



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 NEWS

Suffolk Adult Learners Awards 2022 – 30th June 2022 |

SCC Sponsors include:

- Suffolk Adult Learning Service
- Apprenticeships Suffolk



For information and nominations forms, [visit our webpage here](#). Please find **attached** a poster to share/display.

The Suffolk Adult Learning Awards celebrates learning and aims to engage more adults into learning.

We are looking for remarkable individuals whose stories will be inspirational to others who hear and read about them. We want to hear the very best stories about adults who, through learning, have transformed their own lives and the lives of their families, friends, their communities, and the places they work. The individual may have:

- learnt new skills for personal or professional development
- achieved something they never thought was possible
- transformed their lives and the lives of those around them

Your nomination will give the learner recognition for their outstanding achievements, boost their self-confidence and will celebrate the positive impact learning has had on their life.

Winners of the awards in each category will have made a significant difference to their lives through learning and would inspire others to do the same, achieving beyond what they ever thought was possible.

Please share widely with your contacts and encourage nominations!



Apprenticeships Suffolk (ESF part funded)



Apprenticeships Suffolk have engaged with 321 participants and over 215 businesses, 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, this 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 are pleased to announce the launch of two projects which are extensions of the main project., Pathway to Apprenticeships and Sector Work Based Academy Programmes (SWAPS). 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.

National Apprenticeship Week was a huge success. During the week we visited schools across the county and gave Apprenticeship presentations and informal talks to students who are considering an apprenticeship as their next step into employment. We also hosted a joint virtual Work Experience with EDF Energy (Sizewell C) and hot desked at the DWP locations which had eased their Covid-19 office restrictions

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



Work Well Suffolk



The Work Well Suffolk Team have engaged with over 1,400 participants. These figures include 201 over 50's, 95 from the BAME community and 74 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 315 participants on programme.

Drop-in sessions are now regularly run from Suffolk Libraries and a number of Job Centres across the county which is proving impactful in these communities. If you would like to be added to the mailing list, please do drop us an email on the email address below.

Navigators Robyn, Wendy and Alan are waiting to hear from you: workwellsuffolk@suffolk.gov.uk, for further information please see the website: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/jobs-and-careers/work-well-suffolk/>



Youth Pledge for Employers (ESF part funded)



The Youth Pledge for Employers project (ESF Part Funded) is delivered across Norfolk and Suffolk, in partnership with The Mason Trust. The Business Connectors are engaging with employers supporting them to create 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

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



FUNDING & OPPORTUNITIES

Supply Chain Skills Development Fund



Project funded by European Social Fund (ESF)



The Supply Chain Skills Development Fund is now well and truly up and running, with 37 participants due to complete their training courses by the end of March. We are pleased that an equal amount of companies across Norfolk and Suffolk are taking advantage of the Fund; and are continuously working with partners to spread the message much more widely across SME sectors to gain maximum engagement.

Our next major event will be at Trinity Park on March 21st, where we will be engaging with the manufacturing sector courtesy of our partners Suffolk Chamber of Commerce.

For information on the Supply Chain Skills Development fund please email supplychainskills@suffolk.gov.uk



Shared Prosperity Fund

[UK Shared Prosperity Fund: pre-launch guidance - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

- Shared Prosperity Fund will provide **£2.6 billion** by March 2025.
- Shared prosperity fund has **3 priorities**: Communities and place, local businesses and people and skills.
- Fund will be **focused on communities and place and local businesses** in 2022/23 and 2023/24. Further investment to support people and skills is to follow in 2024/25.
- The fund is due to **allocate funds to the District level**. Managing authorities will be given fund allocations and develop their own application process and investment framework.
- Full guidance launching in Spring 2022.



The SPARC project is part-financed by the European Social Fund'

Pathways 50+



Pathways 50+ is a new project funded by the European Social Fund and delivered by Futures in partnership with Norfolk and Suffolk County Council.

The project will focus on supporting those aged 50+ back into work through work placements and employability support. Futures are looking to work with SME businesses from Norfolk or Suffolk to create the 13-week placements, which will help recruitment of committed, experienced staff who may not respond to traditional recruitment techniques.

For more information, please email Angela Carpenter, the Futures Account Manager - Angela Carpenter angela.carpenter@futuresforyou.com

Pathways Training Fund



The Pathways Training Fund is a new project funded by the European Social Fund and delivered by Suffolk County Council, in partnership with a network of training providers and Norfolk County Council.

