

2025-2026 Business Board Forward Plan

Date	Time	Location	Agenda items
16-01-Jan 2025	14.00 to 16.00	Adastral Park, Ipswich	<p>Strategic focus on Digital & Tech</p> <p>Guest presentation, Adastral Park Vision - Matt Capp, BT Industry Council</p> <p>Economic strategy first wave of investments - Lisa Roberts</p> <p>Suffolk Economy Comms plan - Kelly Boosey & Rob Hancock</p> <p>Update on former LEP functions plan for 25/26 - Richard Smith</p> <p>Business Board governance update - Oliver Paul</p>
26-Feb-25	09.00 to 13.00	Norwich Football Club, Carrow Road	<p>Joint meeting with Norfolk Business Board</p> <p>Networking and Coffee</p> <p>Intro from both Chairs, welcome and purpose of the session</p> <p>Economic Priorities: areas we are working on together - Joint presentation NCC/SCC</p> <p>Showcase: Case studies for Connected Innovation, IGMP, Space East, GENERATE</p> <p>Comfort break</p> <p>MHCLG to provide an update/ direction of travel from Government (Mike Todman confirmed)</p> <p>Call to Action: actions we will focus on together- e.g Top 5 areas.</p> <p>Networking/ lunch</p>
20th March 2025	14.00 to 16.00	Claas UK, Bury St Edmunds	<p>Strategic focus on Agri-food</p> <p>Guest presentation and agrifood strategic discussion - Martin Collison, Chair of Norfolk & Suffolk Agri Food Industry Council, and Oliver Paul</p> <p>Update on former LEP functions plan for 25/26 - Richard Smith</p> <p>Communications and Strategic Marketing Plan Update - Kelly Boosey & Lisa Roberts</p> <p>Funding and governance - Rob Hancock</p>
05 June 2025	14.00 to 16.00	Endeavour House, Ipswich Elisabeth Frink Room	<p>Strategic focus on Clean Energy</p> <p>Guest presentation - Kevin Keable EEEGR</p> <p>Clean energy opportunity update - Julian Munson</p> <p>Introduction to new Board members - Chair</p> <p>Inward Investment / Investable opportunities - Jai / Alice</p> <p>Investment and intervention update - Lisa Roberts / Rob Hancock</p>
31st July 2025	14.00 to 16.15	University of Suffolk, Seminar Room (A008) in the Atrium Building	<p>Strategic focus on Economic Strategy progress</p> <p>Feasibility Study Interim Report - Plexal & Lisa</p> <p>Review of opportunities from Modern Industrial Strategy - Lisa Roberts</p> <p>Suffolk Coordination Office update - Molly Williams (Guest)</p> <p>Water paper - Matt Hullis (Guest)</p>

18th September 2025	14.00 to 16.00	Halo, Stowmarket	Strategic focus on AI & Tech Convergence Halo briefing - Paul Hamilton AI Awards & Festival - Peter Brady and Julian Munson Comms and Marketing Update - Kelly Boosey Investment and intervention update, including Adastral Park & Business Support - Julian Munson Interventions written update - Lisa
11th November 2025	13.00 to 14.00	Ipswich Football Club, Bobby Robson Suit	Joint meeting with Norfolk Business Board Networking lunch Intro from both Chairs, welcome and purpose of the session Programmes and progress showcase since February, covering clean energy, agrifood, utilities, creative sector, connect to work, LVEP, AI & digital Business success stories (British Sugar, EpiCentre) Devolution - update from MHCLG Devolution - update from Norfolk & Suffolk programme leads Priorities for 2026
10th December 2025	13.00 to 15.00	Suffolk New College, Ipswich (room B1005)	Strategic focus on Skills Alan Pease introduction Review of Skills programmes and proposals for 26/27 - Michael Gray Cluster Growth Plans recommendations - Plexal, Alice Tomkins Follow-up paper from Joint Business Board Investment and intervention written update - Eunice Edwards / Rob Hancock
22nd January 2026	14.00 to 16.00	Endeavour House, Ipswich Elisabeth Frink Room	Strategic Focus on Business Support UK Business Bank presentation or State of Charity Sector presentation Business support landscape - Growth Hub, High Growth, early stage interventions, small business schemes, high streets, Challenge Fund - Julian Munson Inward Investment and UKREIF update - Alice Tomkins & Rob Hancock Devolution update - Andrew Cook Additional written papers covering: Additional Paper 1 "Interventions and Funding Update" Additional Paper 2 "Suffolk Economy annual report" Additional Paper 3 "Business Board governance"
26th March 2026	14.00 to 16.00	Adastral, Digitech Centre	Strategic Focus on VCSE Sector VCSE Sector update and data Norfolk & Suffolk joint strategy progress 26/27 Forward Plan

4th June 2026	14.00 to 16.00	TBC - (Rose Mead room has been booked as back up)	Strategic Focus on Strategy & Interventions Devolution update New members on-boarding UKREIF & Inward Investment Interventions review/refresh inc Clusters report
30th July 2026 (HOLD)	14:00 to 16:00	TBC - (Rose Mead room has been booked as back up)	Joint Norfolk & Suffolk Business Board Joint Strategy Transport East, RESP, Water & NSIPS Visitor Economy
1st October 2026 (HOLD)	14:00 to 16:00	to follow	Strategic Focus Value Growth & Emerging sectors Sector plans and interventions across advanced manufacturing, visitor economy, financial services etc.
19th November 2026 (HOLD)	14:00 to 16:00	to follow	Strategic Focus TBC To follow

Other Forward Plan items

Item	Time	Description
UKREiIF Leaders' Dinner	13-Jan-25	Oli Paul attending
Suffolk Business Board	22 January, 2-4pm	See above
Next round of MP updates	Spring 26	Chair + others
Business Board Chairs Westminster day	18-Mar-26	Minister Fahnbulleh, Lord Vallance
Suffolk Business Board	26 March, 2-4pm	See above
New Chair and members announced	March	To conclude by end of March
RNAA Norfolk & Suffolk Mayoral Hustings	23 April, 11.30	Business Board representative needed
Water Briefing	Spring 26	Briefing from Matt Hullis re progress on Water Action Plan
DBT Norfolk & Suffolk visit	01-Apr-26	Likely 2 day tour and workshops
New Business Board member onboarding	April, May	Briefings + dinner etc

UKREiiF, Leeds	19 – 21 May	Business Board members have been asked if they are available to attend any of the
AI festival, Bury St Edmunds	27 – 28 May	Details to follow
Suffolk Business Board	4 June, 2-4pm	See above
3rd Joint meeting with Norfolk Business Board	30-Jul-26	See above