

Nick Burfield



Nick is a highly experienced policy and funding professional. He is self-employed and, in addition to his contract as an Associate EU Funding Advisor with EU Connects, is undertaking work for health-promotion charity Healthy Ambitions Suffolk and Suffolk Chamber of Commerce, where he is retained as a Policy Director.

Nick was until 2010 the Head of Policy with the East of England Local Government Association and its forerunner the East of England Regional Assembly.

At the regional level Nick managed the Assembly's input to the regional economic strategy, with its strong focus on employment and business development, and led on the production of the regional social and European strategies. He also managed the Assembly's statutory scrutiny function over the East of England Development Agency.

Prior to regional working, Nick was the External Funding Manager at Suffolk County Council, with a particular focus on obtaining and managing EU funding, also spent a number of years in the authority's economic development team.

His earlier background was in the management of youth and adult training programmes, in both the public and voluntary sectors, which involved extensive employer engagement and were all run as commercial enterprises.

In the past Nick has played a lead role in: successfully lobbying the EU for Structural Fund Programmes such as the current £200 million Competitiveness Programme; conceiving, gaining funding for and project managing the establishment of Suffolk's first business incubator centres; and designing, securing finance for and managing a number of EU-funded economic development initiatives amongst which were Suffolk Business Support Package, Suffolk Wage Subsidy Scheme and Suffolk Rural Development Programme.

Nick is a trustee of Ipswich Furniture Project, a charity which reclaims furniture and white goods for the use of people on low incomes, and has a passion for wildlife, acting regularly as a volunteer bird guide at RSPB Minsmere.