

Sizewell C

The power of **good** for Britain

# Community Newsletter

The latest news and updates  
from the Sizewell C project.

JAN/FEB 2025

# Welcome

We started 2025 with an anniversary at Sizewell C: January marked a year since we began construction. And it's been an incredible first year for the project.

We've now got around 1,000 people driving Sizewell C forward, both on our main development site and off-site infrastructure, and we'll have around 2,000 people by the end of the year. Many have come from this area – around two thirds of our team are based in this region – and we were delighted to see over 200 people attend our first apprenticeship fair in Leiston last month too. We issued well over £100m in local contracts last year, and we'll be announcing more contracts for suppliers in the region soon. It's fantastic to see local people and businesses right at the heart of this project.

We've built relationships with many schools in the area too, and Alde Valley Academy in Leiston is a perfect example. We've helped them deliver some brilliant initiatives already this year, from music and songwriting workshops to working with Inspire Suffolk and Suffolk Mind to help Year 7s with the transition to secondary school. Alde Valley students even created a short film for a new film festival at Leiston Film Theatre, delivered by Sizewell Creative, our community arts programme. The students' film was a real triumph, and the festival itself was a heartwarming celebration of our host town. We'll share some behind-the-scenes stories and photos of the event in the next issue of this newsletter.

In this latest edition, you'll read about all the main activities we're undertaking and the key things to look out for over the coming months.

As you'll read, we're busy working on projects like our Green Rail Route and our park and ride sites. Some of these projects will mean we're more visible and occasionally more disruptive in the local area over the coming months. We are doing everything we can to minimise disruption – and once these schemes are concluded, they'll reduce our overall construction impacts on the area. In the meantime, we do really appreciate your patience and your support as we progress this project. We know that we will on occasion be disruptive, but our aim is always to give this area much more than we take.

**Julia Pyke and Nigel Cann,**  
Joint Managing Directors



## Exquisite silver coin hoard discovered on site

Last month, we announced an extraordinary find: a hoard of over 300 mint-condition 11th century silver coins, discovered on site during archaeological excavations. The find was featured on the BBC's *Digging for Britain* programme.

## Expert energy advice for Leiston residents

Residents in our host town can now benefit from expert advice on energy bills and energy efficiency after we provided funding for Citizens Advice East Suffolk, to extend their Energy Advice Hub services to Leiston.

## Nearly 100 early careers opportunities going live

At the end of last year, we announced 35 new apprenticeship placements – the first of nearly 100 new early careers roles that will be available over the next few months.

## Booked-out apprenticeships event in Leiston

Over 200 people turned out to our apprenticeship fair in Leiston in Feb. Of our 1,500 apprenticeships, 540 will come from right here in Suffolk.



# Latest news

An extraordinary hoard of 11th century coins discovered on site.



## A new Skills Charter to benefit the East of England

In January, we launched a new Sizewell C Skills Charter, which includes commitments to deliver programmes and initiatives to ensure local residents, including underrepresented groups, can access training opportunities and find pathways into our workforce.



A new Energy Advice Hub has arrived in Leiston.



Combat2Coffee has a new two-year contract.



Some of our new Civil Engineer apprentices at work.

## Over £100m in local contracts

We delivered well over £100m in local contracts for businesses across Suffolk over the last year, with contracts covering everything from construction and aggregates to building supplies and energy systems. In January, we announced yet more contracts for local businesses, including a £19m contract for Ipswich-based business Jackson Civil Engineering, to deliver key road schemes this year.

We also announced a new two-year licence for Combat2Coffee – a community interest company which invests profits to benefit veterans, ex-uniformed personnel, their families and communities – to run the Sizewell C site coffee shop.



“As a local supplier with our head office in Suffolk, we’re delighted to be awarded the contract for the first of many off-site infrastructure works for Sizewell C. Sizewell C is a key scheme for the region and it will be instrumental in developing the local economy, creating jobs and upskilling many people living in Suffolk. By working alongside Sizewell C, we look forward to playing our part in this once-in-a-generation opportunity.”

**Brian Crofton, Managing Director, Jackson Civil Engineering**



## Rail schemes



The railways play a vital part in building Sizewell C – and in limiting traffic on the roads.

We're creating a new rail route, what we call the Green Rail Route, that runs from the existing Sizewell Branch Line into our Temporary Construction Area (TCA) – and in January the first construction trains arrived along the Saxmundham and Leiston line, getting ready to start laying new track.

It's an important step for the project – so far we've received around 14km of rail required for the branch line upgrade, and over the coming months we'll be stepping up rail deliveries along the branch line.

While upgrades to the track and level crossing take place, there'll be some vegetation removal under the very careful supervision of ecologists. This is necessary to enable the upgrade and to maintain the safe operation of the railway.

