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## **Business East Sussex (BES)**

### **Core Growth Hub**

The Business East Sussex (BES) Growth Hub has been operating since Jul 2015 providing Diagnostic and Navigation services to East Sussex based businesses, delivered by the Let's Do Business Group (LDBG) as the sub-contractor to East Sussex County Council (ESCC) who hold the contract from the South East Local Enterprise Partnership (SELEP) as the East Sussex Growth Hub. The current contract runs to Mar 2018.

The Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS) has recently confirmed that it will maintain funding for Growth Hubs at current levels for the financial years 2018/19 and 2019/20. This was one of only two funding requests granted to BEIS by Treasury in the 2017 Budget, the other being the continued funding of the National Business Helpline.

It is clear from this that BEIS is committed to the idea of Growth Hubs. Growth Hubs are being promoted centrally to other departments as the key locus for business engagement and information dissemination, including for issues such as Brexit and the Industrial Strategy. However, it is also clear that Treasury's continued support will depend on Growth Hubs being able to prove economic impact. Growth Hubs will also be expected to focus on promoting growth through face-to-face interactions, with telephone and website enquiries to be directed through the National Business Helpline. Some national branding and straplines will be introduced to ensure consistency of messages, with national publicity campaigns to ensure more businesses are aware of the support provided by Growth Hubs.

SELEP and representatives from the 3 federated Growth Hub contract holders (East Sussex, Kent and Essex County Councils) met with BEIS to discuss the new requirements in Feb 2018. BEIS is setting up 3 national working groups to steer the development of Growth Hubs and nominees from each of the federated areas have been put forward to sit on these. The first group to meet will be shaping the evaluation and monitoring framework and will be attended by a representative from ESCC. This will allow us to input into the process at the earliest possible stage, to ensure the specificities of the SELEP area are taken into account.

In summary, the extended funding is welcome as it allows us the certainty to plan for the next 24 months. We also welcome the strategic focus on enabling growth and demonstrating economic impact. Along with all other Growth Hubs we will need to respond to these strategic challenges and ensure our offer meets the enhanced monitoring and evaluation frameworks. ESCC's Economic Development team will continue to engage with BEIS on this and will ensure services are commissioned to meet these demands. We are currently undertaking an economic impact assessment and evaluation of the Growth Hub, which will be completed by Apr 2018. This will allow us to report to BEIS on the current contract requirements as well as helping us to identify areas for improvement going forward.

### **South East Business Boost**

The ERDF-funded South East Business Boost (SEBB) project has now been running as a full service since Aug 2017. 50 grants have been agreed (from a total target of 170 by Jun 2019) with 24 of these having defrayed so far. In the grants programme, focus remains on ensuring grants are defrayed and continuing to promote access to the grants with as diverse an audience as possible.

Attention is now turning to the non-financial support, which can be provided to both entrepreneurs looking to start a business as well as established businesses needing support to help them grow. Businesses are eligible for 12 hours of support and this is being provided both through seminars and training sessions, as

well as through 1-1 face-to-face mentoring and support. Some of the non-financial support can be provided when appropriate by core staff employed in the SEBB team. However, there is also a considerable budget for procuring specialist support from external providers, which means the programme can be responsive and flexible, ensuring that businesses get the best possible advice.

#### BES Steering Group and BES Providers Group

The BES Steering and Providers Groups met in Jan and Feb 2018 respectively. The Steering Group monitors progress on both the SEBB and Core Growth Hub contracts. Both groups take a role in coordinating provision of business support in the county.

### Skills East Sussex (SES)

#### Skills East Sussex Meetings

The Skills East Sussex (SES) Board met on 30 Nov 2017 to explore the skills and employment needs of the Visitor Economy. The meeting was very well attended with 15 employer representatives joining the Board. A new Sector Task group has been set up to continue the discussions around recruiting from untapped employment sources (such as those on Universal Credit, ex-offenders and those with mental and physical health issues) and will meet in the Spring.

The SES Board met again on 25 Jan 2018 and heard from Peter Sharp (Lewes DC) on the Newhaven Enterprise Zone and the opportunity for skills interventions to support developments in Newhaven; Victoria Conheady (Hastings BC) and Dan Shelley (Sussex Coast College Hastings) spoke about developments in Hastings with the forthcoming Hastings Opportunity Area funding. Rupert Clubb (ESCC) attended to speak about the 'Year of the Engineer', a government initiative which SES has signed up to promote and which the SES Engineering Task Group will explore in more detail. The SES Board also discussed the issues facing SMEs in terms of accessing Apprenticeship provision since the implementation of the Levy and the reduction in the number of training providers receiving Apprenticeship training allocations. The Board agreed to lobby the government about these issues which are seriously limiting the ability of our local employers to offer Apprenticeship opportunities.

The SES Sector Task Groups are delivering a range of interventions; the Creative & Digital Task Group is delivering a project with funds from Artswork to promote creativity and careers in the sector in local schools; the Engineering Task Group met at the UTC in Newhaven and is working towards STEAMfest 2018 which takes place in Eastbourne on 27 Mar.

The next Skills East Sussex meeting takes place on 20 Mar 2018 and will focus on the Health & Social Care Sector. Colleen Hart (East Sussex Better Together lead for the NHS) explained that the meeting will explore the employment needs of the sector and will aim to map out current careers guidance and curriculum provision offers in the county to see if this meets needs and whether a more strategic and joined up approach could support growth and sustainability for this sector.

#### Enterprise Adviser Network

The Enterprise Adviser Network seeks to match business representatives with schools in order to help them improve their careers strategies and plans. The Network has now engaged 39 of 43 schools and colleges in the EAN, and 26 of these are now matched with an Adviser – but more Advisers are needed. Wendy Gorham is now in post as the Enterprise Coordinator for the Hastings Opportunity Area and is fully-funded by the Careers and Enterprise Company, working alongside our two existing Enterprise Coordinators.

#### Industry Champions

ESCC's Employability & Skills team is launching its 'Industry Champion' status and badge on 28 Mar 2018. The badge is awarded to employers from our economic priority sectors who undertake at least 3 activities to promote their sector to young people in the county (such as participating in Open Doors, attending careers fairs, being an Enterprise Adviser, offering work experience, sitting on a SES Task Group etc.)

