

Best Health and Work Partnership  
BHAW Commitment Plan 2024-2027

Background

The Suffolk Health and Wellbeing Board is responsible for improving and protecting the health and wellbeing of all people in Suffolk and brings together system leaders from across the county to work together to promote wellbeing, prevent ill health, and reduce health inequalities. These priorities, informed by the Suffolk Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) <https://www.healthysuffolk.org.uk/jsna> and workshops with system partners are public mental health, good work and health, listening and engaging with local voices, and wellbeing of children and young people and are set out in the [Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2022-2027.pdf](#).

There is clear evidence that good work improves health and wellbeing across people's lives, not only from an economic standpoint but also in terms of quality of life. 'Good work' means having not only a work environment that is safe, but also having a sense of security, autonomy, good line management and communication within an organisation<sup>1</sup>

The Best Health and Work Partnership was established to support progress of the Good Work and Health Priority, as set out below. Partnership members are a diverse group of economic, employment & skills, and workforce related partners who work collaboratively to minimise the impact of health-related threats to the economy and trade in Suffolk, and report back to the Health and Wellbeing Board on a regular basis.

**Enabling more people in Suffolk to have access to good quality jobs and fair work.**

1. Encourage the growth of healthy, safe, and diverse workforces and workplaces
2. Support children and young people to have the best possible start in life and so are enabled to fulfil their potential and become productive members of society
3. Encourage lifelong learning and skills that aid employability, career progression and life chances
4. Support employers to improve workplaces and support systems to help people manage their health conditions and continue to work
5. Promote a wellbeing culture in workplaces and the positive role of line managers can have in supporting healthy and productive workplaces
6. Encourage 'green jobs' that tackle unemployment and the climate crisis
7. Use social value policies and anchor organisations to promote health, wellbeing, and fairness across Suffolk.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-matters-health-and-work/health-matters-health-and-work>

## BHAW Partnership Commitments

Members of the partnership care about how good work and workplace health impacts on employers, employees, and the economy, and want to advance progress in good work and healthy workplace practices across Suffolk to bring about sustainable change for the future, maximising the opportunity to include new members with expertise on any work areas with limited activity.

**It is important to note that The BHAW partnership itself is not funded to deliver any specific activity, however, by committing to a small number of key actions set out below, the Partnership as a collective group can help advance progress in “Enabling more people in Suffolk to have access to good quality jobs and fair work.”**

As part of the commitment BHAW members can share how they are influencing this agenda through their work e.g. through the development of policies, strategies and/or action plans, communicate and engage with their forums and partners, feeding in, and taking back relevant issues, and good practice, as well as identify opportunities for collaboration with willing partnership members.



COMMITMENT	SUMMARY	ACTIONS	BHAW MEETING OBJECTIVES
ACTION (Delivery)	Understand Partnership members contribution towards the delivery of the 7 HWB good work and health strategy objectives. What are we as individual organisations or teams commissioning or delivering in this space?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partners to share key workstreams that contribute to the 7 objectives. Public Health will work with Partnership members to collate this.</li> <li>Use the collated information to develop a delivery dashboard for BHAW Members to collectively enter any progress reporting. (Public Health to action).</li> </ol>	<p>BHAW Members can share and update on new workstreams.</p> <p>Identify trends and issues for discussion.</p> <p>Use the dashboard as a live progress reporting document which can be updated ahead of meetings.</p>
COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT	<b>Communications:</b> Members to promote and maximise communication between each other, and amongst their partners & networks	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members to raise any good work and health matters for discussion during BHAW meetings.</li> <li>Public Health to share a communication bulletin after each</li> </ol>	All Members to share communications system wide through partner networks.

	<p>regarding good work &amp; health activity, and the work of the Partnership.</p> <p><b>Engagement:</b> Members to enable engagement opportunities with their networks, and those they represent to understand issues and share good practice, feeding in and out of the Partnership meetings.</p>	<p>BHAW meeting, highlighting the key information for Partners to share onwards.</p> <p>5. Produce an annual Health and Wellbeing Survey on issues faced by small businesses to identify issues for Partnership discussion.</p>	<p>Workplace Health and Wellbeing Survey results will be recorded and promoted in the Annual BHAW Report.</p>
COLLABORATION AND OPPORTUNITIES	<p>For members to identify:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Opportunities to work collaboratively on topics of shared interest.</li> <li>- Funding that could support partners and/or joint projects.</li> <li>- Opportunities to invite new members and their expertise to support areas of work with limited activity.</li> </ul>	<p>6. BHAW Members to suggest and participate in collaborative task &amp; finish or working groups as appropriate.</p> <p>7. Develop actions and/or recommendations as appropriate for specific pieces of work identified.</p>	<p>Suggest topics of interest for collaboration.</p> <p>Working groups to feed back to Partnership as appropriate.</p>
PROGRESS REPORTING	<p>Collate progress and updates on the collaborative activity as identified above to understand the added value of the Partnership in progressing the good work and health strategic priority as a collective group.</p>	<p>8. Partners to update dashboard ahead of meetings.</p> <p>9. Develop reporting mechanism to share how the BHAW Partnership has collectively supported delivery of the 7 objectives.</p> <p>10. Prepare annual report for the Health and Wellbeing Board.</p>	<p>Report progress on organisational and/or collaborative activity and outcomes since previous meeting.</p>