

East Suffolk Authority Monitoring Report 2024/25

Covering the Suffolk Coastal Local Plan area
and the Waveney Local Plan area

An update on progress of the Local Plans,
delivery of policies and proposals and other
monitoring information for East Suffolk

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Whilst every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of data in this report, it cannot be guaranteed free from errors.

1 Introduction

1.1 East Suffolk is covered by two adopted Local Plans.

Local Plan Document	Adopted date	Geographical coverage
Waveney Local Plan	20 March 2019	Former district of Waveney (excluding the Broads Authority area)
Suffolk Coastal Local Plan	23 September 2020	Former district of Suffolk Coastal

1.2 Authority Monitoring Reports (AMRs) provide an assessment on the progress of the preparation of Local Plans and monitor the effectiveness of polices including the delivery of site-specific allocations.

1.3 The [Broads Authority](#) produces its own authority monitoring report, which includes the parts of East Suffolk which lie within the Broads Authority area.

1.4 Authority Monitoring Reports must include:

- progress on the Local Plan against the timetable in the Local Development Scheme;
- details of any neighbourhood plans or neighbourhood development orders that have been adopted;
- any Community Infrastructure Levy receipts;
- action taken under the Duty to Co-operate;
- details of any policies not being implemented;
- net additional dwellings (and affordable housing) completed in monitoring year; and
- total housing (and affordable housing) completed against annual requirements.

1.5 This Authority Monitoring Report covers the period 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025. The report is split into two parts. This document reports the detail set out in the regulations as summarised above.

1.6 The [Planning Delivery Dashboard](#) presents information and data for the monitoring year for housing, employment, retail and town centres, climate change, design, and the natural and historic environments and provides an assessment on how the local plan polices are performing. The Dashboard also includes time series data and interactive maps e.g. housing completions, retail and town centre surveys and progress on delivery of site allocations.

1.7 Much of the data used to support the AMR is available to view and download as spreadsheets or shapefiles from the Council's Open Data portal at <https://data-eastsuffolk.opendata.arcgis.com>.

1.8 Planning information can be found on East Suffolk Council's webpages:

Planning Policy and Local Plans www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/localplan

Open Data Portal <https://data-eastsuffolk.opendata.arcgis.com>

Neighbourhood Planning www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/neighbourhood-planning

Self Build and Custom Build Register www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/self-build-and-custom-build-register

Brownfield Land Register www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/brownfield-land-register

Community Infrastructure Levy www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/CIL

Planning Applications www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/planning-applications-and-enforcement

Design, Heritage and Ecology www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/planning/design-heritage-ecology-trees-landscape-and-rights-of-way



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2 Progress of Local Plan against Local Development Scheme

- 2.1 The [Suffolk Coastal Local Plan](#) and the [Waveney Local Plan](#) were adopted in September 2020 and March 2019 respectively and no Local Plan preparation work took place during 2024/25.
- 2.2 The Local Development Scheme sets out the timetable for local plan preparation and other planning policy documents. The adopted Local Plans were prepared under the Local Development Schemes in place at the time. The [Written Ministerial Statement of the Secretary of State](#) for Housing and Planning dated 12 December 2024 required all local planning authorities to provide an updated plan-making timescale within 12 weeks. In response to this request, a new [Local Development Scheme](#) for East Suffolk was prepared and published in March 2025. This document sets out the Council's current position on plan-making, an interim timescale for a future East Suffolk Local Plan and information on the preparation of other planning policy documents. The interim timetable sets out that work will begin on an East Suffolk Local Plan in 2025/26, with the detailed timetable subject to further review once the new plan-making reforms are introduced later in 2025. Some guidance related to these reforms was published late November 2025 and the new system is now anticipated to come into force in early 2026.

Statutory 5-year review of Local Plans

- 2.3 Local Planning Authorities must review their Local Plans before they reach five years old to consider whether they need to be updated. 'Review' in this context means an assessment to determine whether updates to the plan are currently necessary. The National Planning Policy Framework (2024) states that "Policies in local plans and spatial development strategies should be reviewed to assess whether they need updating at least once every five years, and should then be updated as necessary."
- 2.4 The [Waveney Local Plan Statutory 5 year Review Assessment](#) was agreed by Cabinet on 5 March 2024, and concluded that an update was not required at that time.
- 2.5 The December 2024 update of the National Planning Policy Framework included a new Standard Method for housing need resulting in a significant increase of over 80% in housing need for East Suffolk – from 905 dwellings per year to 1,667 per year. Because of this change, an [Addendum](#) to the Waveney Local Plan Review Assessment was produced, in March 2025, which solely considered the change to housing need. It concluded that an update to the Waveney Local Plan would now be required.

- 2.6 The [Suffolk Coastal Local Plan Statutory Review Assessment](#) was agreed by Cabinet on 2 September 2025. The assessment concludes that, principally due to the significant increase in the housing need for East Suffolk, the Local Plan needs to be updated.
- 2.7 The Council is committed to the preparation of an East Suffolk Local Plan under the new plan-making system which is now expected to come into force in early 2026.

3 Neighbourhood Plans and Neighbourhood Development Orders

- 3.1 Neighbourhood Plans are optional plans prepared by local communities which set out detailed planning policies and proposals for their specific area e.g. a parish. Once 'made' (adopted), they form part of the Development Plan against which planning applications must be determined.
- 3.2 A Neighbourhood Plan allows communities to create a vision and planning policies for the use and development of land for their area, for example, where new homes should be built and what they should look like.
- 3.3 Neighbourhood Development Plans must be in general conformity with the strategic policies in the relevant adopted Local Plan.
- 3.4 With a Neighbourhood Development Order, communities can grant planning permission for development they want to see go ahead in a neighbourhood, for example allowing home extensions to be built without the need to apply for planning permission. No Neighbourhood Development Orders are currently in place in East Suffolk.
- 3.5 During 2024/25, two Neighbourhood Plans have been made:
 - Easton; and
 - Playford.
- 3.6 As of 31 March 2025, there are 25 made Neighbourhood Plans in East Suffolk.
- 3.7 The most up-to-date information on Neighbourhood Planning, including guidance notes and information on Neighbourhood Plans under preparation can be found at www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/neighbourhoodplanning.

4 Developer Contributions – Community Infrastructure Levy and S106 Agreements (Planning Obligations)

4.1 The Community Infrastructure Levy legislation requires the production of annual Infrastructure Funding Statements (IFS). The annual IFS must set out which projects are to be funded by CIL in the future, as well as how much CIL has been collected, what it has been spent on and how much has been passed to parish councils. Similar information is also required to be published in relation to Section 106 legal agreements (planning obligations).

