

BARON FULLER OF GORLESTON-ON-SEA OBE (S78-86)

He was born in Great Yarmouth in 1968 and attended Brandeston and the College from 1978 to 1986. On leaving the College he went to Reading University and gained a first-class degree in Agriculture [1990] and later in 1995 a Nuffield Scholarship to study advanced farming techniques in the United States.

From 1998-2011, he was a Director of family firm of J & H Bunn in Great Yarmouth established as fertiliser manufacturers and agricultural merchants for over 190 years. Following sale of that business to new owners in March 2011, he has since been responsible for managing the sellers' remaining business interests, which include Directorships in diverse property and farming enterprises.



He was first elected to South Norfolk Council in 2003 and led local Conservatives to take control of The Council in 2007.

A wide ranging business career in manufacturing and agriculture has helped me to bring a commercial edge to the business of running a Council transforming it to run on business-like lines whilst freezing Council Tax in eight of the last twelve years, whilst achieving first place nationally in a number of areas that maximise quality of life.

We are leading in areas of Localism, Housing & Planning, Revenues & Benefits, Street Cleanliness & Recycling and South Norfolk contributes actively to the national District Councils' Network. The BBC ranks South Norfolk as one of the top-ten places to start a business and our Council has consistently received a top-ten new homes bonus of any district council in the country for housing delivery. We have consistently delivered in excess of 1% of all affordable homes built in this country. In 2017 the LGC magazine ranked South Norfolk as one of the top-six Councils nationwide.



I have been a member of the New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership for five years and have chaired the Greater Norwich Development Partnership. I have previously Chaired of the Food, Drink & Agriculture Sector Group for Norfolk & Suffolk that aims to maximise the contribution of food & farming to the East Anglian economy.

At the Local Government Association I am the Chairman of the District Councils' Network and I am the Deputy Leader of the Conservative Party in Local Government. Separately I am a member of the Local Government Pension Scheme [LGPS] Advisory Board.

He has lived in Brooke near Norwich with wife Philippa and two daughters Susan and Laura since 1997 and was appointed an OBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List in 2019.

In February 2024 it was announced that he was to be made Life Peer by the government. He is the county's longest-serving council leader, having led South Norfolk Council since 2007.

He said: "I have dedicated the last 21 years to improving life in South Norfolk and the wider county and I am really honoured to have received this recognition. I look forward to continuing to champion the needs of our county and ensuring our voice is heard in London, while helping to shape and improve the laws that affect us all."

He went on to say if he would continue as the council's leader "It's early days. There will need to be a period where I need to see how the land lies. But in the meantime, my priority is to see the setting of the budget for the council."

On 12 March 2024 it was announced that he has taken the title of Baron Fuller of Gorleston-on-Sea - the town in which he grew up. He said *"I was born in Great Yarmouth, but my family home was in Gorleston. It's where I grew up and my parents still live there, so I wanted to recognise that. Although I've settled in Brooke, Gorleston and Great Yarmouth are where my roots are."*

He is also chairman of Great Yarmouth-based fertiliser business Brineflow Limited, having previously been director of J&H Bunn from 1998 until 2011.

The following appeared in the EADT on 12 February 2024

Norfolk's longest-serving council leader to become a Lord

The leader of a Norfolk council is to become a Lord, after the government announced him as one of 13 new peers.

DAN GRIMMER
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John Fuller (inset), Conservative leader of South Norfolk Council, was one of eight Tory nominations for life peerages put forward by prime minister Rishi Sunak.

Mr Fuller is the county's longest-serving council leader, having led South Norfolk Council since 2007.

Mr Fuller, who lives in Brooke, the division he has represented on South Norfolk Council since 2003, said: "I have dedicated the last 21 years to improving life in South Norfolk and the wider county and I am really honoured to have received this recognition.

"I look forward to continuing to champion the needs of our county and ensuring our voice is heard in London, while helping to shape and improve the laws that affect us all."

Mr Fuller said it was too soon to say if he would continue as the council's leader.

He said: "It's early days. There will need to be a period where I need to see how the land lies.

"But in the meantime, my priority is to see the setting of the budget for the council."

Great Yarmouth-born and Gorleston-raised Mr Fuller had been made an OBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours in 2019, for public and political service.

He is a former chairman of the District Councils Network, which represents more than 160 local authorities and vice chair of the economy and resources board at the Local Government Association.

The father-of-two serves as chairman of Great Yarmouth-based fertiliser business Brineflow Limited, having previously been director of J&H Bunn from 1998 until 2011.

A life peerage entitles Mr Fuller to sit in the House of Lords, where the work of the government is scrutinised by reviewing and amending House of Commons-approved bills before they become law.

As a life peerage, the honour is solely for Mr Fuller and cannot be inherited.

The following follow up article appeared in the EADT 13 March 2024



Lord Fuller

Image: PARLIAMENT TV

Gorleston gets a new peer... as council leader becomes Lord

DAN GRIMMER

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Gorleston has got a new peer - after a Norfolk council leader took a title which reflects his seaside upbringing.

South Norfolk Council leader John Fuller was appointed to the House of Lords as a life peer in a ceremony on Tuesday.

He has taken the title of Baron of Gorleston-on-Sea - the town in which he grew up.

Lord Fuller said: "I was born in Great Yarmouth, but my family home was in Gorleston. It's where I grew up and my parents still live there, so I wanted to recognise that.

"Although I've settled in Brooke, Gorleston and Great Yarmouth are where my roots are."

Conservative Lord Fuller is Norfolk's longest-serving council leader, having led South Norfolk Council since 2007.

He had previously announced he will stand down as council leader in May, but will continue as a district councillor for Brooke,



which he has represented since 2003.

Lord Fuller was one of eight Tory nominations for life peerages put forward last month by prime minister Rishi Sunak.

He was made an OBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours in 2019, for public and political service.

He is a former chairman of the District Councils Network, which represents more than 160 local authorities and vice chair of the economy and resources board at

the Local Government Association.

The father-of-two serves as chairman of Great Yarmouth-based fertiliser business Brineflow Limited, having previously been director of J&H Bunn from 1998 until 2011.

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