

Suffolk County Council meeting Thursday 12 December 2024, vote taken on Motion 3.

Motion – Proposed by Councillor Sam Murray and seconded by Councillor Philip Faircloth-Mutton.

Motion text: Motion 3 – ‘Suffolk County Council commits to continuing its work and partnerships to eliminate knife crime across Suffolk.

It is widely recognised that improving safety for the residents of Suffolk can only be achieved on a collective basis. Therefore, the Council thanks its staff, members and partners on Suffolk’s District and Borough Councils, Suffolk Police and Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner, and Probation and Health services for the vital work they all do.

The Council also thanks Suffolk’s communities and acknowledges the vital role they play in tackling this issue, particularly by raising awareness among young people across the county.

The Council commends Suffolk Constabulary on its continued efforts to reduce knife crime following the release of data by the Office for National Statistics (ONS), which showed a 38% reduction in crimes across Suffolk involving a knife between June 2022 and June 2024. However, the Council recognises enforcement is only part of the solution.

Therefore the Council asks that, through their chairmanship of the Safer Stronger Communities Board, the Cabinet Member for Environment, Communities and Equality table an agenda item for the next meeting of the Board, scheduled for March 2025, to build on the work already being delivered in Suffolk and investigate the benefits of piloting a knife crime action plan in Ipswich, given the continued concerns raised by residents and councillors in the town.’

Members present agreed the motion by general assent.