

SUFFOLK ECONOMY

Suffolk Business Board
Recruitment briefing pack

The Suffolk Economy



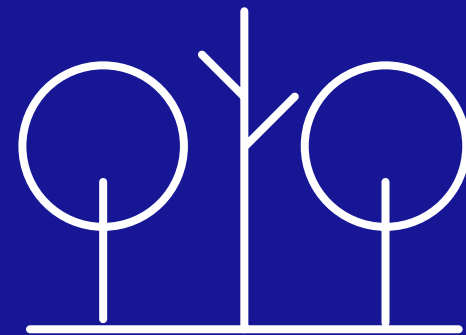
- Amongst the highest productivity in the UK outside of London
- **£19bn** GVA
- Over **40%** of UK container goods arrive into UK through Felixstowe
- Key industry sectors including clean energy, digital, manufacturing, agrifood and visitor economy
- A diverse and collaborative business community

Suffolk Economic landscape



£19bn

contribution to UK Plc



48%

of firms have a climate emergency plan



£31,300

Median Annual Gross Wages for Suffolk workforce (2022)



£3bn

of goods and services exported



81%

People Economically Active Suffolk, higher than UK 76% average



31,000

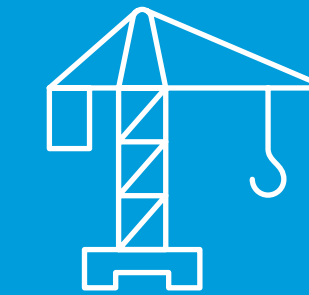
businesses 10% new company births in 2022

But..

Gross value added per head £5,500 less than England average

Lower educational levels than England average

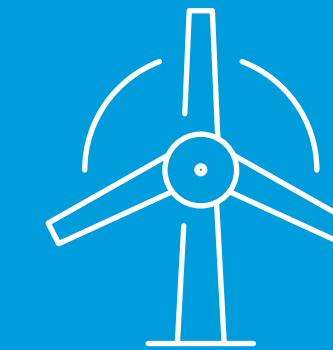
Key sectors



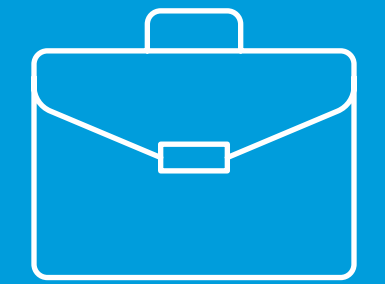
Manufacturing and Advanced Engineering



Agri-tech and Agri-food



Renewable Energy



Visitor Economy



Information Technology and Telecoms



Ports and Logistics

Local Enterprise Partnership Integration

Across the UK, all 38 LEPs are being integrated into local government structures from April 2024.

- Norfolk and Suffolk local government partners have worked closely over the last 12 months to ensure key LEP capabilities such as the New Anglia Growth Hub, the skills programmes, and the innovation and sector development programmes are retained and reformed for the future.

The Integration of New Anglia LEP brings new opportunities for Suffolk to further develop its economy and workforce, whilst working closely with local partners.

The first priority in 2024 will be an economic strategy and programme.

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The Business Board will be a strong voice of business in Suffolk. Together we will develop a programme to support business growth and skills in the county and create new economic opportunities for our residents and businesses.



Matthew Hicks

Suffolk County Council Leader

The Opportunity

Inspirational and influential local businesspeople are sought to form a new Business Board for Suffolk, which will represent the local business community and will help steer the local economic strategy to create a stronger and higher-skilled economy for Suffolk.

We are seeking candidates who represent the diversity of Suffolk's people and economy, across sectors, business types, local geographies and backgrounds.

Working in Partnership

Our Business Board will play a key role in ensuring the business voice is represented in economic strategy, programmes and interventions.

- The Business Board will meet 4-6 times a year. It will help shape Suffolk economic priorities and strategy; oversee delivery of funded programmes including business support and skills training; work closely with national, regional and local economic bodies; work with District and Borough local government partners, education and neighbouring county partners.
- The Business Board will be supported by a dedicated team of Council Officers.
- Membership term is up to three years from the date of appointment.

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The new Suffolk Business Board will offer a platform for business, education and local political leaders to shape the future economy in Suffolk, to attract investment, and to articulate nationally the Suffolk economic offer.

Successful candidates will represent a wide range of business in Suffolk and will bring their knowledge and experience to help deliver a stronger economy and better jobs for our county.



Nicola Beach

Chief Executive of Suffolk County Council

How to Apply

We are looking for individuals who can bring the following skills and experience:

- Sector expertise
- Demonstrable experience of leadership
- Credibility to champion the county and region
- Ability to convene and represent collective views

This is a voluntary position. It is essential the Suffolk Business Board is diverse and representative of our community and welcome applications from all sections of the community and business types.

Please email expressions of interest along with a short biography or CV to businessboard@suffolk.gov.uk by Friday 22 March briefly outlining why you are interested in this opportunity and what area(s) of expertise you feel you could bring.