



# Suffolk Growth Programme Board

ISSUE 3

JUNE 2018

## Welcome

This is the third 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 4 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; the University of Suffolk and Suffolk Chamber of Commerce.

## 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

## Current programme of work

Recent project and staff engagement work is summarised below:

**Suffolk Design:** Suffolk Local Authorities are working with HemingwayDesign, Design South East & Hudson Architects to explore how good design can support the way our communities will function in the future and deliver the widest range of social and economic benefit to all. We are working with a team from HemingwayDesign, Design South East and Hudson Architects to deliver this exciting project. A full programme of training and engagement events is in development and further updates will be included in our Newsletters.

**A review of public sector procurement – mapping practice & policy / identifying barriers to bidding:** A small team of GPB representatives has been working with the County Wide Procurement Group (CWPG) and consultants to commission and deliver a two phased review of public sector procurement across Suffolk. We have:



- Commissioned a high-level mapping exercise across the public sector reviewing procurement policies, spend & practices (an initial report will be available at the end of June)
- Initiated work on the supplier side including the development of an online survey and diagnostic tool for SMEs and deliver a number of Meet the Buyer events. (This work is on-going until December 2018)

**Workforce review:** working with HR colleagues across Suffolk, SGPB is developing a workforce strategy to ensure planning and development teams are well resourced and capable of addressing the short, medium and long term staffing & skills opportunities and challenges that will allow us to deliver our inclusive growth ambitions.

**Heads of Planning:** the five Heads of Planning (Philip Ridley, Martyn Fulcher, Tom Barker, David Collinson, John Pitchford) and the SGPB partnership manager now meet on a bi-monthly basis to consolidate and build on recent joint planning initiatives. The Suffolk Design project is led by this group and engagement on the Ipswich Strategic Planning Area (ISPA) Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) is reported to this team.

**Infrastructure & planning leads:** Suffolk District / Borough and County leads for infrastructure and planning policy have started to meet on a 6-weekly cycle to share evidence on infrastructure needs and approaches to planning for these. We have met in January, March and May and as well as internal discussions have had guest presentations from NALEP on the Integrated Transport Strategy, Local Energy East (see March newsletter) and Anglian Water on their Water Resources Plan for the future.

## Presentations to / Discussions at SGPB meetings

**Annual Public Health Report – Working for Wellbeing:** Anna Crispe, Head of Knowledge & Intelligence in the Directorate of Health, Wellbeing and Children's Services at SCC presented an overview of the recent Annual Public Health Report (APHR). This year's statutory annual report of the Director for Public Health and Protection is focused on inclusive growth and the links between health and work. Evidence shows that inclusive growth can help people

fulfil their potential and improve their quality of life. Inclusive growth and high-quality work cannot be delivered by any single organisation – effective partnership working is key. You can find a full copy of the report here: <https://www.healthysuffolk.org.uk/jsna/reports/annual-public-health-report>

### District / Borough Local Economic Development

**Strategies:** the SGPB received updates on current local economic strategies from all District / Borough economic development leads. These updates set out a SWOT analysis of the area; priorities for future investment; and links between economic development and wider inclusive growth ambitions. The GPB will continue to review progress against these strategies and work with leads to identify areas where GPB could support future projects.

**Business rate retention pilot & NDR analysis:** GPB received an update from Michaela Brielman (Suffolk Office of Data Analytics-SODA) and Homira Javardi (CFO, East Suffolk Councils, on behalf of CFO joint group) on business rates. Michaela presented analysis of past business rates, including key companies in Suffolk and the value of rates collected. Homira then updated GPB on the business rate retention pilot, which Suffolk is one of only 10 local authority groupings in England that was selected for this scheme.

**Integrated transport strategy update:** NALEP, SCC and Norfolk County Council have led on the development of an Integrated Transportation Strategy for the region. Ellen Goodwin, NALEP's infrastructure manager provided an update to the SGPB and considered comments from representatives prior to the ITS going through the NALEP Board and County Council Cabinets. An action plan will now be developed to ensure the ITS is implemented.

