



East Suffolk  
Community  
Partnerships  
*Bringing ideas to life*

## Community Partnership Board

Wednesday, 12 June 2024 at 10:00 AM

Venue: Carlton Marshes Visitor Centre, Burnt Hill Lane, Carlton Colville NR33  
8HU

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<b>10</b>	<b>Date of Next Meetings</b>  Wednesday 11th September, 1pm, East Suffolk House, Melton Wednesday 11th December 1pm, The Players Theatre Lowestoft	

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Minutes of a Meeting of the **Community Partnership Board** held at Snape Maltings (Snape Maltings, Snape, Saxmundham, Suffolk, IP17 1SP).

On Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 2pm

**Community Partnership Board Members Present:**

Councillor Caroline Topping - Chair of the Community Partnership Board and Leader of East Suffolk Council

Lisa Perkins - Current CPB Vice-Chair 2023/24 Adastral Park & Research Realisation Director for BT

Lesley Beevor – SALC representative

Roger Wright - Chief Executive of Britten Pears Arts, Snape Maltings

Councillor John Fisher - Chair of the Aldeburgh, Leiston, Saxmundham and Villages Community Partnership

Councillor Alan Green - Chair of the Carlton Colville, Kessingland, Southwold and Villages Community Partnership

Councillor Sarah Whitelock- Cabinet Member with responsibility for Communities, Leisure and Tourism

Councillor Sheryl Rumble – Vice Chair of the Beccles, Bungay, Halesworth and Villages Community Partnership

Councillor Rosie Smithson - Chair of the Felixstowe Peninsula Community Partnership

Councillor Ed Thompson - Chair of the Kesgrave, Rushmere St Andrew, Martlesham, Carlford and Fynn Valley Community Partnership

Councillor Sally Noble - Chair of the Framlingham, Wickham Market and Villages Community Partnership

Councillor Paul Ashdown - Chair of the Lowestoft and Northern Parishes Community Partnership

Councillor Dan Clery – Chair of the Transport and Travel Task Group

Louise Hardwick - NHS Ipswich and East Suffolk Clinical Commissioning Group

Councillor Michael Ladd - Suffolk County Council representative

**Others present:**

Luke Bennett (Partnerships Manager, East Suffolk Council),

Nick Khan (Strategic Director, East Suffolk Council),

Nicole Rickard (Head of Communities, East Suffolk Council)

Lorraine Fitch (Deputy Democratic Services Manager, East Suffolk Council)

Katy Cassidy (Democratic Services Officer, East Suffolk Council)

### **1. Welcome and apologies for absence.**

The Chair, Councillor Caroline Topping, welcomed Board members to Snape Maltings and thanked the team at Snape for hosting the Community Partnership Board meeting.

Apologies were received from Hannah Reid - Community Action Suffolk

### **2. Workshop: Making culture useful - breaking down barriers through music**

Roger Wright welcomed the Board to Snape Maltings and summarised the history of the site and their current events.

The Director of Music Programming delivered a presentation outlining some of the groups and workshops that were delivered.

- Snape Maltings hosted residential workshops, residency programmes, Think Tanks and Leadership Training.
- Creative Retreats – which provided a facilitated week of support for people working in challenging conditions such as hospice, women’s refuges. The retreats provide people with tools for building resilience and the opportunity to build a network of peers.

Snape Maltings also deliver a variety Community Partnership work through different groups that support older people, families and young people through music and the creative arts.

The benefit of creative arts on supporting physical and mental health was highlighted.

### **3. Minutes**

The minutes were agreed by consensus with the amendment that Michael Ladd sent apologies to the previous meeting and Councillor Alan Green had not attended the meeting in March 2024.

### **4. Performance Update**

The Head of Communities and Leisure and the Partnership Manager provided an update to the board on performance.

There had been 23 programmes funded. There was £66,975 remained available to allocate.

### **5. Feedback from Rural Proofing Workshop**

The Partnership Manager summarised the feedback from the rural proofing workshop, which would be circulated with the minutes.

The Partnership Manager highlighted the rural concerns and challenges. There was a mixture of understanding, and exercise had helped to bring people together to explore the issues in more depth.

Three commitments for the Board were outlined:

1. To seek/gather data on rural issues and gaps and use this to 'Pitch to Parishes' so they understand why engaging is important and what it can do for their rural community.
2. To coordinate information on what is available for, to and in, rural communities.
3. To nominate a Rural Champion at Board level and in each Community Partnership to drive this work forward.

It was **RESOVLED** to adopt the commitments by consensus.

## **6. Update on Demand Responsive Transport (Dan/Nick)**

Councillor Clery and the Strategic Director presented an update on the 'Buzabout' and 'KATCH' transport initiatives.

- Funding for the programmes concluded and it was felt that more time was needed to prove the effectiveness of the initiatives.
- Funding was applied for BCIP2 administered by Suffolk County Council.
- Funding of £61,000 for the 'Buzabout' scheme was awarded for two years of operation.
- The KATCH bus was not successful.
- There would be £18,000 of match funding to explore options for people with bus passes.
- Following discussion with Cabinet £90,000 was awarded to continue to the scheme for 12 months to April 2025
- A working group would be set up for longer term planning around the projects.

Councillor Ashdown asked if advertising of the bus pass use could go out to parishes. There would be marketing developed.

Councillor Fisher queried if the KATCH route could be extended to Saxmundham. Councillor Clery stated it was something to take to the working group, however as the project was in its pilot stage it could be challenging to extend the provision already agreed.

## **7. Community Partnership Updates (Sarah Whitelock)**

The third Chair's and Vice Chair development sessions were concluding with the final group workshop on 13 March 2024.

The Community Partnership Forum was due to take place on Friday on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024 at Trinity Park.

There was lots of good work taking place across all partnerships who were working hard to deliver on their priorities.

### **Felixstowe Peninsula Community Partnership**

The Felixstowe Peninsula Community Partnership were working on 3 priority areas:

- Supporting the community through the rising cost of living
- Improving the physical health and wellbeing of primary school children
- Increase physical and social activity in adults

The CP had supported the following projects under:

- Matched funding for Pushchair Pitstop's Uniform project – since developed into Uniform + Bank providing prom and interview wear with additional funding provided.
- There had been collaboration with Shoezone and the opportunity to access vouchers, second hand and new shoes.
- Prom Bank with Level Two and Suffolk New College, collecting used prom clothing, providing alterations for textiles and hair and beauty services.
- Rural pitstop was active in Kirton providing free nappies, clothes and non-perishable food. Community Nurses have been able to go out on site as well.
- Supporting the Lions' pilot 'Beds and Basics'
- Cost of Living flyer for households across the Peninsula

#### **Active Youth projects:**

- Matched funding for Youth Forum with Felixstowe Town Council
- Free swimming lessons for primary aged children lacking in confidence or unable to swim across the peninsula (which increased due to Covid)
- Upgrade Felixstowe Skatepark – connecting path to skating area

#### **Active Adults:**

- An upgrade to the bowling club facilities in Kirton and Felixstowe
- To provide a second-hand tender boat for Felixstowe Ferry Rowing Club; with support for 'Women on the Water'; and the provision of a Kayak store.
- Subsidised curling and seated exercise sessions
- Health and Wellbeing Fair

### **Beccles, Bungay, Halesworth and villages Community Partnership Update.**

The current priorities for the Partnerships were outlined:

- Tackling social isolation and loneliness for all ages including young people
- Improving physical and mental health and wellbeing, enabling people to live healthy and encouraging physical activity including cycling and walking.

**The CP had supported the following projects:**

- St. Luke's Lunch Club Continuation of subsidised 2 course lunches, nobody is turned away, there was increasing number of people who cannot afford to pay.
- Musical Lifelines Weekly (term time) 90-minute creative music sessions. Specifically aimed at those living with dementia, Parkinson's and experiencing loneliness
- 1st Bungay (School) Sea Scout Group / Scouting Summer Camp 2024
- Ringsfield, Weston & Redisham Community Council / Sew Useful - a craft club to teach sewing techniques, repair and upcycling skills
- Bungay British Legion Club - insulting loft to creating a better environment in our meeting rooms
- Black Shuck Festival Group Wellbeing Day
- Earthwake "Spring Rise" Project - a regular outdoor group, supporting holistic health & companionship for women
- Support Beccles Public Hall and Theatre to provide a more comprehensive and targeted youth offer, to ensure consistent activities and support are in place for local young people.
- Involve Breakaway Offer families in need and families of SEND's children a safe place to have a breakaway, supporting well-being and mental health

## **8. Outcome Proposals**

The Head of Communities and Leisure talked through the Outcome Proposals individually and due consideration was given to each proposal.

### **8A) Project 1: Tech Hub Proposal – Kesgrave, Martlesham, Rushmere, Carlford and Fynn Valley CP**

The project outline was summarised and considered by Board members. There were no questions.

It was **RESOLVED:**

**£10,000 of funding was agreed by consensus.**

### **8B) Project 2: Mental Health and Wellbeing Training – Beccles, Bungay, Halesworth and Villages CP and Aldeburgh, Leiston, Saxmundham and Villages CP**

The training would be delivered to a cross section of the community, including taxi drivers, hairdressers with a view to upskill people to be able to hold space safely, signpost or know

how to access support for anyone presenting concern or in distress. Consideration for people working in Churches to be considered and there was an aspiration to have materials available to promote towns being mental health aware.

Board Members discussed mental health and community-based support options.

It was **RESOLVED:**

**£18,000 of funding was agreed by consensus.**

**8C) Project 3: Box-Up – Lowestoft and Northern Parishes CP and three other CP areas (proposal for one of these to be in the Melton, Woodbridge and Deben Peninsular CP area)**

The project was noted as being the first of its kind in England. The boxes would be managed by East Suffolk Services Limited (ESSL). Access to boxes were managed through an app.

Board Members discussed the project in detail and outlined the flexibility of being able to move the boxes and security of the boxes and equipment.

It was **RESOLVED:**

**£24,800 of funding was agreed by consensus.**

**8D) Project 4: E-bikes Pilot – Framlingham, Wickham Market, Kelsale, Yoxford and Villages CP and Melton, Woodbridge and Deben Peninsular CP.**

The project was summarised for the Board's consideration.

It was **RESOLVED:**

**£10,800 of funding was agreed by consensus.**





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# Performance Overview

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East Suffolk Community Partnership Board

MARCH 2024

# Community Partnership Board Priorities



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**Social Isolation and Loneliness**



**Transport and Travel**



**Mental Health & Wellbeing – focus on young people**



**Covid Recovery in East Suffolk**



**Tackling Inequalities**



**23 programmes/projects funded...so far**

# Transport and Travel

Name	Update	CPB Funding	Match Funding
ESC Katch Demand Responsive Transport Pilot (CATS) <b>(Live)</b>	ESC Katch Demand Responsive Transport Pilot (CATS) - Service has operated six days p/w for <b>10</b> months -Served over <b>2,237</b> passenger journeys - £90,000 allocated, <b>£32,862.30</b> remaining as at 28 February 2024. <b>The not for profit operator refunds any fares over their daily breakeven rate and have to date refunded £819.35.</b>	£90,000 allocated, £32,862.30 remaining	£5,324 +£3,200
Buzzabout Demand Responsive Transport Pilot (BACT) <b>(Live)</b>	Buzzabout Demand Responsive Transport Pilot (BACT) - Initial pilot operated two days per week (Monday and Thursday) from July 2022 to 31 Aug 2023 - Total <b>568</b> passengers. Extension launched 5.9.23 for 12 months, operating on two days per week. <b>Operating days amended to Tuesday and Thursday, as passenger numbers were low on Mondays, and the area covered was altered to include shopping areas not served by public transport.</b> Served over <b>871</b> passenger journeys <b>September 2023 - January 2024</b> - £80,000 (£50,000 + £30,000) allocated, <b>£16,993</b> remaining.	£80,000 (£50,000 + £30,000) allocated, £16,993 remaining	£1,000
Aldeburgh/Leiston/Sax DRT Pilot	Decided not to proceed and reallocate funds to support existing DRT pilots. £18k redirected to match fund BSIP2 funding application.	£50,000	£0
365 Flexiroute App <b>(Live)</b>	In use on Katch Pilot only.	£14,500	£0
Active Travel Project <b>(Live)</b>	Still under review. Decision will be made by end 3/24	£20,000	£0

# Mental Health and Wellbeing

Name	Update	CPB Funding	Match Funding
Well Minds East Suffolk	<p>Programme included 'The Essentials' training for community groups/youth organisations, small grants for VCFSE organisations, Theatre in Education programme and Cuppa and Chat projects. Well Minds small grant programme has funded five projects to date totalling £12,172.</p> <p><b>Remaining Funding rolled into Tackling Inequalities programme</b></p>	£122,900 allocated, £18,728 remaining	£81,500
SPOT Wellbeing (Live)	Funding to expand the pilot project in the Kesgrave, Martlesham, Rushmere, Carlford and Fynn Valley CP area to the other seven CP areas – 9 health and wellbeing courses focussed on keeping people well for as long as possible	£12,600	£2,800

# Tackling Inequalities

Name	Update	CPB Funding	Match Funding
Ease the Squeeze Cost of Living programme <b>(Live)</b>	Contribution to the circa £1 million (including staffing) East Suffolk cost of living programme co-designed with partners – 12 key projects and Community Help Hub	£100,000 allocated	£870,000
Tackling Inequalities programme <b>(Live)</b>	Contribution agreed at December 2023 Board meeting toward a programme of 14 projects focussing on three key areas – Mental Health and Wellbeing, Tackling Poverty and Children and Young People’s Health Outcomes. The two Disability Support Service projects, Ease the Squeeze projects, Oral Health projects, Volunteering campaign and Mental Health leaflet are all well underway	£146,000 allocated + £18,728 underspend from Tackling Inequalities	£139,000

# Budget Summary - Present

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2023-24 income	£300,000
Allocations 23/24 (not including today's requests)	£233,025
Balance left to allocate	<b><u>£66,975</u></b>

**Rural Proofing – Notes from Community Partnership Board workshop, December 2023**

**H.Reid, Chief Executive, Community Action Suffolk**

Rural proofing is a process of reviewing policies through a rural lens, to make them fit for purpose for those living and working in rural communities

**Why should Community Partnerships use a rural proofing approach?**

All decisions made by the Community Partnership will have an impact on rural areas as all Community Partnerships have rural areas. It is important that these decisions impact fairly on rural areas taking into consideration the challenges they face and their unique assets. Rural proofing helps to

- enable the achievement of the Community Partnership's stated priorities through delivery of impactful projects;
- understand the scale of that direct and indirect impact and what actions need to be taken for the best outcome for rural areas;
- contribute to local growth by achieving good economic, environmental and social solutions;
- demonstrate understanding of the area, encourage collaboration and commitment to equity for all;
- provide a framework to work with which supports opportunities to discuss, reflect and evidence whether the Community Partnership's priorities and subsequent projects are equally accessible to all
- influence the development of stronger projects/services to ensure equity.

Table Discussion:

- Is your Community Partnership **actively** Rural Proofing?
- What more could you do?

*Notes from table discussions:*

Overall, while there are elements of Rural Proofing going on across Community Partnerships and a definitive acknowledgement of rural concerns and challenges, notes highlight that more could be done in an **active** manner to make it more visible and prioritised. For some, this workshop was the first time they had heard the terminology as there have been changes in Board membership.

There was a good knowledge of the challenges and issues faced by rural communities - transport/accessibility was specifically referenced by each table and the associated costs, including discussion on equity of funding for rural areas being a key concern. Also noted was recognition that challenges are constant and that to measure success, logic modelling and outcomes focused approaches could prove useful.

Challenge was noted where rural residents have to travel to urban centres for provision of activities/groups. It was felt that taking services to communities could be beneficial - mobile provision, hubs and digital inclusion all cited as key, and that understanding volunteering data/trends would be useful to pursue a collective drive for volunteers where needed. One CP cited that attracting volunteers from parishes to attend meetings was difficult to give a rural perspective.



Various notes were recorded for activity/ideas that could be explored to solve some of the rural challenges:

- Making people aware what is available (Connecting Communities, Katch, Buzzabout)
- Explore bike/moped schemes
- Engagement – go to them
- Ask the right questions
- Look at costs – e.g. comparison of £3 single from Campsea Ashe to Wickham market v. £2 single from Beccles to Norwich
- Accessibility – where do they actually want to go?
- Impact on young people getting to education
- Santander offer for travel
- Transport Hub – Suffolk on Board
- Promote in a way that people understand
- Reliable alternatives to cars
- Entertainment – Young People
- 21<sup>st</sup> century Community hubs
- ‘Box Up’ – lots of potential
- BT Adastral Park apprentices
- Accommodation – Elizabeth Court, Aldeburgh – visiting students
- Asset mapping
- Employer Supported Volunteering (ESV)

It is important to capture these notes as they could prove useful to identify specific schemes of work to take forward/prioritise. However, while many of these are potential solutions to specific rural challenges, each Community Partnership should consider **how to apply a rural lens** to all the work they do. For example, if an activity is set up to address social isolation in an urban area, how could residents in surrounding rural villages also access it with equitable ease to those in the urban area? Or do they need to – could the activity travel into the rural areas on a regular basis or something be set up in mirror in the rural area if social isolation is also a concern there?

It's not to say every action/decision should be replicated, duplicated or extended; however, it is about showing the consideration of rural pressures has been made.

### **Commitments:**

3 commitments were made by the board to take forward.

1. To seek/gather data on rural issues and gaps and use this to ‘Pitch to Parishes’ so they understand why engaging is important and what it can do for their rural community.
2. To coordinate information on what is available for, to and in, rural communities.
3. To nominate a Rural Champion at Board level and in each Community Partnership to drive this work forward.



**Summary:**

The board have clearly identified where the gaps are and have shown support to continue and increase Rural Proofing. The 3 commitments made, if actioned, would be good steps toward building a foundation of rural proofing in the community partnerships based on data and local intelligence/expertise. It will require coordination, monitoring and regular review at Board level which could be led by the Board Rural Champion. I would also highly recommend each community partnership commits some time to reconsider their individual rural proofing toolkits.



## East Suffolk Community Partnership Board

### Background Briefing Paper for Priorities and Ways of Working Workshop

June 12, 2024

#### Introduction and Background

1. When the eight Community Partnerships and Board were formed in 2019, the Board priorities were the two highest scoring priorities on aggregate from those identified across the eight Community Partnership workshops (held in October and November 2019). The workshops were held to help identify the priorities for the individual Community Partnerships, based on both data and local insight about assets and needs. In late 2019, these priorities were confirmed as 'Social Isolation and Loneliness' and 'Transport and Travel'.
2. Shortly after the first round of meetings of the Board and individual partnerships were held in early 2020, the Covid-19 pandemic struck. During that year, Board and Community Partnership meetings moved online and 'Covid Response and Recovery' was identified as an additional priority for the Community Partnership Board.
3. In 2021, the Board agreed that it would also focus on Mental Health and Wellbeing (which was the third highest scoring priority at the 2019 workshops), given the close links between Mental Wellbeing and both Social Isolation and Loneliness and Covid Recovery. In 2023, the Board replaced Covid Response and Recovery with a broader priority around Tackling Inequalities following a workshop on that theme at their September meeting.
4. The current Community Partnership Board priorities are therefore:
  - a. Social Isolation and Loneliness
  - b. Transport and Travel
  - c. Mental Health and Wellbeing
  - d. Tackling Inequalities
5. Since 2019, each of the Community Partnerships has reviewed their priorities on an annual basis, using updated data packs and workshop discussions to inform the priority setting process. Some Community Partnership now have completely different priorities to those agreed in 2019 whilst others have changed their priorities very little. The current priorities for each Community Partnership are set out in Appendix A to this report.
6. In many ways, how the Board and Partnerships work is as important as what they focus on and two pieces of work have influenced this aspect of Community Partnership

working – the Peer Review Deep Dive of Community Partnerships held in 2021 and the recent Community Partnership Chair, Vice Chair and Communities Officer Development Session, facilitated by Oliver and Company, held over three workshop sessions earlier this year.

## **Workshop Part 1: What We Focus On**

### **East Suffolk Data Pack**

7. As outlined above, the original priorities for the Board were set in 2019 and informed by a Data Pack which set out available data around a range of themes, with a specific focus on East Suffolk and (where data at smaller geographies was available) the Community Partnership geographies. This pack was updated in late 2021 and used to inform the refresh of priorities for the Board.
8. Since the March 2024 Board meeting, work has been done to update the Data Pack and wherever possible to include data about a wider range of themes to fill previously identified gaps. The revised 2024 version of the Data Pack is attached as Appendix B to this report. This will be presented briefly at the meeting.
9. An overview of key themes emerging from the Data Pack has also been produced and this is attached as Appendix C to this report.
10. The Board priorities i.e. what the Community Partnership Board focuses on will be the focus of the first half of the workshop at the Board meeting. As additional context, the themes now covered within more than one Community Partnership priorities that are not reflected in the four Board current priorities are:
  - physical health and wellbeing/activity
  - environmental improvements
  - young people.
11. The Board may wish to consider the following points when thinking about what changes, if any, to make to their priorities:
  - Does the data/insight show that there is unmet need?
  - Is there another organisation/partnership focussing on this already i.e. can the Board genuinely add value?
  - Can the Board and its partners realistically impact on this area of need?
12. Board members are asked to consider the following question:

**Workshop Question: Considering the content in the revised East Suffolk Data Pack (Data), what you and your organisation know about East Suffolk communities (Insight) and the aspirations of your organisation, should any changes be made to the CP Board priorities?**

## Workshop Part 2: How We Work

### Peer Challenge Action Plan

13. The challenge took place over three days (12 – 14 October 2021) – just under two years after the Community Partnerships were launched.
14. East Suffolk Council asked the Team *“What can we do to enhance the Community Partnerships and what changes might be required to make them more effective in the future?”*
15. The Challenge Team structured the review around three themes - People, Process, Outcomes - and in their final report made the following recommendations.
  - i. Take time to reflect, review and reset the compass for Community Partnerships.
  - ii. Celebrate what you have achieved.
  - iii. Manage the transition from virtual meetings to an increased face-to-face format to support relationship building.
  - iv. More effective communication within and across the CPs and the CP Board
  - v. Further engage with communities of interest e.g. young people
  - vi. Invest in creating increased capacity and capability in the wider system.
  - vii. Create a learning and development plan to support the next phase of delivery. (Chairs, Vice Chairs and Officers)
  - viii. Quick win – Improve communication between CPs and outwards with localities
  - ix. Consider strategic sponsorship of CPs from across the organisation
  - x. Build stronger linkages through locality teams e.g. economic development and health
  - xi. Ensure all related processes and commissioned support are congruent with your vision for CPs
  - xii. Review grant and funding processes
  - xiii. Move away from traditional meeting style
  - xiv. Understand how you identify success, impact, and ROI
  - xv. Make the shift to more facilitative problem solving
  - xvi. Develop a robust evaluation framework.
  - xvii. Strengthen oversight – ensure grip.
  - xviii. Engage all stakeholders internal and external on the next steps for Community Partnerships.
16. Good progress has already been made to address the recommendations made by the peer review team which were developed into a more detailed action plan with implementation of the plan overseen by the Cabinet Member, CP Chairs and Communities Officers. However, there are several outstanding actions where more needs to be done:

#### **1 People**

- Support CP Chairs/Vice Chairs to deliver their individual CP action plans

- Support CP Chairs and officers to increase the number of external people with specific knowledge / skills / resources that will help to deliver their priorities
- Do more to ensure we hear underrepresented voices - especially young people who can shape CP priorities and activities

## **2 Process**

- Do more to communicate more widely what CPs do
- Move further away from focussing on the funding and promote the wider impact of the CPs

## **3 Outcomes**

- Ensure that all CPs develop more targeted priorities and SMARTer outcomes
- Significantly improve to quantity and quality of the impact measures that all CPs obtained from their projects

## **Community Partnership Chairs Training**

17. Following the elections in May 2019, all but one of the Community Partnership Chairs changed and it was agreed that it would be useful for the Chairs, Vice Chairs and Communities Officers to undertake a programme of training with Oliver and Company to support the learning and development of all participants and the further evolution of the eight Community Partnerships.

18. Three face to face full day workshops were held in different locations across the District between November 2023 and March 2024 and were very well attended by the Chairs, their Vice Chairs and the Communities Officers. A full report was produced from each workshop. Key themes were then distilled from each and an overview report produced, including fourteen key recommendations. This overview (with the recommendations on the first two pages) is attached as Appendix E to this report.

19. The key themes of the fourteen recommendations are:

- Purpose, vision and goals
- Community Partnership definitions
- Principles
- Impact measurement
- Meeting essentials
- 'offers' and 'wants'
- CP role descriptions
- Meeting ground rules
- Increasing involvement in CPs
- Energy and limiting assumptions
- Rural proofing
- Poverty proofing, and
- Communications

as well as securing the future of the partnerships and Board beyond March 2025.

20. The Peer Review report and the CP Chairs Training Report are therefore key inputs into the second part of the workshop where the Board will be asked to consider the following question:

**Workshop Question 2: What else should the Board do to help the eight Community Partnerships, and the Board itself, to work even more effectively?**

**Recommendations**

**It is recommended that the Board consider the material provided in advance of the workshop (the Data Pack and Data Pack summary, Peer Review Action Plan overview and Development Sessions overview) and consider the two questions (set out above):**

- 1) Considering the content in the revised East Suffolk Data Pack (Data), what you and your organisation know about East Suffolk communities (Insight) and the aspirations of your organisation, should any changes be made to the CP Board priorities?**
- 2) What else should the Board do to help the eight Community Partnerships, and the Board itself, to work even more effectively?**

Nicole Rickard, Head of Communities and Leisure, East Suffolk Council

Luke Bennett, Partnerships Manager, East Suffolk Council

## **Overview of Community Partnership Priorities 2024-25**

### **Community Partnership Board (review at June 2024 Board meeting)**

1. Isolation and Loneliness
2. Transport and Travel
3. Mental Health and Wellbeing
4. Tackling Inequalities

### **Aldeburgh, Leiston, Saxmundham and villages Community Partnership priorities:**

1. Improve mental health and wellbeing
2. Oral health care for children and young people
3. Supporting hubs to bring services together

### **Beccles, Bungay, Halesworth and villages Community Partnership priorities:**

1. Tackling social isolation and loneliness for all ages
2. Improving physical and mental health and wellbeing, enabling people to live active, healthy lives
3. Conserving and enhancing the natural environment and heritage assets

### **Carlton Colville, Kessingland, Southwold and villages Community Partnership priorities:**

1. Reduce social isolation and loneliness
2. Facilities, activities and employment for young people

### **Felixstowe Peninsular CP Priorities:**

1. Improving social isolation and loneliness
2. Enabling opportunities for adults including carers, to build their life skills and wellbeing
3. Improving opportunities for young people including carers, reducing anti-social behaviour and drug use
4. Improving air quality

## **Framlingham, Wickham Market, Kelsale, Yoxford and villages Community**

### **Partnership priorities:**

1. Transport (especially around health appointments & isolated communities)
2. Mental health (all ages) – links to lack of physical activities available
3. Enabling communities to share skills and knowledge within and between communities
4. Facilitate opportunities for local people to care for the environment and biodiversity (Cross-Cutting Theme)

## **Kesgrave, Rushmere St Andrew, Martlesham, Carlford and Fynn Valley Community**

### **Partnership priorities:**

1. Support, encourage and enable everyone to become more active, and enable 'active travel' as an alternative option.
2. Road and traffic safety.
3. Environmental improvements

## **Lowestoft and Northern Parishes Community Partnership priorities:**

1. Improve healthy eating and activity levels in children by targeting and engaging with year 5 staff, children and parents through communication and education
2. Reduce social isolation and loneliness in Lowestoft Central, Kirkley and Gunton West wards
3. Improve mental health and wellbeing by following the 5 Ways to Wellbeing' – Connect/Get Active/Take Notice/Learn/Give

## **Melton, Woodbridge and Deben Peninsular Community Partnership priorities:**

1. Increase access to activities or options that support physical, mental, and environmental well-being for local rural communities and for all ages.

