

Economic development & business support in Suffolk: Suffolk local authorities working together

Major projects

Local Authorities are working together to develop and deliver a number of major projects across Suffolk.



Lowestoft Third Crossing: SCC & East Suffolk Council will be working with partners to ensure the build contract for the new bridge delivers significant economic, social and environmental value providing opportunities for local supply chains and the labour market.

Better Broadband: SCC continues to improve broadband coverage, signing up the 100,000th superfast broadband customer. Additional work through the Suffolk Cloud project connects public buildings in 10 towns and enables local businesses to access connections to fibre.



The Hold: Suffolk's new £20m archives will engage a wider range and greater number of people, as well as delivering a new, flagship heritage facility, launching people, young and old, on new voyages of discovery.

Energy projects: Investment in renewables to support carbon reduction continues. Local Authorities are proactively working with communities and developers to deliver improved outcomes. Orbis Energy Centre, with a focus on East of England's renewable energy sector, welcomed a new business development manager in February 2020.



RAF Lakenheath: Working with multiple partners, West Suffolk Council is supporting delivery of a £160m contract to invest in US Air Force infrastructure at RAF Lakenheath. The group works to ensure the right skills are available in the local workforce and that opportunities exist to develop our local supply chains.



WWW.SUFFOLKGROWTH.CO.UK/ECONOMY-BUSINESS

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Partnership working

We are continuing to deliver our projects and initiatives. Through the Suffolk Growth Partnership, our local authorities continue to work with our partners, the Chamber of Commerce, University of Suffolk and New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership (NALEP).



In recent weeks Suffolk Growth Partnership has led on:



Facilitated or Chaired 35+ partner discussions / workshops to coordinate our response to COVID 19

Work with all local authorities and our Destination Marketing Organisations (DMOs) to develop support for our visitor economy. Identified at least £73k of funding to support immediate promotional activity on a Suffolk wide basis



Engagement with wider, regional partners, e.g. Transport East and through them Department for Transport, to develop strategic approaches to securing funding that will support transport connectivity & inclusive growth

Revisions to the Suffolk Design Charter, a high level statement setting out how our communities & new developments should embrace functional design from the outset to ensure we can deliver the right type of homes we need for the future



Development of two "Get Fit to Bid" training sessions as webinars to be delivered on 16th June / 21st July in partnership with Suffolk Chamber of Commerce

Covid 19 response & recovery

Suffolk Growth Partnership leading on our response and recovery for our economy and businesses due to the impact of COVID-19. The unprecedented scale of the impact on our local businesses and places will require a long term plan to rebuild and reshape our economy and support our workforce as we adapt to changes in how we live, work, travel, study and socialise.

£148.8m distributed to over 12,500 firms



ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

- New discretionary funding applications launched at end of May
- £10k Call4Fish funding
- Collation of all public sector funding schemes for private and public organisations



SUFFOLK RECOVERY PLANNING

- Engagement with NALEP on Norfolk / Suffolk recovery planning
- Data analysis & economic modelling on short, medium & long term impact
- Place based responses safe reopening
- Coordination of local strategies & local actions

2046 businesses in receipt of Government grants responded to our survey



ADDITIONAL SUPPORT REQUESTED

- Further grant schemes, including charity support
- Support to pay for company's fixed costs
- Investment in town centers
- Promotion & support for SME's