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Strategic Economic Infrastructure

1. Introduction

- 1.1. This note provides an update on the progress of a number of strategic and local transport infrastructure projects reported previously to Team East Sussex.

2. Strategic Road Network (SRN)

A27 - Smaller scale interventions

- 2.1. Highways England (HE) announced a package of smaller scale interventions for the A27 east of Lewes in Sep 2017 following the inclusion of the scheme in the Government's Roads Investment Strategy 2015–2020.
- 2.2. Since then HE has been progressing the designs for these interventions. A series of public information exhibitions were held in early Mar 2019 on two of these interventions – capacity improvements at Polegate which comprise two lanes in both directions from Cophall to enhanced A27/A2270 traffic signal junction, as well as improved capacity at Drusillas roundabout.
- 2.3. There will be further exhibitions in the summer on the other interventions – safety improvements of Wilmington crossroads, new shared use path along the A27, a new path from Drusillas up to Berwick station as well as new/upgraded crossings at Wilmington, Selmeston and Firle.
- 2.4. Construction of the first tranche of the small scale improvements is programmed to start in 2020 at the earliest. Further information on the package of smaller scale interventions is available at highwaysengland.co.uk/projects/a27-east-of-lewes.

A27 East of Lewes Study

- 2.5. Although these smaller scale improvements address some of the existing issues on the A27 between Lewes and Polegate in the short to medium term, they do not address these and future issues in the longer term, particularly with significant housing and employment growth planned in the South Wealden area. Accordingly, funding from the Roads Investment Strategy (RIS) allocation was secured in May 2017 by the A27 Reference Group, which comprises local MPs, local authority leaders and the LEPs, for a study to look at a new dual carriageway route between Lewes and Polegate. The HE commissioned study looking at these potential new route options was completed in May 2018.
- 2.6. The study, which was an early stage investigation, recognised that there is a strong strategic case for an off-line improvement between Lewes and Polegate to address current problems and to facilitate housing and economic growth in the area. It identified that all the route options considered would bring significant economic benefits outweighing the dis-benefits.
- 2.7. The outcomes of the final study are being considered by the Department for Transport (DfT) as part of the development of HE's Roads Investment Strategy 2 (RIS2). The second RIS, which is expected to be published autumn 2019, will set out investment that Government will be making in the Strategic Road network (SRN) and that HE will be expected to deliver during the second road period between 2020 and 2025, as well as the strategic vision for the future of the SRN looking towards 2050.

A21

- 2.8. In addition to the A27, improvements to the A21 (Kippings Cross to Lamberhurst, Flimwell and Hurst Green sections) were identified in our submission to Government on what should be priorities for HE's second Roads Investment Strategy. As highlighted above, we are expecting the second RIS to be published this autumn.

3. Major Road Network (MRN)

- 3.1. Following a Government consultation in early 2018, Government announced its final Major Road Network (MRN) in Dec 2018. The MRN comprises the most economically important 'A' class local authority managed roads and sits between the HE managed Strategic Road Network (SRN) and the local road network.
- 3.2. In East Sussex the following roads have been included in the MRN:
- A22 Eastbourne to Forest Row (including Golden Jubilee Way);
 - A26 Lewes to edge of Tunbridge Wells;
 - A259 Eastbourne to county boundary with Brighton & Hove;
 - A272 edge of Haywards Heath to Maresfield;
 - A259 Glyne Gap to Batchelors Bump, east of Hastings;
 - A21 Baldslow to Hastings seafront;
 - A2270/A2021 Polegate to Eastbourne town centre;
 - A2280 Cross Levels Way, Eastbourne;
 - A2102 Silverhill to St Leonard's seafront, Hastings.
- 3.3. Funding is available for the MRN through the National Roads Fund from early 2020's and the DfT guidance identifies the types of schemes that are eligible for funding:
- Bypasses or new alignments;
 - Missing Links between existing stretches of the MRN or SRN;
 - Widening of existing MRN roads;
 - Major structural renewals on roads, bridges, tunnels and viaducts on MRN roads;
 - Major junction improvements (e.g. grade separation);
 - VMS, traffic management and the use of smart technology and data to raise network performance;
 - Packages of improvements which may include elements of safety, widening, junction improvements and new alignment.
- 3.4. DfT will provide funding between £20m and £50m, although the lower threshold will not be applied rigidly, and there is an expectation of a local contribution of at least 15% towards the scheme.
- 3.5. Transport for the South East (TfSE), the sub-national transport body, has been engaging with DfT on the potential schemes across their geography. From an East Sussex perspective, an outline business case has been developed for the A22 junction improvements around Hailsham, Polegate and Stone Cross (Boship, Hempstead Lane, Eagles on the Hailsham bypass as well as the A27/A22 and A22/Dittons Road junctions in Stone Cross) which are required to support the housing growth in the area.
- 3.6. In order for this to be considered as an early entry MRN scheme starting from 2021/22, the outline business case for the A22 Corridor Package was submitted to TfSE in mid-May 2019. If identified as a priority scheme for their geography, the outline business case will be submitted to DfT in Jul 2019 for their consideration.
- 3.7. In addition, pre Strategic Outline Business Cases were also submitted to TfSE in relation to the A22 Corridor Phase 2 (north of Hailsham and Eastbourne section), the A259 South Coast Road and the A2270/A2021 Corridor, to flag these as potential future MRN schemes that the County Council will be developing.

4. Rail

High Speed Rail

- 4.1. A 2017 study into the economic impact of high speed rail into East Sussex, commissioned by East Sussex, Hastings, Rother and Eastbourne, identifies that high speed rail would be a potential game changer for the local economy and will:
- transform the connectivity and image of the area with reduced journey times;
 - support growth in London and the South East with improved connectivity with the capital critical to economic prosperity; and
 - act as a catalyst for economic growth attracting investment and ensuring the area is a more desirable place to live and work, leading to lower out-migration of skilled labour and in-migration of higher earners.
- 4.2. Taking into account all benefits assessed for East Sussex, the high speed rail service could provide economic benefits in the range of £711.2m of GVA (£459.9m for East Sussex and £285.6m nationally in total over a 30 year time horizon) and 1,290 jobs per annum once all benefits are realised. Visit www.eastsussex.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/roads/roadschemes/bexhill-hastings-high-speed-rail for a copy of the Economic Impact Study.
- 4.3. Network Rail (NR) has previously identified an incremental approach to bringing forward the infrastructure work required to enable High Speed Rail into East Sussex. The first phase focuses on the physical changes needed at the Ashford West junction to enable the High Speed trains to run from the High Speed Rail link onto the Marshlink via Platform 2 at Ashford International. The second phase focuses on line speed improvements on the Marshlink, and the third on providing the necessary (bi-mode) rolling stock.
- 4.4. NR has completed the design work funded by DfT and the local authorities on the Ashford West junction, which present a range of costs (the actual cost is still to be confirmed) and a business case outlining the economic benefits. The proposals/costs will be presented to the High Speed Rail Reference Group at the end of Jun 2019.
- 4.5. Depending on the agreed way forward, NR will be looking for third party funding towards the overall cost of delivering the infrastructure to enable High Speed into the county. This could include discussions with High Speed 1 about the infrastructure being a potential investment opportunity for them, as part of developing a funding strategy to ensure that the necessary monies are secured to bring the scheme to fruition.

South Eastern franchise

- 4.6. The franchisees for the South Eastern franchise, which includes the Hastings–Tonbridge line, submitted their bids on 14 Mar 2018 for evaluation by DfT. To date no announcement on the preferred operator has been made and the franchise was extended again in May 2019 to Nov 2019 with the potential for a further extension to Apr 2020.

Brighton Mainline

- 4.7. *Network Resilience*: NR announced details of a major asset maintenance and renewal project in Jan 2018 to improve reliability and performance for passengers on the Brighton Mainline. This focusses on the four Victorian era tunnels – Balcombe, Clayton, Patcham and Haywards Heath – and the railway running through them.
- 4.8. Now substantially completed, the scheme has vastly improved the resilience of the Brighton mainline and the services that use this section of the railway.
- 4.9. *Croydon remodelling*: NR consulted on proposals late last year to unblock the Croydon bottleneck and provide more reliable, more frequent and faster services. These proposals include improvements to the track layouts north of East Croydon station involving removing the existing junctions and building new flyovers and dive-unders, and an expanded and enhanced East Croydon station. As the main route connecting the capital with Gatwick Airport and the south coast, improving the Brighton mainline with the removal of this bottleneck will provide a significant boost to the regional and national economy, speeding up services through the area and improving the punctuality and reliability in train services. NR will be undertaking a further consultation on the scheme later this year.

- 4.10. *Newhaven–Lewes resignalling*: NR has also invested £18m in updating the signalling on the section of the rail network between Lewes and Newhaven which ultimately will provide passengers with more reliable journeys. The commissioning of the signalling necessitated a blockade in the Lewes area in early Mar 2019.
- 4.11. The works were not completed within the blockade as originally envisaged so there will need to be a further closure to enable the signalling to be fully commissioned.

5. Aviation

Gatwick

- 5.1. The consultation on Gatwick's Masterplan closed in Jan 2019, which included proposals for the potential use of the standby runway by smaller aircraft for departures (e.g. A321s, 737s, with larger aircraft departing from the main runway, as well as all aircraft arriving on the main runway) to increase the overall capacity of the airport.
- 5.2. Gatwick is starting to progress the Development Consent Order (DCO) process to enable the use of the standby runway to happen. This will involve adjusting the distance between the standby and main airfield taxiway by 12m, which will require a new pier location, hangar and ancillary development and assessments of impacts including flood risk, surface access improvements and car parking. In terms of timescale, the DCO would be consulted on in 2020 and submitted in 2020/21 with a decision expected in 2022. Operations would then start in 2026 and the infrastructure completed by the mid-2030s.
- 5.3. The planning application for the proposed construction of a new station concourse/airport entrance area, link bridges, platform canopies and associated improvement works at Gatwick Airport Rail Station was approved by Crawley Borough Council's Planning Committee on 11 Feb 2019. The project will be funded by various partners – NR, DfT, Gatwick Airport Limited and C2C LEP – and construction is currently programmed to start in 2020.

Aviation Green Paper

- 5.4. DfT has been seeking feedback on its green paper outlining proposals for a new aviation strategy. The strategy will set out the challenges and opportunities for aviation to 2050 and beyond and will emphasise the significance of aviation to the UK economy and regional growth. The strategy will focus on:
- developing a partnership for sustainable growth which meets rising passenger demand, balanced with action to reduce environmental and community impacts;
 - improving the passenger experience, including through technology and innovation, a new passenger charter and action to reduce delays at the border; and
 - building on the UK's success to establish new connections across the world and create greater choice for consumers.
- 5.5. The consultation closed on 20 Jun 2019 and a final white paper version of the aviation strategy will be published later in 2019.

6. Infrastructure to Unlock Jobs and Homes

- 6.1. There are a number of projects across the county which are helping to unlock jobs and homes:

North Bexhill Access Road

- 6.2. A new road from Combe Valley Way (the Bexhill Hastings Link Road) to the A269 north of Sidley, funded using Local Growth Fund (LGF) monies secured through the South East LEP. The access road will unlock 28,000sqm of employment space and 500 new homes in the Rother District Local Plan. The road opened to traffic on 11 Mar 2019.

Queensway Gateway Road

- 6.3. A new link road between Queensway and the A21 in north Hastings which will unlock 12,000sqm of employment space as identified in the Hastings Local Plan. Funded through LGF, the first phase from Queensway to the intermediate roundabout was completed in late 2018; construction of Phase 2a (intermediate roundabout to Ramblers Coaches entrance) is nearing completion and Phase 2b (to complete the road through to the A21) is expected to be completed by the end of 2019/20.

Newhaven Port Access Road (NPAR)

- 6.4. NPAR is an integral part of the Newhaven Enterprise Zone which came into effect in Apr 2017 and is identified within the ESCC Council Plan as a key priority for driving sustainable economic growth.
- 6.5. Development within East Quay is constrained by the current poor access to the site. The impacts from unsuitable traffic along Railway Road and Beach Road (both residential roads) adversely affects the viability of developments, particularly residential, in this part of the town. NPAR provides a new direct access into the East Quay area of Newhaven Port, alleviating traffic (particularly HGVs) from the existing route to the Port along the above roads.
- 6.6. The first phase of the road was completed by a developer in 2015 and the County Council is completing the route with a bridge over the Newhaven–Seaford railway line and Mill Creek taking the road into Port land to the south, and ultimately linking into the East Quay area.
- 6.7. The total cost of the scheme is £23.2m. ESCC previously committed £13.2m from its own capital programme towards the project, and following approval of a business case by DfT last summer, £10m of LGF monies has also been allocated to the scheme. Contractor BAM Nutall was appointed last year to construct the Port Access Road and works started on site in Jan 2019. The construction will take 19 months to complete.
- 6.8. Visit the website www.eastsussex.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/roads/roadschemes/newhaven-port-access-road/history-of-the-scheme for further information on NPAR.

7. Local Transport Capital Programme

2018/19 Local Transport Programme

- 7.1. As part of the 2018/19 Local Transport capital programme, the County Council delivered a number of schemes including:
 - Horsey Cycle Route Phase 3 between Langney Rise and Lottbridge Drove;
 - Traffic calming in Ghyll Road, Heathfield;
 - Pedestrian crossings on Kings Drive in Eastbourne outside Thomas a Becket Primary School and on Brighton Road in Lewes;
 - Pedestrian safety improvement in the Meads area;
 - Pedestrian improvements at the Whitley Road/Seaside junction in Eastbourne; and
 - First phase of the Bexhill Road bus lanes in Hastings.