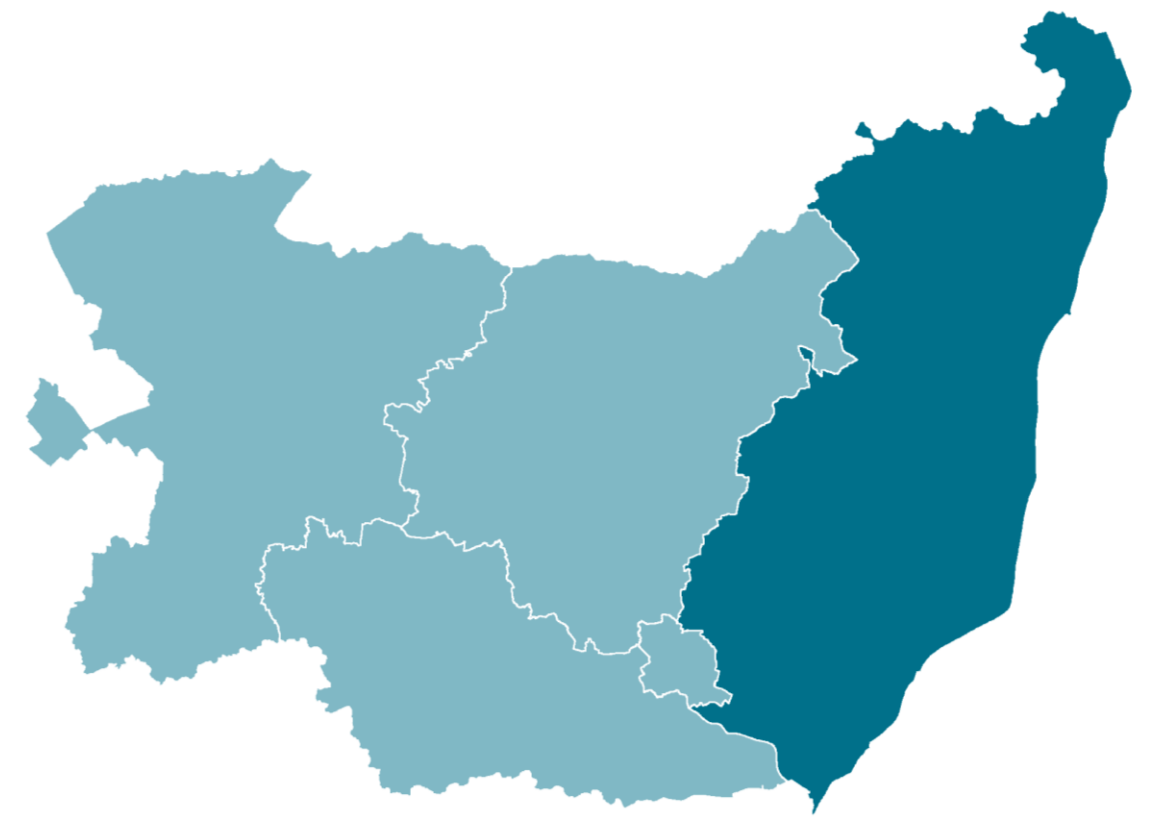




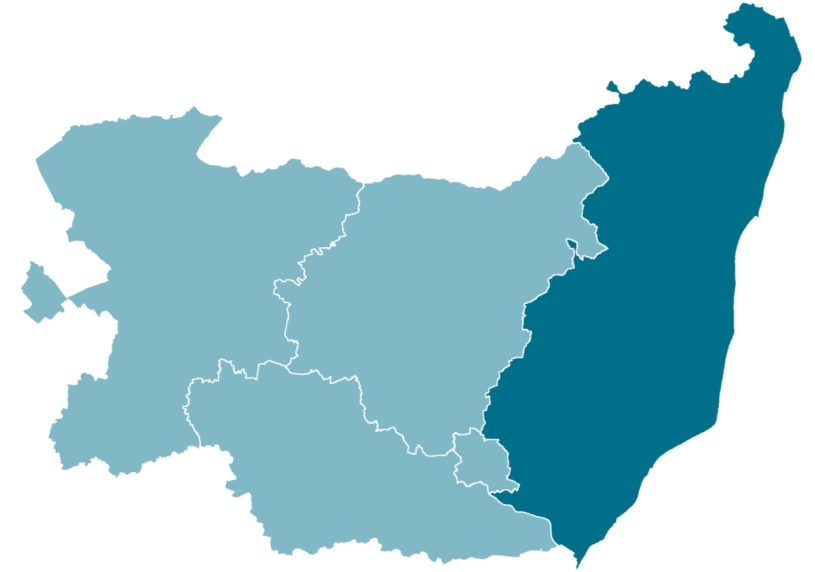
# East Suffolk Profile May 2024



East Suffolk  
Community  
Partnerships  
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# Population



East Suffolk  
Community  
Partnerships

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# Population

## Key facts



Total population

**246,058**



Largest age group

**70-74**



Smallest age group

**80-84**

**94%**

of East Suffolk residents  
were born in the UK



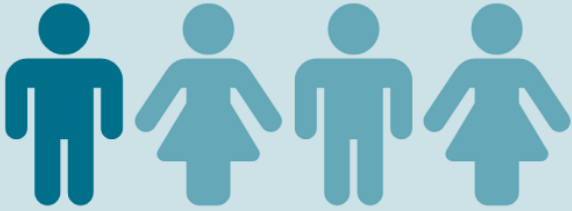
There are **68,309**  
people aged over 65 in  
East Suffolk



**3,766**  
people aged 90 or  
over

# Population

## Key facts



More than **1 in 4** people are aged 65+

27.8%; national average 18.4%



Just over **1 in 6** are aged 16 and under

16.0% v national average 18.6%

Population by broad age group for East Suffolk (2021)



# Population Age breakdown

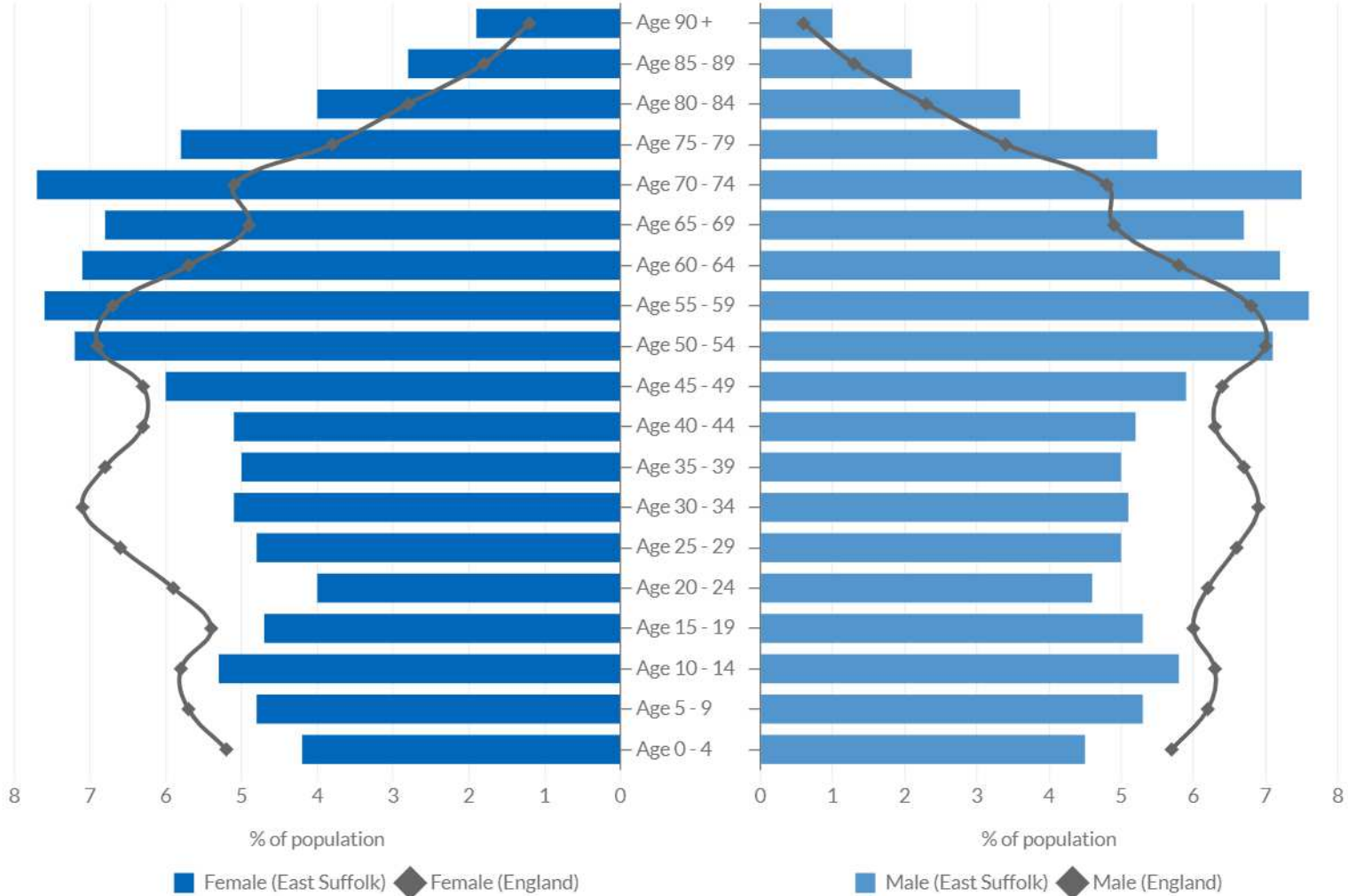
The age pyramid shows the age breakdown of the population of East Suffolk against the national average

Most over-represented age group: **85+**

Most under-represented age group: **25-29**

All groups below the age of 50 account for a smaller proportion of the East Suffolk population than they do across England as a whole

Percentage of population by 5-year age groups (2021)



Source: ONS, Census 2021



29,770

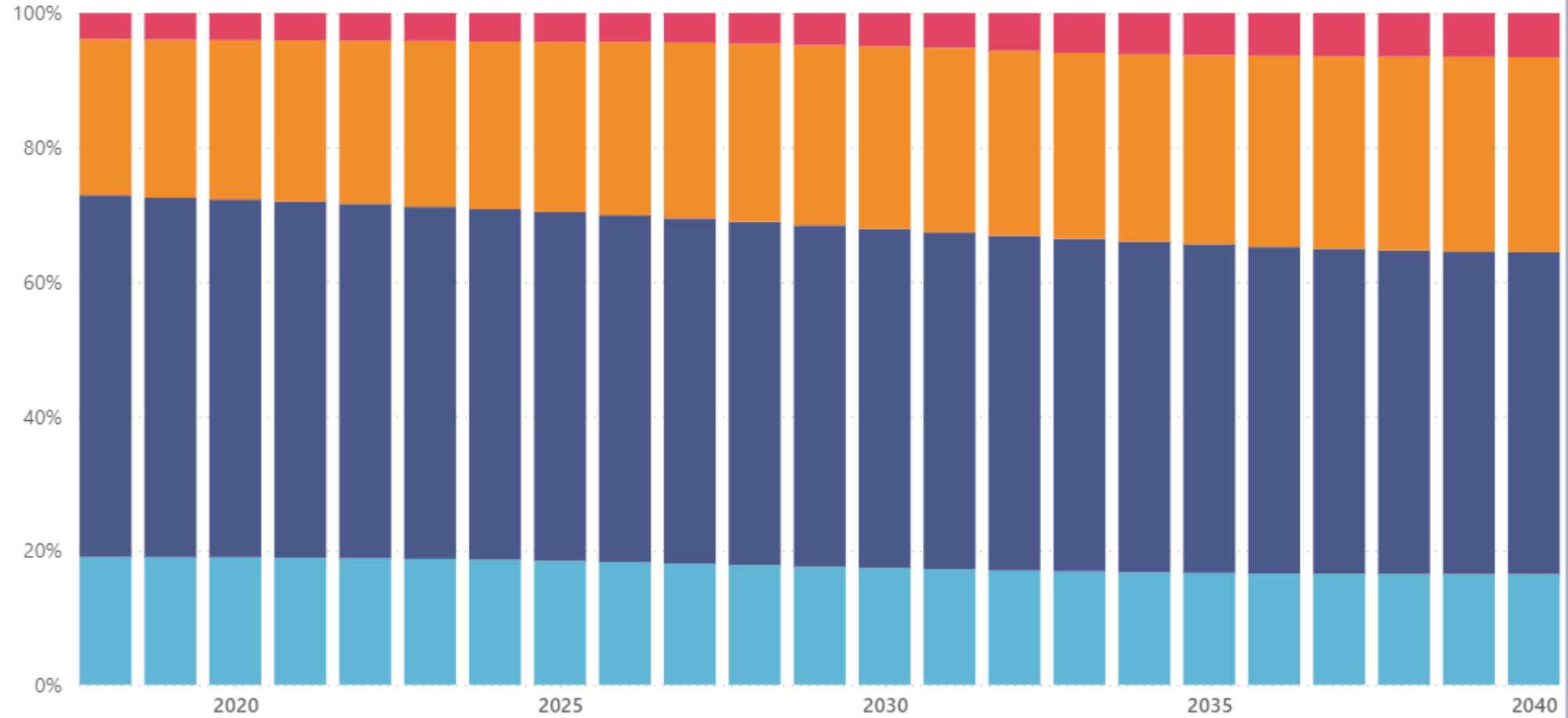
Projected population change over selected period

12.0%

Percentage projected population change over selected period

### Projected proportion of population by Broad Age Group

Broad age group ● Under 18 ● 18 to 64 ● 65 to 84 ● 85+



2018

2040

Enter years from 2018 to 2043

Projection to 2030

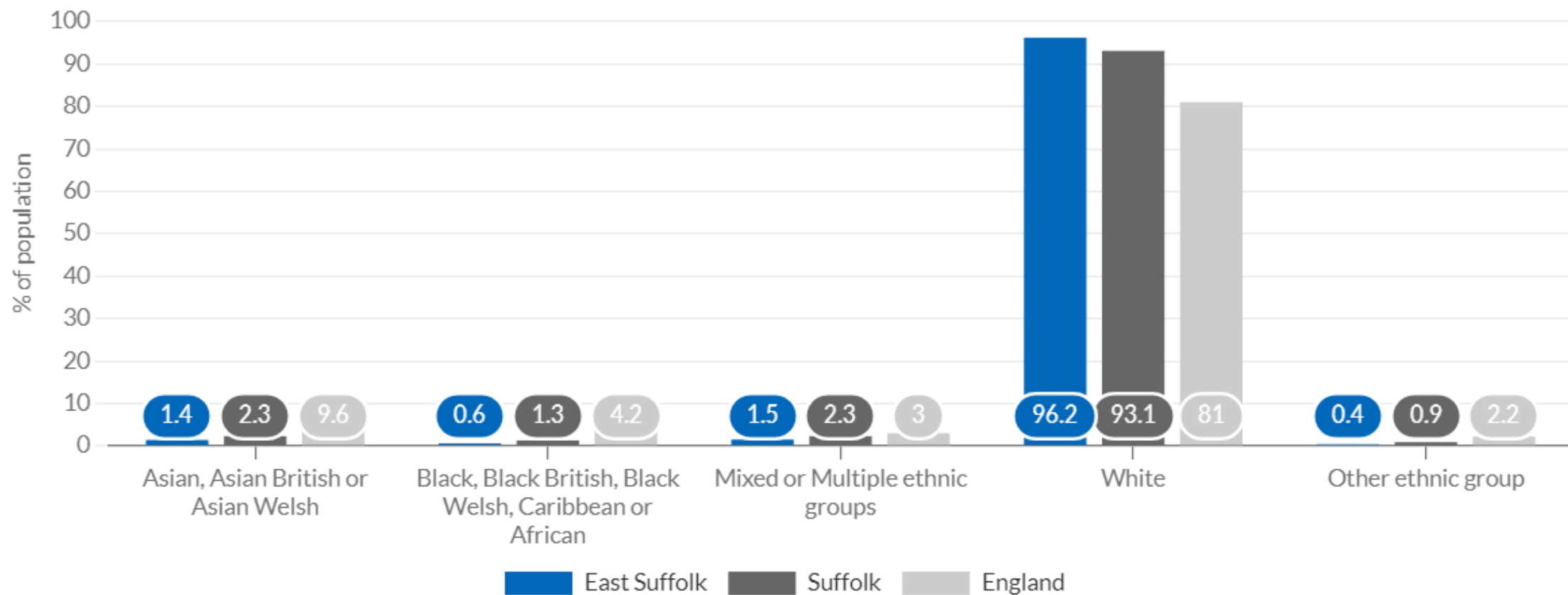
Projection to 2040

28

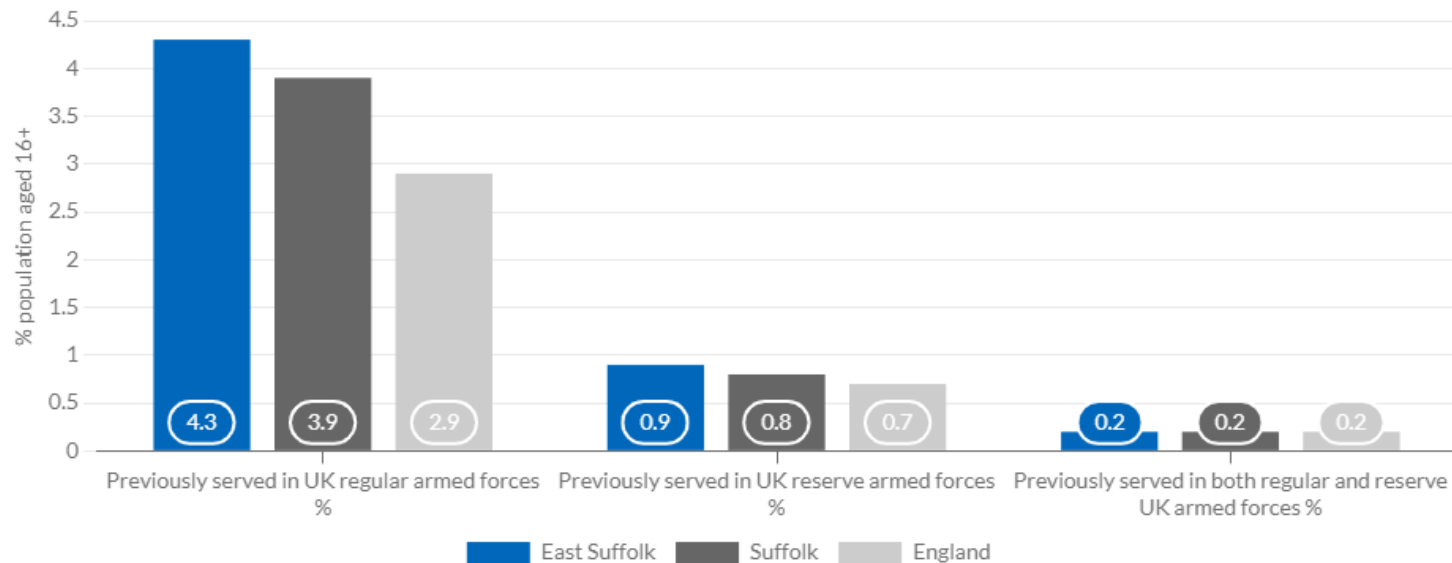
## Ethnicity

This section displays census data about the number and percentage of people from each ethnic group. The way people describe their ethnic group is based on their culture, family background, identity or physical appearance.

### Broad ethnic groups (2021)



### Previously served in UK armed forces (2021)



Source: ONS, Census 2021

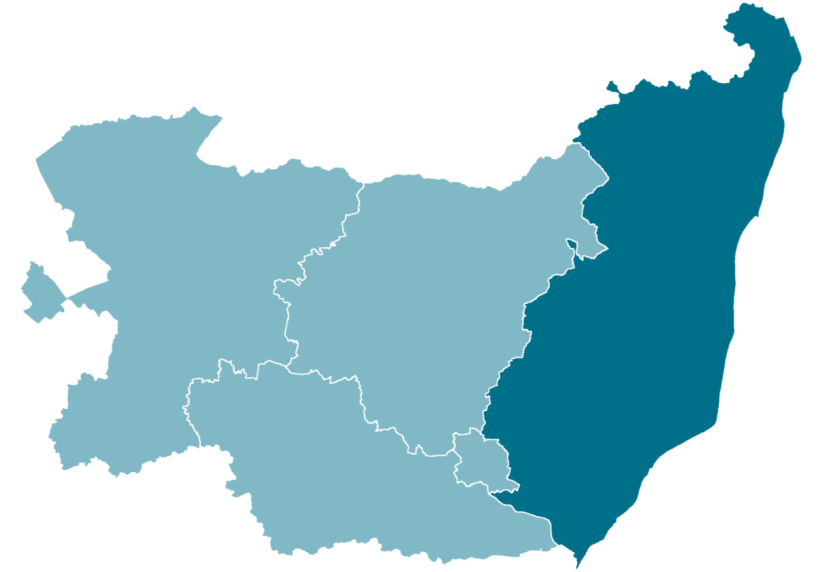


	East Suffolk	Suffolk	England
Previously served in UK regular armed forces	8,918	24,371	1,325,353
Previously served in UK regular armed forces (%)	4.3	3.9	2.9
Previously served in UK reserve armed forces	1,864	5,202	338,520
Previously served in UK reserve armed forces (%)	0.9	0.8	0.7
Previously served in both regular and reserve UK armed forces	510	1,403	73,908
Previously served in both regular and reserve UK armed forces (%)	0.2	0.2	0.2
Has not previously served in any UK armed forces	195,425	599,386	44,269,176
Has not previously served in any UK armed forces (%)	94.5	95.1	96.2

Date: 2021 | Source: ONS, Census 2021



# Deprivation

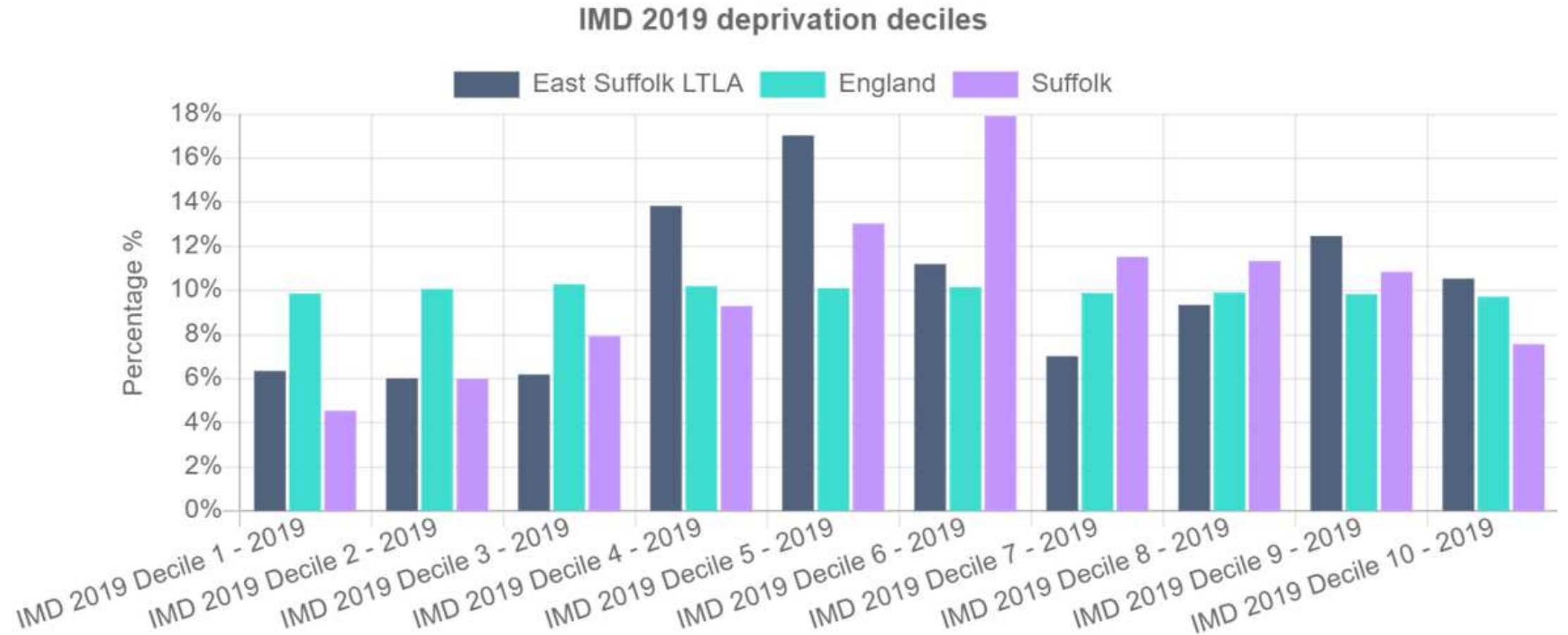


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# Deprivation in East Suffolk

Proportion of people in each deprivation decile



Source: Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) 2019

# Deprivation

## Key facts



**15,270**

people affected by  
income deprivation

11.5%

Suffolk average 10.1%



**9.9%**

of working age  
people affected by  
employment  
deprivation

Suffolk average 8.3%  
13,630 people



**6,350**

children affected by  
income deprivation

15.2%

Suffolk average 13.6%



**9,160**

older people affected  
by income deprivation

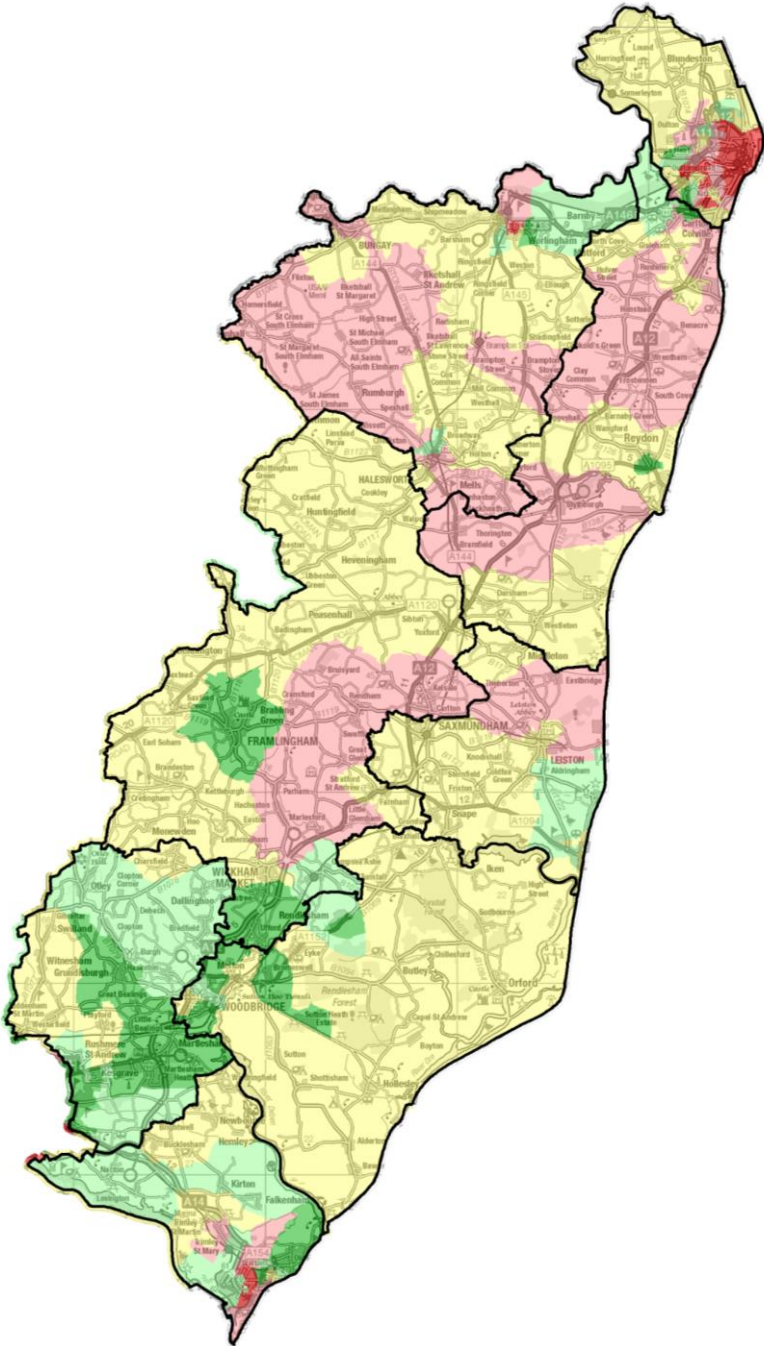
10.5%

Suffolk average 10.2%

# Deprivation Overall

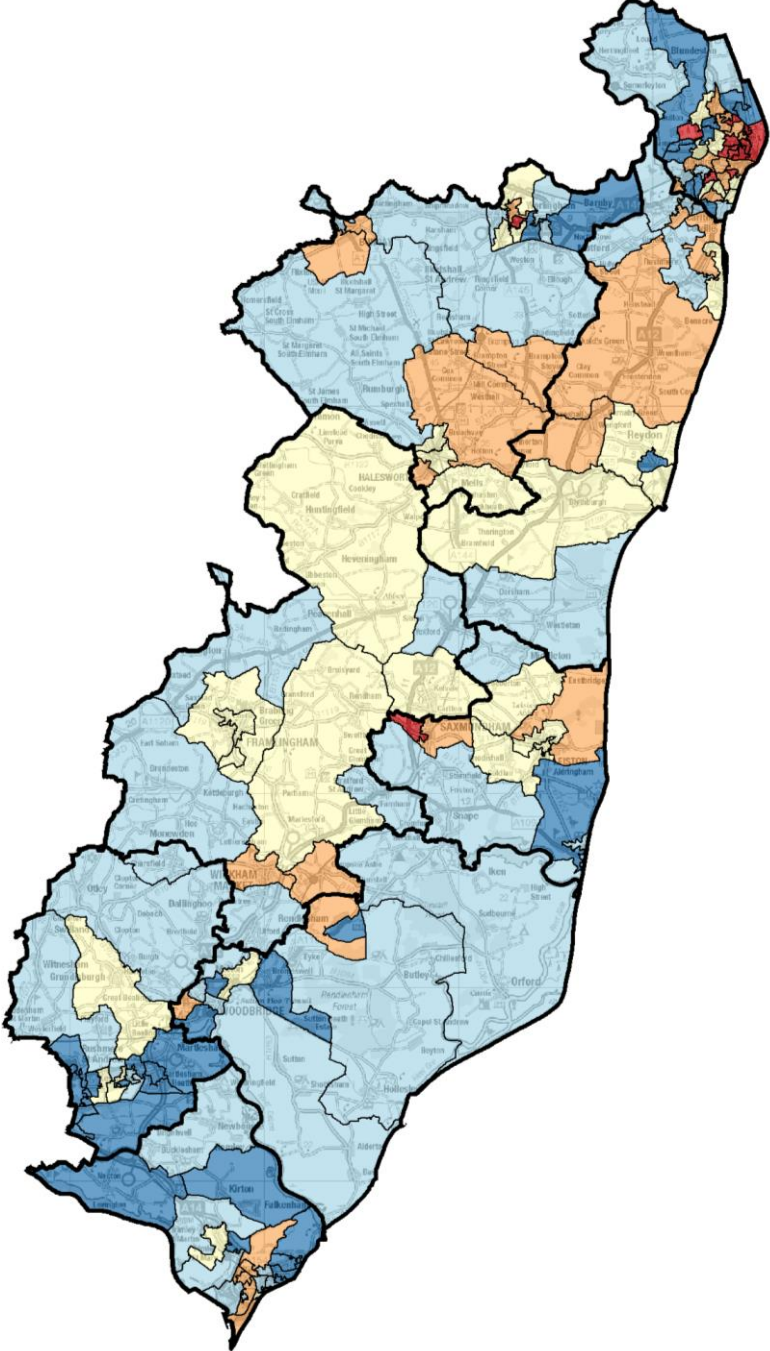
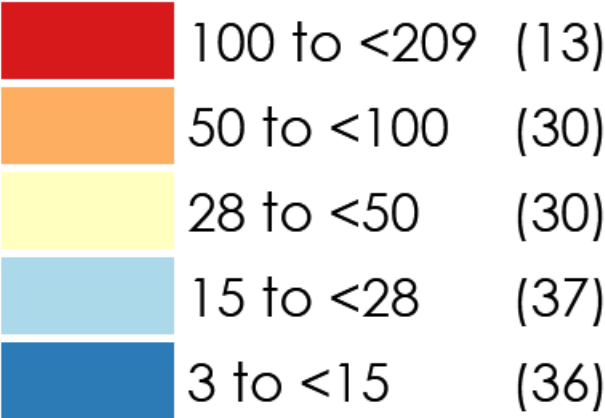
IMD quintile	Population	% of population	
1	30,032	12.2%	(12%)
2	51,048	20.7%	(20%)
3	71,205	28.8%	(29%)
4	38,992	15.8%	(16%)
5	55,803	22.6%	(23%)

1 = most deprived 20% of areas in England  
 5 = least deprived 20% of areas in England