4.2 The East Suffolk Infrastructure Funding Statement 2024-25 can be found at <https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/infrastructure-funding-statement/>. As a result, the contents are not duplicated in this AMR, other than the summary figures below for 2024/25. Also see the Council's CIL Reporting webpage for more details <https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/cil-reporting/>:

CIL received	£8,569,465
Total developer contributions (S106 legal agreements & RAMS habitat mitigation) received (including affordable housing commuted sums)	£1,135,878

4.3 The East Suffolk CIL Charging Schedule was approved by Full Council on 28 June 2023 and came into effect on 1 August 2023. This replaced the former CIL Charging Schedules that were in place for the former Waveney and Suffolk Coastal districts (adopted in 2013 and 2015 respectively). Further information on the Community Infrastructure Levy in East Suffolk can be found at <https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/community-infrastructure-levy/>.

5 Duty to Co-operate

5.1 The Localism Act 2011 requires planning authorities to engage constructively, actively and on an on-going basis with other prescribed bodies in relation to strategic cross-boundary planning matters. There are a number of strategic cross-boundary planning matters that are relevant to East Suffolk, including those with adjoining planning authorities.

Coastal Zone Management

5.2 East Suffolk Council, along with the Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk, North Norfolk District Council, Great Yarmouth Borough Council and the Broads Authority signed a Statement of Common Ground in relation to Coastal Zone Planning in September 2018. This sets out a series of shared aims and an agreed approach in relation to working together on coastal planning issues.

5.3 The day-to-day management of the coast in the district is delivered by the Council's Coastal Management team. Previously, it was delivered by Coastal Partnership East (CPE), a partnership which brought together the coastal management resources and expertise from Great Yarmouth Borough Council, North Norfolk District Council and East Suffolk Council. However, CPE was dissolved on 31 March 2025, with the duties reverting to each individual authority. Nonetheless, there is still co-operation between the authorities on relevant matters, such as Shoreline Management Plans.

Ipswich Strategic Planning Area

5.4 The Ipswich Strategic Planning Area (ISPA) comprises the geographic area of the former Suffolk Coastal District, along with Ipswich Borough and Babergh and Mid Suffolk Districts. The authorities within this area have a long-established history of working together on cross-boundary planning matters.

5.5 The ISPA Board comprises a councillor representative from each of these authorities and Suffolk County Council. The function of the Board, as set out in the Terms of Reference, is to provide a forum in which the five local authorities can work together. The work of the Board has been documented through the production of a Statement of Common Ground, the latest of which was signed in March 2021 to accompany the submission of the Babergh and Mid Suffolk Joint Local Plan.

5.6 Part 1 of the Babergh and Mid Suffolk Joint Local Plan was adopted in November 2023 with a Call for Sites consultation for the Part 2 Local Plan undertaken in January and February 2024. The Councils are now producing a full Joint Local Plan Review, instead of a Joint Local Plan Part 2.

5.7 The Ipswich Local Plan was adopted in March 2022.

5.8 Given the current plan making position of the authorities, the ISPA Board met during January and March 2025 (and roughly on a bimonthly basis throughout 2025). Officers from across the authorities meet regularly.

5.9 Further information on the Ipswich Strategic Planning Area Board can be viewed on the ISPA website at www.ipswich.gov.uk/content/ipswich-strategic-planning-area.

Suffolk local planning authorities

5.10 All five of Suffolk's district / borough councils (Ipswich Borough, Babergh and Mid Suffolk Districts and West Suffolk Council, along with East Suffolk Council) have broadly aligned timescales for preparing their next Local Plans, as set out in their Local Development Schemes, all published in early 2025. Babergh and Mid Suffolk are preparing a Joint Local Plan reflecting their joint working arrangements. Adoption of the Local Plans is anticipated to take place in 2029. The Broads Authority is currently towards the latter stages of plan preparation (see below).

5.11 Early work is underway, prior to formal commencement, including (for all but West Suffolk) a Call for Sites, running from October-December 2025 (Ipswich Borough) and October 2025-January 2026 (East Suffolk and Babergh & Mid Suffolk). Joint and aligned evidence-commissioning and evidence-gathering, where this can be done on a Suffolk-wide basis, is also in the early stages of planning.

5.12 The authorities are therefore working with each other and Suffolk County Council to maximise efficient use of resources and expertise in the Local Plan process.

The Norfolk and Suffolk Broads

5.13 The Norfolk and Suffolk Broads is a National Park that include Britain's largest protected wetlands and third largest inland waterway. The National Park covers parts of East Suffolk, South Norfolk, Great Yarmouth, Broadland, Norwich and North Norfolk and is managed by the Broads Authority. The Broads overlaps the northernmost part of East Suffolk along the River Waveney and Oulton Broad and also takes in parts of Bungay and Beccles.

5.14 A 'Memorandum of Understanding' with the Broads Authority was signed by all the Authorities that border the Broads Authority area in 2012. This notes the statutory purposes imposed by the Norfolk and Suffolk Broads Act 1989 (as amended) and states the Broads Authority will not have a strategic housing target or the need to deliver a particular quantum of housing or employment development. The Districts will assess, for planning purposes, the housing and employment needs for their administrative areas and deliver wholly outside of the Broads area. A Statement of Common Ground was agreed between the former Waveney District Council and the Broads Authority in 2018 in relation to housing need and delivery.

5.15 A review of the Local Plan for the Broads is progressing with the final draft plan (Regulation 19) being published between July and September 2025, ahead of it being submitted for Examination. East

Suffolk Council has confirmed its position on housing need through a letter which is appended to the Broads Authority's latest Duty to Co-operate Statement (May 2025).

5.16 In addition to ongoing regular liaison, officers from East Suffolk, the Broads and Great Yarmouth meet every three months, with both Suffolk County Council and Norfolk County Council, to collectively discuss strategic and cross boundary planning matters.

Great Yarmouth Borough Council

5.17 The former Waveney area and Great Yarmouth Borough Council have an extensive history of working together. Waveney District Council and Great Yarmouth Borough Council signed a 'Memorandum of Understanding' in 2014 that commits the two authorities to work together on strategic planning matters. In February 2020 a [Statement of Common Ground](#) was agreed and signed between East Suffolk Council and Great Yarmouth Borough Council to address cross boundary planning matters.

5.18 In addition to ongoing regular liaison, officers from East Suffolk, the Broads Authority, Great Yarmouth Borough Council, Suffolk County Council and Norfolk County Council meet every three months to collectively discuss strategic and cross boundary planning matters.

5.19 The preparation of the Great Yarmouth Local Plan is currently (December 2025) within the examination phase. Adoption is expected in April/May 2026. East Suffolk Council submitted a small number of comments prior to the examination and has no significant concerns with the content of the emerging Great Yarmouth Local Plan; the agreed Statement of Common Ground between the two councils sets out the main planning matters which have been considered.

6 Performance and effectiveness of the Suffolk Coastal and Waveney Local Plans

6.1 This document is supported by the [Planning Delivery Dashboard](#) which provides information and data for the monitoring year for housing, employment, retail and town centres, climate change, design, and the natural and historic environments and provides an assessment on how the local plan policies are performing. The Dashboard also includes time series data and interactive maps e.g. housing completions, retail and town centre surveys and progress on delivery of site allocations.

