



# Suffolk Growth Programme Board

ISSUE 1

DECEMBER 2017

## Introduction

This is the first newsletter of the SGPB. It is designed to provide information and updates to all SGPB member organisations about the work of the Board and the outcomes we are looking to deliver. These newsletters will be produced up to 6 times per annum and launched through intranets.

The GPB is chaired by Stephen Baker, Chief Executive of East Suffolk Councils with membership drawn from Suffolk Local Authorities; New Anglia LEP (with GCGP invited to attend); the University of Suffolk and Suffolk Chamber of Commerce. The Suffolk Housing Board has recently joined to reflect the impact housing delivery has on achieving place based growth.

## Background

The SGPB, formerly known as the Suffolk Growth Group, changed to a Programme Board in December 2016 to reflect its integrated approach to delivering a programme of joint growth initiatives across Suffolk.

## Role

The role of the Growth Programme Board, as agreed in December 2016, is to:

- i. **lead:** the Suffolk Growth Framework at officer level, and through collaboration across the County ensure GPB outcomes are communicated to all staff and members.

- ii. **deliver:** Suffolk's economic vision and achieve impact through the coordination of programmes and projects directly managed by the GPB and through facilitated work with partners
- iii. **influence** (through engagement): public / private stakeholders, businesses and politicians about the priorities for growth in Suffolk and the opportunities for improving the region's competitive position and prosperity
- iv. **manage risk:** by understanding upcoming risks / unknowns and responding to these through a flexible & innovative approach to economic growth

## Reporting

The SGPB work programme is reported to Suffolk Public Sector Leaders (SPSL) – Leaders of Suffolk's Local Authorities, Health Board and Police & Crime Commissioner. Updates are given on a bi-monthly basis. Suffolk Chief Officer Leadership Team (SCOLT) provide guidance and direction to the SGPB as required.

We work closely with the Suffolk Wide System Working Group (SWG) an officer led forum of health, social care, education, communities and data professionals to ensure the growth agenda is firmly embedded with that of social inclusiveness.

## Our outcomes

Our work programme is designed to contribute to the following growth outcomes:

**Secure investment to deliver infrastructure that will enable development to the longer term benefit of Suffolk's communities and businesses**

**Create a consistent, efficient, and transparent approach to planning to improve land supply**

**Make Suffolk an optimal location for commercial innovation, investment, and business expansion**

**Meet clearly identified skills, employment and economic development needs**

**Deliver the homes that Suffolk needs to match current and future demand.**

**Operate system wide approach to funding and finance supporting place based initiatives over the medium and**



## Growth Programme Board Staff & Representatives

Listed below are the organisations and individuals on Growth Programme Board. Please contact any of these representatives to find out more about the role and work of GPB. and understand how our work aligns with that of your team / organisation.

**Chair:** Stephen Baker, Chief Executive East Suffolk Councils, Growth Lead for Suffolk Authorities

**Growth Programme Partnership Manager:** Karen Chapman

**Babergh Mid Suffolk District Councils:** Tom Barker, Assistant Director Planning for Growth / Lindsay Barker, Deputy Chief Executive (currently on secondment out of district)

*The best thing for me about being part of the SGPB is the interrelationships created around the table and how we are able to join forces across the authorities to present a united front to Government, the LEPs, businesses and other stakeholders. It is the only arena where economic development, infrastructure, housing, planning, transport and skills is brought together to drive growth for the benefit of the whole county.*  
Andrea Mayley

**East Suffolk Councils:** Philip Ridley, Head of Planning / Paul Wood, Head of Economic Development

**Ipswich Borough Council:** Martyn Fulcher, Head of Development; Michelle Gordon, Economic Development Project Manager

**New Anglia Local Economic Partnership:** Chris Starkie, Chief Executive Officer

**Suffolk Chamber of Commerce:** Nick Burfield, Director of Policy

**Suffolk County Council:** Sue Roper, Assistant Director Strategic Development / John Pitchford, Head of Planning / Jai Raithatha, Head of Economic Development; Andrea Wood, Head of Skills

**Suffolk Housing Board:** Justin Hunt, Chair

**University of Suffolk:** Richard Lister, Vice Chancellor

**West Suffolk Councils:** Julie Baird, Assistant Director, Growth / Andrea Mayley, Head of Service, Economic Development

**Greater Cambridgeshire Greater Peterborough Local Economic Partnership and Suffolk Constabulary** have an open invitation to attend all meetings of SGPB.

## Current programme of work

A copy of our full work programme is available on request. Current priorities include:

- we have secured commitment from Suffolk Public Sector Leaders (SPSL) to undertake work on local procurement initiatives across Suffolk's public sector. We are currently in

*Suffolk Chamber of Commerce is pleased to have been asked to represent the business voice on Suffolk Growth Programme Board and we are greatly encouraged by the work of our public partners in focusing new resource and energy on developing initiatives to drive economic and business growth.* Nick Burfield

discussion with Heads of Procurement for local authorities, the police and NHS to develop this work and will be

publishing a briefing document early in 2018 that sets out the scope of the work and our timetable.

*I find the SGPB an incredibly useful forum for developing a collective county-wide approach to the growth agenda. It allows all members to debate the issues and address the constraints to growth whilst developing practical steps to exploiting the huge potential Suffolk can offer to the local, regional and national economy"* Paul Wood

- Refreshing and prioritising of the pipeline of

investment projects across Suffolk.

- Convening a Suffolk wide workshop on strategic housing issues and developing case studies to improve the delivery of homes.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please contact Karen Chapman, Growth Programme Partnership Manager: [karen.chapman@eastsoffolk.gov.uk](mailto:karen.chapman@eastsoffolk.gov.uk)