## European Funding

Some of the significant achievements since the last TES update:

- The *Hastings & Bexhill CLLD Strategy* received ERDF and ESF confirmation in Feb 2018; the CLLD Local Action Group can now start to make some £10m available to fund local projects.
- The *South East Cultural, Creative & Digital Sector* project (SECCADS) received its ERDF grant funding agreement on 14 Feb 2018; work has now started in earnest to procure a service provider for the SELEP area and recruit a business support coordinator for East Sussex.
- The *South East Graduate Enterprise & Talent* (South East GREAT) project is expected to receive ERDF funding by the end of Jun 2018, which will support entrepreneurial East Sussex graduates.
- The *South East New Energy* project, strategically supported by ESCC, has put together a full ERDF application which will complement the LOCASE project by working with 'heavy-energy-user' SMEs to implement energy efficiency measures and reduce carbon footprint.

| EU Strategy / Funding Stream | Element   | Activities / Actions / Deadlines  |  | Main applications covering East Sussex  |
|------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
|                              |   | Completed   | Pending  |   |
| EAFRD                        | Call 1 – EOIs for support to micro and small businesses, £50k-£155k project grant value.  | Call closed 19 Jun 2015; project EOIs considered at EU SIF committee 23 Jul 2015.   |  | None.   |
|                              | Call 2 – 3 submeasures covering Tourism Infrastructure £2.6m, Food Processing £3.7m, & Business Development £2m. EOIs to be completed as first stage of 'open rolling call' application process. Enquiries on completing EOIs to <a href="mailto:GPEnquiries@rpa.gsi.gov.uk">GPEnquiries@rpa.gsi.gov.uk</a> . | Call 2 published Jan 2017 with various launch events in Feb/Mar and further events in Oct 2017 to publicise funding availability and give advice to potential applicants.   | <b><i>The original Jan 2018 deadline for the rolling call for projects has been extended to 31 May 2018.</i></b> | As at Dec 2017, 25 full applications have been received; of these 4 are from East Sussex. All full applications are in appraisal, with two East Sussex projects at contracting stage.   |
| LEADER                       | Programme adopted, launched Oct 2015.   | WARR and Central Sussex Leader programmes launched Oct 2015.  |  | 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, a number of which have already been approved.  |
| ERDF                         | Call 1 – Priority Axes (PA) 1: Innovation; PA 3: SME Competitiveness; PA 4: Low Carbon Enterprises; and Technical Assistance. Minimum grant value £500k.  | Initial call closed 29 May 2015; deadline for full applications 30 Sep 2015; 4 applications were circulated to the ESIF Sub-committee, closing date 7 Jan 2016.   | Nothing pending.   | The 4 successful applications, all endorsed by the ESIF Sub-committee, are <i>Keep+</i> , <i>LoCASE</i> , <i>Invest Kent</i> and the <i>ERDF Technical Facilitator</i> project; all 4 have been awarded, contracted and are underway; an appointment to the Technical Facilitator role has been made, with ESCC as accountable body.  |
|                              | Call 2 – PA 3: SME Competitiveness, BIS National Products.  | Better Off In Business, Get Exporting 2 and the Manufacturing Growth Programme have all been awarded, contracted and are underway (there was also a 'High Growth Programme' but it was withdrawn since consultancy company PERA went into receivership).                                  | 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 Get Exporting 2 in East Sussex & Kent; the Manufacturing Growth Programme will be delivered by Economic Growth Solutions Ltd (EGS). There are also 2 multi-LEP projects (awarded and contracted) that only deliver across Essex - the Essex Growth Programme and Supply Chain Innovation for Offshore Renewables (SCORE), both led by consultants NWES. |
|                              | 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 progressed to full application and was approved on 15 Sep 2016; SEBB began operating in Apr 2017 with the launch of its grants programme. | 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 next 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).   |

