

# EAST SUFFOLK BUSINESS PLAN

## 2015 - 2023

Suffolk Coastal & Waveney District Councils



**in partnership**  
eastsoffolk.gov.uk

## CASE STUDY

### FINANCIAL SELF-SUFFICIENCY

# EAST SUFFOLK HOUSE

Our Business Plan sets out a vision where the Councils can become financially self-sufficient by introducing more modern and efficient ways of working, reducing costs and ensuring local tax payers receive better value for money.

[eastsoffolk.gov.uk/east-suffolk-business-plan](http://eastsoffolk.gov.uk/east-suffolk-business-plan)



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Beccles Library, Blyburgate, Beccles  
Felixstowe Library, Crescent Road, Felixstowe  
Marina Centre, Marina, Lowestoft  
Woodbridge Library, New Street, Woodbridge

# OCCUPY MORE MODERN & EFFICIENT CIVIC HEADQUARTERS



## WHAT WE DID?

To reduce running costs and enable more efficient working, Suffolk Coastal District Council relocated to more modern headquarters at Riduna Park, Melton in 2016.

Approximately 260 staff were relocated to new purpose-built accommodation, with relocation taking place over a series of weekends in order to minimise disruption to customers and staff.

The new offices, named East Suffolk House, were completed on time and within budget and at no cost to the taxpayer, having been funded by the sale of the Council's previous offices at Melton Hill, Woodbridge.

The offices at Riduna Park in Melton are part of a five-acre office village developed by Riduna Holdings Ltd and were built on a derelict brownfield site, providing a boost to the local economy.

*"The new purpose built offices provide a contemporary and comfortable place for our staff to work and allow for improved flexible working for both staff and members."*

- CLLR GEOFF HOLDCROFT

DEPUTY LEADER OF SUFFOLK COASTAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

## WHY WE DID IT?

The ageing former offices at Melton Hill had become costly to maintain and were oversized for the number of staff. As detailed in the East Suffolk Business Plan, the Council needs to be financially self-sufficient and protect the taxpayer by reducing costs wherever possible. Relocating to smaller and more modern offices will reduce running costs and provides staff with more efficient facilities. East Suffolk House is a sustainable, modern building which is less expensive to maintain and is also adaptable to the Council's future needs.



£200,000

ANNUAL SAVING



NEW WAYS  
OF WORKING



## THE DIFFERENCE THIS MADE?

The open-plan layout of East Suffolk House allows staff to work together, improving communication and interaction between teams; staff have adapted well to the new building and have adopted new ways of working.

The new offices save the Council, and the taxpayer, an estimated £200,000 per year in running costs. This is expected to rise to £500,000 per year in the longer term.

Relocating to more modern premises has enabled the expanded use of technology with improved audio and visual facilities, such as video and telephone conferencing, bookable meeting rooms, and fully enabled IT services allowing staff to work from wherever they are in the building.

The new offices are also more accessible for those wishing to attend public meetings with facilities to listen remotely.

