



Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils

Recovery Plan 2022

Action Plan



Action Plan

The action plan on the following pages is split into three categories, each of which contains a number of targets to be completed within a timescale:

CONNECTED AND SUSTAINABLE TARGETS:

Deliver improvements to walking, cycling and sustainable forms of transport in our key business locations and town centres

Programme of rollout of high speed broadband FTTP to all business premises in the districts

The opportunity to support energy businesses and those businesses wishing to lower their carbon footprint

Work in partnership to maximise opportunities around our key economic growth locations and transport corridors

INNOVATIVE AND CREATIVE TARGETS:

Attract funding and inward investment to stimulate innovation, economic growth and enhance successful place making in the districts

Development and administration of programmes of grant support for SMEs

Rejuvenate our key towns by celebrating the wealth of culture, heritage, creativity and innovation

Support all sectors across the districts to be innovative and resilient and enable fast tracked growth of high value sectors

Work with partners to facilitate support and growth networks for entrepreneurs and innovators

SUCCESSFUL AND SKILLED TARGETS:

Strengthen engagement and interaction between education and industry partners across the district

Support growth and development of existing sector businesses and supply chains

Work with education partners and businesses to raise ambition and levels of aspiration in primary and secondary school children

Take a lead in the growth and development of new commercial floorspace to meet rising demand from high growth high value businesses

Work with education partners and businesses to raise ambition and levels of aspiration of primary and secondary school children

Actions

React

(6 - 12 months)

Recovery

(12 - 24 months)

Regrow

(post 24 months and part of new Economic strategy Actions)

CONNECTED AND SUSTAINABLE

TARGET - Deliver improvements to walking, cycling and sustainable forms of transport in our key business locations and town centres

1.01 Deliver new cycle parking in key towns			
1.02 Deliver new on street bus facility in Sudbury with associated junction improvements			
1.03 Delivery of new cycle schemes for Sudbury and Stowmarket as Part of Active Travel Phase 2			
1.04 Develop and deliver connectivity schemes as part of key towns Vision work			
1.05 Develop and deliver walking and cycling schemes across the wider districts and develop LCWIP, Ensure rollout of new cycling infrastructure			
1.06 Develop new theme specific cycle routes to enhance visitor economy			

Actions

React

(6 - 12 months)

Recovery






(12 - 24 months)

Regrow



(post 24 months
and part of new
Economic strategy
Actions)

CONNECTED AND SUSTAINABLE

TARGET - Deliver improvements to walking, cycling and sustainable forms of transport in our key business locations and town centres

1.07 Develop public transport strategy with SCC with key towns			
1.08 Needham Station Access for All improvements			
1.09 Support the development of funding bids and business cases which deliver sustainable travel improvements across key business locations			

TARGET - Programme of rollout of high speed broadband FTTP to all business premises in the districts

1.10 Collate baseline information across the districts as part of review of Evidence Base			
1.11 Develop digital strategy for BMS			

Actions

React

(6 - 12 months)

Recovery

(12 - 24 months)

Regrow

(post 24 months and part of new Economic strategy Actions)

CONNECTED AND SUSTAINABLE

TARGET - Programme of rollout of high speed broadband FTTP to all business premises in the districts

1.12 Explore opportunities for businesses to benefit from govt voucher scheme



1.13 Explore opportunities to extend Suffolk icloud project into key town centres



TARGET - The opportunity to support energy businesses and those businesses wishing to lower their carbon footprint

1.14 Build a database of environmental/energy businesses in the districts



1.15 Create a resource of best practice policies (case studies also) and guidance for low carbon energy related projects at a local, regional and national level



1.16 Develop an exemplar low carbon implementation plan for Gateway 14



Actions

React

(6 - 12 months)

Recovery






(12 - 24 months)

Regrow

(post 24 months and part of new Economic strategy Actions)

CONNECTED AND SUSTAINABLE

TARGET - The opportunity to support energy businesses and those businesses wishing to lower their carbon footprint

1.17 Develop network and explore business support for companies involved in heat and power generation in the districts			
1.18 Host Localised energy showcase event			
1.19 Progress the pilot development of new solar car ports in Stowmarket and Sudbury and review opportunities for further roll out across the district			
1.20 Signpost businesses to opportunities which will improve their sustainability as part of delivery of the Councils Climate change Action Plan			
1.21 Support the development of a prospectus across east of England to govt promoting the region as an East of England Energy Generator – providing an ask and value added offer			

Actions

React

(6 - 12 months)

Recovery

(12 - 24 months)

Regrow

(post 24 months
and part of new
Economic strategy
Actions)

CONNECTED AND SUSTAINABLE

TARGET - The opportunity to support energy businesses and those businesses wishing to lower their carbon footprint

1.22 Work cross service to encourage a programme of innovation in heat and power generation across council owned sites and buildings



TARGET - Work in partnership to maximise opportunities around our key economic growth locations and transport corridors

1.23 Bring forward development of Council owned employment sites and support delivery of privately owned employment sites in the districts