| EU Strategy / Funding Stream | Element  | Activities / Actions / Deadlines   |   | Main applications covering East Sussex  |
|------------------------------|--|--|---|---|
|                              |  | Completed  | Pending   |   |
| ERDF                         | Call 4 – PA 3: SME support to the creative and digital industries (£3.5m); £500k minimum grant value.  | Call opened 14 Apr 2016 with one outline application submitted by Thurrock Council for the South East Cultural, Creative & Digital Sector project (SECCADS); full application submitted 28 Sep 2016; following DCLG feedback the application went through several iterations and was finally approved on 30 Nov 2017.  | Nothing pending.  | The <i>South East Cultural, Creative &amp; 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 14 Apr 2016; an outline application was submitted by Essex CC for South East Invest (SEI) on 27 May 2016, and approved in Feb 2017; 2 further applications were submitted on 26 Sep 2016 and were invited to full application in Jan 2017; call closed on 17 Mar 2017.   | <b>2 full applications</b> - Betteshanger Sustainable Parks (Hadlow College) and Transportation & Logistical Efficiencies (TALE, Haven Gateway Partnership) - <b>are in appraisal with MHCLG (formerly DCLG) and are awaiting a final decision.</b>   | <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 seek to provide incubator space for SMEs in the preventative health sector, and <i>Transportation &amp; Logistical Efficiencies</i> (TALE) will provide support to the logistics sector - both will operate across the SELEP area.  |
|                              | Call 5 – PA 1: Innovation; and PA 4: Low Carbon Enterprises. Both with a £500k minimum grant value.  | Call opened 16 Dec 2016 with 3 outline applications submitted under PA 1 and 1 under PA 4; all were presented to the ESIF Sub-Committee in May 2017 for comments on Strategic Fit and were invited to submit full applications; 2 have since been withdrawn (both University of Kent) due to justifiable constraints and issues.   | <b>The 'South East GREAT' project has submitted a full application and is awaiting a final decision from MHCLG (formerly DCLG); the 'South East New Energy' project is due to submit a full application in Mar 2018.</b>  | The 2 current applications are both SELEP-wide and will benefit East Sussex due to the requirements on Strategic Fit; the projects are <i>South East Graduate Enterprise &amp; Talent</i> ('South East GREAT' from the University of Greenwich) and <i>South East New Energy</i> (now being led by Retrofit Works replacing Anglia Ruskin University).  |
|                              | 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 against all 3 Priority Axes went live on 17 Mar 2017, with review dates on 30 Apr, 31 Jul & 31 Oct 2017; a SELEP-wide PA 1 workshop was held on 15 Jun 2017 to facilitate new R&I project applications; 3 outline applications (2 x PA 1 & 1 x PA 3) were submitted on 27 Jul 2017; 4 more outline applications (1 x PA1, 2 x PA 3 & 1 x PA4) were submitted on 31 Oct 2017; a further 4 new outline applications were submitted by the final deadline of 26 Jan 2018. | The 3 outline applications submitted by the Jul 2017 review date were supported by the ESIF Sub-Committee for Strategic Fit and have been invited to submit full applications; 2 of the 4 outline applications submitted by the Oct 2017 review date are due to be reviewed by the ESIF Sub-Committee in early 2018 (the other 2 were rejected); the final 4 outline applications submitted by the final deadline of 26 Jan 2018 are currently with MHCLG for gateway assessment. | All 3 outline applications submitted in Jul 2017 are SELEP-wide and will benefit East Sussex due to the requirements on Strategic Fit; the projects are <i>Mercury Rising</i> (Colchester BC), <i>I-CONSTRUCT</i> (Haven Gateway Partnership) and <i>CAMIC</i> (Anglia Ruskin University); only 1 of the 2 outline applications submitted in Oct 2017 will service East Sussex, <i>Better Off In Business</i> (The Prince's Trust), which is requesting a continuation to the existing contracted project; once the 4 applications submitted in Jan 2018 have been assessed by MHCLG it will be possible to comment on the coverage of East Sussex. |
|                              | Call 7 – PA 1: Research & Innovation; multi-LEP calls including SELEP for applications to support the 'Innovation South SIA for Quantum Supply' and 'Knowledge Accelerator' projects.  | Call opened 8 Dec 2017; a launch event was held by Enterprise M3 LEP on 14 Dec 2017 at the University of Surrey; call closed 26 Jan 2018.  | Nothing pending.  | An outline application has been received to cover the Innovation South SIA area, which includes East Sussex, to run a Quantum Supply project; this is currently with MHCLG for initial appraisal.   |
|                              | <b>Education &amp; Skills Funding Agency (ESFA)</b> – 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. Contractors were invited to re-profile if they expect under-delivery and to put in a case for growth; in consultation with local areas (Holly Aquilina for East Sussex) and the ESIF Committee, the Numeracy, Basic Skills & Enhancing Apprenticeships programmes were approved for financial growth and time extensions; the Higher Level & Digital Skills programmes were approved for time extensions only.                                       | Nothing pending.  | 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 of which approx £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). <i>Skills Support for the Unemployed</i> (£1.924m for East Sussex).  |
| ESF (Opt in)                 |  |  |   |   |

| EU Strategy / Funding Stream | Element   | Activities / Actions / Deadlines  |   | Main applications covering East Sussex  |
|------------------------------|---|---|---|---|
|                              |   | Completed   | Pending   |   |
| ESF (Opt in)                 | <b>Department for Work &amp; Pensions (DWP)</b> – supporting businesses to identify training, recruitment & skills needs, meeting those needs and generating entry level opportunities for those out of work or underemployed; focus is on developing candidates that meet employer needs rather than generating a pipeline of candidates prior to identifying opportunities; 3 years' funding up to 2020.  | ITT circulated 29 Jan 2016; call closed 10 Mar 2016; the DWP/Jobcentre+ Opt-in contract has been awarded to Reed.   | Reed, in partnership with Skills Training UK, Royal British Legion Industries (RBLI) and APM, will now work to deliver the £9m South East contract.   | The contract for the South East, with a project title of <i>Skills Support for the Long-Term unemployed</i> , has a maximum contract value of £9m for a minimum of 4,500 starts - the minimum starts for East Sussex based on population numbers (13%) is 583. The geographic locations in East Sussex are Eastbourne in the employment sector of Design & Manufacturing, and Hastings in the sectors of Financial & Business Services, Specialist Manufacturing & Engineering. The duration of the contract is up to 2020. Preliminary performance info for this contract shows a good level of take-up across East Sussex with approx 299 starts; further information will be shared soon along with case studies and a newsletter covering East Sussex. <b>DWP has indicated that this contract could be extended pending LEP ESIF Committee confirmation.</b> |
|                              | <b>DWP</b> – open call for Priority Axis 1: Access to Employment; intended to assist young people to 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; the project must cover the SELEP area and/or list the main towns/cities within the LEP that the call is open to; approx £1.5m of funding is available; the project must be completed no later than 24 Sep 2020.             | Call open from 21 Apr to 16 Jun 2017; outline applications were circulated to the SELEP ESIF Committee in Aug 2017 for comment (further information on the <a href="#">Gov.UK website</a> ). Areas for focus for potential new calls were discussed at a SELEP ESF workshop on 12 Sep 2017. Current outline applications have been reviewed and successful bids asked to make a full application.                     | DWP has advised that 2 EOIs totalling £700k went to full application, and it's expected that the deliverers will be announced soon; given that the overall pot was £1.5m there are some funds remaining in this priority area. Further calls for the remaining SELEP ESF pot (approx £17m) are also expected under other priority areas in the next few months, pending DWP confirmation.   | None currently.   |
|                              | <b>BIG Lottery</b> – 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 8 Oct 2015; KCC (named lead), ESCC & Medway agreed shortlisted applications and submitted them on 30 Nov 2015; stage 1 successful applicants announced on 6 May 2016; 1 applicant withdrew so there are now only 5 in the south (11 overall).  | Southdown Housing Association withdrew after success at outline application stage, meaning the £483k allocated to this work package is not committed; alternative options have been discussed and SELEP has proposed utilising the funds for successful projects when they have a track record (say towards the end of 2018), ringfenced for East Sussex, Kent & Medway - awaiting Big Lottery's agreement. Big Lottery has also advised that Building Better Opportunities projects would be able to apply for growth, and SELEP is awaiting confirmation of the process & timeframe for this. | The 5 live projects in the south (all covering East Sussex) are:<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sussex Community Development Association ('Let's Get Working', £3,574,200 – employment support for people with disabilities and long term health issues)</li> <li>• Porchlight &amp; Sussex Community Development Association (£2,260,500 – employment support for people with mental health issues)</li> <li>• Social Enterprise Kent CIC (£483,000 – employment support for older people)</li> <li>• Gingerbread, the charity of single parent families (£830,800 – employment support for lone parents)</li> <li>• Royal British Legion Industries (£869,400 – employment support for people with difficulty sustaining employment)</li> </ul>  |
| CLLD (ERDF/ESF)              | 3 CLLD applications in the South East – Hastings & Bexhill, Folkestone and Thurrock (5 applications were originally submitted but Dover and Ramsgate dropped out at the first stage of the approvals process). The 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; target groups will include adults, including aged 50+, & BME communities including settled migrants. | Closing date for initial applications 24 Nov 2015; 3 areas successful at stage 1 - Hastings & Bexhill, Thurrock and Folkestone; each received a small amount of ERDF funding to write a 'Local Development Strategy' seeking further ERDF funding, submitted Aug 2016 and approved; all 3 areas then invited to submit full applications by end of Jan 2017; all 3 have submitted their final (revised) applications. | <b>Hastings BC has received 'successful application' letters from both funders; ERDF grant funding agreement received in Feb 2018, so now just awaiting ESF grant funding agreement.</b>  | The Hastings & Bexhill CLLD submission - <i>CHART (Connecting Hastings &amp; 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.   |