2019/20 Capital Programme

- 7.2. The 2019/20 Local Transport capital programme was approved by the Lead Member for Transport and Environment in Mar 2019. The £10.4m programme includes a broad mix in scale and value of over 90 schemes, being funded from LGF monies, development contributions and funding allocated in the County Council's capital programme.
- 7.3. Key schemes for development and delivery in 2019/20 include:
 - Ongoing development and delivery of cycling, walking and bus infrastructure, traffic management and public realm improvements in Eastbourne and South Wealden, and Bexhill and Hastings, aimed at supporting sustainable economic growth using significant levels of LGF monies secured through the South East LEP;
 - Phase 1 of the Hailsham–Polegate–Eastbourne Movement and Access Corridor – improvements to the A2270/Wannock Road/Polegate High St signals and introduction of a bus lane on Eastbourne Road;
 - Newhaven Ring Road improvements; and
 - Uckfield bus station improvements.
- 7.4. The 2019/20 capital programme for local transport improvements is available on the ESCC website: <https://democracy.eastsussex.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=177&MIId=3805>.

Pipeline Projects

- 7.5. In addition, we continue to explore new funding opportunities for delivering transport infrastructure by continuing to develop a pipeline of schemes that means we have designs and business cases ready to submit to increase our ability to secure funding when these sources become available.
- 7.6. We are also exploring how we can harness 'smart' technology to address problems on our transport networks and how they could be applied in a rural/urban county such as East Sussex and, if appropriate, look to integrate into transport schemes that we are developing and delivering across the county.

8. Regenerating Town Centres

- 8.1. Across the county there have been various regeneration schemes delivered by the County Council focussed on our town centres, including most recently in Uckfield (2014–16) and Hailsham (2016–17). There are a number of town centre schemes currently under development as outlined below.

Eastbourne Town Centre Improvements Phase 1

- 8.2. Phase 1 of the package costing £8.25m (with £5m from LGF) was developed to support the extension of the town centre's Arndale (now renamed 'Beacon') shopping centre. The scheme focussed on:
 - improving the pedestrian environment and public realm on Terminus Road between Station roundabout and Bankers Corner, Gildredge Road and Cornfield Road; and
 - the relocation of the bus stops into Cornfield Road and Gildredge Road with a one way bus lane through Terminus Road from its Ashford Road junction to Bankers Corner.
- 8.3. Mildren Construction was appointed to undertake the works, starting in Mar 2018 and programmed for completion in Sep 2019. Further information is available on the East Sussex Highways website: www.eastsussexhighways.com/works/eastbourne-town-centre-improvement-scheme-etcis.

Eastbourne Town Centre Improvements Phase 2

- 8.4. Since early 2018 we have been engaging with stakeholders from across the community in Eastbourne to identify priorities for better movement and access in and around Eastbourne's Town Centre.
- 8.5. Through a series of stakeholder workshops, a package for Phase 2 has been identified with priority given to developing proposals for the section of Terminus Road between Bankers Corner and Langney Road which will utilise the £3m of LGF monies approved by the South East LEP in Feb 2019 for improving movement and access in Eastbourne town centre. Consultation on these proposals is planned for later this year.
- 8.6. We are also developing other schemes within the package which are currently unfunded but will enable us to have a pipeline of scheme designs 'bid ready' when funding does become available. This includes proposals for the remainder of Terminus Road to the seafront, the Little Chelsea area (Grove Road/South Street) and Memorial roundabout.

Hastings and Bexhill

- 8.7. We are currently developing proposals for both Bexhill, focussed on the London Road corridor from the A259 to Buckhurst Place and Sackville Road, and Hastings, focussed on the corridors from the rail station to the seafront, which will be delivered using LGF monies.

Future High Streets Fund

- 8.8. Recognising the importance of ensuring the vitality of our town centres, both now and in the future, Government announced its £650m Future High Streets Fund in late Dec 2018.
- 8.9. The Fund, which would support and fund local areas' plans to make their high streets and town centres fit for the future, is expecting any potential investment bids to fall under a number of themes including improvements to transport access, traffic flow and circulation in the area, public realm improvements and supporting adaptation of the high street in response to changing technology.
- 8.10. The fund is available to Borough and District Councils and bids can be up to £25m, albeit the Government's guidance indicates they are expecting bids of between £5m and £10m. A call for expressions of interest (EOI) was put out by Government for submission by 22 Mar 19. All our Borough and District Councils submitted EOIs as follows, with all containing a transport element:

- Eastbourne BC – southern gateway: Terminus Road between Langley Road and Grand Parade;
- Hastings BC – Hastings;
- Lewes DC – Newhaven;
- Rother DC – Bexhill: Western Road and the corridor between the rail station and seafront; and
- Wealden DC– Hailsham.

8.11. If successful at EOI stage, applicants will need to develop a business case for submission later this year. Visit www.gov.uk/government/publications/future-high-streets-fund-call-for-proposals for further information on the Future High Streets Fund.

9. Local Cycling and Walking Investment Plan and Active Access for Growth Programme

Local Cycling and Walking Investment Plan

- 9.1. In Mar 2016 the DfT published a national Cycling & Walking Investment Plan (CWIP). The key objectives of the plan are to double levels of cycling and reverse the decline in walking, reduce the rate of cyclists killed or seriously injured on England's roads, and increase the percentage of children aged 5 to 10 that usually walk to school. The CWIP encouraged local authorities to develop Local Cycling & Walking Infrastructure Plans (LCWIP).
- 9.2. ESCC procured Sustrans who have undertaken the initial analysis and identification of improvements. This will lead to the development of a network plan of preferred routes and core zones for improvement, which will be prioritised into a programme of schemes for future investment.
- 9.3. We are currently drafting our LCWIP which will be accompanied by a number of cycling and walking policies, to support future scheme delivery of infrastructure and initiatives. As part of this we have been engaging with various interest groups through the County Walking and Cycling Forum on the content of those policies. Public consultation on the Plan will commence this autumn.

Active Access for Growth Programme

- 9.4. The East Sussex Active Access for Growth is a 3 year £1.4m DfT Programme delivering a range of cycling and walking initiatives including:
 - Sustrans Active Steps & Bike It;
 - Living Streets Walking Projects with schools and businesses;
 - Sussex Community Rail Partnership – Independent Travel Training;
 - Pedal Power – Cycle/Electric Cycle Loans;
 - led walks and rides with the SDNPA; and
 - community grants.
- 9.5. Coming into its final year, these initiatives have been integrated into key existing County Council work streams focussed on supporting business engagement, workforce development and public health community development projects.

Business East Sussex (BES)

- The County Council's Economic Development team are continuing with future commissioning of the Business East Sussex (BES) Growth Hub. We are working with stakeholders and SELEP to look at how best to align the limited resources provided with the new and stretching outcomes being required by the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS). An options appraisal for a future service is being developed, drawing on current thinking on best practice from around the country with evidence of local business needs. This work will be carried out in close partnership with SELEP and the other two Growth Hubs in the region. BES and TES will be updated on this work as it progresses.
- The 'Scale Up East Sussex' programme is now fully operational, with over 20 businesses signed up so far. Peer group sessions have started in the Newhaven pilot, with the University of Sussex hosting the most recent event in Jun 2019. Joint sessions with the Sussex Innovation Centre have been arranged with the Construction and Built Environment pilot, also taking place in Jun. All businesses engaged are being given intensive one-to-one support, including being matched with specialist mentors and having bespoke growth plans developed.

- An interim evaluation of the programme will be carried out over the summer with results reported to TES.

South East Business Boost (SEBB)

- The current ERDF funded South East Business Boost (SEBB) programme is in its final year of delivery and is set to meet most of its targets. The current round of grant funding has been fully allocated, with a waiting list of applicants in the pipeline. The SEBB delivery team are continuing to provide business support through the programme, which will end in Dec 2019. An interim evaluation of the programme commissioned by the Lead Authority (Southend-on-Sea Borough Council) showed that the SEBB programme has delivered value for money, and satisfaction levels among beneficiaries are good. 95% of beneficiaries would be 'very likely' to recommend the programme to a friend or colleague.
- The Ministry for Housing, Community and Local Government (MHCLG) has announced that the call for the final tranche of ERDF funding will be released at the end of Jun 2019. County Council colleagues are working with Southend BC to develop an Expression of Interest for this call to look to provide a further SEBB programme beyond the end of the current programme.

Developers East Sussex (DES)

- The DES subgroup, which includes housing and commercial developers alongside public sector bodies, continues to provide a forum to discuss countywide issues affecting development.
- The most recent meeting in Apr 2019 considered 'affordable housing delivery' as its main theme, with presentations from Homes England, Optivo and Borough/District officers on some of the various models available. A detailed commercial property update was also delivered by Stiles Harold Williams (SHW).
- Following the resignation of Derek Godfrey as Chair in Feb 2019, the last DES meeting was led by Graham Peters as an interim solution. A recruitment process for the role was undertaken immediately after that meeting, and on 10 Jun 2019 **Jonathan Buckwell**, Director of Planning & Environment at DHA Planning, was confirmed as the successful applicant. Jonathan is a Chartered Town Planner and works with a wide range of developers, business owners and individuals on projects across East and West Sussex, Surrey, Hampshire, Berkshire and South London. Jonathan will officially take up the position of DES Chair from the next scheduled meeting on 16 Jul 2019.

Environment East Sussex (EES)

- The Environment East Sussex Board is continuing to work on updating the 2011 East Sussex Environment Strategy, focusing on the themes of climate change, natural capital, air quality, water and resource efficiency. Partners and stakeholders, including TES, will be consulted on the draft strategy, which is anticipated to be available by the end of the year.
- In the meantime, bidding activity to deliver measurable environmental change in East Sussex includes a bid with SELEP partners in support of the 'South 2 East Local Energy Strategy' (the tri-LEP Energy Strategy developed by SELEP alongside the C2C and Enterprise M3 LEPs) to fund a 3 year programme to support businesses to drive down their carbon footprint and operating costs by increasing their energy efficiency.
- The EES group is also working through the Sussex-wide Local Nature Partnership on a bid for C2C Local Growth funding for a natural capital project that would cover part of East Sussex.

Skills East Sussex (SES)

Skills East Sussex (SES) meetings

- The Skills East Sussex (SES) Board last met in Mar 2019 where the focus was on the newly awarded European Social Fund (ESF) contracts. These are contracts which have been match-funded by central government, i.e. by the European Skills Funding Agency (ESFA), Department for Work & Pensions (DWP) and Big Lottery:
 - Twin Training (TT) has been awarded SSU (Skills Support for the Unemployed) and SSW (Skills Support for the Workplace) contracts to be delivered in East Sussex, Kent and Essex;

- Skills Training UK (STUK), an apprenticeship, traineeship, study programme and ESF provider will deliver the youth focused contract working with NEETs, 16-24 year old; the contract is just over £800,000 and covers East Sussex, Kent and Essex (of which £257,403 is allocated to East Sussex);
- CXK has been awarded the ESF community grants programme contract, to act as gatekeepers in awarding £617,000 to voluntary, community and social enterprises (of which £86,417 will be awarded to East Sussex organisations); grants will be between £10,000 and £20,000 for projects that complement and add value to existing training provision; the SES secretariat will sit on the decision making Board.
- The SES meeting also discussed ESF direct funding calls (where 50% match funding is required):
 - Plumpton Agricultural College is applying for the 'virtual reality and online learning' ESF call in partnership with Health Education England for virtual learning resource development for the Agricultural and Health sectors;
 - Sustrans is considering an application to the current 'Wheels to Work & Training' call, to address transport access for young people and adults;
 - East Sussex College, Plumpton College and the Sussex Council of Training Providers (SCTP) have submitted an application to the 'Skills for Growth' ESF call; this is focused on targeting and engaging SMEs, upskilling SMEs to help them deliver training and developing the ability of SMEs to offer industry placements for tutors and work placements for students.
- Two further direct ESF calls are expected over the summer, one to target projects to support homeless unemployed people and the second to support Apprenticeship growth. More details on ESF calls can be found on the SELEP website, www.southeastlep.com/opportunities/esf-calls-for-proposals.

Skills East Sussex Sector Task Groups

- The SES Sector-Skills Task Groups for Engineering/STEM, Construction, Creative & Digital, Land-based and Visitor Economy all continue to meet quarterly, and regularly through Health Education England for Health & Social Care.
- All task groups have committed to developing a joint careers campaign to run over the next two years to promote East Sussex as a great place to work, in specific jobs where there are current and future recruitment needs.

Apprenticeships East Sussex (AES)

- The AES group met on 21 Mar 2019 where they reviewed their action plan for the year. The group oversaw two successful Apprenticeship Roadshow events during National Apprenticeship Week in Mar 2019, with over 450 young people and parents attending in Eastbourne, and 140 in Hastings, as well as six rural pop-up events. The group is now planning for the first East Sussex Apprenticeship Graduation event to take place on 25 Sep 2019.
- Further activities include Apprenticeship promotion through the Careers Hub, lobbying on Business Admin Level 2 and the Construction standards, and how ESF may be used to support growth in Apprenticeships.

Digital Skills Partnership

- In Dec 2018 SELEP was successful in a bid to become a Digital Skills Partnership (DSP) area, working with the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS). A DSP launch event took place in Hastings on 12 Jun 2019, with over 100 business leaders and skills providers attending from across the SELEP area.

Careers Hub East Sussex

- Following its launch in Sep 2018, the Careers Hub East Sussex is building on the infrastructure of the successful Enterprise Adviser Network (EAN), working strategically with the senior leadership of all 40 secondary schools, special schools and colleges in the county to improve the quality of careers, employability and enterprise against national benchmarks. It has been upscaling projects such as Industry Champions (over 100 businesses to date engaging with schools to promote their sector) and Open Doors (over 500 school students visited 44 employers in the month of Nov 2018, and now extended throughout the year), plus Apprenticeship events, work experience opportunities, Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths (STEAM) events and activities, labour market information resources based on sector skills reports, and training for Enterprise Advisers and Careers Leaders.

Primary Careers Hub

- We have recently been successful in a further bid to the Careers and Enterprise Company for £146k to undertake a one year Primary Careers Hub pilot, working with primary schools to review their curriculum and embed careers and aspirations, STEM activities, video resources and employer encounters that link learning with the world of work. All schools taking part in the project will be asked to identify a Careers Champion who can join a network in order to access training, share good practice and build on what works.

