Suffolk County Council

Date: 1 November 2026
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The Rt Hon Yvette Cooper MP
Secretary of State for Health and Social Care
Department of Health and Social Care
39 Victoria Street
London SW1H 0EU

By email and post

Dear Secretary of State,

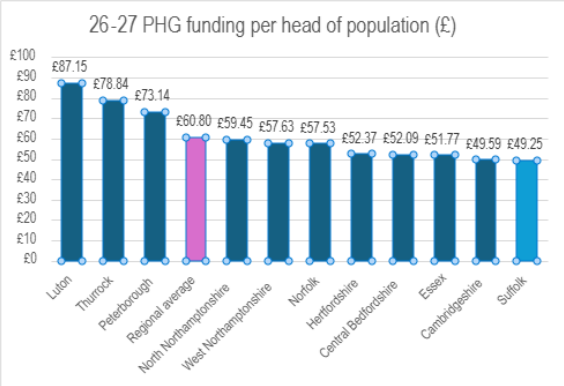
Fair Public Health Funding for Suffolk

I am writing to ask for a fairer public health funding settlement for Suffolk.

Suffolk's residents work hard, pay their taxes, and contribute to the greater good. Yet for many years, Suffolk has received one of the lowest levels of public health funding in England.

Today, Suffolk receives just £49.25 per person through the Public Health Grant. This is the lowest allocation in the East of England, well below the regional average of £60.80 per person.

Nationally, Suffolk is the 20th lowest funded of 151 English authorities, placing us in the bottom 13%.



While many people see Suffolk as affluent, we have communities facing real deprivation and health inequalities. The latest figures from the Index of Multiple Deprivation show deprivation levels higher than those of our statistical neighbours, yet that is not reflected in the funding we receive.

Put simply, Suffolk is not getting its fair share. Today, on behalf of Suffolk's residents, families and taxpayers, I am calling for an urgent review of this longstanding imbalance.

Public health funding helps keep people healthy and independent for longer. It safeguards our children's health, supports vulnerable families, prevents ill health, and provides substance misuse services, to name just a few examples.

When funding falls short, it becomes harder to provide these services. The result is poorer health outcomes for residents and greater pressure on already stretched NHS and social care services.

We are not asking for special treatment. We are simply asking for a funding settlement that properly reflects the needs of our population and gives Suffolk residents the level of support they deserve for the taxes they pay. Why should Suffolk residents receive less because of where they live?

I ask that you commission a comprehensive review of Suffolk's Public Health Grant allocation and the funding formula used to calculate it. That review should take account of our current population, levels of deprivation, demand for services, and the cost of delivering accessible services across a large rural county.

Suffolk has always played its part. Our farming and fishing industries have fed the nation, our ports and businesses support the national economy, and our communities continue to host major infrastructure and energy projects, Sizewell C being just one of many. We are proud of that contribution.

We now ask the Government to ensure public health funding in Suffolk is fair.

I am also sending a copy of this letter to Suffolk's Members of Parliament to seek their support in making the case for fair public health funding for our county.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,



Councillor June Mummery
Cabinet Member for Coastal Affairs, Communities and Public Health
Suffolk County Council