



# Developing Suffolk Talent

21 June 2022 | Issue No 88



*Monthly updates on the work of the Suffolk County Council Skills Team and key developments across the region*

## In this issue

### ● Skills Team Updates

- Suffolk Growth Annual Business Survey
- Bootcamps
- Multiply
- Supply Chain Skills Development Fund
- Pathways Training Fund
- Pathways 50+
- Youth Pledge for Employers
- Apprenticeships Suffolk
- Work Well Suffolk

### ● Policy

- Sustainability and climate change strategy
- Young People Apprenticeship Strategy
- Top 100 Apprenticeship Employers Awards
- National Apprenticeship Awards
- Improvements and simplifications to apprenticeships from August 2022

### ● AoB

- Developing Skills in Health and Social Care

## SKILLS TEAM NEWS

Suffolk Growth Annual Business Survey



Suffolk local authorities provide support and advice to businesses. Through investment programmes and economic development activities we help to shape the environment for business start-up, growth, workforce and skills development, and trade.

To ensure activity is focused on the needs of our businesses we would like to hear from you, the issues you face and how the public sector can deliver actions that will improve business growth and development. [Please take the Survey](#) (the survey closes on 30 June 2022)



## Bootcamps



'New Anglia LEP in partnership with Norfolk and Suffolk County Councils have been successful in gaining £1m funding to deliver Skills Bootcamps on behalf of the Department of Education.

These are a means of delivering short, intensive training courses to give people:

- initial skills to enter a new sector from another one or a period of unemployment
- enhanced skills to progress within an existing workplace
- boosted knowledge to take on new contracts in the case of self-employed.

Training is planned for

Digital | Advanced Manufacturing & Engineering | Construction | Green Skills | HGV driving

We are now looking to procure education providers to apply to join our procurement framework in order to deliver these bootcamps.

Details of the tender can be found here [Tenders - New Anglia](#)

Enquiries can be made to Natasha Waller, Skills Manager/Skills Bootcamp Programme Manager – [natasha.waller@newanglia.co.uk](mailto:natasha.waller@newanglia.co.uk)

A Provider meeting will be held on Fri, 24 June at 10.00 am – please book your place via this link: [Skills Bootcamps Provider Event Tickets, Fri 24 Jun 2022 at 10:00 | Eventbrite](#). Aligning with the tender specification, providers will be informed as to expectations/best practice in the tender response and general principles in effective bid writing proposals.



## Multiply



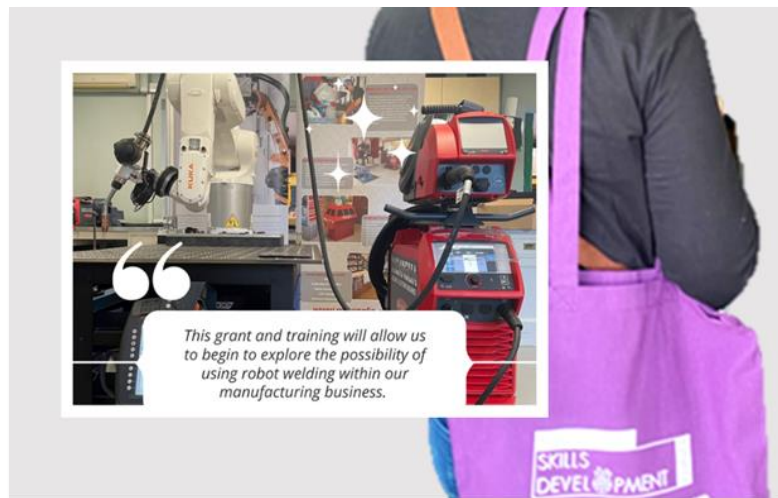
Multiply is a new government-funded programme to help adults across the UK to improve their numeracy skills. Suffolk County Council has been allocated £3.75m (of UK Shared Prosperity Funding) over 3 years to develop and deliver the programme across the county.

The programme will look to support individuals to enhance their numeracy skills for daily life both at home and work through a mix of free personal tutoring, digital training and flexible courses. The SCC Skills Team are currently developing these plans and consulting with relevant stakeholders with a submission of the delivery plan due by the end of June 2022. Provision is expected to begin from Autumn 2022.



## Supply Chain Skills Development Fund

The Supply Chain Skills Development Fund Team has been out & about recently; attending ABE2022, the launch of Inc Felixstowe and we will also be at Innovation Martlesham at BT's Adastral Park, which is one of the Festival of Suffolk Events; our banner will be on display and we will be handing out leaflets on the fund and goody bags.



We are also putting together some interesting case studies about companies who have received their SCSDF Grants.

An important update on the fund: if a company wishes to train more staff and so exceed the maximum £5,000 per company limit, we are more than happy to discuss this with them.



## Pathways Training Fund - Improving the skills of your Workforce by Training your employees

Delivered by Norfolk and Suffolk County Councils, and part funded by the European Social Fund (ESF) the **'Pathways Training Fund' (PTF)** is part of our wider Skills, Progression, Adaptability, Resilience and Coordination Project (SPARC) - launched in June and now welcoming applications!

