

# Growth Hub Cluster IMPACT REPORT

April 2020 - March 2025



An Oxfordshire County Council-owned company

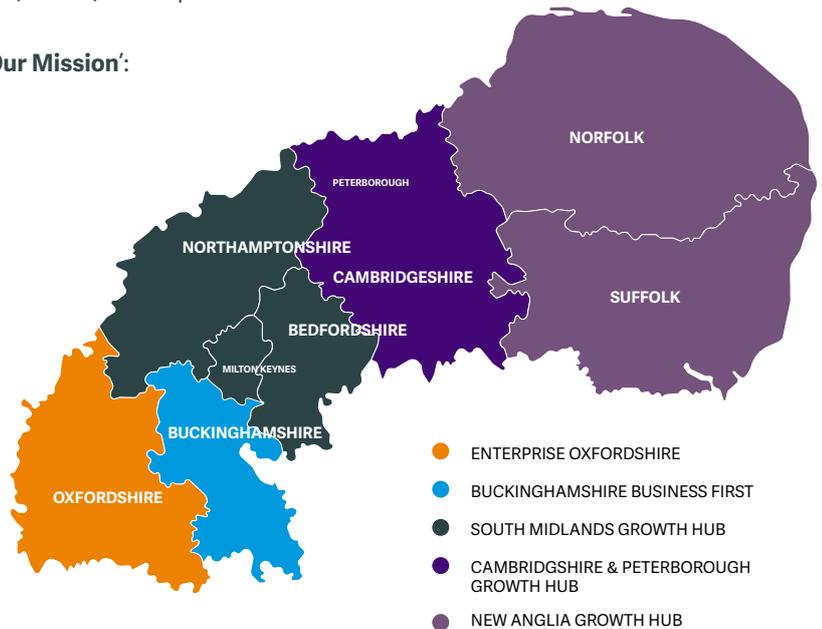
The Growth Hub cluster (Cluster) is a network of five Growth Hubs consisting of South Midlands Growth Hub, Buckinghamshire Business First, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Growth Hub, New Anglia Growth Hub and Enterprise Oxfordshire, who were operating as the Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership (OxLEP) until April 2025.

The Growth Hub Cluster focusses on three core areas, 'Our Mission':

- **Strategic Engagement**
- **Direct Support for Business Growth**
- **Collaboration and Partnership Building**

Over the five years from (2020 – 2025) **92,719** businesses have been supported. The scale of this support is demonstrated by these key metrics:

- **178,563** hours of business support provided
- **3,934** people have been helped to start a business
- **6,970** jobs created in supported businesses
- **6,093** jobs safeguarded in supported businesses



For every **£1** of core government funding for the Cluster, **£35** of economic and social value has been delivered.

For every **£1** of core government funding, the Cluster attracted a further **£24** to support SME business growth.

Enterprise Oxfordshire, operating as OxLEP during 2020–25, has been pivotal in shaping economic strategy and delivering practical business support. It led the **Local Economic Recovery Plan** during the pandemic, ensuring SMEs accessed vital funding and guidance.

Practical support has been equally impactful. Through its **Business Support Tool**, Enterprise Oxfordshire gathered insights from over 2,500 businesses between 2020 and 2023, revealing that local firms' top priorities were not finance or IP, but customer growth, business planning, marketing, work force skills, and product development. This intelligence shaped flexible, demand-driven support offers.

Enterprise Oxfordshire also delivered targeted growth programmes.

Examples include the **Cherwell Accelerator and Business Adaptation Fund**, which enabled firms like 5C Consulting to secure over £500,000 in contracts by investing in digital twin technologies. Inclusivity has been a strong feature, illustrated by support for **Damascus Rose Kitchen**, a refugee-founded social enterprise that scaled up through a Visitor Economy Grant, gaining national recognition.

By combining strategic foresight with grassroots delivery, Enterprise Oxfordshire has successfully positioned the county as both a testbed for innovation and a supportive environment for diverse, ambitious enterprises, ensuring Oxfordshire contributes strongly to the wider Growth Hub Cluster's impact.

Read the [Full Report](#)