### Suffolk Office for Data & Analytics (SODA) – virtual

**collaboration, real insight:** Suffolk's public service organisations believe that a shared and high-quality evidence base enables better decision making to improve the lives of Suffolk residents. The Suffolk Office of Data & Analytics (SODA) has been set up as a collective endeavour between Suffolk public service organisations to:

- make better use of data to generate new insights into public services and the needs they serve; and
- apply these insights to improve policy and service design and delivery.

SODA will achieve this through:



- joining up and analysing data from multiple sources, including internal data from Suffolk's public service organisations, its partners and nationally available data;
- ensuring that data-sharing is lawful and appropriate; and
- applying robust analytical techniques and synthesising data to generate insight.

SODA is supported by: all Suffolk LAs, IES & WS CCGs and, Suffolk Constabulary. Get in touch with SODA:

- Phone - 07908 375 415 / Email - [soda@westsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:soda@westsuffolk.gov.uk)

## Growth Portfolio Holders (GP/H)

The Growth Portfolio Holders have recently reviewed the format and timing of their joint sessions and have agreed to meet more frequently in order to provide greater input into the work of the SGPB. The next meeting of the Joint G P/H is scheduled for 11<sup>th</sup> July and will be followed by a half day "Summit" session on 12<sup>th</sup> September. This Summit will involve a wider grouping of Members and staff, e.g. communities leads, transport portfolio holders, with a series of presentations setting out our wider inclusive growth aims, ambitions and projects.

Going forward G P/H will meet on a bi-monthly basis with 2 half day Summits per annum.

## Regional events

Recent and upcoming regional meetings and groups that SGPB attends to either support Members and / or ensure alignment of and contribution to the delivery of our inclusive growth ambitions include:

to our wider, shared, inclusive growth ambitions. The first meeting of the new Strategic Group is scheduled for 20<sup>th</sup> June.

### Economic strategy for Norfolk & Suffolk

New Anglia LEP hosted an economic summit at Red Lodge in May drawing together key officers across Suffolk & Norfolk and engage them in the development of the Delivery Plan for the new Strategy. The Delivery Plan will be instrumental in helping to shape the LEP's investment plan which will be developed over the summer and inform the development of the Local Industrial Strategy.

The Partnership Manager will continue to engage with NALEP on a regular basis and draw together Suffolk's inputs to the Delivery Plan as it emerges.



### Transport East

SGPB, through the Partnership Manager, provides officer support to Members on Transport East – the sub national transport body across the Eastern region of England.

Transport East has met twice (13<sup>th</sup> March & 4<sup>th</sup> June) and a summary note is prepared by the GPPM following each meeting and circulated to G P/Hs and transport leads across Suffolk. Next steps are for the officer support group to develop the TE strategy based on the 3 key themes of: Ports & Airports / connecting our centres of growth / coastal communities.

<http://www.eelga.gov.uk/meetings/transport-east-forum/>

## 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**

### MOST ACTIVE COUNTY

#### Most Active County (MAC)

**Strategic Group:** Suffolk's Director of Public Health & Protection has established a new Strategic Group to take forward the MAC partnership (which was moved to the Public Health Directorate in 2017). The GPPM has been invited to join the Strategic Group and ensure the work of GPB is aligned with MAC initiatives aimed at improving levels of physical activity across Suffolk and contributing



**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 long term**

## 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; Phil Isbell, Corporate Manager Growth & Sustainable Planning

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

**University of Suffolk:** Tim Greenacre, Registrar

**West Suffolk Councils:** Andrea Mayley, Head of Service, Economic Development

**Suffolk Constabulary** and colleagues from Cambridgeshire / Peterborough have an open invitation to attend all meetings of SGPB.

## OUR NEXT NEWSLETTER WILL BE PUBLISHED OCTOBER 2018

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please contact Karen Chapman, [karen.chapman@eastsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:karen.chapman@eastsuffolk.gov.uk)

If you no longer wish to receive the newsletter please email:  
[alison.orford@eastsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:alison.orford@eastsuffolk.gov.uk)