European Funding

EU Strategy / Funding Stream	Element	Activities / Actions / Deadlines		Main applications covering East Sussex
		Completed	Pending	
European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)	Call 1 – Priority Axes (PA) 1: Innovation; PA 3: SME Competitiveness; PA 4: Low Carbon Enterprises; and Technical Assistance. Minimum grant value £500k.	Call closed May 2015 with full application deadline Sep 2015; 4 applications were successful.	Nothing pending.	The 4 successful applications - <i>Keep+</i> , <i>LoCASE</i> , <i>Invest Kent</i> and the <i>ERDF Technical Facilitator</i> project - have all been awarded, contracted and are underway; the <i>LoCASE</i> project was approved for an extension of £6.98m additional ERDF in Mar 2019; the Technical Facilitator role, appointed with ESCC as accountable body, has now come to a close (the work of overseeing the ERDF programme will continue as part of SELEP's Business Development Manager role).
	Call 2 – PA 3: SME Competitiveness, BIS National Products.	The successful projects have all been contracted and are underway.	Nothing pending.	<i>Better Off In Business</i> (Prince's Trust), <i>Get Exporting 2</i> (Exemplas) and the <i>Manufacturing Growth Programme</i> (WMMBF Ltd) are all designed to deliver across the SELEP area, including East Sussex. 'Newable' is the delivery partner for <i>Get Exporting 2</i> in East Sussex & Kent; the <i>Manufacturing Growth Programme</i> will be delivered by Economic Growth Solutions Ltd (EGS).
	Call 3 – PA 3: Growth Hubs & Access to Finance; £13m grant available, £500k minimum grant value.	The Kent-led Innovation Loan Fund scheme was rejected and asked to become part of the South East Business Boost (SEBB) Growth Hub project; SEBB was approved in Sep 2016 and began operating in Apr 2017.	Nothing pending.	East Sussex is one of the SELEP partners in the <i>South East Business Boost</i> (SEBB) Growth Hub project to deliver extended growth hub services (£3m) and a small grants programme (£10m); SEBB will provide £1.1m total funding for East Sussex over the 3 year programme period to extend & enhance the reach of our current business support services under the banner of Business East Sussex (BES), alongside a slice of the SEBB grants programme (approx £850k).
	Call 4 – PA 3: SME support to the creative and digital industries (£3.5m); £500k minimum grant value.	A SELEP-wide application (SECCADS) submitted Sep 2016 went through several iterations before final approval in Nov 2017.	Nothing pending.	The <i>South East Cultural, Creative & Digital Sector</i> project (SECCADS) is led by Thurrock Council and covers the whole SELEP area; it will be aligned with BES/SEBB.
	Call 4 – PA 3: SME support (£10m); £500k minimum grant value; Rolling Call.	Call opened from Apr 2016 to Mar 2017; 1 application from Essex CC for South East Invest (SEI) was approved in Feb 2017; 2 further applications from Hadlow College (Betteshanger Sustainable Parks) and Haven Gateway Partnership (Transportation & Logistical Efficiencies) were finally approved in summer 2018.	Nothing pending.	<i>South East Invest</i> (SEI) is a joint project by ESCC and Essex CC (lead partner) to enhance the Locate East Sussex inward investment service, providing for double the funding given on the existing CORE service contract value to some £420k per annum for 3 years. <i>Betteshanger Sustainable Parks</i> will provide physical incubator space and SELEP-wide business support activities for SMEs in food security, environmental technology, life sciences and green technology. <i>Transportation & Logistical Efficiencies</i> (TALE) will provide support around smarter ways of working to the logistics sector across the SELEP area.
	Call 5 – PA 1: Innovation; and PA 4: Low Carbon Enterprises. Both with a £500k minimum grant value.	Call opened Dec 2016 with 4 outline applications submitted, 3 of which (from Kent and Greenwich Universities) later withdrew.	The one full application, the 'South East New Energy' project, is currently being appraised by MHCLG (and is likely to be successful).	The one current application, <i>South East New Energy</i> (led by Retrofit Works) is a SELEP-wide project comprising low carbon business support initiatives, including revenue activities for local authorities, and will benefit East Sussex due to the requirements on Strategic Fit.

EU Strategy / Funding Stream	Element	Activities / Actions / Deadlines		Main applications covering East Sussex
		Completed	Pending	
European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)	Call 6 – PA 1: Research & Innovation; PA 3: SME Growth & Competitiveness; and PA 4: Low Carbon Economy; rolling open call for applications.	Rolling open calls for applications went live in Mar 2017; 3 outline applications were submitted in Jul 2017, 4 more in Oct 2017 (2 of which were rejected), and another 4 were submitted by the final deadline of 26 Jan 2018.	The 3 outline applications submitted in Jul 2017 have been invited to submit full applications; 1 of the 2 applications submitted in Oct 2017 has been invited to full application (the other is on hold); and 3 of the 4 submitted in Jan 2018 have been invited to full application (the fourth is on hold).	Most of the project applications are SELEP-wide and will benefit East Sussex due to the requirements on Strategic Fit or because they offer business support programmes that can benefit East Sussex SMEs; the projects are <i>Mercury Rising</i> (Colchester BC), <i>I-CONSTRUCT</i> (Haven Gateway Partnership), <i>CAMEC</i> (Anglia Ruskin University), <i>Better Off In Business</i> (The Prince's Trust, a continuation to the existing contracted project), <i>Kent Medical Campus Innovation Centre</i> , <i>Design & Learning Centre Drives Local Care</i> , and <i>R&D 4 SMEs</i> .
	Call 7 – PA 1: Research & Innovation; multi-LEP calls for applications to support the 'Innovation South Science & Innovation Audit (SIA) for Quantum Supply' and 'Knowledge Accelerator' projects.	The call was open between 8 Dec 2017 and 26 Jan 2018; 1 outline application was submitted to cover the Innovation South SIA area.	The outline application is currently with MHCLG for appraisal.	The single outline application covers the Innovation South SIA area, which includes East Sussex, and is for a project to support quantum supply opportunities.
	Call 8 – PA 1: Research & Innovation; looking to enhance R&I infrastructure & capacities, promote centres of competence and promote business investment in R&I; up to £4.5m available with a minimum application value of £500k.	The call for outline applications was open from 5 Oct to 23 Nov 2018.	Currently awaiting information on outline applications submitted.	Unknown, further information will be shared when available.
European Social Fund (ESF)	Department for Work & Pensions (DWP) – supporting businesses to identify training, recruitment & skills needs, meeting those needs and generating entry level opportunities for those out of work or underemployed; 3 years' funding up to 2020.	ITT closed Mar 2016; the DWP/ Jobcentre+ Opt-in contract was awarded to Reed, who in partnership with Skills Training UK, Royal British Legion Industries (RBLI) and APM, will work to deliver the £9m South East contract.	SELEP has queried DWP's decision not to extend the contract, citing the large numbers supported and the resultant gap in provision – DWP has now confirmed that this contract will finish in 2020; SELEP and partners will work with Twin Training (who have one of the new ESFA contracts described below, also in priority 1.1) to seek to achieve continuity.	The South East contract, <i>Skills Support for the Long-Term unemployed</i> , has a maximum contract value of £9m for a minimum of 4,500 starts (for East Sussex the minimum starts based on 13% population ratio is 583). Locations in East Sussex are Eastbourne in the Design & Manufacturing sector, and Hastings in the Financial & Business Services, Specialist Manufacturing and Engineering sectors. The contract runs to 2020 with no new referrals now being taken; those already on the programme will continue to receive support for up to 12 months. Performance info for this contract shows a good level of take-up across East Sussex with approx 299 starts (latest figures awaited from DWP).
	Department for Work & Pensions (DWP) – to assist young people enter growth sectors by addressing barriers such as transport, mental health support and confidence building to ensuring long-term sustainable jobs through pre-apprenticeships and work experience; projects must be completed by Sep 2020.	Call closed Jun 2017 with 2 applications from Prince's Trust and Essex CC totalling £700k, both now contracted.	The 2 projects will have publicity material soon and SELEP is seeking web links to further information.	The <i>Prince's Trust</i> contract will cover East Sussex.
	Department for Work & Pensions (DWP) – using virtual reality & online learning to support employment & growth; projects must be completed no later than 3.5 years after the proposed start date.	Call for outline applications open from 15 Oct to 31 Dec 2018.	DWP has confirmed that a number of applications were received, currently being evaluated.	Unknown, further information will be shared when available.
	Department for Work & Pensions (DWP) – Skills for Growth: Industry & Education Work Placements & Support in SELEP; a project to facilitate collaboration between education and SMEs across the SELEP area; intended to build upon a pilot around tutor bursaries for which the SELEP Skills Advisory Group has received Sector Support Funding; the project must be completed no later than 3.5 years after the proposed start date.	ITT open between 7 Feb and 2 May 2019.	Awaiting information on the applications submitted.	Projects will be within the SELEP area, including East Sussex.

EU Strategy / Funding Stream	Element	Activities / Actions / Deadlines		Main applications covering East Sussex
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European Social Fund (ESF)	Department for Work & Pensions (DWP) – Wheels to Work & Training in SELEP area; a call to run a project to support unemployed or inactive residents in the SELEP area find a way of travelling to/from employment or training opportunities; approx £2.5m of ESF funding is available; the project must be completed no later than 3.5 years after the proposed start date.	The call opened on 4 Apr 2019.	The call closes on 27 Jun 2019; awaiting information on the applications submitted.	Projects will be within the SELEP area, including East Sussex.
	Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) – sector-focused Apprenticeships including support to disadvantaged/vulnerable participants, access to high-quality employer-led careers information and LMI, and brokerage of opportunities for young people; 5 years' funding.	ESFA contracts worth £24m were announced in Jan 2017; SELEP's Higher Level & Digital Skills programmes were approved for time extensions, and the Numeracy, Basic Skills & Enhancing Apprenticeships programmes were approved for time extensions and financial growth.	All projects have now completed; new ESFA contracts commenced Apr 2019 (detailed below).	Two <i>Skills Support in the Workplace</i> projects covering Numeracy (£2.16m across SELEP of which approx £285k will be used in East Sussex) and Basic Skills (£2m across SELEP, £260k will be used in East Sussex). Two <i>Skills for Growth</i> projects covering Higher Level Skills (£4.6m across the whole SELEP region) and Higher Digital Skills (£1.4m across the whole SELEP region). One <i>Skills Support for the Unemployed</i> project (£1.924m for East Sussex).
	Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) – calls launched under 4 Priority Areas: PA 1.1 Skills Support for Unemployed, PA 1.2 NEET (15-24), PA 1.4 Community Grants, and PA 2.1 Skills Support for the Workforce & Redundancy.	ITTs opened 20 Aug 2018 with a SELEP launch event on 30 Aug 2018, and closed 17 Sep 2018; ESFA completed an evaluation in Dec 2018; the 4 successful projects have now been contracted and commenced on 1 Apr 2019.	SELEP will work with East Sussex and ESFA to ensure contracts focus on need, and an East Sussex representative will attend tripartite meetings with ESFA, contract holders and SELEP.	Contract holders are confirmed as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Twin Training</i> (skills support for the unemployed) • <i>Skills Training UK</i> (support for 15-24 yo NEETs) • <i>CXK</i> (community grants programme) • <i>Twin Training</i> (skills support for the workforce & redundancy) All applications will cover the whole SELEP area (other than the NEET contract which will exclude Essex due to provision there already); funding is allocated for delivery in East Sussex to ensure there is focus in the county.
	BIG Lottery – second round of Building Better Opportunities funding; the ESF thematic objective is Promoting Social Inclusion & Combating Poverty; applications invited to deliver 12 projects across the SELEP area - 6 in the north, 6 south; the total funding available for the south is £8,500,900.	Launched Oct 2015 with successful applicants announced May 2016; East Sussex and Kent & Medway submitted applications but 1 withdrew so there are only 5 in the south, 11 overall (the £483k allocated to the withdrawn project will support the extension/growth of current contracts).	Big Lottery assessed projects for growth and extension, and is currently finalising extensions with DWP; the final decision is imminent so we'll know shortly which projects are recommended for growth, enabling extensions to 2022; this has required additional Big Lottery funding as match (£2.7m) and SELEP ESF commitment (£2.7m); SELEP has some money remaining under the relevant priority area (1.4) and has issued a Change Request to DWP to move money from PA-1.1 to facilitate these extensions (awaiting confirmation).	The 5 live projects in the south (all covering East Sussex) are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sussex Community Development Association ('Let's Get Working', £3,574,200 – employment support for people with disabilities and long term health issues) • Porchlight & Sussex Community Development Association (£2,260,500 – employment support for people with mental health issues) • Social Enterprise Kent CIC (£483,000 – employment support for older people) • Gingerbread, the charity of single parent families (£830,800 – employment support for lone parents) • Royal British Legion Industries (£869,400 – employment support for people with difficulty sustaining employment)
CLLD (ERDF/ESF)	CLLD programmes will run for 5 years focusing on those groups most excluded from economic activity and in need of support to get on the path towards employment, and on encouraging entrepreneurial activity.	Initial EOIs closed Nov 2015 with 3 successful South East applications from Hastings & Bexhill, Thurrock and Folkestone; after several more application iterations, funding agreements finally signed May 2018; the Hastings & Bexhill CLLD programme opened its first call for projects between Jun & Aug 2018; Call 2 opened 20 Mar 2019.	Project applications from Hastings BC's first call are now being assessed (one has completed assessment and is being considered for approval by the Local Action group on 20 Jun 2019); a second call is also now open for smaller value projects between £100k and £250k to address gaps left after the first call; 2 EOIs have been received for Call 2 so far with more expected by the closing date of 20 Jun 2019.	The Hastings & Bexhill CLLD submission - <i>CHART (Connecting Hastings & Rother Together)</i> - encompasses 10 wards across Hastings, Bexhill and Sidley, helping local people benefit from new employment & enterprise opportunities and helping to expand the cultural, creative, media and visitor/leisure economies; Hastings BC is the accountable body for CHART; following their first call for projects Hastings BC suggested several 'mergers' to form robust partnerships to deliver a small number of projects that are large in scale/impact; 5 partnerships submitted full applications (3 ESF & 2 ERDF); 1 ERDF application has been withdrawn and the rest are currently being assessed.

