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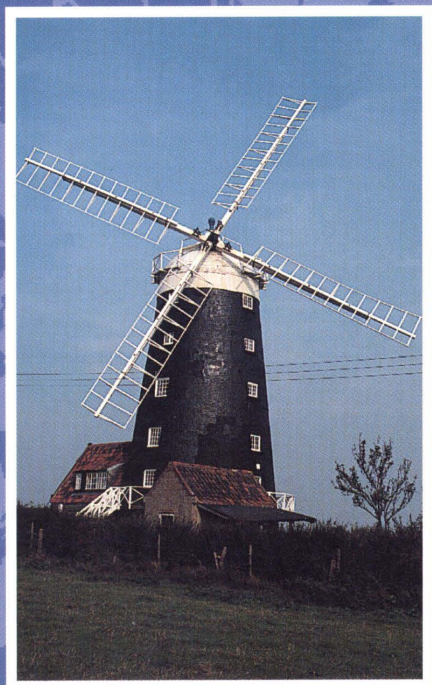
EAST
ANGLIA

A REGION
OF THE
EUROPEAN
UNION

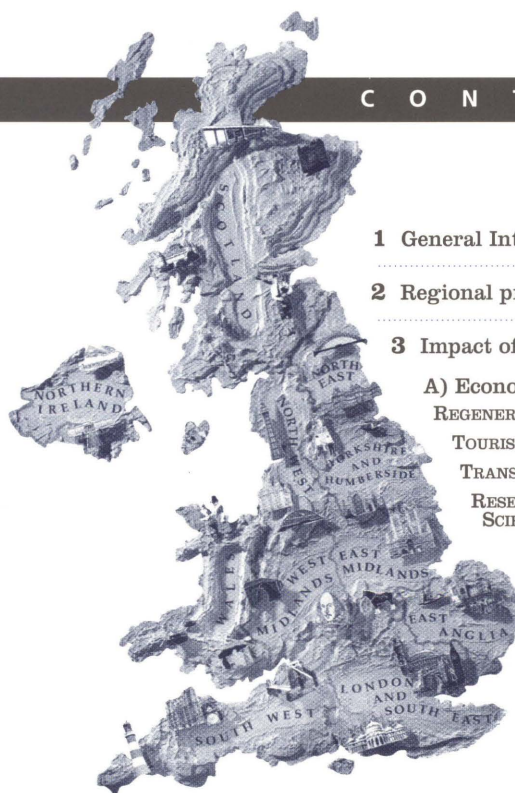
Cambridgeshire,
Norfolk, Suffolk



EA



C O N T E N T S



1	General Introduction	3
<hr/>		
2	Regional profile	6
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3	Impact of EU policies and programmes	7
	A) Economic impact	7
	REGENERATION OF AREAS AND INDUSTRIES	7
	TOURISM AND THE ENVIRONMENT	8
	TRANSPORT	10
	RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION AND ENERGY	11
	RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND AGRICULTURE	12
<hr/>		
	B) Social impact	13
	EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES	13
	TRAINING	14
	SOCIAL SUPPORT MEASURES	15
<hr/>		
	C) Cultural impact	16
	RESTORATION OF CULTURAL AND ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE	16
<hr/>		
4	Involvement of local and regional bodies and individuals	17

