The State of East Suffolk 2014
Contents

OVERVIEW .......................................................................................................................... 4
INTRODUCTION ................................................................................................................. 4
SUMMARY ........................................................................................................................ 5
POPULATION .................................................................................................................... 6
DEMOGRAPHIC CONTEXT .............................................................................................. 6
FIGURE 1: EAST SUFFOLK POPULATION PYRAMID (2001 AND 2014) ............................. 6
FIGURE 2: COMPONENTS OF POPULATION CHANGE ...................................................... 7
MIGRATION ....................................................................................................................... 8
FIGURE 3: AGE STRUCTURE OF MOVERS BETWEEN ENGLAND AND SUFFOLK COASTAL ... 8
FIGURE 4: AGE STRUCTURE OF MOVERS BETWEEN ENGLAND AND WAVERNEY ........ 8
ECONOMY ....................................................................................................................... 9
ECONOMIC ACTIVITY ................................................................................................. 9
TABLE 5: EMPLOYMENT RATES (2013) ......................................................................... 9
EMPLOYMENT ............................................................................................................... 10
FIGURE 6: EMPLOYMENT BY WORKPLACE LOCATION BY LSOA (2012) ......................... 10
FIGURE 7: EMPLOYMENT BY BROAD INDUSTRIAL SECTOR (% TOTAL EMPLOYMENT) .... 11
FIGURE 8: JOB SEEKERS ALLOWANCE CLAIMANT RATE BY LSOA (DECEMBER 2013) ..... 12
EARNINGS .................................................................................................................... 13
FIGURE 9: MEDIAN WEEKLY WORKPLACE-BASED EARNINGS (2008-2013) .................... 13
FIGURE 10: MEDIAN WEEKLY WORKPLACE AND RESIDENCE-BASED EARNINGS (2008-2013) 13
BUSINESSES .............................................................................................................. 14
FIGURE 11: SIZE OF VAT/PAYE REGISTERED ENTERPRISES (2013) ............................... 14
TABLE 12: VAT/PAYE REGISTERED ENTERPRISES BY EMPLOYMENT SIZE BAND 2013 (%) 15
TABLE 13: VAT/PAYE REGISTERED ENTERPRISES BY EMPLOYMENT SIZE BAND 2013 (COUNT) 15
TABLE 14: VAT/PAYE REGISTERED ENTERPRISES BY TURNOVER (£ THOUSAND) 2013(%) 15
TABLE 15: VAT/PAYE REGISTERED ENTERPRISES BY TURNOVER (£ THOUSAND) 2013(COUNT) 15
FIGURE 16: BUSINESS BIRTH RATES AS A PERCENTAGE OF CURRENT BUSINESS STOCK .... 16
FIGURE 17: 1 YEAR BUSINESS SURVIVAL RATES (ONS BUSINESS DEMOGRAPHY 2012) .... 16
ECONOMIC FORECASTING ......................................................................................... 17
FIGURE 18: CLAIMANT UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (SPRING 2013) ....................................... 17
FIGURE 19: GVA PER CAPITA (EAST OF ENGLAND FORECASTING MODEL SPRING 2013) .... 18
FIGURE 20: TOTAL EMPLOYMENT FORECAST (SPRING 2013) (INDEXED TO 2001 = 100) ...... 18
SKILLS AND EDUCATION .......................................................................................... 20
FIGURE 21: OFSTED INSPECTION OUTCOMES FOR MAINTAINED SCHOOLS (AUGUST 2013) 20
FIGURE 22: % ACHIEVING 5+ GCSE A* TO C INCL. ENGLISH AND MATHS (2012) ........... 21
TABLE 23: YEAR 11 SCHOOL LEAVER DESTINATIONS (2012) .......................................... 22
FIGURE 24: % OF 16-18 YEAR OLDS NOT IN EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION OR TRAINING (NEET) 2012-2013 ................................................................. 22
FIGURE 25: DISTRIBUTION OF NEETS (2013), COMPARED TO CENSUS POPULATION ...... 23
FIGURE 26: YOUNG PEOPLE UNDERTAKING WORK-BASED LEARNING (2013) ............... 25
COMMUNITIES AND INEQUALITY ............................................................................ 26
HEALTH ....................................................................................................................... 26
FIGURE 27: GENERAL HEALTH STATUS (SELF-REPORTED), CENSUS 2011 ....................... 27
FIGURE 28: LIFE EXPECTANCY BY WARD (2006-2010) NHS SUFFOLK ............................. 27
TRAVEL ....................................................................................................................... 29
FIGURE 29: ACCESS TO MARKET TOWNS WITHIN 30 MINUTES BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT (PROPORTION WITH ACCESS, i.e. 0.8 = 80%) .................... 29
FIGURE 30: NHS HOSPITAL (WITH A&E) WITHIN 60 MINUTES BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT (PROPORTION WITH ACCESS, i.e. 0.8 = 80%) .................... 30
GYPSIES AND TRAVELLERS ..................................................................................... 30
CRIME AND COMMUNITY SAFETY ....................................................................... 31
FIGURE 31: CRIME RATES IN SUFFOLK COASTAL AND WAVENEY (PER 1,000 POPULATION, 2012) ................................................................. 31
VARIATIONS WITHIN EACH DISTRICT ......................................................................................................................... 32
FIGURE 32: EAST SUFFOLK CRIME RATE – BY WARD (2012) ............................................................................................................. 32
ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR ........................................................................................................................................... 33
FIGURE 33: RATES OF ALL INCIDENTS OF ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR (PER 1,000, 2012) ........................... 33
FIGURE 34: RATES OF ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR BY WARD (2012) .............................................................................................. 34
HOUSING ................................................................................................................................................................. 36
TABLE 35: HOUSING STOCK BY TENURE, 2012 ......................................................................................................................... 36
FIGURE 36: NUMBER OF DWELLINGS BY COUNCIL TAX BAND, 2013 ............................................................................................ 36
COMPLETIONS .............................................................................................................................................................. 37
FIGURE 37: PERMANENT DWELLINGS STARTED AND COMPLETED 2003-04 TO 2012-13 ...................................................... 37
HOUSE SALES ............................................................................................................................................................... 37
FIGURE 38: PROPERTY SALES 1996 TO 2012 ............................................................................................................................... 38
FIGURE 39: TYPE OF HOUSE AND HOUSE PRICE FOR HOUSES SOLD 01/03/2012 TO 29/05/2012 ........................ 38
AFFORDABILITY ............................................................................................................................................................... 39
FIGURE 40: RATIO OF LOWER QUARTILE HOUSE PRICE TO LOWER QUARTILE EARNINGS ................................. 39
PRIVATE RENTAL & AFFORDABILITY ................................................................................................................................. 39
TABLE 41: DWELLINGS IN EAST SUFFOLK BY SIZE (2011/12) ........................................................................................................................ 40
SECOND HOMES ................................................................................................................................................................. 40
FIGURE 42: NUMBER OF SECOND HOMES BY COUNCIL TAX BAND, 2013 .............................................................. 41
NATURAL ENVIRONMENT ......................................................................................................................................................... 42
FIGURE 43: MAP OF EAST SUFFOLK ENVIRONMENT ..................................................................................................................... 42
ISSUES .................................................................................................................................................................................. 42
PROGRESS ........................................................................................................................................................................ 43
FLOODING AND COASTS ......................................................................................................................................................... 44
LESSONS LEARNED ............................................................................................................................................................... 44
Overview

Introduction

This is the second State of East Suffolk report.