| 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</i> (HFLAG) has approval for £800k over 3 years, supporting the Hastings small scale fleet and associated industry; 4 EMFF projects & 3 FLAG full applications have been submitted, and 3 EMFF & 1 FLAG project have been approved; the <i>Icemaker</i> application is approved, and 2 other applications are currently being assessed by the MMO; Hastings BC is lead partner on behalf of HFLAG. |
| Interreg                                       | <b>France-Channel-England</b> ( <a href="https://interreg5a-fce.eu">https://interreg5a-fce.eu</a> ): 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.   | 5 calls took place between Mar 2015 and Apr 2017, and in May 2017 the programme switched its application process to a running open call; 2 separate calls for 'micro projects' also took place in Apr and Oct 2017; a total of 18 projects have so far been approved overall. | 2 more calls for micro projects will open 21 Mar - 10 Apr and 10-24 Oct 2018; the programme has a running open call for regular projects until 9 Oct 2018. | Hastings BC is leading the <i>Sustainable Future for Seaside Economies</i> (SUFUSE) project submission with Plymouth, Lowestoft, Brightlingsea, Boulogne & Le Touquet to develop place management approaches to increase visitor value to coastal localities; first stage submission is 14 Mar 2018 and if positive a full application will be submitted Sep 2018 for project start early 2019 (for 4 years).                               |
|  | <b>2 Seas 2014-20</b> ( <a href="http://www.interreg2seas.eu/en">www.interreg2seas.eu/en</a> ): 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. | 4 calls have already taken place; Call 5 Step 1 was open between 1 Aug and 27 Oct 2017; a total of 40 projects have been approved.  | Call 5 Step 2 is now open until 2 May 2018; Call 6 will be the last call, with Step 1 now also open until 2 May 2018 and Step 2 from 8 Aug - 6 Nov 2018.   | Hastings BC is a partner in implementing the <i>Sustainable Houses in an Inclusive Neighbourhood</i> (SHINE) project, approved Jul 2016 for completion by Aug 2020.   |
|  | <b>North West Europe</b> ( <a href="http://www.nweurope.eu">http://www.nweurope.eu</a> ): the Interreg NWE programme fosters 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.  | 6 calls have taken place between Nov 2015 and Nov 2017, plus a new targeted call on renewable energy opened on 24 Jan 2018; a total of 39 projects have been approved.  | Call 7 will open from 26 Mar to 26 Apr 2018; the targeted renewable energy call is open until 31 Jul 2018.   | Hastings BC is a sub-partner in implementing the <i>Climate Active Neighbourhoods</i> (CAN) 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</i> (UP STRAW) project, approved Mar 2017 (length 4 years but build implementation over 1 year).  |
|  | <b>Interreg Europe</b> ( <a href="http://www.interregeurope.eu">http://www.interregeurope.eu</a> ): helping regional and local governments across Europe deliver better policy by creating opportunities for sharing ideas and experience, therefore improving strategies  | 3 calls have taken place between Jun 2015 and Jun 2017.   | <b>A Monitoring Committee decision on successful Call 3 applications is expected late Mar 2018;</b> a 4th call is expected to open in May 2018.            | Hastings BC is a partner in the re-submission of <i>Delivering Efficient Sustainable Tourism with low-carbon transport Innovations - Sustainable Mobility, Accessibility and Responsible Travel</i> (DESTI-SMART) for the current third call; a decision is expected late Mar 2018.   |

## Growth Strategy Implementation Plan

| PILLAR   | STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE      | THEME                          | ACTION           | RESPONSIBLE GROUP  | RESPONSIBLE INDICATOR EDITOR   | PROGRESS MADE / NEEDED   | R/A/G | DATE UPDATE MADE |
|----------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|--|--|--|-------|------------------|
| Business | Enabling Business Growth | Business and Access to Finance | Promotion        | Team East Sussex (TES business reps) & Locate East Sussex on promotion | Stewart Drew & Philip Johnson (leads for TES business reps & Locate) | Locate East Sussex's Marketing Manager has produced a marketing strategy which is being delivered over the next 12 months, including a new LES website. 'Image of East Sussex' work continues, with meetings & workshops held throughout 2017. South East Business Boost (SEBB) Marketing Manager in post through LDBG to provide enhanced business support services.  | G     | 28/02/2018       |
|          |                          |                                | Business Support | Business East Sussex (BES)   | Ioni Sullivan  | BES Core Growth Hub current contract ends Mar 2018; on or above target in 3 measures (navigations, light/medium touch) & 1 below target (intensive diagnostic). BEIS announced continued funding at present levels from Apr 18 - Mar 20. New funding principles being developed, ESCC's Eco.Dev team contributing to national steering group on this issue. Likely that new requirements will mean refocussing of priorities & redrawing of current contract to ensure GH meets new target, focusing on intensive support rather than navigations. | A     | 28/02/2018       |

