

Motion: Motion 1 – Proposed by Councillor Len Jacklin and seconded by Councillor Keith Patience

"This Council believes that high quality apprenticeships are a necessary ingredient in a strong and vibrant economy, as well as an excellent way of providing an opportunity for young people to gain skills and to improve their chances of securing employment.

This Council aims to encourage local businesses to provide good apprenticeships to Suffolk's youth. Suffolk County Council is committed to being an example of good practice, and therefore:

This Council requests;

- That the Council's Procurement Team investigates the powers given to Local Authorities under the Social Value Act 2012, to ensure that the Council secures the maximum number of high quality apprenticeships when contracts are awarded.
- That Suffolk County Council adheres to new Government recommendations and pledges to raise the proportion of apprentices to 2.3% of the authority's workforce by the 1st April 2018.
- That Cabinet should consider establishing Suffolk County Council as an 'Apprenticeship Training Agency'."

Members present agreed by general assent.