East Suffolk Community Partnerships Forum Report from Cllr Kat McDonald

On October 26th 2026 I attended the East Suffolk Community Partnerships Forum Day at Woodbridge School. There were a number of local charities from National Literacy Trust and Suffolk Wildlife Trust through to Lighthouse Women's Aid providing support to women experiencing domestic abuse and Dora Brown Charity who help families declutter their homes.

I also visited VanESSA - a mobile support and advice van which can visit rural areas. They were all there to show what support they can offer communities such as Bucklesham.

The workshops were very interactive and informative. I went to the Marmot Place - Vibrant Communities workshop where we discussed gaps in local provision and I also attended a workshop run by Suffolk Libraries who discussed all the services they offer beyond offering, books including art workshops for young people.