1.24 Continue to support and monitor development at Sproughton Enterprise Zone through completion of the legal agreement



1.25 Develop a masterplan for Eye Airfield



Actions

React

(6 - 12 months)

Recovery

(12 - 24 months)

Regrow

(post 24 months
and part of new
Economic strategy
Actions)

CONNECTED AND SUSTAINABLE

TARGET - Work in partnership to maximise opportunities around our key economic growth locations and transport corridors

1.26 Develop an Empty Business Strategy for units along A12/Copdock junction			
1.27 Develop an implementation plan for the Food Enterprise Zone at Wherstead			
1.28 Support delivery of jobs and commercial floorspace at Snoasis			
1.29 Support new and existing commercial sites along the routes of the A14 and A12			
1.30 Support the development of an Innovation Park at Gateway 14			

Actions

React

(6 - 12 months)

Recovery

(12 - 24 months)

Regrow

(post 24 months
and part of new
Economic strategy
Actions)

INNOVATIVE AND CREATIVE

TARGET - Attract funding and inward investment to stimulate innovation, economic growth and enhance successful place making in the districts

2.01 Create a new interactive data dashboard for businesses on the website			
2.02 Create a new Inward Investment website			
2.03 Develop a new Inward Investment Prospectus for the districts			
2.04 Develop enhanced relationships with key partners and funders to showcase opportunities in the districts			
2.05 Develop pilots for new innovation projects and explore rollout across wider districts and region			
2.06 Develop pipeline of projects for ongoing funding and investment opportunities			

Actions

React

(6 - 12 months)

Recovery


(12 - 24 months)

Regrow




(post 24 months and part of new Economic strategy Actions)

INNOVATIVE AND CREATIVE

TARGET - Attract funding and inward investment to stimulate innovation, economic growth and enhance successful place making in the districts

<p>2.07 Develop programme of inward investment specifically targeted at businesses seeking to secure adaptable space and relocated from major cities in light of covid</p>			
<p>2.08 Development of a funding plan to sit alongside Economic Strategy action plan</p>			

TARGET - Development and administration of programmes of grant support for SMEs

<p>2.09 Delivery of govt programme of covid grants</p>			
<p>2.10 Support and signposting for larger businesses to govt support</p>			
<p>2.11 Working with partners to monitor and develop sector specific support</p>			

Actions

React

(6 - 12 months)

Recovery






(12 - 24 months)

Regrow

(post 24 months and part of new Economic strategy Actions)

INNOVATIVE AND CREATIVE

TARGET - Rejuvenate our key towns by celebrating the wealth of culture, heritage, creativity and innovation

2.12 Develop Cultural Strategy and destination development plan to support recovery and growth of cultural and visitor economy sectors			
2.13 Develop Hadleigh market to promote culture and enterprise opportunities			
2.14 Develop key festivals in Sudbury and Stowmarket as key regeneration drivers			
2.15 Develop programme of shop window “events” to promote messages of vision, promote cultural/arts activities, encourage pop up businesses and other pop up initiatives			
2.16 Develop strategic Cultural Groups in Stowmarket and Sudbury			

Actions

React

(6 - 12 months)

Recovery







(12 - 24 months)

Regrow

(post 24 months
and part of new
Economic strategy
Actions)

INNOVATIVE AND CREATIVE

TARGET - Rejuvenate our key towns by celebrating the wealth of culture, heritage, creativity and innovation

2.17 Development of “buy local” programme of support			
2.18 New high quality entrance created to Belle Vue Park			
2.19 Review opportunities and develop Locally focused themed trails eg art and food			
2.20 Rollout of Virtual High street model to key towns in BMS linked to Digital skills for Business Programme			
2.21 Support the Vision and Invest in programmes and actions in Stowmarket, Sudbury, Hadleigh, Eye and Needham Market			

Actions

React

(6 - 12 months)

Recovery

(12 - 24 months)

Regrow


(post 24 months and part of new Economic strategy Actions)

INNOVATIVE AND CREATIVE

TARGET - Rejuvenate our key towns by celebrating the wealth of culture, heritage, creativity and innovation

2.22 Virtual High Street pilot launch in Sudbury			
2.23 Work in partnership to contribute to key areas in the Councils Wellbeing Strategy eg Sports and Leisure and Active Travel			
2.24 Work with key cultural anchors in town centres to help them develop to achieve a regional, national and international profile			

TARGET - Support all sectors across the districts to be innovative and resilient and enable fast tracked growth of high value sectors

2.25 Carry out Data analysis to better understand BMS supply chain			
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Actions

React

(6 - 12 months)

Recovery

(12 - 24 months)

Regrow

(post 24 months
and part of new
Economic strategy
Actions)

INNOVATIVE AND CREATIVE

TARGET - Support all sectors across the districts to be innovative and resilient and enable fast tracked growth of high value sectors