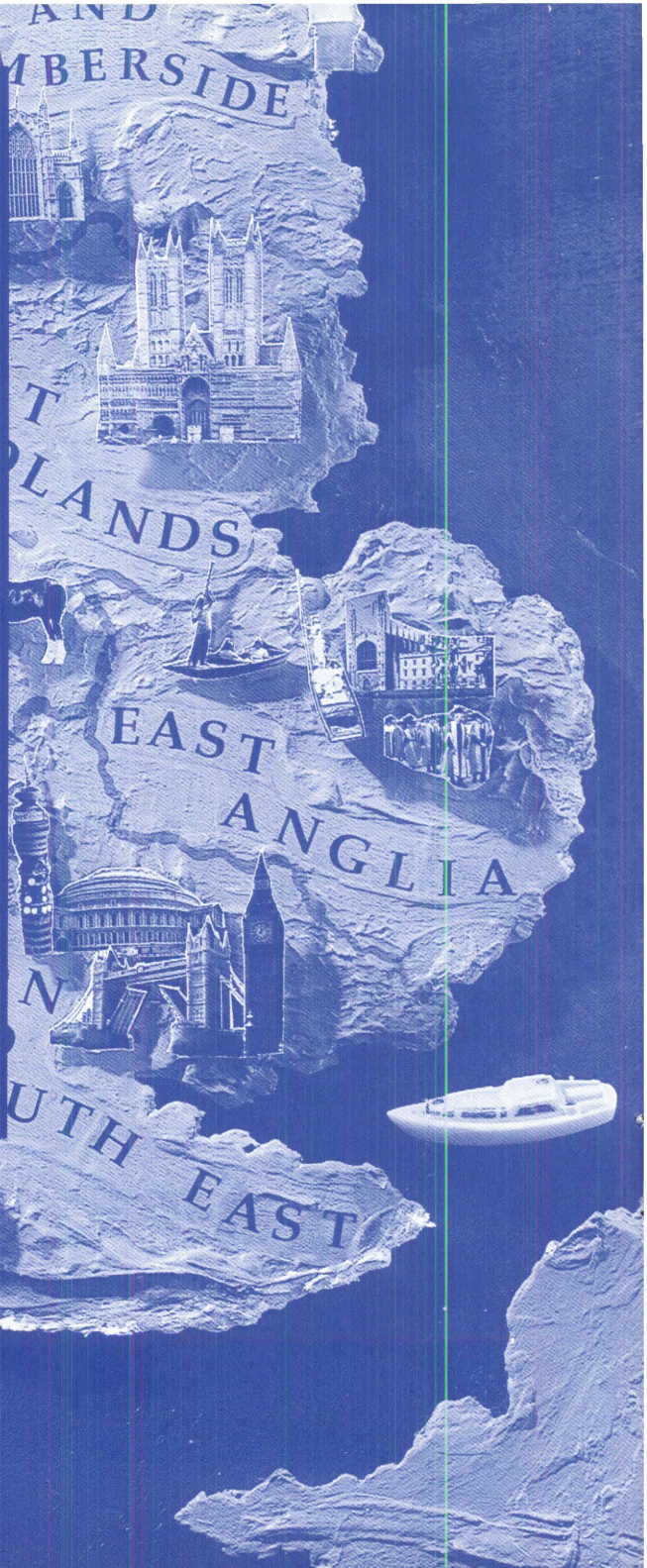
FOREWORD

European policies and programmes have a substantial impact on the socio-economic development of all regions of the United Kingdom. This is achieved not only by the deployment of funds to secure stated policy objectives, but also by promoting cross-border cooperation and exchange of experience within, and between, all Member States.

The general public in all EU countries are increasingly concerned about openness in decision-making, and about understanding the impact of EU policies and programmes on their daily lives. Thus the European Institutions support greater involvement of the regions in all aspects of affairs at the European level. The Representation of the European Commission in the United Kingdom has embarked upon a process of decentralisation of European Information. Thanks to the setting up of Public Information Relays within the existing Local Library Authorities framework, the general public now has access to EU information at the local level.

This series of Regional Brochures follows the first edition produced in 1994, and builds upon the growing demand for clear and illustrative assessments of the impact of European policies in the regions of the United Kingdom.

Geoffrey Martin.



THE EUROPEAN UNION is composed of 15 Member States but it comprises a much greater number of regions whose dynamic diversity is one of the Union's greatest strengths. The current European Union of 15 is clearly very different from the Common Market

1 GENERAL INTRODUCTION

of the original 6. However, its political geography will soon be further changed as negotiations take place over the next few years with Cyprus, Malta and countries in Eastern & Central Europe, the result of which will be a still wider Union. In this radically reshaped Union, the sense of regional identity will be a useful counter-balance to the decision-making by Ministers which national Governments will undertake at the level of the Union itself.

An Inter-Governmental Conference starts in 1996. It will reflect on the current state of the Union and progress made since Maastricht. It will put forward adaptations necessary to carry this reshaped Union forward into the twenty-first century.

The removal of internal frontiers in Europe and the arrangements for completing a Single Market in which there is free movement of people, goods, capital and in the provision of services, has increased the extent of cooperation between regions, be it at the level of the regional or local authorities themselves or through companies and business organisations, or through the educational system and in many other diverse ways. These inter-regional links have grown up throughout the Union,



1 GENERAL INTRODUCTION CONTD.

some of them based on Community development programmes such as INTERREG, while others are of a much simpler kind, based often on long-standing twinning agreements with recent trade-related components added.

As the Union adapts to change, the desire for greater democracy and openness in the way decisions are made at the European level increases. Some discussion is focusing on the future role of national Parliaments where Westminster has a contribution yet to make. A recent development has been the establishment of the Committee of the Regions where European Union matters are appraised from a regional perspective by representatives drawn from the regions themselves.

The broad policies of the European Union affect all its citizens and regions both directly and indirectly. These include the creation of the Single Market, the common trade policies, the Common Agricultural Policy, consumer protection rules, environmental improvement, education and training, social policy including health and safety

protection and, of special interest to the regions, the establishment of Trans-European networks in transport, energy and telecommunications.

There are, of course, certain policies and programmes with a more definite regional perspective. These include the Structural Funds, geared to the poorest regions in the Union and those that have been affected by industrial decline. Many regions have suffered from similar changes in key local industries such as steel, coal, textiles, shipbuilding and the defence sector. Policies have, therefore, been drawn up at the European level to address these problems in a similar way in each country. This is one example of the dynamics which the Union is creating at regional level.

Outside the capital cities and sometimes within the most peripheral regions, much of Europe's scientific and educational resources are based. The development of European-wide policies in these areas has helped forge a vast network of regional links that have become part of the nervous system of the Union as a whole.



EAST ANGLIA remains one of the most prosperous and fastest growing regions, although it has suffered from the decline in agriculture. Its small and medium sized businesses - which provide most of the region's employment - have the opportunity to flourish within the Single Market, helped by the close proximity to Member States across the North Sea. Indeed, the regional ports play a strategic role for goods moving to and from mainland Europe and other parts of the UK.

While modern industries and high-tech research and development continue to be a feature of region, areas which are experiencing unemployment from the loss of agricultural jobs are receiving European assistance to diversify.

The inter-regional momentum within the European Union is growing rapidly and this booklet illustrates some of the ways European policies and investment are shaping East Anglia.



*Aldeburgh Beach
- Suffolk*



2 REGIONAL PROFILE

EAST ANGLIA the counties of Cambridgeshire, Norfolk and Suffolk - historically has been influenced by events and the culture of mainland Europe.

Early settlers including the Romans, Angles, Vikings, Saxons, Flemish refugees and other religious non-conformists have all helped shape the character and economic fortunes of the region. The region's closeness and trading links with continental Europe made it the most prosperous and densely populated region in the country until the 19th Century.

In more recent years the links and friendships have become embodied in twinning arrangements, school exchanges and, as the European Community has developed, vital trade links and joint initiatives will encourage economic prosperity and stability.

