



## Spring Budget 2020 – East of England

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### Today's announcements for the East of England include:

- In the East of England, the increase to the National Living Wage (NLW) this April is expected to benefit around 177,000 people.
- In the East of England, the increase to National Insurance thresholds to £9,500 in 2020-21 will result in a tax cut for 3 million people and will lift 110,000 people out of paying Class 1 and Class 4 National Insurance Contributions.
- Developing major local road upgrades, including the Ely to Cambridge A10 junction, the A12 Woodbridge and the A12 East of Ipswich in Suffolk.
- **£3.4 billion** spending on strategic road schemes between 2020 and 2025. This will help build the A428 Black Cat to Caxton Gibbet. We will also develop plans for upgrades to the A120.
- A new station at Cambridge South, subject to planning consents, connecting to the Cambridge Biomedical Campus – the largest cluster of medical and life sciences research in Europe.
- **£69 million** additional funding for local road maintenance through the Potholes Fund in 2020-21.
- Accessibility improvements at Apsley, Flitwick and Ockendon railway stations, as part of a wider **c. £50 million** investment in station accessibility.
- A share of the next **£5.2 billion** flood and coastal defence investment programme starting in 2021. These locations will benefit from at least the following levels of funding as a result of this programme: **£5 million** for Peterborough and **£170,000** for King's Lynn to better protect over 1,200 properties.
- **£272 million** from the Housing Infrastructure Fund for the 'Colchester Braintree Garden Community' bid. This funding will be used to realign the eastern section of the A12 between Junctions 24 and 25 in order to unlock up to 20,931 homes as part of the North Essex Garden Community.
- **£75 million** from the Housing Infrastructure Fund for the 'Purfleet Town Centre' scheme in Thurrock to unlock up to 2,681 homes.
- Essex and Herts successfully bid for **£2.1 million** of funding from the third wave of the Local Full Fibre Networks challenge fund.
- The East of England will benefit from a share of **£2.7 billion** for six major hospital schemes as part of the Health Infrastructure Plan, two of which are in the East of England: The Princess Alexandra Hospital NHS Trust and West Hertfordshire Hospitals NHS trust.
- The East of England will benefit from the significant steps the Government is taking on delivering further growth in the OxCam Arc, including:

- Announcing plans to explore the case for up to four new Development Corporations;
- Plans for a Spatial Framework for Arc-wide strategic planning;
- Announcing plans to explore the case for establishing a New Town at Cambridge.

**The East of England will also benefit from its share of:**

- **£5 billion** to support the rollout of gigabit-capable broadband in the most difficult to reach 20% of the country, particularly benefiting rural areas.
- **£510 million** to support the Shared Rural Network to extend 4G mobile coverage across the UK, particularly in rural areas.
- **£1.5 billion** over five years to return the entire Further Education college (FEC) estate to a good condition.
- **£400 million** Brownfield Housing Fund, as part of the wider housing package.
- **£100 million** seed funding for 21 schemes from the Health Infrastructure Plan, four of which are in the East of England.
- **Up to £400 million** immediate boost for world-leading research, infrastructure and equipment in 2020-21.
- At least **£800 million** in a new blue skies research and innovation agency. This ground-breaking institution will provide new funding for high-risk, high-reward science across the UK.
- **£80 million** will be made available over the next five years to support the UK's foremost specialist institutions build on their global influence.
- **£13 million** to expand the British Library's network of Business and Intellectual Property Centres to 21 cities and 18 surrounding local library networks across the UK, including Norfolk.
- **£90 million** Cultural Development Fund for cultural and creative-led regeneration outside of London, to be allocated by competition.
- **£10 million** additional funding for Growth Hubs to increase the number of business advisors by over a third and ensure that high quality advice and guidance is available across all regions.
- **Over £500 million** to cement our world-leading position in cutting edge technologies including space, electric vehicles and life sciences.
- **£387 million** in 21-22 to continue priority Local Growth Fund projects before decision on the Local Growth Fund are made at the Spending Review. MHCLG will provide further guidance on how the department will work with places to identify relevant projects.