EU Strategy / Funding Stream	Element	Activities / Actions / Deadlines		Main applications covering East Sussex
		Completed	Pending	
CLLD - European Maritime Fisheries Fund (EMFF)	EMFF / Marine Maritime Organisation (MMO) Fisheries Local Action Group (FLAG).	An application and Local Strategy from Hastings Fisheries Local Action Group (HFLAG) has been submitted and approved.	HFLAG project progressing.	<i>Hastings Fisheries Local Action Group (HFLAG)</i> was given approval for £600k for projects plus an additional £200k for M&A over 3 years, supporting the Hastings small scale fleet and associated industry; Hastings BC is lead partner on behalf of HFLAG; funding equating to £640,461 has now been committed to 19 projects (£40k over budget, extra spend which has been approved by the managing authority).
LEADER	Programme adopted, launched Oct 2015.	WARR and Central Sussex Leader programmes launched Oct 2015.	Nothing pending.	Wealden & Rother Rural Partnership (WARR) and Central Sussex Leader programme (including Horsham, Mid Sussex & Lewes District); both Local Action Groups are running and accepting applications.
EAFRD	Call 1 offered grants to support micro & small businesses (no applications from East Sussex); Call 2 has 3 submeasures covering Tourism Infrastructure £2.6m, Food Processing £3.7m, & Business Development £2m.	Call 1 took place summer 2015; Call 2 published Jan 2017, with the original Jan 2018 deadline extended to 31 May 2018; the fund is now closed to new EOIs.	Nothing pending.	Across the SELEP area there are 41 contracted projects from Call 2 worth £16,755,541; 20 projects have been completed and final claims paid; there is no federated-level breakdown of contracted projects.
Interreg	France-Channel-England: a cross-border programme that aims at funding high quality cooperation projects in the Channel border region between France and England, in line with the Europe 2020 strategy; the Managing Authority is Norfolk County Council. https://interreg.eu/programme/interreg-france-united-kingdom-manche-channel/ https://interreg5a-fce.eu/	5 calls took place between Mar 2015 and Apr 2017, after which the programme switched to a running open call; since Mar 2017 the programme also has 2 calls per year (Mar & Oct) for 'micro projects'; a total of 25 projects have been approved overall.	The running open call for regular projects has been extended until Nov 2019 for project ideas, and Jun 2020 for full applications; calls for micro projects (2 calls per year in Mar & Oct) will continue until Mar 2020.	None - Hastings BC was originally part of the <i>Sustainable Future for Seaside Economies (SUFUSE)</i> project submission, but withdrew due to risk/resource/potential gain.
	2 Seas 2014-20: a European Territorial Cooperation programme covering England, France, Netherlands & Belgium with a total of €241m ERDF to co-finance projects in the 2014-20 period; the overall objective is to develop an innovative, knowledge & research based, sustainable and inclusive 2 Seas area, where natural resources are protected and the green economy is promoted. https://www.interreg2seas.eu/en	8 calls have already taken place; a total of 68 projects (from the first 6 calls) have been approved overall.	Recommendations for Call 7 Step 1 (concept note) have been made and Step 2 (full application) closes on 6 Sep 2019; Call 8 Step 2 closes 31 Oct 2019.	Hastings BC is a partner in implementing the <i>Sustainable Houses in an Inclusive Neighbourhood (SHINE)</i> project, approved Jul 2016 for completion by Aug 2020.
	North West Europe: fostering transnational cooperation to make Northwestern Europe a key economic player and an attractive place to work and live, with high levels of innovation, sustainability and cohesion. http://www.nweurope.eu/	8 calls have taken place since Nov 2015, plus a targeted call on renewable energy; a total of 83 projects have been approved overall.	Call 9 Step 1 closes on 14 Jun 2019.	Hastings BC is a sub-partner in implementing the <i>Climate Active Neighbourhoods (CAN)</i> project, with 'Optivo' the main partner in Hastings, approved Feb 2016 for completion by Oct 2019; HBC is also a partner in the <i>Public Building in Straw (UP STRAW)</i> project, approved Mar 2017 (length 4 years but build implementation over 1 year, commenced Spring 2019).
	Interreg Europe: helping regional and local governments across Europe deliver better policy by creating opportunities for sharing ideas and experience, therefore improving strategies https://www.interregeurope.eu/	4 calls have taken place between Jun 2015 and Jun 2018; a total of 184 projects (from the first 3 calls) have been approved overall.	Awaiting confirmation of successful Call 4 applications; no further calls will take place.	Hastings BC is a partner in the <i>Delivering Efficient Sustainable Tourism with low-carbon transport Innovations - Sustainable Mobility, Accessibility and Responsible Travel (DESTI-SMART)</i> project, approved Mar 2018 as part of Call 3 and commenced May 2018, with a kick-off conference Sep 2018; HBC is using the funding to explore possible options for low carbon and sustainable transport along the seafront; a feasibility study is underway, to be completed Sep 2019; the project is due for completion in 2022.

Capital Programme Dashboard (LGF/GPF projects)

Project Category	Scheme Name	Start Date	End Date	LGF Spend Profile								Progress Update	
				2015/16 Actual	2016/17 Actual	2017/18 Actual	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Post 2021	Total		
A21/A259 Hastings/Bexhill Growth Corridor													
LGF Transport	Queensway Gateway Road	2015/16	2017/18	1.419	1.121	5.000	2.46				10	1. QGR provides a new road between Queensway and A21 in north Hastings; 2. Planning approved Dec 2015 (two separate judicial review challenges were dismissed) and site clearance completed Mar 2016; 3. Additional £4m LGF reallocated plus additional £2m SCS funding in Feb 2018; 4. The western half of the project is now essentially complete, the new roundabout on Queensway having opened Dec 2018 with barrier & street lighting works completed Feb 2019; 5. Agreement in principal reached on the relocation of Bartletts SEAT, expected to take place in first half of 2019; 6. Phase 2a (intermediate roundabout to Ramblers Coaches entrance) commenced and is nearing completion; 7. Remaining phase through to the A21 is dependent on relocation of SEAT with construction on Phase 2b expected to be completed by the end of 2019/20.	
LGF Transport	North Bexhill Access Road	2015/16	2016/17	6.41	4.6	5.590	2				18.6	1. NBAR will run from a roundabout on the BHLR to the A269 north of Sidley; 2. Business case approved Nov 2015, planning permission granted by Rother DC Feb 2016; 3. Land acquisition for all phases & adjacent commercial land is complete; 4. First phase of the road between A269 Ninfield Road & Watermill Lane completed in Dec 2018; 5. The full length of NBAR was completed and opened to traffic in Mar 2019; 6. There remains a delay in the formal adoption of the road until after the Stage 3 road safety audit is completed.	
LGF Transport	Hastings and Bexhill Movement and Access Package	2015/16	2020/21			0.345	1.012	4.195	3.448		9	1. Package of walking & cycling infrastructure improvements & junction capacity improvements identified in Local Plan Infrastructure Delivery Plans to support housing and employment; 2. Business case approved by SELEP Accountability Board Feb 2018 with budget reduced by £3m to £9m; 3. Design work started in a number of areas but a delay in start meant a £1m slippage in spend in this financial year; 4. Hastings Western cycle route progressing well but requires a larger extensive consultation than anticipated which will mean construction deferred to 2019/20; 5. The Alexandra Park to Conquest Hospital feasibility study has now commenced but won't complete until Jun 2019; 6. Risk being managed by increasing resources on both sides to assist with delivering the schemes & LGF funding will be reprogrammed into 2019/20 to reflect when construction will commence; 7. The remaining schemes within this package are progressing and working towards delivery of schemes over the coming two financial years.	
LGF Infrastructure	Bexhill Enterprise Park North	2019/20	2020/21					1.9			1.9	1. LGF-3B allocation agreed by Investment Panel Mar 2019; 2. Business Case approved by SELEP Accountability Board Jun 2019; 3. Grant agreement being drafted to transfer the funding to Sea Change Sussex.	
LGF infrastructure	Sidney Little Road Incubator Hub	2019/20	2020/21					0.381	0.119		0.5	1. LGF-3B allocation agreed by Investment Panel Mar 2019; 2. Business Case approved by SELEP Accountability Board Jun 2019; 3. Grant agreement being drafted to transfer the funding to Hastings Borough Council.	
LGF Infrastructure	East Sussex Strategic Growth Package	2016/17	2020/21			3.550	4.65				8.2	1. Funding approved by SELEP Accountability Board Jan 2017; 2. Work on the road extension at Bexhill Enterprise Park completed Sep 2017; 3. Construction of High Weald House at Bexhill was completed Apr 2019 after which SCS will look to refinance against the property and utilise the funding to commence construction of further employment space at Sovereign Harbour.	
TOTAL											48.2		
A22/A27 Eastbourne/South Wealden Growth Corridor													
LGF Transport	Hailsham / Polegate / Eastbourne Movement and Access corridor	2015/16	2016/17			0.254	0.6	1.258			2.112	1. Sustainable Transport Corridor between Hailsham, Polegate & Eastbourne, part of strategic transport improvements identified to support planned housing & employment growth within the current Wealden & Eastbourne Local Plans; 2. Includes improvements for buses to/from Hailsham accessing Polegate Station, the DGH/East Sussex College & Eastbourne Town Centre, as well as walking & cycling improvements along the corridor for more local journeys; 3. Business case approved at the Feb 2017 Accountability Board; 4. Consultation on Phase 1 proposals Sep 2017, results reported to LMTE Jun 2018; 5. Spend currently allocated to detailed design (commissioned Jul 2018) of Phase 1 approved schemes for delivery in 2019/20 onwards, as well as delivery of pedestrian improvements in Victoria Drive & design of Battle Road/London Road junction improvement in Hailsham.	

LGF Transport	Eastbourne and South Wealden LSTF walking & cycling package	2015/16	2020/21	0.6	0.37	1.63	0.735	1.765	1.5	6.6	1. Package of walking & cycling schemes identified in Eastbourne & Wealden Cycle Strategies to support housing & employment growth in these areas; 2. Business case for extension of first tranche of schemes (£2.6m) approved by SELEP Accountability Board Nov 2015; 3. Smaller elements delivered in early years of the programme due to Japanese Knotweed on Horsey Sewer Route; 4. Accelerated spend on Horsey Way bike path extension approved at Nov 2017 Accountability Board, construction completed May 2018; 5. Remaining funding for the 2018/19 financial year relates to design of a number of schemes and the construction of Meads pedestrian improvements (completed); 6. Business case for the remaining £4m approved at the Feb 2019 Accountability Board, and design work is being progressed for this package of schemes for delivery over the next two years.
LGF Transport	Eastbourne town centre LSTF access & improvement package	2015/16	2020/21		0.55	0.245	4.205	1	2	8	Phase 1: 1. Business case developed for £3m funding for Terminus Road improvements associated with Arndale Centre (The Beacon) extension; 2. Business case approved by SELEP Accountability Board Apr 2016; 3. Additional £2m LGF allocated to ensure completion of this phase; 4. Works started Mar 2018 with Mildren Construction; 5. Initial phase of scheme focussed on Terminus Road section outside the Beacon, opened in parallel with the opening of the first tranche of units in Oct/Nov 2018; 6. Some construction delays due to delays in revised design work, thereby setting the programme back - scheme currently programmed for completion Sep 2019. Phase 2: 1. Following transport study, designs are being developed for next phase of the scheme; 2. Business case approved at Feb 2019 Accountability Board; 3. Preliminary design work commenced, due for completion mid-2019 for consultation on Phase 2a (Terminus Road: Bankers Corner to Langney Road) in autumn.
LGF Transport	A22/A27 Junction improvements	2016/17	2017/18								1. Since the £4m LGF allocation was initially made in 2014, delivery of a number of the junction improvements has been successfully secured from different match funding sources (HE's smaller scale interventions and the HPEMAC); 2. As a consequence and in light of other funding pressures in the overall East Sussex LGF programme, £3m of the £4m was reallocated to other LGF projects in late 2017/early 2018 with TES approval, leaving only £1m available for remaining junctions in this proposed package; 3. Designs have been progressed for the two junctions in Stone Cross as part of the wider package of junction improvements in the south Wealden area in order to support the planned housing growth as set out in the Wealden Local Plan; 4. It became clear from going through the design and costing process that the £1m available is <u>not</u> sufficient to enable the delivery of any of the junctions within the package without significant additional monies being allocated, and as a consequence East Sussex would not be able to submit a compliant business case that would be accepted by the SELEP's ITE within the timescales required for it to be considered by the Apr 2019 Accountability Board; 5. SELEP advised it's not possible to reallocate the £1m to other projects in the East Sussex LGF programme and therefore the £1m has been made available for the LGF Round 3B pot; 6. A Major Roads Network outline business case has been submitted to TfSE in relation to a package of junction improvements on the A22 corridor which includes these and other junction improvements in the area.
LGF Infrastructure	Swallow Business Park	2015/16	2018/19	0.505	0.895					1.4	1. Planning permission granted for northern & southern parts of site; 2. Business case approved by SELEP Accountability Board Feb 2016; 3. Ground works continue to be progressed, onsite sewerage treatment is being installed and the road through to the far end of the site has been completed; 4. The site's first tenant (VACGEN) has taken possession of the building and are installing production facilities; 5. Construction of the starter units completed and ready for tenants - My Life Bathrooms have occupied Block E; 6. Overall the business park has generated 60 FTE jobs to date, and there has been great interest in the units.
LGF Infrastructure	Strategic Site Investment Package (formerly 'Sovereign Harbour Innovation Park')	2015/16	2021/22	0.53	1.17					1.7	1. Review of projected costs originally allocated to site infrastructure at Sovereign Harbour resulted in a broadening of the scope to also include North Queensway and North Bexhill Business Parks, so investment will enable site infrastructure to be delivered across the three sites; 2. Revised scope approved by Government & the revised full business case approved by SELEP Accountability Board Feb 2016; 3. Works related to this scheme have now been completed at all sites.

