



POWERING THE UK, FEEDING THE UK, CONNECTING THE UK

Suffolk Economic
Strategy and Growth Plan

DECEMBER 2024

Suffolk Business Board



Mark Pendlington,
Business Board
Chair



Peter Brady, CEO,
Orbital Global and
VirTuri



Doug Field, CEO,
East of England
Co-op



Lisa Perkins,
Chair of Tech East



Oliver Paul,
Director,
Suffolk Food Hall



**Paul Ager, Divisional
Port Manager,
Associated British Ports**



Kelly Boosey,
Commercial
Manager , Oxford
Innovation



Leanne Gittins,
Managing Director,
LME recruitment



Tom Ball, CFO,
Ipswich Town FC



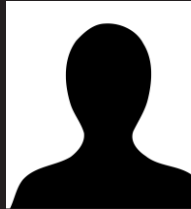
John Dugmore,
CEO, Suffolk
Chamber of
Commerce



Hannah Bloom,
Director of
Philanthropy and
Engagement,
Suffolk Community
Foundation



Nikos Savvas, CEO,
Eastern Education
Group



**Marek Hornak, Pro Vice-
Chancellor Commercial
and Academic
Partnerships, University
of Suffolk**



Matthew Hicks,
Leader, Suffolk
County Council



Richard Smith MVO,
Deputy Leader,
Suffolk County
Council



Andy Mellen,
Leader Mid Suffolk
District Council



Neil MacDonald,
Leader Ipswich
Borough Council

Big Picture

Insights & Global Trends



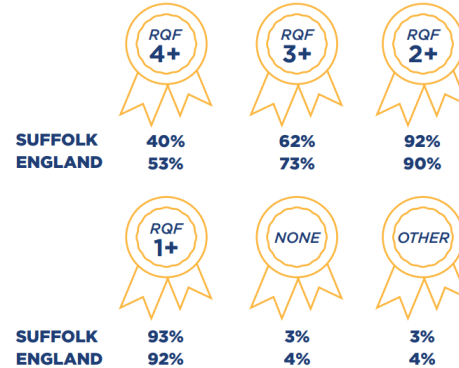
776,000 POPULATION
(2023) with **350,000 ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE**



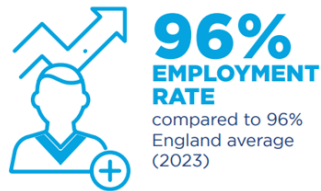
BELOW AVERAGE WAGES with opportunity for growth (2023)



QUALIFICATION LEVELS
in Suffolk (2023)



NATURAL CAPITAL
A Treasure of Protected Landscapes



HOME TO 30,945 BUSINESSES
(2022)



90% GROWTH IN BUSINESS INCORPORATIONS
over the last 5 years
(2019-2024, UK 39%)



19 NSIP SCHEMES
approved submitted or proposed over recent years including 14 energy projects in development



59% OF JOBS ARE IN LARGE BUSINESSES
(2023)



BUSINESS THAT START HERE, THRIVE HERE

Suffolk bucks the trend across England

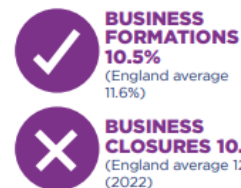


330 BROWNFIELD SITE
with **11,500 HOMES** potential.



STRATEGIC TRANSPORT

National and international connections by road and rail to London, the strategic growth corridors along A11, A12 and A14