# Deprivation Children

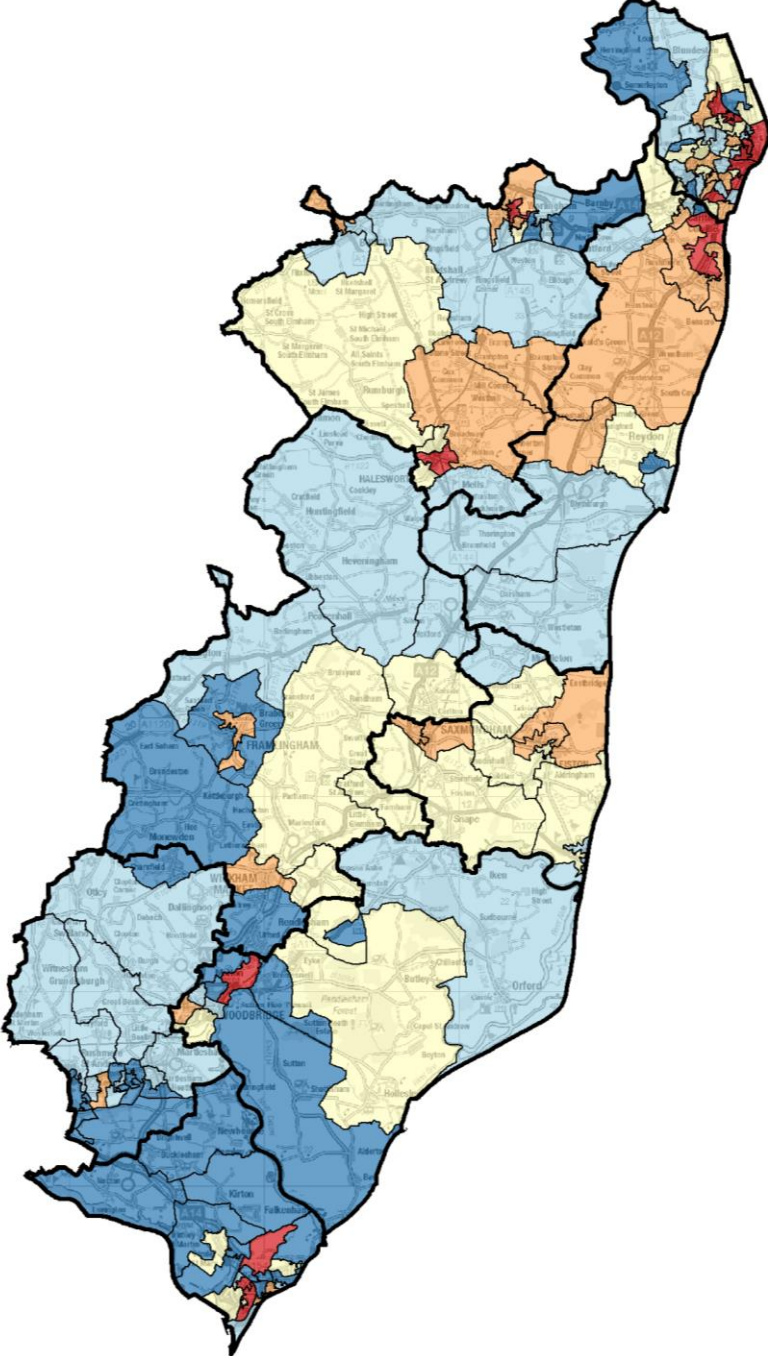
## Children aged 0-15 income deprived



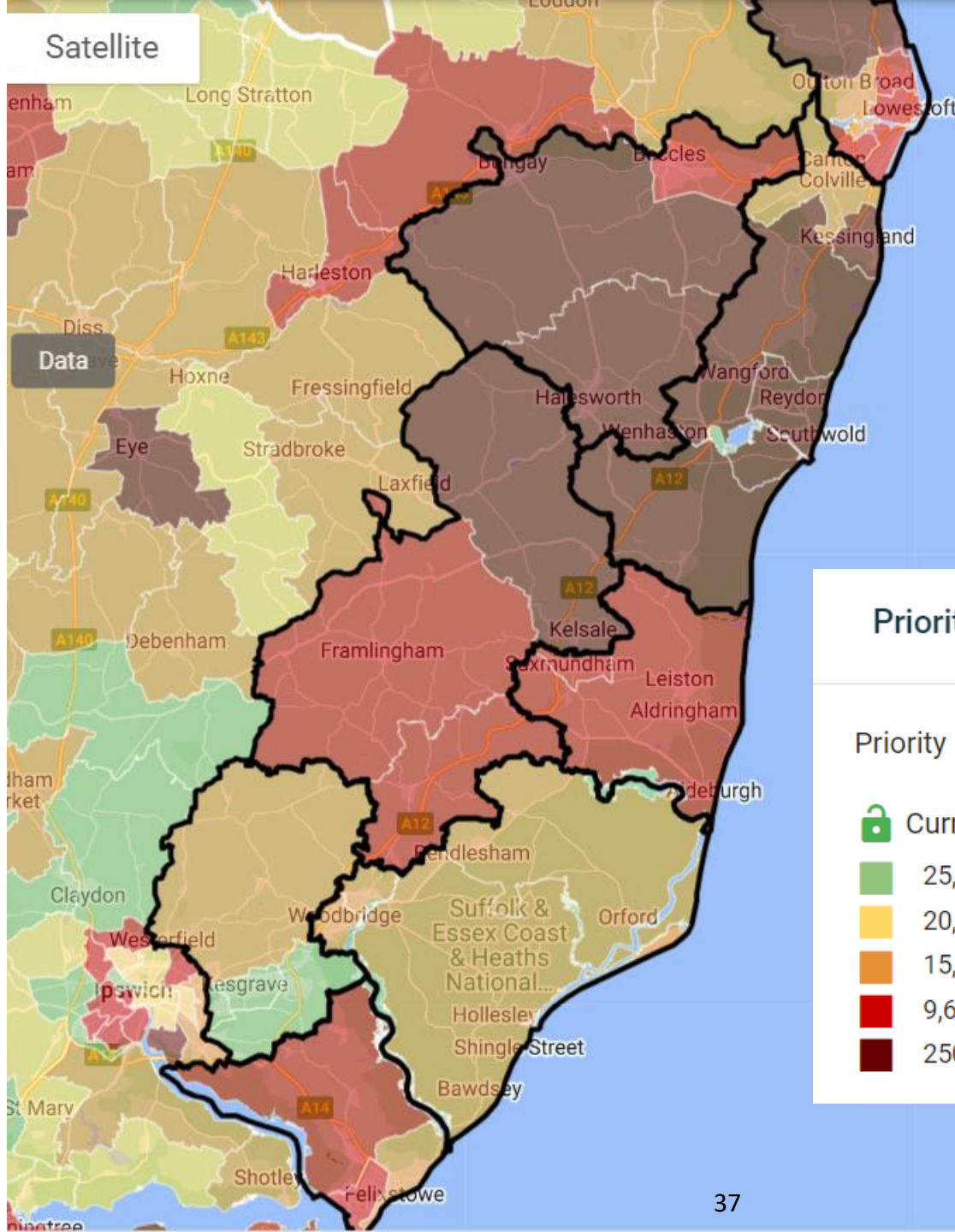
# Deprivation Older people

## Older people aged 60+ income deprived

	105 to <188	(16)
	75 to <105	(26)
	60 to <75	(30)
	40 to <60	(38)
	7 to <40	(36)









Satellite

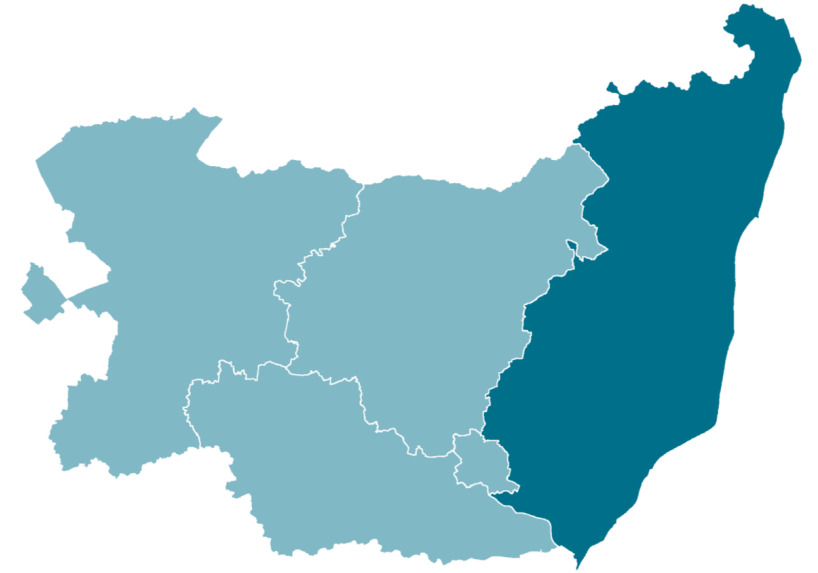


## Priority Places for Food Index (Rank)

Priority Places for Food Index Rank (1=highest priority)

-  Current Level: **Electoral Wards/Divisions**
-  25,507 - 33,710
-  20,266 - 25,507
-  15,053 - 20,261
-  9,645 - 15,046
-  250 - 9,645

# Health and Wellbeing



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# Health and social care

## Life expectancy

**East Suffolk**  
**Suffolk**  
**England**

	Life expectancy at birth for males	Life expectancy at birth for females
East Suffolk	79.9	83.5
Suffolk	80.3	83.9
England	78.9	82.8

### Highest and lowest life expectancy in East Suffolk

Melton Ward (Melton, Woodbridge & Deben Peninsula CP)	84.5	90.0
Carlford & Fynn Valley (Kesgrave & Martlesham CP)		
Harbour & Normanston Ward (Lowestoff and NP CP)	75.1	79.9



**9.3 years**

the gap in life expectancy for males between Melton Ward/Carlford & Fynn Valley Ward and Harbour & Normanston Ward



**10.1 years**

the gap in life expectancy for females between Melton Ward and Harbour & Normanston Ward

- The top 5 drivers of the life expectancy gap between our most and least deprived communities are circulatory disease, cancer, respiratory, COVID-19 and external causes (RTA's, poisoning, suicide, injuries)
- Circulatory conditions make the largest contribution to the gap in men, and the second largest for women, while cancer makes the largest contribution in women and the second largest in men.
- The risk factors that drive the most death and disability are tobacco (by far the biggest individual causal risk factor), diabetes, high BMI, dietary risks, high blood pressure, alcohol use and high LDL (bad cholesterol).
- These risk factors are “modifiable”, meaning we can do something about them
- Action to tackle these risks will prevent people developing these conditions and reduce health inequalities.

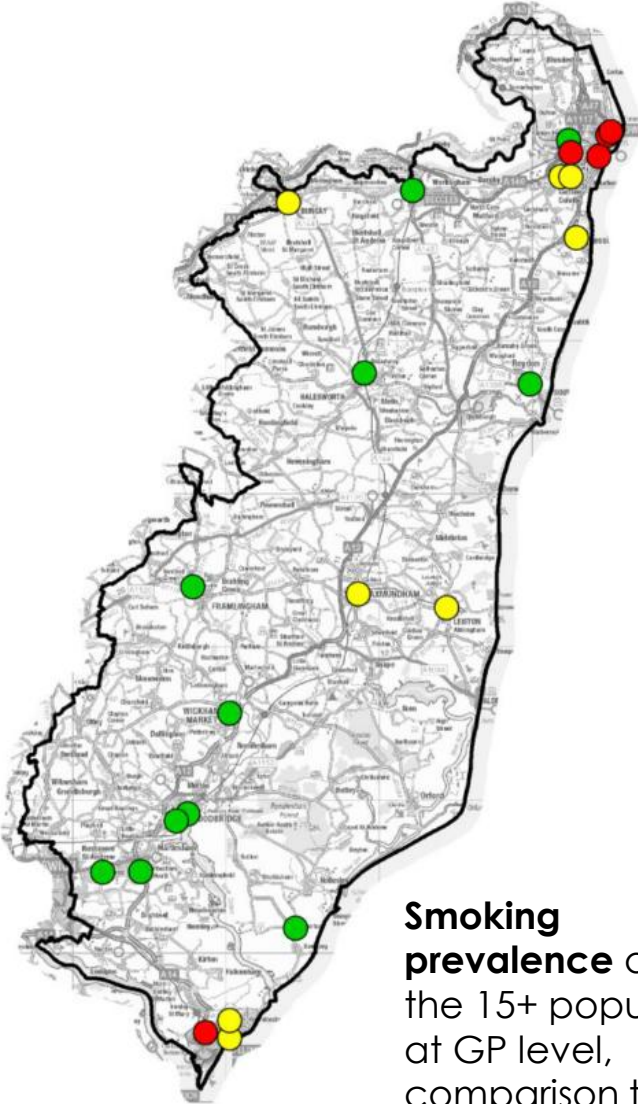
	Preventable Diseases Causing Highest Health Care Demand					
Risk Factor	Cardiovascular Disease	Diabetes	Respiratory	Frailty	Dementia	Falls
Smoking						
Alcohol						
Healthy Weight						
Physical Activity						
Isolation and Loneliness						
Support for Carers						
Blood Pressure						
AF Control						
Diabetes Control						

# Health and social care

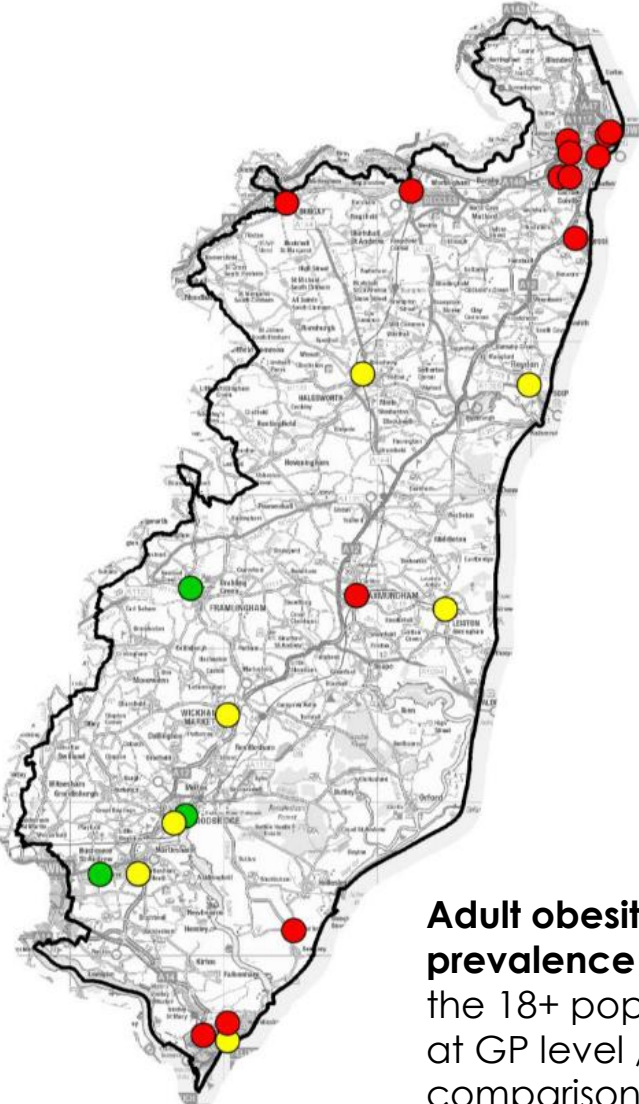
## Smoking, obesity & mental ill-health

### Compared to England...

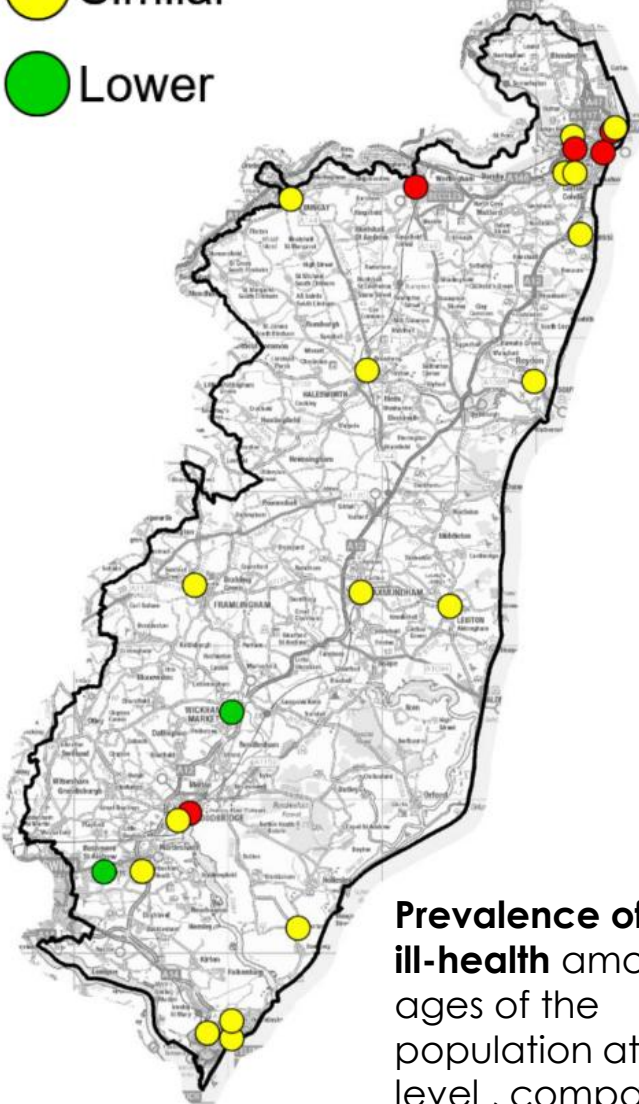
- Higher
- Similar
- Lower



**Smoking prevalence** among the 15+ population at GP level, comparison to England



**Adult obesity prevalence** among the 18+ population at GP level, comparison to England



**Prevalence of mental ill-health** among all ages of the population at GP level, comparison to England

Source: OHID Fingertips

# Health and social care

## Childhood weight



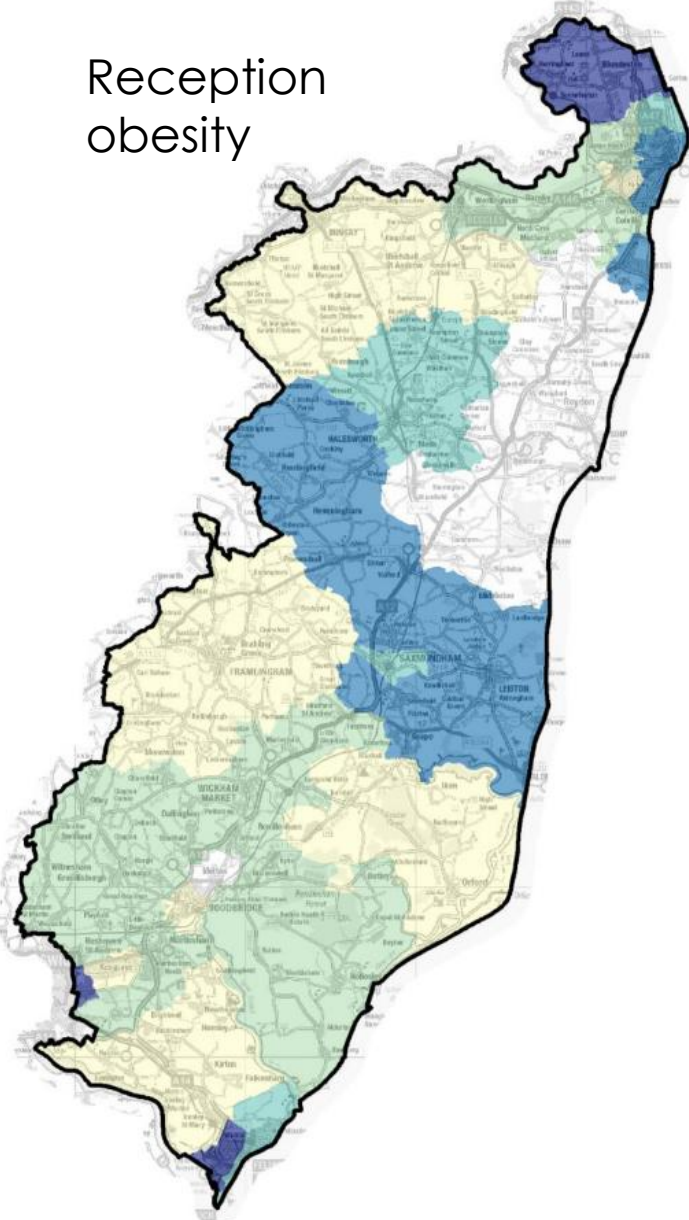
Reception  
year pupils  
obese



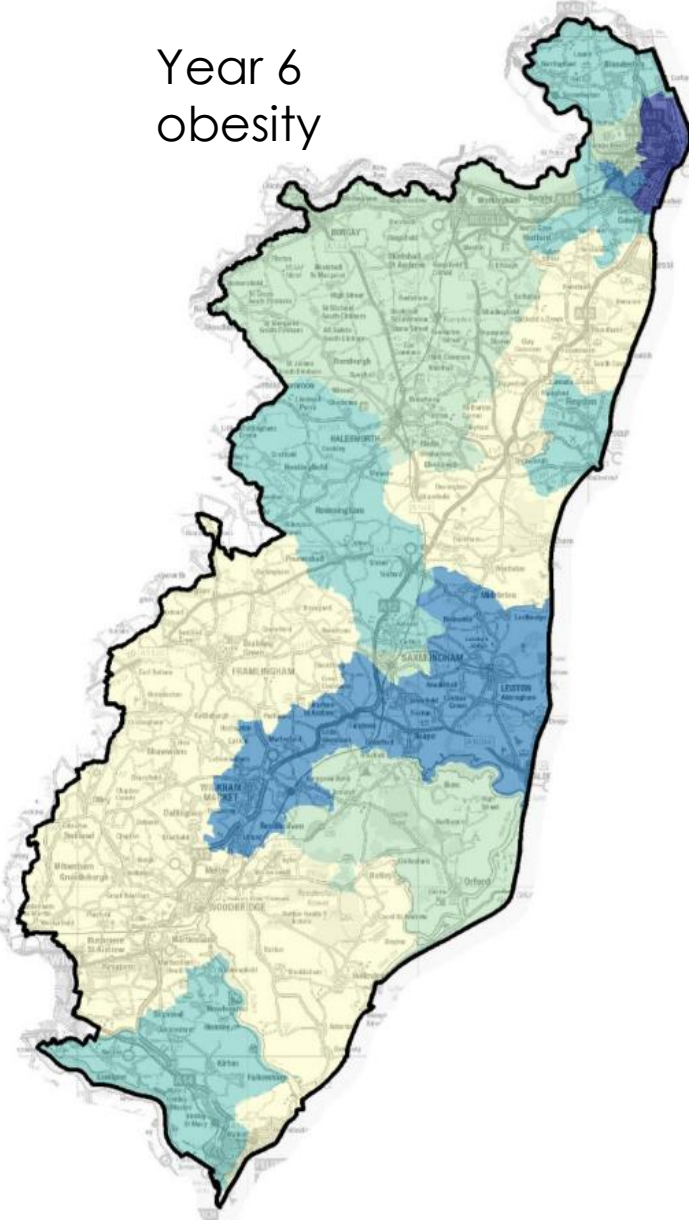
Year 6  
pupils  
obese

The maps show the percentage of children measured as obese according to the National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP)

Reception  
obesity

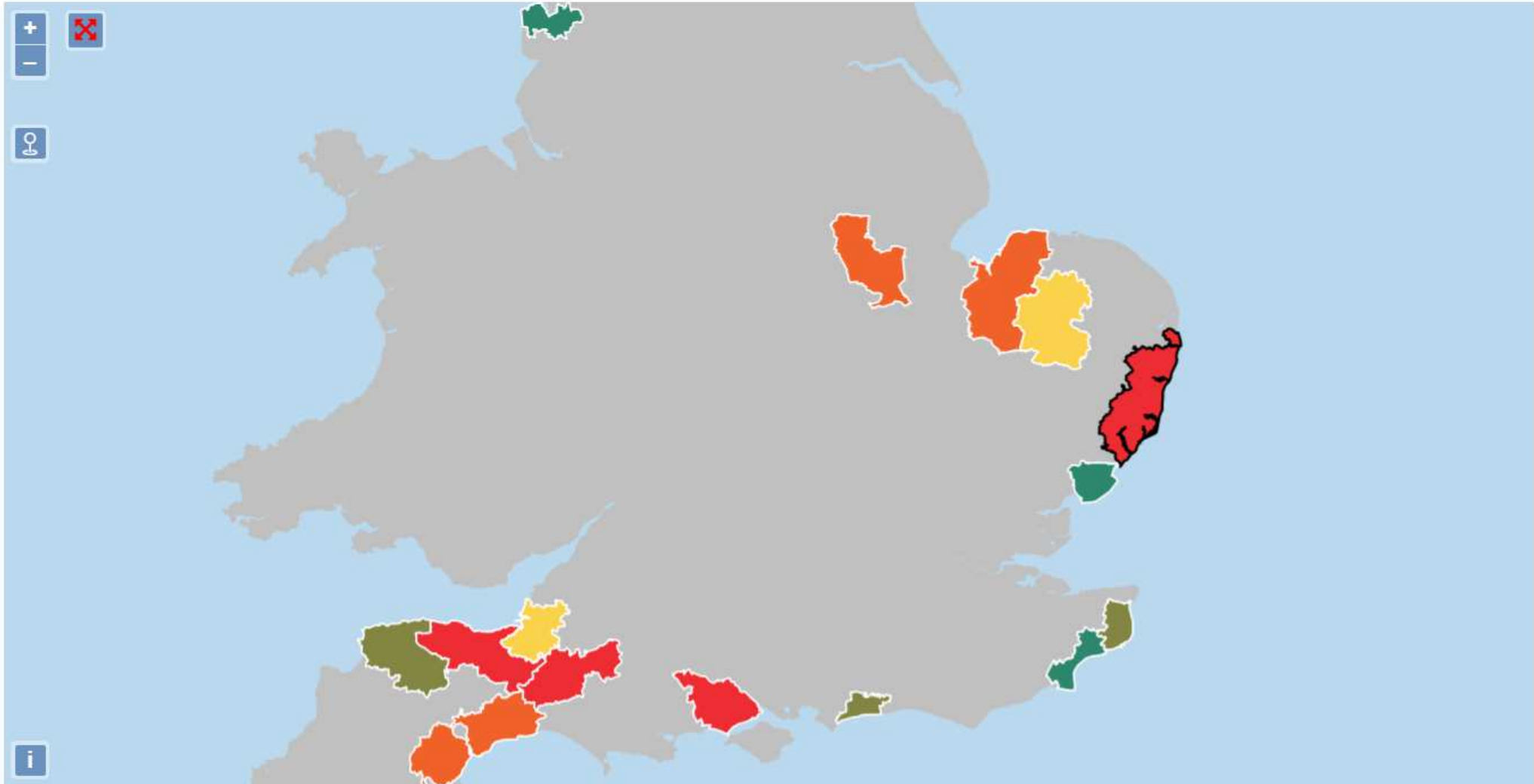


Year 6  
obesity



### Number of people per publicly accessible sports facility for East Suffolk and East Suffolk CIPFA nearest neighbours (2023)

1sts quintile

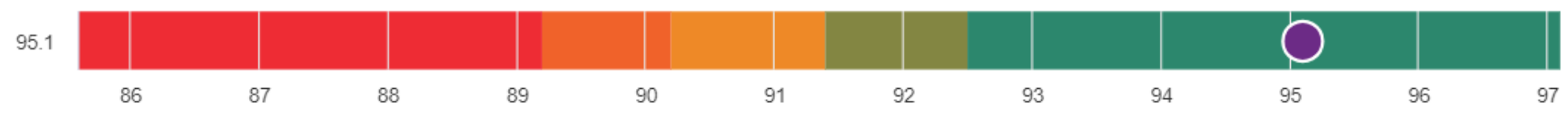


Source:

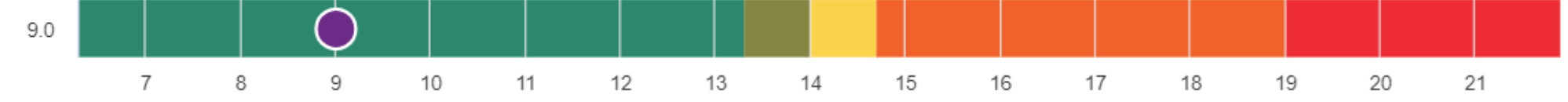
Office for National Statistics, Access to sports facilities and other amenities in your local area, [Number of people per publicly accessible sports facility](#), Data updated: 14 Mar 2024.

**East Suffolk**  
(Quantiles of East Suffolk CIPFA nearest neighbours)

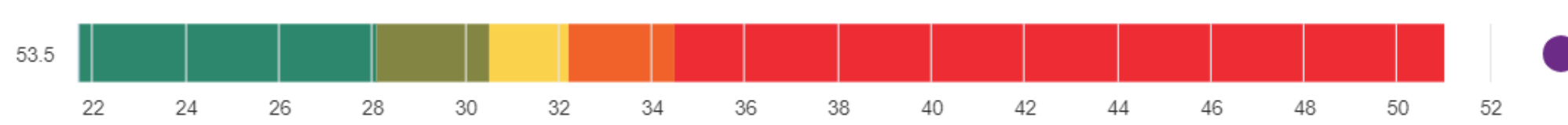
**% of adults who have participated in an activity in the last year 2022 %**



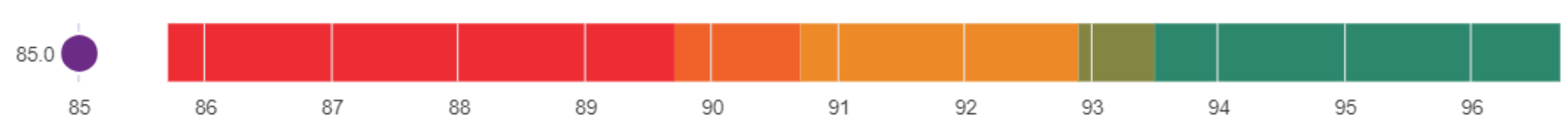
**% of adults who are inactive (No activity) 2022 %**



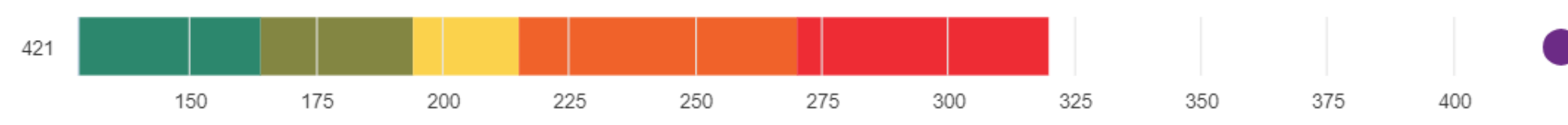
**% of those children who are less active (0 mins a day) 2022/23 (academic) % of children**



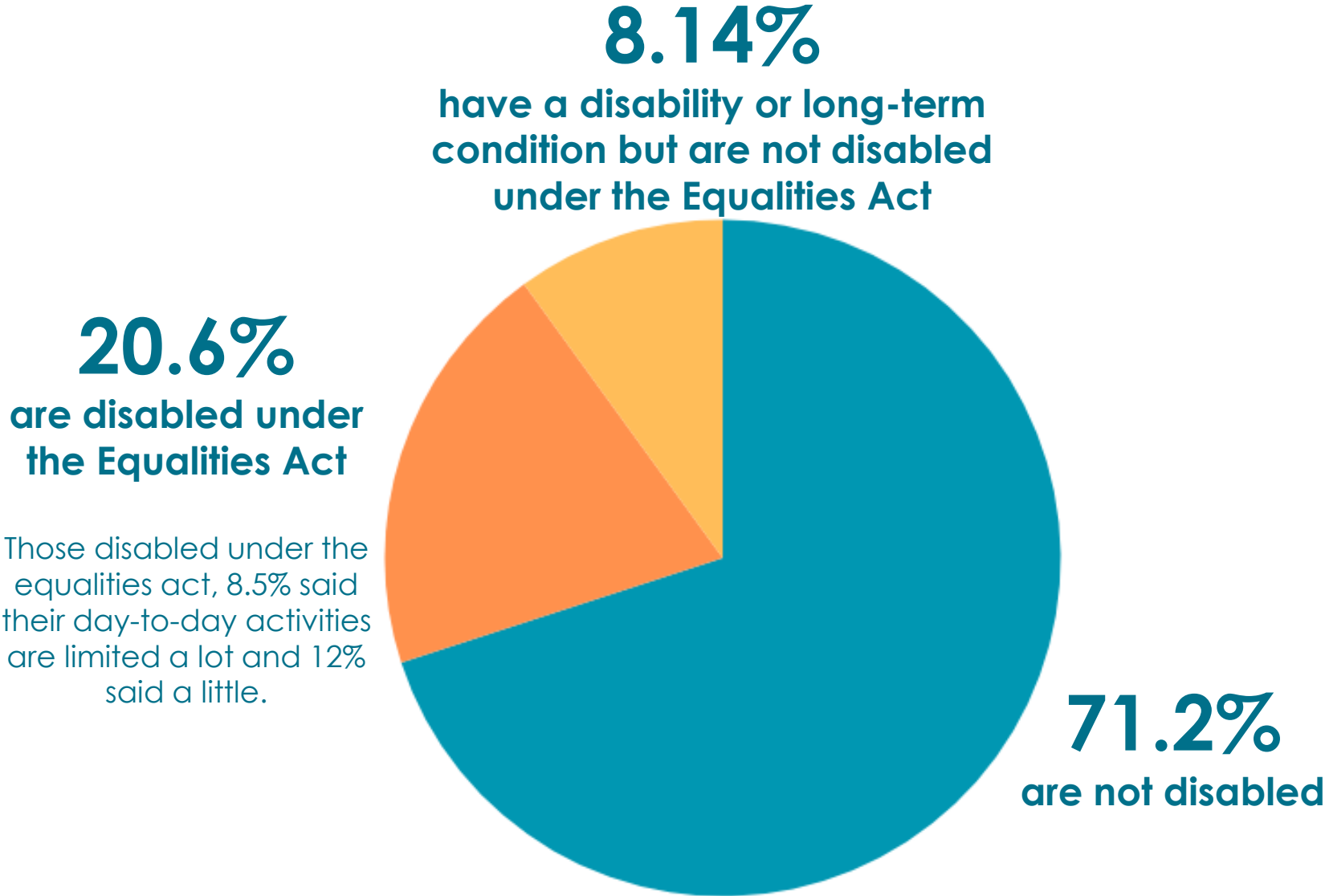
**% of children who participated in an activity once a week or more 2022/23 (academic) % of children**



**People per publicly accessible sports facility 2023 People**



# Health and social care Disability and carers



Those disabled under the equalities act, 8.5% said their day-to-day activities are limited a lot and 12% said a little.