East Anglia has been one of the fastest growing regions, a trend set to continue despite the recent recession. Its economic strength lies in its diversity, with income from agriculture, service industries, manufacturing and high technology.

Despite its relative prosperity the decline in agricultural employment in the remote rural areas has taken its toll. To boost these depressed areas the European Community has designated the Fens, parts of central Norfolk, east Suffolk and Lowestoft as a priority area to receive funding. This support is under Objective 5b which aims to develop rural areas where agricultural incomes are low and social and economic development is below average.

Local economies have also been hit by the closure of seven RAF or United States' Air Force bases following the end of the Cold War. To address the problems caused by this change £400,000 has been given to the region by the EU under the KONVER programme.

Many employment and training initiatives are also benefiting from Community funding from the European Social Fund.

*Wheat Field
-Suffolk*



3 IMPACT OF EU POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES

THE MOST IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENT of European Union policy has been the creation of the Single Market which brought down trade barriers and opened up opportunities for businesses of all sizes.

To stimulate growth in all regions the EU has a series of Structural Funds which operate in five year cycles. These include:

The European Regional Development Fund helps the less wealthy regions to compete with other areas by supporting economic development, infrastructure improvements and tourism.

The European Social Fund supports vocational and skills training projects for the long-term unemployed and young people.

The Guidance Section of the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund helps agriculture adapt and supports the development of rural depressed areas.

European funding is helping the regional economy at many levels: supporting training, encouraging new enterprise through its contribution to the Department of Trade and Industry's Business Link initiative, backing research and technological advances and providing information about its grants programme.

Economic impact

REGENERATION OF AREAS AND INDUSTRIES

The KONVER programme which helps areas affected by the run-down of defence-related industries and military sites has given £400,000 to Norfolk and Suffolk, where seven air bases have closed over the last few years.

In Norfolk the money has paid for a study into the impact of the loss of the bases at RAF West Raynham, Watton, Swanton Morley and the American base at Sculthorpe. The report considered the effect on the local economies, employment, loss of trade for local businesses and how to use the redundant buildings and land. Norfolk's £200,000 funding has also paid for seminars bringing together interested parties.

In Suffolk part of its £200,000 KONVER funding will help establish a community support project for the former United States' airforce base at Bentwaters.

The other bases which have closed are RAF Woodbridge in Suffolk and RAF Alconbury in Cambridgeshire.

TOURISM AND THE ENVIRONMENT

East Anglia is fortunate in having a dry climate and a variety of resorts and attractions to appeal to all age groups and incomes.

Holidaymakers seeking a traditional seaside break are still drawn by Great Yarmouth and the Norfolk and Suffolk coastal resorts, while the Broads offer a holiday at a slower pace. People seeking history and culture visit the university cities, stately homes, museums, gardens and medieval churches.

Tourism is an important part of the regional economy with visitors from home and abroad spending £740 million in 1993. Domestic tourists spent more than 23 million nights in Cambridgeshire, Norfolk and Suffolk in 1993. The East Anglia Tourist Board promotes the region in northern Europe. As more business people develop trade links as a result of the Single Market, greater familiarity with the region may lead to more holiday visitors.

Although most overseas visitors are likely to arrive by ferry at Felixstowe or Harwich in Essex, Stansted Airport, just outside the region, continues to develop, bringing in more people to East Anglia than Heathrow and Gatwick. Early next century a new international rail terminal could be built at Stratford in east London which will link East Anglian InterCity trains with the Channel Tunnel service.

Funding to develop tourism is available in the Objective 5b areas in the Fens, central Norfolk and East Suffolk including Lowestoft. Projects include the development of the Lowestoft Yacht Basin to attract more visiting boats, to provide a new lifeboat base, new berths for historic vessels and to improve a run down area used by pedestrians.

The gently undulating countryside makes it ideal for cyclists and as part of the new accord between Suffolk and the regional government in West Flanders there are plans to develop cycle routes and cycling holidays both sides of the North Sea.

The Council of Europe declared 1995 European Nature Conservation Year, reflecting the Community's commitment to the environment.

Agricultural policies support schemes to protect the countryside and funding is available for specific conservation schemes.

At Redgrave and Lopham Fen on the Norfolk-Suffolk border, the European Union has contributed £1.4 million towards a major scheme to restore the nationally important wetland nature reserve. Partners in the £3.2 m project are the Suffolk Wildlife Trust, English Nature, Essex & Suffolk Water, the National Rivers Authority and the EU through the LIFE programme which helps maintain and improve high priority habitats.

The restoration programme includes moving a groundwater borehole, removing rotting peat layers, taking out scrub and improving the reserve's infrastructure such as a new visitor centre.

The EU became interested in the project because it typifies the plight of wetlands across Europe. It chose Redgrave and Lopham Fen as a demonstration project to show how co-operation between private industry, government agencies and the voluntary sector can solve difficult ecological problems.

In agriculture the European Union is asking Member States to follow Britain's example to set up "Environmentally Sensitive Areas" (ESAs).

There are three ESAs in East Anglia: Breckland, the Broads and Suffolk River Valleys. These designated areas are where the landscape, wildlife and historic interest are of national importance and subsidies are available to conserve the features. The Broads Grazing Marshes Conservation Scheme in 1985 was the first ESA.

The success of the scheme has encouraged the EU to require all Member States to introduce similar measures under the Agri-Environment Regulation of 1992 which offers financial incentives to farmers to manage their land for the benefit of the environment.

Money from Europe is helping to safeguard the future of two important National Trust sites in Suffolk.