The purpose of this report is to assist the East Suffolk Partnership in developing its priority areas for focus and action. The aim is to profile and outline key economic, social and environmental information about East Suffolk, comparing this with county, regional and national statistics using data from a number of sources. These sources include the Suffolk Observatory1, the Suffolk Annual Health Report2, the State of Suffolk report3, the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment4, and the East Suffolk Growth Plan5 (draft).

The report was produced by Alison Matthews, Knowledge and Information Team, Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils with thanks to:

- Kit Day (Suffolk County Council) compiled the data.
- Deborah Wargate (Environmental Protection, Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils) produced the Environment section.
- Luke Bennett (East Suffolk Partnership) and Alison Wheatland (Suffolk county Council) gave valuable feedback.

This version has been updated following the Board meeting on 19 March 2014. Changes include: Revised crime figures and maps; corrected NEET figures.

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1 www.suffolkobservatory.info/
3 State of Suffolk 2011. suffolkobservatory.info/JSNASection.aspx?Section=77&AreaBased=False
4 www.suffolkobservatory.info/JSNA.aspx
Summary

- East Suffolk has a population of around 245,000.
- East Suffolk performs better (i.e. is healthier) than the England average for life expectancy, levels of deprivation, child obesity and early deaths from heart disease or stroke.
- East Suffolk is generally a safe place to live and work.
- East Suffolk housing stock comprises approximately 35% of housing stock in Suffolk.
- The ratio of lower quartile house prices to lower quartile earnings is above the England average in both districts (i.e. less affordable).
- Suffolk Coastal has the best attainment levels in Suffolk with 58.0% of young people achieving 5 A* GCSEs (including English and Maths). 43.6% of Waveney's young people get 5 A*GCSEs. The Suffolk average is 50.9% and national average is 59.1%.
- Flooding and coastal erosion have been key concerns during the year.
- East Suffolk has high economic activity rates, with both districts above the England and Wales average.
- Parts of Lowestoft are the only places in East Suffolk where Job Seeker's Allowance claimants are over 4% of the eligible population.
- The main employment sectors in East Suffolk are retail, manufacturing, and transport and storage. Tourism businesses also employ a significant number.
- Workplace-based earnings in Suffolk Coastal are above the national and Suffolk average, but Waveney earnings are considerably below both.
- In Suffolk Coastal, residence-based earnings are marginally higher than workplace-based earnings. The opposite is true in Waveney.
- In 2013, 8,290 VAT/PAYE enterprises were active in East Suffolk, 4,890 in Suffolk Coastal, and 3,400 in Waveney.
- Almost 75% of businesses in East Suffolk are micro businesses, employing less than 5 people, and over 99.5% of businesses are classed as SMEs (Small and Medium Enterprises, employing less than 250 people).
- Unemployment in Suffolk as a whole and East Suffolk in particular is forecast to continue falling.
Population

Demographic Context

- East Suffolk is home to around 245,000 people (ONS mid-2014 mid-year population projection).
- The population of the area has grown by 8% since 2001.
- 97.1% of the population of East Suffolk (2011 Census) have a white ethnic background; the area is thus less ethnically diverse than Suffolk as a whole (95.2%).
- The 2011 census recorded 300 short term residents in East Suffolk.

Figure 1: East Suffolk Population Pyramid (2001 and 2014)

- There are fewer people aged 15 to 29, due to moves away from the area. This is to be expected as people in this age group are going up to college, leaving home to find work etc. Conversely there are more people aged 30 to 74 and more teenagers aged 10 to 14, due to moves into the area.

6Short term residents are people born outside the UK living in this Country for between 3 and 12 months.
The median ages in 2001 (derived from estimates) were 43.2 in Suffolk Coastal and 42.7 in Waveney; these had risen to 46.7 and 45.7 respectively by the time of the 2011 Census. Suffolk Coastal has the third oldest population in the East of England whilst Waveney the fifth oldest.

Life expectancy is increasing in both districts and for both genders.

The population projection continues the recent demographic trends in fertility, mortality and migration. Migration flows in and out of Suffolk Coastal are greater than the flows into and out of Waveney, but in both districts the inward flow is always greater than the outward flow creating a net increase of migrants. This is so large that even when births and deaths are taken into account, there remains a net inward flow into each district.

The preponderance of old people in the net migrant flows will lead to an increase of older people in East Suffolk.

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The median divides the population so that the same number of people are below the median as above.
**Migration**

NB Migration data cannot be given for East Suffolk as a whole because flows between the two districts would be counted twice.

**Figure 3: Age structure of movers between England and Suffolk Coastal**

- Waveney is essentially an area to which people go to retire and young people leave.
- Suffolk Coastal loses young people but gains middle-aged people with families and also older people. Specifically, in Suffolk Coastal, the major and only net outflow is of young adults aged 15 to 19; the net inflows involve age 0 to 14, 25 to 44, 50 to 69.
- The flows to and from Waveney are much smaller than those to and from Suffolk Coastal. In Waveney, the net outflows involve children aged 5 to 14 and particularly young adults aged 15 to 19; the net inflows involve people aged 55 to 69.
Economy

**Economic Activity**

- East Suffolk has high economic activity rates, with both districts performing above the England and Wales average. The economic activity rate is the percentage of people who are either in employment or unemployed. Economic inactivity (for example, people who are looking after a home or retired) is correspondingly low.
- East Suffolk also has higher than average levels of self-employment, suggesting a healthy economy.
- The JSA claimant rate expresses the number of people claiming Jobseekers Allowance (JSA) and National Insurance credits resident in an area as a percentage of the population aged 16-64 resident in that area. It is a useful comparison to the modelled figure for unemployment, and confirms that Suffolk Coastal’s rate is less than half that of Waveney. Waveney’s JSA claimant rate is markedly higher than the rate for Suffolk, and slightly above the average for England and Wales.
- Unemployment in East Suffolk is above average for England and Wales. This masks the discrepancy between Suffolk Coastal and Waveney, with Suffolk Coastal’s modelled unemployment rate less than half that for Waveney (which is nearly twice the Suffolk figure). There are significant pockets of unemployment and economic under performance in the larger urban areas of Lowestoft, Felixstowe and Beccles.
- **Note** The current unemployment rate for East Suffolk is consistent with the OECD’s definition of ‘full employment’. Moreover, following the financial crisis, the rate of unemployment rose more slowly and fell faster than the national, county and regional rates.

**Table 5: employment rates (2013)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Suffolk Coastal</th>
<th>Waveney</th>
<th>East Suffolk</th>
<th>Suffolk</th>
<th>England &amp; Wales</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Economic activity rate (% aged 16-64)</td>
<td>82.8%</td>
<td>81.4%</td>
<td>82.1%</td>
<td>81.5%</td>
<td>77.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment rate (% aged 16-64)</td>
<td>79.0%</td>
<td>71.7%</td>
<td>75.5%</td>
<td>76.5%</td>
<td>71.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employees (% aged 16-64)</td>
<td>66.9%</td>
<td>61.6%</td>
<td>64.3%</td>
<td>66.4%</td>
<td>61.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-employed (% aged 16-64)</td>
<td>11.6%</td>
<td>9.8%</td>
<td>10.7%</td>
<td>9.4%</td>
<td>9.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployed - modelled (% aged 16-64)</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
<td>11.9%</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
<td>7.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JSA Claimant rate 9</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth unemployment rate</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(JSA claimants aged 18-24)</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic inactivity rate (% aged 16-64)</td>
<td>17.2%</td>
<td>18.6%</td>
<td>17.9%</td>
<td>18.5%</td>
<td>22.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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8Data on this page from Office for National Statistics Annual Population Survey; data for the year to September 2013. Accessed through www.nomisweb.co.uk

9 JSA Claimant rate from Office for National Statistics claimant count with rates and proportions; data for the year to September 2013. Accessed through www.nomisweb.co.uk
Employment

Figure 6: Employment by workplace location by LSOA (2012)\textsuperscript{10}

- The map above shows the density of employment in East Suffolk. It excludes voluntary workers, self-employed, and working owners who are not paid via PAYE. While a large proportion of people work in the main/market towns, there is also considerable employment distributed in more rural areas.

- More than 1,000 people are employed in a number of rural LSOAs (the small geographical areas used for this map). An LSOA is an area where size is set to the number of households (400 - 1,200) and residents (1,000 – 3,000).

\textsuperscript{10}Data on this page from the Office for National Statistics Business Register and Employment Survey 2012 provisional results, accessed through www.nomisweb.co.uk
The main employment sectors in East Suffolk are retail (10,700) followed by health (9,200), manufacturing (9,700), transport and storage (9,600) and education (8,000).

Every year over 9 million visitors come to East Suffolk, contributing over £500 million to the local economy and providing employment for almost 11,000 people. 10% of East Suffolk’s working population is employed in tourism. Jobs in the sector are relatively low-skilled and poorly paid but they offer desirable employment, particularly part-time and short-term. A greater proportion of people are employed in the tourism sector in Waveney though a greater number of visitors and higher spending occurs in Suffolk Coastal.

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11 Data on this page from the Office for National Statistics Business Register and Employment Survey 2012 provisional results, accessed through [www.nomisweb.co.uk](http://www.nomisweb.co.uk)
Parts of Lowestoft are the only places in East Suffolk where Job Seeker’s Allowance claimants are over 4% of the eligible population.

Much of the rest of Lowestoft has claimant rates of 2.5-4%; parts of Felixstowe, Woodbridge, Halesworth, the Reydon area and Beccles also have rates of 2.5-4%.

Most Suffolk Coastal areas have a low JSA rate at less than 1%, while much of rural Waveney has slightly higher claimant rates of 1.5-2.5%.

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12 All data on this page from Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) Jobseekers Allowance Claimant Count for December 2013, accessed through www.nomisweb.co.uk. % is a proportion of resident population of area aged 16-64 and gender.
Earnings

Figure 9: Median weekly workplace-based earnings (2008-2013)

Workplace-based earnings in Suffolk Coastal are above the national and Suffolk average, but Waveney earnings are considerably below both. Nationally, earnings have been gradually increasing despite the economic downturn. In Suffolk, there was a dip in 2012, with wages increasing in 2013.

There is a marked difference between workplace and residence based earnings (i.e. people who work in the area rather than live in the area), particularly in Waveney.

In Suffolk Coastal, residence-based earnings are marginally higher than workplace-based earnings, indicating that residents commuting to work outside the district are, on average, earning slightly more than those working in Coastal.

Figure 10: Median weekly workplace and residence-based earnings (2008-2013)

13 Data on this page from the Office for National Statistics Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings dataset (2013), accessed through www.nomisweb.co.uk
The opposite is true in Waveney. Workplace-based earnings are noticeably higher than residence-based earnings. This suggests either Waveney residents are commuting out of the district for lower paid work than the average available locally, or people commuting into Waveney receive above average earnings in the district.

**Businesses**

- Significant employers in East Suffolk include BT at Martlesham, the Port of Felixstowe, CEFAS, SLP Engineering and Birdseye in Lowestoft, Bernard Matthews in Halesworth, the County and District Councils, Adnams in Southwold, Sizewell Power Station, and Clays Printing in Bungay.
- The Port of Felixstowe is Britain’s biggest and busiest container port with over 40% of the country’s container cargo (approximately £60bn imports & exports) passing through Felixstowe each year. Current expansion could double capacity by 2030, adding £20bn to this figure (and creating 1,500 jobs).

The East Suffolk Growth Plan identifies four key sectors for wealth creation, employment and growth potential: Ports & Logistics, Energy, ICT and Tourism. These sectors have also been defined as key sectors by the New Anglia LEP and by the Suffolk Growth Group:
- Predicted high GVA per head per annum.
- Local assets/infrastructure which deliver a significant competitive advantage.
- Potential interventions are likely to demonstrate high additionality – i.e. growth would not occur “naturally”.
- Fit with the government’s national industrial strategy.

In 2013, 8,290 VAT/PAYE enterprises were active in East Suffolk, 4,890 in Suffolk Coastal, and 3,400 in Waveney.

Figure 10 above shows that almost 75% of businesses in East Suffolk are micro businesses, employing less than 5 people, and over 99.5% of businesses are classed as

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14 Accessed in November 2013, from [www.portoffelixstowe.co.uk](http://www.portoffelixstowe.co.uk)
SMEs (Small and Medium Enterprises, employing less than 250 people). This is a very similar profile to the county and national average.

- Suffolk Coastal hosts more small (0-49) enterprises (see tables 11 and 12 below).

### Table 12: VAT/PAYE registered enterprises by employment size band 2013 (%)\(^{15}\)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>0 - 4</th>
<th>5 - 9</th>
<th>10 - 19</th>
<th>20 - 49</th>
<th>50 - 99</th>
<th>100 - 249</th>
<th>250 +</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Suffolk Coastal</td>
<td>74.7%</td>
<td>13.5%</td>
<td>7.0%</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waveney</td>
<td>73.1%</td>
<td>14.9%</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Suffolk</td>
<td>74.1%</td>
<td>14.1%</td>
<td>6.8%</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suffolk</td>
<td>74.3%</td>
<td>13.9%</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>England &amp; Wales</td>
<td>75.8%</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
<td>6.2%</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table 13: VAT/PAYE registered enterprises by employment size band 2013 (count)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>0 - 4</th>
<th>5 - 9</th>
<th>10 - 19</th>
<th>20 - 49</th>
<th>50 - 99</th>
<th>100 - 249</th>
<th>250 +</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Suffolk Coastal</td>
<td>3,655</td>
<td>660</td>
<td>340</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>4,890</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waveney</td>
<td>2,485</td>
<td>505</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>3,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Suffolk</td>
<td>6,140</td>
<td>1,165</td>
<td>565</td>
<td>275</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>8,290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suffolk</td>
<td>19,445</td>
<td>3,645</td>
<td>1,665</td>
<td>920</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>26,175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>England &amp; Wales</td>
<td>1,477,280</td>
<td>244,295</td>
<td>121,335</td>
<td>65,865</td>
<td>20,880</td>
<td>12,070</td>
<td>8,055</td>
<td>1,949,780</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table 14: VAT/PAYE registered enterprises by turnover (£ thousand) 2013(%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>0 - 49</th>
<th>50 - 99</th>
<th>100 - 249</th>
<th>250 - 499</th>
<th>500 - 999</th>
<th>1,000 - 4,999</th>
<th>5,000 +</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Suffolk Coastal</td>
<td>19.3%</td>
<td>23.3%</td>
<td>28.3%</td>
<td>12.1%</td>
<td>8.1%</td>
<td>6.9%</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waveney</td>
<td>16.8%</td>
<td>24.1%</td>
<td>31.3%</td>
<td>11.9%</td>
<td>7.6%</td>
<td>6.8%</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Suffolk</td>
<td>18.3%</td>
<td>23.6%</td>
<td>29.6%</td>
<td>12.0%</td>
<td>7.9%</td>
<td>6.8%</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suffolk</td>
<td>19.8%</td>
<td>22.6%</td>
<td>28.5%</td>
<td>12.3%</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>England &amp; Wales</td>
<td>18.3%</td>
<td>23.6%</td>
<td>29.3%</td>
<td>11.9%</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
<td>7.3%</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table 15: VAT/PAYE registered enterprises by turnover (£ thousand) 2013(count)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>0 - 49</th>
<th>50 - 99</th>
<th>100 - 249</th>
<th>250 - 499</th>
<th>500 - 999</th>
<th>1,000 - 4,999</th>
<th>5,000 +</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Suffolk Coastal</td>
<td>945</td>
<td>1,140</td>
<td>1,385</td>
<td>590</td>
<td>395</td>
<td>335</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>4,890</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waveney</td>
<td>570</td>
<td>820</td>
<td>1,065</td>
<td>405</td>
<td>260</td>
<td>230</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>3,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Suffolk</td>
<td>1,515</td>
<td>1,960</td>
<td>2,450</td>
<td>995</td>
<td>655</td>
<td>565</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>8,290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suffolk</td>
<td>5,195</td>
<td>5,915</td>
<td>7,470</td>
<td>3,230</td>
<td>1,955</td>
<td>1,860</td>
<td>550</td>
<td>26,175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>England &amp; Wales</td>
<td>356,455</td>
<td>459,375</td>
<td>570,310</td>
<td>231,935</td>
<td>145,065</td>
<td>141,535</td>
<td>45,095</td>
<td>1,949,770</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Business formation (birth) rates declined markedly during 2008 to 2010 due to the global economic downturn, before beginning to recover in 2011-2012.

Formation rates across Suffolk are below the national average.

The rate of business start-ups has usually been higher in Waveney than in Suffolk Coastal.

Business closure (death) rates remained fairly stable despite the economic downturn except for a peak in 2009.

Death rates in East Suffolk tend to be around the county average and below the national average.

Figure 17: 1 year business survival rates (ONS Business Demography 2012)

- Figure 16 above shows the survival rates of businesses 12 months on from their formation (the years on the graph refer to the year of formation).
- In general, business survival rates declined by as much 9% from 2007 to 2010 before improving considerably in 2011, though Waveney bucked this trend with a very high rate of survival of businesses started in 2009 (97%)
- Business survival rates in Waveney were consistently above the local and national average from 2007-2011, and higher than in Suffolk Coastal every year except 2011

**Economic Forecasting**

**Figure 18: Claimant Unemployment Rate (Spring 2013)**

- While the national unemployment level is expected to plateau at around 3% from 2018, unemployment in Suffolk as a whole and East Suffolk in particular is forecast to continue falling. Claimant unemployment is forecast to drop to 0.1% in Suffolk Coastal and 1.4% in Waveney by 2031.
- The latest data (December 2013) shows that claimant unemployment in Suffolk Coastal is 1.1% and Waveney is 3.4%, more than half of one percent lower than forecast in the EEFM.

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Figure 19: GVA per capita (East of England Forecasting Model Spring 2013)\textsuperscript{18}

- GVA per capita in East Suffolk is forecast to grow steadily throughout the period.
- GVA per capita is a third lower in Waveney (£12,476) than Suffolk Coastal (£18,723) due to fewer high value/highly skilled jobs in the district. Growth is expected to be more sluggish here. By 2031, Waveney GVA per capita is forecast to have increased by 41.2\% to reach £17,611 while in Coastal the rate of growth is expected to be slightly slower, increasing by 39.4\% to £26,107.
- Both districts have GVA per capita below the national average, and this is forecast to remain the case, with the gap even widening slightly.

Figure 20: Total Employment Forecast (Spring 2013) (Indexed to 2001 = 100)\textsuperscript{19}

\textsuperscript{18} Data on this page from East of England Forecasting Model (Oxford Economics) Spring 2013 baseline run, accessed from the Cambridgeshire County Council website http://www.cambridgeshireinsight.org.uk/EEFM
• Employment is forecast to increase by 10,100 jobs in East Suffolk by 2031. Of these additional jobs, 8,900 are forecast to be created in Suffolk Coastal.

• Employment growth in Suffolk Coastal is forecast to outstrip county and national growth levels, with the total number of people in work increasing by over 15% from 2014 to 2031. In Waveney, growth is expected to be much more modest at 2.6%.

• Key employment growth sectors are finance and business services and transport, hotels and restaurants.

Skills and education

The East Suffolk Growth Plan recognises that to ensure economic growth, we must ensure that the workforce, and young people entering employment have the right skills. Employers across East Suffolk consistently cite skills shortages as a block to their growth ambitions. Businesses considering relocation to East Suffolk need to be confident that appropriately skilled labour is available. Low skills and the mismatch between supply and demand have been long-running problems in East Suffolk and the county as a whole, although the issue is particularly apparent in Waveney.

Education

- The proportion of schools judged as “Outstanding” by Ofsted is lower in East Suffolk than across the county as a whole, though there is a greater proportion of “Good” schools.

Figure 21: Ofsted Inspection Outcomes for Maintained Schools (August 2013)

- Suffolk Coastal has the best attainment levels in Suffolk with 58.0% of young people achieving 5 A* GCSEs (including English and Maths). 43.6% of Waveney’s young people get 5 A*GCSEs\(^1\). The Suffolk average is 50.9% and national average is 59.1%\(^2\).

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\(^{1}\) Suffolk Observatory [www.suffolkobservatory.info](http://www.suffolkobservatory.info)

\(^{2}\) Department for Education [www.education.gov.uk](http://www.education.gov.uk)

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21 Suffolk Observatory [www.suffolkobservatory.info](http://www.suffolkobservatory.info)

22 Department for Education [www.education.gov.uk](http://www.education.gov.uk)
At a local level, GCSE attainment is worst in Lowestoft, Beccles, Felixstowe and the Trimleys, where the percentage of pupils achieving 5 or more GCSEs at grade A* to C is below 25%. Young people in urban areas tend to have poorer attainment levels.
**Young people Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET)**

Table 23: Year 11 School Leaver Destinations (2012)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender total</th>
<th>Sixth form</th>
<th>Further education</th>
<th>Employment with NVQ2 training</th>
<th>Non-employed govt supported training</th>
<th>Total in learning</th>
<th>Employment without NVQ2 training</th>
<th>NEET</th>
<th>Moved away/no response</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Suffolk Coastal Total</td>
<td>1,012</td>
<td>60.4%</td>
<td>27.0%</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
<td>91.9%</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waveney Total</td>
<td>1,254</td>
<td>51.7%</td>
<td>39.1%</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>95.0%</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- A greater proportion of year 11 students leaving schools in Waveney continued in learning initially (95.0% vs. 91.4% in Suffolk Coastal).

Figure 24: % of 16-18 year olds Not in Education Employment or Training (NEET) 2012-2013

- Waveney consistently has higher levels of NEETs than Suffolk Coastal and the county average.

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23 County Youth Support Service, Suffolk County Council

24 Suffolk Observatory [www.suffolkobservatory.info](http://www.suffolkobservatory.info) from County Youth Support Service, Suffolk County Council, December 2013, accessed 06/02/13
Figure 25: Distribution of NEETs (2013)$^{25}$, compared to Census population

$^{25}$ Population figures are from 2011 Census.
• Young people aged 16-18 who are Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET) are fairly concentrated in urban areas (figure 24 below shows count of NEETs by postcode). Percentages can be misleading when there are a very small number of 16-18 year olds in an area.

• The largest NEET problems are in Lowestoft, though Felixstowe, Beccles, Bungay, Saxmundham, Leiston and the area east of Ipswich also have notable concentrations of NEETs, with ones and twos scattered elsewhere across East Suffolk.26

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26 Suffolk Observatory [www.suffolkobservatory.info](http://www.suffolkobservatory.info) from County Youth Support Service, Suffolk County Council, December 2013, accessed 06/02/13
Young people undertaking work-based learning are spread across East Suffolk, with particularly large concentrations in Lowestoft and Felixstowe.\(^27\)

\(^{27}\) Suffolk Observatory [www.suffolkobservatory.info](http://www.suffolkobservatory.info) from County Youth Support Service, Suffolk County Council, December 2013, accessed 06/02/13.
Communities and inequality

Health\textsuperscript{28}

The following information is taken from the 2013 Health Profiles. East Suffolk performs better than the England average for some indicators:

- Deprivation is lower than the England average in both areas. However, there are approximately 2,400 children in Suffolk Coastal, and 4,400 children in Waveney, that live in poverty (6,800 total).
- Waveney male life expectancy is 79.3 years, and female life expectancy is 83.8 years. Suffolk Coastal male life expectancy is 80.6 years and female life expectancy is 83.7 years. The England average is 78.9 years for males and 82.9 years for females.
- The difference in life expectancy in Waveney between males living in the most deprived parts of the district compared to the most affluent part of the district is 5.9 years. For females the gap was 5.3 years. This gap has narrowed since 2003-7 when it was 9.6 years for males and 6.4 years for females. In Suffolk Coastal the life expectancy gap is much smaller: 3.3 years for males and 3.1 years for females. There was little change in the Suffolk Coastal figures between 2003-7 and 2006-10.
- The prevalence of child obesity in Waveney was 18.3% in year 6 (age 10/11). In Suffolk Coastal the figure was 15.1%. Both areas are below the England average of 19.2%.
- Early deaths (under the age of 75) from heart disease and stroke were lower than the England value in both Suffolk Coastal and Waveney. The directly comparable age standardised rate per 100,000 population aged 35 and over for 2009-2011 in Suffolk Coastal was 49.6, in Waveney this was 54.7 and the England value was 60.9.

For several indicators Waveney performs worse that the England average, while Suffolk Coastal is better:

- In 2011, 11.4% of households in Suffolk Coastal were experiencing fuel poverty, compared to 13.0% of households in Waveney, and 10.9% for England as a whole\textsuperscript{29}.
- Adult obesity is estimated at 27.0% in Waveney, which is higher than the England average (24.4%). Suffolk Coastal is lower than the England average (22.4%).
- 27.1% of adults in Waveney, and 33.1% of adults in Suffolk Coastal were estimated to eat healthily. The England average is 28.7%.
- 62.4% of adults in Suffolk Coastal were considered physically active (achieved at least 150 minutes physical activity per week), in Waveney this figure was 51.6%, and the average for England was 56.0%.
- In 2011/12 the adult smoking prevalence in Waveney was 22.9%, in Suffolk Coastal the prevalence was 16.7%. The England average was 20.0%.
- In Waveney in 2009-2011 the teenage conception rate was higher than the England average (41.3 per 1000 females aged 15-17 in Waveney, compared to 34.0 per 1000 females aged 15-17 in Suffolk Coastal).


for England as a whole). In Suffolk Coastal the teenage conception rate was much lower than both the England and Waveney figures (17.9 per 1000 females aged 15-17).

- Self-reported general health data from the 2011 Census\(^{30}\) indicates that a higher proportion of Suffolk Coastal residents reported their health as very good or good (81.7%), compared to Waveney (77.4%), and England as a whole (81.4%).

**Figure 27: General Health Status (Self-Reported), Census 2011\(^{31}\)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General Health</th>
<th>Suffolk Coastal</th>
<th>Waveney</th>
<th>England</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very good health</td>
<td>46.3%</td>
<td>41.1%</td>
<td>47.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good health</td>
<td>35.5%</td>
<td>36.3%</td>
<td>34.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fair health</td>
<td>13.8%</td>
<td>16.1%</td>
<td>13.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bad health</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very bad health</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Figure 28: Life expectancy by ward (2006-2010) NHS Suffolk**

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**Travel**

Initial consultations have ended on proposed improvements to the A14, with plans to widen part of the A14 and create a new bypass to the south of Huntingdon. Tolling will not be introduced.

Over 80% of residents in large parts of southern Waveney and northern Suffolk Coastal have journey times of over an hour to NHS hospitals by public transport. In parts of Suffolk Coastal there are significant numbers of residents that have journey times of over half an hour to the nearest market town by public transport.

**Figure 29: Access to market towns within 30 minutes by public transport (proportion with access, i.e. 0.8 = 80%)**
Gypsies and Travellers

There have been 41 unauthorised encampments over the past seven years (2007-2013) in East Suffolk (compared to 47 in St Edmundsbury, 59 in Mid Suffolk, and 40 in Babergh). Many of the higher figures for encampments are the result of multiple encampments from the same travelling families. The average length of stay for unauthorised encampments over the last seven years is 19 days.

66% of the 234 encampments were on publicly owned land. The cost of these varies individually, however an average encampment resulting in an eviction starts at £1,000. One with more challenging issues and clear up costs can go into the region of £5,000-10,000. Over the past 12 months, two local authorities have seen encampment costs exceed £25,000 each. (Inclusive of officer time, legal and clear up costs).

There are three local authority owned permanent sites; one in Kessingland (Waveney), which has 24 pitches, one at West Meadows, Ipswich (SCC), which has 41 pitches, and Sandy Park, Mildenhall (Forest Heath) which has 35 pitches.

The draft ‘Suffolk 5’ Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) identifies a minimum shortfall of 56 pitches across the County, suggesting 29 pitches for East Suffolk. The two districts have set up a working party to address local needs, which are then shared with the Accommodation subgroup.

There are currently no short stay stopping sites in Suffolk. The GTAA identifies a need for 3 different 8 pitch transit sites or emergency stopping places to help to manage unauthorised encampments and provide for visiting households. Over the past six years there have been 211 unauthorised encampments in Suffolk. These encampments have predominately been located in the Ipswich, Mid Suffolk, Suffolk Coastal and Babergh areas.
Crime and community safety

- East Suffolk is generally a safe place to live and work. There have been reductions in the numbers of recorded crime in the last year, as experienced in Suffolk overall.

- For the majority of crimes, the levels recorded in Suffolk Coastal are lower than the overall figure for Suffolk, while the levels seen in Waveney are higher.

- Higher levels of crime are recorded in Waveney (63.09 offences per 1,000 population) than in Suffolk Coastal (40.93 offences per 1,000 population). Suffolk Coastal has the second lowest crime rate of all the districts in Suffolk and is well below the county figure of 57 offences per 1,000 population. Waveney has the third highest crime rate of the districts in Suffolk.

- Suffolk Coastal has seen a reduction of 12.3% in total crime from 2010 to 2012, while Waveney has seen a reduction of 14.3%. These reductions equate to 604 crimes in Suffolk Coastal and 1,361 in Waveney.

Figure 31: Crime rates in Suffolk Coastal and Waveney (per 1,000 population, 2012)

- The most common crime in East Suffolk is “other theft”, with a rate of 10.7 incidents per 1,000 population in Suffolk Coastal and 15.4 per 1,000 in Waveney. From 2010 to 2012 Suffolk Coastal has seen a reduction by 115 incidents (8%) and Waveney by 195 incidents (9.9%). Suffolk Coastal’s rate of “other theft” is below that for the county as a whole, which stands at 14.5 per 1,000 population, while Waveney’s rate is higher.

- The second most common crime in both districts is criminal damage, which is also the second most common crime in the county overall. The rate per 1,000 population for Suffolk Coastal is 7.0, while for Waveney it is 12.2. The rate for Suffolk Coastal is below the county rate of 9.3 per 1,000 population and Waveney is above it. There has been a reduction in the number of incidents of criminal damage since 2010, by 313 in Suffolk Coastal and 421 in Waveney, giving an overall decrease of 24.6% in Suffolk Coastal and 23.2% in Waveney.
In 2012, reductions in the numbers of incidents were seen in Suffolk Coastal for: public disorder – 15.5%, drug offences – 16.7% and arson – 50.8% (although numbers of recorded incidents are relatively low). Waveney also saw reductions in: violence with injury – 15.7%, vehicle crime – 24.1% and serious sexual offences – 34.5%.

Although crime is decreasing overall in East Suffolk, there have still been increases in the frequency of some offences in the last year. For Suffolk Coastal, this includes: serious sexual offences – 11.1%, fraud and forgery – 13.4% and violence without injury – 15.3%. Waveney has seen increases in: robbery – 8.9%, fraud and forgery – 43.7% and other sexual offences – 47.2% (although the total number of incidents per year is still relatively low).

Variations within each district

Within East Suffolk, there are marked variations in rates of crime and anti-social behaviour. Generally speaking, it would be expected that some of the highest crime rates would be seen in the most deprived wards within each district, but this is not always the case.

In Suffolk Coastal, the highest overall crime rate is seen in the ward of Seckford, at 91.9 crimes per 1,000 population. Seckford is the 16th (of 34) most deprived ward in Suffolk Coastal. The ward with the second highest crime rate, Felixstowe South East with 84.6 crimes per 1,000 population, is the tenth least deprived ward in the District.
• The most deprived ward, Felixstowe South, has the third highest crime rate, at 69.9 incidents per 1,000 population. Hacheston, the third most deprived ward in Suffolk Coastal, has a crime rate of 19.3 incidents per 1,000 population, making it the fifth lowest in the district.

• The lowest crime rate, 16.6 per 1,000 population is seen in Kesgrave East, which is also the least deprived ward in Suffolk Coastal.

• The Waveney ward with the highest overall crime rate is Harbour (218.6 crimes per 1,000 population), which is also the most deprived ward in the district. Unlike Suffolk Coastal, the wards with the six highest crime rates are among the ten most deprived wards in Waveney. The ward with the lowest crime rate in Waveney is Oulton, with 17.2 incidents per 1,000 population, but is the twelfth most deprived ward in the district.

**Anti-social behaviour**

• Lower levels of anti-social behaviour are recorded in Suffolk Coastal than in Waveney. Generally, the rates for Suffolk Coastal are below those for the county overall, while rates recorded in Waveney are higher. In Suffolk Coastal, the rate of anti-social behaviour is 29.9 incidents per 1,000 population, which is lower than the rate recorded for the county of Suffolk, which stands at 39.9 per 1,000 population, while the rate recorded in Waveney is higher, at 50.5 per 1,000 population. Waveney has the highest rate of recorded anti-social behaviour of all the districts in Suffolk, while Suffolk Coastal has the second lowest.

• Both districts have seen a reduction in incidents of anti-social behaviour over the last three years. Overall, Suffolk Coastal has seen a reduction of 19.2% in anti-social behaviour and Waveney has seen a reduction of 14.5% from 2010 to 2012. This equates to a total of 1,648 incidents in Suffolk Coastal and 1,666 in Waveney.

**Figure 33: Rates of all incidents of anti-social behaviour (per 1,000, 2012)**

• The most common type of anti-social behaviour in East Suffolk is “rowdy/nuisance – rowdy or inconsiderate behaviour”, with a rate of 15.4 incidents per 1,000 population in Suffolk Coastal and 27.7 per 1,000 population in Waveney. The rate for Suffolk is 21.2
incidents per 1,000 population. Both districts have seen a reduction in incidents from 2010 to 2012; Suffolk Coastal has seen a reduction of 31.1% (128 incidents) and Waveney 18.1% (118 incidents).

- The second most common type of anti-social behaviour in East Suffolk is vehicle related nuisance/inappropriate vehicle use. The rates for both districts are very similar, at 4.4 per 1,000 population in Suffolk Coastal and 4.9 per 1,000 population in Waveney. These are also similar to the rate for the county, which stands at 4.8 incidents per 1,000 population. There has been a reduction in the number recorded incidents in both districts over the last three years, by 136 incidents in Suffolk Coastal (19.9%) and by 259 incidents in Waveney (31.4%).

- Suffolk Coastal has seen reductions in: hoax calls to emergency services -37.6%, abandoned vehicles – 38.0% and begging/vagrancy – 57.1%.

- Waveney has seen reductions in: malicious/nuisance communications – 24.6%, abandoned vehicles – 36% and rowdy/nuisance – environmental damage/littering – 40%.

- Although crime is decreasing overall in East Suffolk, there have still been increases in the frequency of some offences in the last year. For Suffolk Coastal, this is only seen in one type of anti-social behaviour: animal problems – 11.8%. Waveney has seen increases in several types of anti-social behaviour, including: hoax calls to emergency services – 28.6%, animal problems – 43.8% and begging/vagrancy – 125% (incidents are relatively low and the increase in the last year follows a dramatic decrease by 52.4% between 2010 and 2011).

**Figure 34: rates of anti-social behaviour by ward (2012)**

- In Suffolk Coastal, the highest rate of anti-social behaviour, like the highest crime rate, is in Seckford, with 92.9 incidents per 1,000 population, although this ward is not one of the most deprived.
• The most deprived ward, Felixstowe South, has the third highest rate of anti-social behaviour, at 51.3 per 1,000 population.

• The third least deprived ward, Riverside, has the fourth highest rate of anti-social behaviour, at 49.7 incidents per 1,000 population.

• The lowest rate of anti-social behaviour (11.1 per 1,000 population) is seen in Peasenhall, which is the fourth most deprived ward in Suffolk Coastal.

• In Waveney, seven of the wards with the highest rates of anti-social behaviour are among the ten most deprived wards in the district. Harbour, the most deprived ward, has the highest rate (163.7 incidents per 1,000 population). The lowest rate of anti-social behaviour is seen in Lothingland, the eleventh most deprived ward, at 13.8 incidents per 1,000 population.

**Suffolk Family Focus**

As part of the county-wide Suffolk Family Focus Initiative, East Suffolk families are being identified for a new, more rounded approach to enable them to improve their lives, with help and support from a number of agencies, including Suffolk Police, JobcentrePlus Offices, Suffolk County Council, district and borough councils, housing associations and many other smaller organisations around the county working with families and young people.

Identifying factors for these families are youth crime or anti-social behaviour, absenteeism from school and worklessness. Families can also be identified by local discretion markers and who would not necessarily meet all four criteria.

At the end of 2013, 814 families had been identified in Suffolk and were either being worked with, or were due to be worked with in the near future. Of these, 289 families, or 35% of the total are resident in East Suffolk: 84 (10%) live in Suffolk Coastal and 205 (25%) are in Waveney.
Housing

Stock

- Suffolk Coastal contains an estimated 58,286 dwellings, while Waveney contains an estimated 55,089 dwellings\(^\text{32}\) ranking second and third respectively for the size of housing stock in Suffolk’s districts and boroughs. Taken together, the East Suffolk housing stock comprises approximately 35% of housing stock in Suffolk.

- Table 34 shows the distribution of tenures within East Suffolk. Suffolk Coastal has no Local Authority dwellings; instead the social/affordable housing stock is managed by housing associations. Private sector dwellings will include both owner occupier and privately rented dwellings. Waveney has a greater proportion (13.5% of its total stock) of social housing than Suffolk Coastal (10.7%).

Table 35: Housing Stock by Tenure, 2012\(^\text{33}\)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Local Authority</th>
<th>Housing association</th>
<th>Private sector</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Suffolk Coastal</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6,280</td>
<td>52,320</td>
<td>58,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waveney</td>
<td>4,550</td>
<td>2,840</td>
<td>47,360</td>
<td>54,750</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 36: Number of Dwellings by Council Tax Band, 2013\(^\text{34}\)

\(^\text{32}\) Housing Stock Report 2012, SCC

\(^\text{33}\) Table 100 Dwelling stock: Number of Dwellings by Tenure and district: England; 2012, Department for Communities and Local Government

\(^\text{34}\) Council Tax Base, 2013, Department for Communities and Local Government
**Completions**

**Figure 37: Permanent Dwellings Started and Completed 2003-04 to 2012-13**

- During 2012/13, 290 permanent dwellings were completed in Suffolk Coastal, and 140 in Waveney. In the same period, 270 permanent dwellings were started in Suffolk Coastal and 100 in Waveney.

- Figure 36 above shows the starts and completions reported over the last ten years.

- Lending and other funding for house building have become much less available in the intervening period, although Suffolk Coastal is showing some signs of recovery at 2012/13.

**House Sales**

- Allowing for seasonal effects, the number of houses sold in both Suffolk Coastal and Waveney has remained fairly constant over the last four years following a sharp fall between 2006 and 2008. They remain around half the pre-2006 levels.

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35 Table 253  House building: permanent dwellings started and completed, by tenure and district, 2012/13 (uses P2 returns and data from National House Building Council)
Figure 38: Property Sales 1996 to 2012

Figure 37 shows the price range and type of dwellings sold between 01/03/12 and 29/05/12. Lowestoft, Beccles and Bungay tend to show low value sales, with the sales well spread between detached, semi-detached, and terraced dwellings. Southwold, Aldeburgh and Woodbridge show higher value sales, while Felixstowe and Halesworth show mid-value sales. The majority of sales in East Suffolk within this period were for detached dwellings, while there were few sales of flats, in line with a lower stock of flats in the area.

Figure 39: Type of house and house price for houses sold 01/03/2012 to 29/05/2012

36 Table 588 Housing market: property sales, by district, 1996 to 2011, DCLG; Suffolk Observatory, 2012. Both use HM Land Registry Price Paid Data

37 HM Land Registry. This data covers the transactions received at Land Registry in the period 01/05/12 to 31/05/12. © Crown copyright 2012.
Affordability

Figure 40: Ratio of lower quartile house price to lower quartile earnings

- In housing, the most common measure of affordability, or whether a household or individual can afford to buy a given house, is the ratio of income to house price. Rapid increases in house price coupled with slow increases in income has seen this ratio increase significantly in the last decade. Nationally for first time buyers, affordability has decreased by 40% between 2001 and 2010 (3.23 to 4.54), with a decrease of 30% for former owner-occupiers (4.00 to 5.17).  

- Average house prices in Suffolk Coastal are around £205,000 and in Waveney around £142,000 (2013). Lower quartile house prices in Suffolk Coastal are around £150,000 and in Waveney they are £110,000 (2013).

- This compares with median earnings in Suffolk Coastal of £28,200 and in Waveney of £23,400, and lower quartile earnings of £19,400 in Suffolk Coastal and £18,000 in Waveney.

Private Rental & Affordability

- Private rental market statistics produced by the Valuation Office Agency (VOA) identify roughly 6,200 privately rented dwellings in East Suffolk, with an approximately equal split between Suffolk Coastal and Waveney. (Note: this data relies on the cooperation of agents and landlords, and so is not a complete or proportionate sample; VOA

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38 Table 576: Ratio of lower quartile house price to lower quartile earnings by district, from 1997

39 Regulated Mortgage Survey via DCLG (Simple average house prices to income of borrowers)

40 Suffolk Observatory, median & lower quartile house prices, all house types. Data produced by Land Registry © Crown copyright 2013. Used under Open Government Licence

41 Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings 2013 (Provisional), Residence-based full-time gross annual pay, Office for National Statistics

acknowledges that this is indicative only and should not be considered an accurate measure of the population.)

- Table shows that Suffolk Coastal and Waveney both have a similar distribution of privately rented dwellings. Two and three bedroom dwellings make up the majority of rental stock, while properties with four or more bedrooms are much less common.