The project will provide grants to Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (SMEs) and micro-businesses in Norfolk and Suffolk, with an aim to incentivise employers to improve their workforce skills levels. Grants will be for a maximum of £500 per employee and £3,000 per employer to purchase training from the network of training providers or further afield.

It will fund flexible training, from Level 1 to Level 7, which can be accredited or non-accredited. It can be whole qualifications, modules or units. It is intended to address those 'must have' key skills that employers need in the following areas:

- ▶ Digital Skills and Industry 4.0
- ▶ Leadership, Management, Project Management and Mentoring
- ▶ Customer Service and Client Relationship management
- ▶ Health and Wellbeing
- ▶ Innovation training for new ideas, ways of working, products and services

Expected launch is Spring 2022, and for more information, please email sparc@suffolk.gov.uk



SCION Coalition Scheme



The scheme is funded by NALEP's Innovative Projects Fund – it is completely free for participants and gives tailored training and mentorship (including job application and interview prep).

The Netmatters Scion Coalition Training Scheme is designed for individuals who have always taken an interest in all things tech and wanted to turn that into a career – but haven't really known where to start.

The course is an intensive, hands-on training experience built around the desired role. Whether participants are looking to become a digital marketer or a web or software developer, the dedicated team will provide them with the knowledge, skills, and hands-on experience that they need to land their dream role. On top of this, they will work with participants to secure a role on completion of the training.

This is a fully-remote training opportunity. The course takes on average 3-6 months to complete and has a 95% success rate. The training is offered to individuals up and down the country, who will work under remote employment conditions and will gain both the skills and confidence needed to succeed in their chosen field.

More information can be found on the [attached](#) brochure.

Contact: 01603 704020 or email at training@netmatters.co.uk

Website links:

<https://www.netmatters.co.uk/train-for-a-career-in-tech>

<https://www.netmatters.co.uk/train-for-a-career-in-tech/scion-scheme-frequently-asked-questions>

POLICY

Levelling Up White Paper – Skills Summary

[Levelling Up the United Kingdom - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/levelling-up-the-united-kingdom)

Headlines for Skills and Suffolk:

- Investment of £3.8 billion in skills planned by 2024 to 2025 and a Lifetime Skills Guarantee in England, enabling 11 million adults to gain an A Level or equivalent qualification for free, as well as a new UK-wide adult numeracy programme (Multiply) and skills bootcamps; a new schools funding formula in England ending the previous postcode lottery, and an extra £4 billion for schools in England next year, rising to £4.7 billion in 2024-25
- Eight innovative Freeports bringing jobs, investment, and prosperity across England. One being Freeport East with customs and tax sites in Suffolk and Essex.
- Ipswich and Lowestoft two of the towns across England receiving money from the Towns Fund.

- £26 billion of public capital investment for the green industrial revolution and transition to Net Zero. Suffolk named as having strengths in Clean Growth.
- Suffolk listed as 1 of the 9 areas invited to develop a County Deal with Government this year.
- Suffolk recognised as 1 of 55 selected to become an 'education investment area'. They will be supported by the Department for Education (DfE) offering retention payments to schools in these areas ensuring they can retain the best teachers and prioritised for new specialist sixth form free schools that will ensure talented children from disadvantaged backgrounds have access to the highest standard of education this country offers.

AOB

Engaging Young People in Suffolk



The Communications team at Suffolk County Council are currently working on a project to research how we can better communicate and engage with the young people of Suffolk.

The project is led completely by young people within the council, who believe it's extremely important that more 16-25-year-olds have a place to voice their opinions, especially those that are normally hard to reach as they can offer some very valuable insights.

If you are a young person or involved with any groups of young people, that would like to have a voice in this project, please do email charlie.moulds@suffolk.gov.uk as we would love to hear what you/they have to say.



A library of free and low-cost creative experiences happening in and around Suffolk

SUFFOLK LIBRARIES

LET'S GET CREATIVE

Suffolk Libraries have recently launched their new web directory for free and low-cost creative activities happening in and around Suffolk.

Find out more on their website:

<https://getcreative.suffolklibraries.co.uk/?page=1>



'Is This OK?'

IS THIS OK?

A free, confidential and anonymous, digital gateway for young people aged between 13-18 at risk of, or currently experiencing, sexual or criminal exploitation and/or abuse.

Is This OK? has been supporting young people since 2019. The staff are trained professionals who want to help young people through anything they are finding difficult. You can also contact them if you are worried that someone else is being treated badly or abused. It's all free, confidential, and anonymous.

Children and young people can:

- Seek local information / support,

- Talk to a chatbot
- Speak to a trained professional

Find out more on the website: <https://www.isthisok.org.uk/>

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