

Welcome to Huntingdonshire



Huntingdonshire is centered around the beautiful River Great Ouse and is characterised by four market towns – Huntingdon, Ramsey, St Ives and St Neots – which act as service centres for around 100 distinctive villages set in diverse countryside.

Lying within the Cambridgeshire Growth Area of the East of England region, the district's strategic location on the doorstep of the internationally renowned city of Cambridge, and just 45 minutes from London Kings Cross, has ensured it is home to such organisations as [Lola Cars](#), [Nokia](#), [Hotel Chocolat](#) and [Enercon](#).

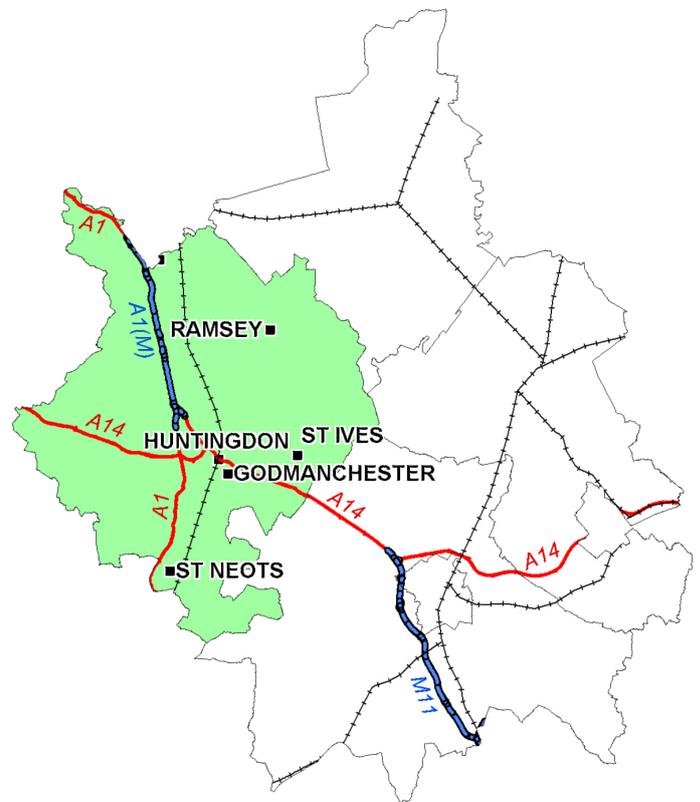
The district has seen significant growth in recent decades and with a population of 160,000, and significant housing planned, the area offers excellent business and commercial opportunities. This dynamism and buoyant economy is demonstrated by a 7% business base growth rate in recent years compared to a national average of 3.8%. This growth is increasingly centered on the high-tech, creative and R&D sectors. Recent inward investment successes have included [Enercon](#), one of the world's leading wind energy companies, and US Software giants [Silvaco](#) consolidating its Northern European operations into an award winning custom built HQ facility in St Ives.

With three international airports within 90 minute's drive, two trains an hour to London King's Cross, a guided bus system directly into Cambridge and excellent road access to both the ports of East England and the country's primary motorway network, Huntingdonshire's communications are second to none. Allied to this is a highly qualified

workforce with over half (53%) of those living in Huntingdon employed as managers and senior officials in professional occupations or technical roles – 10% higher than the national figure.

St Neots will be at the heart of future growth. Already the largest town in Cambridgeshire with 28,000 residents, a further 5,000 more homes are planned with nearly 12,500 new residents expected by 2026. Twenty five hectares of new employment land has been allocated to accompany this rapid growth with creative industries being highlighted as an instrumental sector for any future development.

To take advantage of these opportunities, or to find out more about the region, contact the District or County Council's Economic Development teams who can provide assistance and support covering start up advice, property and premises, local information, network opportunities and a first point of contact for any interested business enquiry.



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KEY FACTS

- Over half of Huntingdon's residents are employed as managers and senior officials – 10% higher than national average
- Median weekly earnings for Huntingdonshire residents are around 7% higher than national average
- St Ives finished 2nd place in Channel 5's search for the Best Market Town
- Life expectancy is almost 5% higher than national average
- Huntingdonshire's town centres out perform the average UK town and city indicators
- 13,000 new jobs will be created by 2026
- 11,200 new homes will be built by 2026
- The Creative Exchange start up building in St Neots recently won the British Construction Industry Award

Quality of Life

With picturesque historic riverside towns, cultural thriving markets, over 100 small villages and all within easy access to both Cambridge and London, Huntingdonshire has the capacity to meet the requirements of all. The district boasts countryside parks, outdoor concerts, folk festivals, fascinating museums, animal centres and heritage houses and gardens in addition to a multitude of river based sporting activities and the Great Fen.

With a range of housing options from quaint village settings to a new town centre dwelling, the district can accommodate all types of living needs, particularly as average property prices are 13.8% less than the UK average. Huntingdonshire is home to numerous high standard schools both public and private, including Abbey College and Kimbolton, and all producing high quality students.

For more information regarding events and attractions please visit <http://www.visithuntingdonshire.org/>

In Good Company

ICT – Delivery Management Ltd, Nokia, Advantech AMT

Sound & Imaging – Wharfedale, Meridian Audio, Mission Software – Silvaco

Engineering – Lola Cars, Encocam, Pursuit Dynamics, ABB, Bosch Rexroth, Cellbond

Life Sciences – Huntingdon Life Sciences

Printing & Packaging – Solo Cup Europe, Sealed Air, Linx Printing Technologies

Creative Industries – Heaven Media, Blue Prawn

Low Carbon & Environmental – Enercon, Dufaylite Developments Ltd

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