



Developing Suffolk Talent

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

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SKILLS TEAM UPDATES

Supply Chain Skills Development Fund



European Union
European
Social Fund



The SCSDF project supports local employers through a training grant, to subsidise the training they need in their workforces, to fully capitalise on supply chain opportunities and those resulting from large-scale infrastructure projects happening in the Norfolk and Suffolk area over the course of the year.

Training is vital to upskill your employees to enhance and develop their skills and knowledge; making your business more effective, competitive, and agile, to exploit new contracting opportunities and be ready to support growth within the region.

Grants now available – ensure you secure yours now!

Benefit from grants between £500 - £5000 (max £1000 per employee and matched 50% by employer investment) for a wide range of training courses from colleges and training providers.

Grants are limited, so contact us now at supplychainskills@suffolk.gov.uk to register your interest and request an application pack before it is too late.

Alternatively, if you support businesses or are a training provider working with them, please share our flyer (attached) with your relevant contacts and we will be happy to help.

Supply Chain Skills Development Fund is funded by the European Social Fund and delivered by Suffolk County Council in partnership with Norfolk County Council.



PATHWAYS TRAINING FUND

Improving the skills of your Workforce – Training your employees



European Union
European
Social Fund



The 'Pathways Training Fund' is funded by the European Social Fund and delivered by Norfolk and Suffolk County Councils, a network of training providers and the Department for Work & Pensions (Managing Authority).

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.

We will fund up to 75% of your total training costs, with grants capped at a maximum of £500.00 per employee.

Interested applicants are invited to contact sparc@suffolk.gov.uk for a copy of the guidance and the online eligibility form. If you have any questions, our Project Coordinators are happy to assist.



PATHWAYS 50+



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

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

The team 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.

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

To find out more about Pathways 50+ and how it can support your business please email pathway50@futuresforbusiness.com or see the attached flyer.



Adult Learning Service

The Suffolk Adult Learning Service is led by Suffolk County Council and provides a wide range of free Health and Wellbeing, Learning in Families, ESOL, English and maths courses (up to Level 2 - GCSE equivalent) for adults 19 years+ living in Suffolk.



LEARN SUFFOLK
The Adult Learning Service

The service particularly targets those adults who have missed out on previous educational opportunities or who come from groups with the highest levels of need. Many of our learners start from very low educational levels, often overcoming many barriers in order to achieve success.

In the academic year 2021-22 the Adult Learning Service engaged with:

2006 unique learners undertaking 3547 learning aims

70%+ learners not in paid employment when they started learning

Over 20% of learners received learning support

- ▶ **Learner Voice** is very important to us and we would like to share with you this short video from Ipswich Community Media & Learning: <https://youtu.be/SvCWj6YT6j0>



- ▶ Please listen to “Dance with Me” a song written and produced by learner Grace. Grace joined iSounds, a music production course, at Out Loud Music in Ipswich and achieved her goal of producing a song for World Mental Health Day. “Dance with Me”: <https://youtu.be/rz27BsHAsP0>

If you would like to learn more about the Adult Learning Service:

- ▶ We are holding an **Adult Learning Engagement Event at Trinity Park, Ipswich on 9th November - 10.00am -2.00pm**. To attend the event to learn more about the provision available in the county please register here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/adult-learning-engagement-event-tickets-425048319967>



Please visit our website: [Learnsuffolk.org](https://learnsuffolk.org)

To receive our monthly e-newsletter “Spotlight” please contact us at learnsuffolk@suffolk.gov.uk



Work Well Suffolk (WWS)

WORK WELL
SUFFOLK

This is a three-year project funded by the European Social Fund (ESF) and managed by Suffolk County Council. The WWS Team have engaged with over 1,830 participants across the county which is 101% of the target to date.

- 150 people have been supported with childcare needs
- 92 people have gone into education or training
- 424 have gone into employment or self-employment

This is an excellent number considering the restrictions encountered. The project will continue until March 2023, but the team will not be enrolling new participants after 1st November 2022.



Apprenticeships Suffolk (AS)



Apprenticeships Suffolk have the following outcomes: Employers Engaged = 257, Employers Supported = 110, Apprenticeships Start = 49, Established Participants = 196, with nearly 400 participant engagements and 19 Work Experience opportunities created. This is 100%+ of all project targets to date, which is an excellent achievement for the team. <https://apprenticeshipsuffolk.org/>

The Apprenticeships Suffolk team have had a busy start to the new academic year with invites from schools requesting support to deliver IAG in school assemblies and workshops.