**10%**  
of residents provide some kind of unpaid care

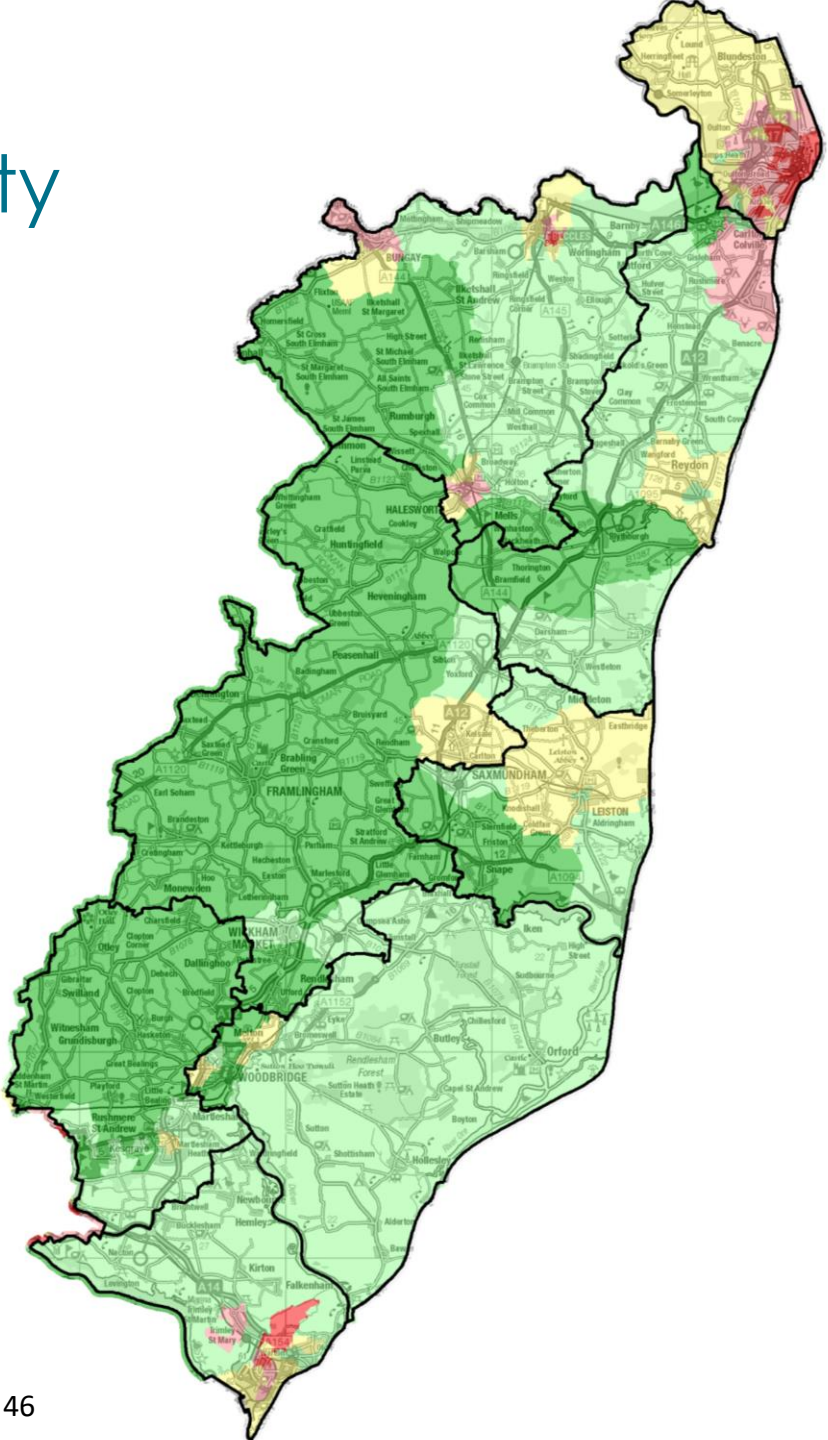
**3.1%** of these provide over 50 hours of care a week

# Health and social care

## Health Deprivation and Disability

### IMD health deprivation and disability domain

IMD quintile	Population	% of population
1	23,033	9.3%
2	50,067	20.3%
3	49,938	20.2%
4	77,126	31.2%
5	46,916	19.0%

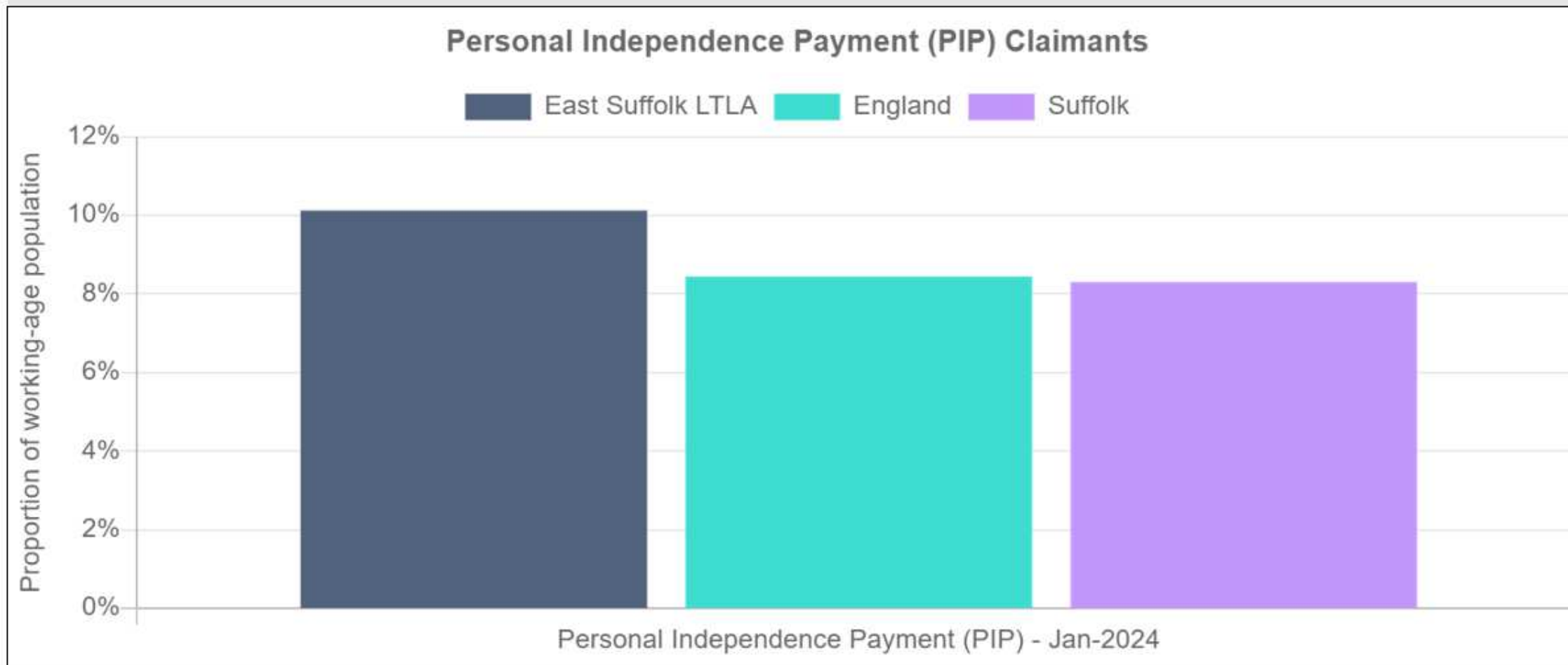


Sources: ONS 2022 mid-year population estimates, DCLG Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019 and Experian 2016Map © Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Suffolk County Council Licence No. AC0000849963 2024



A higher proportion of people in East Suffolk LTLA are claiming Personal Independence Payment (10.12%) than in England (8.44%) and a higher proportion than in Suffolk (8.30%).

### Personal Independence Payment (PIP) Claimants

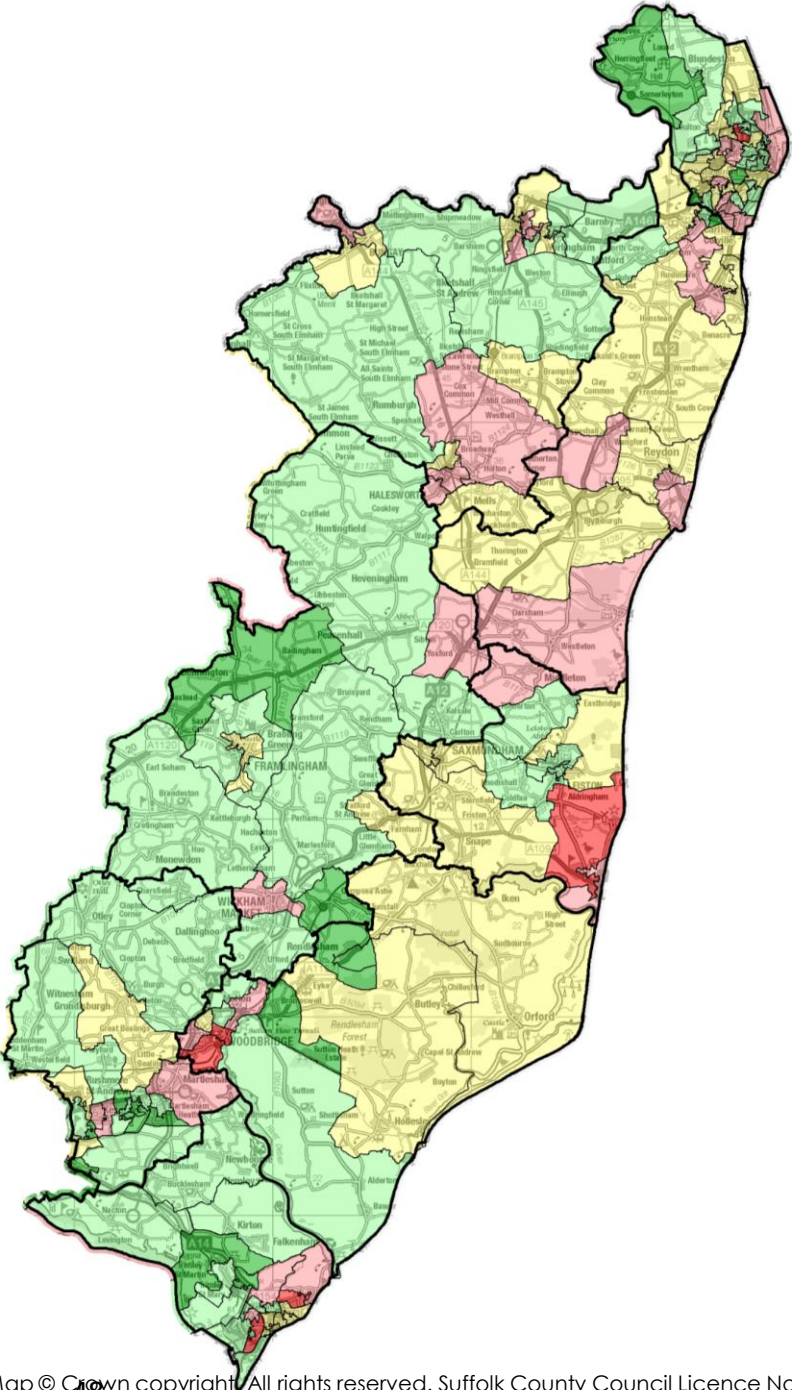
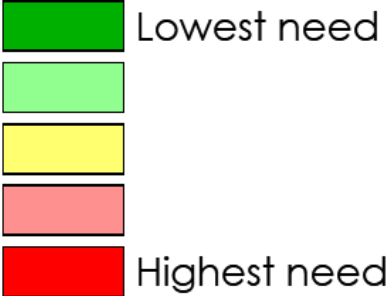


Source: Department for Work and Pensions (DWP)

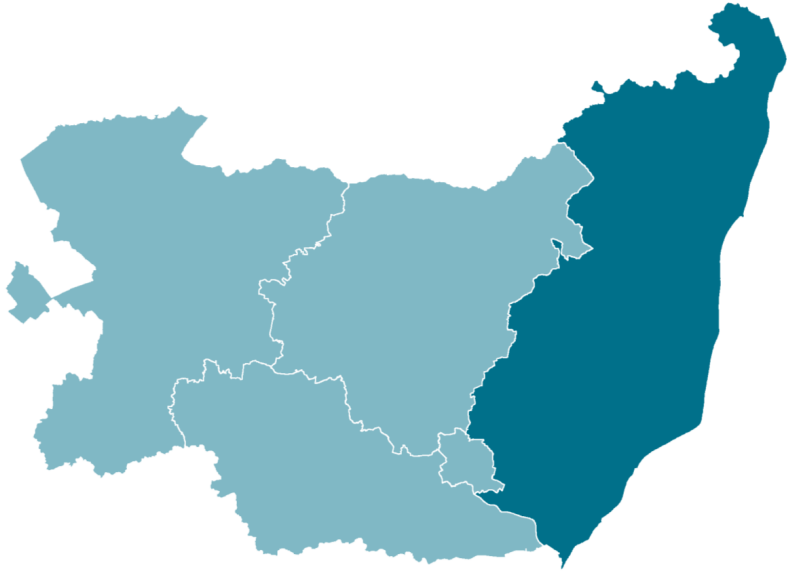
# Health and social care

## Social Isolation

### Social isolation index



# Employment, Education and Benefits



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## Earnings by place of residence (2023)

	East Suffolk (Pounds)	East (Pounds)	Great Britain (Pounds)
<b>Gross Weekly Pay</b>			
Full-Time Workers	633.8	705.7	682.6
Male Full-Time Workers	685.5	755.6	728.3
Female Full-Time Workers	551.9	635.3	628.8
<b>Hourly Pay - Excluding Overtime</b>			
Full-Time Workers	15.82	17.89	17.49
Male Full-Time Workers	16.61	18.79	18.15
Female Full-Time Workers	14.67	16.85	16.64

Source: ONS annual survey of hours and earnings - resident analysis

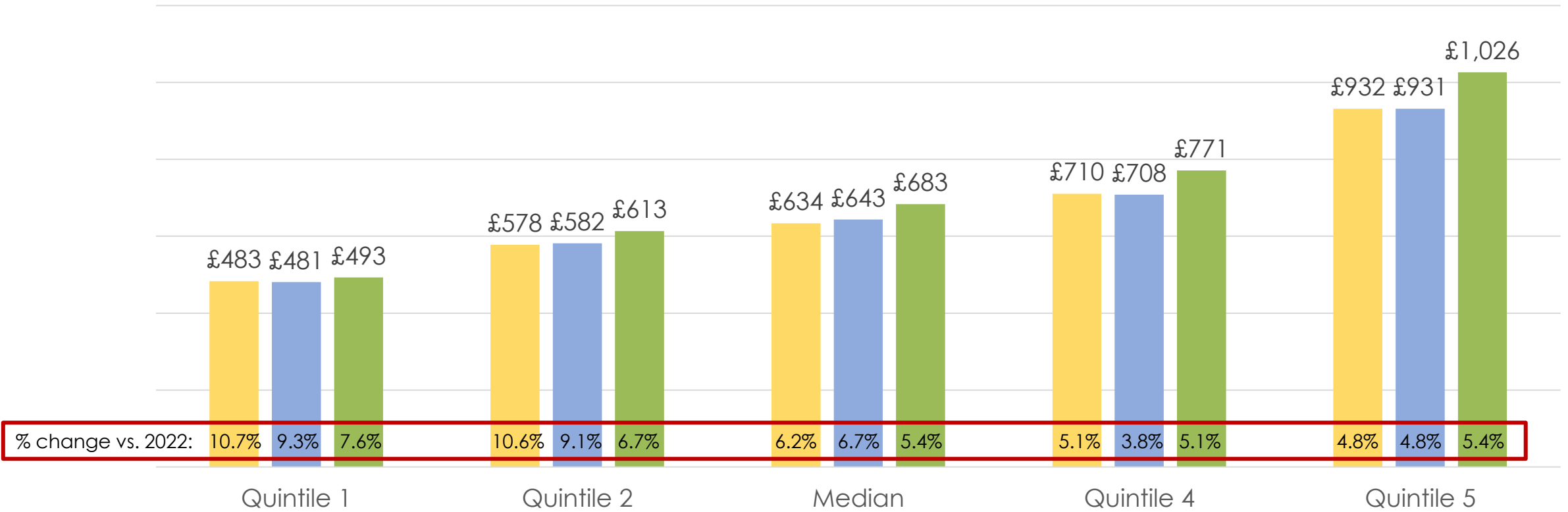
Notes: Median earnings in pounds for employees living in the area.

# Employment and education

## Income

### Gross weekly full-time pay by quintile, East Suffolk residents vs. Suffolk & England, 2023

East Suffolk Suffolk England



Source: ONS, Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings, 2023. (Note – we focus on weekly pay rather than annual pay, as the latter relates to employees who have been in the same job for more than a year. Therefore, the weekly pay data provides a better idea of differences and changes over 2023 than the annual pay data would.)

# Employment and education Benefit claimants



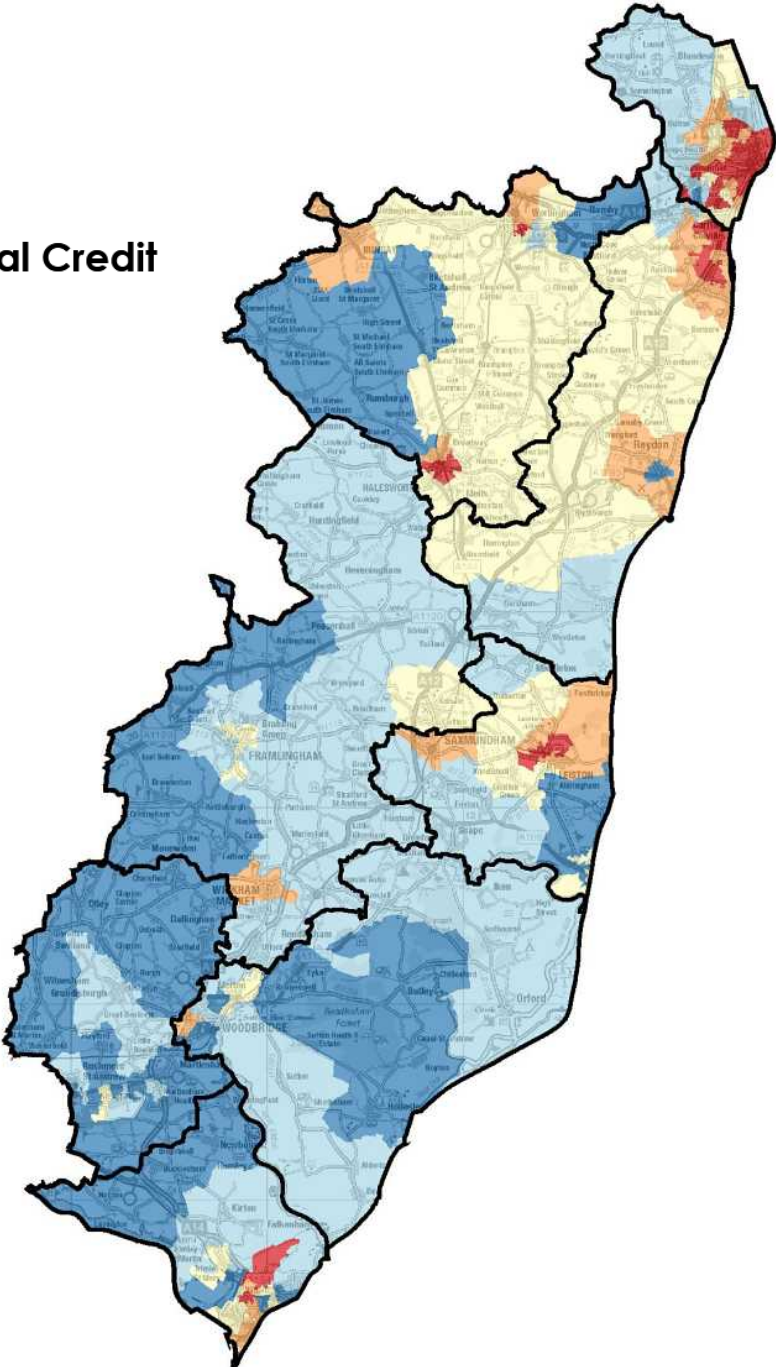
**16.7%**

of adults in receipt  
of Universal Credit

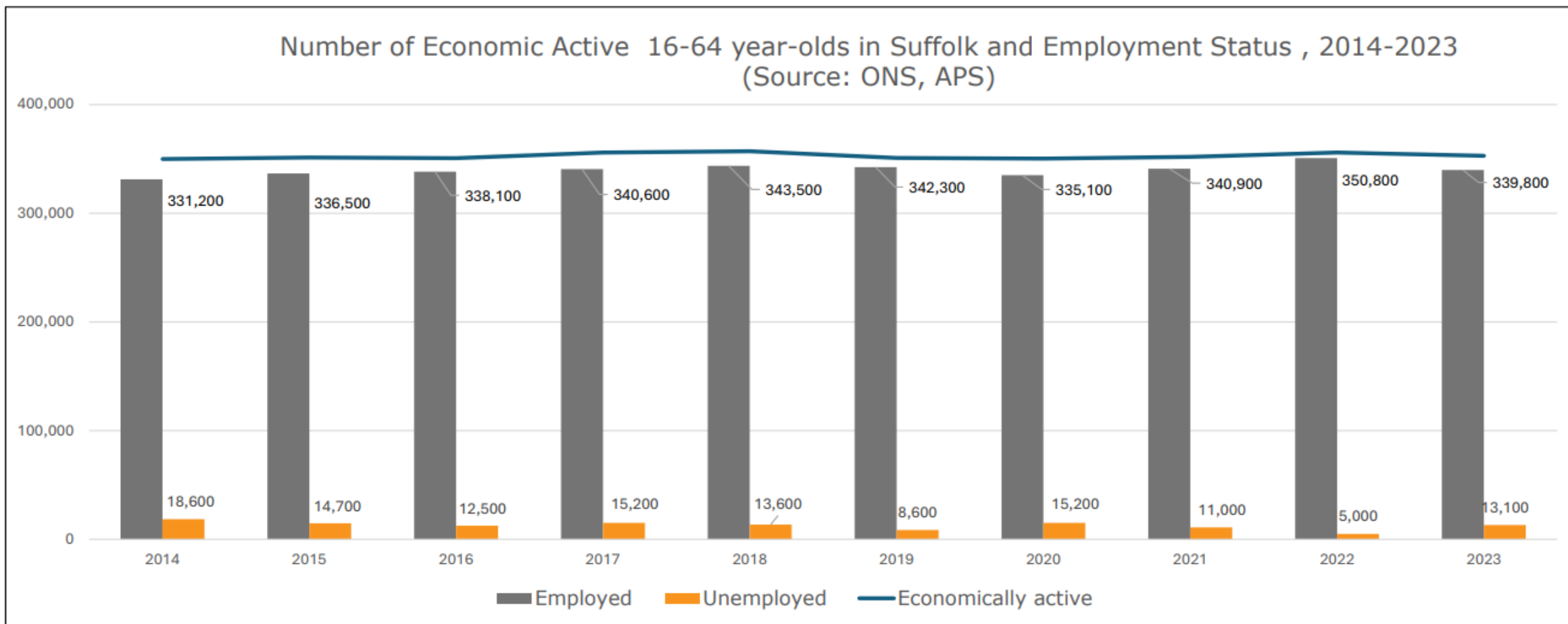
Increase from 14.5%  
Suffolk average: 15.3%  
Highest CP: Lowestoft 26.9%  
Lowest CP: Kesgrave & Martlesham 7.7%

### % of adults claiming Universal Credit

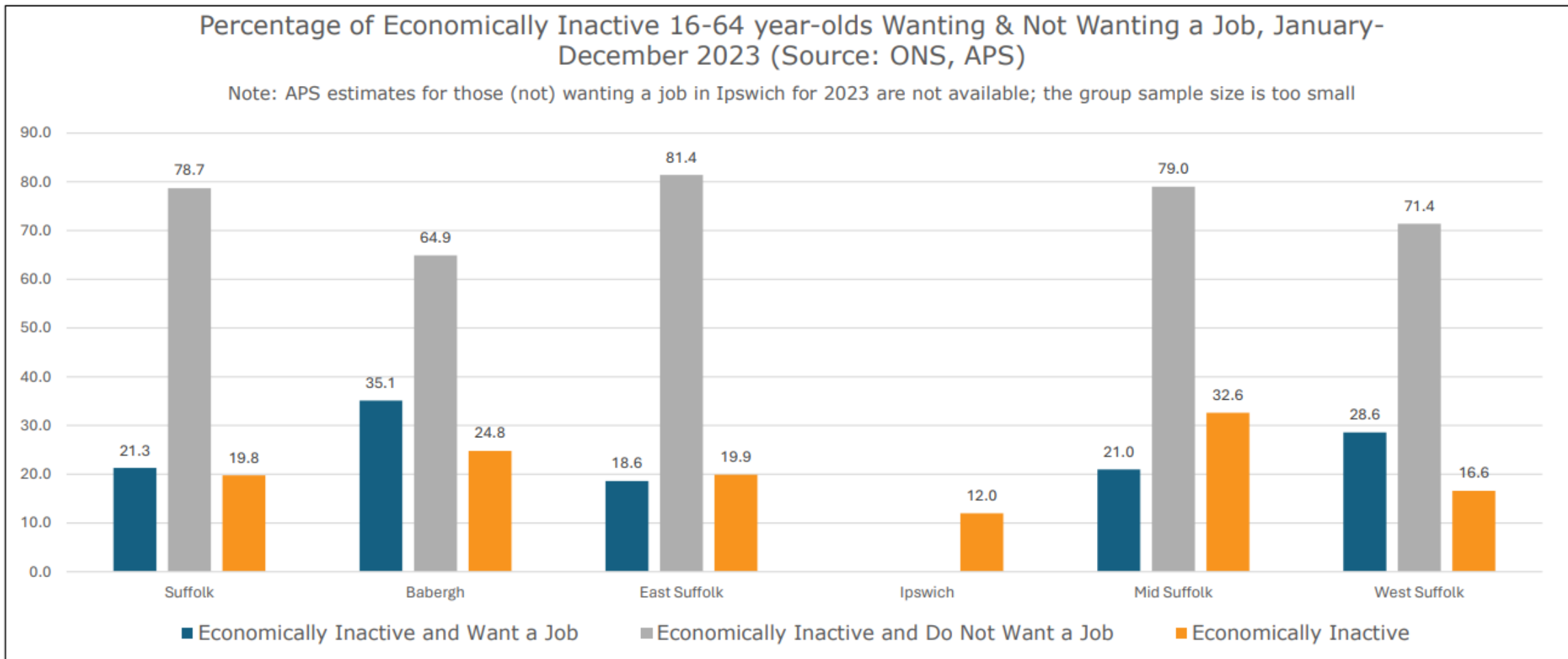
Red	25.0% to <56.9%	(26)
Orange	17.0% to <25.0%	(29)
Yellow	12.0% to <17.0%	(28)
Light Blue	8.0% to <12.0%	(33)
Dark Blue	3.4% to <8.0%	(30)



The proportion of economically active 16-64 year-olds in Suffolk in employment has fluctuated significantly. There was a decline from 350,800 (80% of 16-64-year-olds) in 2022 to 339,800 (77.2%) in 2023, the lowest annual number in employment since 2016 except for the pandemic-related fall in 2020.

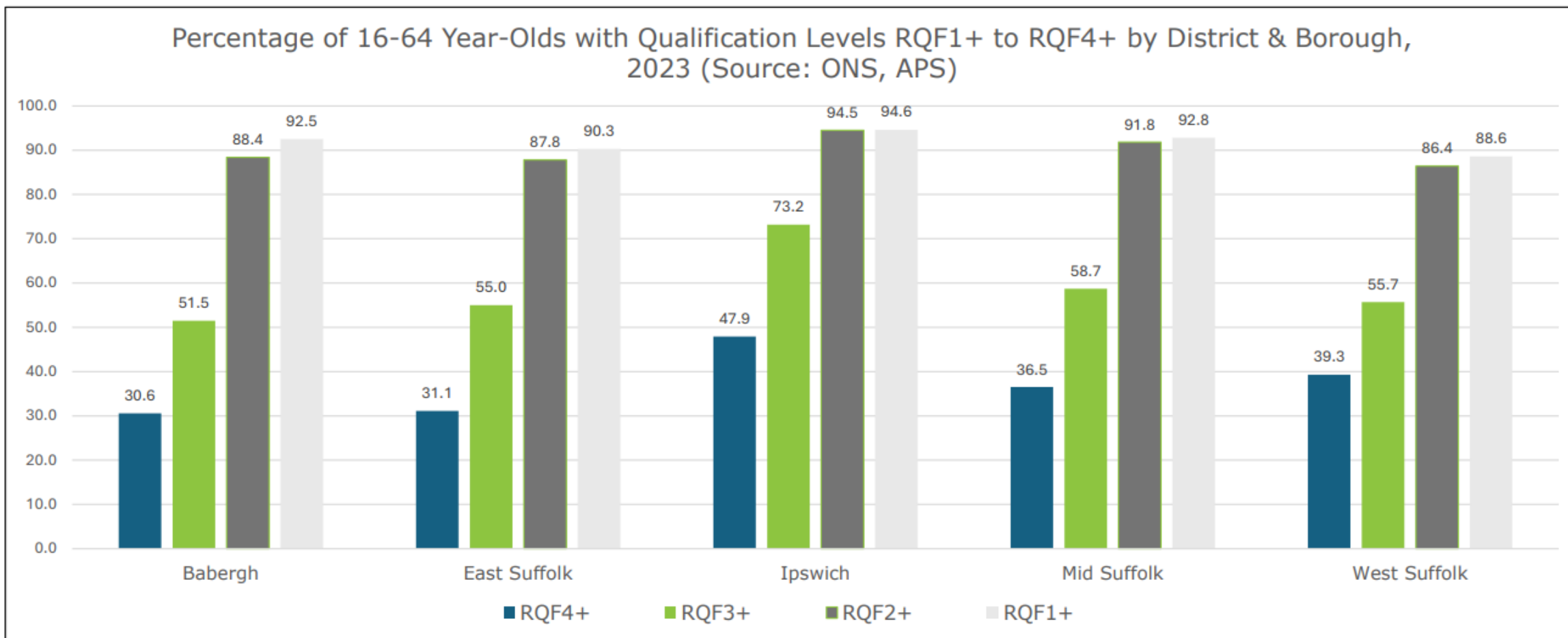


There is a wide variance across districts and boroughs in the percentage of economically inactive 16–64 year-olds who do want a job; Babergh and West Suffolk both have a higher proportion (35.1% and 28.6% respectively) than the Suffolk average of 21.3% whilst East Suffolk has 18.6%.





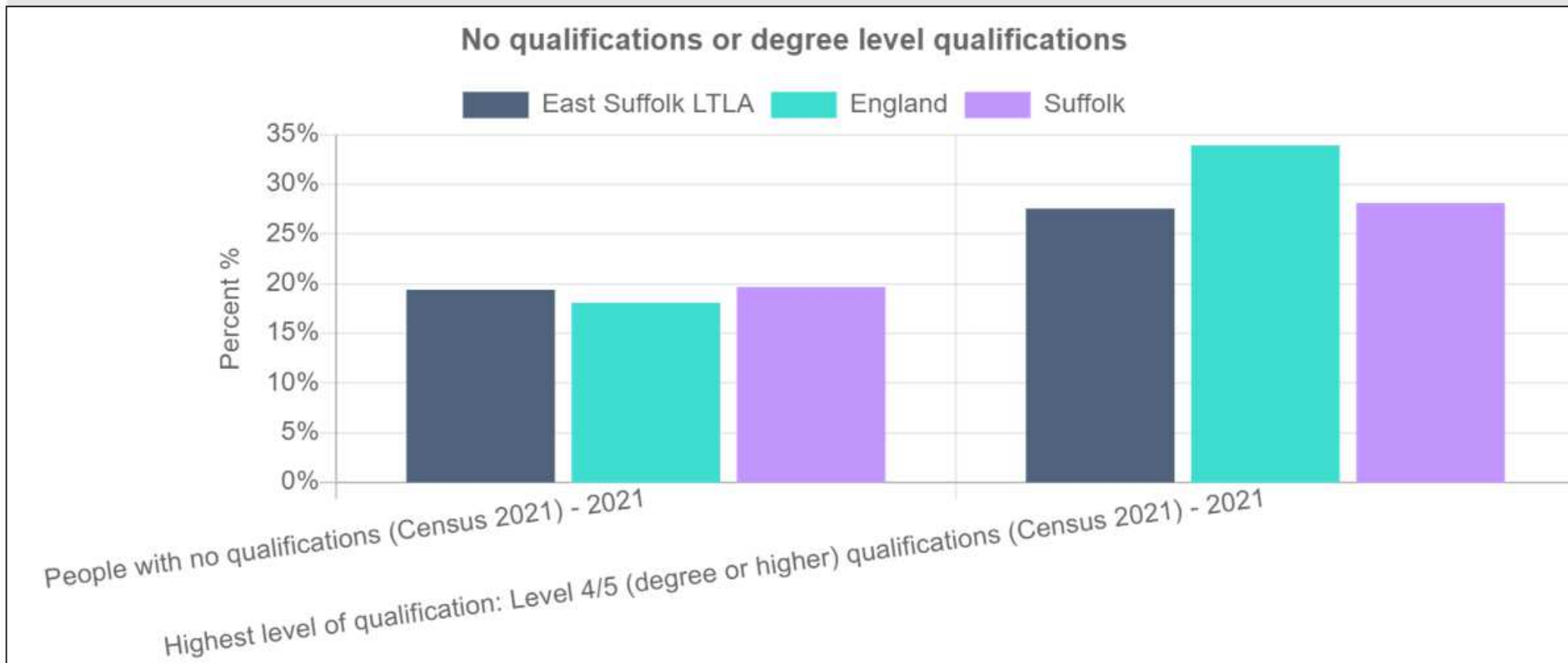
Ipswich has a substantially higher proportion at all qualification levels from Regulated Qualification Framework (RQF) level one upwards. However, all other districts have a substantially lower proportion of qualifications at level three or more and level four or more than the national average.



