



Key Facts

2011/12 update on the Waveney District. Published December 2012



Society



Economy



Environment



Travel



Housing



Waveney Local Development Framework Progress

The Local Development Framework is the local plan for the Waveney district, setting out how the area should be developed. The framework is made up of a number of local planning documents.

ADOPTED 2011 / 2012



Lowestoft Lake Lothing and Outer Harbour Area Action Plan



A guide to developing industrial land at Broadway Farm in Halesworth



Guidance for historic buildings and conservation areas



Open Space provision and developer contributions



Affordable housing

ADOPTED EARLIER



The approach to future development in Waveney to 2021 *(adopted 2009)*



Policies to help make decisions on planning applications *(adopted 2011)*



Sites for future development *(adopted 2011)*

Sites for Future Development

Housing allocations update

No allocated sites have been completed yet but progress has already been made towards developing a number of sites including the former fire station at Normanston Drive in Lowestoft, the former Eversley School Playing Field in Reydon and part of the Town Hall Complex at Compass Street in Lowestoft.



Scan this QR code with your smartphone to find out more visit www.waveney.gov.uk/LDF for more information

Town Update

Lowestoft (+ Carlton Colville & Oulton)

Population: 71,010
New homes: 105 ↓
New employment floorspace: 2,814m² ↓
Town centre units in use: 88% ↑



Beccles with Worlingham

Population: 13,880
New homes: 26 ↓
New employment floorspace: 113m² ↓
Town centre units in use: 95% ↑



Bungay

Population: 5,010
New homes: 12 ↓
New employment floorspace: 0m²
Town centre units in use: 92% ↓



Halesworth

Population: 4,860
New homes: 26 ↑
New employment floorspace: 5,600m^{2*} ↑
Town centre units in use: 95% ↓



Southwold with Reydon

Population: 3,740
New homes: 13 ↓
New employment floorspace: 331m² ↓
Town centre units in use: 96% ↓



Arrows indicate an increase or decrease from the last available data
Population figures based on mid-2010 estimates from Suffolk County Council
*New factory in the parish of Holton

Environment

Greenfield land

Over 10 hectares of greenfield land was lost to residential and employment development during 2011/2012.

Energy efficiency of homes

Local authority owned homes have been rated over 50% more efficient than 10 years ago.

Community Energy Saving Programme

Householders in the Harbour Ward have benefitted from a programme of energy efficiency works including insulation, glazing and solar panels.

Sites of Special Scientific Interest

The number of sites in favourable condition rises from 35% to 52% in 7 years.

Electricity consumption

Electricity consumption fell by over 10% for domestic and industrial/commercial users between 2005 and 2010.

Coastal erosion

293 properties have been identified as being at risk from coastal erosion in the next 100 years. Most of these properties are located in Corton.

Bathing water quality

Two blue flags at Lowestoft beaches. Southwold meets minimum standards.

Carbon dioxide emissions

Between 2005 and 2009, CO² emissions fell from 6.6 tonnes to 5.6 per person per year, well below the Suffolk average of 7.3.

Gas consumption

Between 2005 and 2010, annual domestic gas consumption fell by around 20%. Industrial and commercial gas consumption fell by around 15%.

FOCUS ON...

Open space and section 106 contributions

Almost £400,000 from section 106 contributions has been spent on improving existing or creating new open spaces. Improvements include new play equipment at Beccles Quay (£31k), new swings and fitness equipment at Reydon recreation ground (£14k), a giant swing at Bonsey Gardens in Wrentham (£10k) and new swings at Station Road play area in Corton (5k).



Find out more about section 106 contributions online at www.waveney.gov.uk/section106

Data sourced from Waveney District Council except Natural England: Sites of Special Scientific Interest. Department for Energy and Climate Change: Carbon dioxide emissions, electricity and gas consumption. Environment Agency: Bathing Water Quality

Economy

Tourism

3.6 million day visitors and 393,000 staying visitors. Worth £255 million to the local economy (2009), supporting 12% of all jobs in the area.