### Local impacts

To build the new route, we've had to close Abbey Lane in Leiston so that we can construct a new level crossing on Abbey Road. While these changes will reduce our impacts on local traffic over the duration of construction, we know that the road closure will be disruptive for some people now, so we apologise for the inconvenience this will cause. You can see the diversion route in the image to the right.

### Safety

We're working with Network Rail to remind people that, especially now there's increased activity, the Sizewell branch line remains part of the national rail network and people should stay off the tracks for their own safety.



# Sea schemes



Our relationship with the coastline is key to the project's success.

In another big step forward, we've begun early works on the temporary sea defences for the project. We've diverted the public path along the beach, so there is continued access for the public as normal.

Visitors to the beach last year may have seen an offshore 'jack up' barge from Sizewell Beach. The barge, known as Excalibur, was carrying out surveys on the seabed for the intake and outfall tunnels for

Sizewell C, as well as for our temporary desalination plant, which will provide the water we need during the construction period.

Next up, at the end of March, we're sending another 'jack up' barge, Wave Walker, out to investigate World War II legacy unexploded ordnance, known as UXOs, on the seabed, as we look ahead to the construction of our marine infrastructure for the project.

## Main development site



Our main development site is made up of: the Main Construction Area (MCA); our Temporary Construction Area (TCA); and our Ancillary Construction Area (ACA).

### Ancillary Construction Area (ACA)

Our Project Office has now fully opened; it's a brilliant facility, which houses our induction and medical centres as well as office space for 250 people. The car parks are complete and a bus service is now running between the ACA and the MCA.

### Main Construction Area (MCA)

Our Civil Work Alliance is continuing to make excellent progress preparing the Main Construction Area, including constructing a road to bring materials down from the Beach Landing Facility.

### Temporary Construction Area (TCA)

We have now completed the first phase of the main access road onto the TCA. We've built a new compound to start work to build the bridge over the Site of Specific Scientific Interest (SSSI), providing a direct route into the Main Construction Area. We've also commenced work on installing sheet piles to form the environmental barrier adjacent to the SSSI.



Sheet piling on the TCA.



Earthworks underway on the ACA.

# Major road schemes



We're upgrading local roads and starting work on vital new ones for the project.

## Sizewell Link Road

We're continuing archaeological and vegetation clearance works for the Sizewell Link Road. In spring of this year, we'll begin the main construction works of the permanent 6.5km road, which will take our construction traffic away from the B1122, bypassing Theberton and Middleton Moor.



## Yoxford Roundabout

We've now completed the archaeological works in readiness to build a new roundabout at the junction of the A12 and B1122 east of Yoxford. We'll be finishing up utilities work on the site in mid-March and will then start formal construction of the roundabout.

## Two Village Bypass

Ahead of constructing a new 1.8km bypass around Farnham and Stratford St Andrew, we'll be starting preparatory work on a new roundabout at Friday Street in March. This includes creating site access, compounds for our team, vegetation clearance and archaeological investigations.

## B1122 Roundabout

We're building a new roundabout to improve safety and connectivity between the B1122, Abbey Road and Eastbridge Road, along to the main Sizewell C entrance. There will be traffic management in place, with the first temporary traffic lights installed in June. The roundabout is expected to be completed in January 2026.

# Park and ride schemes



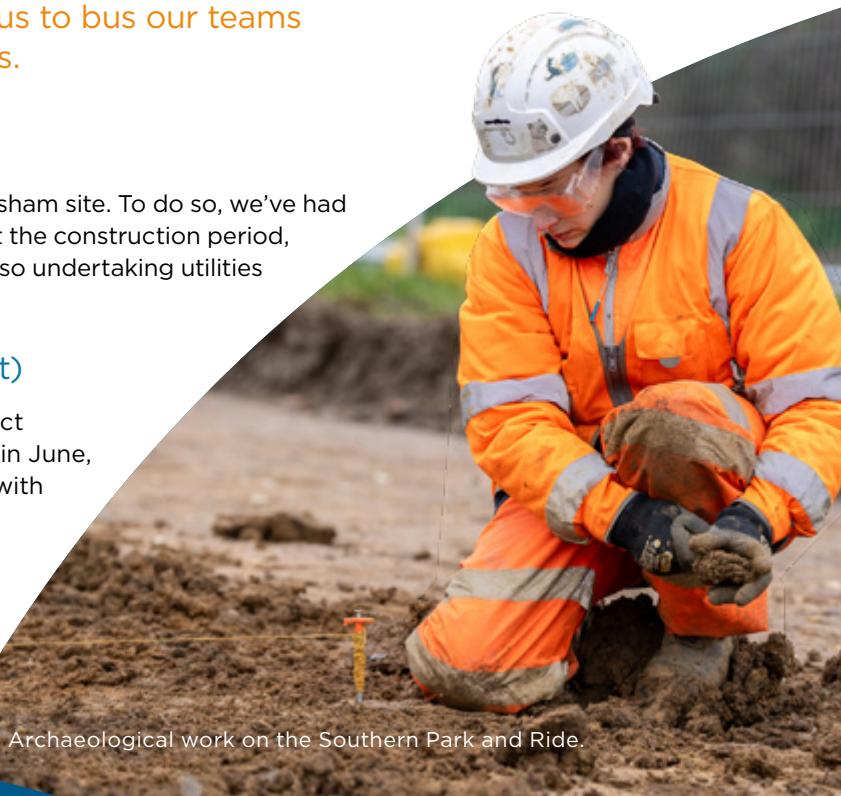
Our park and ride facilities will enable us to bus our teams to site and reduce traffic on local roads.

