



## TOWN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME



# INCLUSIVE TOWNS

Making our East Suffolk towns  
accessible to all

## INCLUSION FOR ALL

East Suffolk Council is dedicated to ensuring that inclusion is at the core of everything we do for our communities. Our goal is to create a fair society where everyone feels valued, with the opportunity to contribute and participate fully.

In partnership with our Communities colleagues, we are actively exploring ways in which our town centres can support residents to lead happy, supported and inclusive lives.

To achieve this, we are focusing on how to help our towns and villages become more aware of the role they can play in fostering inclusion.

This includes raising awareness of the challenges faced by both residents and visitors, and identifying how communities can support one another to create a more inclusive environment for all.

## RECOGNISING DIVERSITY

The focus will be on but not exclusively restricted to:

- Dementia
- Neurodiversity
- Disability
- Age Friendly - this encompasses all age groups
- Mental Health

East Suffolk Council is committed to providing appropriate support for those who wish to engage in the development of an inclusive community.

This support will be delivered through specialist training from practitioners in their respective fields.

We will actively listen to those who are impacted by these issues and ensure that support is designed and shaped in the most appropriate way. Collaboration with stakeholders including Town and Parish Councils, Community and Voluntary organisations, and businesses will be key to achieving our goals.

## CASE STUDY: BUNGAY DEMENTIA FRIENDLY TOWN

- Various representatives in Bungay expressed an interest in becoming a Dementia Friendly Community. Discussions were held with Town Council representatives, District Councillors, local support organisations and health providers.
- To move this forward a steering group was formed made up with representatives of the above organisations. From the outset, advice and guidance was sought from the Alzheimer's Society with a named contact which proved invaluable, allowing us to check in on any issues and sense checking ideas and discussions.
- Direct engagement with stakeholders was fundamental, including businesses and community organisations, those living with dementia and their carers, and the general public via a survey.
- This culminated in a successful submission to the Alzheimer's Society for Bungay to be acknowledged as a Dementia Friendly Community.