LGF Infrastructure	Devonshire Park Quarter Redevelopment	2017/18	2019/20			5					5	1. Scheme approved by SELEP Accountability Board Mar 2017 and now into the construction phase using the leverage funding provided by Eastbourne BC; 2. Accelerated spend for this scheme was approved at the Nov 2017 Accountability Board and it was allocated £5m for 2017/18; 3. Congress Theatre completed and opened Mar 2019 with an inaugural concert by the London Philharmonic Orchestra ; 4. Construction of the Welcome Building is now complete ; 5. Site due to open Jun 2019 with first conferences from Oct 2019 ; 6. Theatre ticket sales are going well with £700,000+ already achieved, some 22% of the annual sales target.
TOTAL											24.812	
Newhaven Maritime and Clean Tech Growth Corridor												
LGF Infrastructure (C2C funded)	Newhaven Port Access Road	2016/17	2018/19				7.5	2.5			10	1. Identified by DfT as one of their 'portfolio' schemes and therefore they will retain overall decision making responsibilities for approving the release of LGF monies; 2. £13m also allocated in ESCC's capital programme towards scheme; 3. First phase completed as part of the Eastside development; 4. Tender completed, BAM Nutall identified as preferred contractor; 5. Value engineering exercise undertaken, scheme including ancillary costs can be funded within overall £23.2m budget; 6. Business case for £10m approved by DfT Aug 2018 ; 7. Construction started Jan 2019 with a 19 month construction period.
LGF Infrastructure (SE LEP & C2C funded)	Newhaven Flood Alleviation Scheme	2016/17	2017/18	0.3	0.8	0.4					1.5	1. Environment Agency led scheme to reduce flood risk in Newhaven and recognise the wider benefits this will bring in encouraging regeneration in the town; 2. £10m from EA and £1.5m from C2C as well as SELEP funding; 3. Contracts signed Mar 2016; 4. EA appointed main contractor Jackson Hyder to produce detailed designs and construct flood defences; 5. Construction started Nov 2016, scheduled to be completed late-2019/early-2020; 6. Construction constraints in the port area have required EA to review final design proposals in consultation with ESCC on flood risk; 7. Area 1 embankments and areas 2, 3 & 4 are complete; 8. Area 1 tie-in & Area 5 was completed in Apr 2019; 9. Area 5 Fishmarket Corner currently being constructed ; 10. Area 1 barrier has ongoing risks due to Network Rail negotiations.
TOTAL											11.5	
Pan LEP												
LGF Pan-LEP	Housing Regeneration Project (Hastings)	2016/17	2017/18			0.667					0.667	1. Offer of £2m LGF from an original £10m ask was made as part of the Growth Deal 'expansion' in Jan 2015; 2. Pan-LEP project includes Hastings, Thanet & Tendring so the East Sussex share of the £2m is approx £666k; 3. Bid documents were recast to reflect the provisional award of £2m and the revised business case was approved at the Feb 2017 Accountability Board; 4. Hastings BC partnered with Amicus Horizon in a major intervention programme, 'CoastalSpace', involving acquisition & refurbishment of properties in St. Leonards; 5. A new property was selected following the destruction of the original property identified in the business case, approved at the Sep 2017 Accountability Board; 6. Grant agreement between ESCC & HBC signed Nov 2017 and the property purchased; 7. All LGF funds have now been defrayed to the project partner; 8. Housing association Optivo has taken possession of the property and is now developing a plan for full refurbishment to create 16 social housing units as part of the CoastalSpace programme.
LGF Skills / Skills Capital and Equipment Funds												
Plumpton College	Skills for Rural Business post-Brexit	2019/20	2020/21					2	0.784		2.917	1. LGF-3B allocation agreed by Investment Panel Mar 2019; 2. Business Case approved by SELEP Accountability Board Jun 2019 ; 3. Grant agreement currently being drafted to transfer the funding to Plumpton College.
Sussex Downs College (now East Sussex College)	Refurbished Science Facilities	2016/17	2017/18			0.16					0.16	1. Sussex Downs College (now East Sussex College) awarded £159,400 towards total project costs of £478,320 (33%) in Round 1 for refurbishing the reception/hub of the new STEM Centre and an alteration to the existing Science Laboratory at their Lewes Campus; 2. Work completed so delivery can commence; 3. Due to negotiations with builders and subcontractors, overall costs reduced meaning SELEP's 33% contribution also reduced to £80k, resulting in a surplus of £79,440; 4. SELEP Accountability Board agreed Jan 2017 that SDC could utilise the £79k underspend for their broader project, enhancing the first floor laboratory, subject to full application and approval by the Board; 5. An application for £39,515 was approved by the May 2017 Accountability Board, with the remaining unused funds returned to the LGF programme for later allocation.

Sussex Downs College (now East Sussex College)	Specialist Equipment for STEM Centre	2016/17	2017/18		0.075					0.075	1. Specialist industry-relevant equipment supporting a new STEM Centre enabling the delivery of 35 new apprentices per annum in Laboratory Technician, Science Manufacturing Technician, Laboratory Scientist and Science Industry Maintenance Technician qualifications from 2017/18; 2. East Sussex College (formerly Sussex Downs College) has now made the final claims for this scheme.
Plumpton College	Science & Engineering for Tree Management	2016/17	2017/18		0.14					0.14	1. Scheme is complete and has been fully claimed.
Plumpton College	Growing Apprenticeship & Skills Training in Engineering	2016/17	2017/18		0.088					0.088	1. Scheme is complete and has been fully claimed.

Growing Places Fund - loan funding												
GPF	Eastbourne Fishermen's Quay	2017/18	2018/19				1.15				1.15	1. Project approved at Dec 2017 Accountability Board; 2. Before the land purchase could be completed Carillion went into administration and Administrators sold the freehold to Premier Marinas who were not willing to sell the freehold; 3. As an alternative the lease of the land over 75 years with peppercorn rent was offered, presenting a feasible option to enable the delivery of the project; 4. The project change request from land-purchase to a long lease will not impact on the outcomes of the project as stated in the Business Case, nor the cost of delivering the project; 5. The change of scope was noted at the Sep 2018 Accountability Board; 6. Ground investigations completed, no complications discovered and build can progress within parameters of original plan; 7. Terms of leasehold provisionally signed off by Premier Marina's board Feb 2019; 8. Preferred contractor for project went into administration early 2019 resulting in new contractor procurement process needing to be done; 9. New contractor is in place and costs have risen slightly from original contractor's bid, but EU10CIC have secured increased grant from EMFF to cover the difference; 10. Planned start date is Jul 2019 with completion still due by Mar 2020.
GPF	Charleston Centenary	2017/18	2018/19				0.12				0.12	1. Project approved at Feb 2018 Accountability Board; 2. It was originally intended that the GPF would be drawn down in 2017/18 but this was delayed to 2018/19; 3. The change to the repayment schedule was approved at the Sep 2018 Accountability Board; 4. The GPF agreement is due to be signed imminently to enable the funding to be transferred; 5. LGF elements of scheme complete - monitoring continues for post-delivery benefits realisation.

Other: Coast to Capital LEP Funded Schemes												
C2C LGF	Newhaven Eastside South	2016/17	2020/21		0.4	1.2					1.6	1. Work on Eastside South has progressed well with all piling now complete; 2. Phase 1 of the scheme (2,360m²) is now complete; 3. Phase 2 commenced in Apr 2018 with strong interest being shown by potential tenants; 4. Blocks A,B,3,4 are complete with a current total of 5,851m²
C2C LGF	Railway Quay	2016/17	2020/21		1.5						1.5	1. Purchase of Railway Quay completed by Lewes DC Apr 2017; 2. Lewes DC commissioned Cushman & Wakefield to undertake a Market Demand Study looking at potential development options for the site, with a report produced Jun 2017; 3. Lewes DC is now considering which of the development plan options to take forward (a variation of one seems the most viable).
C2C LGF	Springman House	2016/17	2019/20		2						2	1. Purchase of Springman House by Lewes DC completed Mar 2017; 2. A brief is being drafted to procure a design team (architect only as the project management side of Springman House will be procured through the Lewes/Eastbourne JV framework); 3. Demolition work took place during 2018/19 with the new fire station to be fully occupied by Mar 2020.
C2C LGF	Charleston Centenary	2017/18	2018/19			0.4					0.4	1. The grant has supported the various parts of the Centenary project including facilities for the barn renovation, specialist catering and exhibition equipment and landscaping of the grounds to help attract over 50,000 visitors per year.

Economic update - June 2019

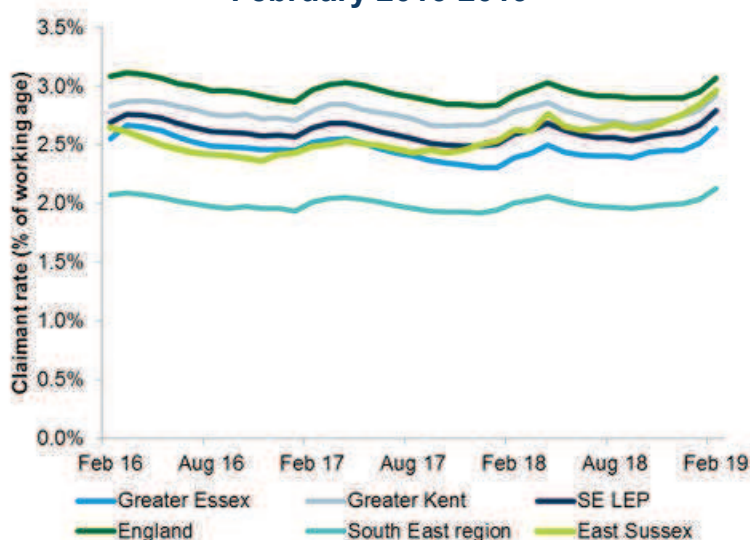
Key points

- The economy of East Sussex generated £10.7 billion in 2017, or £19,348 per head. Total GVA has increased by 23% since 2012.
- Wholesale, Retail and Motors; and Health and Social care are the most important sectors in terms of the numbers employed and GVA generated (if we exclude GVA from owned property).
- There were 2,415 new businesses started in 2017 and the number of active businesses increased by 1.2% from 2016, but the rate of business formation is slowing.
- In terms of business numbers, the fastest growing sectors are: Business administration and support (up 42%), Property (up 26%), and ICT (up 25%).
- The county has a slightly lower working-age employment rate, and higher rates of self-employment and part-time working than average for the country as a whole.
- The Alternative Claimant Count (ACC) rate* in the county remains just below the national average but is increasing faster than is average for England or the SELEP.
- Between 2017 and 2022 there is projected to be an increase in the number of people in the East Sussex labour force, but most of these new workers will be in the oldest (60+) age group.

Labour market & skills



Alternative Claimant Count (ACC)*¹,
February 2016-2019



* the ACC is a new measure from DWP which includes estimates of those additional claimants who would have been searching for work under Universal Credit had it been rolled out in that area at the time, together with unemployed people claiming Jobseekers Allowance (JSA) and Universal Credit (UC). It includes people such as partners of claimants, and those who previously would have only received Housing Benefit or Child Tax Credits, and replaces the previous Claimant Count.

jobcentreplus

9,416 claimants

(Alternative Claimant Count*¹ see below) in East Sussex, February 2019

3.0% of the working age population
Slightly lower than England (3.1%)

↑ 13% since February 2018
Compared to 5% in England

Links to pages:

[Page 2: Labour market](#)

[Page 3: Skills](#)

[Page 4: GVA](#)

[Page 5: GVA and productivity](#)

[Page 6: Businesses](#)

[Page 7: Businesses](#)

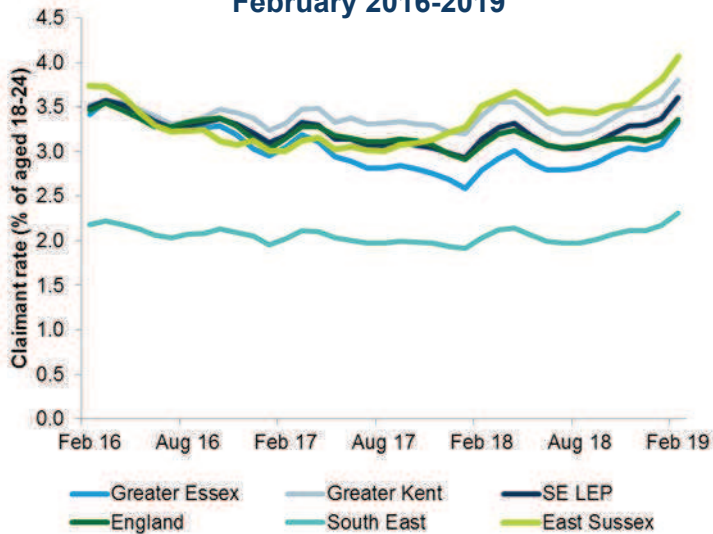
[Page 8: Growth measures](#)

[Pages 9 and 10: Further information](#)

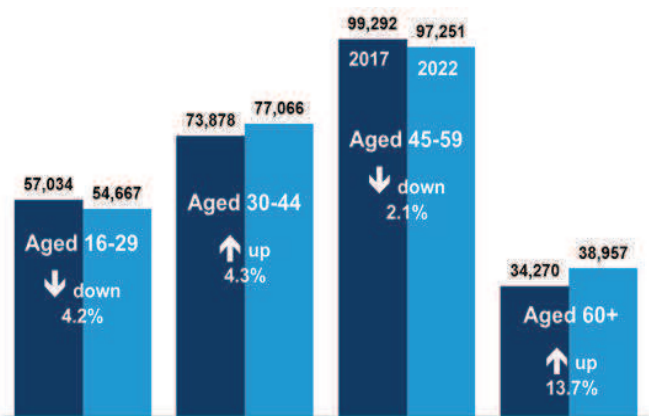
Details and links for all sources can be found at the end of the briefing