In its centenary year, the National Trust has opened parts of Orford Ness, a shingle and saltmarsh strip of coastline which has not been accessible to the public since the First World War. Orford Ness was used for the development of defence systems for the military between 1915 and the 1970s, including work on radar and atomic weapons testing. The Trust bought 1,500 acres of the Ness in 1993 from the Ministry of Defence. The cost of the purchase, initial capital work and the endowment fund needed to secure its continued upkeep was £3.5 million. Because of its isolated position it has become a heaven for wildlife and is a site of Special Scientific Interest, denoting its international importance as a wetland habitat. The Ness is one of very few remaining wild areas of coast in southern England and is home to a variety of plants, animals and insects. Its visitors - limited initially to 96 a day, for conservation and safety reasons - are likely to be people interested in history, architecture and wildlife.

Under the LIFE programme, the European Community has given £240,000, making it the fourth largest donor after the Countryside Commission, the National Trust's own Enterprise Neptune appeal and the National Heritage Memorial Fund. LIFE supports large-scale, innovative environmental projects which are considered of Community-wide importance.



*Oliver Cromwell's
House, Ely
- Cambridgeshire*

TRANSPORT

East Anglia has an enviable position as near neighbour of several EU Member States but its future development and prosperity depends on efficient transport networks.

The region has six ports which trade with other European Union states as well as Scandinavia, the Baltic and the rest of the world.

There are also regional airports at Norwich and Cambridge operating domestic flights as well as serving mainland Europe with scheduled and charter services.

To improve communications across the European Union Trans-European Networks (TENs) are being developed to connect existing routes, complete missing links and ease bottlenecks where necessary.

In East Anglia the TENs routes are the combined road and rail A14 corridor linking the Haven Ports of Felixstowe, Ipswich and Harwich with Holyhead (Ireland-UK-Benelux route); the A1. London to Newcastle which runs through Cambridgeshire; the London-Cambridge-Norwich rail route, which serves Norwich Airport, and the London-Edinburgh East Coast line through Peterborough. The Ireland-UK-Benelux route has been designated a priority project.

Following lobbying from Councils in East Anglia, who work together as SCEALA (Standing Conference of East Anglian Local Authorities), the European Parliament has supported the extension of the network in the region.

It has added the A47 and ferry route from Great Yarmouth to IJmuiden in the Netherlands, as well as the rail lines from Ely to King's Lynn and Norwich to Great Yarmouth. It has also backed as a priority the Ireland-UK-Benelux rail route. All these amendments except the priority rail project have been accepted by the Council of Ministers. Further lobbying for this amendment will take place.

The A47 links some of the most depressed parts of East Anglia but as part of the TENs would improve communications to help existing businesses and create jobs through attracting new investment. The rail extensions to King's Lynn and Great Yarmouth would support the port operations which already have significant trade with other Member States, and would hope to expand as the Union is enlarged and countries take advantage of the Single Market.

The continuing development of the Port of Felixstowe - the UK's largest container handling port and the fourth largest in the EU - is an East Anglian success story. The port had another record year in 1994, despite competition from other UK ports and those across the North Sea.

More than two-thirds of freight travelling to and from Felixstowe is by road, amounting to one million lorry trips a year on the A14. The increased traffic along the A14 has meant expansion for warehousing and distribution companies along its route, particularly at Huntingdon.

Ipswich Port's tonnage also grew in 1994, thanks partly to a good grain harvest. Ipswich is the UK's third largest handler of grain.

The other regional ports are Great Yarmouth, which handles 2 million tonnes a year and has an important role servicing the offshore oil and gas industry; King's Lynn, handling 1 million tonnes, mostly in bulk commodities such as timber and fertiliser; Lowestoft, 0.5 million tonnes, made up of paper, cereals and petroleum; and Wisbech, handling 100,000 tonnes of mostly grain, fertilisers and animal feed, all play an important role in the local economy.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION AND ENERGY

In the 1980s Cambridge became a centre of technological innovation. Its science parks, where there are experienced consultants who can advise small and medium sized businesses on applying for technology grants, continue to prosper. The high-tech developments have been closely linked with the research being undertaken at the University.

The European Community has become a major source of funding for research and development which aims to strengthen Europe's industry and improve its international competitiveness.

The University of Cambridge has been extremely successful in gaining EU funding for research across a broad range of programmes. In the year July 1993/July 1994 the University held about 370 EC research contracts worth £6.7m.

Cambridge has also been one of the largest recipients in the EU of post-doctoral research fellowships awarded to promising young European scientists.

Some of the current research supported by the EU includes work on global climate change, animal health and welfare, earthquake protection for historic town centres and greenhouse gas abatement through fiscal policy.

In April 1994, the University set up the Cambridge European Trust to help staff and students undertaking education, learning or research in Europe, as well as supporting those coming to Cambridge from Europe.

In Norfolk and the Waveney area, the local authorities have put forward technology plans which would boost the local economy by



increasing the knowledge and use of information and telecommunications technology. They have applied for European TELEMATICS funding to develop information and communication technologies and will be submitting further bids for research and development money to help disabled and elderly people.

A separate project to set up a £58 million Technopolis technology and information centre has been shortlisted for funds from the UK Government's Millennium Fund.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND AGRICULTURE

Although the number of people employed in farming and associated food processing operations continues to fall, agriculture is a major industry in East Anglia, where the land is among the most fertile in the country.

As in all regions, crop production is governed by the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), which accounts for just over half of the Community's total budget.

Over-production resulting from intensive farming has meant reforms to the CAP, the most significant being the introduction of set-aside, which takes land out of cultivation, and milk quotas to limit production.