6.2 This table presents some key statistics from the Planning Delivery Dashboard for 2024/25:

New homes
752 new homes completed
238 affordable homes completed
49% of all affordable homes completed are for affordable rent
5-bedroom extension to an existing care home completed
The Custom and Self-Build Housing Supplementary Planning Document (May 2024) provides guidance for those submitting planning applications for these forms of housebuilding
The East Suffolk Developers Charter sets out the Council's high-level aspirations for residential development schemes to go above and beyond the minimum requirements of planning policy and Building Regulations
Retail and town centres
Lowestoft town centre has the highest vacancy rate at 23%, followed by Bungay at 14% and Halesworth at 12% (data from retail surveys carried out in May 2025)
Within the designated town centres, 660 sqm of ground floorspace has been changed to uses other than 'town centre and leisure uses'
Design
31 planning applications for new residential development refused at least partially on design grounds
Permissions for sites of 10 or more new homes have secured 248 homes to the M4(2) accessible and adaptable standard and 11 homes to the M4(3) wheelchair user standard
The Healthy Environments Supplementary Planning Document (June 2024) provides guidance on the design of built environments to support health and wellbeing
Natural and historic environment
There has been no change to the area of sites designated for landscape or wildlife value

31 designated heritage assets included on the 2025 [Heritage at Risk](#) register (one new asset added this year and one removed for positive reasons including repair/threat removed)

Climate change (coastal erosion, flood risk, renewable energy and sustainable construction)

Six projects for non-domestic renewable energy have been permitted, including a solar farm which is expected to power over 10,500 homes per year

No planning applications have been approved against the advice of the Environment Agency

Employment development

9,719 sqm net additional employment floorspace (1.86 hectares) delivered in East Suffolk

Within the Countryside, 4,582 sqm net additional floorspace (1.26 hectares) delivered

2.3 hectares of employment land on Local Plans allocated sites has been delivered to date, of 92 hectares allocated in the Local Plans

Outside of employment allocations and existing employment areas, approximately 12 hectares of land has planning permission for employment uses as at 31 March 2025

Progress on site allocations in Local Plans and Neighbourhood Plans

A total of 112 sites are allocated for housing, employment, open space, care facilities or mixed-used development as at 31 March 2025

Approximately 13,436 new homes are allocated on housing or mixed-use sites. 4,553 new homes have been permitted of which 1,339 are complete

Approximately 107 hectares of land is allocated for employment development, of which 6 hectares has completed

6.3 Given the various updates to the National Planning Policy Framework, most recently in December 2024, there are now inevitably some inconsistencies with national planning policy in the two Local Plans; these are dealt with on a case-by-case basis in relation to planning applications.

6.4 Similarly, some changes to national legislation – for example, to the Use Classes Order in 2020 – also mean that some Local Plan policies/supporting text inevitably do not reflect these changes. However, this does not necessarily mean that these policies are out-of-date for development management purposes.

Appeal decisions

Appeal decisions	East Suffolk	Suffolk Coastal	Waveney
Dismissed	44	35	9
Allowed with conditions	18	13	5
Allowed without conditions	1	0	1
Total determined	63	48	15

6.5 The continuing very high dismissal rate (70% compared to 84% the previous year) shows that the Council was, overall, continuing to make 'correct' decisions on planning applications. Even in cases where appeals were allowed, it does not automatically mean that the Council got these decisions

‘wrong’. In many such cases, the Inspector simply reached a different planning judgment on the overall balance.

- 6.6 The policies most used related to design quality, residential amenity, and housing development outside Settlement Boundaries/in the Countryside. Other policies most referenced related to landscape character, residential gardens and infilling and biodiversity and geodiversity.
- 6.7 This underscores the importance of the development plan including strong design policies to ensure a high standard of aesthetic and functional design. As a primarily rural district, key policies manage development outside of settlements to ensure development is predominately in sustainable locations, with only limited appropriate development permitted in rural areas.
- 6.8 A small number of the appeals highlighted some weaknesses in the wording of the current policies of the adopted Local Plans. These weaknesses may be able to be addressed through amendments to these policies, or the inclusion of new/replacement policies, in the forthcoming East Suffolk Local Plan. These included two policies where the wording could have been clearer or address an issue more explicitly.
- 6.9 Policy SCLP5.5 Conversions of Buildings in the Countryside for Housing, criterion (b) requires the building to provide a positive contribution to the landscape; the appeal process highlighted that it could be clearer that this policy criterion relates to assessment of the contribution of the existing building, rather than the design of the proposed development.
- 6.10 WLP8.33 Residential Gardens and Urban Infilling does not require consideration to be given to more sustainable forms of drainage, and Policy WLP8.28 Sustainable Construction policy would not apply at this scale of development. This is therefore left to Building Regulation minimums or left implicit to 'landscaping' to also mitigate run-off. Greenfield sites in dense built-up areas are very valuable in terms of helping to manage stormwater run-off, and this value could be better reflected in this policy.
- 6.11 Of the appeals that were dismissed, several included reference to neighbourhood plan policies, suggesting that neighbourhood plans are continuing to have a meaningful influence on decisions.
- 6.12 Overall, the very high level of success the Council has had in dismissing appeals shows that the adopted Local Plans are performing well, and a high bar for design quality is being maintained.
- 6.13 The quarterly [Strategic Planning Committee](#) receives an update and analysis on the appeal decisions made following refusal of planning permission by East Suffolk Council.

Local Plan policies not being implemented

- 6.14 Regulation 34 of the Local Planning Regulations 2012 requires local authorities to identify which of their policies are not being implemented, to state the reasons why, and identify the steps (if any)

being taken to rectify this. Such policies may need to be amended or replaced, for example if they no longer reflect national guidance or are no longer relevant to the local area.

6.15 Suffolk Coastal Local Plan policy SCLP9.2 Sustainable Construction has a requirement that all new developments of more than 10 dwellings should achieve higher energy efficiency standards that result in a 20% reduction in CO₂ emissions below the Target CO₂ Emission Rate (TER) set out in the Building Regulations. This has been superseded by new [Part L Building Regulations](#), which was published in June 2021, with transitional arrangements until June 2023. The updated Part L requires an approximate 30% reduction in CO₂ emissions for new residential buildings relative to the 2013 Part L Building Regulation standards. This planning policy requirement is therefore no longer monitored.

6.16 All other policies are being implemented. A review of permissions issued since the adoption of the Local Plans shows that most of the policies that have not been used in decision making are generally related to site-specific allocations which have yet to be subject to a planning application.

6.17 The only other policies which have not yet been formally “applied” are SCLP5.17 Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople, WLP8.5 Gypsy and Traveller Sites, SCLP5.15 Residential Moorings, Jetties and Slipways and SCLP8.3 Allotments. Again, this is because of a lack of relevant applications triggering formal consideration of these policies.