Labour market

ACC among young people aged 18-24*¹,
February 2016-2019



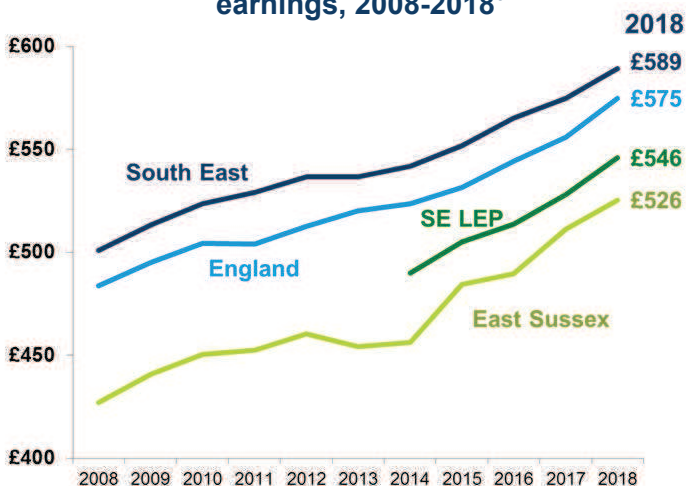
Workforce projections (dwelling led)
for East Sussex, 2017-2022³



Workforce projections²

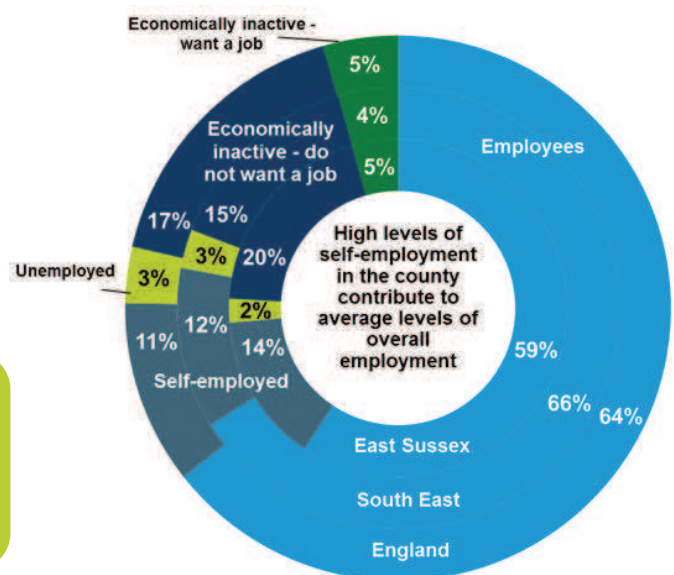
The East Sussex labour force is projected to grow by 1.3% between 2017 and 2022. But whereas numbers of younger workers aged 16-29 are expected to fall by 4%, there is projected to be a rise in workers aged 60+ of 14%, as baby boomers age and pension ages rise.

Workplace-based median full-time weekly earnings, 2008-2018⁵

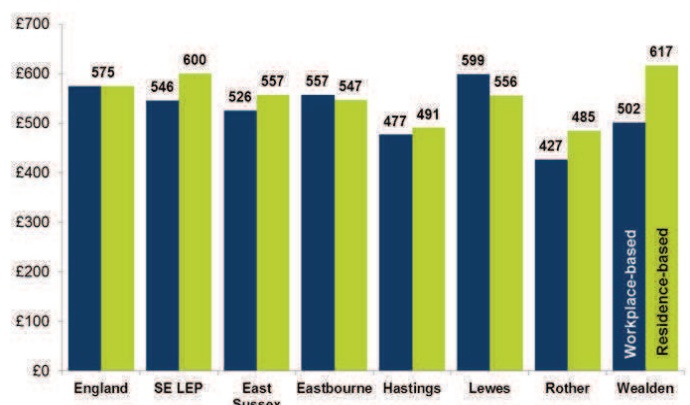


- At 73.6%, the East Sussex employment rate⁵ is slightly below average (England 75.3%) with comparatively high levels of self-employment and people working part-time⁴.
- The Alternative Claimant Count (ACC)* rose in the month to February 2019 in line with the national trend and is now 13% higher than in February 2018⁹, compared to a 5% increase nationally. Youth rates are rising faster than the population as a whole and reached 4.1% in February 2018 higher than the national rate of 3.4%, and up 16% on the previous year.
- Average earnings for jobs in the county are £49 per week lower than the national average.
- A lower proportion of the county's residents have higher level qualifications compared to national and regional populations, but a lower proportion have low or no qualifications.
- A higher percentage of the county's workers are part-time - 36.7% against a national average of 31.9%.⁴

Economic activity and inactivity
in the year to December 2018³

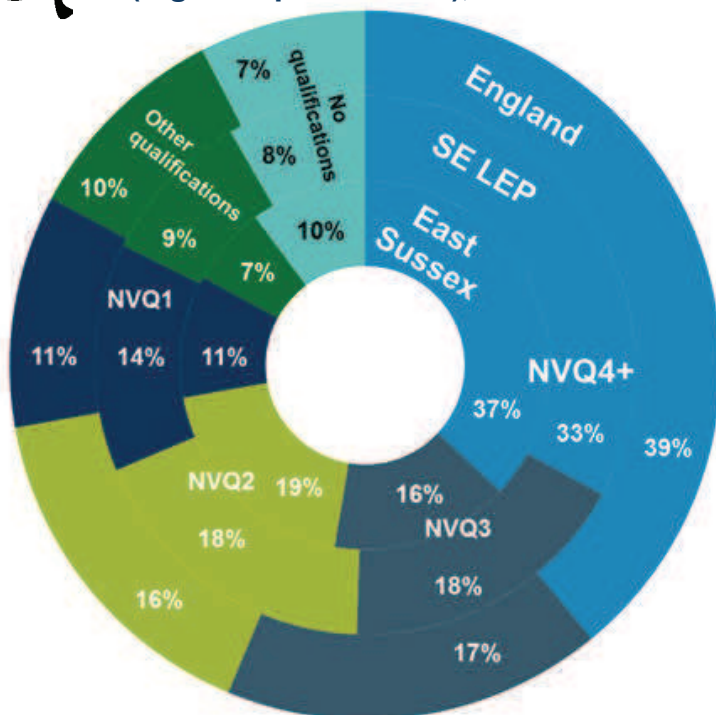


Average (median) weekly earnings in
2018, by district⁵



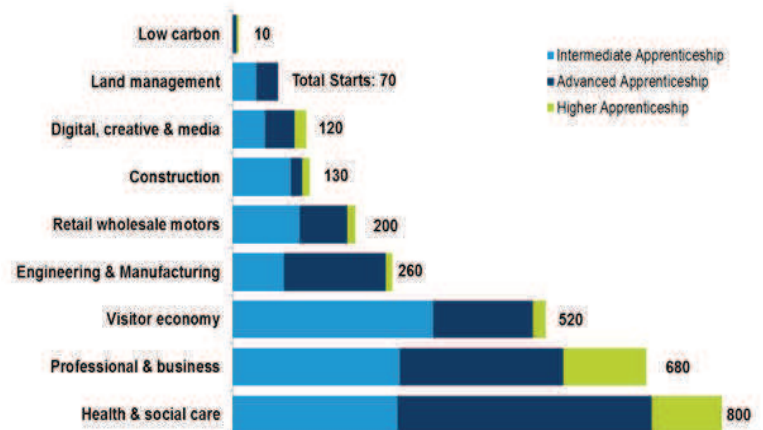


Qualifications of the working age population (highest qualification), December 2018⁶

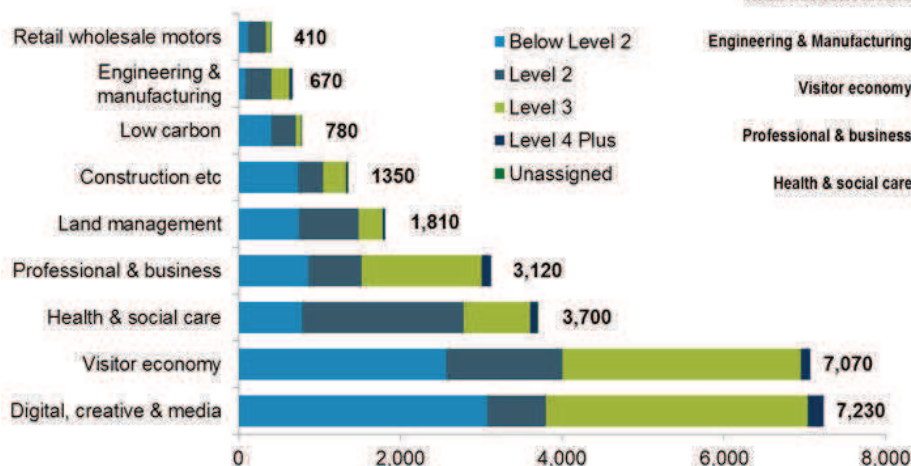


- East Sussex has a lower proportion of people with Level 4 qualifications (degree and equivalents) and a higher level of people with no qualifications than in the national average (England).⁶
- But the proportion of people with Level 4 is even lower in the SELEP as a whole.

Apprenticeship starts by Priority Sectors, East Sussex learners, 2017/18⁷



Further Education starts by priority sector, East Sussex learners, 2018⁷



Note that the priority sectors may overlap e.g. the Retail sector features as part of the Visitor economy as well as being part of the Wholesale, retail and motors sector.

In 2017/18 there were
25,430
people participating in
FE and learning in
East Sussex⁸

In 2017/18 there were
2,810
apprenticeship starts
in East Sussex⁸

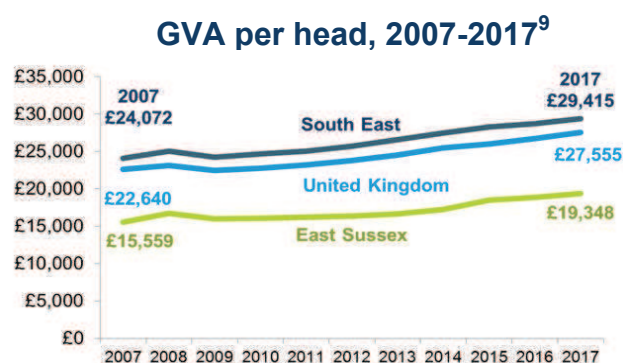
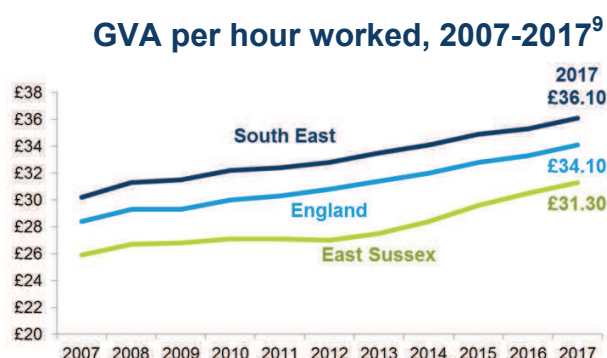
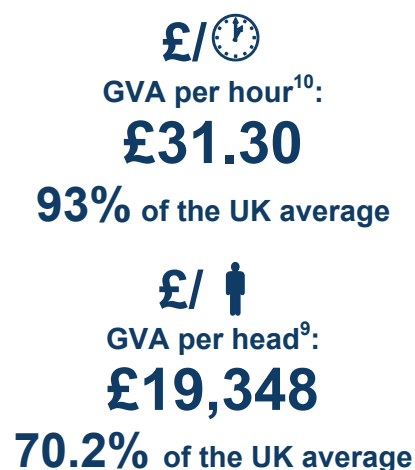
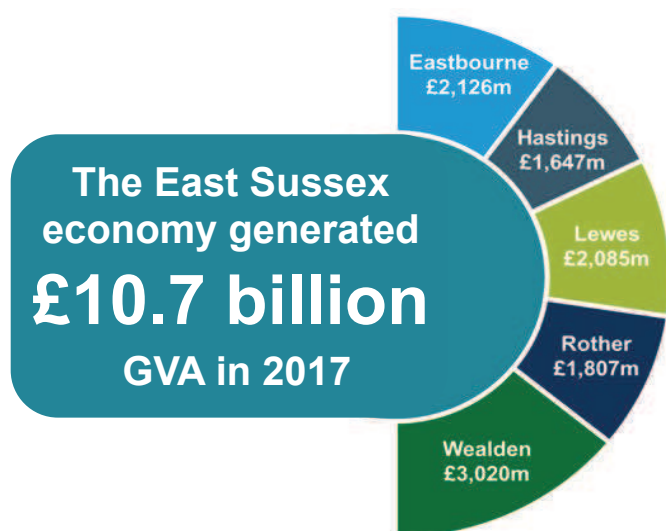
28%
fewer
than
2016/17
SELEP
down
by 20%

6%
more
than
2016/17
SELEP
down
by 1%

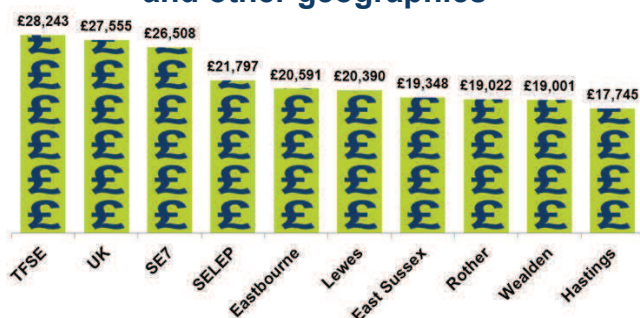
In 2017/18 there were
2,150
apprenticeship achievements
in East Sussex⁸

Gross Value Added

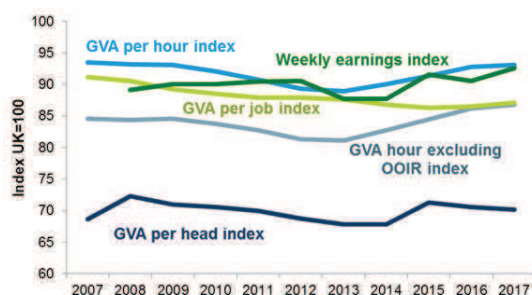
- GVA per head has grown by 24.3% in the county since 2007, slightly higher than growth of 21.7% in the UK as a whole and 22.2% in the SE region⁹.
- Growth of GVA per head in the county was lower than average for the UK in 2016/17 (up 2.5% compared with 3.0% nationally) but was higher than in 2015/16 (2.0% against 2.9% nationally)⁹
- While Real estate is the largest sector in the county at 20% of GVA, if we take out 'Owner-occupied imputed rental' (OOIR), which reflects property prices in an area, Wholesale, retail and motors, and Health and social care are the largest sectors.
- There is much variation at district level, especially when OOIR is not included. For example, Finance and insurance make up nearly a quarter of the GVA of Rother, compared to 0.5% in Lewes
- The Other service activities sector grew most strongly in the year 2016-2017, by 23%. It accounts for 3% of the county's GVA. The slowest growing sector was Arts, Entertainments and Recreation, which fell by 12% in the year, following a contraction of 9% the previous year.