| PILLAR | STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE                                   | THEME                   | ACTION  | RESPONSIBLE GROUP                | RESPONSIBLE INDICATOR EDITOR | PROGRESS MADE / NEEDED  | R/A/G | DATE UPDATE MADE |
|--------|---|-------------------------|---|----------------------------------|------------------------------|---|-------|------------------|
|        |   |                         |   |                                  |                              | <p>ERDF-funded South East Business Boost (SEBB) programme for extended &amp; enhanced growth hub services started operating Apr 2017, running for next two years until Jul 2019, operated by LDBG. Overall the SEBB programme has challenging targets and, although East Sussex is outperforming Kent &amp; Essex in terms of grants awarded and defrayed, we are currently behind target. Achieving 12-hour non-financial supports is particularly challenging and we are working with the provider to improve the offer and increase throughput on the programme.</p> <p>ERDF-funded South East Invest (SEI) programme for extended Locate services awarded to LDBG from May 2017 for 3 years until May 2020. To date they are on course to achieve the first year targets.</p> <p>The South East Creative Economy Network (SECEN) has secured ERDF funding to deliver a £5m business support programme for the sector; SECCADS (South East Creative, Cultural &amp; Digital Support) is now in its setup phase.</p> <p>ESI-5 Grants &amp; Loans fund launched Apr 2017; running well with applications going to quarterly Grants &amp; Loans Panels.</p> <p>Catalysing Stalled Sites (CaSS), Scheme Enabling Fund (SEF), Business Incubator Fund &amp; Empty Commercial Property fund all continue to operate and accept new pipeline bid proposals.</p> |       |                  |
|        |   | Business Property       | Commercial Property Development   | Developers East Sussex (DES)     | Philip Johnson               | <p>£20m investment via Growing Places Fund (GPF) &amp; £86m investment of Local Growth Fund (LGF) secured for various property &amp; infrastructure developments across the county. New developments underway at Seaford, Hailsham &amp; Bexhill which will deliver almost 10,000sqm of new commercial space by the end of 2018.</p> <p>Developers East Sussex (DES), the working group to Team East Sussex (TES), has had direct engagement with key stakeholders including utilities companies, and has established an agreed East Sussex wide planning protocol.</p>   | G     | 28/02/2018       |
|        |   |                         | Commercial Site Investment Readiness  | Developers East Sussex (DES)     | Derek Godfrey (DES Chair)    | <p>Catalysing Stalled Sites (CaSS) &amp; Scheme Enabling Fund (SEF) operating; project pipeline continues to be developed.</p> <p>DES Coordinator (funded by ESCC for 9 months) in post from Jul 2017 to Mar 2018; this role has worked closely with developers and local authorities to overcome development blockers with a particular focus on the approach to the Ashdown Forest and issues with Southern Water.</p>  | G     | 28/02/2018       |
| Place  | Significantly valued asset to the East Sussex economy | Access and Connectivity | Funded Transport projects - Road & Rail, public transport, and Broadband connection | Team East Sussex (TES) with ESCC | Jon Wheeler & Katy Thomas    | <p>£20m GPF &amp; £86m LGF funding secured for various property &amp; infrastructure developments across the county (including £10m for Newhaven Port Access Road) subject to business case approvals;</p> <p>various walking &amp; cycling schemes implemented;</p> <p>ESCC local transport capital programme invested in schemes (£4-5m per year from ESCC capital programme allocation and development contributions, topped up with further £4-8m per year up to 2020/21 from LGF);</p> <p>£72m secured for small-scale A27 improvements which include capacity improvements at the A27/A2270 signalised junction &amp; north towards Cophall roundabout; safety improvements at Wilmington &amp; capacity improvements at Drusillas roundabout; £3m to undertake a study which will support the development of a business case for dualling the A27;</p> <p>£18m secured for Newhaven rail improvements;</p> <p>continued roll out of superfast Broadband across the county (third procurement underway); already invested jointly with Broadband Delivery UK (BDUK) over £30m through contracts 1 &amp; 2. Superfast coverage across East Sussex is 96%</p>   | G     | 01/03/2018       |
|        |   |                         | Lobbying for and implementing improved transport and connectivity                   | Team East Sussex (TES)           | Jon Wheeler                  | <p>Continued lobbying on A27 through A27 Reference Group &amp; participating in the A27 Lewes to Polegate study stakeholder reference group. Identified the A27 East of Lewes and A21 improvements (Kippings Cross to Lamberhurst and bypasses at Flimwell and Hurst Green) as priorities for HE's RIS2 - lobbied with TfSE for their inclusion.</p> <p>Participated in various rail studies/consultations - HS1 further economic study published in Oct 2017 which examined the economic benefits of extending the route to Eastbourne.</p> <p>South Eastern Rail Franchise consultation &amp; infrastructure development to enable high speed rail; Kent Route Study; the London-South Coast rail corridor study which examined the reinstatement of the Lewes-Uckfield line.</p>   | G     | 28/02/2018       |