There are 40,105 people in East Suffolk with no qualifications - 19.40% of all people aged over 16. This is higher than the average for England (18.08%) and lower than the average in Suffolk (19.68%).

There are 56,968 people with degree level qualifications in East Suffolk, which is 27.56% of people aged 16+. This is lower than the average in England (33.92%) and in Suffolk (28.12%).

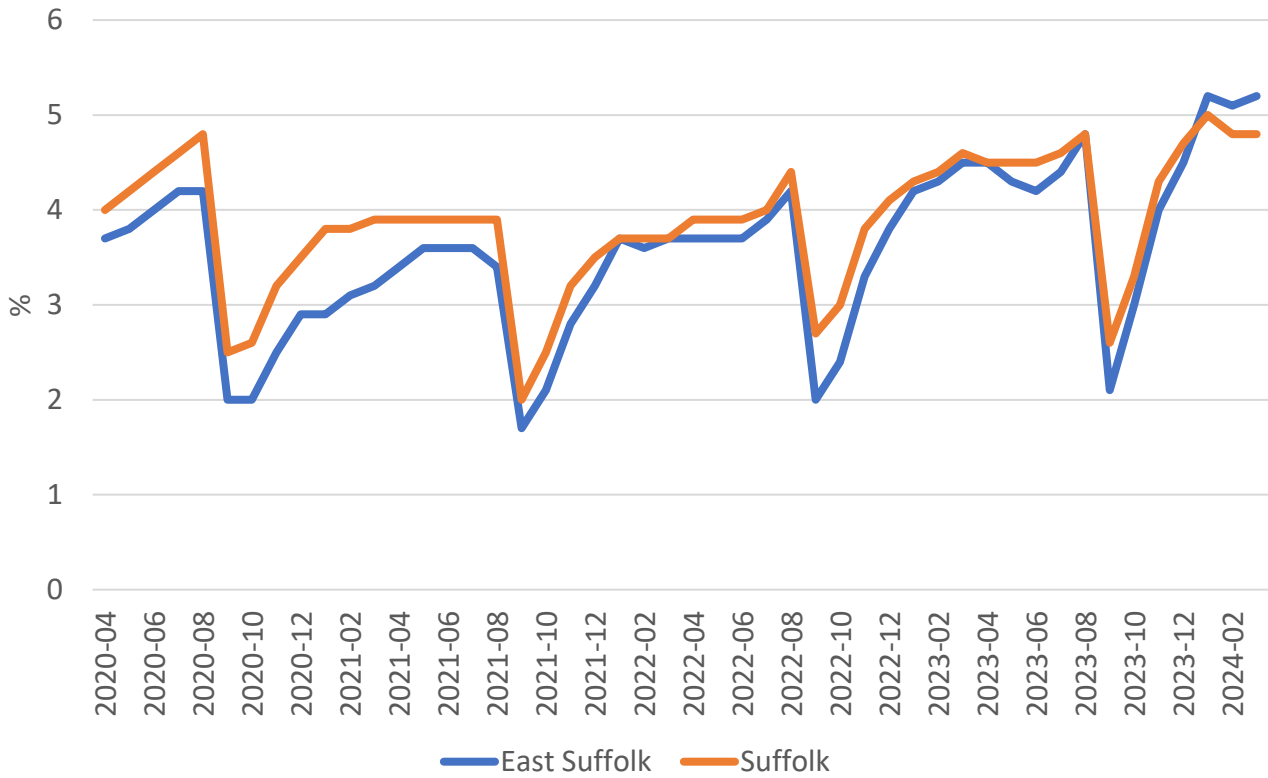
### No qualifications or degree level and above



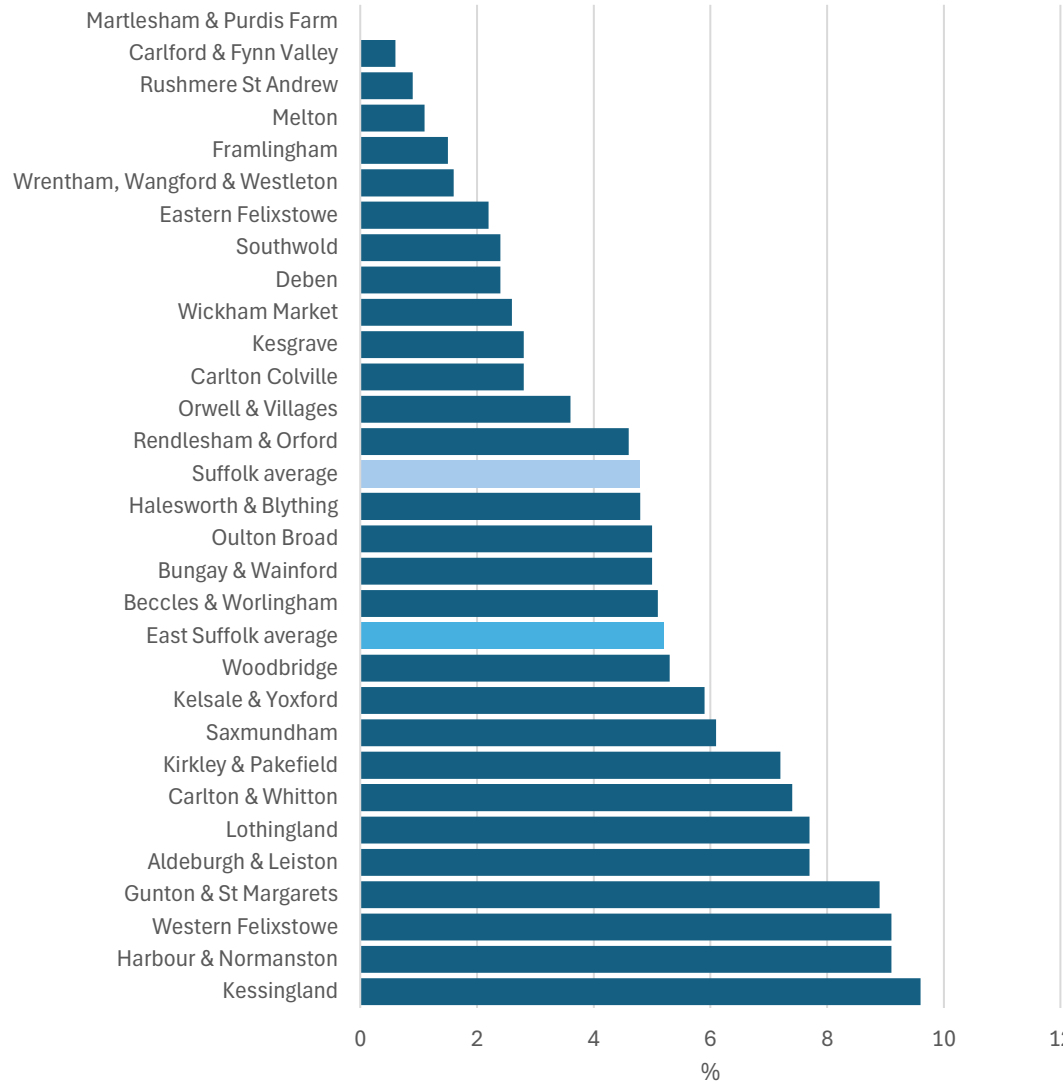
# Employment and education

## 16-17s Not in employment, education or training (NEET)

% 16-17-year olds NEET, 2020-2024

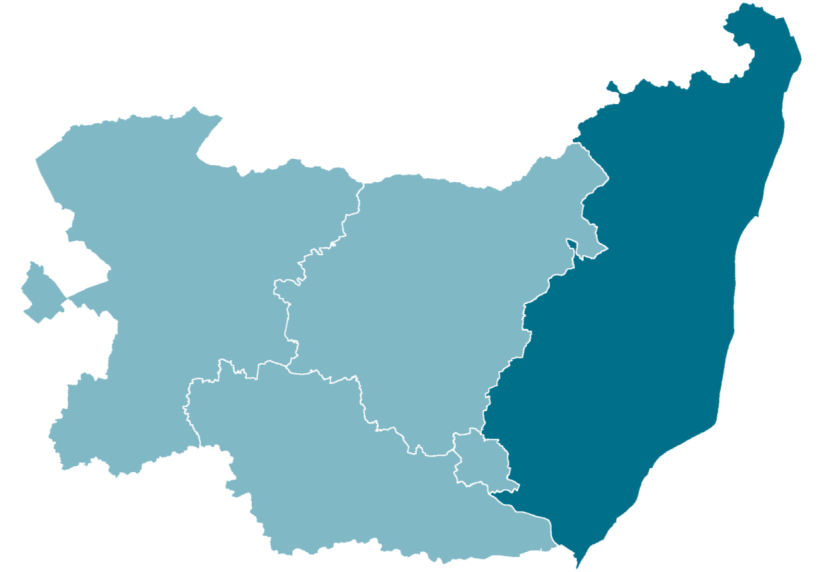


% 16-17-year-olds NEET in East Suffolk Wards, March 2024



Source: Suffolk County Council

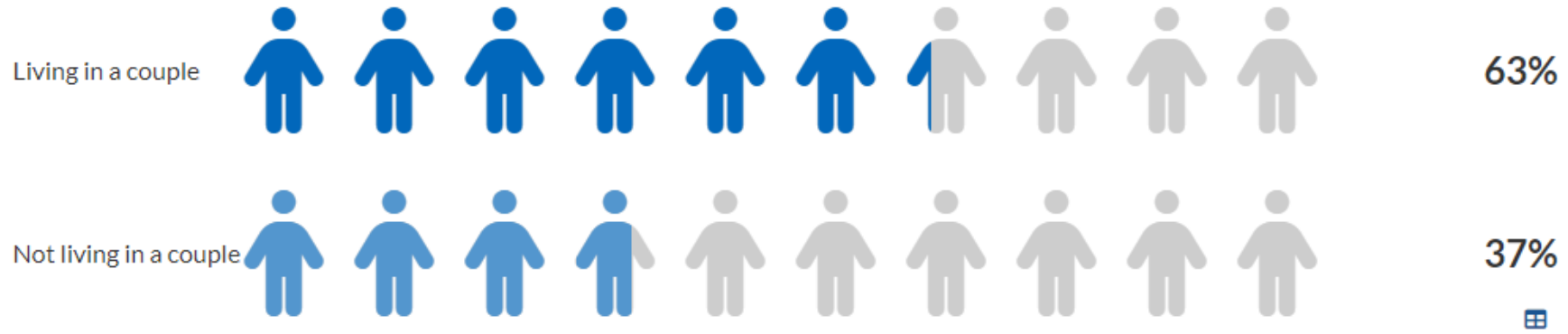
# Housing



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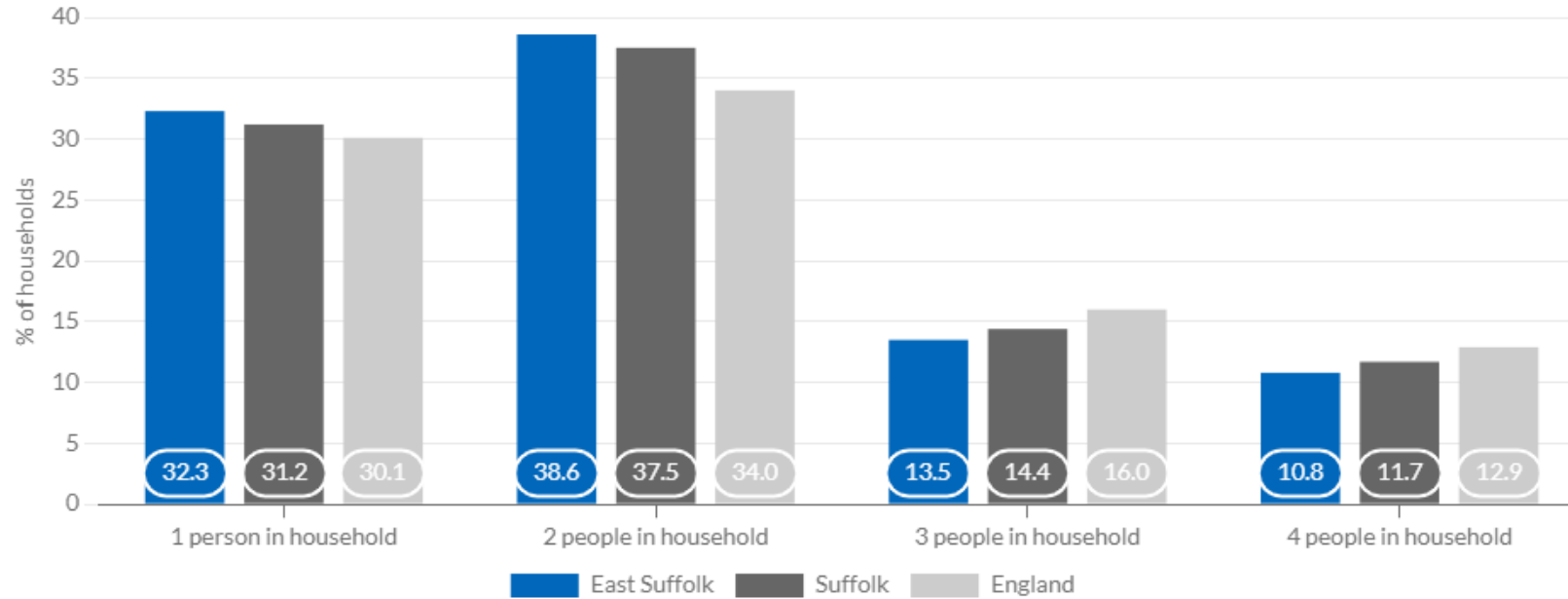
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### Living arrangements for East Suffolk (2021)



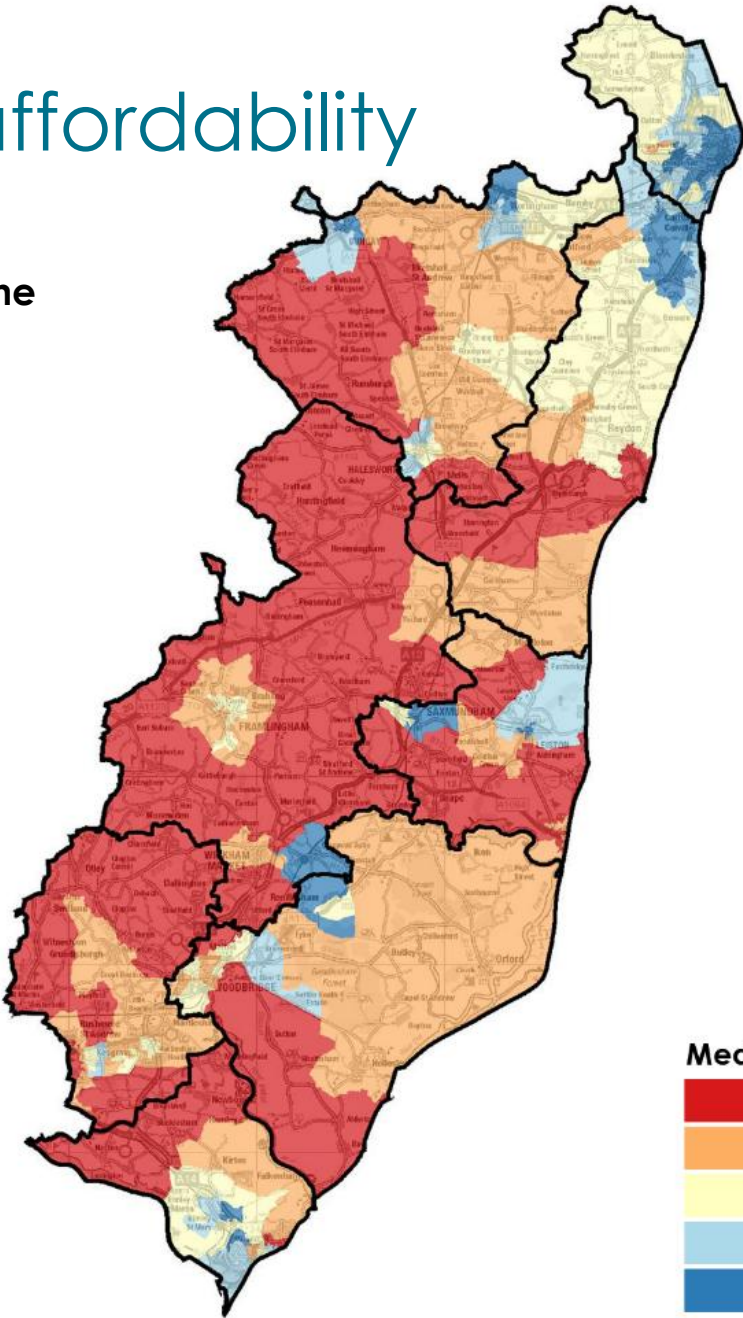
### Household Size

#### Households with 1-4 people in household (2021)



# Housing Prices and affordability

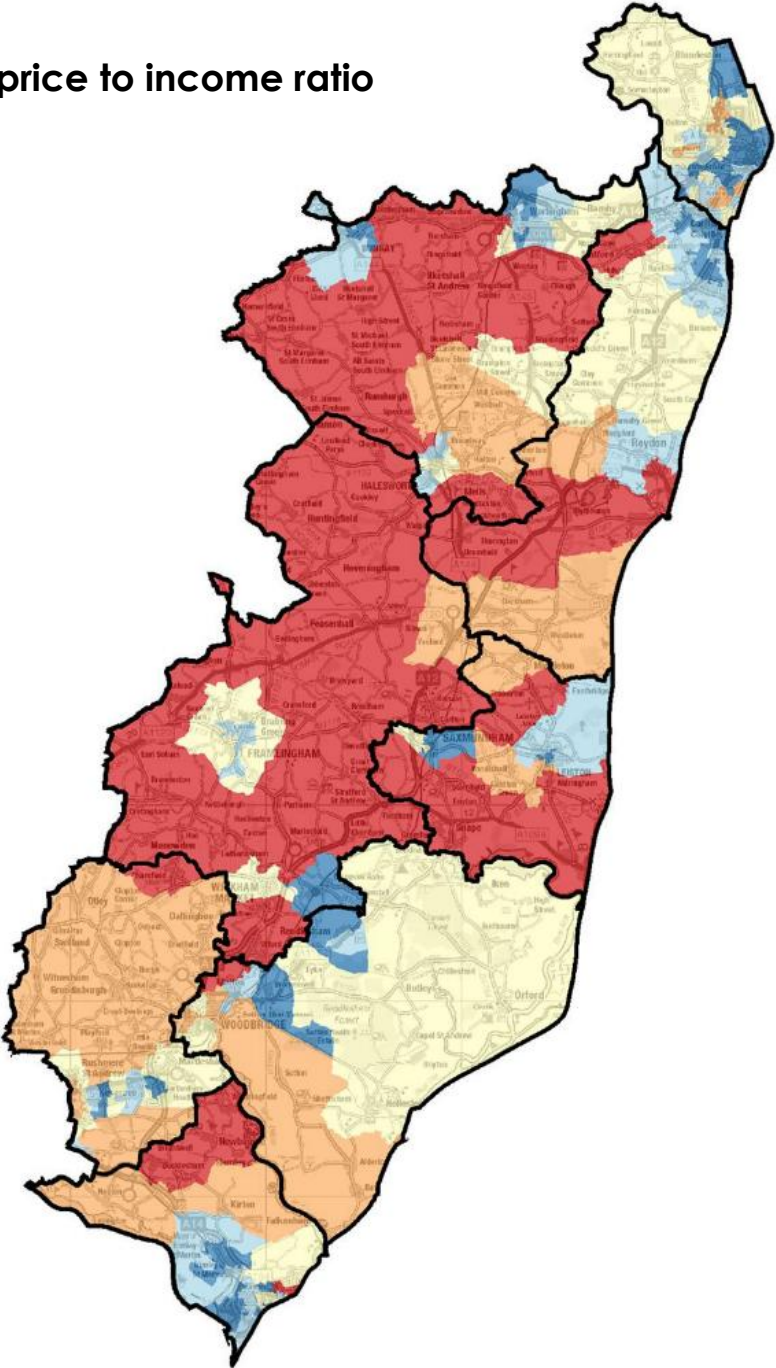
Average house price for the year to March 2023



**Median house price paid**

£450,000 to £701,000	(19)
£350,000 to £450,000	(29)
£290,000 to £350,000	(30)
£240,000 to £290,000	(36)
£130,000 to £240,000	(32)

Median house price to income ratio



**Median house price to income ratio**

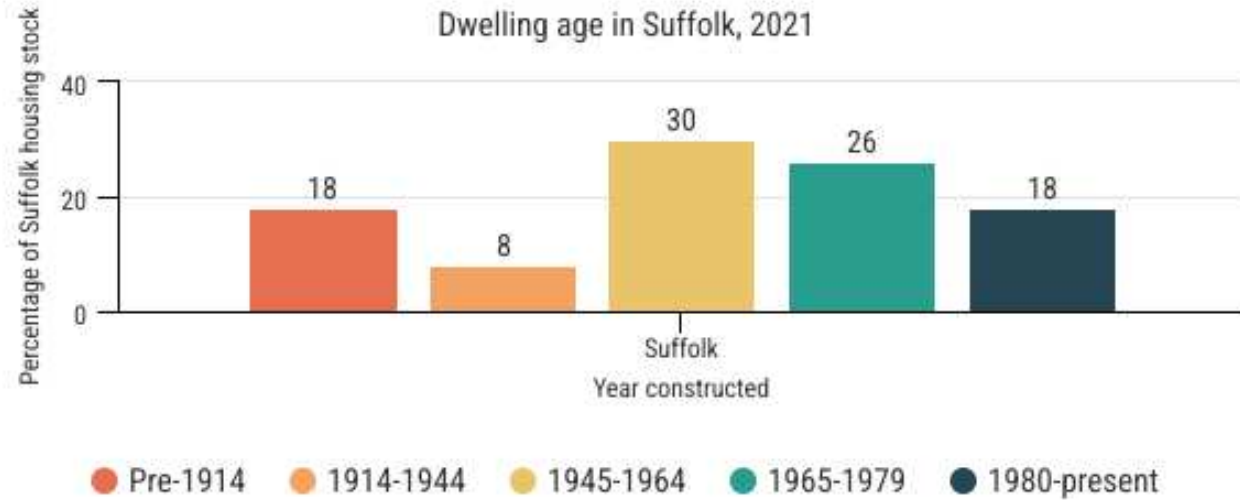
9.0 to 15.6	(17)
7.5 to 9.0	(19)
6.5 to 7.5	(35)
5.6 to 6.5	(41)
3.8 to 5.6	(34)

Source: ONS. Map © Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Suffolk County Council Licence No. AC0000849963 2024

## Dwelling age

- 18% of Suffolk's housing stock is constructed pre-1914 (62,950 households)

- 80% of the households we will be living in by 2050 are already built

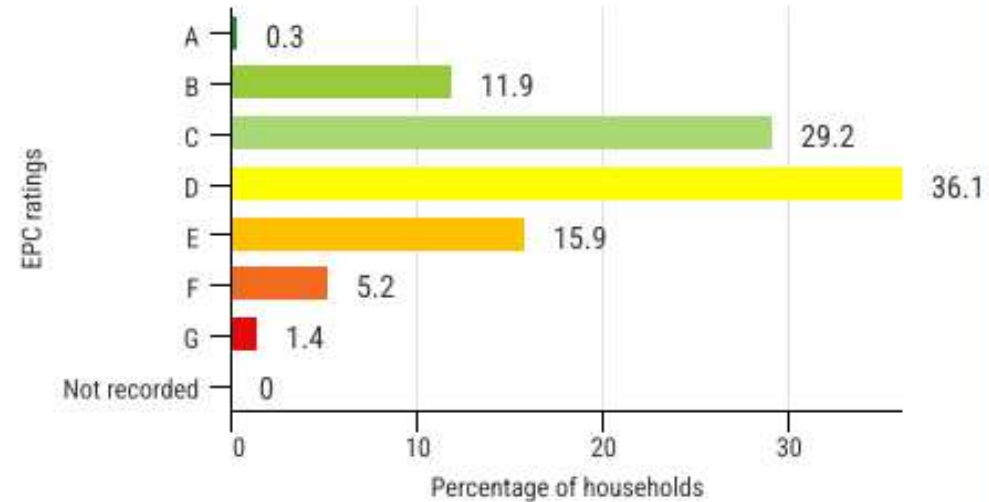


## Energy efficiency

- 41% of Suffolk dwellings have an EPC rating of band C and above
- 14.1% of Suffolk households (47,450) are estimated to be fuel poor in 2021
- The fuel poverty gap in England for 2023 was estimated at £417, an increase of 20% from 2022

*\*Estimate of the costs required for a household to no longer be classified as fuel poor*

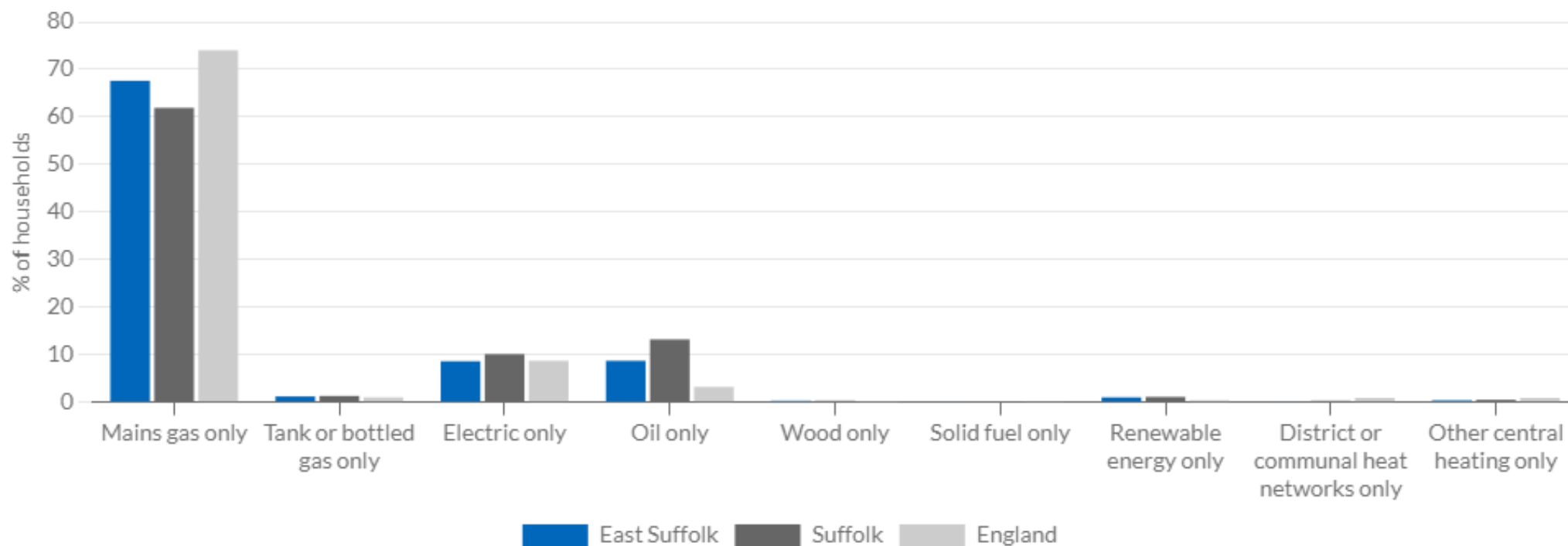
Percentage of Suffolk's housing stock by EPC band, Q2 2023



## Central Heating

Data from the 2021 census shows that **1,564** households in **East Suffolk** responded as having no form of central heating, which is **1.4%** of households. This compares to a value of **1.5%** for **England**.

