



# Supply Chain Skills Development Fund

## Prospectus

Supply Chain

SKILLS  
DEVELOPMENT



FUND



**European Union**

European  
Social Fund



**“Norfolk and Suffolk are working together to provide the Supply Chain Skills Development Fund.**

**Flexible, co-funded training is now available for your employees to enhance and develop their skills and knowledge; making your business more effective, competitive, and able to exploit new contracting opportunities and ready to support growth within the region.**

**This project will help you, as a local employer, to identify the competencies and capabilities that you will need in your workforce, in order to fully capitalise on opportunities resulting from large-scale infrastructure projects happening in the Norfolk and Suffolk area over the course of the next couple of years.**

**Make sure your business benefits from grants between £500 - £5000 (max £1000 per employee and matched 50% by employer investment) for a wide range of training courses from colleges and training providers.”**



*Michael Gray, Head of Skills at Suffolk County Council*

## THE FUND

**The Supply Chain Skills Development Fund, an ESF funded project, provides grants to co-fund for the development of the workforce in key local supply chains across Norfolk and Suffolk.**

## AIMS & OBJECTIVES

- ✓ Benefit your business
- ✓ Gain a stronger workforce
- ✓ Increase profitability
- ✓ Increase productivity
- ✓ More efficient business
- ✓ Better profits
- ✓ Better business base
- ✓ Qualified employees
- ✓ Strengthen your ability to bid successfully to be part of a supply chain

## PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- ✓ To increase the skills levels of employed people from the existing level to the next level up, to encourage progression in employment
- ✓ To increase the number of people with technical and job specific skills, particularly at level 3 and above to support business growth
- ✓ To increase the skills levels of employed women and workers over 50 to encourage progression in employment and help address the gender and employment and wage gap

## ELIGIBILITY – Should you apply?

If you can answer yes to these questions – apply now! Ask yourself:

- **Would a SCSDF grant of up to 50% enable you to purchase training that would otherwise not take place?**  
or
- **Would a SCSDF grant increase your competitiveness when bidding to become part of supply chains for local infrastructure opportunities?**



- ✓ **A small to medium sized enterprise?**  
(between 1-249 employees/trading 6+ months/annual turnover not exceeding £50 million)
- ✓ **Located in Norfolk or Suffolk?**  
(paying business rates)
- ✓ **From** Energy, Construction, IT & Digital, Science, Engineering, Manufacturing, Ports Logistics sectors
- ✓ **Looking to address the skills gap of your 18+ workforce?**
- ✓ **Prepared to 50% match fund training?**  
For accredited training, non-accredited training, face to face training and online/digital courses

### **? Where does the grant come from?**

*Supply Chain Skills Development Fund is funded by the European Social Fund and delivered by Suffolk County Council in partnership with Norfolk County Council.*

### **? How does the payment work?**

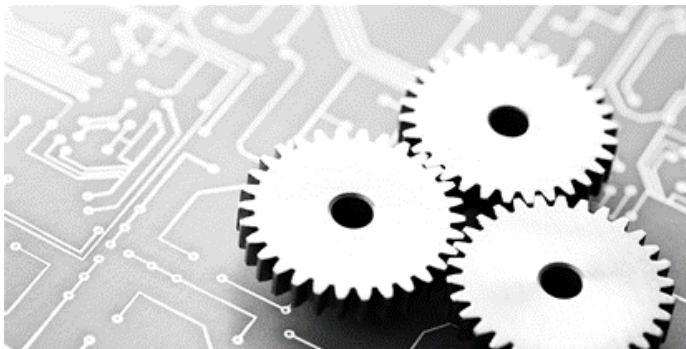
*After acceptance onto the grant scheme, you pay for the employee's training then, once they have completed their course, you submit a claim for 50% of your eligible costs.*

### **? We are looking to up-skill a number of our employees this year and would be interested to know about the 50% training grant**

*Please email us on [supplychainskills@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:supplychainskills@suffolk.gov.uk) and we will send you the application pack with more information.*

### **? We are a logistics company and would like the opportunity to use the scheme to help train our staff.**

*It sounds like you are eligible - we will send you the application pack if you email us on [supplychainskills@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:supplychainskills@suffolk.gov.uk)*



**? I run a café used by HGV drivers and would like to open another which will need a manager, can this fund help me?**

*Unfortunately you are not eligible for this particular fund, but email us and we will do our best to direct you to the right place if there is an alternative grant.*

**? How long do I have to apply?**

*The fund is currently open until August 2023 but it is beneficial to apply as soon as possible.*

**? Which training providers can I use?**

You can choose your own training provider depending on your requirements, however you will need three quotes and tell us why you choose the one you want to go with. How does payment work?

**Training cost example:**

➤ ***Level 3 Certificate in Leadership and Management***

*Course Cost without funding: £1295*

*Cost via participation in SCSDf: £647.50 (50% must be employer investment)*



# NEXT STEPS

1. Confirm you fit the SCSDF criteria

2. Email [supplychainskills@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:supplychainskills@suffolk.gov.uk) to tell us about your business and employee's training needs

3. Read and complete the application forms we send to you

4. The SCSDF Team will review your application & a funding offer letter will be sent to you \*

5. Purchase your employee's training

6. Once training is finished, complete the relevant documents and send us your claim for 50% of the training cost

7. Enjoy the benefits of having a better skilled workforce within your business and the enhanced growth potential

- ✓ Employee gains qualification
- ✓ You increase your skilled workforce
- ✓ Local economy grows

If you would like support or guidance whilst completing the process, please contact Suffolk County Council at [supplychainskills@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:supplychainskills@suffolk.gov.uk) and we will be pleased to advise you.

**We look forward to receiving your application and wish you good luck.**



\* If we are unable to accept your application to the SCSEDF, we will do our best to guide you towards an alternative fund with a more suitable criteria.



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