The general policy to lower the subsidies paid to farmers to allow the markets to dictate prices has affected farm incomes.

Between 1994 and 1999, East Anglia has been allocated £47 million for its Objective 5b area which includes the Fens, parts of central Norfolk, east Suffolk and Lowestoft. Objective 5b is part of the European Structural Funds programme which targets rural areas suffering from changes in the CAP and other long-term trends affecting agriculture and fishing. Grants are available under the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF); European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund (EAGGF) and the European Social Fund (ESF).

The East Coast fishing industry also continues to decline as fish stocks dwindle and access to traditional fishing grounds is restricted.

For fishing communities a new initiative called PESCA aims to generate projects to help the fishing industry adapt and diversify. £1.2m will be available in the Eastern Region to maximise the returns from the existing fishing industry through development and restructuring, as well as helping with alternative employment where necessary.



CROSS-FRONTIER COOPERATION

As well as the links created by the Community-led programmes, many formal and informal ties have been established with European partners by the region's local authorities.

For example, Norfolk County Council is a member of the Anglo-Dutch Chamber of Commerce; Ipswich Borough Council has shared economic development, educational and environmental knowledge with Arras in northern France; Fenland District Council is twinned with Stadt Nettetal in Germany, resulting in civic and social exchanges; Peterborough City Council has links with a network of European cities with which it acts as partners in a host of trans-national projects; and Suffolk County Council and the provincial government of West Flanders have signed an accord to develop business, education and tourism opportunities in the two areas. Great Yarmouth is developing EU programmes with Esbjerg in Denmark, Ijmuiden in the Netherlands and Cork in Ireland.

Outside the European Union, there are growing links with the rest of Europe and the former Soviet states. Cambridge has registered more tourists from Eastern Europe in 1995 and Broadland District Council has been helping Latvia on the Baltic encourage the growth in small businesses its flagging economy desperately needs. Great Yarmouth is the lead authority in developing a short sea shipping project with Kalingrad, Rostock, Steffin and Esbjerg and the City Councils of Peterborough and Vinnitsa in the Ukraine have completed the first round of a joint business development project funded by the "Know-How" fund.

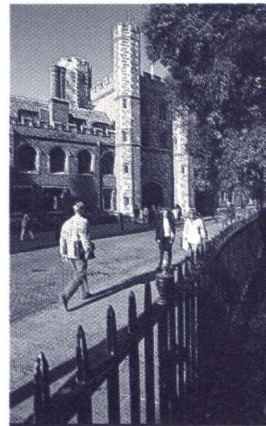
East Anglia has readily absorbed change and made new friendships and this openminded approach can only strengthen its economic and social fabric as the European Union expands and develops.

B Social impact

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Schools and colleges throughout East Anglia are involved in exchanges, visits and joint projects with European Union Member States - increasing understanding, developing language skills and preparing young people for the opportunities of an integrated Europe.

In higher education, the Association of Colleges in the Eastern Region (ACER), based in Cambridge, advises colleges seeking EU money from the European Social Fund for projects with a European dimension.



*St John's College
- Cambridge*



This year ACER has put in two bids for funding under the new LEONARDO programme which supports vocational training. The first project aims to produce a guide in five languages on developing a European manager. Working with partners in Italy, France, Germany and Finland, the guide will include information on cultural and social topics so that would-be managers are aware of national conventions and traditions.

The second bid is a joint project with the Tuscan regional government in Italy researching training for young unemployed people and why students drop out of education.

While many colleges are involved in exchanges and working towards offering joint modules, Suffolk College in Ipswich has set up a European office to coordinate the partnership work. Its full-time staff are involved in student and lecturer placements.

The Suffolk schools have been sharing information and good practice with eight other partners, in France, Belgium, Germany, Greece, Luxembourg and Italy.

TRAINING

Declining industries, changes in world trade patterns and developments in technology are some of the factors affecting the working population of Europe. As the Millennium approaches there has never been a greater need for a skilled and flexible workforce which is trained for the industries of tomorrow.

The European Social Fund (ESF) supports vocational training initiatives aimed at helping long-term unemployed people and measures to encourage the integration of young people into the workforce. The ESF money is available to partnership projects which involve public bodies such as local councils, the Training and Enterprise Councils and other training organisations. Under the Fund there are also three HUMAN RESOURCES INITIATIVES which aim to draw on the knowledge and experience of Member States of the European Union .

In Norfolk, The Norwich Enterprise Agency Trust (NEAT) has received European Social Fund money to support courses in urban and rural areas aimed at people who are considering working for themselves. With £11,000 ESF funding towards the total cost of £26,760, courses have been held in several of the county's market towns. The sessions, held one day a week over nine weeks, discuss the skills needed to run a business, marketing, preparing a business plan, legal issues, finding premises and dealing with suppliers. To qualify for a place, people need to have been out of work for a year. Over 12 months about 500

people are expected to have been on the course. Although not everyone attending will opt for self-employment, NEAT says the conversion rate is higher than for unemployed people who have not had the benefit of the variety of advice and peer support.

A project which supports unemployed adults and their families by offering vocational guidance, group and one-to-one counselling and support in rural Norfolk also has European Social Fund backing.

In Cambridgeshire the Cambridge Women's Resource Centre continues to thrive, with substantial funding from the ESF. With a grant approaching £80,000 a year - just under half its running costs - the centre provides training in information technology for women returning to work. Over six months women receive 27 hours' training to enable them to achieve a National Vocational Qualification Level 2 in business computing. To be eligible, participants must have been out of work for a year. Each year some 2,000 women attend courses at the Resource Centre, where there is also free on-site childcare.