Employment land

9,244 square metres of employment floorspace was completed this year and more than 84 hectares of land is available for employment development.

Centres for Offshore Renewable Engineering

Great Yarmouth and Lowestoft are one of five national centres chosen to be the focus of efforts to attract renewable energy manufacturing companies.

Portas pilot

Lowestoft will receive up to £100,000 and support from the Government to help revitalise the town centre. Halesworth and Southwold have also been given £10,000.

Jobs

Long-term unemployment is increasing. Number of Job Seeker Allowance claimants continues to rise. Average earnings have risen but are below county and national averages.

Enterprise Zone & Local Development Order

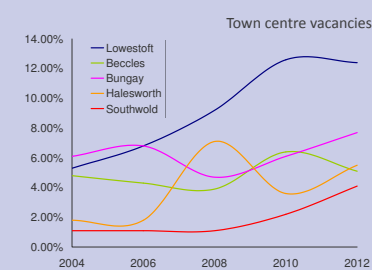
New and expanding businesses in the renewable energy sector benefit from simplified planning rules and business rate relief in areas of Lowestoft and Beccles.

FOCUS ON...

Town centres

All town centres have seen an increase in the number of vacant units since 2004, and vacancy rates currently range from 4% of units in Southwold to 12% in Lowestoft. This increase reflects the national situation, although the vacancy rate, even in Lowestoft, remains below the national average (14.5%, May 2012).

Across all town centres there has been a net loss of 4 retail units to other uses this year. Lowestoft town centre has slightly fewer retail uses than in 2004, but overall the proportion of shops, financial and professional services, restaurants & cafes, pubs and hot food takeaways hasn't changed significantly in the past year. Therefore, whilst there hasn't yet been an improvement in the vitality and viability of town centres, the situation is better than in other parts of the country.



Data sourced from Waveney District Council except East of England Tourism: Tourism statistics. Nomis: Long-term unemployment, job seekers allowance, earnings

Housing

Affordable housing

38 affordable homes were completed during 2011/12, approximately 20% of the total completions. This is considerably lower than in the previous three years (which averaged around 100 affordable completions). Building commenced on 51 affordable homes, which is promising for the future.



Previously developed land

Over two thirds of new dwellings were built on previously developed land.

Housing completions

192 new additional homes were completed in Waveney during 2011/12. Although this is relatively low, it reflects the national situation and is not unexpected.

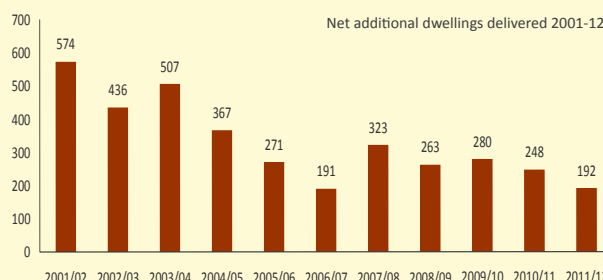
Design of new development

In 2011/12, a total of 30 planning applications were refused due to poor design as the primary reason. A further 21 were refused due to poor design as the secondary reason. The Council continues to encourage pre-application discussions to improve design.

FOCUS ON...

Housing completions

The average annual completion rate between 2001 and 2012 was 332. Between 2001 and 2025, an average of 303 homes are expected to be completed each year, exceeding the Core Strategy requirement of 290.

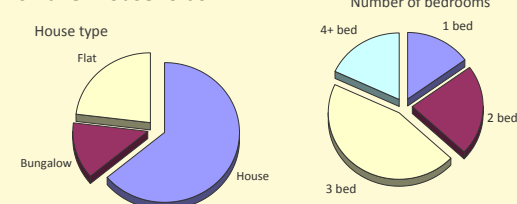


FOCUS ON...

Types and sizes of new homes

A range of sizes and types of homes have been delivered this monitoring period – around two thirds houses with some bungalows and flats, most with 2 or 3 bedrooms.

The size of homes shows a shift towards smaller units which is more reflective of the trend for smaller households.



