

Suffolk Chamber of Commerce Policy Group notes

Name of group	Transport and Infrastructure Group (TIG)
Date of meeting	Thursday 30 th March 2023
Chair/Author	Stephen Britt
Summary of presentations/guest speakers	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Jai Raithatha, Suffolk County Council: A14 Growth Corridor – developing a vision ii. Jeff Grubert, National Highways: J55 Copdock Interchange RIS3 update and next steps iii. Simon Amor, National Highways: Current A14 road replacement programme iv. Andrew Summers, Transport East: State of Rail in the East and next steps v. Paul Simon, Suffolk Chamber: 5G: Suffolk Chamber survey results and next steps 	
Key feedback/responses	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jai Raithatha set out the County Council’s overarching strategic growth vision. This will be a flexible and agile narrative that all leaders can articulate to facilitate growth. Business buy-in is key to its success. Timeline to match the emerging County Deal. - Jeff Grubert presented the 2021 options for Copdock J55 and the DfT process for VFM review. The Government’s response will be RIS3 – expected 2024. The need for improvements in RIS3 over RIS4 due to the Sizewell C project and the increased traffic it will bring. - Simon Amor was unable to join the meeting, so Jeff Grubert kindly explained the programme for replacing the concrete sections of the A14 which has now begun. - Andrew Summers Highlighted the 4 key priorities for rail: 1) decarbonising to Net Zero, 2) Connecting growing towns and cities 3) Energising coastal and rural communities , 4) Unlocking international gateways. We looked at the 8 strategic corridors for passengers and freight and alignment with national rail. A focus on multi-modal solutions and integration of improvements – particularly Ely and Haughley junctions. - Paul Simon reported on the outcome of the Chamber’s 5G Mobile survey and announced a stakeholder meeting in Summer, with a 5G Business Summit in Autumn. 	
Recommendations for Suffolk Chamber policy positioning	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Focus on and engagement with businesses in developing the SCC Strategic Growth Vision <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Lobbying for Haughley and Ely rail junctions, and Copdock A14 Junction improvements. - Lobbying for 5G rollout across the County - Decarbonisation and alternative fuel support for TE 	
Requests for group engagement/information	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establishment of A14 Growth Corridor Task & Finish group Chaired by Jo Churchill MP. Please advise Paul Simon if you would like to join this group. 	
Date of next meeting	Please hold October 10 th (TBC)