



Community Newsletter



The latest news and updates from the Sizewell C project.

JULY 2024

Project Update Sizewell C

Welcome to the latest community newsletter from Sizewell C, the new nuclear power station being built on the Suffolk coast.

It's festival season, and we've been out at some of the best events in the region over the last few months, updating thousands of people about the progress of our project. From the Suffolk Show to the Norfolk Show, and the First Light Festival in between, it's been a lot of fun chatting to people and letting them know what's happening here at Sizewell C.

There's been a lot going on. After triggering the Development Consent Order in January, formally entering the construction phase, things haven't stopped moving. In May, we hit a particularly significant milestone by securing our Nuclear Site Licence - the first time that the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) has granted a site licence for a new nuclear power project for over a decade.

Everywhere you look across the project, things are moving. Our site workforce is growing and we now have Civil Works Alliance with us - a group of specialised contractors who have the expertise to help us deliver key works to push the project forward; the first of our 1,500 apprentices are joining us; we're launching new and exciting partnerships with organisations from the third sector, like Project 21, organisations who can help us spread the benefits of this project even deeper and wider in this region; and this month our Sizewell C Community Fund - a £23m funding pot for local community projects - opened for applications, so we'll soon see even more local charities, initiatives, and non-profit organisations grow with the support of Sizewell C.

We've had eight of them already this year, and they've been really worthwhile. In fact, after the success of our first Annual Forum, a forum which offers an overview of the entire project, we decided to host it twice a year instead of just once: the next one will be at High Lodge near Darsham on Wednesday 9 October (check out our website for more info).

In the meantime, if you have any questions, you can pop into our Information Office in Leiston, Monday - Friday, 9:30am - 5pm, or get in touch using the phone number or email on the back of this newsletter. And to stay up to date on when and where works are taking place, check out our Works Tracker (szcworkstracker.co.uk) for all the latest info.

We hope you enjoy our latest update.

Julia Pyke and Nigel Cann
Joint Managing Directors

We were especially proud to stage our first Sizewell Creative production, which brought the Sizewell C team, local communities, schools, and organisations together for a unique production of Noye's Fludde (Noah's Flood) at Thorington Theatre earlier this month.

As we move forward, we're continuing to keep local communities updated with everything we're doing. We launched our community forums in January of this year, and they're a fantastic way for local people to hear about key issues related to our project.

Following the success of our Annual Forum in April, we decided to host the forum twice a year instead of once



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Teamwork makes the earthworks

Beginning bulk earthworks was an important target for the first half of this year – and the team are now out there getting the work done.

On our Temporary Construction Area, to the north-west of our Main Construction Area, we've started preparing the ground for our main access road and digging ponds for drainage. We've also started earthworks on the areas of the site where we'll build our concrete batching plant and our temporary desalination plant, which will enable us to get the water we need before a permanent water main supply in the early 2030s.



Archaeological finds give rare insight into Suffolk's history

Archaeology is key to a construction like Sizewell C. We need to understand what's in the ground before we can safely and sensitively begin work. Working with Oxford Cotswold Archaeology, we have been unearthing some amazing artefacts that offer a rare insight into the history of this part of the Suffolk coast.

Excavations have revealed key defensive structures from WWII, as well as personal artefacts of WWII soldiers, highlighting the crucial role Suffolk played in preparing for the Normandy landings.

Find out more at cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

Work begins on Park and Ride facilities

Our Park and Ride facilities are important so that we can transport some of our team by bus to site – limiting the amount of workforce traffic on local roads. The northern Park and Ride facility will be located at Darsham, while the southern Park and Ride facility will be located to the north-east of Wickham Market.

We're starting work on both sites now, carrying out surveys and erecting fences around the sites in preparation for the ecological and archaeological work we're undertaking.

Improving the local road network

After resurfacing a long stretch of the B1122 earlier this year, we're turning our attention to other areas where we can improve the route in for construction traffic. We're erecting Heras fencing and beginning surveys ready for the construction of two new roundabouts: the junction of the A12 and B1122 at Yoxford and at Friday Street. So you may see the team out there in orange suits with measuring sticks!

Moving into a new modular home

Earlier this year, we finished construction of a new building on our Ancillary Construction Area (ACA), to the north-east of Leiston. The 118-unit modular building provides really important facilities for our growing team working on that site. Now, our teams are starting to move in and we'll be occupying it in phases throughout the rest of the year. It's a fantastic facility – and it puts us in a great position to keep pushing the project forward.



