manager post has been vacant since September and Brigitte Dawson retires at the end of December. Peter Garrett has been appointed to the Public Realm Corporate Manager Post and Oliver Faiers has been appointed to the Waste Corporate Manager Post. Both will start in February 2015.

3. **Dog Bins**

We have recently written to all Town and Parish Councils advising them of the increase in litter and Dog bins from April 2015. An increase charge of £5 per bin per annum was agreed in line with the decision of the Environment Policy Panel and Executive Committee in March 2011. Our charges are still less than 50% of the actual service costs.

4. **Litter Picks**

The Public Realm has successfully supported 11 community litter picks throughout October and November.
5. Waste Collection Calendars

All households in Babergh and Mid Suffolk have now been delivered a waste and recycling collection calendar detailing all the collection changes over the Christmas and New Year periods. The calendars have been delivered by Royal Mail this year to ensure a high success rate of residents receiving this information. The cost of which has been shared with our contractor Serco. This is the last year that a collection calendar will be automatically sent out to all residents and this information is detailed on the current calendar. This decision will save the Councils several thousands of pounds per year in printing and delivery costs. We have used social media and the Councils’ websites to advertise the collection changes and the information has been sent to the Parishes to include in their local publications. Nearer to the collection day changes we shall be refreshing the message on the websites, Facebook and twitter so the residents are again reminded of the day changes eliminating the non-collection of bins over the festive period.


Construction of Suffolk’s energy-from-waste facility has been completed on time and on budget, and the site has started producing electricity, fulfilling its purpose of putting the county’s waste to good use. The site, at Great Blakenham, has been taking the waste that can’t be recycled from homes and businesses across Suffolk, and beyond, since June when testing of all of the equipment and procedures began. On Monday 1 December the testing phase was successfully completed, and the facility handed over from the building contractors to SITA UK who will run it for the next 25 years, on behalf of Suffolk County Council. The facility will reduce our carbon emissions, produce enough electricity for 30,000 homes and is on track to achieve the environmental gold standard of BREEAM excellence.

7. Solar Panels

Progress is continuing with the installation of Solar Photo Voltaic panels to the Councils housing stock. Up until mid-November we have installed Solar PV to 435 Mid Suffolk properties and 89 Babergh properties. A number of the original proposed Mid Suffolk properties were not suitable for Solar PV, mostly because the roof was too small to fit on a minimum of 8 panels, but also some were not accepted by the District Network Operator, Network Power. Our installer has advised that by opening up the segment from SE to SW by an additional 10 degrees, which still allows for an appropriate FIT return, we have undertaken a further desk top exercise which has identified a possible additional 635 properties in Mid Suffolk. These will need to be evaluated.

Councillor Sara Michell