The YOJO app has now formally been launched with Apprenticeships Suffolk now having their own direct link under the Discover More section. The team continue to promote this in schools and careers events to the under 25s.



The Youth Pledge for Employer Project (YPfE)



This is an ESF project which started in June 2021 and aims to create opportunities for 16-24-year-olds across Norfolk and Suffolk by engaging with employers to facilitate a spectrum of opportunities.

The project has engaged with over 218 SME's and placed 65 young people into opportunities. All opportunities can be viewed at www.icanbea.org.uk

Norfolk Project to date:

- NCC outputs (*SMEs supported*) = 109
- Results (*Established Participants*) = 38

Suffolk Project to date:

- SCC outputs (*SMEs supported*) = 140
- Results (*Established participants*) = 39

To date the project is 101% on target on outputs and 80% on target on results with 4 quarters remaining to claim



Multiply Suffolk (MS)



The UK Government has committed that the first priority of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund will be Multiply

- **Multiply aims** to help people improve their ability to understand and use maths in daily life, home, and work. The reason numeracy has been selected is that people who improve their numeracy skills are more likely to be in employment, have higher wages, and better wellbeing.
- **Starting in the academic year 2022-2023**
- **The overall objective of Multiply** is to increase the levels of functional numeracy in the adult population across the UK. Target participants are adults 19+ who have not previously attained a GCSE Grade 4/C or higher maths qualification with no upper age limit.

- **The local Suffolk response for Multiply** is to create an integrated system of wellbeing, skills, and employability, embedding numeracy initiatives to create a three-step model with clear pathways of support pre- and post-employment. Research and consultation have influenced the model design and is based on the local need in Suffolk whilst supporting the national agenda.
- **Delivery will combine direct delivery** by Suffolk County Council and a subcontracted provision to ensure a consistent, transparent, and fair approach. A blended approach to delivery will be implemented to support participants both face to face and virtually depending on need.
- In total 2590 participant aims will be delivered across the three-year project

For more information, please contact Project Manager: Lyndsey Hessey - lyndsey.hessey@suffolk.gov.uk



Developing Skills in Health & Social Care – Norfolk & Suffolk

The latest newsletter from the team is attached.

You can also find more information about the project on their website: [Health and social care training - Norfolk County Council](#)

AOB

How do you think Suffolk County Council should spend its budget?

Suffolk County Council is keen to hear from Suffolk residents, businesses and local communities, as it decides its budget for next year.



[An online survey](#) has been launched for you to have your say on the services which are important to you: www.suffolk.gov.uk/budget

A summary of your responses will be included in the report considered by the council when agreeing the budget in February 2023.

The budget setting process includes your thoughts, advice from council officers, elected members from political groups, businesses and partners in health and other public service organisations across Suffolk.

Councillor Richard Rout, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Environment at Suffolk County Council, said:

“Setting our budget each year is always challenging, but I always strive to offer taxpayers the best possible value. We work hard to maintain all our services and invest where can, which is what we were able to achieve last year.

“However, this year is going to be much more difficult. Many people that I speak to think that councils are not affected by the increase in the cost of living – unfortunately this is not the case. Many of the pressures households are facing, we are facing too.”

You can find more details on the [SCC website](#).



SENDIASS Annual report



At arms-length from the local authority and health commissioners, Suffolk SENDIASS is a service which provides free impartial, confidential and accurate information, advice and support about education, health and social care for children, young people and their parents/carers on matters relating to special educational needs and disability. The service provides an Annual Report as part of its Service Level Agreement with commissioners.

You can find the report via this link: <https://suffolksendiass.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Annual-Report-2021-to-2022.pdf> or find out more about the team and its services on their website: <https://suffolksendiass.co.uk/>



Suffolk Inclusion Week – becoming a more inclusive Suffolk

The first ever Suffolk Inclusion Week is running 7-11 November 2022, and it all began from our SEND Young Person's Network.

Children and young people with SEND and their families have told us they want to feel safe, welcome and included within their local communities. The week provides a fantastic opportunity to work together, with schools, community organisations and young people sharing their experiences.

Our five topics for the week will focus on early years and 0-5, safe and supported, **post-16, education and inclusive practice**.

To raise the profile of this, we are inviting you to make a pledge towards becoming more inclusive, or share good practice already in place.

The information will then be shared via our Suffolk Local Offer social media channels week commencing 7 November.

- ▶ To get involved and make your pledge, please complete this form - [Suffolk Inclusion Week](#)

| CONTACT

The Skills Team can be contacted via Skills@suffolk.gov.uk

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

For **previous issues** of this bulletin please go to <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/business/supporting-employers-training-your-workforce/>