2.26 Develop and maintain Economic Evidence Base			
2.27 Develop and/or contribute to sector resilience plans which reflect emerging growth sectors but support core/traditional sectors			
2.28 Develop programme of support for key sectors to access new markets			
2.29 Develop sector specific business growth support programmes to reflect local need			
2.30 Develop “stories of place” for key locations to enhance cultural tourism			
2.31 Launch new business grants programme to stimulate growth and innovation			
2.32 Produce and publicise annual state of the nation economic report			

Actions

React

(6 - 12 months)

Recovery

(12 - 24 months)

Regrow

(post 24 months
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Economic strategy
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INNOVATIVE AND CREATIVE

TARGET - Work with partners to facilitate support and growth networks for entrepreneurs and innovators

2.33 Deliver Online Innovation Awards 2020 and support for AI Festival 2021 - consider "in kind" sponsorship eg mentoring for small businesses



2.34 Enhance B2B networking across district and wider region



2.35 Explore opportunities to widen the scope of the Stowmarket Innovation Board



2.36 Further engage with the core group of businesses who attended the Innovation Awards to understand and better support future growth and innovation across the districts



2.37 Identify existing networks and gaps in support to ensure the voice of local business is heard



Actions

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INNOVATIVE AND CREATIVE

TARGET - Work with partners to facilitate support and growth networks for entrepreneurs and innovators

2.38 Maximise opportunities and promote successes from the creation of the Central Suffolk chamber of Commerce



2.39 Support Innovation Labs AI Centre of Excellence Pilot



Actions

React

(6 - 12 months)

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(12 - 24 months)

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Economic strategy
Actions)

SUCCESSFUL AND SKILLED

TARGET - Strengthen engagement and interaction between education and industry partners across the district

3.01 Develop pilot programmes for new initiatives around entrepreneurship and innovation skills in key towns			
3.02 Ensure local skills objectives for the districts are captured in the University of Suffolk led IoT bid			
3.03 Explore concept of multi business Knowledge Transfer Partnerships and seek to set up pilot			
3.04 Programme of enhanced digital skills for small businesses			
3.05 Support the development and delivery of new government led or regional programmes around unemployment and skills			

Actions

React

(6 - 12 months)

Recovery

(12 - 24 months)

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SUCCESSFUL AND SKILLED

TARGET - Strengthen engagement and interaction between education and industry partners across the district

3.06 Undertake Skills mapping and develop a proposal for the creation of a business led skills academy at Gateway 14



3.07 Work collaboratively with education and training partners to facilitate and promote opportunities for life long learning



3.08 Work in partnership with key providers to develop and deliver a programme of support for young people who are not in employment or education



TARGET - Support the growth and development of existing sector businesses and supply chains

3.09 Contribute to wider skills development plans for major infrastructure projects



Actions

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(6 - 12 months)

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SUCCESSFUL AND SKILLED

TARGET - Support growth and development of existing sector businesses and supply chains

3.10 Develop business database			
3.11 Develop growth plans for priority sectors			
3.12 Develop plan to raise skills in hospitality sector - use areas of good practice eg CO-OP, MEAL			
3.13 Develop sustainability plans for priority and core sectors			
3.14 Support businesses to recruit from local talent pool			
3.15 Work with partners to develop a sustainable plan of support for businesses to make them supply chain ready for major infrastructure opportunities			

Actions

React

(6 - 12 months)

Recovery








(12 - 24 months)

Regrow

(post 24 months
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Economic strategy
Actions)

SUCCESSFUL AND SKILLED

TARGET - Take a lead in the growth and development of new commercial floorspace to meet rising demand from high growth high value businesses

3.16 Carry out updated workspace and employment land studies across districts to underpin further recovery work			
3.17 Delivery of mixed use scheme at Hamilton Road			
3.18 Delivery of Needham Visitor centre			
3.19 Develop workspace strategy and delivery plan across both districts which reflects future commercial demand for changing office space – likely to be more flexible spaces and hot desking			
3.20 Drive forward Hadleigh and Cross Street Eye as a pilot for new post covid workspace			
3.21 Investigate new sites for workspace outside of council ownership			

Actions

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(12 - 24 months)

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SUCCESSFUL AND SKILLED

TARGET - Take a lead in the growth and development of new commercial floorspace to meet rising demand from high growth high value businesses

3.22 Support delivery of new employment space at Strategic employment sites and identify new site opportunities in key gateways



TARGET - Work with education partners and businesses to raise ambition and levels of aspiration in primary and secondary school children

3.23 Create better opportunities within the Council for programmes of work experience/internships



3.24 Develop a pilot project with education provider to focus on innovation rather than just STEM programmes in local schools



3.25 Develop a programme of careers and enterprise support for young people outside of school



3.26 Develop a Young Entrepreneurs Awards programme for schools



Actions

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SUCCESSFUL AND SKILLED

TARGET - Work with education partners and businesses to raise ambition and levels of aspiration in primary and secondary school children

3.27 Lead on the creation of new partnerships between Universities and primary schools



3.28 Make better use of council connections into schools



3.29 Review opportunity for creation of school enterprise leads to work alongside businesses



3.30 Work with partners to implement new govt interventions around worklessness