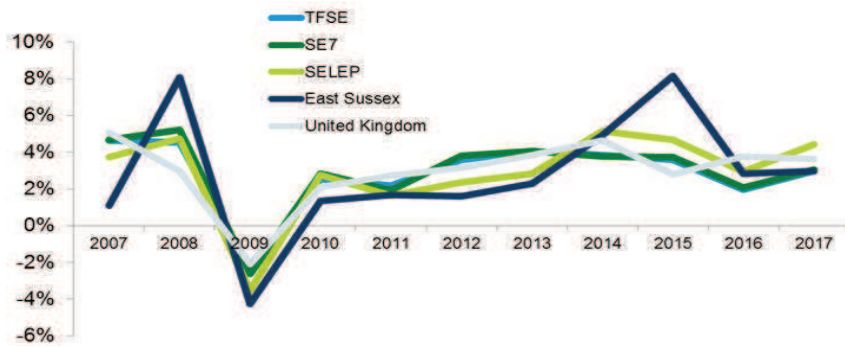
GVA per head in 2017 by district, SE LEP and other geographies⁹



Productivity and earnings measures compared - East Sussex indices where UK=100^{5,9,10}



Year on year change in GVA is more volatile in the county than at other geographies.



4 sectors account for nearly half of total GVA in East Sussex:



Real Estate - including owner occupiers imputed rental (20%)



Wholesale, retail & motors (11%)



Health (9%)



Construction (8%)

Gross value added by sector (excluding ODIR) in 2017⁹

If we exclude ODIR[†], different sectors make a higher than average contribution to GVA in the districts:

Eastbourne: Wholesale, retail etc (17.2%); Health (17.8%)

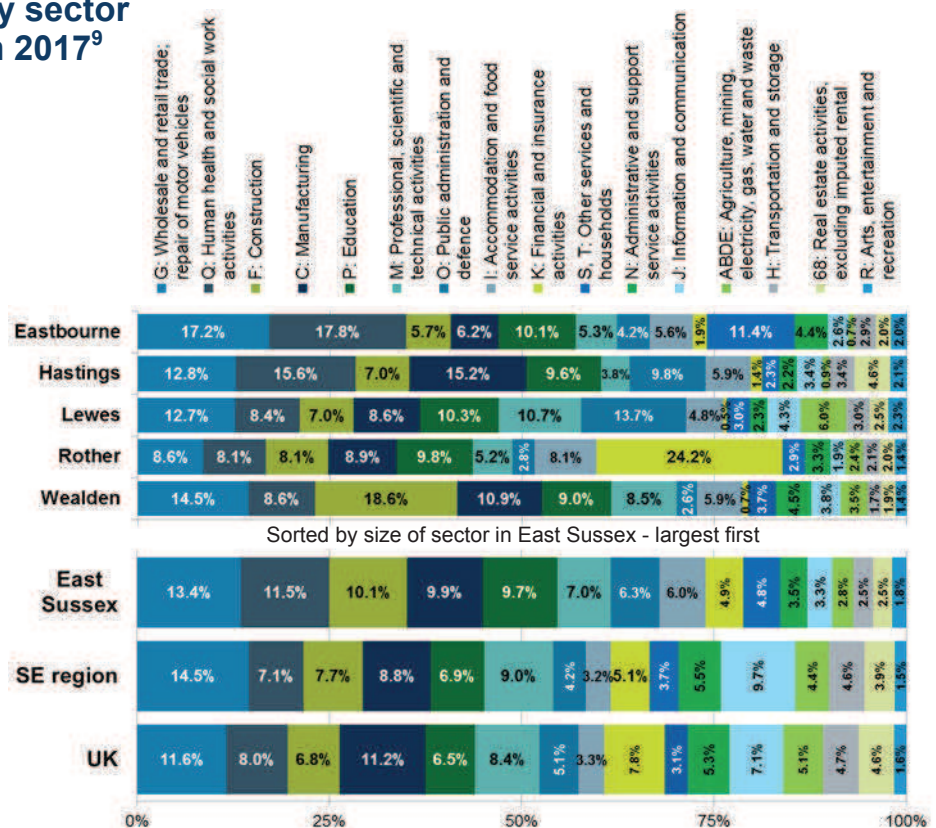
Hastings: Health (15.6%); Manufacturing (15.2%)

Lewes: Public admin etc. (13.7%); Prof, Sci, Tech (10.7%)

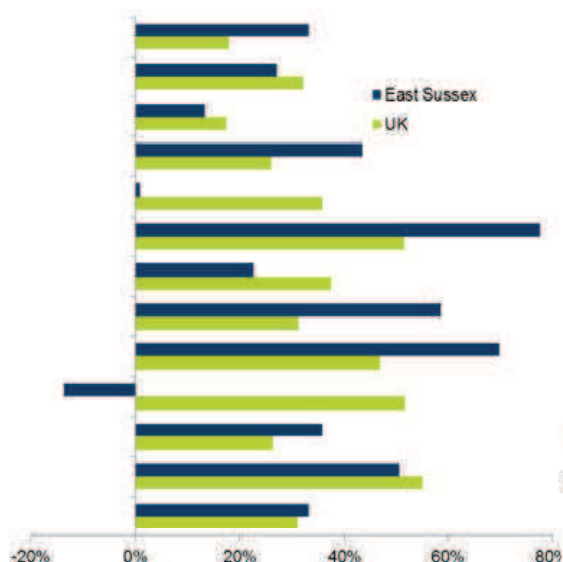
Rother: Finance and insurance (24.2%); Education (9.8%)

Wealden: Construction (18.6%), Wholesale, retail etc (14.5%)

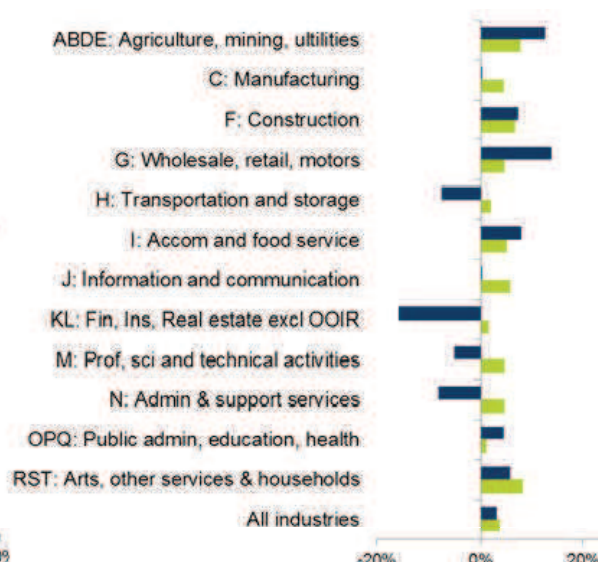
[†] see end notes for full definition of 'owner occupied imputed rental'



Long-term change in GVA 2007-17



Short-term change in GVA 2016-17⁹

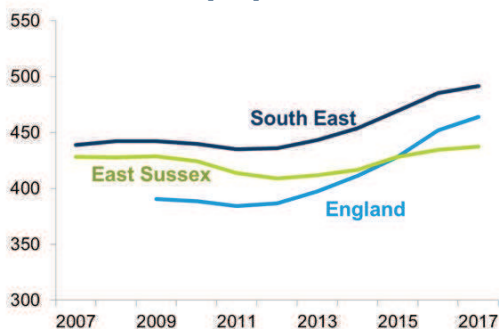


Change in GVA by industry varies significantly over time. Some sectors which saw significant growth over a 10 year period have shown a decline more recently.

Businesses

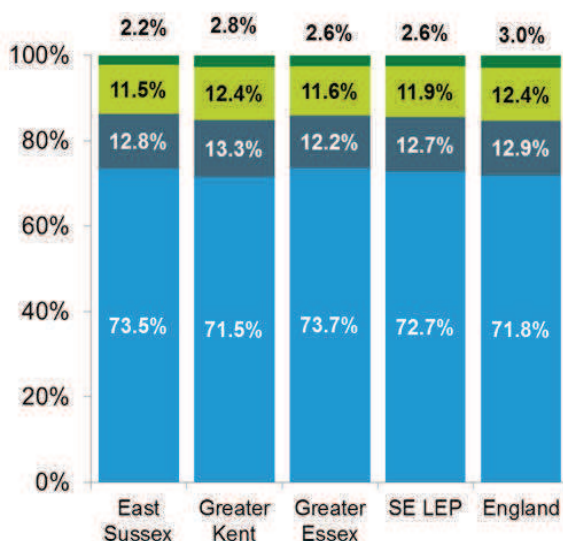


Active businesses per 10,000 population¹¹



East Sussex has fewer businesses than average for the region and growth is slowing

Business size in 2018¹²



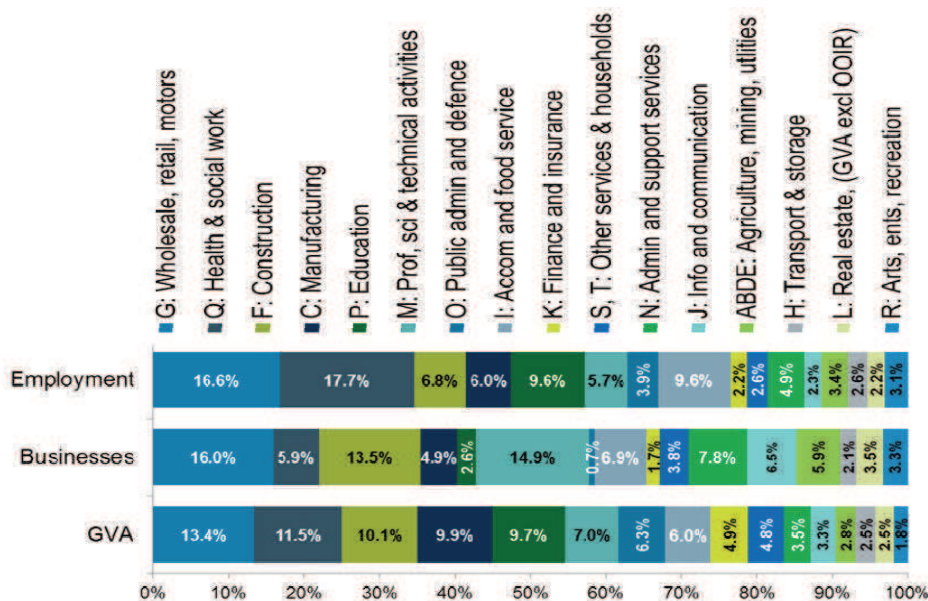
86.3%
of businesses in the county have fewer than 10 employees
(National figure 84.7%)

73.5%
have fewer than 5

East Sussex economy characterised by high proportion of very small businesses

East Sussex SIC sections: GVA (excl OOIR), Employment (2017) and Businesses (2018)

Ordered by largest GVA in 2017



- The relationship between the number of businesses, employment and the GVA generated by a sector is not straightforward.
- The largest sector, measured by GVA (excl OOIR) is Wholesale, retail and motors (13.4%), which also accounts for the biggest proportion of businesses.
- The second largest sector in terms of number of businesses is Professional, scientific technical activities, (14.9%) but these account for only 7.0% of GVA (excl OOIR), and just 5.7% of employment.