## Northern Park and Ride (Darsham)

We're about to start archaeology works on the Darsham site. To do so, we've had to close Willow Marsh Lane, off the A12, throughout the construction period, with a diversion in place. From next month, we're also undertaking utilities diversion works along the A12 footpath.

## Southern Park and Ride (Wickham Market)

We're continuing archaeology at the site and expect to complete in late spring. Construction will begin in June, and we'll be opening the Park and Ride in stages, with the site fully completed in Autumn 2026.



# SIZEWELL C COMMUNITY FUND

## Awards **£1.4m** in funding for local projects

The Sizewell C Community Fund awarded more than £1.1m to local community projects in its latest round – reaching £1.4m of funding so far.

The second round of awards saw grants given to 11 charities and not-for-profit groups which deliver services in Leiston, Saxmundham, Aldeburgh and the surrounding areas. A total of 20 different projects have benefitted so far.

The money is being awarded to projects in the East Suffolk Council area which promote the economic,

social or environmental wellbeing of the communities most impacted by the construction of Sizewell C, and which enhance people's quality of life.

The latest round is open for applications and closes on Sunday 20th April 2025 at 23:59. The next round opens immediately after.

### WARDENS TRUST

## £122,507

“Everyone at Wardens Trust is enormously grateful for the grant support we have received from the Sizewell C Community Fund. It will help us continue to deliver our essential support services to the elderly and disabled in our local community.”

**Dr Alexander Gimson**, Chair, Wardens Trust



### HOME-START IN SUFFOLK

## £201,881

“This crucial support will enable us to increase our capacity to deliver family support in Leiston and the surrounding areas. By working with more families, we can reduce isolation, improve mental health and strengthen parenting skills, creating more stable and supportive home environments. The impact of this support will ripple through generations, helping families build stronger foundations for the future during a time of significant local change.”



**Tara Spence**, CEO, Home-Start in Suffolk

### COMMUNITY FEST

## £105,404

“We are delighted to receive this grant, which is very much welcome. It will play a crucial role in developing the financial sustainability of the Saxmundham Community Fest. This support will allow us to continue activities that benefit the residents of Saxmundham and the surrounding towns and villages. Keeping this festival thriving and free is vital in bringing people together and celebrating the spirit of our community.”

**Terry Barrow**, Director of Saxmundham Music & Arts CIC



For more information, eligibility criteria and how to apply, visit [sizewellcfund.org.uk](http://sizewellcfund.org.uk) or call 01473 602 602.

# Who works at Sizewell C?

In each newsletter, we spotlight some of the amazing people who work on site.

## Ceri Bryant, Occupational Health and Wellbeing Manager

“This is the most positive and supportive place I’ve worked in during my entire 42-year career.”

I started my role at Sizewell C in July 2023 and I’m working to ensure that all of our people are safe, supported and, should they need any care, are looked after to the highest standards. This means I’m putting in place the on-site medical and wellbeing services needed to reduce any possible impact on local NHS and community services.

I love the variation in my role – no two days are the same, ever. I also love the many different people I meet, both here at Sizewell C and in the community.

It’s busy here, but there’s lots of help from everyone, and this incredibly supportive culture is everywhere at Sizewell C, not just in my team.

I live in a village near Ipswich and I love the open skies and stunning countryside in this area. I’m a keen walker and appreciate the flatness of Suffolk! I also enjoy the many different types of walks here, be it in countryside or along the coast.



## Neil Glendinning, Harbour Master

“My job is about ensuring that the harbour works safely and efficiently for all users, building relationships and making connections with people.”

As Harbour Master, part of my job is to be a contact point for the maritime community here. Sizewell C will bring in a large proportion of its construction materials and plant by sea. To do that, we need a harbour and marine infrastructure – so I have to set out the systems within the harbour to ensure compliance with the Port Marine Safety Code. That will mean the harbour operates safely for everyone, it’s effective and efficient, and that we can protect it.

I’ve lived in this lovely area for thirty-plus years, based just thirty minutes up the road on the coast. I love the beaches, I love the marshes and I really enjoy the night skies here – which harks back to my seafaring days of looking up at dark skies filled with billions of stars.

Find out about jobs at Sizewell C:  
[sizewellc.com/jobs](http://sizewellc.com/jobs)



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