

Welcome and thanks

Welcome to the first e-newsletter for the New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership. These are exciting times. Following the 'green light' from the Government at the end of 2010, business is working closely with the public sector to ensure the economic growth of our two counties is at the heart of our work in 2011 and beyond.

Over the coming months, under the Chairmanship of Andy Wood, CEO of Adnams and Peter Barry, MD of Pasta Foods, work is underway to produce a business plan that will see a desire for new businesses and new jobs at the heart of the work of the LEP.

What is a Local Enterprise Partnership?

Last year the coalition government announced it will abolish regional development agencies including The East of England Development Agency, which is responsible for driving forward the economic growth of the region. In their place will be Local Enterprise Partnerships, with priorities shaped by local businesses and organisations, to help drive forward the local economy. The Local Enterprise Partnership for Norfolk and Suffolk is called New Anglia; it is business led with support from the public sector.

Local enterprise partnerships will see business and civic leaders working together to drive sustainable economic growth and create the conditions for private sector job growth in their communities.

The coalition government's view is that this is a real power shift away from central Government and quangos and towards local communities and the local businesses who really understand the barriers to growth in their areas.

As set out in the Local Growth White Paper local enterprise partnerships will play diverse roles reflecting the differing local priorities in different areas and a strong environment for business growth.



For more information [click here](#)

Leading voices in New Anglia back the LEP

Individuals and groups from across Norfolk and Suffolk have given their backing to New Anglia since the government gave the green light to our work in December last year.

Peter Funnell, the President of the Suffolk Chamber of Commerce said that "The New Anglia LEP is a real opportunity to develop a new economy for Norfolk and Suffolk". Robin Twigge from the East Anglia Federation of Small Businesses said that "The LEP has made huge progress in the working together of the two counties and I am excited about the development on new business". Jeremy Pembroke, Leader of Suffolk County Council added that "New Anglia will have a fundamental role in the future prosperity of our economy". Leader of Norfolk County Council Derrick Murphy said "The New Anglia LEP can help us turn good prospects into real business-led prosperity". Barry Dennis, President of the Norfolk Chamber of Commerce added "The two Chambers in Norfolk and Suffolk will work alongside one another to ensure that our members and the wider business community are engaged in the next important phase of development - shaping

the business plan.”

New Anglia LEP – seeking your views

If you have not done so already, log onto www.NewAnglia.co.uk where you can register and add your voice to the thousands of others who have already shared their views on what the LEP should be working on in the future. The website was launched last month and since then it has been visited daily by someone in Norfolk and Suffolk sharing their views. The key to the success of the New Anglia LEP is for individuals and businesses of any size to take part – going to our new website is one way easy but effective way to do this.

Benefits to business involvement:

The opportunity to:

- have your say
- put forward proposals to grow your business
- influence and shape activities
- feed your ideas into the business planning process
- creating greater wealth and jobs in the region



Achievements to date

- Government approves New Anglia proposal
- Portal launched
- 113 comments on priorities received on portal
- New Anglia briefing and workshop held for 120 businesses and organisations at the University of East Anglia
- New Anglia briefing for 100 guests held at Lord Mayor's business reception, Norwich
- Business plan development underway
- Development Board in place to guide the process
- Co-ordinated 7 Regional Growth Fund bids from Norfolk and Suffolk

CLA give their backing to New Anglia

The Country Land and Business Association, the membership organisation for owners of land, property and businesses in rural England and Wales has given its backing to the New Anglia LEP.

The CLA's Regional Director for the East of England, Nicola Currie said, "This is a great opportunity for Norfolk and Suffolk to prove they can work together. It is vital that the New Anglia LEP works on the key areas that are close to the heart of CLA members." "Workable broadband is an essential foundation to our business growth. Tourism, which brings in over £4 billion a year to our economy and renewable energy must also be priorities over the coming months and years."

The CLA has been in existence for over 100 years. They aim to speak for everyone who believes in a living and working countryside. Visit www.cla.org.uk for more information.



NASA Takes Off

Norfolk and Suffolk have a thriving advanced manufacturing and engineering community. Hethel Engineering Centre, the enterprise hub for the sector in Norfolk, recently hosted a meeting of businesses and organisations from Norfolk and Suffolk where collaboration was explored. The

proposal is the creation of a New Anglia Group "Norfolk and Suffolk Advanced: Manufacturing and Engineering" - or N.A.S.A.

Simon Coward, Managing Director of Innovation and Enterprise Hubs, said, "New Anglia creates a really exciting opportunity for Norfolk and Suffolk businesses to work together. We will be focussing on how we can support business growth and job creation, building a balanced, knowledge based economy. Connecting businesses together, supporting innovators and entrepreneurs, growing the skills base and encouraging students to consider exciting careers in manufacturing and engineering will all form part of a package of actions to further grow this sector that has the potential for significant expansion."

www.hethelcentre.com

UEA hosts first New Anglia LEP event

The University of East Anglia in Norwich hosted the first of what is expected to be a number of consultation events by the New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership.

120 attended a briefing given by Joint chairmen Peter Barry and Andy Wood, which gave delegates background of Local Enterprise Partnerships, the development of New Anglia and the way forward.

Delegates then took part in working groups to develop ideas for activities which support New Anglia's priorities.

Andy Wood, who is also Chair of Choose Suffolk said, "When government gave the go ahead for New Anglia it was great news for everyone in Suffolk and Norfolk. It was the green light to continue our work together to face head on, the challenges of bringing the economic aspirations of our two counties."

"The event is all about moving forward together, continuing the momentum we have and ensuring we build for the future economic success of New Anglia," he added.

"There was real consensus that New Anglia is moving in the right direction," said Peter Barry. "The event provided an important opportunity to bring partners together to inform them of developments and the way forward. The workshops helped harness the knowledge and expertise of delegates which will be fed into the business planning process."

[Click here](#) for the full story.

NEWANGLIA
Local Enterprise Partnership
for Norfolk and Suffolk