

## Case study: Summer internship programme

We are committed to developing and retaining talent in West Suffolk and providing opportunities for young people.

During the summer of 2017, West Suffolk councils ran, for the fourth successive year, its highly successful internship programme, welcoming eight new interns to work across the organisation.

The internship programme, which is part of the Suffolk wide Rising High Programme, is designed to encourage young people to take up careers in the public sector and provides paid opportunities for undergraduates to experience work in a local authority during their summer break from university.

During the 12 week work placement, our interns were given responsibility for aspects of work within the service where they were based. They were also given the opportunity to work on challenging projects, as well as a local community project in partnership with Sainsbury's called "Want What You Waste".

*One of our interns described their experience:*

*"Working here has exceeded any expectations I could have set and has been a really great experience. The work I have been given has made me realise that working in local government can be very stimulating. I would definitely recommend working in local government and particularly West Suffolk as it really feels like a local authority who has ambition and drive to grow and adapt to the times. Whilst working here everybody has been so friendly and welcoming and it really feels like the council is invested in you as an employee."*

We are proud to have three current employees who have previously worked with us on the programme.



Forest Heath & St Edmundsbury councils

**West Suffolk**  
working together