Housing delivery

Indicator	East Suffolk	Suffolk Coastal	Waveney
Net additional homes completed 2024/25	752	508	244
Affordable homes completed 2024/25 (subset of net additional homes completed)	238	175	63
Number of bed spaces in care homes / equivalent dwellings completed 2024/25	5 bed spaces / 3 dwellings	5 bed spaces / 3 dwellings	0 bed spaces / 0 dwellings
Gypsy and Traveller pitches permitted / completed 2024/25	0 permitted 0 completed	0 permitted 0 completed	0 permitted 0 completed
Total housing delivered within plan period (plan period date)	N/A	3,822 (2018-2036)	2,764 (2014-2036)
net additional homes + equivalent dwellings provided in care homes			

6.18 Housing completions (including equivalent dwellings from C2 care homes, see para 6.19) in the Suffolk Coastal Local Plan area are just over the requirement to date: 3,822 completions against 3,794 requirement. In the Waveney Local Plan area, there has been under-delivery across the plan period: 2,764 completions against 4,114 requirement. As in previous years, this is not due to a lack of available sites and planning permissions, but more due to housing market weakness in the former

Waveney area, where values are lower than in the former Suffolk Coastal area (high mortgage rates, high materials costs and a relative lack of competition for some sites, for example).

6.19 The provision of housing for older people within care homes (residential institutions, use class C2) can be included in housing delivery figures. The contribution is based on the accommodation released in the housing market. As set out in the Housing Delivery Test measurement rule book (December 2024), for every 1.9 bed spaces in an institution, 1 housing unit is assumed.

- 73 equivalent dwellings completed in the Suffolk Coastal Local Plan area (2018-2025)
- 39 equivalent dwellings completed in the Waveney Local Plan area (2014-2025)

Gypsy and Traveller Pitches

6.20 Suffolk Coastal Local Plan Policy SCLP5.17 Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople supports the provision of 5 new pitches for Gypsies and Travellers and 2 new pitches for Travelling Showpeople. Waveney Local Plan Policy WLP8.5 Gypsy and Traveller Sites supports the provision of 17 new pitches for Gypsies and Travellers.

6.21 As at 31 March 2025, four additional pitches have been permitted and completed in the Waveney Local Plan area (in 2018) and none in the Suffolk Coastal Local Plan area. There are currently no planning permissions for new pitches in East Suffolk.

Small-scale housing development in the Countryside

6.22 Both Local Plans have policies allowing small-scale housing development within settlements within the Countryside (WLP8.7 and SCLP5.4). Although there are slight differences between them, both permit small amounts of additional housing where there are defined 'gaps' within existing built development. The [Housing in Clusters and Small Scale Residential Development in the Countryside Supplementary Planning Document](#) (2022) provides more guidance.

6.23 Net approval figures against SCLP5.4 and WLP8.7 are:

- **Suffolk Coastal: 27 dwellings (for the period 2020/21 – 2024/25)**
 - 2 homes completed as at 31 March 2025
- **Waveney: 11 dwellings (for the period 2019/20 – 2024/25)**
 - 5 homes completed as at 31 March 2025

NB these are net dwelling figures so exclude replacement dwellings, unless additional homes are proposed, and change of use of non-residential buildings into residential use or holiday lets to fully residential etc.

Waveney Local Plan

6.24 The need for the cumulative impact of the policies to be assessed is highlighted in the Local Plan supporting text. Waveney Local Plan Policy WLP8.7 requires that proposals of up to 5 dwellings will need to be assessed cumulatively with other developments in the Countryside (WLP8.6, WLP8.8 and WLP8.11, as well as others already consented under WLP8.7) to ensure that the level of development overall is not contrary to the Local Plan's spatial strategy (i.e. the distribution of growth between the different tiers of settlement size), with most of the growth going to the largest settlements and relatively little to the Countryside.

6.25 In the Waveney Local Plan area, a more detailed breakdown of permissions granted in the Countryside is as follows (figures are net to account for any demolitions/rebuilds):

- WLP8.6 Affordable Housing in the Countryside: 0
- WLP8.7 Small Scale Residential Development in the Countryside: 11
- WLP8.8 Rural Workers Dwellings in the Countryside: 2
- WLP8.11 Conversion of Rural Buildings to Residential Use: 24

6.26 As at 31 March 2025, planning permission breakdown for the spatial strategy is as follows (with the WLP1.1 breakdown for expected overall growth in brackets):

- **Lowestoft area (56%): 699 (29.2%)**
- **Beccles and Worlingham (16%): 339 (14.2%)**
- **Halesworth and Holton (8%): 591 (24.7%)**
- **Bungay (6%): 183 (7.6%)**
- **Southwold and Reydon (4%): 258 (10.8%)**
- **Rural Area (10%, with 70% of that in the larger villages, 20% in smaller villages and 10% in other rural settlements in the Countryside): 324 (13.5%)**

6.27 The overall conclusion in Waveney is that the scale of permissions in the Countryside is, whilst appearing slightly out of 'balance', it is not clearly disproportionate to either the Rural Area split or the overall distribution throughout the settlement hierarchy. A number of the larger allocated sites (such as North of Lowestoft Garden Village) will inevitably take more time to be approved and constructed, hence why the current Lowestoft figure appears low, at 29.2%. Therefore, there is not considered to be a case for, in principle, finding any conflict for new residential schemes of up to 5 dwellings under WLP8.7 at the current time. However, as noted elsewhere in this AMR, there is now

not a 5-year housing land supply in either Local Plan area, and so this is an important material consideration in the determination of most residential planning applications.

Suffolk Coastal Local Plan

6.28 Policy SCLP5.4 says that the cumulative impact of 'clusters' proposals will be a consideration in relation to individual applications. In total, 27 net dwellings have been consented since 2020 (the adoption date of the Local Plan). No parish has seen more than seven (net) dwellings consented (Sweffling) and therefore there is not considered to be a clear case for concluding that there might be significant cumulative impacts in any particular parish. However, each application will be considered on their own merits, so this does not rule out that any particular proposals may be refused (at least in part) on cumulative impact. It is important to note that there is no threshold related to the number of dwellings, and the [Housing in Clusters and Small Scale Residential Development in the Countryside Supplementary Planning Document](#) (2022) explains that the cumulative impact of permissions and completions will be considered in relation to the impact on the character of the cluster.

Allocations in newly-made Neighbourhood Plans

6.29 The [Easton Neighbourhood Plan](#) allocates a site for housing:

- Policy ETN3 Land south-west of Wickham Market Road for approximately 12 dwellings.

Statement of Housing Land Supply (5-year land supply)

6.30 As a result of the new national Standard Method for calculating housing needs, East Suffolk's need has increased by more than 80%. The implication of this is, with both Local Plans now more than five years old and must apply the Standard Method, is that there is not a five-year supply in either area.

6.31 The East Suffolk Statement of Housing Land Supply 2025 states (as at 31 March 2025):

- The Suffolk Coastal Local Plan area of East Suffolk has a housing land supply of 3.09 years.
- The Waveney Local Plan area of East Suffolk has a housing land supply of 2.88 years.

6.32 Further information can be found at <https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/housing-land-supply/>.

Housing Action Plan

6.33 East Suffolk Council produces an annual Housing Action Plan to check the progress and success of actions to secure housing delivery and enable the Council to take early steps to minimise the chances/extent of under-delivery. The Housing Action Plans can be found at www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/housing-action-plan/.