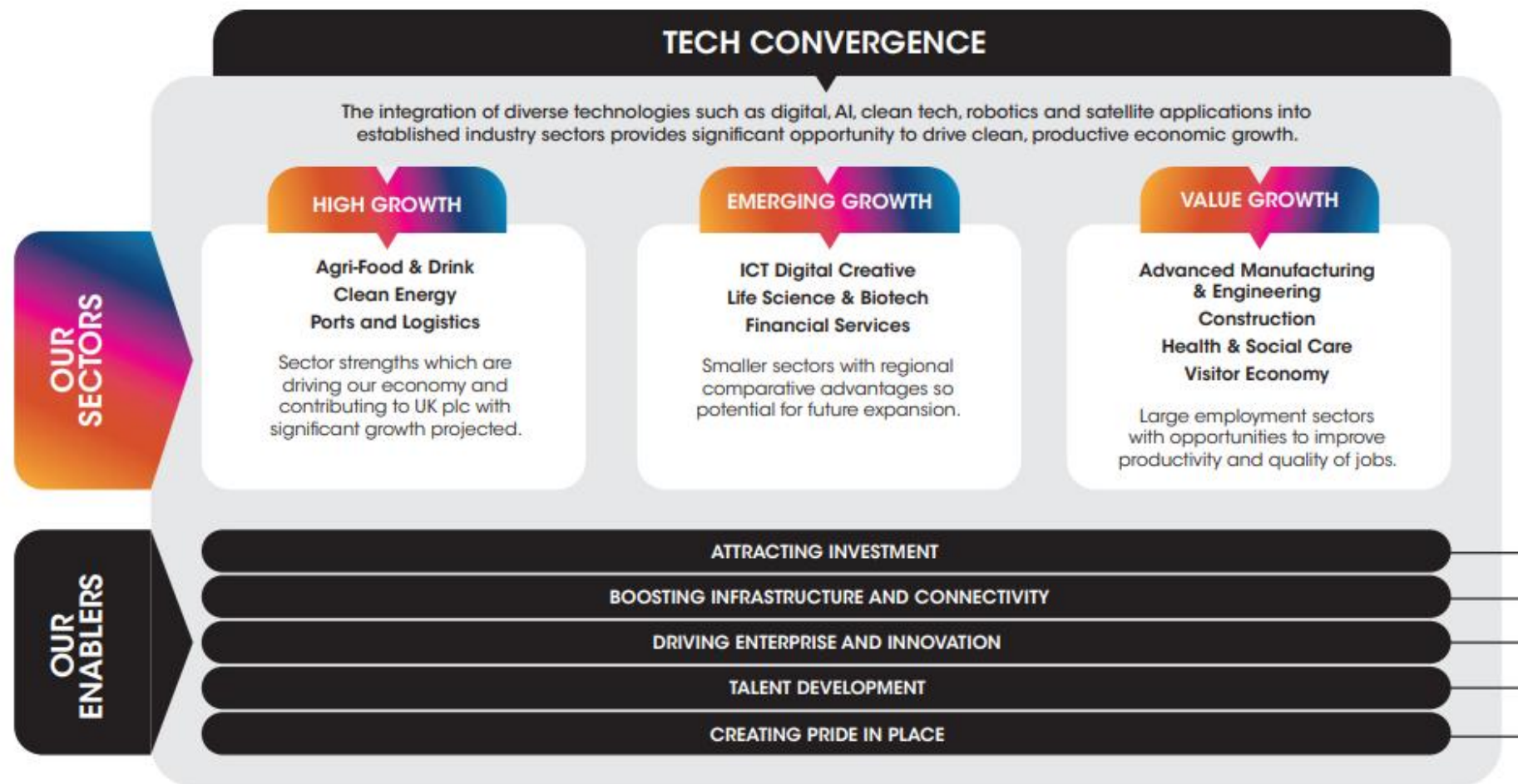
National

- New Government Policies
- Labour market shifts
- Regulatory environment
- Regional economic disparities

Global

- Global supply chain realignment
- Sustainability push
- Digital transformation
- Geopolitical uncertainty

Strategy Snapshot



Growth Opportunities & Enablers

Pioneering Tech Convergence

Tech Convergence

Integration of different technologies and platforms across different industries to create new products opening opportunities in new markets.

Tech Diffusion - the process by which technology innovations spread across industries, businesses, and organisations, ensuring broad access and impact.

Tech Transformation

Business, industry or an organisation change how it operates through the adoption of technology leading to productivity gains.



EPIC Suffolk

Four Pillars of Economic Transformation



ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

Achieving financial resilience & improved living standards for all.

PRODUCTIVE

Driving Innovation and boosting economic efficiency.

INCLUSIVE

Ensuring equitable access to opportunities and shared prosperity.

CLEAN

Leading in clean growth for a prosperous, sustainable future.

SUFFOLK

Pioneering Tech Convergence

Unlocking Business Benefits

Growth Potential

New market opportunities, resource efficiencies, access to local supply chains, enhance competitiveness.

Innovation

Opening doors to new technologies or sectors and enhanced productivity.

Reputation

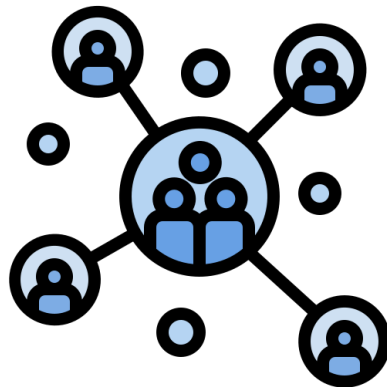
Fostering community loyalty, attracting talent and enhancing long-term sustainability.

Tangible Outcomes: Increased revenues, job creation, market expansion, resource efficiencies and savings, social impact, improved economic resilience, environmental sustainability , enhanced national competitiveness and shared risks.

Examples of Key Interventions



SUFFOLK ECONOMY
GRANTS
Think big, grow bigger



New grant programme opens 1st April 2025.
Aims to support micro, small, and medium-sized businesses with funding for digital transformation, innovation, and sustainability.

Local Area Energy Plan –a strategic framework that outlines Suffolk can transition to a low carbon energy system. It considers the unique characteristics, infrastructure, and needs of the area, providing a roadmap for achieving net zero carbon emissions.

Cluster Development – Feasibility study focusing on developing a clear understanding and roadmap of key sector clusters to drive innovation and growth in Suffolk.