Central heating by type (2021)



Source: ONS, Census 2021

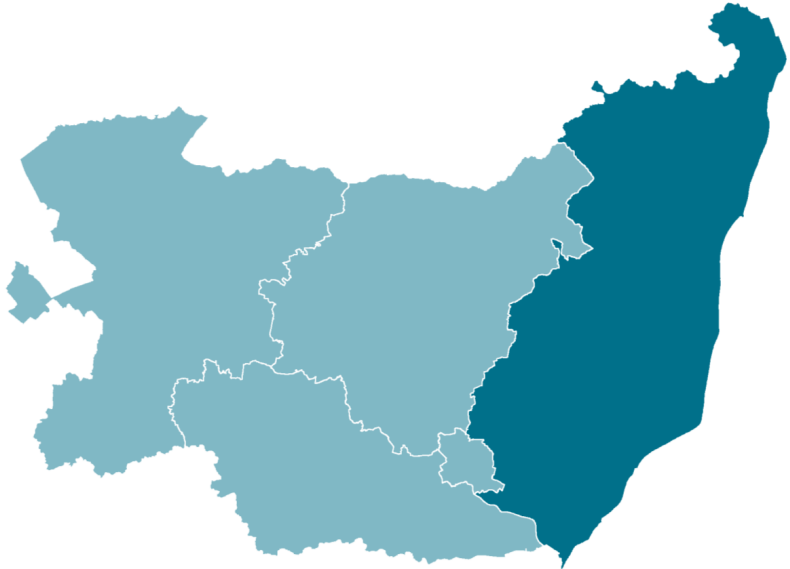




# Suffolk Housing and Health Needs Assessment

- Housing and health are inextricably linked - unsuitable and unaffordable housing contributes to health inequalities across Suffolk
- Homes in Suffolk are increasingly unaffordable, with house prices outpacing income growth by almost double over the last 20 years, disproportionately affecting those on lower incomes
- Our population continues to age, requiring more homes to support independent living.
- The majority of Suffolk's housing will require extensive upgrades to remain suitable.
- Alongside affordability issues, many households live in homes with poor energy performance
- Cold and damp properties impact on health, but improvements are costly/unviable without subsidies only available to those on the lowest incomes because of the high cost of retrofitting
- There are a significant number of older properties that cannot be improved (due to building codes and regulations, structural issues, and preservation rules among other challenges)
- Rising homelessness and the social housing waiting list demonstrate the gap between housing need and supply

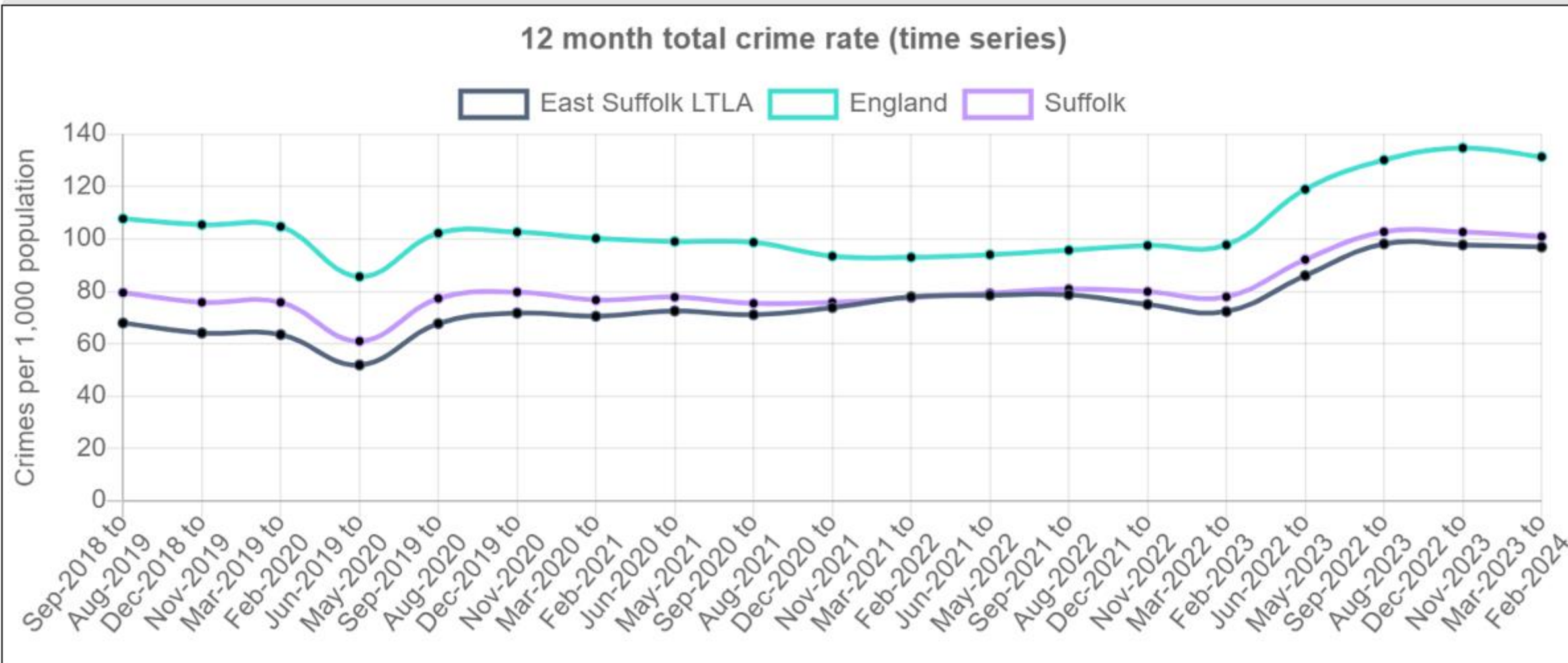
# Community Safety



East Suffolk  
Community  
Partnerships

*Bringing ideas to life*

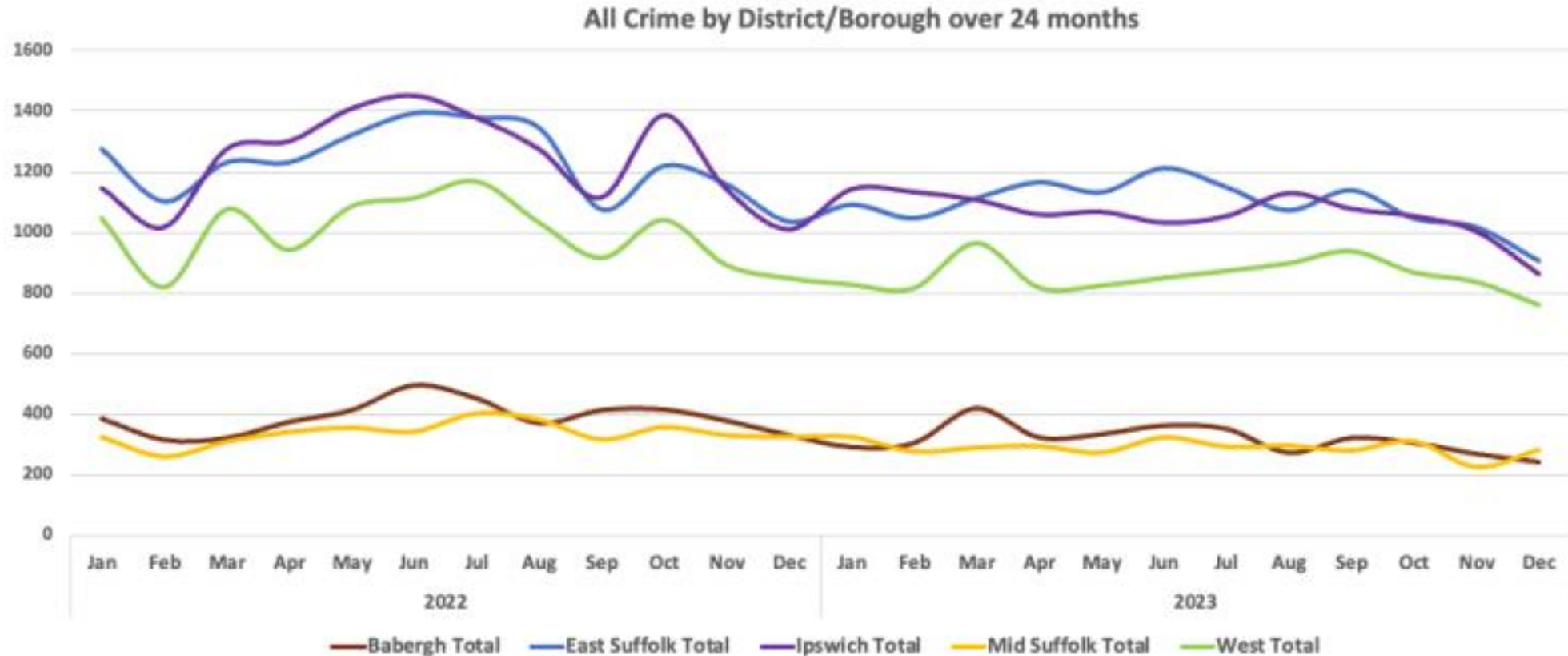
12 month total crime rate (time series)



Source: Police UK

## Suffolk Crime and Disorder Overview

The overall level of recorded crime in Suffolk has been declining over the last 24 months and 12 months as shown in the chart below. There were 43,328 crimes recorded from January 2023 to the end of December 2024.



## East Suffolk CSP

- 53% increase in shoplifting (577 in 2022 compared to 884 in 2023)
- 20% increase in vehicle offences, mainly related to unauthorised taking of a vehicle (457 in 2022 compared to 547 in 2023)
- 14% increase in possession of weapons (147 in 2022 compared to 169 in 2023)
- 27% reduction in sexual offences, mainly related to a large reduction in reported rape offences (753 in 2022 compared to 546 in 2023)
- 27% reduction in public order offences (1597 in 2022 compared to 1170 in 2023)
- 19% reduction in robbery (62 in 2022 compared to 50 in 2023)
- 16% reduction in violence against the person offences (6483 in 2022 compared to 5455 in 2023)

## SSCB PRIORITIES

**Criminal Exploitation**  
inc Serious Violence & Modern Slavery

**Violence Against  
Women & Girls**  
inc Domestic Abuse, Sexual Violence  
& Serious Violence

**Preventing Radicalisation**

## CSP PRIORITIES

in addition to specific aspects  
of SSCB priorities

**Anti-Social Behaviour**

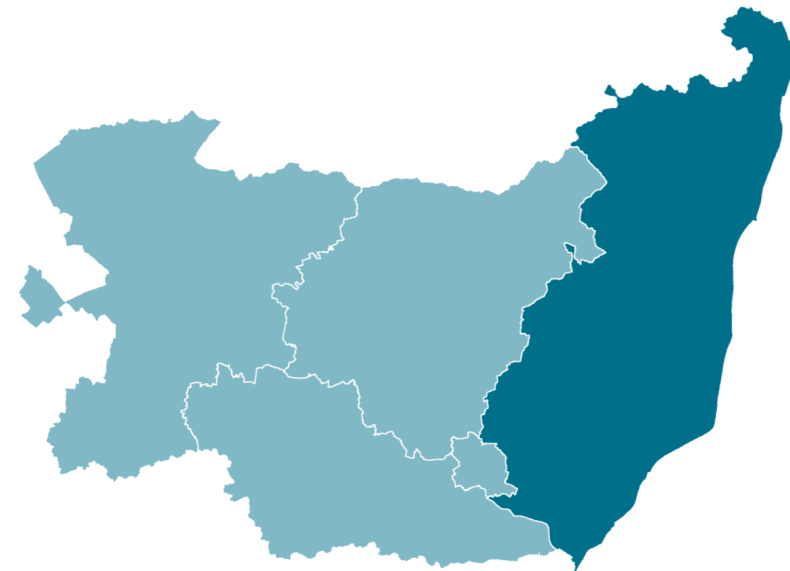
**Fraud/Computer Misuse**

**Hate Crime**

**Theft/Shoplifting**

**Emerging Issues**

# Community

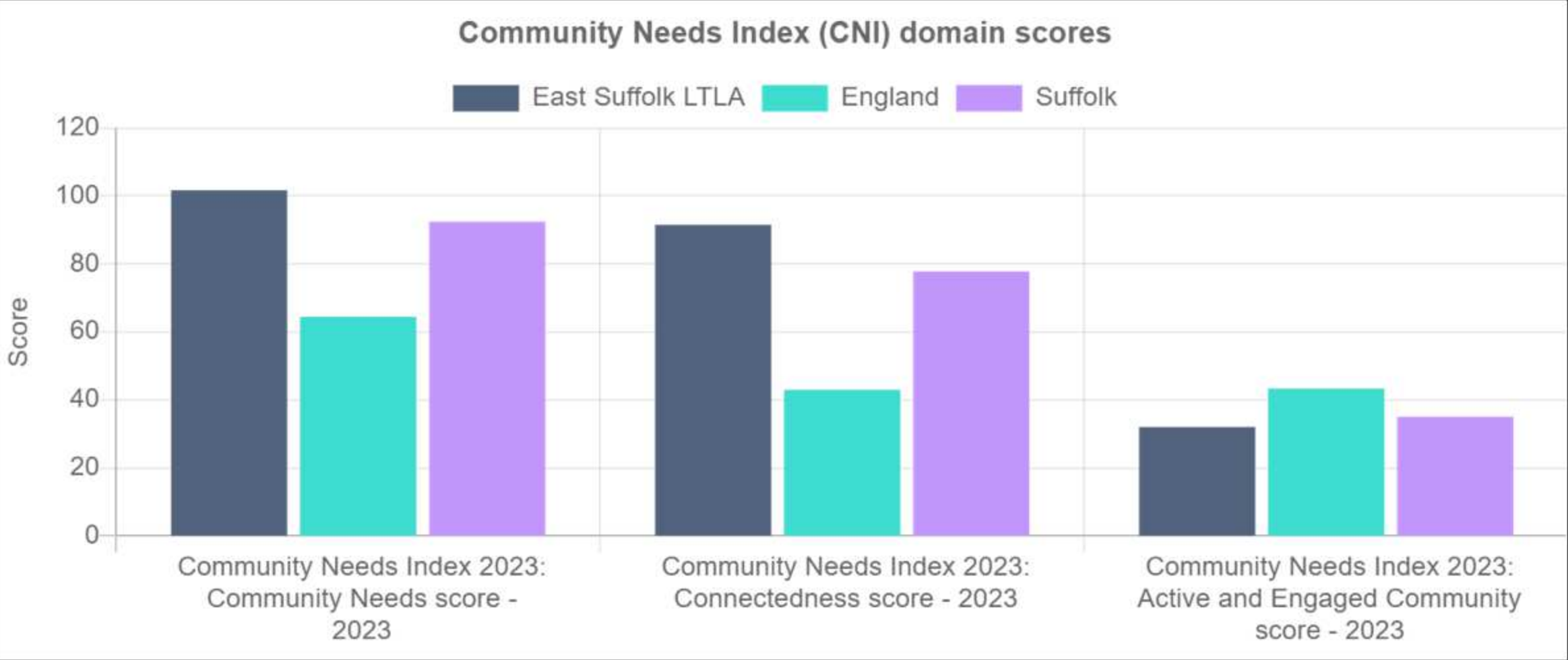


East Suffolk  
Community  
Partnerships

*Bringing ideas to life*

East Suffolk has high levels of overall need on the Community Needs Index than England (65.55) and Suffolk (65.93), with an overall score of 75.14

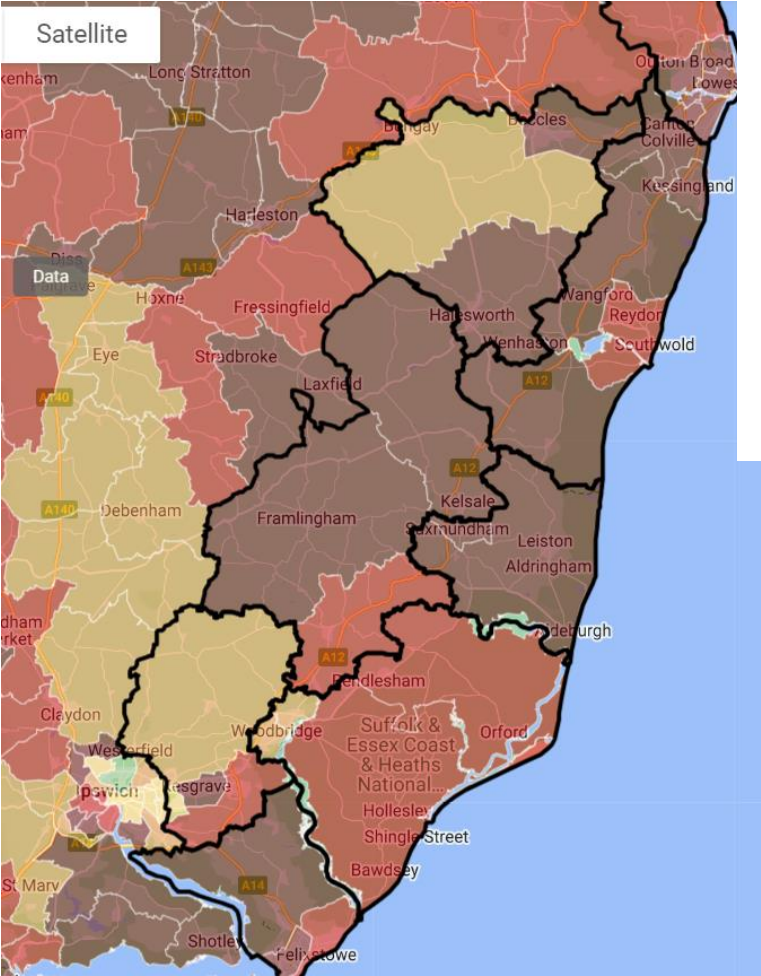
CNI domain scores









Source: Oxford Consultants for Social Inclusion (OCSI)

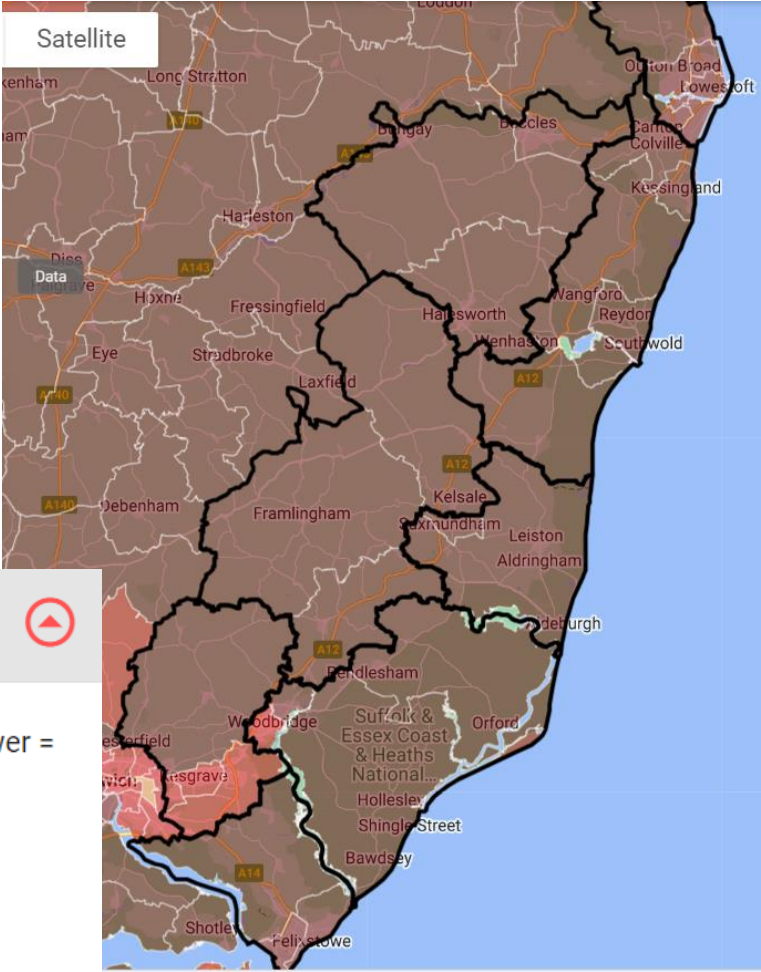


### Community Needs Index 2023: Community Needs rank









Community Needs Index: Community Needs Rank (lower = greater need)

-  Current Level: **Electoral Wards/Divisions**
-  24,660 - 33,640
-  18,455 - 24,659
-  13,216 - 18,453
-  8,121 - 13,216
-  64 - 8,119

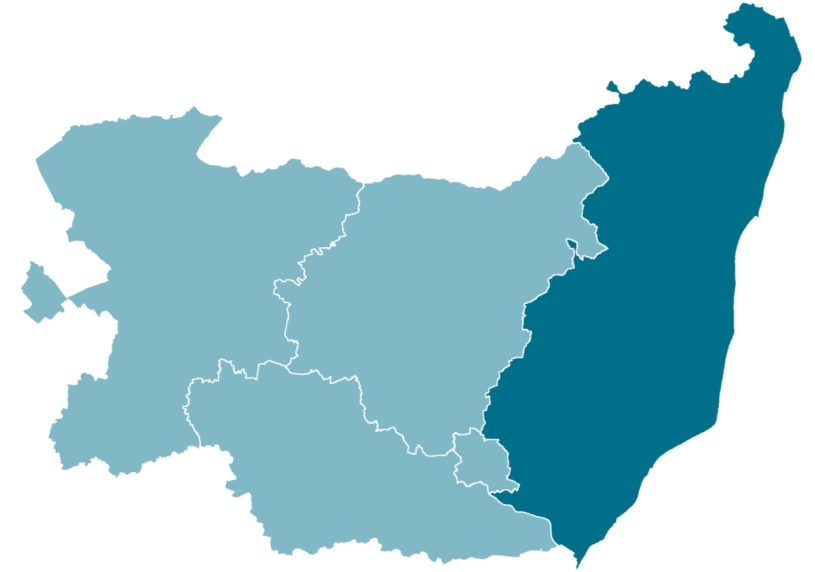


### Community Needs Index 2023: Connectedness rank

Community Needs Index: Connectedness rank (lower = greater need)

-  Current Level: **Electoral Wards/Divisions**
-  23,969 - 33,696
-  18,010 - 23,967
-  12,236 - 18,006
-  6,576 - 12,232
-  11 - 6,576

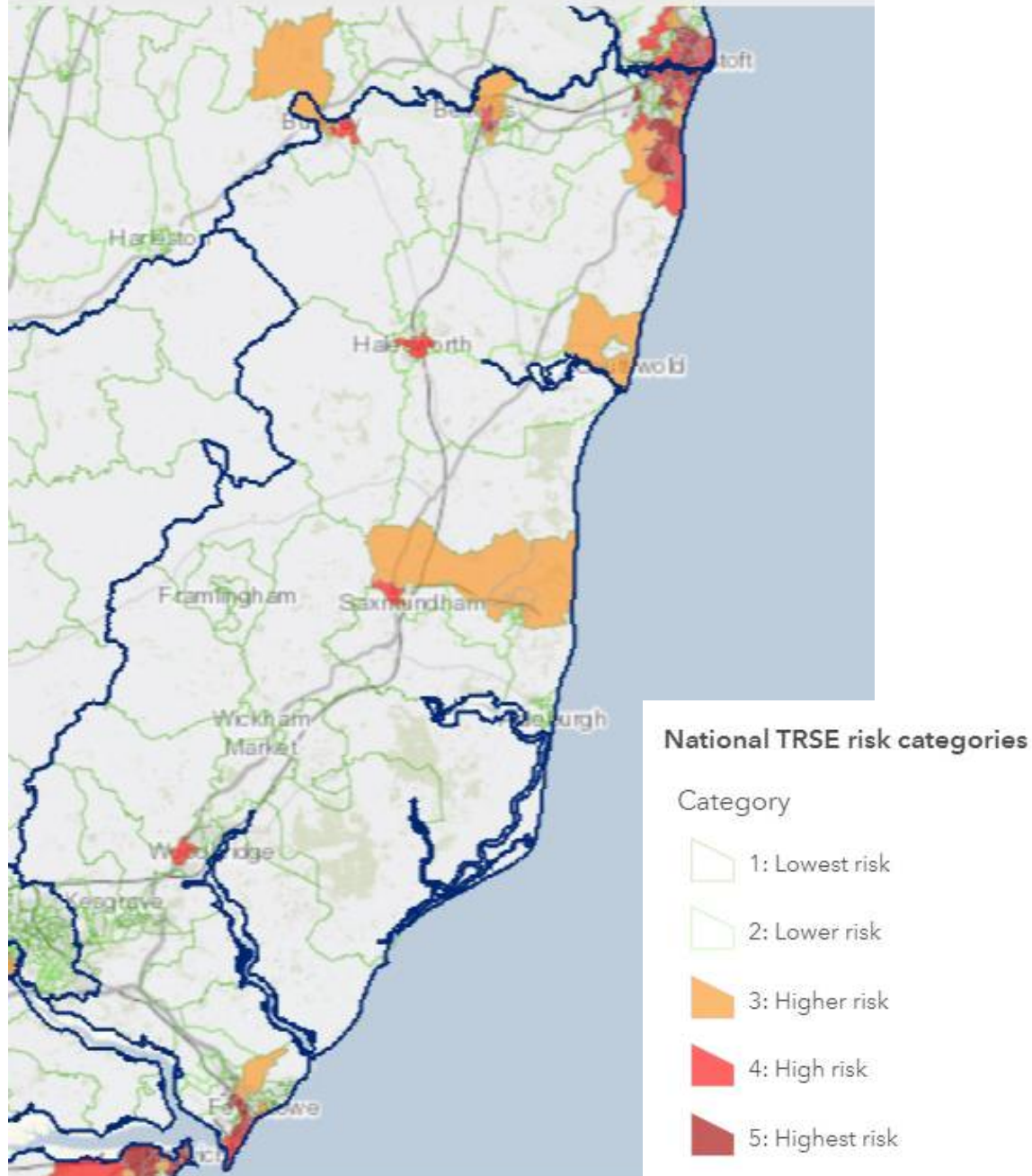
# Transport



East Suffolk  
Community  
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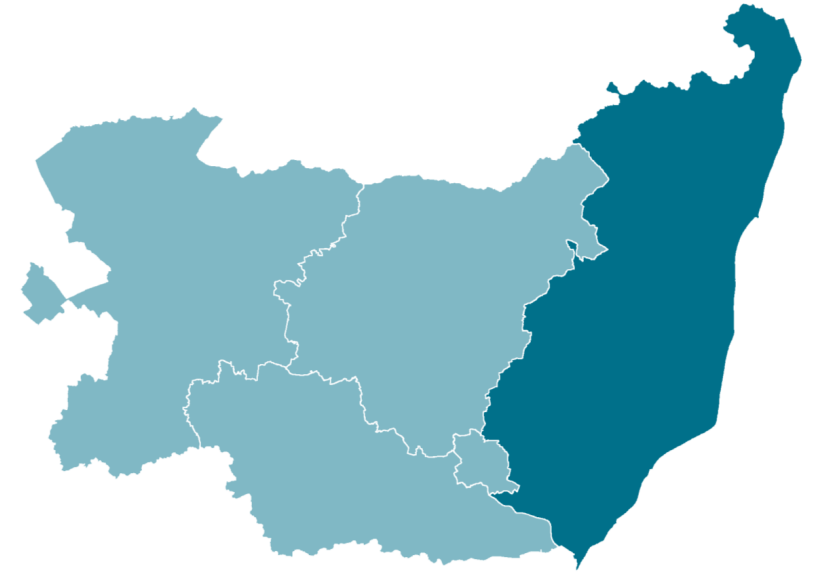
# National TRSE Risk Categories



## National Transport Related Social Exclusion Project

“Transport-related social exclusion (TRSE) means that transport issues have a fundamental impact on everyday life and limit the ability to fulfil everyday needs. This could mean being unable to access childcare or good job opportunities, facing poverty and financial hardship because of transport costs, or facing significant stress and anxiety from using the transport system as part of everyday life. TRSE is particularly likely to impact those on low incomes and in insecure work, those with disabilities and long-term health conditions, and those with caring or childcare responsibilities”.

# Climate Change and Environment



East Suffolk  
Community  
Partnerships

*Bringing ideas to life*

## Total carbon emissions

CO<sub>2</sub> per capita (2021)

# 0.4 tonnes

Source: BEIS

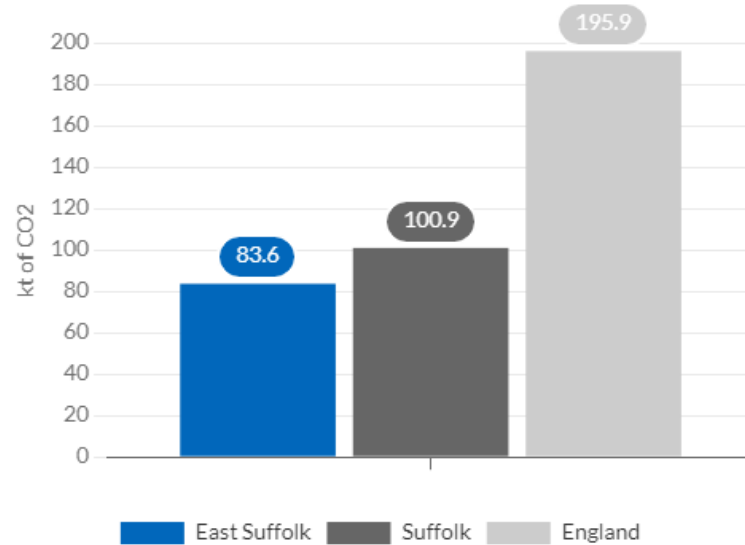


Emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases from the production and use of energy across multiple sectors contribute in many ways to climate change. Local authority data for carbon emissions by sector are available in the section below.

These estimates of carbon emissions have been produced for the following categories:

- Industry (including electricity-related emissions)
- Commercial (including electricity-related emissions)
- Public sector (including electricity-related emissions)
- Domestic (including electricity-related emissions)
- Transport
- Land use, land use change and forestry (including removals of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere)

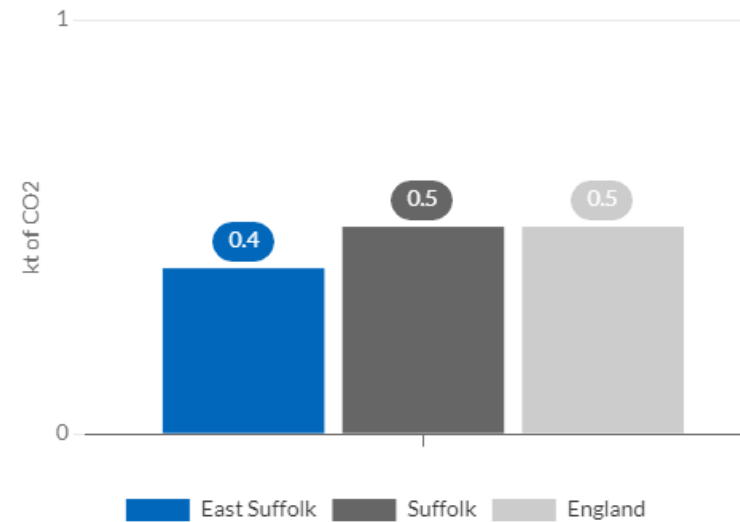
### Total CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per km<sup>2</sup> (2021)



Source: BEIS



### Total CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per person (2021)



Source: BEIS



# East Suffolk Data Pack 2024 – Overview

All slides have been updated with the most recent data available. **Purple text shows new data.**

## Population

1. There is a smaller rate of population growth in East Suffolk than Suffolk or England.
2. East Suffolk has an older than average population compared to both Suffolk and England – more than 1 in 4 people are aged 65+, the biggest age group is 70-74 year olds and the most over-represented age group is 85+. The most under-represented is 25-29 year olds.
3. There is limited ethnic diversity – 96.2% of the population is White, compared to 93.1% in Suffolk and 81% in England and **94% of East Suffolk residents were born in the UK.**
4. **A higher proportion (5.2%) of the East Suffolk population have served in the regular and/or reservist armed forces (compared to 4.7% in Suffolk and 3.6% in England).**

## Deprivation

5. Proportionally, more people in East Suffolk are affected by income deprivation than in Suffolk (in brackets) – 11.5% overall (10.1%), 15.2% children (13.6%) and 10.5% older people (10.3%).
6. 30,032 people in East Suffolk live in the 20% most deprived areas nationally (the Core 20 areas) – the majority in Lowestoft, but also in Felixstowe and Beccles. However 55,803 people live in the least deprived 20% of area in England.
7. Areas of the District with more than 100 children aged 0-15 living in income deprived families are Lowestoft, Beccles, and Saxmundham.
8. Areas of the District with concentrations of older people living in income deprivation are Lowestoft, Beccles and Felixstowe, plus Kessingland, Halesworth and Woodbridge.
9. **A number of wards, particularly in the north of the district, are priority places for food – identified via seven measures including proximity/access to supermarkets, deprivation and need for family food support e.g. Free School Meals.**

## Health and Wellbeing

10. There are life expectancy gaps within the district of 9.3 years for Men (reduced from 10.4 years in 2021) and 10.1 years for Women. Average life expectancy is 79.1 years for males and 83.5 years for females (higher than England but lower than Suffolk). Harbour and Normanston Ward has the lowest life expectancy in East Suffolk for both Men and Women.
11. **The top five drivers of the life expectancy gap are circulatory disease, cancer, respiratory conditions, Covid-19 and external causes. The main modifiable risk factors are smoking, diabetes, dietary risks, high blood pressure, alcohol use and high cholesterol**
12. Smoking prevalence is higher than the national average for three GP practices in Lowestoft and one in Felixstowe

13. Adult obesity prevalence is higher than the national average at all Lowestoft GP practices, Kessingland, Beccles, Bungay, Saxmundham, Peninsular Practice and 2 GP Practices in Felixstowe
14. Obesity in Reception age children is highest in the Northern Parishes and Felixstowe, but at Year 6 is higher in Lowestoft (although East Suffolk at 20.5% is below the national average of 22.7%)
15. Mental ill health is higher than the national average at two GP Practices in Lowestoft, Beccles and one Woodbridge practice
16. Adult activity levels are similar to England levels and above our CIPFA statistical neighbours, but East Suffolk children are much less active (with 85% participating in an activity once a week or more). There are more than 425 people per accessible sports facility which is very high.
17. 10% of East Suffolk residents provide 'unpaid care' with 3.1% providing more than 50 hours a week.
18. 20.6% of people say that their lives are limited a lot or a little by a long term health condition or disability (this is higher than both Suffolk and England) and a higher proportion of residents (10.1%) claim Personal Independence Payments (PIP) than both Suffolk and England.
19. Social Isolation is still a big issue with hot spots across the district in both rural and urban areas.

### **Education, Employment and Benefits**

20. Average gross weekly pay for full time workers in East Suffolk in 2023 was £633.80 compared to £705.70 for the East of England. The gap between economically active males and females is closing but there are still differences in salary levels, with males earning on average £685.50 and females earning £551.90.
21. 16.7% of adults receive Universal Credit, with concentrations in Lowestoft, Kessingland, Beccles, Halesworth, Leiston and Felixstowe. This has increased from 14.5% in 2021 as people are moved off legacy benefits and due to Covid-19/Cost of Living impacts.
22. The proportion of people in employment – 77.2% - is at its lowest since 2026 (apart from during Covid) and only 18.6% of economically inactive 16-64 years olds in East Suffolk want a job (compared to 35.1% in Babergh)
23. In East Suffolk there are a lower level of qualifications at Levels 3 and 4 than the national average. 56,968 people or 27.6% of people in East Suffolk have degree level qualifications, which is lower than both the Suffolk (28.1%) and England (33.92%) averages.
24. 40,105 people or 19.4% of the 16-64 population in East Suffolk have no qualifications, which is higher than the average for England (18.0%).
25. Kessingland, Harbour and Normanston and West Felixstowe have the highest proportion of 16 and 17 year olds who are NEET, and East Suffolk is now above the Suffolk average

### **Housing**

26. There are more single and two person households in East Suffolk than in Suffolk and England.

27. Homes in Suffolk are increasingly unaffordable (particularly for those on low incomes) with high house prices and median house price to income ratios, particularly in the west of the district.
28. The majority of housing in East Suffolk will require extensive upgrades to remain suitable due to poor energy performance, cold and damp. 1,560 households in East Suffolk have no form of central heating.
29. Rising homelessness and the social housing waiting list show the gap between housing supply and demand.