6.34 The latest Housing Action Plan (HAP) was published in July 2025. The Government does not currently require the Council to produce a Housing Action Plan, as East Suffolk passed the most recent Housing Delivery Test, but the Council committed to producing one each year, following the publication of the first Housing Action Plan in 2019. This document explains the plan to support the delivery of new homes, focusing primarily on the Council's role as Local Planning Authority. It reviews the number of homes built in recent years, identifies issues affecting the delivery of new homes, and outlines potential actions to help address them, noting that some of the biggest issues, such as the state of the economy and housing market, are outside the Council's control. The best way for the Council to support housing delivery and meet the new Government target is by having an up-to-date Local Plan with enough land allocated for housing. The timetable to begin work on the new East Suffolk Local Plan in late 2025 and with adoption in 2029 has been published.

Employment land delivery

6.35 9,719 sqm floor area of net employment uses (1.86 hectares of land) completed in 2024/25. The two largest schemes are for a 1,300 sqm extension to an existing printing business and the change of use of agricultural buildings to storage or distribution (1,000 sqm).

6.36 The Local Plans identify a need for approximately 54.7 hectares of new employment land with 92.61 hectares allocated to meet and exceed the identified need. Five sites, totalling 61 hectares, are solely for employment development. The largest site is a 20-hectare extension of the South Lowestoft Industrial Estate (Policy WLP2.17). A further six sites are for mixed-use, generally residential-led, and include some employment land, such as the North of Lowestoft Garden Village (WLP2.13).

6.37 To date, approximately 2.3 hectares has been developed across 3 sites. The [Employment Land Action Plan](#) reviews the delivery of the allocated employment sites, identifies issues that are influencing delivery and identifies actions the Council proposes to undertake to encourage delivery. The latest Employment Land Action Plan assesses the period up to 31 March 2024.

Environmental policies

6.38 Air quality in the district is generally good. Following an eighth year of nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) concentrations below the Air Quality Objective, a Revocation Assessment Report was produced and the remaining Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) located in Stratford St Andrew was revoked on 18 December 2024.

6.39 During 2024/25, nine proposals were refused at least partially as being contrary to the Historic Environment policy SCLP11.3 or WLP8.37.

6.40 No planning applications have been approved against the advice of the Environment Agency.

7 Sustainability Appraisal

7.1 The Sustainability Appraisal (SA) is an important part of the Local Plan making process. The Sustainability Appraisal process can be simplified as: (Stage A) collecting and analysing baseline evidence to help identify the key issues pertinent for the next Local Plan to address (setting Sustainability Objectives and a sustainability appraisal framework for assessing site allocations and policies), and then (Stage B) working as an iterative assessment of the sustainability of the emerging Local Plan's site allocations and policies, in a parallel process running alongside plan-making, up to the report collation and consultation stages (Stages C and D).

'Significant effects'

7.2 During this process the Sustainability Appraisal identifies which site allocations and policies may have 'significant effects' (positive or negative) against the Sustainability Objectives. The Sustainability Appraisal also establishes monitoring indicators related to the Sustainability Objectives e.g. to meet housing need > monitor how many homes are delivered. The SA monitoring indicators are distinct from, but often overlap with, the Local Plan monitoring indicators reported in the Planning Delivery Dashboard with some key statistics provided in Chapter 6. Local Authorities are only required to monitor the performance of Local Plans against Sustainability Objectives where the potential for 'significant effects' was identified. This helps to ensure that any unforeseen adverse effects can be identified, and remedial action taken if required.

7.3 This chapter therefore reports on the performance of the Local Plans for the 2024/25 monitoring period against the subset of Sustainability Appraisal monitoring indicators where 'significant effects' were identified. The findings for the significant effects indicators for each Local Plan are reported in Appendix 1.

7.4 Whilst some indicators are monitored annually by the Council or external bodies, others are monitored less frequently, for example through the national Census. Results for some indicators will change rapidly to signal recent changes such as housing completions or employment figures, whilst others such as health indicators will show changes and trends over a longer timescale. This means that it is not always possible, practical or useful to report on every indicator every year. Where data is not available, this has been noted in the table in Appendix 1.

Suffolk Coastal Local Plan Significant Effects

7.5 The Sustainability Appraisal of the Suffolk Coastal Local Plan identified one significant negative effect of the plan, namely the impact on soil and mineral resources. The SA of the Local Plan also identified two significant positive impacts: meeting the housing requirements of the whole community and achieving sustainable levels of prosperity and economic growth throughout the plan area.

Analysis of current monitoring year: Suffolk Coastal Local Plan

7.6 **Sustainability Objective: to meet the housing requirements of the whole community**
A total of 508 new homes have completed this year, slightly fewer than the previous monitoring year (533 total in 2023/24). Housing completions (including care home equivalent dwellings) are just over the requirement to date (3,822 completions and 3,794 requirement). 175 affordable homes were completed this year, compared to 191 the previous year. The policies to deliver the overall housing requirement and affordable homes appear to be performing well.

7.7 For affordable home tenures, the Local Plan requires 50% for rent, 25% for shared ownership and 25% for discounted market sale. For 2024/25 completions, 57% are social and affordable rents; 38% shared ownership; 4% discounted market sale and 2% First Homes. However, a number of these sites were approved under the previous policy which required 75% for rent tenures. As more sites approved under the current policies are developed the proportions of rent and ownership tenures are expected to even out.

7.8 81% of all new homes delivered this monitoring year were houses, with 12% bungalows and 7% flats. 41% of homes delivered were smaller properties (1 and 2 bedroom), with 34% being 3 bedroom homes and 24% being 4+ bedroom homes. The Suffolk Coastal Local Plan requires at least 40% of all new homes to be smaller, 1 and 2 bedroom homes. Therefore, completions this year meet that requirement.

7.9 An extension to an existing care home provides five additional bedrooms. Over the plan period, 129 additional bedrooms have been provided in care homes. There is a significant need over the plan period for this housing type. However, much of this will be delivered through the build out of a number of housing allocations in the Local Plan with a specific requirement to provide housing for older people (sites listed at paragraph 5.45 of the Suffolk Coastal Local Plan).

7.10 **Sustainability Objective: to conserve and enhance soil and mineral resources**
During 2024/25, 20% of new homes completed were on brownfield land (previously developed land) rather than on greenfield land. This is a decrease on the previous year of 30%. However, the 30% was an outlier compared with previous years and there will be significant annual change because of the limited supply of sustainably located brownfield land in East Suffolk. Data is not available at district level for changes in recorded soil quality, though information for individual sites is available via the UK Soil Observatory.

7.11 **Sustainability Objective: to achieve sustainable levels of prosperity and economic growth throughout the plan area**
An overall gain of 5,034 sqm employment floorspace / 0.69 hectares site area was completed this year (6,907 sqm gained – 1,873 sqm lost). This is compared to a net gain of 7,157 sqm the previous year. No development was completed on sites allocated for employment use.