In Suffolk the largest project receiving European Social Fund money in 1995 is the Genesis sheltered workshop where adults with learning disabilities are producing garden furniture as a business venture. £26,000 from the ESF will cover start-up costs and support running costs for a short period. The new training centre aims to be a stepping stone. Over two years it will provide 16 adults with the basic skills they need to move into full-time employment. Rather than training them for a future in joinery, the training embraces many of the general principles of work, such as time-keeping, quality control, productivity and teamwork. With the sale of furniture produced it is hoped the enterprise will become self-financing.

Other Suffolk projects benefiting from ESF money are a childcare training programme for women in rural areas which aims to improve their employment prospects and a short course for people returning to work after undertaking family commitments, which helps to build confidence and self esteem and offers advice on interview techniques.

SOCIAL-SUPPORT MEASURES

Action Workwise is a Christian-based project set up in 1990 which helps families at a very local level. With about £6,800 from the ESF for the £15,000 scheme it is setting up contact points in villages where unemployed people can receive counselling and guidance.

As well as pointing people towards potential job opportunities Action Workwise makes small grants to individuals, such as paying for petrol to attend an interview or buying a new pair of shoes to improve a

person's personal presentation. The project is aimed at the particular problems of rural areas, where there are low skills and low incomes and there may be several generations of unemployment and a high dependency on the informal economy.

"Step One" advice centres offering guidance for unemployed people in Peterborough and Wisbech have received £38,000 European Social Fund money. "Step One" was launched in 1983 by an engineer who was made redundant. He realised that many people in a similar position needed help applying for benefits, guidance in setting up their own businesses or information about re-training. The centres see about 300 people a week and are also funded by local authorities, the Training & Enterprise Council and with income from consultancy work for industry.

A research project involving schools in Suffolk is aiming to promote the integration of people with disabilities into all aspects of life, including education.

The South Lowestoft Project on special educational needs receives funding from one of the European Union's social programmes, HELIOS II, which promotes equal opportunities.

Cultural impact

RESTORATION OF CULTURAL AND ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE

At Bury St Edmunds the Theatre Royal, Britain's third oldest working theatre, has undertaken a major restoration programme. About a quarter of the cost of the work - £39,900 - has come from the European Commission's Architectural Heritage Fund.

The refurbishment includes work on the forecourt, roof, redecorating the Georgian facade, fireproofing and restoring the trompe l'oeil sky ceiling in the auditorium.

The Theatre Royal is an example of a late Georgian playhouse and contains many original features. After surviving much of the century as a barrelstore for the neighbouring brewery, it was restored and re-opened in 1965 by the National Trust.



*Post Office
- Ipswich*



4 THE INVOLVEMENT OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL BODIES AND INDIVIDUALS

EUROPEAN DOCUMENTATION CENTRES (EDCs)

help universities promote and develop studies in the field of European integration. Some of them receive the complete range of EU documentation, others receive selective documentation. Both enjoy privileged access to EU databases. EDCs also allow access for European information to the public and to students. The EDC network is supported by the European Commission.

The Library
University of Cambridge
West Road, **CAMBRIDGE**
Cambridgeshire CB3 9DR
Contact: William Noblett
Tel: 01223 333 138
Fax: 01223 333 160

The Library
University of East Anglia
University Plain, **NORWICH**
Norfolk NR4 7TJ
Contact: Judith Kinsey
Tel: 01603 592 412
Fax: 01603 259 490

EUROPEAN REFERENCE CENTRES (ERCS)

are based in academic institutions and public libraries. They have small collections of EU publications for reference only. All are open to members of the general public and students. ERCS are, however, not able to offer a specialised consultancy-type service and may direct visitors to another source of information if necessary. The ERC network is supported by the European Commission.

County Reference Library
County Library, Northgate Street
IPSWICH, Suffolk IP1 3DE
Contact: Mrs Plats
Tel : 01473 232 041
Fax : 01473 231 718

EURO UNITS

provide a range of European orientated support services to all providers of vocational training and education. Euro Units have contacts in Government, industry, education and other bodies. Services include: the provision of regional resource and information centres, organisation of conferences, study visits; the development and promotion of initiatives for teaching languages and developing and disseminating of good practice in the Europeanisation of the curriculum

Association of Colleges in the Eastern Region (ACER),
Cambridge, Cambridgeshire
Contact: Geoff Scaplehorn,
Manager
Tel: 01223 424 022
Fax: 01223 423 389

PUBLIC INFORMATION RELAYS (PIRS)

consist in public libraries who have set up, in partnership with the European Commission, a network to provide the general public with access to EU information on the established policies and programmes of the EU at a local level. They receive some of the information and materials published by EU Institutions and other relevant bodies in printed, and possibly in electronic form.

Suffolk County Council
Suffolk Libraries and Heritage
County Reference Library
Northgate Street, **IPSWICH**,
Suffolk IP1 3DE
Contact: Graham East,
Reference Librarian
Tel: 01473 232 041
Fax: 01473 231 718

Norfolk County Council
County Library and Information
Service, **KINGS'S LYNN**,

Norfolk PE30 5EZ
Contact: Jane Churl
Tel: 01553 772 568
Fax: 01553 769 832

Cambridgeshire Libraries
and Heritage
Peterborough Central Library
Broadway, **PETERBOROUGH**
Cambridgeshire PE1 1RX
Contact: Peter Reynolds, Senior
Reference Librarian
Tel: 01733 348 343
Fax: 01733 555 277

DEPOSITORY LIBRARIES

stock a comprehensive collection of official EU documentation which can be consulted by the general public. In addition, the material held by the British Library Document Supply Centre is available through the national network for inter-library lending.

