

## **Walton & The Trimleys County Councillor Report for June 2026**

### Introduction:

I am Tristan Gale and have lived in Trimley St.Mary for the past 11 years with my family. I spent 23 years in the British Army and retired as a Warrant Officer Class 2 in 2017. I set up and ran a property maintenance company before taking a more political career which started with being elected to the Felixstowe Town Council for the Walton Parish Ward in February 2026. My roles on Felixstowe Town Council include the Planning & Environment, Finance & Governance, Assets & Services Committees along with outside bodies of Felixstowe Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) and Suffolk Association of Local Councils (SALC).

In my role as County Councillor for Walton & The Trimleys Division, I am the Cabinet Member for Planning, Devolution and The Fire Service. I am on the Staff Appointments Committee along with the County Council Armed Forces Champion.

This month since taking office after the 21<sup>st</sup> May, the following have been achieved:

1. The new Reform UK Group has now taken full control of the County Council, and a Judicial review has been submitted to stop the LGR 3 Unitary Authorities proceeding. The Reform UK controlled councils are not in support of LGR and are engaging to stop it.
2. The Administration received a motion submitted at the AGM by the Labour Councillors that wanted a firm direction for the new council authority to go ahead and start instigating the development of a Northern Bypass around Ipswich. This received an amendment from the Independent Councillor Julia Ewart and supported by the Reform UK Group that requested more options to be considered like a second bridge or a tunnel being explored as alternative plans. This was followed up by a timeline until the end of September for a plan of action to be completed and re-submitted to the council. The motion was voted on and passed that the amendments will be made, and the work is now starting on looking at all options for the Orwell Crossing traffic solution.
3. Highways reporting tool should be used to raise any issues with roads or signposting and if you submit your email address, it will have a logged report code and updates will be sent to you. The reporting tool can be found at the following link:  
  
[Suffolk County Council - Report It](#)
4. The Leader of Suffolk County Council (Cllr Michael Hadwen) will be releasing the new SCC Climate Policy on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June which has been updated to reflect the

new administrations plan going forward. This will be shared once it has been released on next month's Councillor Report.

5. After 3 years of being in place, I reported that the High School sign was spelt incorrectly several weeks ago and I am pleased to say that it has now been removed and will be corrected.
6. The Trimley Station Regeneration Project was well attended and I thoroughly enjoyed the launch of the exhibition at the 142 Gallery. It is a revitalised project with some very passionate volunteers that wish to bring the old building back into life. The AGM which will create the formation of Trustees along with volunteers etc. will be taking place on 25<sup>th</sup> June at the Felixstowe Town Hall where interested parties are invited to attend.
7. On May 13<sup>th</sup>, East Suffolk Council conducted an Impact Day in Walton and Felixstowe which was a great success. For the report and information of what was achieved on the day, please press on the [Impact Day Takes Over Walton](#) link.
8. The Mayor of Felixstowe Civic Awards evening was a very well attended event at the Felixstowe School. Mayor Corrine Franklin handed out the awards and gave a great summary of her year as the Mayor. Press on the link [Mayor of Felixstowe Civic Awards 2026](#) to see the report on the evening.
9. The new Mayor of Felixstowe is Cllr Darren Aitchinson and his Deputy is Cllr David Rowe who were both sworn into the role on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2026 and we all look forward to a great year ahead for them both.
10. The latest SEND services report has now been published, and the report acknowledges that there have been vast improvements to the services since the last report. There are still more improvements to be made, however, the SEND department is heading in a positive direction. A link to the new press release on the SEND report for Suffolk is [SEND Ofsted May 2026 Press Release](#).

For constituents that wish to get in contact with myself, my email address is [tristan.gale@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:tristan.gale@suffolk.gov.uk) and is the preferred method of contact, phone number is 07860 910565 which is a SCC phone that is not always monitored.

Councillor Tristan Gale

County Councillor for Walton & The Trimleys Division  
Cabinet Member for Planning, Devolution & The Fire Service  
Felixstowe Town Councillor for the Walton Parish Ward