7.12 Within the rural areas (outside of existing employment areas, employment allocations, or Settlement Boundaries), a net gain of 3,582 sqm employment floorspace was delivered, compared

to 6,262 sqm the previous year. Just over half of this floorspace is from the change of use of agricultural buildings to employment use.

7.13 The most recent data on employment by industry is for 2024. The most significant changes between 2024 and 2023 are within the 'Accommodation and food services' sector (decrease from 10.5% to 5.6%) and 'Transport & storage (including postal)' (increase from 11.6% to 14.5%). The largest sector remains the 'Wholesale and retail (including motor sales)' sector at 14.9%, followed by 'Health' at 9.7% and 'Manufacturing' at 9.6%.

Waveney Local Plan Significant Effects

7.14 The Sustainability Appraisal of the Waveney Local Plan identified one significant negative effect against the objective of conserving natural resources. As identified in the Sustainability Appraisal report, this relates primarily to the strategy of distributing growth around the Local Plan area which involves a level of development on greenfield sites which cannot be entirely mitigated for. The Local Plan was also predicted to have significant positive impacts, across a range of social, environmental and economic sustainability objectives, specifically: conserving natural resources, improving health and well-being, access to key services, meeting housing need, achieving economic growth, and enhancing the rural economy.

Analysis of current monitoring year data: Waveney Local Plan

7.15 **Sustainability Objective: to conserve natural resources**

During 2024/25, 22% of new homes completed were on brownfield land (previously developed land) rather than on greenfield land. This is a decrease of 7% on the previous year. It is expected that there will be significant annual change because of the limited supply of sustainably located brownfield land in East Suffolk. However, the Kirkley Waterfront and Sustainable Urban Neighbourhood allocation is predominately brownfield land.

7.16 3.4 hectares of high grade 3a agricultural land has been developed for housing and open space in Halesworth. The (windfall) application site area totals 16.3 hectares, with part of the site classed by [DEFRA](#) as agricultural land – grade 3a (3.4 ha) and grade 3b (6.51 ha). The application has provided 158 new homes on 5.8ha of land with the remaining land providing an equipped play area, open space and a cemetery extension.

7.17 **Sustainability Objective: to improve the health and well-being of the population**

It is anticipated that as recommendations set out in the [East Suffolk Cycling and Walking Strategy](#) (October 2022) are implemented, cycling and walking to work and school will increase amongst groups that are travelling to a place of work or education and to, from and within centres.

7.18 The percentage of adults (16+) that are active for an average of 150 minutes per week is available at district level. The latest data (November 2023-November 2024) shows 67.2% of adults are

participating in physical activity, up from 64.4% in the previous period. For comparison, the East of England average is 63.9% and England average is 63.7%.

- 7.19 32.6% of children aged 10-11 years in East Suffolk are overweight (including obese). This is an improvement from 35.2% in 2023/24. For comparison, the East of England average figure is 33.2% and the national average figure is 35.8%.
- 7.20 The percentage of adults (aged 18+) who are overweight (including obese) in East Suffolk is 65.5% in 2023/24, a decrease from 72.5% the previous year. However, the 2022/23 appears to be an anomaly compared to the previous years. For comparison, the East of England average figure is 65.9% and national average figure is 64.5%.
- 7.21 Life expectancy in East Suffolk shows that people under the age of one between 2021-2023 can expect to live to 83.7 years of age if they are female, or 80.4 years of age if they are male. These figures are higher than the England figures of 83.1 for females and 79.1 years for males. However, overall life expectancy varies significantly between the different wards of the district. Healthy life expectancy and disability-free life expectancy is measured at Suffolk level.
- 7.22 The [Healthy Environments Supplementary Planning Document](#) (June 2024) helps guide the delivery of built environments that support health, wellbeing and greater inclusivity through better active travel infrastructure, higher quality green open space and play provision, and homes, schools, and workplaces. Healthier development contributes towards improvements to key public health indicators such as healthy life expectancy, disability-free life expectancy, weekly activity engagement, and healthier weight status for adults and children.
- 7.23 **Sustainability Objective: to improve access to key services and facilities**
No specific metrics for monitoring the performance of the Waveney Local Plan against this Sustainability Objective have been identified. However, the drive to improve the accessibility of key services and facilities has been part of the impetus to bring forward the [East Suffolk Cycling and Walking Strategy](#) (October 2022) and the [Healthy Environments Supplementary Planning Document](#) (June 2024).
- 7.24 **Sustainability Objective: to meet the housing requirements of the whole community**
A total of 244 new homes have completed this year, 80 fewer than last year's total of 324. This remains below the annual target of 374 new homes per year. There has been under-delivery across the plan period (2,764 completions against 4,114 requirement) – this includes care home equivalent dwellings.
- 7.25 63 affordable homes completed this year compared to 84 in the previous year and reflects the lower overall delivery of new homes this year.
- 7.26 70% of all new homes delivered this monitoring year were houses, with 12% bungalows and 17% flats. The Local Plan requires at least 35% of new homes to be smaller 1 or 2 bedroom homes. It is likely that major sites of 10 or more homes have the greatest capacity to deliver a range of house

sizes. 46% of all new homes completed this year are smaller (1 or 2 bedroom), with 30% being 3 bedroom homes and 24% being homes of 4 or more bedrooms.

7.27 Social and affordable rent tenures account for 73% of affordable completions this year, similar to the previous year figure of 76%. Shared ownership and discounted market sale account for 11% each and First Homes 5%. As sites approved under the current local plan policy (50% rent and 50% shared ownership or discounted market sale) are built out the overall balance between rent and ownership tenures is anticipated to even out.

7.28 No care homes were completed this year. Over the plan period, 69 additional bedrooms have been provided in care homes. There is a significant need for specialist housing, including care homes and nursing homes, over the plan period. Some of this need will be met through the requirement to provide retirement communities as part of the development on allocations such as Kirkley Waterfront and Sustainable Urban Neighbourhood (WLP2.4) and North of Lowestoft Garden Village (WLP2.13).

7.29 **Sustainability Objective: to achieve sustained and resilient economic growth**
 An overall net gain of 4,685 sqm employment floorspace (1.17 hectares, site area) was recorded this year (5,318 sqm gained – 633 sqm lost). This is similar to last years net gain of 5,666 sqm / 1.11 hectares. No development was completed within the sites allocated for employment use. The two largest schemes are for a 1,300 sqm extension to an existing printing business and the change of use of agricultural buildings to storage or distribution (1,000 sqm).

7.30 An overall net loss of 1,485 sqm of town centre uses and leisure floorspace was recorded this year (275 sqm gained but 1,564 sqm lost), compared to an overall net loss of 31 sqm floorspace the previous year. Retail, cafes/restaurants and offices all recorded a net loss of 1,675 sqm floorspace with public houses and hot food takeaways recording a net gain of 191 sqm floorspace. Some of the floorspace losses are retained in alternative commercial uses such as business offices (use class E(g)(i)) and some to residential uses.