| PILLAR | STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE | THEME           | ACTION  | RESPONSIBLE GROUP   | RESPONSIBLE INDICATOR EDITOR                  | PROGRESS MADE / NEEDED  | R/A/G | DATE UPDATE MADE |
|--------|---------------------|-----------------|---|---|---|---|-------|------------------|
|        |                     |                 |   |   |   | Lobbied for funding from DfT to enable design work to commence on Ashford West junction improvements to enable high speed trains to run from the HS1 link via Ashford International Station to the Marshlink - DfT provided £100k and local authorities £100k for design work which commenced in Feb 2018 and will complete in Oct 2018. Participated in National Infrastructure Commission & Industrial Strategy consultations. Support towards the 3SC Devolution Deal & Transport for the South East (TfSE) Sub-national Transport Body. TES now has a place on the Gatwick Growth Board. Lobbying and influencing the shaping of the new SELEP Strategic Economic Plan to be produced during 2018.  |       |                  |
|        |                     |                 | Digital Innovation Vouchers                         | Team East Sussex (TES)  | TBC   | Work on hold due to lack of external funding being identified.  | R     | 30/08/2017       |
|        |                     | Public Realm    |   | Team East Sussex (TES, led by B/DC leads)   | TBC (propose names of lead officers in B/DCs) | Eastbourne town centre improvements - phase 1 will commence construction Apr 2018 with phase 2 improvements being identified with local stakeholders; Hailsham & Uckfield town centres public realm improvements both now completed; Devonshire Park; Strategic Site Improvement Package; ongoing potential pipeline projects for future funding including to support the Hastings Town Centre Area Action Plan.  | G     | 28/02/2018       |
|        |                     | Housing         |   | Developers East Sussex (DES)  | Derek Godfrey (DES Chair)                     | Coastal Communities Housing Renewal Project (project commenced in partnership with Optivo); B/DCs closing the gap on housing target numbers per year (1,504). Central government issued the Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF) in Jul 2017 with submissions by end of Sep 2017 on two funding streams: HIF Marginal Viability Fund (£16.7m secured through D&B partners for the delivery of 4 schemes) and HIF Forward Funding (ESCC submitted a £32m bid focusing on interventions that would address issues surrounding the Ashdown Forest, increase education provision in South Wealden, & improve transport links along the Hailsham to Eastbourne corridor).   | G     | 28/02/2018       |
|        |                     | Visitor Economy | Develop East Sussex prospectuses on visitor economy | Linked to above Promotion lead (TES business reps & Locate) plus Culture East Sussex (CES) & ESCC | TBC   | Previous work includes the ES Official Guide and ongoing press releases; an updated Official Guide was published Sep/Oct 2017; other 'prospectus' work is currently on hold as dependant on the TES (business reps) agreed approach to the Image work and Locate's marketing and communications work (on SEI).  | A     | 28/02/2018       |
|        |                     |                 | Diversify and enhance the Visitor offer             | Culture East Sussex (CES) & each B/DC   | Sally Staples (plus named B/DC contacts TBC)  | £1m funding secured from Arts Council England, Discover England & SELEP's own Sector Support Funds (SSF) for Culture Coasting, a SELEP-wide coastal Geocaching Trail featuring great art to be delivered in 2018/19/20. Sussex Modernism exhibition delivered at Two Temple Place in London in Spring 2017 (featuring work from Towner, Farley Farmhouse, Charleston, DLWP, Jerwood, Brighton Museum, Ditchling Museum, Pallant House & West Dean College), complemented by Sussex Modern marketing campaign – all participating venues report positive visitor response. Coastal Culture Trail continues to be a successful marketing campaign for Jerwood. DLWP & Towner; Root 1066 successfully delivered in 2016. Hastings Pier awarded RIBA Stirling Prize. Towner, DLWP, Jerwood, Glyndebourne, Applause Rural Touring, Home Live Art & Project Art Works secured their National Portfolio Organisation funding agreements with Arts Council England (ACE) - £12m over 4 years. Charleston and Devonshire Quarter secured LGF investment to grow & improve their visitor offer. Tourism Data Warehouse developed to inform tourism strategies across the county and roadshows being delivered to inform businesses on how to use this and other data sets to target audiences. CES developing ideas for Cultural Conference to showcase the county's cultural and heritage offer. | G     | 28/02/2018       |



| PILLAR                         | STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE   | THEME                             | ACTION  | RESPONSIBLE GROUP        | RESPONSIBLE INDICATOR EDITOR                          | PROGRESS MADE / NEEDED  | R/A/G | DATE UPDATE MADE |
|--------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|---|--------------------------|---|---|-------|------------------|
| People                         | Meeting the Skills Needs of Business and Supporting Residents to Reach Their Full Potential | Skills                            | Establish Skills East Sussex (SES)                      | Skills East Sussex (SES) | Holly Aquilina  | SES established as the county's Employability & Skills board with five sector task groups focusing on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics), Construction, Creative & Digital, Land Based Industries and the Visitor Economy. Preparations underway to run a Health & Social Care focused meeting on 20 Mar 2018 in partnership with the NHS & East Sussex Better Together. A SES Action Plan with KPIs was agreed in Jul 2017.   | G     | 28/02/2018       |
|                                |   |                                   | Increase STEM skills                                    | Skills East Sussex (SES) | Holly Aquilina  | 'STEAMfest' (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Mathematics) successfully delivered in Apr 2017 and funding has been secured to run another event in Mar 2018. The SES Engineering task group is very active - the next two meetings will focus on identifying the courses required by local engineering employers and the subsequent meeting will focus on how to promote careers in engineering in East Sussex.   | G     | 28/02/2018       |
|                                |   |                                   | Align provider offer with employer and business needs   | Skills East Sussex (SES) | Holly Aquilina, all FE colleges and both Universities | Increased employer involvement in shaping the curriculum - SES now signing off the College Curriculum offers for coming years and SES task groups are all exploring new course curriculum to support business needs. Sussex Skills Solutions established to promote joint training and recruitment offers to employers across the county. We are also working closely with our FE Colleges on co-commissioning of their Adult Education Budget allocations (worth £5mn) in 2018/19 academic year.   | G     | 28/02/2018       |
|                                |   |                                   | Expand higher level education                           | Skills East Sussex (SES) | Holly Aquilina, all FE colleges and both Universities | Funding secured by Brighton University to develop Higher Level Degree Apprenticeships that will meet the needs of our Construction Task Group. We are also now working with Chichester University who have secured funding for new provision to support pathways into higher level learning for the Health & Social Care sector.  | G     | 28/02/2018       |
|                                |   |                                   | Improve work readiness, including soft and basic skills | Skills East Sussex (SES) | Holly Aquilina  | Enterprise Advisor Network continues to grow with over 30 schools & colleges matched and an additional (third) Enterprise Coordinator working in the Hastings Opportunity Area. A second Open Doors event was run in Nov 2017 for over 300 young people. Our Industry Champion scheme is launching on 27 Mar 2018 with an initial 40 Industry Champions awarded our Champion badge for delivering a range of activities to promote careers to local school & college students. The Progress project concluded in Oct 2017 having supported over 5,000 young people with careers interventions over the preceding 18 months. | G     | 28/02/2018       |
| All - Business, Place & People | Cross Cutting Issues and Specialisms  | Lobbying                          |   | Team East Sussex (TES)   | TBC   | Examples includes lobbying on LGF Rounds 1, 2 & 3 with secured funds; Housing Infrastructure Fund with £16.7m of Marginal Viability funds secured for East Sussex; the Government's Industrial Strategy; lobbying on the new Apprenticeship Levy; National Infrastructure Commission; plus various road and rail.   | G     | 30/08/2017       |
|                                |   | Clean, Green, Marine & Low Carbon |   | Team East Sussex (TES)   | TBC   | E-on power station and Rampion offshore wind farm; Newhaven Enterprise Zone status awarded, started Apr 2017.   | A     | 30/08/2017       |
|                                |   | Wine Industry                     |   | Team East Sussex (TES)   | TBC   | Opportunities to apply for project funds will arise from various ongoing EU - EAFRD calls; one major vineyard has successfully received almost £1m EAFRD funding.   | A     | 28/02/2018       |
|                                |   | Niche Food & Drink                |   | Team East Sussex (TES)   | TBC   | Opportunities to apply for project funds will arise from various ongoing EU - EAFRD calls; the Discover England funded 'Gardens & Gourmet' project covering beyond the SELEP region for next 2-3 years will benefit East Sussex through promotion of the venues and the trails.   | A     | 28/02/2018       |
|                                |   | More productive land usage        |   | Team East Sussex (TES)   | TBC   | Initial funding support provided to Restocking the Weald project looking at bringing new farmers into the market by opening up parcels of land; further match funding contributions from ESCC have been provided to this project to extend its reach further.   | G     | 28/02/2018       |

## Culture East Sussex (CES)

### East Sussex Cultural Strategy Action Plan, updated by Sally Staples Feb 2018.

There have been some significant achievements since the last TES update:

- South East Creative Economy Network (SECEN) has secured DCLG ERDF funding to deliver a £5m business support programme for the sector. SECCADS (South East Creative, Cultural & Digital Support) is now in its setup phase.
- A £1m funding package has been secured to deliver Culture Coasting, a SELEP coastal Geocaching-based arts trail involving Towner Gallery, De La Warr Pavilion and Jerwood Gallery. £500k has been secured from Arts Council England (ACE) Cultural Destinations programme, £350k Discover England Funding and £150k from SELEP.
- Work on the Devonshire Park site (to be branded the Devonshire Quarter) is continuing.
- Wealden DC appointed consultants to undertake a feasibility study on Viticulture. At the end of Jan this year 11 vineyards in the district met to discuss the findings and help conclude the final report, which will be available at the end of Mar 2018.
- Charleston's Centenary Project has begun with work on site.

### Priority One: Create an environment where great cultural experiences are available to everyone to enhance their quality of life.

| Action  | RAG | Progress  |
|---|-----|---|
| 1.1 Enable and initiate cross sector commissioning of great cultural experiences. | G   | <p>DMAC developing relationship with Action in Rural Sussex to work with socially isolated older people. Belonging touring project will work with Hastings incl CEP schools and Newhaven (Community Centre), sharing skills, building capacity and increasing cultural capital. New outreach planned to secondary schools in E Sussex (and wider).</p> <p>Cultural Education Partnership (adapted from various so hopefully will fit purpose!)</p> <p><u>1. Learning and Skills</u> - led by the Creative and Digital Curriculum Planning Group, a subgroup of Skills East Sussex. This group is currently developing a county-wide partnership of 10 schools across East Sussex to-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Extend dialogue around creative skills, creativity and creative education across the county at senior levels;</li> <li>- Develop new strategic relationships between creative/cultural organisations and secondary schools;</li> <li>- Encourage more Creative Industry Champions &amp; Enterprise Advisers to build long-term relationships with education providers</li> <li>- provide professional development opportunities for teachers and cultural leaders, enable young people aged 11-13 to be conscious of their own creative thinking and how this skill relates to the way they learn, and promote delivery opportunities for Arts Award &amp; Artsmark;</li> </ul> <p>The Creative &amp; Digital Task group recently gave presentations and workshops on the breadth of careers in the sector to all Careers &amp; Enterprise Advisers across East Sussex; one-page information sheets highlighting multiple local routes and entry points in to different creative, cultural and digital careers were circulated.</p> <p>Always Possible engaged to produce full scoping report to inform the development South East Creative Economy Network Talent Accelerator Strand.</p> <p>Pipeline projects: Pop-up Summer University programme focusing on transition and creative problem-solving skills, with design and delivery from Task Group members; a summit of ideas and skills sharing, ideally linked to STEAMfest, to bring together teachers, industry, artists and strategists to understand each other's' challenges and the possibilities when solving the gaps in skills.</p> <p><u>2. Health and Wellbeing</u> - led by the Hastings &amp; Rother Arts Education Network. This dimension of the CEP work is focussed specifically on Hastings and Rother.</p> <p>Most recently Artswork's Partnership Investment with Hastings and Rother R3 Reducing Health Inequalities has approved a number of awards to cultural organisations working in Hastings and Rother to support this agenda. It has led to the first time involvement in the fund of 22 schools and FE providers, the majority of whom are situated in the DfE Opportunity Area of Hastings. Artsmark and Arts Award are embedded in all relevant programmes.</p> <p>As part of the development work of the Hastings and Rother CEP, the Hastings and Rother Arts Education Network commissioned Fulcrum Learning to produce a report examining the health and wellbeing challenges for schools within the DfE Opportunity Area. The report was completed in Q3 17/18 and will be presented to CES at the forthcoming meeting in Mar 2018.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HBC officers are working with the new Opportunity Area Manager to present options for creative approaches to achieving the aims of the programme.</li> <li>• HBC are applying for Heritage Action Zone status for the Town Centre and America Ground. Aims include increasing the engagement of the local community in the heritage of the area and increasing the heritage contribution to regeneration.</li> <li>• The 2017 Stade Saturdays free outdoor programme inc. 10 shows directly presented by HBC, of which 6 were supported by the Coasters Touring Network, and a further 8 presented by other partners. The St Leonards Festival 2017, commissioned by HBC, was a success with good attendance and weather and the majority of activity being free. The White Rock Theatre Summer Youth Project attracted 90 children for a production of Oliver! which sold out the theatre.</li> <li>• The successful Applause Arts Council England Strategic Touring Fund for £449,850 is delivering high quality live literature events to rural pubs across the South East and East of England. Village pubs can play a central role in rural community life. Inn Crowd offers landlords a new way to attract customers and creates a unique performing environment for some of the UK's most talented up and coming spoken word artists. The project is intended to help re-establish pubs as central to rural community life by bringing exceptional cultural experiences to new audiences.</li> <li>• ESCC Library Service has been awarded an ACE Libraries Opportunities for Everyone Innovation Fund of just under £130,000 to deliver Advantage East Sussex. Activities will include coding clubs for children, rhymetimes and storytimes in dual languages, support for people with visual impairment using specialist equipment and software, wellbeing boxes to support mental health and an extension of the IT For You project, providing personalised IT training to improve skills and confidence.</li> <li>• HBC's Match Funding Scheme, to support artists making external funding bids, supported 11 projects in 2016/17 helping to lever in over £300k to the town.</li> </ul> |

|     | Action  | RAG | Progress   |
|-----|---|-----|--|
|     |   |     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hastings &amp; Rother Music Month opening up the number of event to a wider audience, development and support of the sector going forward. Successful launch of Hastings &amp; Rother as a Music City.</li> <li>HRAEN delivered an artist workshop at the STEMfest launch to develop networks and expand remit into STEAM agenda.</li> <li>Battle Festival developing a three year programme towards another large scale commission, working with ACE, Blackshed and DLWP. PUSH their commissioned work for 2016 is now touring nationally.</li> <li>Speak Out, the young people's cultural consultation taken place at Robertsbridge Community College, a partnership between RDC, Audio Active and Youth Services; results on sound cloud <a href="http://www.hraen.co.uk/speak-out.html">http://www.hraen.co.uk/speak-out.html</a>.</li> <li>ESAP grant and ESCC funding supporting Art Connects delivered by Culture Shift working with vulnerable adults.</li> <li>Towner delivering sustainable and inclusive programme of activities:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ESCC Short Breaks funding for children with complex needs and children/teenagers with disabilities;</li> <li>Open Ended for people with memory problems and their carers;</li> <li>Working in partnership with Sussex Oakleaf Day Services to strengthen existing programme of creative sessions with Arts in Mind group, including recruitment of arts facilitator and an exhibition of work in gallery space;</li> <li>Arts in Mind (AIM) is a weekly course held at Towner supporting adult artists experiencing mental health issues. Members are referred through day centre Brightview Sussex Oakleaf, in partnership with Sussex Partnership NHS Trust. The programme assists participants to improve their mental health through creative activities, using the unique resource of the Towner Collection and exhibitions to inspire their varied artistic styles.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Towner's Annual Schools Exhibition has grown over five years to become one of the largest professional exhibitions of school age students' work held in the UK. In 2016 we worked with 48 schools, colleges, special needs schools and pupil referral units, with ages ranging from 4 to 19. The exhibition featured work by over 2500 children and young people from across East Sussex, many of whom had never visited a gallery before. The exhibition is hugely popular and brings many new families into the gallery.</li> <li>'Adopt Charleston' is a 3 year programme in which Charleston partners with 9 East Sussex schools and local art educators and tutors. Working together the team creates, pilots and evaluates both on site and outreach workshops to inform Charleston's future programming. Charleston participating in Open Doors programme.</li> <li>Project Art Works has launched Explorers, a national programme supported by an Ambition for Excellence grant from ACE. Project Art Works awarded ACE ambition for excellence award of £573k over 3 years to deliver EXPLORERS a sector development and cultural inclusion programme over 3 years.</li> <li>Jerwood Gallery's Pearls of the Sea and Babysense programmes reaching out to local families.</li> <li>Film Hub South East Grant secured for Dementia Friendly screenings at Hailsham Pavilion.</li> <li>For the first time, this year's Hastings International Piano Competition were awarded ACE funding for outreach activity. This enabled the live streaming of some of the sessions from the competition, with supported screenings including Silverdale Primary Academy and the café on Hastings Pier. HIPCC also placed a grand piano in the Source BMX Park with free concerts by last year's competition winner.</li> <li>Journeys Dance Festival in Bexhill, Summer 2017 saw Stop Gap performance on the terrace of the DLWP. Start of an interesting new collaboration with Stop Gap Company and RDC through festival organiser 18hours.</li> </ul> |
| 1.2 | Support artist led networks   | G   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regular information fed to existing networks and advice and support given to funding bids to develop existing and new networks.</li> <li>ESAP continues to award £500 match funding to Grants for the Arts bids to support the next generation of cultural practitioners and organisations.</li> <li>WDC to hold the next ESAP funding event in Wadhurst.</li> <li>Hastings &amp; Rother Music City are developing a project around support for emerging musicians and others in the music industry, including the possibility of setting up a not for profit record label.</li> <li>Hastings and Rother Music City initiative will be looking at support and development for musicians. Rother Festivals Network now established and will be feeding into Great Places music bid from Hastings and Rother. Supporting each other in developing their festivals, sharing best practice, working to strengthen gaps in knowledge – led by RDC.</li> <li>Four training events delivered by East Sussex Arts Partnership in partnership with Towner and A-N to support artist's development (80 artists supported).</li> <li>Rother artists and arts organisations involved in a Grants for the Arts funding workshop with John McPherson of ACE South East.</li> <li>Jerwood Gallery Artists Club meets on 1st Tuesday of the month</li> <li>The Business of Heritage took place at the Keep and a Heritage Network is now being developed - led by the Keep.</li> <li>HBC are supporting the Hastings Creatives Network to improve their platform.</li> <li>Coastal Cultural Trail hosted series of networking events for trail linked businesses.</li> <li>Eastbourne BC Creative Innovation Strategy in development, a Creative Conversation, a strategy produced and launch of two networks (Leadership group and a What Next Chapter) delivered in July 2017.</li> <li>DMAC working regularly with undergrad and MA students from Uni Sussex and Uni Brighton, Project with metalwork students at Plumpton College to make work for the museum shop. Programme of masterclasses and courses aimed at specialist professionals as well as skilled amateur professionals. Regular information fed to existing networks and advice and support given to funding bids to develop existing and new networks.</li> </ul>   |
| 1.3 | Attract grant investment into the sector  | G   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HBC supporting a full-day workshop in Feb 2018 empowering artists/individuals to fundraise effectively &amp; create a financial strategy for their projects. Presented by a-n's professional development programme in partnership with East Sussex Arts Partnership.</li> <li>The 2017 ACE National Portfolio announcements have seen two new NPOs for the county: Jerwood Gallery and Applause Rural Touring. