

Case Study: Working Together to Support Employers Through Apprenticeships

Collaboration is at the heart of strengthening skills across Norfolk and Suffolk. Through the ongoing partnership between the Norfolk and Suffolk Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP) team and Apprenticeships Suffolk, employers are being supported to better understand the opportunities apprenticeships can offer, both as a recruitment route and as a way to upskill existing staff.

Employers across the region continue to face challenges in attracting, retaining and developing the skilled workforce they need. Apprenticeships provide a practical solution, enabling organisations to grow talent, address skills gaps and invest in the development of their current workforce. However, navigating apprenticeship funding and understanding the range of options available can often feel complex.

Recognising this, the LSIP team has been actively engaging with local businesses and keystone employers to raise awareness of available support and connect employers with expert advice. One area of particular focus has been introducing employers to the Apprenticeships Suffolk service, helping to facilitate conversations around apprenticeship funding opportunities, including apprenticeship levy transfers.

This work is an example of the wider commitment across Norfolk and Suffolk's skills system to work collaboratively in supporting employers. Success is not the result of any single organisation acting alone. Instead, it comes from partnerships between businesses, training providers, local authorities, Apprenticeships Suffolk, the LSIP team and other stakeholders, all working towards the shared goal of developing a stronger, more resilient workforce.

As engagement continues, both the LSIP team and Apprenticeships Suffolk remain committed to ensuring employers can make informed decisions about workforce development and fully utilise the apprenticeship opportunities available to them. Whether an employer is considering recruiting new talent, developing existing employees, or exploring apprenticeship levy transfer arrangements, support is available to help them take the next step.

Together, through partnership and collaboration, we can help more employers unlock the benefits of apprenticeships and support the skills needed for future economic growth across Norfolk and Suffolk.