A piece of the future on our doorstep



We're working on much more than the new nuclear power station here at Sizewell C. We're also developing a number of clean technologies to help tackle climate change.

In partnership with the University of Birmingham, Helical Energy, AtkinsRéalis and Altrad Babcock, we're constructing a new Direct Air Capture (DAC) demonstrator plant capable of extracting 100 tonnes of CO₂ from the atmosphere each year.

If trials with the new plant are successful, a future scaled-up version linked to the Sizewell C power plant could be capable of capturing a massive 1.5m tonnes of CO₂ each year – that would be like removing the total emissions of the UK's rail network for a whole year.

Until recently, the idea of literally capturing carbon from the air was seen as something for the future. However, in countries around the world, significant investment is being made to bring Direct Air Capture projects to life.

"Capturing carbon doesn't mean we can keep pumping it back into the atmosphere with old world technologies," says Jack Raven, Project Manager at Sizewell C. "We have to keep developing low-carbon projects and technologies to keep pace with the staggering climate changes we're seeing globally every year – and Direct Air Capture could be an important part of the mix."

Look out for more news about the demonstrator plant later in the year. And if you want to find out more about our plans for net zero technologies, visit sizewellc.com/energy-hub

£23m local funding pot open for applications

We are delighted to announce that the Sizewell C Community Fund – a special fund of up to £23m for community projects – is now open for applications.

Around £2m of the fund will be made available annually over the next ten years. The money will be awarded to eligible projects, based in the East Suffolk Council area, which promote the economic, social or environmental wellbeing of the communities most impacted by the construction of Sizewell C, and which enhance people's quality of life.

The fund is administered by the Suffolk Community Foundation, who are now inviting eligible charitable and not-for-profit groups in East Suffolk to bid for grants in one of two categories for three-year periods: small grants of up to maximum of £10,000 a year; and large grants with a minimum of £10,000 a year, with no maximum limit.

For more information about the fund, eligibility criteria and how to apply, visit suffolkcf.org.uk/sizewell-c



"The Sizewell C Community Fund will make a significant difference to our local communities over the coming decade. We are looking forward to using the extensive experience we have built up over the past 19 years to ensure it is put to the best possible use for local people."

Melanie Craig, Chief Executive of Suffolk Community Foundation



"The Sizewell C Community Fund is a wonderful way to ensure that local communities benefit from the Sizewell C project for years to come. It's a key part of the legacy we want to leave for East Suffolk. We're excited to see the many projects and initiatives that will benefit, and to see the impacts they'll have across our region."

Julia Pyke, Sizewell C Joint Managing Director

Who works at Sizewell C?

In each newsletter, we spotlight some of the amazing people who work on site.

Aman Satapathy, Industrial Placement

“Sizewell C has allowed me to develop my skills – and I’m in a much stronger position in my career now.”

Sizewell C offers so many opportunities for work experience and apprenticeships. I was able to secure an industrial placement here from the University of East Anglia, where I’m studying Environmental Science. It’s been one of the best decisions I’ve made – and so much fun!

I’m based at our Information Office in Leiston, and I’ve been able to work across multiple departments, getting lots of experience of different aspects of Sizewell C – meeting so many great people and working on lots

of fascinating projects that will have benefits, not only for East Suffolk, but for the whole country.

I’m most proud of my work on the Net Zero Leiston project, which hopes to transform Leiston into one of the UK’s first net-zero towns. The project could have a transformational impact on Leiston – and we’ve got some exciting plans for the next year, which I can’t wait to see when I’m out on my lunch break!



Bella Taylor, Site Manager (Ecology)

“The project has come a long way in the last year – you can really notice the changes from the pre-construction phase to where we are now.”

I’m a contractor on site, working in ecological mitigation – and I absolutely love it. The work I do is focused mostly on environmental protection, and when I first arrived on site in 2022, that meant helping with the marsh harrier wetland creation, as well as installing bat boxes, artificial otter holts and badger setts.

I manage a team of up to 50 people, and I’m proud of being a female site manager. When we’re full steam on site, there are quite a few women on the ecology teams, but I would invite more women to come and work at Sizewell C. The welfare and facilities are just fantastic – and everyone is so friendly here.

I’m from Suffolk, too, and it’s so convenient to have a project like this so close to home. This area is beautiful and whenever colleagues arrive from out of the area they tend to quickly fall in love with East Suffolk. I do a lot of swimming on the beach, literally right outside the Sizewell project, bike riding on the Viking Trail at Snape Maltings, boat trips at Orford Ness, and – if the weather holds – we’ll be doing some paddleboarding soon!



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