



Letter from South East LEP Chair Christian Brodie:

Welcome to the South East LEP's fortnightly news bulletin, created to keep you up to date with what we have been doing to help the Government deliver on its growth agenda and support our businesses and communities across **East Sussex, Essex, Kent, Medway, Southend and Thurrock**. We will be sharing updates of the hard work and great things happening across the region to enable you to pass on the key growth messages for your area when speaking with your constituents and others.

Getting industry experts into FE teaching with SELEP bursary

The 'Teaching for Growth' project – which aims tackle the current teacher shortage by highlighting the benefits of working in Further Education and offering bursaries to attract industry experts – has successfully kicked off.

The campaign offers bursaries of up to £4,000 each, to contribute to teacher training costs in priority sectors, including construction, logistics, engineering, healthcare and digital. Targets have already been surpassed with 73 bursaries secured in total across the SELEP area. The programme is also now opening up opportunities in level 3 teacher training qualifications, responding to need and enabling more bursaries.

The South East LEP's Skills Advisory Group was awarded £166,600 from the £500,000 Sector Support Fund after the LEP's Accountability Board agreed to fund the project in September. The funding from the LEP is matched with contributions from Essex County Council and East Sussex County Council to deliver the £247,900 project.

FIND OUT MORE: southeastlep.com/news



Full steam ahead for SELEP's Local Industrial Strategy

Work is well underway for the South East LEP's Local Industrial Strategy (LIS), which will set out the LEP area's long-term ambitions in alignment with central government's National Industrial Strategy.

Following the LEP's stakeholder engagement event in October, four more thematic workshops were held in November to foster in-depth discussions around the key themes that have emerged from the LIS draft evidence base. In total, more than 130 stakeholders and industry experts attended the five events held by the LEP to agree the framework for the LIS.

At its latest meeting, the South East LEP's Strategic Board discussed the three strategic pan-LEP opportunities that are shaping the first draft of the LIS:

- **UK's Global Gateway:** This explores the infrastructure across the South East and how it drives key connectivity and two-way trade for the UK to Europe and the world.
- **Communities for the Future:** This highlights the South East's significant contribution to housing and community growth, including the national Garden Communities agenda; and focuses on developments that will impact the future of living and working for all our communities, including resident wellbeing, mobility, commercial space and sustainable energy.
- **Coastal Catalyst:** With the largest coastline of any LEP, our coastal communities possess unique economic opportunities that can not only benefit these communities but the whole region.

With drafting of the strategy underway, these will be articulated alongside a range of wider opportunities and activities across the five foundations of productivity, in order to present a compelling case to Government to focus on and invest in the South East.

The draft strategy will be put before the South East LEP's Strategic Board in January 2020 before entering into co-design with Government for agreement in March 2020.

FIND OUT MORE:

southeastlep.com/our-strategy/local-industrial-strategy



Search ongoing for Deputy Chair

The South East LEP is still taking applications for its Deputy Chair role, which is a new position for the LEP's Strategic Board. The LEP is seeking a **passionate business leader with a proven track record of driving strategic change and strong connections to the SELEP area**.

FIND OUT MORE: southeastlep.com/opportunities/jobs

Strengthening the South East's £2.3bn social enterprise sector

The South East LEP is set to launch the new Social Enterprise Prospectus after receiving endorsement from the LEP's Strategic Board at its latest meeting on the 6th December 2019.

The prospectus will help define the voice of the social enterprise sector across the South East LEP area, as well as identify opportunities with the aim of building momentum and a pan-LEP network. In the new year, the Social Enterprise Working Group plans on delivering a series of launch events across the LEP's federated areas to promote the findings of the prospectus.

Social enterprise in the South East contributes in excess of £2.3bn to the local economy. Across the South East LEP area, there are up to 6,300 businesses operating within the social enterprise sector, contributing 44,000-62,000 jobs to local economies.

READ THE PROSPECTUS:

southeastlep.com/good-governance/working-groups/social-enterprise



Economic success for Essex's new business board

Success Essex – the newly formed business-led Board for the west, mid and northern part of Essex – held its first meeting at the beginning of December chaired by Dr Miles Adcock, President of Space & Quantum at Teledyne-e2v, an advanced technology manufacturer based in Chelmsford.

The new board will see business representatives work with Local Authorities and educators to set the strategic priorities for economic growth and investment in the western, northern and central parts of Essex. Success Essex Chair Adcock, another business member and a Local Authority member will represent Success Essex on the South East LEP's Strategic Board from early next year.

The new Success Essex board was formed through an open and transparent recruitment process, prompted by the LEP's ongoing review with central government. Newly formed Success Essex is developing an Essex Prosperity and Productivity Plan, which sets out the economic growth goals of the area for the near future.

To read more and for the full list of new board members, go to southeastlep.com/news



Consultation opens for 30-year transport strategy

People and businesses across part of the SELEP area – specifically East Sussex, Kent and Medway – are being urged to have their say on a proposed 30-year transport strategy for the South East which aims to improve journeys, boost the economy and protect the environment.

The strategy has been produced by Transport for the South East (TfSE), which brings together local authorities, business leaders and transport organisations to form a collective voice to drive the region's transport priorities. TfSE includes East Sussex, Kent and Medway from the South East LEP patch, while Essex, Southend and Thurrock fall under Transport East's jurisdiction.

The strategy outlines how, with the right investment in the region's transport network, the South East's economy will more than double by 2050 to between £450bn and £500bn per year – creating an additional 500,000 jobs, boosting quality of life and access to opportunities for all and helping cut the South East's carbon emissions to net-zero.

Responses to the consultation are due by the 10th January 2020, with the final transport strategy set to be published in April 2020 and a strategic investment plan earmarked for publication in 2021.

FIND OUT MORE: southeastlep.com/news



THE SELEP AREA

- ESSEX
- SOUTH ESSEX
- KENT & MEDWAY
- EAST SUSSEX

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We have included links where you can find more details on some of these updates. If you have any queries or would like specific details, please get in touch:

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