

Dear sir

Hearing on Sizewell C socioeconomic impacts

Thank you for inviting me to the above on 9 July to represent the views of Suffolk chamber of Commerce.

I'm writing to you to summarise the views of Suffolk Chamber as I was somewhat disappointed not to have been given the appropriate opportunity as an invited speaker to so do at the meeting itself.

Suffolk Chamber is one of the 53 accredited chambers affiliated to the British Chambers of Commerce and is one of the oldest and largest (by membership). Our members span every point of the compass within the county and are drawn from every sector and size.

Fundamentally, Suffolk Chamber is broadly supportive of the economic and social benefits likely to accrue to the county and wider region from the construction and operation of a new nuclear powers station on the Suffolk coast.

The estimated spend of £1.5bn during the build phase and £4bn across the lifetime of the plant will undeniably boost both the prospects of local and regional companies, but will also provide a long-term skills boost, especially in those wards where inter-generational deprivation has been entrenched.

That said, we have offered constructive criticism of aspects of the proposals at each of the four main consultation stages, including over issues relating to the need to minimise the impact on the local tourist and hospitality sectors during the build phase. We are pleased to note that Sizewell C has responded positively to many of these suggestions.

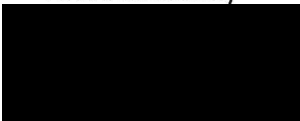
Our other primary role has been as a procurement partner to Sizewell C and have been involved in all aspects of supply chain development and across all work package requirements, the latter involving us working closely with Tier 1s and indeed the Sizewell C Consortium.

A key element of our work has been the ongoing development of the Sizewell C supply chain portal. To date, that has received 1900 total registrations, including 1400 from the region, of which 800+ are from Suffolk businesses. We believe that that figure will increase significantly if and when approval is given for Sizewell C: in the case of Hinckley Point C, 56% of all registrations happened after announcement.

We are also at the centre of detailed conversations with prospective local consortiums for delivering bussing, food and accommodation solutions and, through the wider Suffolk Chamber team, are at the centre of discussions regarding the necessary skills planning and funding options to support the project all of which, if realised, will boost the inclusive growth aspirations of many local communities.

Our future engagement plans are well advanced and incorporate a range of ways in supporting businesses to be best prepared for Sizewell C-related opportunities such as meet the buyer events.

Yours Sincerely



Ashley Shorey-Mills

Suffolk Chamber of Commerce – Head of Sizewell C Supply Chain Engagement