

## CASE STUDY

### Suffolk Design

# UEA Enterprise Centre

Location: Norwich

Architect: James Todd, Architype

Developer: The Adapt Low Carbon Group

Year of construction: 2014

<https://www.uea.ac.uk/about/sustainability/case-studies/the-enterprise-centre>

## BACKGROUND

- Regional business hub and the greenest commercial building in the UK.
- 'Gateway' to University of East Anglia and part of Norwich Research Park.
- Includes an innovation lab, business 'hatcheries' and incubator units for SMEs and start-ups in the low carbon sector.
- Built on brownfield site using 70% bio-based materials.
- Passivhaus certification and BREEAM outstanding.



## KEY LEARNINGS

- Natural materials palette – locally sourced thatch and timber frame from Thetford Forest.
- Landscape design has reinforced the link with historic gardens, and includes central courtyard and SUDs bed surrounding main lecture theatre.
- Consultation and engagement with the UEA included structured series of intensive workshops (e.g. 'use of local timber' and thatch workshops).
- Building's form the result of the need to maximise amount of daylight.
- A commitment to employing as many local suppliers as possible.
- Working demonstration building for SMEs.
- Materials are genuinely local, reflects the surrounding vernacular, and embed the building in its regional context.