



Ford Motor Company

Ford in Essex

Based in Basildon since 1967, Ford Dunton was the largest engineering research centre in Europe when it opened.

Ford Dunton acts as a global centre for the company's engine, transmission, as well as commercial vehicle engineering and development, with engine engineering and development carried out in conjunction with the nearby Dagenham Diesel Centre.

In November 2018, Ford announced that they would be closing their current UK headquarters in Brentwood in order to relocate to Ford Dunton, which is 6 miles away. They subsequently hope that this move will lead to the relocation of staff to both the Ford Dunton and Ford Dagenham Technical Centres as part of a plan to bring the company's main UK-based office activities together by the end of 2019.

Dunton currently employs a sizeable 3,500 people and is responsible for developing Ford's latest, highly-acclaimed, low-carbon powertrains as well as the latest versions of the iconic Ford Transit.

The site at Dunton has also been recognised in recent years for numerous achievements. In particular, Ford's 1-litre, three-cylinder EcoBoost engine won the International Engine of the Year Award in 2012 and 2013 thanks to technology developed by Dunton and Dagenham based engineers. The new Ford Transit Custom, engineered in Basildon, also won the 2013 'International Van of the Year' Award.

Related Sectors

HI-TECHNOLOGY CLUSTER



We base a lot of our activity in the UK and a lot of that is in Essex. It gives us tremendous access to road, rail and sea networks, and its also a great place to attract the right sorts of people and that's enabled us to reach right out into the global economy.

Graham Hoare
Director of Global Vehicle
Evaluation and Verification
Ford Motor Company



What are the key
business benefits
of locating in
Essex?



We have very specific requirements for engineers, and while many of the skills are available locally, for some specialisations it is necessary to relocate people from around the UK. Essex's quality of life generally proves an attractive proposition for these people. We recognise the value of the Thames Gateway investment. The Basildon base is important for Ford's manufacturing and distribution strategy and with its road links, nearby deep water jetty and train spur, Basildon has plenty of transport options for us to reach our other UK plants. This includes movement to and from our European and international sites via the River Thames, Channel Tunnel, motorways and rail links.

Graham Hoare
Head of the Ford Technical Centre, Dunton, Basildon.
Ford Motor Company



Eco-friendly electric vehicles

Looking to the future, Dunton is set to play a crucial role in Ford's operations. A landmark fleet of plug-in hybrid Transit vans have both been designed and engineered at Ford Dunton, making them the first volume van maker to offer a van of this kind.

This is part of a general move by Ford, the UK's best-selling commercial vehicle brand, to lead the pack in electric and autonomous vehicles by investing \$11bn into this area by 2022.

This new breed of eco-friendly Transit vans are currently in the middle of a London trial which is being organised in conjunction with Transport for London, before being scheduled for volume production in 2019.

Major property cost savings:

- 74% versus the City of London
- 54% versus London
- 26% versus England's major cities

Major labour cost savings:

- 48% versus the City of London
- 21% versus London
- 5% versus England's major cities

Superb transport connectivity:

- City of London: 28 minutes by train (from Chelmsford, Essex)
- London Stansted Airport: 30 minute drive (from Chelmsford, Essex)
- London Heathrow Airport: 1 hour 12 minutes by Crossrail (from Shenfield, Essex)
- All London Airports within 1 hour 15 minutes (from Chelmsford, Essex)

A large-scale, specialist workforce:

- 103,000 financial and business service workers in Essex
- 142,000 Essex-based London commuters
- 688,000 London finance cluster workers

EMAIL US FOR MORE INFO

Why choose Essex as a business location?

Essex presents a unique location opportunity to companies expanding in the UK and European markets.



About Ford

Ford Motor Company is a global automotive and mobility company based in Dearborn, Michigan. With about 202,000 employees and 62 plants worldwide, the company's core business includes designing, manufacturing, marketing and servicing a full line of cars, trucks and SUVs, as well as Lincoln luxury vehicles.

To expand its business model, Ford is aggressively pursuing emerging opportunities with investments in electrification, autonomy and mobility.



For more info, visit: www.ford.co.uk

Benefiting from the UK's highly advantageous business environment, Essex offers direct access to the business and technology hubs of London and Cambridge, a high-quality workforce, unrivalled global connectivity and the UK's multimodal logistics gateway: four international deep sea ports, six rail freight terminals and the UK's third largest cargo airport ([London Stansted](#)) in Essex.

But, uniquely within the UK, Essex combines these value-adding advantages with potentially massive cost savings – enabling your company to save money without compromise.

[EMAIL US FOR MORE INFO](#)

Our contact details

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About Invest ESSEX

Invest ESSEX is an investment promotion agency (IPA) that encourages inward investment and foreign direct investment into Essex – a county which presents a unique location opportunity to companies expanding in the UK and European markets.

Our mission is to make your business expansion or relocation as hassle-

Sources: [\[Basildon Council\]](#) [\[Ford Media Centre\]](#) [\[Ford Press Office\]](#)

free as possible, helping you to minimise project costs and risks. We also provide information and contacts businesses need to locate their ideal property solutions.


Read more about what we do here:


[ABOUT US PAGE](#)

Contact us

MEET THE EXPERTS

CONTACT DETAILS

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