### **Community Safety**

30. Whilst the crime rate per 1,000 population has risen slightly since 2022, the overall level of recorded crimes is declining in East Suffolk and is lower than in both Suffolk and England.
31. There have been increases in shoplifting (53%), vehicle offences (20%) and possession of weapons (14%) and a reduction in sex offences (27%), public order offences (27%), robbery (19%) and violence against the person (16%).

### **Community**

32. East Suffolk scores less well in the Community Needs Index 2023 overall in terms of community needs and in the 'active and engaged communities' category. The overall index includes 19 different measures with 'active and engaged communities' including engagement with civic life and the third sector.

### **Transport and Environment**

33. Transport Related Social Exclusion is likely to impact those on low incomes/in insecure work, disabilities and long term conditions and with caring/childcare responsibilities. The map on Slide 51 shows hot spots in Lowestoft, Kessingland, Beccles and Felixstowe
34. There are lower levels of carbon emissions per km<sup>2</sup> and person than Suffolk and England



## Update on the peer review of Community Partnerships in 2021 and subsequent actions taken.

### 1. A brief reminder of the Peer Challenge Process:

#### 1.1 Who:

The Peer Challenge Team ('the Team') consisted of:

- Steven Pleasant (Lead Officer Peer), Chief Executive, Tameside Council & Accountable Officer at Tameside and Glossop CCG
- Cllr Isobel Darby, Buckinghamshire Council
- Rachel Joyce, Director of Corporate Affairs, Harrogate Borough Council
- Rob Gregory, Assistant Director Communities and Neighbourhoods, Stevenage Borough Council

Supported by:

- James Mehmed, LGA Peer Challenge Manager
- Rachel Stevens, LGA Project Support Officer

#### 1.2 When:

The challenge took place over three days 12 – 14 October 2021 – just under two years after the Community Partnerships were launched.

#### 1.3 What:

East Suffolk Council asked the Team *“What can we do to enhance the Community Partnerships and what changes might be required to make them more effective in the future?”*

The Team structured the review around three themes:

#### 1. People

- Do we have the right people around the table?
- Are they representative of their communities?
- Are they fully engaged and are they playing their part in ensuring that existing local connections are being maintained and local priorities being addressed?
- Are the Community Partnerships missing any opportunities in terms of community engagement?
- We would also welcome comments on the role of the Chair.

#### 2. Process

- Are the Community Partnerships and the Board being run in a way that encourages collaboration, problem solving and the collective powers of influence (albeit in the context of meeting virtually over the last 15 months)?
- Do our processes allow people to contribute in the most effective and meaningful way?
- Are the governance arrangements conducive to ensuring that maximum benefit is achieved?

#### 3. Outcomes

- Is the model we have achieving our vision or are there more effective models worth considering?
- Is this an effective use of taxpayers' money?
- How might the Community Partnerships be supported by the Council to operate better in an increasingly data led environment?
- Do we know if the Community Partnerships and the Board are delivering the outcomes that we set them up to deliver?
- Do we understand which projects are effective and which are not?

#### **1.4 How:**

The review was carried out virtually. Having firstly received a wide range of background documents, the Team embarked on a programme of engagement which included:

- 22 virtual MS Teams meetings
- Circa 60 people engaged
- Internal colleagues, community, partners & business community

## **2. RESULTS:**

At the conclusion of the challenge the Team shared insights they had gained through the process and gave recommendations for East Suffolk Council and the Community Partnership Board to consider.

### **2.1 Insights:**

- Significant variation in stages of development between CPs.
- Communication across the CPs - Quick win.
- Some processes getting in the way.
- Impact of Covid.
- Criticality of Chairs, Vice Chairs and Communities Officers.
- Views from your staff.
- Community leadership – Critical role of CP Chairs.
- Meeting format.
- Need to get out more.
- Grant giving process.
- Scale of opportunity.

### **2.2 Recommendations:**

1. Take time to reflect, review and reset the compass for Community Partnerships.
2. Celebrate what you have achieved.
3. Manage the transition from virtual meetings to an increased face-to-face format to support relationship building.
4. More effective communication within and across the CPs and the CP Board
5. Further engage with communities of interest e.g. young people
6. Invest in creating increased capacity and capability in the wider system.
7. Create a learning and development plan to support the next phase of delivery. (Chairs, Vice Chairs and Officers)
8. Quick win – Improve communication between CPs and outwards with localities
9. Consider strategic sponsorship of CPs from across the organisation
10. Build stronger linkages through locality teams e.g. economic development and health
11. Ensure all related processes and commissioned support are congruent with your vision for CPs
12. Review grant and funding processes
13. Move away from traditional meeting style
14. Understand how you identify success, impact, and ROI
15. Make the shift to more facilitative problem solving
16. Develop a robust evaluation framework.
17. Strengthen oversight – ensure grip.
18. Engage all stakeholders internal and external on the next steps for Community Partnerships.

## **3. RESPONSE**

A Community Partnerships Visioning Event was organised at Trinity Park Conference Centre on behalf of the Community Partnership Board and approximately 40 invited delegates attended, comprising Community Partnership Board members, Community Partnership Vice Chairs, key representatives from partner organisation and East Suffolk Council officers. The challenge posed to everyone at the event was:

***‘How can we learn from and respond to the recommendations identified through the Peer Challenge?’***

A workshop was facilitated to help delegates identify top priorities for action against each Peer Challenge recommendation and these were recorded and pulled together after the event to form the *Community Partnership Peer Challenge 2021 Action Plan*.

## **4. ACTION TO DATE**

### **4.1 People**

- Role descriptions for Chairs, Vice Chairs and ESC Officers reviewed and revised
- CP Chairs/Vice Chairs Learning and Development Plan implemented
- More external people with specific knowledge/skills/resources built into projects
- All Councillors (ESC, SCC and T&P Councils) encouraged to participate fully in their CP
- Built resilience by preparing, developing and supporting newly appointed/future Chairs/Vice Chairs
- Bespoke training and development for individual ESC Officers
- Event at Trinity Park engaged partners in next steps
- Some progress but more to do to ensure we hear underrepresented voices - especially young people who can shape CP priorities and activities

### **4.2 Process**

- Reduced the number of formal CP meetings in favour of less formal workshops
- More Task and Finish Groups organised to increase engagement between meetings
- Each CP held a second workshop to engage wider stakeholders, consider refreshed data and restate/adjust priorities
- Progress to ensure CPs are transparent – held in public and anyone can join if the CP/they see benefit in them being there
- Equipped CPs with skills/capacity to map assets in their area and build a supportive network of people who share priorities
- Some progress but more to do to communicate more widely what CPs do
- Gradual move away from focussing on the funding to promote the wider impact of the CPs
- Processes in place to capture and share pipeline of activity, learning and best practice between CPs to increase collaboration and maximise impact
- CPs have demonstrated that they work well when they have the right people round the table who work collaboratively to problem solve one priority at a time.
- Funding Team share information with CPs weekly about various external funding opportunities
- Progress being made on designing governance processes to be transparent but as light touch as possible to free up CPs to innovate

### **4.3 Outcomes**

- Quarterly monitoring of activity funded by CP Board – each meeting starts with an overview of the funding position

- Monitoring of all CP Small Grant Scheme funded projects – but often significant challenge to obtaining the information from grant recipients
- End of project reports required for all CP funded projects – Some are excellent, but others can be difficult / impossible to obtain and the impact measures can be missing. Processes have recently been reviewed to improve this.
- Board periodically revisits and resets original vision, aims and aspirations for CPs
- All eight CPs review their priorities annually and there has been a significant push to make them SMARTer and more targeted – this is improving but still variable
- Introduced a central project register of all CP projects
- Introduced quarterly and annual impact reports for the Board

## **5. NEXT STEPS**

The actions above show that good progress has already been made to address the recommendations made by the peer review team. However, there are several outstanding actions where more needs to be done:

### **5.1 People**

- Support CP Chairs/Vice Chairs to deliver their individual CP action plans
- Support CP Chairs and officers to increase the number of external people with specific knowledge / skills / resources that will help to deliver their priorities
- Do more to ensure we hear underrepresented voices - especially young people who can shape CP priorities and activities

### **5.2 Process**

- Do more to communicate more widely what CPs do
- Move further away from focussing on the funding to promote the wider impact of the CPs

### **5.3 Outcomes**

- Ensure that all CPs develop more targeted priorities and SMARTer outcomes
- Significantly improve to quantity and quality of the impact measures that all CPs obtained from their projects

Author: Luke Bennett, Partnerships Manager June 2024.

# East Suffolk Community Partnership Chairs, Vice Chairs and Communities Officer Development Sessions

## 2024/25 Action Plan

*Good quality thinking leads to good decision making, resulting in good outcomes*

1. **Shared Purpose, Vision, and Goals** – across all CPs and for individual CPs - start with the end in mind...if we are to be successful, what will we have achieved?
2. Finalise the Community Partnership definition - ***‘Local people, the Council and partners working together to find practical solutions to local issues; Bringing Ideas to Life’***
3. **Agree our Key Principles:**
  - a. Inclusive (grass roots engagement, include everyone, hear a diversity of perspectives)
  - b. Evidence-led (data and insight)
  - c. Impactful (deliver a positive, tangible difference and add value)
  - d. Solution focussed (find collaborative solutions to local needs and problems)
  - e. Clear communication – so that local people and partners know what CPs are and do
  - f. Make strong connections – we signpost and connect local people and groups
4. **Impact measurement** – so that we can prove that what we do is relevant, sustainable, impactful and meaningful
5. **Community Partnership Meeting Essentials**
  - a. Facilitated, not Chaired
  - b. Opening rounds to help people to arrive physically and mentally
  - c. Use names wherever possible
  - d. Apply the Thinking Pairs and Thinking Circles tools where relevant
  - e. Use Agendas in the form of questions
  - f. Clear concise reports that help answer the questions
  - g. Action Notes = the answers to the questions
  - h. Make room layouts as inclusive as possible – can people see each other?
  - i. Apply learning about managing conflict
6. Periodically **revisit the individual PEST and SWOT analyses and the Stakeholder Mapping** – thinking about ‘Offers’ and ‘Wants’ from each stakeholder
7. Ensure the right people are in the room and that they understand their roles/responsibilities – develop **Role Description for CP Members** (and revisit the Chair and Vice Chair Role Descriptions)
8. Regularly revisit and review the **Meeting Ground Rules**

9. **Widen the pool of people who are actively involved (particularly when priorities change)** – in CP meetings, project development and individual project delivery
10. **Maintain energy and be aware of Limiting Assumptions** (which sap energy in the room)
11. **Think Rural** (apply the Rural Proofing model and emerging Action Plan)
12. **Poverty Proof CP events and projects** to ensure that we are not excluding those on low income (even if events are free, transport can be an issue)
13. Develop a **Communications and Marketing Strategy** (to include photo/video bank, incentivise people to provide photo's, social media campaigns, Councillor role as Communication Champions, promote outcomes and how people can get involved)
14. **Secure the future of Community Partnerships** – take a report to the Board and to ESC Cabinet that makes a compelling case for retaining CPs (including evidence from funding beneficiaries)

## Development Session 1

### Limiting Assumption (page 2/3, report 1)

*Good quality thinking* ➡ *Good decision making* ➡ *Good outcomes*

To achieve good outcomes, we need to make good decisions and to make good decisions, we need the best quality thinking to go into them. All too often we tend to make negative assumptions about situations, ourselves, others, organisations etc.

Nancy Kline suggests there are three tests that can be applied to limiting assumptions – either they are not true in which case what is true or positive? Or they might have been true in the past but can be replaced by something more positive for the future, or they can be described in a more positive way.

We looked at what assumptions people might make about Community Partnerships that might limit their impact and identified more positive assumptions we want them to make instead. We also applied this to Community Partnership meetings.

### How would we define our purpose?

- Local people and partners alleviating local issues
- Including everyone in developing solutions to local problems and issues
- A local collaborative approach to achievable community need
- A forum for problem solving on a practical level, addressing issues and focussing on solutions
- Listen to local issues and take action

### How we want to be seen by our communities (page 5, report 1)

Local aims and priorities	Achievable	Impactful
Inclusive	Solution focussed	Problem solving
Skills-led	Facilitate to include all	Encourage involvement
Everyone encouraged to speak	Best funding outcomes	Mechanism to deliver
Grass roots engagement	Enabling budgets	Positive difference
Engage people who don't engage with other partners	Tell people what we are doing in meaningful language	

### Our Communities and Ourselves – Offers and Wants (page 7/8, report 1)

Looked at what Community Partnerships want from Communities and what Communities want from Community Partnerships.

Considered what we think our responsibilities are to our communities:

Listen and hear diversity of perspectives	Promote collaborative solutions to community need
Enable/facilitate discussions	Act as a conduit – signpost and connect
Connect with communities	Develop relationships with T and P Councils
Use evidence e.g. data packs	Be realistic
Deliver tangible improvements	Facilitate / manage expectations
Make connections – budgets/resources	Add value for locally grown initiatives e.g. marketing support for Warm Welcomes
Communicate well	Raise awareness of the CP

### **What External Factors could help or hinder us in East Suffolk (page 9, report 1)**

Developed a table identifying Political, Economic, Social and Technological factors.

Considered potential Opportunities and Challenges.

Identified the Strengths and Weaknesses of our collective of Community Partnerships.

### **Change and Transition (page 12, report 1)**

The difference between change and transition – change happens at a point in time, but transition is a psychological journey which people need to make to realise the full potential for change.

What do our priorities need to be – what needs to END, what works well that we could BUILD UPON, what NEW BEGINNINGS need to be introduced?

What do we want our Community Partnerships to have achieved collectively in the next 2-3 years (both external and internal)?

What do we need to do as a priority to ensure success? Developed a list of external and internal factors and then refined these into an overview of:

### **What we need to do as a priority to ensure success (page 13, report 1)**

- Transform negativity to positivity and ensure that people take responsibility and contribute in a practical way
- Assess the health of our Task and Finish groups to ensure that they are delivering our priorities



- Better measurement of the impact of Community Partnerships and projects so we know what we do is relevant, impactful and measurable
- Ensure people are still around the table and feel energised

### **Key Points from Workshop 1:**

Using Nancy Kline's 'Thinking Environment' methodology we looked at how Community Partnerships could use these techniques to move away from traditionally formal meetings to more facilitated workshops:

- Opening rounds where everyone is invited to introduce themselves and arrive physically and mentally
- Use people's names to keep attention
- Use of rounds to ensure everyone's voice is heard – Attention and Equality
- Thinking Pairs – another tool to give everyone the chance to speak
- Be still when you listen to create a sense of Ease
- Agendas in the form of questions – notes of the meeting are the answers to the questions
- Organise the room to enable everyone to see each other – reduce use of tables and PowerPoint as they can keep a sense of hierarchy
- Reports should provide the information necessary to answer the agenda questions
- Recognise the importance of acknowledging Feelings

## Development Session 2

Suggested definition: **Local people, the Council and partners working together to find practical solutions to local issues: 'Bringing Ideas to Life'**

Each individual partnership grouping had produced a PEST and SWOT analysis for their specific area.

Key Issues to work on:

- Local people and partners have a better understanding of what CPs are
- Communications is a key issue
- Relationships with Town and Parish Councils
- Overcome some of the challenges of rurality
- More local people and partners (and the right people from partner organisations) get actively involved
- Turning talk into action
- Identification of local assets in the community – physical and people

**Who we need to be members of our Community Partnerships in order to achieve our goals (page 3, report 2)**

Mind map produced...

- VCFSE – Age UK, Citizens Advice, Disability Forums
- Councillors – County / District / Parish / MP
- GP Surgeries, INTs, Social Prescribers
- Churches, Pastors, Faith Groups
- Police
- Leisure and Sport Services
- National Literacy Trust
- Men's Sheds
- Food Banks and projects
- Local Business
- Schools / Youth Groups
- Social Care
- Public Health
- Transport Providers

We then considered how Healthy are these relationships now in relation to the **4C's – Communication, Consultation, Co-operation and Co-Creation**. Each Community Partnership was asked to assess the level at which the relationship was operating now and then identify what level it needs to be operating at.

## **What roles do we want people to play (Offers and Wants)?**

Revisited the Offers and Wants exercise from Workshop 1 and opportunity to use this when engaging partners and use as the basis of a psychological contract.

## **Building Trust (page 5, report 2)**

1. Importance of Trust – each time partnership moves to a higher level it will require a higher level of trust
2. Trust has to be earned and is easily lost (and hard to regain)
3. Assess the relationship against the four central elements of competence, openness, reliability and equity/fairness to check which of these is where the problem lies.

Practical exercise – Reds and Blues

## **Collaborative Agreements (page 5, report 2)**

1. Shared purpose vision and goals
2. Clear roles and responsibilities for each member
3. Your plan – to achieve vision and inform meeting agendas
4. Ground Rules to guide the way we work together
5. Monitoring system to check still on track (1-4 above)

## Development Session 3

**What is going well in our Community Partnerships and what problems do we need to overcome (page 4, report 3)**

<b>What is going well?</b>	<b>What could be better?</b>
Projects that have made a big difference	Continuity and momentum if someone leaves
Projects being adopted in other CP areas	Reliance on Communities Officers/particular CP members
New, more focussed priorities	Lack of CP members taking on tasks
Poverty Proofing principle / lens	Need to make engagement sustainable
Use of Task and Finish Groups to work on priorities	Promotion of CPs and what they do
Flexibility to fill gaps	Communication with interested parties
Engagement beyond core group	Ensuring one part of the CP doesn't dominate
Passion and enthusiasm	Managing louder voices and problem solvers
People like CPs as a way of engaging with communities	Keeping politics out of CPs
Good use of Councillor time	Geographical equity within CP's
Great ideas and good debates	Ensuring core representatives buy into the ethos
Small grants – good/strong applications	Sharing CO expertise across CP areas
Funding Team support	Seeking/securing external funding
Themed meetings with relevant attendees	Sustaining the CP model outside ESC funding
Sustainability – long term impact	Demonstrating value for money
Parishes looking/working beyond boundary	Data to demonstrate the value of CPs
Attendance of rural areas	Encouraging external partners to engage with specific projects
Match funding	Empowering people to do things
Connections into other work e.g. transport, young people	Enhancing the use of technology to support CPs
People have grown in role – confidence of Chairs growing	Build our communication skills
Right people are engaging well	
CP Officers liaise and share practice	
Networking, relationships and how groups work together	
Increasing link between Board and CPs	
Better at communicating – surveys, newsletters and social media	
SALC contract and learning	
Neighbourly lab work	
Meetings in community locations	
External funding to help CPs to continue	
Project evaluation – outcomes are important	

## **Practical Problem Solving in Groups (page 7, report 3)**

Creativity techniques that can help when we get stuck

### **Do Bono's Six Thinking Hats – practical example focussed on Communications**

1. White Hat – Data
  2. Red Hat – Emotion
  3. Black Hat – Pessimism / Negativity
  4. Yellow Hat – Optimism – Possibility
  5. Green Hat – Anything Goes!
  6. Blue Hat – Processes (all)
- Develop an annual Communications and Marketing Strategy
  - Use Communications experts to support
  - Set up a bank of professional quality photographs and videos/animations for use in magazines, TV, screens etc.
  - Incentivise people to provide photographs e.g. make it a condition of funding awarded
  - Identify how we measure the return on and output of our projects
  - Identify risks and what we could do to mitigate these risks
  - Develop a social media campaign based on stories
  - Role for local Councillors – passionate, promote examples
  - Hold an informal networking event
  - Take report to the Board – SW to front
  - Promote CP outcomes but also how people can engage with us

## **How we can manage conflict effectively (page 10, report 3)**

In a conflict situation, behaviour can be described along two dimensions – Assertiveness (the extent to which the person attempts to satisfy their own concerns) and Cooperativeness (the extent to which the person attempts to satisfy the other person's concerns).

### **What can help?**

Creating Space – change location, listen well, give good attention and promote equality, no interruptions to help understand the core issue, Use 'what more do you think', take regular breaks, consider facilitation/mediation or bring in a trusted third party

Ensuring Balanced Evaluation – options to fix what's wrong, opinions/fact, differences, ensure people are respected and heard (including feelings and values), separate personalities, focus on people's interests and not their positions, brainstorm possible solutions

Seek Closure – agree decision principles – objective criteria for a successful outcome and test options against these, acknowledge where there is agreement, agree small steps and how progress will be reviewed, keep communication channels open.

## **Revision: How to Design and Run Meaningful Meetings (page 11, report 3)**

- Agenda in the form of questions encourages people to come to meetings better prepared
- Minutes of meetings = answers to the questions
- If energy drops it may mean that limiting assumptions have 'entered the room'
- Start with the end in mind...what are you trying to achieve
- Are the right people there to achieve the desired outcomes
- Ensure PowerPoint only used when really needed – more pictures than words...

## **How can Thinking Circles Help? (page 12, report 3)**

We applied Thinking Circles to two specific challenges – one of which was 'Where next for our Community Partnerships'

- Make a compelling case for retaining CPs (others will want to access remaining NHB funding)
- Have beneficiaries present to the Board/Cabinet
- Be clear about the benefits of investing in CPs e.g. match funding, improvements
- Do more on identifying social return on investment
- Identify what other sources of funding are out there
- Put in joint bids with VCFSE partners
- Could CPs exist without funding or with less funding?
- How could we use our inks with the County Council?

Explore alternative models (we did this, and Peer Review 2 years ago indicated nothing similar – but worth checking again)

# UK SHARED PROSPERITY FUND

UP TO  
31 MARCH 2024

## OVERVIEW

The primary goal of the UKSPF is to build pride in place and increase life chances across the UK.

East Suffolk Council was allocated £2.75m to invest across two and a half years (2022/23 - 24/25). The funding was unlocked upon submission of an Investment Plan which was signed off by both the council and the government.

The fund is based around three investment priorities which are focused in a specific year but can cross over in some circumstances:

**Communities and Place 2022-23**  
**Supporting Local Business 2023-24**  
**People and Skills 2024-25**

The funding can be spent on capital (physical assets) and revenue (operational) projects. The funding amounts for each of the three years differ and can be found in appendix 1.

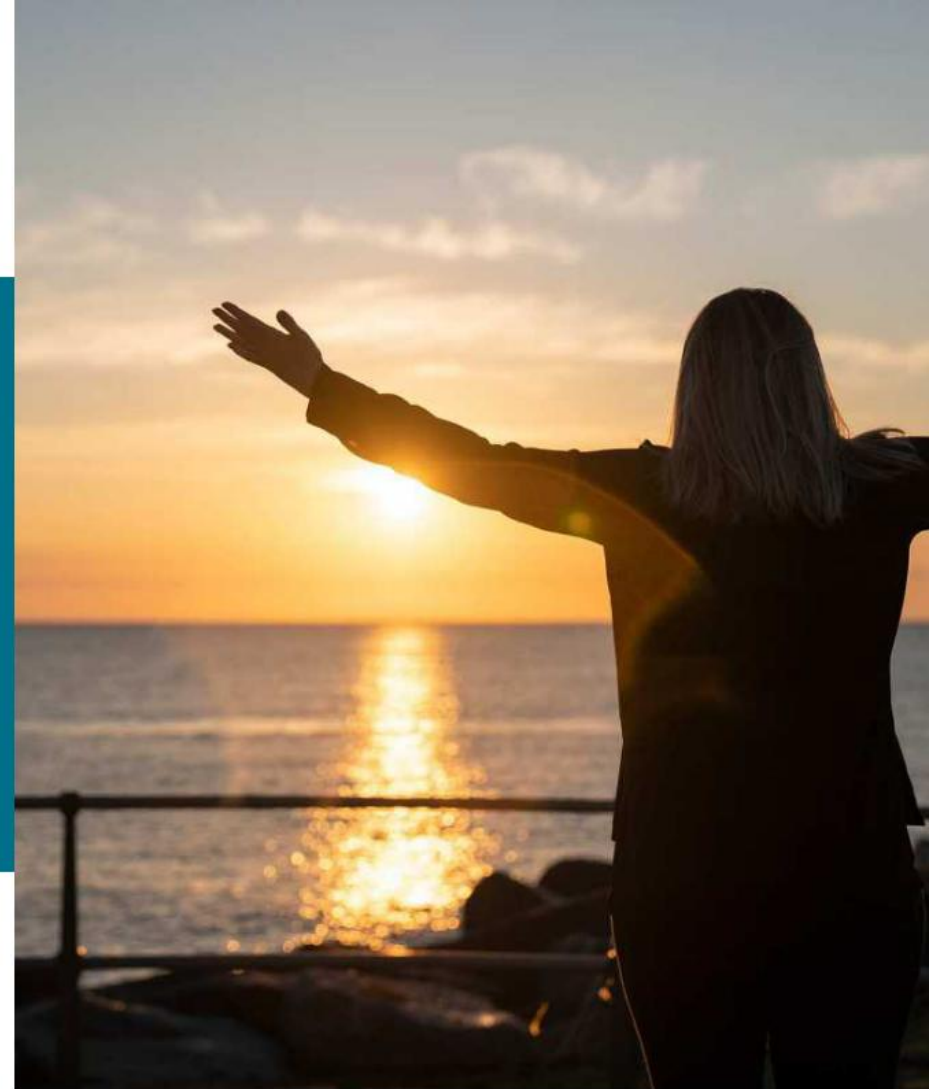
## INVESTMENT PLAN

ESC Investment Plan contains eight key programmes, based on new and existing schemes to be delivered either locally or collaboratively with other local authorities in Suffolk.

To develop the East Suffolk Investment Plan, the council gathered stakeholder input through a public survey to invite local stakeholders to give their views on what are the most pressing local challenges that need to be addressed, and the projects and initiatives that could best address them. This input was combined with data about the local area and existing funding, the Government criteria and wider strategic priorities to inform the development of the East Suffolk investment plan.

## COUNTY COLLABORATION

Suffolk Local Authorities have recognised the benefits and the economies of scale that can be achieved through a collaborative business support and skills programme.



## OUTCOMES

The Investment Plan aims to achieve a range of outcomes such as:

- Rehabilitated premises and land in our high streets
- Support community members through the cost-of-living crisis
- Support businesses to start-up and grow
- Modernise and upgrade training centres and hubs
- Support decarbonisation whilst growing the local economy
- Provide direct support to those that are economically inactive
- Support people to engage with life skills or gain a vocational license through providing financial support

# COMMUNITIES AND PLACE

Strengthening our social fabric and fostering a sense of local pride and belonging.

**Total budget: £643,745**

## EAST SUFFOLK HIGH STREET IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

### Aims of the grant:

- Improve the attractiveness of our town centres
- Increase footfall, spend and dwell
- Support the growth of local businesses and our town centres
- More details available in appendix 1

**Project budget: £267,749**

### Delivery in 2022-2024 (£165,719 which includes match funding from ED budget):

- 16 grants awarded across 7 East Suffolk Towns
- Project themes include: free Wi-Fi extensions, wayfinding signage, food & drink trails, town promotional assets, planters, disabled access improvements, market regeneration scheme

### Delivery in 2024/25 (£100,000):

- Shop fronts grants scheme launched April 2024
- Businesses, landlords and tenants of high street businesses are eligible
- Grants of between £2,000 - £5,000
- Intervention rate is 50%
- 69 applications currently being appraised

## EAST SUFFOLK EVENTS, ARTS AND CULTURE GRANT

### Aims of the grant:

- Provide access to cultural participation
- Grow the development of a year-round visitor economy
- To create visually stimulating and attractive town centres that capitalise on their individual character
- Improve town centre footfall

**Project Budget: £118,000**

### Delivery 2022-2024:

- 16 grants awarded
- 7 East Suffolk towns supported
- 82 events delivered in total



See next page for projects under this theme which are delivered by the Communities team:

- Community Pantries
- Field to Fork
- Warm Rooms
- Cooking on a Budget





# COMMUNITIES (CONT'D)

Strengthening our social fabric and fostering a sense of local pride and belonging.

**Total budget: £643,745**

## COMMUNITY PANTRIES FIELD TO FORK WARM ROOMS COOKING ON A BUDGET

### Aims of the grant:

- To encourage projects that strengthen our social fabric and foster a sense of local pride
- **Community Pantries** - to provide somewhere welcoming, similar to a shop setting, where people can pay a weekly subscription of less than £5.00 and receive food worth at least £15 in value.
- It is a model that promotes dignity, self-reliance, and community.
- Is is a sustainable way of people accessing affordable food.
- **Field to Fork** - to increase the number of local residents engaging with local allotments, community gardens, green spaces or equivalents, that offer the ability to grow produce.
- **Warm Rooms** - a network of venues offering residents a warm, safe space to socialise over the winter.
- **Cooking on a Budget** - to deliver cooking on a budget classes.

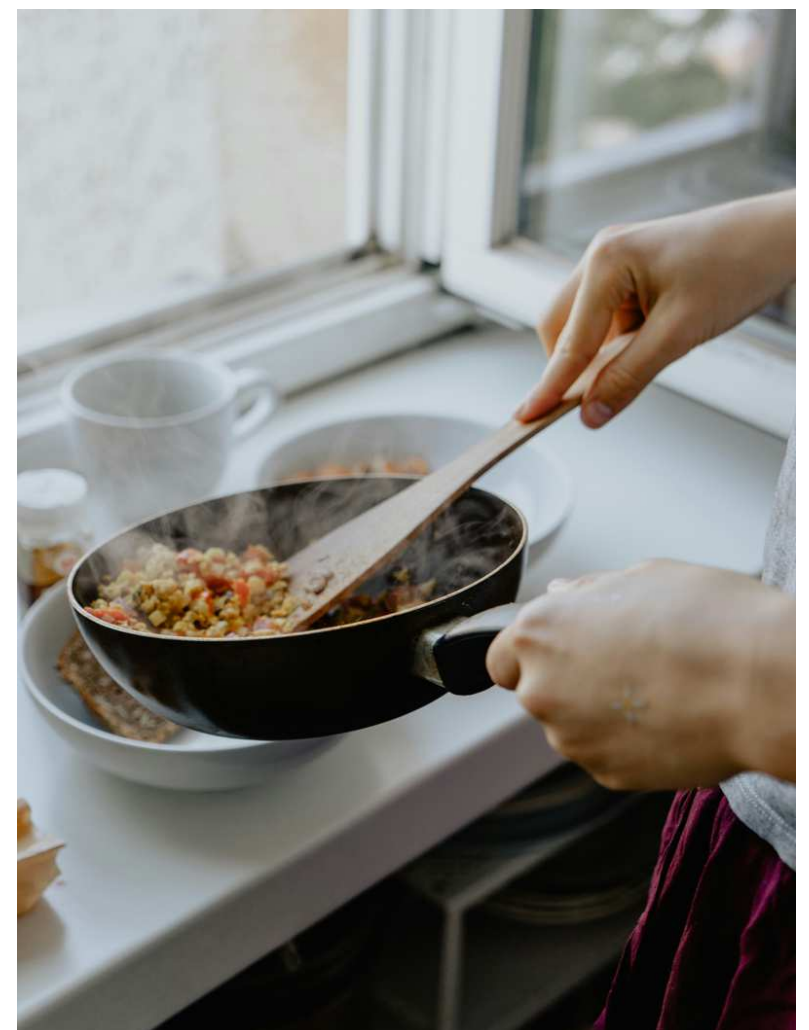
**Project budget: £258,100**

### Delivery in 2022-2024 (£145,900):

- Across the Cost-of-Living programme the project initiatives have supported 3,695 households, 12,242 individuals, and 38 organisations in years 1 and 2

### Delivery in 2024/25:

- **Community Pantries** - grants up to £6,000
- Organisations get membership of the Food Network Scheme, with targeted support from the Food Network Co-ordinator
- **Field to Fork** - grants up to £2,000
- **Warm Rooms** - 12 organisations funded in 23/24
- Project will open in Autumn for 24/25



# SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESS

Supporting local businesses to thrive, innovate  
and grow through locally led initiatives

**Total budget: £1,327,199**

## ENERGY EFFICIENCY GRANTS

**Project budget: £138,696**

- Includes Groundwork East consultancy
- 9 businesses have received grants to date (50% intervention)
- 42 energy audits completed to date
- 37 decarbonisation plans completed to date

## SUFFOLK BUSINESS GRANTS

**Project budget: £143,507**

- 2023/24 Budget allocated £67,270
- 14 businesses received grants
- Examples of grant investments; web and connectivity, capital equipment purchases to give energy efficiency and expand markets, and consultancy services
- 2024/25 scheme now open

## SUFFOLK WIDE BUSINESS SUPPORT (TOTAL VALUE £663,613)

**Project budget: £188,609**

- 18-month contract until 31/03/2025
- YTKO is providing delivery for Suffolk via the Growth Hub and scale up programme
- General business support provided
- Sign posting to specialist business advice
- Grant finding advice and guidance
- Workshops provided
- 83 businesses in East Suffolk have received support to-date

## START-UP PROGRAMME

**Project budget: £268,125**

- Delivered by MENTA & NWES
- Providing business support and training
- 254 enrolments for 2023
- 107 workshops delivered
- 197 individuals attended workshops



## PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

Aim of the programme:

- Provide support for business growth and entrepreneurship
- Provide support for a steady move to net zero using more energy efficient and greener technologies

Delivery method:

- Collaborative working with SCC and district/borough
- Financial support (grants)
- Specialist expertise (Groundworks East, YTKO, MENTA and NWES)
- Wraparound support

# PEOPLE AND SKILLS

Reducing barriers to employment and support to move people towards employment or education

**Total budget: £781,808**

## PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT SERVICE

**Total budget: £95,625**

- Contract awarded to Inspire Suffolk
- Provided 1-2-1 support for young people who are furthest away from employment, education, and training
- Aim is to build skills, support goals of being employed, participating in education or training closer
- Support to access wider service e.g., mental health, DWP etc
- Intense support provided
- 21 participated in the scheme to-date

## YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

**Total budget: £140,000**

- Contract awarded to Inspire Suffolk
- Target group 16–24-year-olds
- Job coaching from dedicated staff
- Skills workshops provision
- Link with education and training
- Employer interactions
- Health and Wellbeing support

## BUSINESS SUPPORT FOR RECRUITMENT, TRAINING AND CAREER PATHWAYS

**Total budget: £115,107**

- Contract awarded to Menta
- Project to be launched early May 2025
- Direct support to business provided
- Support for recruitment training and career pathways

# Supported



## PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

### **Aim of the programme:**

Support people who are furthest from employment, education and training.

