

Power to Change Places: Supporting Community Business in Suffolk

Power to Change and Suffolk County Council signed a MoU in January 2018 setting out how we will work together to develop and nurture the community business sector in the county. Since then, we have been working together to identify opportunities for community business to meet local needs.

We are now commissioning an organisation or consortium of organisations (with a lead contractor) to facilitate a co-design process with local stakeholders, to develop and deliver a programme of activities supporting community business. This process will build on the findings of an extensive scoping study commissioned by Power to Change and Suffolk County Council in late 2017. The activities will support communities to set up community businesses in response to local need and enable existing community businesses to grow, develop and collaborate.

The aims of the Programme are to:

- increase awareness of community business and the role it can play in addressing social and economic challenges in Suffolk
- develop core community businesses and strengthen the community business sector in Suffolk.
- leverage in funding for the community business sector
- establish the conditions needed for growth of the sector and put in place plans for achieving these
- identify the strategic priorities that community business might address in the county, and increase community organisations' understanding of their potential role in this.

Cutting across these specific objectives is the requirement for this programme to contribute to knowledge about: how to support community businesses across a largely rural county such as Suffolk; the role that County Councils and other local government bodies can play in creating conditions that are favourable for community business; and in identifying measures of need that are better suited to a rural context than the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD).

Contract Value up to £45,000 (excluding VAT)

Tender release	9 th October 2018
Deadline for Tender Response	29 th October 2018 - noon
Contract Award	3 rd December 2018
Contract Commencement	1 st January 2019

Register your interest

If you are interested in bidding for this work and would like to receive a copy of the Invitation to Tender please send an email to workwithus@powertochange.org.uk

Please mark your email FAO Sarah McCall and head it **Supporting Community Business in Suffolk**.