7.31 Town centre vacancy rates in the Waveney Local Plan area varies from 7% in Southwold to 23% in Lowestoft. Over the last year, the most significant change is in Bungay town centre, with a vacancy rate of 14% (15 vacant units) compared to 20% (22 vacant units) the previous year. This is the lowest rate since 2018 (11%).

7.32 There have been some shifts between most occupation types between the current (2024/25) and previous year (2023/24). The exception is for ‘administrative and secretarial occupations’ remaining at 12.3%. The most significant changes are those employed in ‘skilled trades occupations’ (increase from 11.7% to 15.4%) and ‘caring, leisure and other service occupations’ (decrease from 11.3% to 7.7%). N.B. amendments to some figures for 2023/24 have been made since they were reported in last years AMR.

7.33 The most recent data on employment by industry is for 2024. The most significant changes over the last year are within the ‘Accommodation and food services’ sector (decrease from 10.5% to 5.6%)

and 'Transport & storage (including postal)' (increase from 11.6% to 14.5%). The largest sector remains the 'Wholesale and retail (including motor sales)' sector at 14.9%, followed by 'Health' at 9.7% and 'Manufacturing' at 9.6%.

7.34 Sustainability Objective: to enhance the rural economy

A net gain of 1,000 sqm (0.7 hectares of land) was completed in the rural areas (outside of Settlement Boundaries, existing employment areas and employment allocations) for storage or distribution use.

7.35 A total of 167 additional new homes (49 affordable) were completed in the rural areas (outside of Settlement Boundaries), during 2024/25. However, 132 (49 affordable) of these are on sites allocated in the Local Plan at Beccles, Bungay, Halesworth and Wrentham. No care homes, extra care or sheltered housing have been delivered during the monitoring year.

Appendix 1 - Sustainability Appraisal significant effects indicators

Suffolk Coastal Local Plan – Sustainability Appraisal indicators with significant effects

Suffolk Coastal Sustainability Objective	Type of effect	SA Indicator	2024/25 data (unless stated) (performance compared with previous monitoring period)
To meet the housing requirements of the whole community	Positive	New homes completed in the monitoring year	Total: 508 (decrease, -25) of which affordable homes: 175 (decrease, -16)
		New homes approved in the monitoring year <i>Figures include approval of reserved matters and renewal of consent approved in previous years</i>	Total: 678 (decrease, -123) of which affordable homes: 191 (decrease, -26)
		Recorded homelessness rates	MHCLG Homelessness statistics East Suffolk, 2024-25 1,242 Households assessed; 1,221 Households assessed as owed a duty (98.3%) (increase, +2.4% assessed as owed a duty)
		Net additional dwellings – type, size and tenure	<u>Type (gross completions)</u> House: 81% (increase, +10%) Bungalow: 12% (increase, +5%) Flat: 7% (decrease, -15%) Mobile Home 0% (no change) <u>Size (number of bedrooms) (gross completions)</u> 1 bedroom: 11% (decrease, -9%)

Suffolk Coastal Sustainability Objective	Type of effect	SA Indicator	2024/25 data (unless stated) (performance compared with previous monitoring period)
			<p>2 bedrooms: 30% (decrease, -3%)</p> <p>3 bedrooms: 34% (increase, +6%)</p> <p>4+ bedrooms: 24% (increase, +5%)</p> <p>Not known: 0% (previous year, <1%)</p> <p><u>Affordable housing tenure types</u></p> <p>Social rent: 13% (increase, +13%)</p> <p>Affordable rent: 44% (decrease, -14%)</p> <p>Shared ownership: 38% (no change)</p> <p>Discounted market sale: 4% (increase, +3%)</p> <p>First Homes: 2% (decrease, -2%)</p> <p><u>Care homes</u></p> <p>Care home completions: 5 additional bedrooms provided in an existing care home (decrease, 66 bed care home completed last year)</p>
To conserve and enhance soil and mineral resources	Negative	<p>Percentage of development recorded on greenfield or brownfield land (previously developed land)</p> <p>Change in recorded soil quality</p> <p>Allocations recorded on best agricultural land quality (1,2,3)</p>	<p><u>New homes</u></p> <p>Greenfield land: 80% (increase, +10%)</p> <p>Brownfield land: 20% (decrease, -10%)</p> <p>Data not available at Local Authority level – information on soil quality on individual sites is available via the UK Soil Observatory</p> <p>Agricultural land quality impacts were considered during the assessment of site-specific policies of the Suffolk Coastal Local Plan. The wording of this indicator does not specifically require us to monitor change. The most useful information regarding soil</p>

Suffolk Coastal Sustainability Objective	Type of effect	SA Indicator	2024/25 data (unless stated) (performance compared with previous monitoring period)
			quality impacts is the percentage split of greenfield and brownfield development over this monitoring period as presented above.
To achieve sustainable levels of prosperity and economic growth throughout the plan area	Positive	Estimated new job creation	No data available.
		Net additional gains in employment land development <i>Use classes E(g), B2 and B8</i>	Gains: 6,907 sqm / 1 hectare Losses: 1,873 sqm / 0.31 hectares Net change: 5,034 sqm / 0.69 hectares (decrease, -2,123 sqm)
		Business formation rate	ONS, Business demography, UK, 2023 East Suffolk figures: Births: 790 (decrease, -55) Deaths: 920 (increase, +20) Active Enterprises: 9,385 (decrease, -190) <i>NB 2022 data has been updated since reported in last year's AMR, and changes between 2022 and 2023 reported here relate to updated data.</i>
		Number of businesses paying business rates	No data available.
		Numbers employed by industry <i>NB proportions are more useful</i>	NOMIS, Business Register and Employment Survey, 2024 East Suffolk figures: Agriculture, forestry & fishing (A): 1.9%; Mining, quarrying & utilities (B, D and E): 2.4%; Manufacturing (C): 9.6%; Construction (F): 5.3%; Wholesale and retail including motor trades (G): 14.9%; Transport & storage (incl. postal) (H): 14.5%; Accommodation & food services (I): 5.6%; Information & communication (J): 5.6%; Financial & insurance (K): 0.7%; Property (L): 2%; Professional, scientific & technical (M): 5.6%; Business administration & support services (N): 4.8%; Public administration

Suffolk Coastal Sustainability Objective	Type of effect	SA Indicator	2024/25 data (unless stated) (performance compared with previous monitoring period)
			& defence (O): 5.6%; Education (P): 5.6%; Health (Q): 9.7%; Arts, entertainment, recreation & other services (R,S,T and U): 3.2%

Waveney Local Plan – Sustainability Appraisal indicators with significant effects