London - Westminster Central Reference Library
Contact: Kathleen Oxenham
Tel: 0171 798 2034

Liverpool - Business and Information Library
Contact: Edwin Fleming
Tel: 0151 225 5430

Wetherby - British Library Document Supply Centre
Contact: Andrew Smith
Tel: 01973 546 044

LOCAL AUTHORITY EUROPEAN LIAISON OFFICERS

are responsible for the coordination of EU general awareness raising activities and/or dissemination of general EU information within the local authority. They may also coordinate their authority's applications for European Union funding.

COUNTY COUNCILS**Cambridgeshire County Council,**

Cambridge, Cambridgeshire
Contact: Guy Mills, Economic
Development Officer
Tel: 01223 317 662

Suffolk County Council,

Ipswich, Suffolk
Contact: Lorraine George
European Liaison Officer
Tel: 01473 264 016

Norfolk County Council,

Norwich, Norfolk
Contact: David Stannard,
European Officer
Tel: 01603 222 750

**DISTRICT/BOROUGH
COUNCILS****St Edmundsbury Borough Council,**

Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk
Contact: Mr S D Calvert, Policy
& Projects Co-ordinator
Tel: 01284 763 233 x 7030

South Cambridgeshire District Council,

Cambridge, Cambridgeshire
Contact: Garth Hanlon, Senior
Development Plan Officer
Tel: 01223 351 795

North Norfolk District Council,

Cromer, Norfolk
Contact: Steve Blatch, Economic
Development Manager
Tel: 01263 513 811

Breckland Council,

Dereham, Norfolk
Contact: Paul Bird, Business
Development Officer
Tel: 01362 656 224

East Cambridgeshire District Council,

Ely, Cambridgeshire
Contact: Isabel Rawlinson,
Assistant Economic
Development Officer
Tel: 01353 665 555

Great Yarmouth Borough Council,

Great Yarmouth, Norfolk
Contact: John Norton, Head of
Development & Promotion
Tel: 01493 856 100

Babergh District Council,

Hadleigh, Suffolk
Contact: Malcolm Perrins,
Economic Development Officer
Tel: 01473 822 801

Huntingtonshire District Council,

Huntington, Cambridgeshire
Contact: Roy Reeves,
European Officer
Tel: 01480 388 388

Mid Suffolk District Council,

Ipswich, Suffolk
Contact: Grant Reynolds,
Assistant Director Policy
Tel: 01449 727 256

Ipswich Borough Council,

Ipswich, Suffolk
Contact: Kevin March,
European Officer
Tel: 01473 262 626

Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk,

Kings' Lynn, Norfolk
Contact: Mike George,
Economic Development Officer
Tel: 01553 692 722

South Norfolk Council,

Long Stratton, Norfolk
Contact: Tim Mobbs, Head of
Central Services
Tel: 01508 533 651

Waveney District Council,

Lowestoft, Suffolk
Contact: Hugh Goldring,
Assistant Economic
Development Officer
Tel: 01502 523 203

Fenland District Council,

March, Cambridgeshire
Contact: Michael J Carter,
Economic Development Officer
Tel: 01354 54321

Forest Heath District Council,

Mildenhall, Suffolk
Contact: Sue Scott, Economic
Development Officer
Tel: 01638 719 000

Broadland District Council,

Norwich, Norfolk
Contact: Christine Nickles,
European Officer
Tel: 01603 31133

Suffolk Coastal District Council,

Woodbridge, Suffolk
Contact: Mr R T Hodgson,
European Liaison Officer
Tel: 01394 383 789

CITY COUNCILS**Cambridge City Council,**

Cambridge, Cambridgeshire
Contact: Tim Cracknell,
Employment & Training Officer
Tel: 01223 358 977 x 2649

Norwich City Council,

Norwich, Norfolk
Contact: Tim Anderson,
Policy Officer
Tel: 01603 212 003

Peterborough City Council,

Peterborough, Cambridgeshire
Contact: Miss V Woods,
European Projects Officer
Tel: 01733 317 484



**UK MEMBERS OF THE
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT
(MEPS) -**

There are now 87 MEPs for the UK, who have been elected by universal suffrage for a five year term (1994-1999). Their role is to represent their constituency in the European Parliament, which monitors proposals made by the European Commission and decisions made by the Council of Ministers and can suggest amendments. It also has important powers over the EC budget. MEPs may enquire about any Community legislation by submitting oral and written questions. Finally the Maastricht Treaty gave MEPs new powers of co-decision with the Council of Ministers in certain policy areas.

Cambridgeshire

Robert Sturdy (Conservative)
153 St Neots Road, Hardwick
CAMBRIDGE, Cambridgeshire
CB3 7QJ
Tel: 01954 211 790
Fax: 01954 211 786

Essex North and Suffolk South

Anne McIntosh (Conservative)
The Old Armoury, Museum Street,
SAFFRON WALDREN
Essex CB10 1JN
Tel: 01799 522 349
Fax: 01799 523 631

Norfolk

Clive Needle (Labour)
Norfolk Euro Office,
Norwich Labour Centre
59 Bethel Street, NORWICH
Norfolk NR2 1NL
Tel: 01603 631 802
Fax: 01603 618 376

**Suffolk and Norfolk South
West**

David Thomas (Labour)
European Constituency Office

6 St Mary's Street, Bungay
Suffolk NR35 1AX
Tel: 01986 895 112
Fax: 01986 895 114

**UK MEMBERS OF THE COM-
MITTEE OF THE REGIONS
RESIDENT IN THIS AREA -**

There are 24 UK Members of the Committee of the Regions who are appointed on a political and geographical basis to represent all types of UK local government for a period of four years. Acting as an advisory body, it must be consulted on subjects such as education, youth, culture, public health, transport, etc. It may also take the initiative to give its opinion in other areas of interest to the regions, including agriculture, environmental protection, etc.