**Table 41: Dwellings in East Suffolk by size (2011/12)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>East Suffolk (%)</th>
<th>Suffolk Coastal (%)</th>
<th>Waveney (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Bedroom or Room or Studio</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Bedroom</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Bedroom</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 or more Bedrooms</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
<td><strong>46%</strong></td>
<td><strong>54%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Affordability is also relevant to rented housing, although it uses slightly different criteria. A private rented property is considered affordable if it costs up to 25% of the combined income of the tenant(s). As with Owner Occupation, comparison of the VOA and ASHE data on private rents and monthly incomes shows that young people tend to be ‘priced out’ of the private rental market, with even lower quartile 1 bedroom properties being more than 25% of median single income for the 18-21 age group. Affordability for the 22-29, 30-39, and 40-49 age groups seems broadly similar, with median 1 bedroom dwellings being affordable to median single incomes, lower quartile 1 bedroom dwellings being affordable to lower quartile single incomes, and larger dwellings being affordable only to those on or above full time median incomes, or with access to more than one income.

- Private rental appears to be a more affordable prospect in Suffolk Coastal than in Waveney; lower quartile rents are similar in both districts, but incomes are generally lower in Waveney.

**Second Homes**

Using council tax base data, Figure 42 shows that Suffolk Coastal has nearly twice as many second homes as Waveney, representing a much greater proportion of the total stock. Second homes in Waveney tend to be concentrated in the lower value bands, while Suffolk Coastal has an increasing number of second homes up to band D, after which the numbers drop off but remain higher than in Waveney.

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44 Strategic Housing Market Assessments: Practice Guidance, 2007
Figure 42: Number of Second Homes by Council Tax Band, 2013\textsuperscript{45}

\begin{figure}[h]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=\textwidth]{figure42}
\caption{Number of Second Homes by Council Tax Band, 2013.}
\end{figure}

\textsuperscript{45} Council Tax Base, 2013, Department for Communities and Local Government
Natural Environment

East Suffolk has a significant amount of land designated as Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). These sites, the connections between them and the seascape are important, not only to wild species, but also to people. They form key features of East Suffolk's tourism offer, agricultural production, sand and gravel extraction, fishing, and renewable energy generation.

Figure 43: Map of East Suffolk environment

Issues

- Too much and too little water (surface water, rainfall levels).
- The need to look at whole landscape solutions over long timescales to ensure corridors and habitats enable species movement as required by other pressures (such as changing temperatures, coastal erosion/breaches and increasing human populations).
- The need to reduce over-use or waste of natural resources: fish stocks, commercial bait digging, people disturbing wildlife, insensitive development, fossil fuels, mineral extraction, water or any other natural resource.
The need to support environmentally sensitive farming and forestry, which encourages wildlife and the pollinators needed to sustain it long-term, reduces run-off and creates a landscape to attract visitors throughout the year.

The need to reduce littering and fly-tipping.

Coastal erosion and flooding.

Encouraging more active and less car reliant leisure pursuits such as cycling and walking continues to be needed within and between key tourism locations.

**Progress**

The Suffolk Coast & Heaths AONB Partnership has adopted their next five year management plan, [http://www.suffolkcoastandheaths.org/assets/AONB-Management-Plan-20132018.pdf](http://www.suffolkcoastandheaths.org/assets/AONB-Management-Plan-20132018.pdf)

2011 National Statistics show that, in line with Suffolk trends, Carbon Dioxide emissions considered within the scope of influence of Local Authorities decreased further against the 2005 baseline in 2011. [https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-authority-emissions-estimates](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-authority-emissions-estimates). However to meet the self-set Suffolk target of 60% by 2050 a considerable effort is still required and our role in supporting the Suffolk Climate Change Partnership is key to this.

Through networks such as East Suffolk Greenprint and the AONB volunteer scheme the Councils and partner organisations continue to encourage and support volunteers to help their physical and mental wellbeing and improve the local environment.

The % of household waste sent for re-use, recycling or compost is increasing. A fly-tipping campaign has been developed and progressed through the Suffolk Waste Partnership. Our ongoing support for this partnership will benefit East Suffolk.

So far (February 2014) 115 businesses have received support through the ECCE project and have identified potential savings of more than £700,000 and 3,190tCO₂e (Tonnes of CO₂ equivalent) which equates to more than £7,000 and 31tCO₂e per business. 43 ECCE businesses have now been awarded the Suffolk Carbon Charter.

East Suffolk has over 1,061 renewable energy systems registered for the electrical feed in tariff, with an installed capacity of over 7MW. The vast majority of these are domestic photovoltaic systems [https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/publications-and-updates/feed-tariff-installation-report-31-december-2013](https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/publications-and-updates/feed-tariff-installation-report-31-december-2013)

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**Lowestoft Local Links**

This is a green travel project that is helping people to make more sustainable journeys in and around the town. Various schemes improve travel choice for everyone in Lowestoft and make it easier to walk, cycle, car share or use public transport. The new and improved facilities at Lowestoft railway station make travelling to and from the station easier. Discounted public transport vouchers are available. The Endeavour card saves 25% for 16-19 year-olds. Bike-it officers support Lowestoft schools providing bike games, cycle coaching and repairs. Cycle training is on offer to businesses and community groups. A successful cycle festival was held in 2013. The Primary Schools Sports Partnership run a BikeAbility assessment programme. Lowestoft Lions’ Bike Active project gives people with disabilities the opportunity to cycle.
**Flooding and Coasts**

The worst tidal surge for over 60 years took place on the 5-6 December 2013, resulting in widespread flooding along the east coast. The Environment Agency (EA) issued flood warnings well in advance of the storm surge and high tide where flooding was expected. Properties were evacuated in the most vulnerable areas ensuring public safety, preventing loss of human life and greatly reducing the extent of damage. An estimated 208 properties were flooded (97 commercial, 111 residential), mostly in Lowestoft (70, 60). There were 15 breaches across the Suffolk coast and estuaries, some as large as 30m in width. The worst breaches occurred at Levington (Orwell), Martlesham Creek (Deben), with others at Robinsons Marsh (Blyth), Hazlewood Marshes, Ham Creek, Iken and Shingle Street (all Alde and Ore). Havergate Island was completely submerged. Defences at Waldringfield and Snape were overtopped. Sea defences failed at Blythburgh and were damaged at Lowestoft and Felixstowe. The A12 and rail services between Lowestoft and Ipswich were closed for some time.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) Change– Thorpeness</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Through November and December a public consultation was run on the potential change to the SMP policy for the frontage at Thorpeness from one of ‘No Active Intervention’ (with limited intervention permitted) to that of ‘Managed Realignment’ until 2105. At a well-attended public drop-in session the local community was able to discuss the issues with members of the Suffolk Coastal Management Team. The consultation was undertaken in partnership with the Thorpeness Coast Futures Group. There were 350 responses via the web, in person or by post with over 91% supporting the change. The proposed change was approved by SCDC Cabinet in early February and will be submitted to the Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (RFCC) prior to final approval from the Environment Agency Regional Director. Work is currently underway looking at a range of options as to how best to manage this volatile stretch of coastline and discussions of various options will form the basis of a public meeting in the early spring.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Lessons learned**

Well publicised community emergency /flood plans. So communities can help themselves and understand what actions they can take to reduce the impact.

Encourage property owners to increase their own resilience.

Implement the County Sustainable Drainage Approval Body (SAB) to create a “one stop shop” for developers to implement sustainable drainage (SuDS). This has been delayed by Defra.

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46 Taken from [Suffolk Coast Forum’s Suffolk Coast and Flood News (February 2014)](http://example.com)