Waveney Sustainability Objective	Type of effect	SA Indicator	2024/2025 data (unless stated) (performance compared with previous monitoring period)
To conserve natural resources	Negative	Number and percentage of dwellings completed on previously developed land	Brownfield land: 22% (decrease, -7%) Greenfield land: 78% (increase, +7%)
		Area of high grade agricultural land lost to housing and economic development	<u>Housing - sites of 10 or more dwellings (or 0.5 hectare or more)</u> 3.4 hectares (ha) of grade 3a land developed at Halesworth – 1.22 ha as residential development and 2.18 ha as open space (none in previous year) <u>Employment development – floorspace of 1,000sqm or more (or 1 hectare or more)</u> None (no change)
To improve the health and Positive well-being of the population		Proportion of journeys to work on foot or by cycle	The 2021 Census was taken on 21 March 2021. The national lockdown, associated guidance and furlough measures will have affected the travel to work topic. Figures based on Wards within the former Waveney district: Working mainly at or from home: 20% (increase, +15%) Travelling to work by bicycle: 4% (decrease, -2%) Travelling to work on foot: 9% (decrease, -2%)

Waveney Sustainability Objective	Type of effect	SA Indicator	2024/2025 data (unless stated) (performance compared with previous monitoring period)
		Percentage of population completing 3 x 30 minutes physical activity per week <i>Data no longer available</i>	Sport England, Active Lives Online , November 2023-November 2024. Adults 16+ active at least 150 minutes a week, East Suffolk figure: 67.2% (increase, +2.8%)
		Obesity in the population	Public Health England, Public Health Profiles , National Child Measurement Programme, 2023/24. East Suffolk figures: Children aged 10-11 (Year 6): 32.6% (decrease, -2.6%). Public Health England, Public Health Profiles , Active Lives Survey, Sport England, 2023/24. East Suffolk level: Adults aged 18+: 65.5% (decrease, -7%) NB 2022/23 figure of 72.5% seems to be an anomaly compared to previous years
		Life expectancy	Life expectancy for local areas: between 2001 to 2003 and 2021 to 2023, ONS , Life expectancy at <1 (East Suffolk, 2021-2023) 80.36 Males (increase, previous figures: 79.94, 2020-2022) 83.65 Females (increase, previous figure: 83.47, 2020-2022)
To improve access to key services & facilities	Positive	Accessibility to key services and facilities	No data available.
To meet the housing requirements of the whole community	Positive	Amount and type of new housing, including extra care/sheltered housing and number of care/nursing home beds	Total: 244 (decrease, -80) of which affordable homes: 63 (decrease, -21) Type (gross completions) House: 70% (increase, +10%) Bungalow: 12% (decrease, -2%) Flat: 17% (decrease, -8%) Mobile Home: 0% (decrease, -1%) Size (number of bedrooms) (gross completions)

Waveney Sustainability Objective	Type of effect	SA Indicator	2024/2025 data (unless stated) (performance compared with previous monitoring period)
			<p>1 bedroom: 10% (decrease, -13%)</p> <p>2 bedrooms: 35% (increase, +9%)</p> <p>3 bedrooms: 30% (decrease, -1%)</p> <p>4+ bedrooms: 24% (increase +6%)</p> <p>Not known: 0% (decrease, -1%)</p> <p><u>Affordable housing tenure types</u></p> <p>Social rent: 10% (increase, +3%)</p> <p>Affordable rent: 63% (decrease, -6%)</p> <p>Shared ownership: 11% (decrease, -11%)</p> <p>Discounted market sale: 11% (increase, +11%)</p> <p>First Homes: 5% (increase, +3%)</p> <p><u>Care homes</u></p> <p>Care home completions: none completed (no change – none completed last year)</p>
To achieve sustained and resilient economic growth	Positive	<p>Amount and type of employment development <i>Use classes E(g), B2 and B8</i></p> <p>Amount and type of retail and leisure development <i>Use classes E(a)-E(c), SG drinking establishments, SG hot food takeaways, E(d) and SG cinema</i></p>	<p><u>Employment development</u></p> <p>Gains: 5,318 sqm / 1.27 hectares</p> <p>Losses: 633 sqm / 0.10 hectares</p> <p>Net change: 4,685 sqm / 1.17 (2023/24 reported a net gain of 7,398 sqm / 1.31 hectares)</p> <p><u>Retail and leisure development</u></p> <p>Gains: 275 sqm</p> <p>Losses: 1,564 sqm</p> <p>Net change: -1,289 sqm</p> <p>(2023/24 reported a net gain of 31 sqm)</p>

Waveney Sustainability Objective	Type of effect	SA Indicator	2024/2025 data (unless stated) (performance compared with previous monitoring period)
		Jobs density	NOMIS, Jobs Density , 2023 East Suffolk - 0.87 (0.82, 2022)
		Employment by occupation	NOMIS, Annual Population Survey , 2024/25 East Suffolk figures: Managers, directors and senior officials: 10.2%; Professional occupations: 14.5%; Associate professional occupations: 16.3%; Administrative and secretarial occupations: 12.3%; Skilled trades occupations: 15.4%; Caring, leisure and other service occupations: 7.7%; Sales and customer service occupations: 4.9%; Process, plant and machine operatives: 7.7%; Elementary occupations: 11.1%
		Employee jobs by industry	NOMIS, Business Register and Employment Survey , 2024 East Suffolk figures: Agriculture, forestry & fishing (A): 1.9%; Mining, quarrying & utilities (B, D and E): 2.4%; Manufacturing (C): 9.6%; Construction (F): 5.3%; Wholesale and retail including motor trades (G): 14.9%; Transport & storage (incl. postal) (H): 14.5%; Accommodation & food services (I): 5.6%; Information & communication (J): 5.6%; Financial & insurance (K): 0.7%; Property (L): 2%; Professional, scientific & technical (M): 5.6%; Business administration & support services (N): 4.8%; Public administration & defence (O): 5.6%; Education (P): 5.6%; Health (Q): 9.7%; Arts, entertainment, recreation & other services (R,S,T and U): 3.2%

Waveney Sustainability Objective	Type of effect	SA Indicator	2024/2025 data (unless stated) (performance compared with previous monitoring period)
To enhance the rural economy	Positive	<p>Employment uses (E(g), B2 and B8) completed in the rural areas.</p> <p><i>Rural areas defined as outside of Settlement Boundaries (WLP1.2), existing employment areas (WLP8.12) and employment allocations</i></p> <p>Amount and type of new housing, including extra care/sheltered housing and number of care/nursing home beds within the rural areas</p> <p><i>Rural areas defined as outside of Settlement Boundaries (WLP1.2).</i></p>	<p><u>Employment uses completed:</u> 1,000 sqm gains (decrease, -3,905 sqm) 0 losses (no change) 1,000 sqm net gain (decrease, -3,905 sqm)</p> <p><u>Net additional homes completed:</u> 686% of all new homes have completed outside of settlement boundaries (167 of 244). However, 132 of these new homes are within housing allocations (policy WLP3.2 - Beccles, WLP5.2 – Bungay, WLP4.2 Halesworth and WLP7.8 - Wrentham). If excluding these plan-led housing allocations, the figure reduces to 17%</p> <p><u>Affordable homes completed:</u> 78% of all affordable homes have completed outside of settlement boundaries (49 of 63). However, 49 of these homes are within housing allocations in Beccles, Bungay, Halesworth and Wrentham). If excluding these plan-led housing allocations, the figure reduces to 7%</p> <p><u>Housing for older people:</u> No care home completions (no change)</p>



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