**Councillor Christopher Penn
(Conservative)**

Suffolk County Council
Saint Helen Court, County Hall
IPSWICH, Suffolk IP4 2JS
Tel: 01473 264 301
Fax: 01473 622 636

**Councillor Ms Janel Sillet
(Labour)**

Norwich City Council, City Hall
St Peter Street, NORWICH
Norfolk NR2 1NH
Tel: 01603 622 233
Fax: 01602 213 000

**EUROPEAN INFORMATION
CENTRES (EICS)**

provide information on European Union issues to SMEs. EICS receive a continuous flow of information on Europe and have access to EU databases, including Tender Electronic Daily (TED) which carries details of invitations to tender for public works, supply and service contracts. Some EICS

also assist companies looking for business partners in the EU through the Business Cooperation Network (BC-Net) - see description below - and advise businesses on their participation in EU activities. The EIC network is supported by the European Commission.

European Information Centre
East Anglia
Norfolk and Waveney Chamber
of Commerce and Industry
112 Barrack Street, **NORWICH**
Norfolk NR3 1UB
Contact: Sarah Abercrombie
Tel: 01603 625 977
Fax: 01603 633 032

**BUSINESS COOPERATION
CENTRES NETWORK**

(BC-Net) was established by the European Commission to give companies a framework within which to expand into the EU market and the practical means, through specialist support, to develop commercial, financial and technical co-operation at a European level. Its primary task is to help identify, through a European network of business advisers, other businesses with which they can work. It operates through a network of 600 business advisers, who endeavour to find a partner for any type of business activity, eg mergers, joint ventures, franchises etc. The cost for such a service varies quite considerably. In general, there is an administrative charge and a consultancy fee.

Norfolk and Waveney Chamber
of Commerce and Industry
112 Barrack Street, **NORWICH**
Norfolk NR3 1UB
Contact: Sarah Abercrombie
Tel: 01603 625 977
Fax: 01603 633 032

INNOVATION RELAY CENTRES

promote the EC's research and technological development policy by offering specialist advice to local industry in the identification of partners through the Community Research and Development Information Service (CORDIS), of opportunities for participation in R&D programmes and for the submission of proposals. They provide a range of services to contractors involved in R&D to help them protect, exploit and disseminate the results of their work.

The Technology Broker Ltd

Station Road,
Longstanton, CAMBRIDGE
Cambridgeshire CB4 5DS
Contact: Maureen Firlej,
Head of Centre
Tel: 01954 261 199
Fax: 01954 260 291

INTEGRATED REGIONAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES

bring together the regional offices of the Departments of Employment, Environment, Trade and Industry and Transport, pooling their expertise. The role of Government Offices is to work in partnership with the local community to maximise the competitiveness, prosperity and quality of life in the region. They also represent the UK Government in regions. Their European branches provide a secretariat for organisations and individuals on various European programmes including the European Regional Development Fund and the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund, etc. The Scottish Office, Welsh Office and Northern Ireland Office perform similar functions within their area.

Government Office for the Eastern Region

Room 123, Heron House
49-53 Goldington Road
BEDFORD
Bedfordshire MK40 3LL
Contact: Mrs Anne Stanford,
Head of European Secretariat
Tel: 01234 276 129
Fax: 01234 276 341

TRAINING AND ENTERPRISE COUNCILS (TECS) IN ENGLAND AND WALES AND LOCAL ENTERPRISE COMPANIES (LECS) IN SCOTLAND

are independent private business companies formed by local business people, working under performance related contracts to the Government. There are 81 TECs covering England and Wales. Their counterparts in Scotland are the 22 LECS. The fundamental aim of every TEC is to foster economic growth and contribute to the regeneration of the community it serves. TEC initiatives include Training for Work, Youth Credits, Modern Apprenticeship, Investors in People, National Vocational Qualifications, Education Business Partnerships, Business Start Up and Business Link.

Cambs TEC,

Cambridge, Cambridgeshire
Contact: Geoff Plummer
Tel: 01233 235 635/633

Suffolk TEC,

Ipswich, Suffolk
Contact: Joanna Morris, Local
Initiatives Manager
Tel: 01473 218 951

Norfolk & Waveney TEC,

Norwich, Norfolk
Contact: Mr Les Hendry,
General Manager - Economic

Development
Tel: 01603 215 005

Greater Peterborough TEC,
Peterborough, Cambridgeshire
Contact: Simon Stockley
Tel: 01733 890 808

REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

The Standing Conference of East Anglian Local Authorities' priority is to secure the sustainable development of East Anglia and to this end, it works at the European, national and regional level to increase awareness of the region's opportunities and problems, to lobby on behalf of the region and to promote the economic health of the region.

Standing Conference of East Anglian Local Authorities (SCEALA)

St Helen Court, County Hall
IPSWICH, Suffolk IP4 2JS
Contact: Margaret Gough,
Development and Research
Officer
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The Regional Brochures have been organised on the basis of the Government's existing standard regions for England. These are the areas covered by the English Regional Associations which, inter alia, are responsible for advising the Secretary of State for the Environment on regional planning guidance. Some of the Regions have been subdivided to reflect their population and/or geographic size. Cumbria has been included in the North West brochure as its European Structural Funds are handled from Manchester, as part of the North West programme.

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EAST ANGLIA