Training is being offered by a network of local partner training providers to over 860 individuals employed by our Norfolk and Suffolk SME businesses in these 'must have' areas:

- Digital Skills and Industry 4.0
- Leadership, Management, Project Management and Mentoring
- Customer Service and Client Relationship Management
- Health and Well-being
- Innovation training for new ideas, ways of working, products and services, Net Zero.

The PTF will fund up to 75% of the total training costs, with grants capped at £500.00 per employee/£3,000 per employer. Early feedback says the PTF forms are 'easy to fill in' and employers have found the fund 'easy to apply to.'

Interested applicants are invited to contact [sparc@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:sparc@suffolk.gov.uk) for a copy of the guidance and the [online eligibility form](#).

If you have any questions, our Project Coordinator is happy to assist.



## Pathways 50+



### Hire new employees through Pathways 50+

Over 50s bring a wealth of knowledge and skills to a business. See the impact for yourself. Grants are available for you to see how hiring someone over the age of 50 with skills and experience can benefit your workforce.

Get started. Talk to us or email [pathway50@futuresforbusiness.com](mailto:pathway50@futuresforbusiness.com)

Pathways 50+ is part funded by the European Union through the European Social Fund (ESF).



European Union  
European  
Social Fund



Norfolk  
County Council



Suffolk  
County Council



Fu+ures  
FOR BUSINESS

Working in partnership with Norfolk and Suffolk County Councils and part funded by the European Social Fund (ESF), Futures for Business has launched Pathways 50+, a programme supporting local SMEs as well as individuals aged 50+ looking for quality paid work placements.

Employers based in Norfolk or Suffolk can access a grant worth £1,950 to support the recruitment of a person aged 50+ with the creation of a work placement.

Pathways 50+ can help organisations to grow and create jobs in the current economic climate and address challenges faced by diminishing resources and access to a section of the working age population able to offer a rich blend of work-readiness, stability, and experience.

The Pathways 50+ team will provide a **free recruitment service** enabling organisations to dip into a talent pool of candidates aged 50+ who are actively seeking work.

The £1,950 grant will help support a paid work placement. The placement must:

- Consist of no fewer than 25 hours per week (it can exceed this)
- Have a total duration of at least 13 weeks (duration can be longer or permanent)
- Pay an hourly rate of at least the National Living Wage

Pathways 50+ is a safe, effective, and economical way for businesses to address and fill areas of skills shortages. Employers can try out a 13-week placement before deciding to continue on a permanent basis.

To find out more about Pathways 50+ and how it can support your business please email [pathway50@futuresforbusiness.com](mailto:pathway50@futuresforbusiness.com) (please also see the attached postcard)





## Youth Pledge for Employers



The Youth Pledge for Employers project (ESF Part Funded) is delivered across Norfolk and Suffolk, in partnership with The Mason Trust. The project launched in June 2021 and will run until December 2023 and aims to engage with 420 SMEs across the counties.

To date, the Business Connectors have registered over 180 employers and are supporting them to create into work inspiration (work experience, industry tours/talks, taster days, apprenticeships and employment with training) for 16-24 year olds.

These opportunities can be accessed via the [icanbea... \(Careers & Ideas in Norfolk & Suffolk\) | icanbea...](#) website which is operated by project delivery partner, The Mason Trust. The business connectors work collaboratively with the DWP, NALP and the alternative provider network of projects supporting young people from NEET to EET.

- Ipswich and East Suffolk – Suzanne Couszins – [Suzanne.couszins@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:Suzanne.couszins@suffolk.gov.uk)
- West Suffolk, Babergh and Mid Suffolk – Lisa Gilson [lisa.gilson@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:lisa.gilson@suffolk.gov.uk)



## Apprenticeships Suffolk (ESF Part Funded)



Apprenticeships Suffolk have engaged with

- 368 participants
- 237 businesses
- supported 128 with apprenticeship opportunities
- 43 apprenticeship starts

All ESF outcomes and results are 100%+ of targets which is an excellent achievement. The team continue to work collaboratively with the DWP, hotdesking in the Job Centre offices once a month in Lowestoft, central Ipswich, Bury St Edmunds, Mildenhall and Haverhill. T

his is now being extended to include training providers attending also to offer bespoke apprenticeship qualification IAG which represents their training offer to claimants. Each training providers will use the opportunity to promote their own apprenticeship vacancies.

**Apprenticeships Suffolk have launched their two pilot projects** which are extensions of the main project.

- **Pathway to Apprenticeships** which has been subcontracted and being delivered by Inspire Suffolk and
- **Sector Work Based Academy Programmes (SWAPS)** which has been subcontracted and being delivered by Steadfast Training.

The projects are aimed at participants who have been identified as requiring further support to be apprenticeship/work ready and wish to build on their skills to progress onto an apprenticeship opportunity and supporting employers with their recruitment needs.

We continue to attend networking events such as the James Cartlidge MP's Employment and Skills Fair in Great Cornard and Way to Work Newmarket Jobs and Skills Fair to promote apprenticeships and the support we are offering.