Fastest growing sectors in the county¹² (2013-2018)



Business administration and support services - up 42%
(England up 58%)

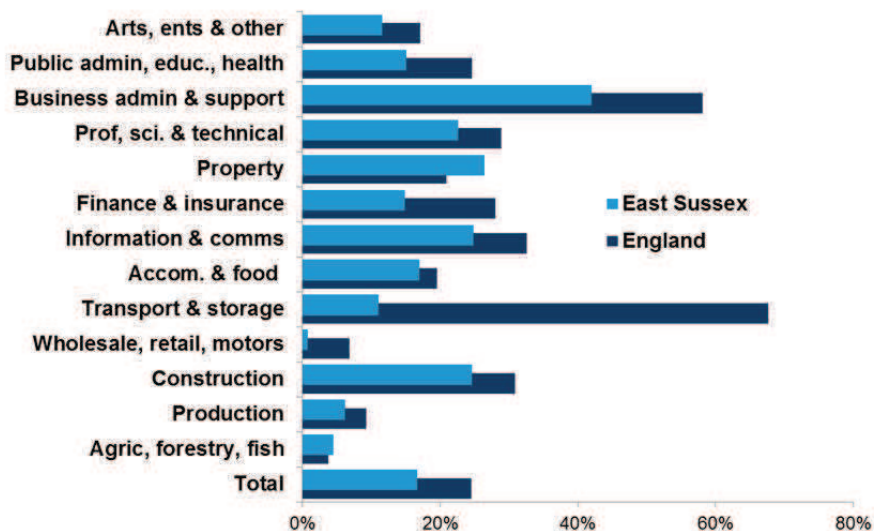


Property - up 26%
Higher than national rise
(England up 21%)



Information & communication - up 25%
(England up 33%)

Percentage change in businesses by sector 2013-2018¹²



Business starts, closures and survival

24,170

active businesses in
East Sussex in
2017 - highest since

2004¹¹

- ♦ 1 in 10 of these were new start-ups
- ♦ That's 2,415 new businesses
- ♦ But 7% fewer new businesses than in 2016
- ♦ And new business registration rates down again

**Active
businesses**

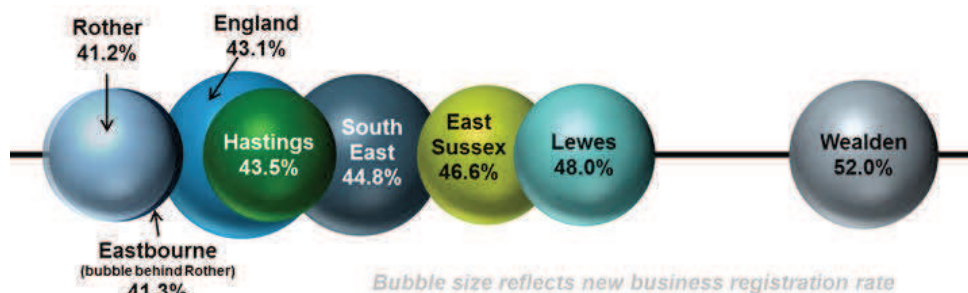
Up 11%

since 2012,

up 1.2%

since 2016

46.6% of businesses in East Sussex started in 2012 survived their first five years
5 year business survival rates for the county are higher than the England average¹¹:

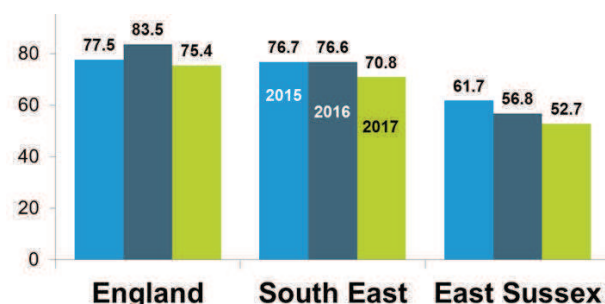


- 290 more active businesses in 2017 (24,170) than in 2016 (23,880).
- New business growth slower - 175 fewer new business starts than in 2016 and only slightly more business starts (2,415) than closures (2,385) in 2017.¹¹

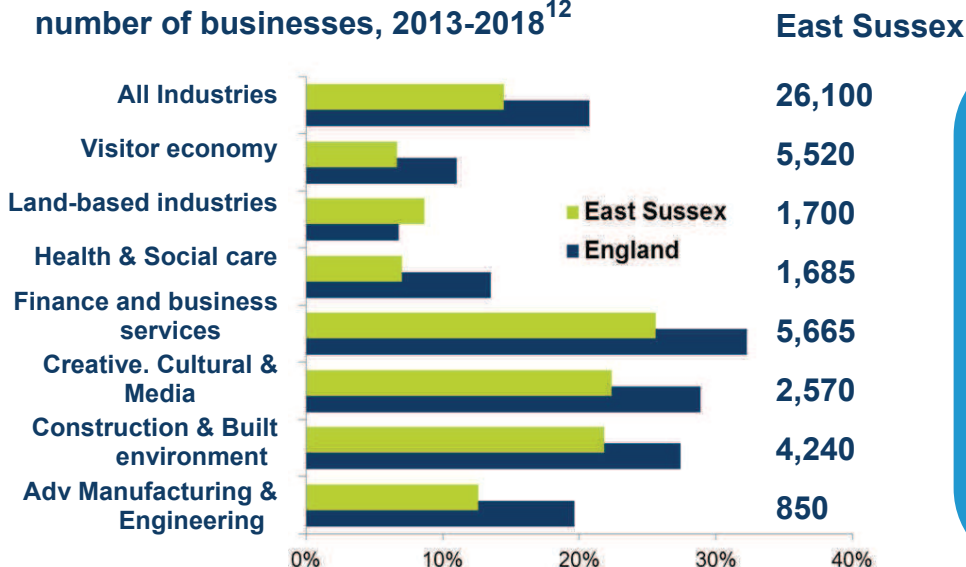
Business births and deaths in East Sussex 2007-17¹¹



New business registration rates 2015-17¹¹



East Sussex priority sectors: percentage change in number of businesses, 2013-2018¹²



- The finance and business services combined sector is the largest of the priority sectors (as defined in the growth strategy), with Visitor Economy businesses forming the next largest group.⁹
- Growth in most priority sectors was slower between 2013 and 2018 than in the country as a whole
(note that some SIC sector divisions occur in more than one priority sector)

Second lowest of all counties/UAs in the South East

Table of targets

Growth measures – June 2019	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Contribute to unlocking key employment floor space allocated in Local Plans (Square metres)		Havelock Place 2,248	Glovers House and Sovereign House 4,690		Swallow Business Park 3,409	Newhaven Eastside (South) Business Park 2,322	DPQR Welcome Building 2,650 High Weald Hse 2,385 Newhaven Eastside 3,529	
Achieve average annual housing completions of 1,504 in East Sussex to 2020 in accordance with our Local Plans <small>(Source: East Sussex County Council On-line Housing Monitoring Database)</small>	1,298 (2012-13 data)	1,208 (2013-14 data)	1,358 (2014-15 data)	1,509 (2015-16 data)	1,445 (2016-17 data)	1,300 (2017-18 data)	Data due: September 2019	
Increase GVA per capita by 20% by 2020 <small>(Source: Office for National Statistics)</small>	£16,627 +21.9% 2003-13	£17,264 +22.0% 2004-14	£18,517 +26.2% 2005-15	£18,882 +21.6% 2006-16	£19,348 +24.3% 2006-16	Data due: December 2019		
Maintain the employment rate for East Sussex at a higher level than the England rate to 2020** <small>(Source: Annual Population Survey/Labour Force Survey, NOMIS/ONS)</small>	71.3% +0.1% points higher than England (Sept)	75.5% +3.2% points higher than England (Sept)	73.5% Equal to England rate (Sept)	72.5% -1.6% points lower than England (Sept)	76.4% +1.7% points higher than England (Sept)	74.1% -1.2% points lower than England (Sept)	Data due: November 2019	
Maintain the Claimant Rate for East Sussex at below the England rate to 2020 <small>(Source: Office for National Statistics/ NOMIS)</small>	2.9% -0.8% points lower than England (April)	2.1% -0.6% points lower than England (April)	1.5% -0.4% points lower than England (April)	1.4% -0.4% points lower than England (April)	1.6% -0.3% points lower than England (April)	2.2% Equal to England rate (April)	2.6% Equal to England rate (April)	Data due: May 2020
Maintain the Alternative Claimant Rate for East Sussex at below the England rate to 2020 <small>(Source: Department for Work and Pensions/StatXplore)</small>	4.7% -0.7% points lower than England (February)	3.7% -0.8% points lower than England (February)	3.1% -0.3% points lower than England (February)	2.7% -0.4% points lower than England (February)	2.5% -0.5% points lower than England (February)	2.6% -0.3% points lower than England (February)	3.0% -0.1% points lower than England (February)	Data due: July 2019
Increase the percentage of working age residents in East Sussex with a Level 4 qualification to at least 35% by 2020** <small>(Source: Annual Population Survey, Nomis/ONS)</small>	32.4% -2.5% points lower than England (Jan-Dec)	36.6% 0.9% points higher than England (Jan-Dec)	30.9% -5.8% points lower than England (Jan-Dec)	34.0% -3.8% points lower than England (Jan-Dec)	37.7% -0.5% points lower than England (Jan-Dec)	37.0% -2.0% points lower than England (Jan-Dec)	Data due: April 2020	
Reduce the percentage of working age residents in East Sussex with no qualifications and qualified only to NVQ1 to below the England level by 2020** <small>(Source: Annual Population Survey, Nomis/ONS)</small>	23.5% +2.2% points higher than England (Jan-Dec)	19.4% -1.2% points lower than England (Jan-Dec)	23.2% +3.2% points higher than England (Jan-Dec)	22.5% +3.4% points higher than England (Jan-Dec)	15.5% -3.0% points lower than England (Jan-Dec)	20.9% -2.7% points higher than England (Jan-Dec)	Data due: April 2020	

** At sub-regional level the APS is subject to sampling variability which means that the data is not very reliable. The ONS provide confidence intervals for APS data, but at even county level these intervals can be very broad, for example, for people with Level 4 qualifications, for Jan-Dec 2018, the confidence interval for East Sussex was 3.4%, meaning that there is a 95% chance that the true figure could lie anywhere between 37.0 ± 3.4 i.e between 33.6% and 40.4%. This explains why there appear to be wild swings in the data.

Further information and sources

This publication is produced as an aid to understanding the mechanisms at work in the economy of East Sussex. The sources for all the data are given in this section.

Labour Market and Skills

¹ The Alternative Claimant count is now available on the DWP's website [StatXplore](#), and is also published, with rates, on [ESiF](#). This table includes estimates of those additional claimants who would have been searching for work under Universal Credit had it been rolled out in that area at the time, together with those unemployed people claiming JSA and UC. The ONS withdrew the Claimant Count from their national Labour Market Statistics Bulletin in March 2017, stating that the Claimant Count was no longer a reliable economic indicator. This new measure gives an improved measure of the number of unemployed and removes changes in the claimant count which are solely due to changes in the benefit system. The previous Claimant Count numbers are produced by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) and published on [Nomis](#) together with data on claimants of other DWP benefits. Other claimant data can also be found on the DWP's [StatXplore](#) website.

² Workforce projections data is produced by the Research and Information Team of East Sussex County Council using the PopGroup family of population projection modelling software alongside a full suite of dwelling-led population projections, which take into account planned housing development in the county, provided by the districts and boroughs. They are published on [East Sussex in Figures](#).

³ Employment data is sourced from the Annual Population Survey (APS) which is published by the ONS on the [Nomis](#) website. Note that sample variability means that some APS data is not very reliable.

⁴ Data on part-time and full-time working is obtained from the Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES) which is also published by ONS in [Nomis](#).

⁵ Earnings data is from the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings which is published by ONS and is available on the [Nomis](#) website. We have mostly used workplace-based median earnings which gives earnings for jobs based in the area, but residence-based data is also given in the table, which is the earnings of those living in the area.

⁶ Qualifications data is from the Annual Population Survey (APS) which is published by the ONS on the [Nomis](#) website. Note that sample variability means that some APS data is not very reliable.

⁷ Detailed data on Further Education (FE) starts and apprenticeships is from the SE LEP Datacube. Data is rounded to ensure no personal details of individual learners are disclosed.

⁸ Broader participation data for [FE](#) and [apprenticeships](#) comes from the FE Data Library, on the Gov.UK website.

Gross value added

⁹ Gross value added (GVA) data is released annually by the [Office for National Statistics \(ONS\)](#), and GVA per head is calculated using [ONS mid-year-estimate data](#). GVA is a measure of the increase in the value of the economy due to the production of goods and services. Estimates are measured at current basic prices, which include the effect of inflation. The data). Please ensure you use only the most recent data as previous years' data is revised with the latest release. Owner-occupiers' imputed rental is an estimate of the housing services consumed by households who are not actually renting their residence. It can be thought of as the amount that non-renters pay themselves for the housing services that they produce. See [ONS website](#) for more information.

¹⁰ GVA per hour worked data is obtained from the [ONS' Sub-regional productivity](#) tables. When assessing regional economic performance, it is recommended that the best measure of productivity is this data, rather than GVA per head or per job. This is particularly important when there are large net commuting flows into or out of an area, as is the case in East Sussex.

GVA per head relates the value added by production activity in an area to the resident population of that area, and thus is subject to distortion due to effects of commuting and variations in the age distribution of the population. Small areas, such as local authorities, can be subject to very large distortions and this

should be borne in mind when interpreting the statistics as an indicator of relative economic prosperity. GVA per head is thus not a good measure of productivity.

GVA per job is also not the best measure of productivity because we have to consider the impact of a higher proportion of part-time jobs.

Businesses

¹¹ The Office for National Statistics (ONS) provide data on active businesses, start-ups and closures in the annual '[Business Demography](#)' series. These national statistics are compatible with EU wide business demography data. 1-5 year survival rates are also included with this data. All rates are calculated by the Research and Information Team using the latest available mid-year estimate population data from the ONS.

¹² The [UK Business: Activity, Size and Location](#) (UK BASL) dataset from the ONS uses data from the Inter-departmental Business Register (IDBR) to report the total number of businesses. This is the most up-to-date source for data about business activity at local authority level and gives details of both the number of business enterprises and the number of local units. Data is available by industrial sector, business size (in terms of number of employees), annual turnover and age of business (years of trading). Some of the data is also published as 'UK business counts' in the Nomis website.

Business Demography counts differ from those given in UK BASL because the Business Demography methodology takes into account businesses that were active at any time during the reference calendar year, whereas UK BASL numbers are based on a snapshot taken from the IDBR on a specific date at the end of March of the relevant year. As a result, numbers in the Business demography dataset are higher than those given in UK BASL.

There are a number of other sources of business data available. For more information about business data sources and how the data can be used, see our [data note](#).

For further information about GVA, sub-regional productivity, Business Demography and UK BASL data, visit the [ONS website](#).

[East Sussex in Figures](#) has detailed data about [GVA](#), [GVA by industry](#), [productivity](#), [business demography](#) and [business activity](#), [economic activity rates](#), [full- and part-time working](#), [workplace median earnings](#), [alternative claimant count](#), [claimants of Universal Credit and JSA](#) and [workforce projections](#).

For further information on data about the economy in East Sussex, contact Lenna Santamaría on 01273 481619 or e-mail mariahelena.santamaria@eastsussex.gov.uk.

Contact details

The Research and Information Team, Chief Executive's Office provides demographic and socio-economic data, intelligence and insight to support East Sussex County Council and other East Sussex Partners. The Team also manages East Sussex in Figures (ESiF), the Local Information System for East Sussex.

ESiF is a web-based information system that contains detailed, up-to-date and reliable information on a very wide range of topics. It is free and very easy to use and puts individual users in control. ESiF lets you specify exactly what data you want to see (for the places and time periods you are interested in) and how you want to view it (as a table, chart or map).

Visit www.eastsussexinfigures.org.uk

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