- Locally led skills interventions
- Support Young people at risk or are NEET
- Support adults with basic skills to be able to remain and progress in employment
- Support young people to access self-employment and business enterprise opportunities

### Delivery method:

- Collaborative working with SCC and district/borough
- Contract awards to specialist providers.
- Grant award
- Capital grant programme

# PEOPLE AND SKILLS (CONT'D)

Reducing barriers to employment and support to move people towards employment or education

**Total budget: £781,808**

## CAPITAL INVESTMENT FOR SKILLS

**Total budget: £470,358**

- Grant programme for capital investment projects that support skills delivery
- FE, business and community training facilities eligible
- Tier 1: Grants between £5,000 and £24,999
- Tier 2: Grants between £25,000 and £100,000
- Scheme went live in April 2024

## SUFFOLK WIDE SKILLS EMPLOYMENT, INCLUDING APPRENTICESHIPS

**(TOTAL VALUE £1,030,000)**

**Total budget: £396,000**

- Contract is managed by Suffolk County Council for a county wide collaboration between the districts/borough
- Split into Youth and Adult services
- Both contracts will be delivered by Suffolk New College in collaboration specialist partners
- The contracts will work with both economically active and inactive members of the community
- Project to be launched early May 2024

## YOUTH ENTERPRISE PROJECT

**Total contract budget (combined): £40,000**

- Aim is to enhance enterprise opportunities for young people
- 2 contracts awarded to East Coast College and Suffolk New College for delivery
- Funding to enhance existing programmes in the colleges
- Focus on assisting students to become self-employed or start a business



## PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

### **Aim of the programme:**

Support people who are furthest from employment, education and training.

- Locally led skills interventions
- Support Young people at risk or are NEET
- Support adults with basic skills to be able to remain and progress in employment
- Support young people to access self-employment and business enterprise opportunities

### **Delivery method:**

- Collaborative working with SCC and district/borough
- Contract awards to specialist providers.
- Grant award
- Capital grant programme

# RURAL ENGLAND PROSPERITY FUND (REPF) PROGRAMME

## OVERVIEW

**Total budget: £1.129m - 2023/24 and 2024/25**

The Rural England Prosperity Fund will provide capital grants to small businesses and community infrastructure in the district's rural area.

- Rural Business Investment Fund
- Rural Business and Community Hub Fund

## RURAL BUSINESS INVESTMENT FUND

**Total budget: £709,881**

- Providing grants throughout 2023/24 and 2024/25 to rural businesses for between £15,000 - £30,000 per application
- 2023/24 Budget £192,470.25
- To date there have been 2 application rounds
- Grants have been awarded totalling £181,582.88 spent
- 8 businesses have adopted new to firm technology, with 122 jobs safeguarded
- 8 businesses are expecting a growth rate average of 35%

## RURAL BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY HUB FUND

**Total budget: £420,000**

- This fund is being delivered by the Communities team
- Providing grants throughout 2023/24 and 2024/25 to rural organisations for between £15,000 - £30,000 per application to develop multi-functional community hubs
- 2023/24 - 5 grants awarded with £120,000 spent



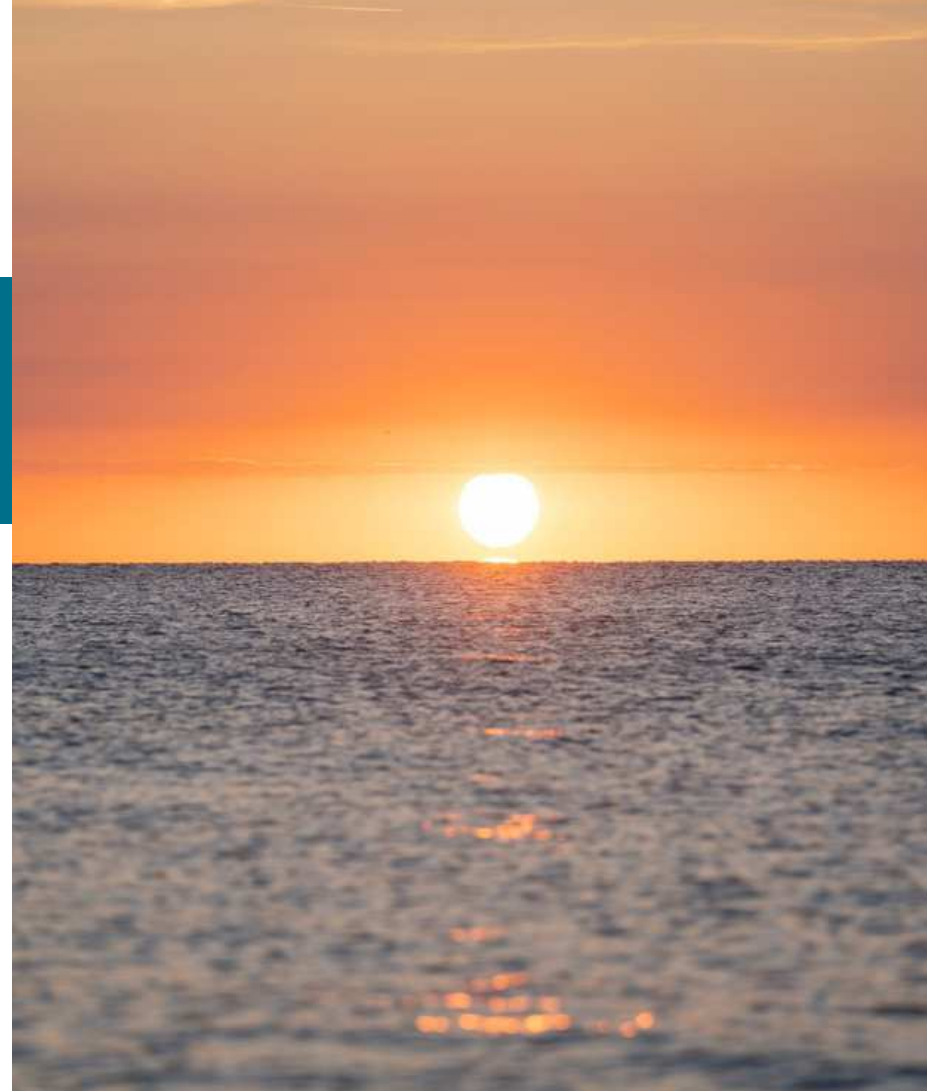
## MONITORING AND EVALUATION

For both UKSPF and REPF, ESC must report back to government on allocations spend, agreed timescales and milestones, including achievement of outputs and outcomes at the project level.

Full evaluation and monitoring reports will be written for each project once they are completed.



# APPENDIX 1



Funding profile				
Funding sources	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Total
<b>UKSPF allocation</b>	£334,072	£668,144	£1,750,536	£2,752,752
<b>Revenue split</b>	£300,664	£581,285	£1,400,428	£2,282,378
<b>Capital split</b>	£33,407	£86,858	£350,107	£470,373

The capital split is 10% in 2022-23, 13% in 2023-24, and 20% in 2024-25 as dictated by DLUHC.

## Initial Outcome Proposal to the East Suffolk Community Partnership Board – FY2024/25

(Stage 1 Proposal)

### 1. Name of Project/activity that will deliver the outcome(s)

Participate

### 2. Key outcome(s)

Participate supports adults in later life and with additional needs in East Suffolk with the following outcomes, three of which are closely linked to the priorities of the Community Partnership Board:

- Reduced loneliness and feelings of isolation
- Increased wellbeing and improved mental health
- Reduction of the impact of economic inequality
- Improved quality of life for carers

Attendees regularly report to us that Participate is the highlight of their week. Not only does it improve their mood, get them out of the house and give them something to look forward to, it gives them a new social network and friendship group.

### 3. How has the need been identified?

Participate was originally launched in Leiston and Saxmundham as a result of a report by Age UK highlighting the 15,000 people in later life in Suffolk who are always or often lonely. The success of the programme and demand from partners has since seen it grow, now providing regular sessions in four locations: Kesgrave, Leiston, Saxmundham, and Woodbridge.

Working with local partners who know the needs in their area has been crucial to the expansion to four locations. We have a growing network of partners, including GP surgeries and social prescribers, that help to direct attendees to our sessions. They recognise the positive outcomes that we are achieving and how it benefits wider health and wellbeing outcomes for people in East Suffolk. For example, when setting up our Kesgrave location in 2023, we worked with Andy Joliffe from East Suffolk Council, who recently wrote to us after attending a session:

“I’m so pleased that Participate has come to Kesgrave. The atmosphere, welcome and the talent to facilitate the workshop in such an inclusive way was clear to see. Participants spoke to me at the break about how important the work you’re doing is to them and their wellbeing – it was very clear to see. As the session progressed you could see the confidence grow in the group, encouraged by the staff in attendance. Seeing some wonderful improvised pieces develop was exciting to see. Thanks again for providing a vital activity for our residents and long may it continue!”

Evidence of continuing need is also supplied by strong participant numbers at each of our locations. In January-March 2024, 97% of attendees came to multiple sessions, demonstrating that attendees

value the benefits of participation. Where numbers occasionally take a dip due to ill health and death, an inevitable aspect of working with this demographic, new members join and in almost every case become repeat attendees.

Strong support for the Participate model was expressed at the March 2024 Community Partnership Board meeting, with an ambition to expand the programme to other locations within the district.

#### **4. Who will benefit from the outcomes?**

Participate currently supports adults in the towns of Kesgrave, Leiston, Saxmundham, and Woodbridge, in the following categories:

- Adults in later life and at risk of isolation, living independently.
- Adults with additional needs, living in care homes.
- The family members and carers of those above.

Participate currently works with just over 100 adults on a regular basis.

Participate members also attend two one-off events during the year, a summer garden party and a winter tea dance. They are joined at these by residents of local care homes. In 2023 these events had 107 and 109 attendees respectively.

With additional trial activity as outlined in this application, and continued partnership work to direct attendees to us, we hope that these numbers will grow.

#### **5. How will the outcomes(s) be sustained after the funding period (if appropriate)?**

Britten Pears Arts are committed to Participate for the long term. Sustaining the programme relies on continued demand and continued funding.

To maintain demand, we are always working to grow our pool of partners. Current partners include GP surgeries such as Peninsula Practice, social prescribers such as IP17 Good Neighbour Scheme and local groups such as Leiston Dementia Project. We hope that trial activity as outlined in the application will help to further increase the number of partners, which in turn will support sustained attendance.

Financially, we are actively fundraising to support the programme in 2024/25 and beyond. Most funding is time-limited and we recognise the need to seek our new sources of funding on a regular basis. Where shortfalls occur, Britten Pears Arts has a capacity to support the programme through unrestricted funds such as individual giving, although this is not unlimited and the programme's continuing success will rely on active fundraising into the future.

#### **6. Brief description of the project / activity that will deliver the outcome(s).**

##### **Participate – ongoing activity**

Participate delivers inclusive, interactive music sessions aimed at combatting isolation in adults in later life and living with long term conditions. In 2023/24 we delivered 136 regular weekly sessions in



three termly blocks and 10 outreach sessions at local care homes and community groups. We anticipate a similar number of sessions taking place in 2024/25.

Sessions in all four locations follow a consistent structure. Activity is delivered by a revolving team of nine professional local musicians, who receive ongoing training and support in running musical activity successfully with this demographic. They are supported by a team of workshop assistants alongside Britten Pears Arts staff.

Sessions involve physical and musical warm up activities, followed by interactive singing and music making as well as enjoying the talents of the session leaders. Often spurred by heritage material from the Britten Pears Archive, participants suggest themes, lyrics and melodies for songs that are co-created and sung by the whole group. Participants' thoughts and memories are foregrounded throughout.

We find that the combination of interactive musical and creative elements is very effective at engaging even those who are initially very reserved. This then creates an atmosphere in which they are more willing to open up socially, share their feelings and form new connections. An essential element of this is the mid-session interval, which provides time for coffee and cake, but more importantly for socialising.

Accessibility is a vital element of Participate. All the venues we use are fully accessible, and we provide accessible transport to anyone who needs it. In Leiston and Saxmundham we have partnered with Coastal Accessible Transport Service (CATS) to provide transport; in Kesgrave and Woodbridge we currently rely on taxis. Our ambition is to develop the partnership with CATS to all locations.

Another element of accessibility is financial. We understand the impact that economic inequality often has on this demographic. This is why attendance, transport and catering are all entirely free to all, and will remain so.

Participate attendees are also able to attend special one-off events during the year. In addition to the garden party and tea dance already mentioned, events in 2023 included: a session in April 2023 led by early career musicians from the Britten Pears young Artist Programme at the end of a week's residential training course focusing on community music making; and a workshop and open rehearsal with BBC Philharmonic Orchestra during the Aldeburgh Festival in June.

Some of those who attend Participate are carers. While they initially attend as part of their care responsibilities, they tell us that they often get as much out of it as the person for whom they are caring. In some cases they even start to come independently. As the atmosphere at Participate is inclusive and engaging, no difference is drawn between those who are there; everyone takes part and everyone is treated equally.

Further details about the programme, including information on the professional musicians leading activity can be found here: <https://brittenpearsarts.org/take-part/adults/participate>

### **Trial activity – Halesworth residency**

We are looking to continue Participate's expansion, with a focus on northern areas of East Suffolk in which we have not previously worked. Working with local partners, we propose six trial sessions in Halesworth. If successful this could lead to it becoming a fifth regular location for the programme.

We have agreement in principle on a partnership with the Pear Tree Fund. They serve around 50,000 people in East Suffolk, predominantly in northern areas, from the Pear Tree Centre in Halesworth. They are currently running an 8-week project in Halesworth with people living with dementia and

their carers, called Hopes and Dreams. We are planning a Participate residency in Halesworth at the Pear Tree Centre, which would offer continued provision for those benefitting from the Hopes and Dreams project.

We have identified the Halesworth Volunteers group and Halesworth Area Community Transport as potential partners to provide accessible transport to the venue for these sessions. We have also identified Halesworth Day Centre as a potential partner for further recruitment.

This trial activity is in addition to current budgeted provision, and so could only take place with a grant from East Suffolk Community Partnerships. We have budgeted that these trial sessions would cost an additional £5,000.

Start and End dates: Participate is ongoing; we anticipate trial activities taking place in the autumn/winter of 2024/25.

### 7. Who is involved?

<b>Who is involved in developing this outcome proposal?</b>	Caro Barnfield, Director, Music Programme Britten Pears Arts Sophia Allen, Head of Community Britten Pears Arts
<b>Who will deliver the project/activity?</b>	Lucy-Eve Wright, Programme producer, Britten Pears Arts
<b>Name of East Suffolk Community Partnerships Board Member supporting the project:</b>	Roger Wright, CEO Britten Pears Arts

### 8. Give information about match funding here:

Source of match funding:	Funding confirmed?	Amount (£)
The Linbury Trust	Yes	£20,312
The Chapman Charitable Trust	Yes	£4,062
Saxmundham Town Council	No	£1,000

Total project / activity cost	£55,780
Total of confirmed match funding	£24,374
Total amount of Strategic funding required	£30,000

### 9. Identify where the Community Partnership Board Strategic Budget will be spent:

Description of activity or item (by who and by when where appropriate)	Cost (£)
Supporting direct delivery costs of Participate in Kesgrave, Leiston, Saxmundham and Woodbridge: Artist Fees (£18,755); Venue Hire (£2,430); Accessible transport and artist travel costs (£3,050); Catering (£765)	£25,000

Trial residency in Halesworth: Artist Fees (£3,550); Accessible transport and artist travel costs (£1,100); Promotional materials (£50); Venue hire contribution (£150); Catering (£150)	£5,000
Total	£30,000

**10. How will the project / activity be monitored, and outcomes reported (including project risks)?**

Our monitoring and evaluation activity takes a number of forms.

After each session, we take a debrief with the artists, and staff working during that day/session. In this, we document any challenges or successes and notes for the following week allowing anything of note from participants to be documented. Where a partner has attended to observe a session we will also ask for their thoughts to include. The debrief is taken in paper form and collated each week on a spreadsheet. We review this regularly to spot any reoccurring issues or successes.

We also take registers at each session, allowing us to track attendance figures and chart an individual's long-term engagement. We regularly ask attendees for their feedback.

We also keep track of referrals via our referral form and community inbox (used by partners such as GPs to put us in contact with participants and share key info needed to support them), which allows us to evaluate the success of different partnerships. We also seek feedback from partners to inform our evaluation of the impact we're making.

In 2024/25, we also plan to carry out an independent evaluation of the programme, funded by The Linbury Trust.

**Community Partnership Board Member Declaration:**

I confirm that I support this proposal:

Name: Roger Wright



Signature:

Date: 29/05/2024

**Lead Organisation Declaration:**

I am authorised and eligible to sign and approve this proposal on behalf of the lead organisation and declare the information included in this proposal is true and accurate.

By signing below, the information you have supplied is being collected to allow us to process your application. By completing this form, you consent to East Suffolk using your information in this way.

I understand that in the assessment of this proposal the Council may share information contained within it, with other core funders for funding programmes we have applied too, relevant Council directorates and committees. If you do not provide your consent, we will not be able to process this proposal.

Your information will not be used for any other purpose unless we obtain your consent or unless permitted by law.

Due to corporate retention requirements for financial information, your information will be retained for 7 years. You can request that your information is deleted at any time.

Data will be processed and held securely and in accordance with the UK General Data Protection Regulation and the Data Protection Act 2018 (and any updates).

Further information about data protection and the full Communities Team privacy notice can be found on the East Suffolk Website <http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/assets/Your-Council/Access-to-Information/Privacy-Notices/Communities-Privacy-Notice.pdf>

*Please enter your name below only if you agree to be bound by the terms set out in this form. We will treat this as your signature of the form.*

**Full Name: George Maude**



**Signature:**

**Date: 29/05/2024**

Please submit this proposal to the Funding Team at [grants@eastsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:grants@eastsuffolk.gov.uk) Hard copies can be submitted and returned to: Funding Team, East Suffolk Council, East Suffolk House, Station Road, Melton, Woodbridge, IP12 1RT.

## Initial Outcome Proposal to the East Suffolk Community Partnership Board – FY2024/25

### (Stage 1 Proposal)

#### 1. Name of Project/activity that will deliver the outcome(s)

Me (and my mind) colouring journal and colouring pencils for 2600 year 6 pupils across East Suffolk

#### 2. Key outcome(s)

Help all year 6 pupils in East Suffolk learn about mental health and normalise conversations about mental health amongst their friends and family

Teach the young people the skills that they need to recognise, understand and deal with their emotions.

#### 3. How has the need been identified?

In 2023 about 1 in 5 children and young people aged 8 to 25yrs had a probable mental disorder (NHS survey). Through local Community Partnerships and the Board, mental health and well-being among young people has been raised as a concern, and therefore is a priority for several of the Community Partnerships. Work undertaken by Healthwatch Suffolk over the last five years has shown the ongoing impact of challenges like the Covid-19 pandemic and ongoing cost-of-living crisis on the mental wellbeing of young people in Suffolk and evidence shows that most young people who struggle with their mental health grow up into adults with a range of mental health problems/challenges.

#### 4. Who will benefit from the outcomes?

All year 6 pupils across East Suffolk (all eight Community Partnership areas)

#### 5. How will the outcomes(s) be sustained after the funding period (if appropriate)?

Year 6 pupils are in transition to entering High School and it is widely accepted that this can be a stressful and anxious time for young people. It is anticipated that pupils working through the journal either in School or at home with support from family or carers will help that young person learn how to recognise mental health difficulties, ask for help and improve self-worth. If successful, the use of these booklets with future cohorts of pupils could be funded through other sources.

#### 6. Brief description of the project / activity that will deliver the outcome(s).

The journals have been created with the support of a range of healthcare professionals. A colouring journal about healthy minds with over 50 pages of fully colourable content, the journal is packed full of useful information covering a wide range of topics, with activities to consolidate learning. This booklet complements the Well Minds East Suffolk booklet produced early this year aimed at adults.

Start and End dates: autumn 2024 to Summer 2025

7. Who is involved?	
Who is involved in developing this outcome proposal?	Julia Catterwell, East Suffolk Council Communities Officer <a href="mailto:Julia.catterwell@eastsoffolk.gov.uk">Julia.catterwell@eastsoffolk.gov.uk</a> Jen Rose, Autor <a href="mailto:jen@creativepatient.com">jen@creativepatient.com</a>
Who will deliver the project/activity?	All Community Officers that cover the 8 Partnerships
Name of East Suffolk Community Partnerships Board Member supporting the project	Rosie Smithson.

8. Give information about match funding here:		
Source of match funding:	Funding confirmed?	Amount (£)

Total project / activity cost (For	15,870
Total of confirmed match funding	0:00
Total amount of Strategic funding required	15,870

9. Identify where the Community Partnership Board Strategic Budget will be spent:	
Description of activity or item (by who and by when where appropriate)	Cost (£)
2600 colouring journal for all year 6 pupils in East Suffolk (£4.92 each)	12,870
2600 colouring pencils (£1.00 each)	2600
? delivery/distribution – this will be returned if not required	400
Total	15,870

10. How will the project / activity be monitored, and outcomes reported (including project risks)?
The author (Jen Rose) lives locally and will gather formal feedback from users of the journal including school staff members and or parents of young people. Also, for participants to take part in an anonymous online feedback survey.

Community Partnership Board Member Declaration:
I confirm that I support this proposal:
Name: Rosie Smithson
Signature: <i>Rosie Smithson</i>
Date: 30 <sup>th</sup> May 2024

## Initial Outcome Proposal to the East Suffolk Community Partnership Board – FY2023/24

### (Stage 1 Proposal)

#### 1. Name of Project/activity that will deliver the outcome(s)

Tour of Britain 2024 Community Grant Fund (subject to confirmation of the 2024 route/stages)

#### 2. Key outcome(s)

- Improved mental and physical health and wellbeing in East Suffolk communities
- Increased involvement in related health and wellbeing activities/projects
- Increased legacy from the 2024 Men's Cycle Tour of Britain

#### 3. How has the need been identified?

Over recent years, East Suffolk Council (and previously Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils) has hosted stages of both the Men's and Women's Cycle Tour of Britain.

The Council, along with a range of local partners and sponsors, makes a significant investment in bringing elite level cycling to the District but is very keen that the impact should last longer than the day or weekend of the race, indeed that there is a lasting legacy in terms of interest in cycling and wider physical activity.

This is particularly important in terms of tackling health inequalities between areas within East Suffolk, for example in some parts of the District, there are high levels of obesity in Reception, Year 6 children and in adults. Increased physical activity is clearly one way to reduce obesity and is one area of focus of the new Feel Good Suffolk project (along with healthy weight and reducing smoking). The Council has a new focus on encouraging and enabling Cycling, Walking and Wheeling.

#### 4. Who will benefit from the outcomes?

The main beneficiaries from this project (if East Suffolk is selected for the location of the 2024 Tour of Britain) will be:

- Community groups and voluntary organisations in all the communities along and close to the September 2024 Tour of Britain route
- East Suffolk children and young people who will be involved through schools and youth groups
- Specific target groups e.g. low income families, people with disabilities
- Families and individuals from our most deprived communities as some activities will specifically target this cohort

#### 5. How will the outcomes(s) be sustained after the funding period (if appropriate)?

Through the proposed Community Grant Fund, we would be looking to prioritise projects with a lasting legacy. It may be that some initiatives are pilots that could be sustained for longer through Enabling Communities Budget / Community Partnership funding.

## 6. Brief description of the project / activity that will deliver the outcome(s).

### Background

East Suffolk Council has a history of supporting and hosting the 'Women's' and 'Men's Tour' cycling races. Since the pandemic, the organisers of these events have found it increasingly difficult to fund the race and make it diverse, interesting and challenging. British Cycling has therefore now brought the 'Men's Tour' back in house, and East Suffolk Council has bid to host a stage/part stage of the Tour in 2024 as well as to work with British Cycling on a strategic plan that can support ESC's Cycling, Walking and Wheeling Strategy which aims to increase participation and cycling activity across the district.

The partnership between Sweetspot (former organisers to 2023), Suffolk County Council and East Suffolk Council has seen income generation of £2.7million into East Suffolk from investment of £685,000 and external sponsorship of £84,000.

### Legacy to date

Several cycle events have been created since the Tour has either started in, finished in or been through an East Suffolk community. There have been three Women on Wheel's events created, in Southwold, Rendlesham and Kesgrave, and a sportive has been created in Wickham Market. Melton Primary School created a cycling initiative where they have bicycles that could be loaned to pupils that didn't have a bicycle and made improvements to the cycling storage.

Each year of the tour, Ride Smart sessions have been held in the primary schools along the route. This has been aimed at the Year 5 and 6 pupils, the instructors spend the day in the school and all the pupils take part in these cycle sessions. They are then invited to take part in some races on the start/finish line to get a taste of cycling on part of the route.

Since 2014, Suffolk have engaged with the Love to Ride initiative - an online community that helps you record your mileage and set goals. There are four main national events /campaigns and then localised events throughout the year. Logging on to the Love to Ride profile will enter the participant into draws for prizes including new bikes, gear, and vouchers.

In 2021, a Led Ride course was organised in Felixstowe with 25 participants and in 2023, a Led Ride course was organised in Lowestoft and Felixstowe with 20 participants. These leaders regular organise free led rides across East Suffolk and assisted at the 2023 Tour Of Britain by leading a ride for the community.

As part of the 2021 Women's Tour, Felixstowe Triathlon was created and continues to grow. In its first year of existence it won the regional and national large event of the Year at the Triathlon annual awards. In 2024, an additional Half Iron Man event has been introduced.

### Proposal

The final announcements about the route of the 2024 Men's Tour of Britain have yet to be made and therefore this proposal is a provisional one, if East Suffolk is selected as the location for one of the stages of the 2024 race – a decision at the September Board meeting would be too late as the Tour is the week before the next Board meeting. If successful and selected as a 'host' location, the proposal is to run a Small Grants Fund to enable a range of community-led projects related to the Men's Cycle Tour of Britain in September but with activities in the lead in to both the race day and events across the closest weekend. The proposed route, if we are selected as a location, will hopefully pass through as many of our eight Community Partnership areas as possible as the race moves from start to finish.

This application is being submitted now because the September Board meeting would be too late and therefore approval is being sought on the basis that East Suffolk is selected as the location for a stage of the 2024 Tour. If we are not selected then obviously the budget would not be required.



The fund would be open to constituted community groups, registered charities and Town and Parish Councils representing communities on or near to the race route. A grant panel would be appointed to review the applications received but the aim would be to stimulate both activities to celebrate the race and longer term/more sustainable ambitions e.g. cycling proficiency, bikes for loan to adults and children, bike repair workshops etc. (see below).

The panel would set the maximum and minimum grant amounts, but a suggestion would be grants ranging from £500 to £2,000 per project.

Examples of project ideas include:

- Local promotion of the national challenge/competition for land art
- Encourage the community to decorate their windows to welcome the tour with bunting and art.
- Hold activity days in care homes e.g. seated cycling machines, bring in silent disco head sets, seated exercise, yoga and pilates type activities
- Encourage and fund care homes, schools, lunch clubs etc. to take the residents to the start/finish location to see the Tour.
- Organise a Led Ride course to train more people up to be qualified to deliver sessions in the community and advertise the led rides that are organised.
- Through the Suffolk Road safety team organise family led ride activities and confidence building sessions.
- Fund some bike ability session during the summer holidays in the lead in to the Tour.
- Work with allotments, community growing spaces and/or schools to grow flowers that could be used in planters along the route, with the planters potentially made by Men's Sheds
- Organise bike maintenance workshops for people to attend
- Set up a Repair/Make and Mend group to undertake bike maintenance
- Hold community events e.g. bring and share lunch on the weekend of the race
- Fund bikes for loan to families that can't afford to buy children their own bikes

Start and End dates: Grant launch late June (asap after the route is announced by British Cycling and following the Stage 2 outcome proposal being approved, if the Board supports the Stage 1 outcome proposal), open for three weeks, Panel meeting and allocation of funding late July 2024.

### 7. Who is involved?

<b>Who is involved in developing this outcome proposal?</b>	East Suffolk Council Councillors and Officers
<b>Who will deliver the project/activity?</b>	ESC Funding and Communities and Leisure Teams
<b>Name of East Suffolk Community Partnerships Board Member supporting the project:</b>	Sarah Whitelock, Cabinet Member for Communities, Culture, Leisure and Tourism

### 8. Give information about match funding here:

Source of match funding:	Funding confirmed?	Amount (£)
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East Suffolk Council (part of funding package for the Tour)	Y	£10,000

Total project / activity cost	£20,000
Total of confirmed match funding	£10,000
Total amount of Strategic funding required	£10,000

**\* plus the funding available through individual Community Partnership for aligned projects and through the CP Board for the Well Minds East Suffolk programme (£18,000)**

<b>9. Identify where the Community Partnership Board Strategic Budget will be spent:</b>	
Description of activity or item (by who and by when where appropriate)	Cost (£)
As match funding for a Community Grant Fund for projects to celebrate and sustain the legacy of the 2024 Men's Tour of Britain	£20,000
Total	£20,000

<b>10. How will the project / activity be monitored, and outcomes reported (including project risks)?</b>
A report will be produced for the Board on all projects supported through the Community Grant Fund. Each project will be asked to complete a monitoring form at project completion/after 6 months.

<b>Community Partnership Board Member Declaration:</b>
I confirm that I support this proposal:
Name:
Signature:
Date:

<b>Lead Organisation Declaration:</b>
I am authorised and eligible to sign and approve this proposal on behalf of the lead organisation and declare the information included in this proposal is true and accurate.
By signing below, the information you have supplied is being collected to allow us to process your application. By completing this form, you consent to East Suffolk using your information in this way.
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*Please enter your name below only if you agree to be bound by the terms set out in this form. We will treat this as your signature of the form.*

**Full Name: Nicole Rickard**

**Signature:**

**Date:**

**Please submit this proposal to the Funding Team at [grants@eastsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:grants@eastsuffolk.gov.uk) Hard copies can be submitted and returned to: Funding Team, East Suffolk Council, East Suffolk House, Station Road, Melton, Woodbridge, IP12 1RT.**