Data sourced from Waveney District Council

Society

Life expectancy

Latest data shows that those born in Waveney between 2006 and 2010 have a life expectancy of 81.4 years. This is similar to the Suffolk average.

Deprivation

One in five live in areas within the 25% most deprived in England. Areas include Harbour, Kirkley, Normanston, St Margaret's and Whitton in Lowestoft, and also include parts of Pakefield and Beccles South.

Child obesity

One in ten children aged between 4 and 5 are obese. This increases to almost one in five for children aged between 10 and 11. These figures are higher than Suffolk and regional averages.

Qualifications

15% of people have no qualifications. Whilst another 19% are qualified to NVQ level 4 or above, this is significantly below the Suffolk average of 27%.

GCSE's

Percentage of pupils gaining 5+ A* - C grades at GCSE has risen from 50% to 60% in the past 8 years. This is still below the County average of 67%.

Adult obesity

Around 25% of the adult population are considered to be obese.



FOCUS ON...

Lowestoft Sixth Form College

Suffolk County Council's schools reorganisation resulted in sixth form education being removed from Lowestoft High Schools. The new £25 million Lowestoft Sixth Form College for 16-19 year olds opened in September 2011. It is the only sixth form college in Suffolk and offers 40 different qualifications including 'A' Levels, vocational BTECs and GCSEs.



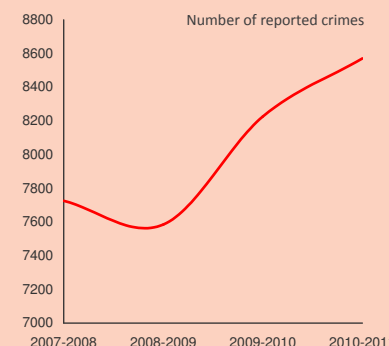
FOCUS ON...

Crime

The total number of reported crimes in Waveney showed an increase in 2010/11 for the second consecutive year, rising to over 8,500 reported crimes. The number of most serious violent crimes, although still relatively low, has also shown an increase in the last two monitoring years.

Domestic burglary has shown a marked increasing trend in recent years, rising from 269 reported incidents in 2005/6 to 510 in 2010/11.

Fear of crime remains low however, with 91% of people feeling very safe or fairly safe in their local area, close to the Suffolk average of 93%.



Travel

Beccles rail loop

Hourly train services between Lowestoft and Ipswich have been made possible thanks to a £4m project which created a passing loop at Beccles.

Lowestoft Local Links

A new pedestrian and cycle bridge will be created beside the current bascule bridge to provide a safer environment. A bus and rail interchange will also be created.

Modes of school transport

Percentage of children walking to school has increased from 39% in 2004 to 56% in 2011. Car is the second most popular method, followed by bus then cycling.

Traffic volume

Five major hotspots in Lowestoft have shown a decrease in traffic volume between 2009 and 2011. However, overall traffic volume remains higher than in 2001.

FOCUS ON...

Access to services

In total, over 90% of residents have a food shop / general store within their parish.

In the rural areas, only Kessingland and Somerleyton have all five key village services:

- Food shop / general store
- Post office
- Pub
- Primary school
- Meeting place

These two villages however account for 25% of the rural population. The next best served villages are Corton, Westhall & Wrentham (four services each).

Find out more






Scan this QR code with your smartphone to find out more
or visit www.waveney.gov.uk/keyfacts

This leaflet provides a summary of information published in the Council's Annual Monitoring Report. The full report, containing data from over 100 indicators is available online at www.waveney.gov.uk/keyfacts or to inspect at your local Council office or library. If you wish to purchase a copy (price £5 including p&p), contact us using one of the methods below.

If you, or someone that you know, requires this newsletter in an alternative format or language please contact us.

 [facebook.com/waveneydc](https://www.facebook.com/waveneydc)

 [@waveneydc](https://twitter.com/waveneydc)

Waveney District Council, Planning Policy Team
Town Hall, High Street, Lowestoft, Suffolk NR32 1HS
 planningpolicy@waveney.gov.uk  (01502) 523029