



**BUSINESS CASE**

**SECURING BRITAIN’S FUTURE: SUFFOLK’S CONTRIBUTION**

**Our £21billion economy powering, feeding & connecting the UK**

**#OneSuffolkVoice**

**Suffolk Economy strengths and growth potential**

- Potential to contribute an additional £3bn p/a now to UK GVA through major contributions to UK food and energy security, and global exports with further significant growth possible – with appropriate Government and private sector investment.
- Nationally critical logistics network based around three strategic ports, with some of the UK’s largest logistics firms and nearly 40% of UK containerised trade.
- Strong record of new housing delivery, with room to grow along the A11, A12 and A14 corridors and brownfield sites with the potential for 11,500 homes.
- A diverse business base, comprising large companies and small and micro firms, operating in a fertile environment for growth with good start up and survival rates.
- Established forums brings together relevant local leaders to agree and delivery shared priorities, including Suffolk Public Sector Leaders, Suffolk Business Board and the Suffolk Parliamentary Office.

**Alignment and focus**

<b>Government Mission</b>	<b>Offers to Government</b>	<b>Strategic asks of Government</b>	<b>Specific asks of the current Parliament</b>
Make Britain a clean energy superpower/Break down barriers to opportunity	Utilise Suffolk’s global expertise and reputation to maximise UK Energy Security	Improved community outcomes and consent from hosting new	<b>Boosting skills, training and education outcomes for Suffolk communities by</b>

		<p>energy infrastructure</p> <p>Support to develop a Centre for Excellence for nuclear / clean energy operations and maintenance cluster, investment in Freeport East and associated upskilling programmes</p>	<p><b>lifting education spending per head to national average by the end of the current Parliament</b></p> <p><b>Pilot an enhanced direct community benefits scheme (e.g. cheaper electricity)</b></p> <p><b>Pilot regional energy system planning in the East</b></p>
Kickstart economic growth	Suffolk's ports and logistics infrastructure is a key national asset. Release further potential to maximise UK Trading Security	Invest in improved east: west transport infrastructure and links in and out of the county's ports	<p><b>Ely/Haughley junction upgrades: £2.1bn clean growth productivity boost</b></p> <p><b>Investment along A11 and A14 corridors and wider strategic roads network brought forward into RIS3, including identified junction upgrades, Orwell Bridge, and surrounding road network</b></p>
Kickstart economic growth/Break down barriers to opportunity	Boost UK competitive edge by driving innovation and expertise in Suffolk to boost remove barriers to growth, incl to maximise UK Food and Telecoms Security, and accelerating	Better regulation to improve investment in, and better access to, sustainable non-domestic water supplies, including for the land-based sector	<p><b>Planning reform to expedite network of smaller reservoirs and lagoons</b></p> <p><b>Government grant support for water credit pilot schemes to scale up UK-wide</b></p>

	tech convergence to drive productivity in key sectors	Build on the heritage of telecoms innovation at Adastral Park to develop a national centre of excellence in tech convergence, networks and security aligned to UK Future Telecoms and Tech policy	<b>Facilitate Adastral Park and Innovation Martlesham to generate support from DSIT and DBT and determine funding options</b>
		Increase availability of business funding in Suffolk / The East	<b>UK Business Bank scheme for the East</b>

### Delivery: Suffolk Parliamentary Office (SPO)

- Brings together the strategic ambitions of the Suffolk Business Board with the tactical imperatives articulated by The Suffolk Convention, underpinned by a clear and compelling business case to Government, to be lobbied for during the current Parliament in support of the Government's missions
- To be announced at the same time as the finalised Suffolk Economic Strategy to show practical intent and action
- Coordinated by Suffolk Chamber, working across the public, private, education, health and voluntary sectors (especially their public affairs functions) to better articulate Suffolk's innovative ideas, offers, asks and enablers to help deliver the Government's missions
- Functions of the SPO include:
  - **Messaging and marketing:** Consistent and compelling articulation of #OneSuffolkVoice messages to local stakeholders, supporting and equipping all those with influence in their role as key spokespeople, while monitoring feedback to keep a strong focus on momentum and progress
  - **Intelligence sharing and trusted relationship building:** Develop and monitor networks of opportunity across Westminster and Whitehall to exploit lobbying opportunities and intelligence sharing from these to reinforce asks and cut through
  - **Planning:** Devise and update annual Legislative Plans (of fiscal events, legislation progress, select committees etc.) to provide alerts

and prompts to partners and a Lobbying Plan that aligns this active intelligence to best promote asks and enablers onto Government's legislative and fiscal timetables

- **Delivery:** Responsible for promoting and co-ordinating the business voice directly and via Chambers East, British Chambers of Commerce, FSB, CBI, IoD, Make UK and other influential stakeholders and organisations across Suffolk and the region etc. Involvement in direct lobbying of Parliamentary outputs (eg MP meetings, ministerial engagements, planted written and oral questions, Suffolk Chamber events, British Chambers of Commerce activity, EoEAPPG, Opportunity East etc.)
- **Accountability:** Update reporting to Suffolk Business Board

## APPENDIX

### 18<sup>th</sup> October: The Suffolk Convention Table Facilitator Notes – Summary

#### Suffolk's offer

**Clean Energy** – Sizewell C, Offshore, offer to the UK, but expand out globally

**Suffolk ports** - gateway to international trade

**Food security** – agriculture and associated food businesses - offer to the UK, but expand out globally

Leading area for **R&D and Innovation**

**Tourism, hospitality and coastal economy**

**Invest in Suffolk** as a feasible alternative to London (proximity, space, lower cost)

#### Asks of Government

**Infrastructure** – connectivity in all forms, infrastructure, transport, communications

**Transport** – Ely/Haughley, A12, Orwell Bridge

**Broadband** – 5G,

**Water and Utilities** – already experiencing limited supply for businesses

**Skills** – improve the skills agenda

**Education** – apprenticeship, upskilling, rural education

**Devolution** – longer term approach

#### How do we coordinate this offer and our asks?

**Drive much better collaborative information-sharing and working with leaders from business, education, health, the public and voluntary sectors. Speak to government with one consistent compelling messages. #OneSuffolkVoice**

**Improved collaboration** at political and local level

**Minister for Suffolk**

Develop a **Suffolk Brand**

**One voice** – joined up team of business/stakeholders on same message

**Suffolk Business Board/Suffolk Chamber of Commerce working together**

**Timing** is critical, need Plan A and a Plan B