

## Suffolk County Council meeting Thursday 23 May 2024, vote taken on Motion 2 as amended.

Motion 2 – Proposed by Councillor Penny Otton and seconded by Councillor Richard Smith MVO.

Motion Text:

‘This council acknowledges that the Local Government Association (LGA) estimates that councils in England have a funding gap of £4 billion over the next two years, and concerns about funding for local authorities is cross-party. One in five English local authorities are in danger of issuing a Section 114 notice this year or next, and half of English councils are not confident that they have the money to fulfil their legal duties next year.

It further notes that:

1. The National Audit Office estimates that between 2010/2011 and 2021/2022 the real spending power of English councils was reduced by 29%
2. The 2023 Autumn Spending Statement failed to fully address the needs of local authorities and the people they serve
3. The older age population is increasing faster than the general population, and an ageing population is increasing the complexity of the care required - the Health Foundation suggests that £14 billion may be needed by 2030/31 to fund Adult Social Care alone
4. The number of looked after children in England is 80,000 and rising, and many councils in England are struggling to meet the demand for SEND support already
5. District and Borough councils are struggling to fund the increase in the need for homeless placements and supported accommodation
6. Councils are under increasing pressure on costs, in particular to meet inflation and rising staff costs, including the National Living Wage

This council believes that:

1. The current funding arrangements are unable to fully meet the needs of local authorities
2. The government's approach to encourage councils to use reserves and capital receipts to subsidise their revenue expenditure is fundamentally wrong and unsustainable
3. Many councils have reached the limits of what can be achieved by efficiency savings; further cuts can only come from core services highly valued by the communities councils serve - these are non-statutory and include leisure centres, swimming pools, libraries, bus routes and the arts
4. If properly funded, local government can play a key role in tackling climate change and protecting our environment

This council resolves to:

1. Support the LGA's 'Make It Local' campaign, which outlines how local government is key to delivering solutions for the biggest issues for the public
2. Argue for the next government to put in place proper long-term funding of local government and, as a matter of urgency, to close the £4bn funding gap
3. Support policies to build a consensus on long-term funding of social care.'

<b>Total results</b>	
For	46
Against	
Abstain	

### Conservative Group

Councillor's Name	For	Against	Abstain
Edward Back	For		
Peter Beer			
Bobby Bennett	For		
Stuart Bird	For		
Elaine Bryce			
Stephen Burroughes			
Nadia Cenci	For		
Jenny Ceresa			
Chris Chambers	For		
Judy Cloke			
Andy Drummond	For		
Robert Everitt	For		
Philip Faircloth-Mutton	For		
James Finch			
Jessica Fleming	For		
Mick Fraser	For		
David Goldsmith	For		
Peter Gould			
Georgia Hall			
Liz Harsant	For		
Ryan Harvey			
T-J Haworth-Culf			
Matthew Hicks	For		
Rachel Hood	For		
Beccy Hopfensperger	For		
Christopher Hudson	For		
Michael Ladd	For		
Stuart Lawson	For		
Joe Mason	For		
Debbie McCallum			
Patti Mulcahy			

Sam Murray	For		
David Nettleton			
Alexander Nicoll			
Colin Noble	For		
Kay Oakes			
James Reeder	For		
Andrew Reid	For		
Debbie Richards	For		
David Roach	For		
Keith Robinson	For		
Richard Rout	For		
Richard Smith MVO	For		
Karen Soons			
Heike Sowa	For		
Joanna Spicer	For		
Lance Stanbury			
Jamie Starling			
Melanie Vigo di Gallidoro	For		
Paul West	For		
Steve Wiles	For		
Nathan Wilson	For		

**Green, Liberal Democrat and Independent Group**

<b>Councillor's Name</b>	<b>For</b>	<b>Against</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
Seamus Bennett	For		
Jessie Carter			
Annette Dunning	For		
Simon Harley			
Richard Kemp			
Ruth Leach			
Ash Lever	For		
Robert Lindsay			
Inga Lockington	For		
Victor Lukaniuk	For		
Andy Mellen			
Penny Otton	For		
Keith Scarff	For		
Andrew Stringer	For		
Caroline Topping			
Keith Welham	For		

**Labour Group**

<b>Councillor's Name</b>	<b>For</b>	<b>Against</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
Sarah Adams	For		
Rob Bridgeman	For		
Elizabeth Johnson			
Sandy Martin	For		
Lucy Smith			

**Ungrouped Councillor**

<b>Councillor's Name</b>	<b>For</b>	<b>Against</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
Peter Thompson			