Opportunities can be viewed at <https://apprenticeshipssuffolk.org/> and the team can be contacted at [apprenticeships@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:apprenticeships@suffolk.gov.uk) or 01473 263555, to receive the Apprenticeships Suffolk Newsletter please email the team.

### New Team members:

The Apprenticeships Suffolk Team are pleased to welcome their new team member – **Lucy Ince-Slater**, as their new Coordinator. Another new team member – **Lauren Leggatt-Bulaitis** - will be joining them next month.



## Work Well Suffolk



The Work Well Suffolk Team (ESF part funded) have engaged with over 1,600 participants.

These figures include

- 200 over 50's,
- over 100 from the BAME community and
- over 75 from single parent households with childcare needs.

This is an excellent number considering the restrictions encountered over the past few years.

Currently, there have been

- 253 participants go into sustainable employment,
- 37 have ventured into self-employment and
- 500 participants have received Information, Advice and Guidance alongside their 1-1 coaching support.

The retention rate of participants on the project is 86% and there are currently 305 participants on programme.

If you have any questions about the Work Well Suffolk project, please do contact our Navigators Robyn, Wendy and Alan on [workwellsuffolk@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:workwellsuffolk@suffolk.gov.uk), for further information please see the website: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/jobs-and-careers/work-well-suffolk/>

## FUNDING & OPPORTUNITIES

### Title

Content

## POLICY

### Sustainability and climate change strategy



The Department for Education's strategy for sustainability and climate change for the education and children's services systems. (Published 21 April 2022)

Education plays a vital role in:

- helping to tackle climate change
- creating a better, greener world for future generations

We can positively impact, influence and inspire communities by improving the:

- sustainability of the environment in and around education settings
- knowledge and understanding of children and young people

To do this, the Department for Education (DfE) has developed a sustainability and climate change strategy to:

- help the education sector and children's services systems do this
- inspire action on the international stage

To read more and or download the strategy go to the [Gov.uk website](#).



### Young People Apprenticeship Strategy

The ESFA are hosting webinars for training providers to learn more about the Young People Apprenticeship Strategy.

The young people apprenticeship strategy was developed at the start of 2022. The strategy supports the ministerial ambition to increase the number of young people undertaking apprenticeship opportunities.

Register your interest here:

- **Tuesday 28 June** (1pm to 2pm) - [Register your interest](#)
- **Friday 01 July** (1pm to 2pm) - [Register your interest](#)
- **Tuesday 05 July** (1pm to 2pm) - [Register your interest](#)



### Top 100 Apprenticeship Employers Awards

The [Top 100 Apprenticeship Employers for 2022](#) - the annual ranking of England's outstanding apprenticeship employers, produced by the Department for Education - will be launched during a special 90-minute live broadcast, beginning at 2.30pm on Wednesday 29th June.

[Register now](#) to watch the broadcast - and find out which employers are the Top 100 Apprenticeship Employers and Top 50 SME Apprenticeship Employers for 2022.



### National Apprenticeship Awards

The National Apprenticeship Awards 2022 are now open for applications! Back for their 19th year, the National Apprenticeship Awards are a fantastic opportunity to showcase the apprentices, employers and champions who have gone above and beyond.

Entries to the awards are open from 6 June to 1 July 2022. It is free to enter the awards, and all entries must be made through the [application website](#).



### Improvements and simplifications to apprenticeships from August 2022

The 2022/23 Apprenticeship Funding rules are published in draft. More information on [the Gov.uk website](#).

AOB

### Developing Skills in Health and Social Care

Offering the opportunity to complete fully funded accredited units from level 1 to 4 including functional skills to those employed or self-employed and working in Adult Health and Social Care.

Alongside this, all will have a very experienced mentor to support them and help them thinking about progression within the care sector - taking a personal holistic approach and supporting with needs of individuals from funding to confidence building.

Please find **attached** their **Developing Skills** 6-weekly flyer along with two posters.

DO YOU WORK IN OR PLANNING TO WORK IN HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE ?

**FREE**

**Mentor Service**

COME AND CHAT TO ONE OF OUR CAREER PROGRESSION MENTORS, WHO CAN SUPPORT YOU WITH:

*Andrea has completed her course with us and has now progressed to do a L3 qualification in health and social care.*

*Jonathon's confidence has grown and he has expanded his knowledge and skills within mental health.*

*Celia - "with the support of my mentor and tutor, my autism hasn't stopped me gaining my qualification and thinking about progression."*

To find out more about the Developing Skills in Health and Social Care Project visit: [www.norfolk.gov.uk/developingskills](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/developingskills)

## | CONTACT

The Skills Team can be contacted via [Skills@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:Skills@suffolk.gov.uk)

If you wish to receive this bulletin regularly please email [skills@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:skills@suffolk.gov.uk) - you can unsubscribe anytime by sending us a message to the same email address.

For **previous issues** of this bulletin and the **Skills Team Who's Who** please go to <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/business/supporting-employers-training-your-workforce/>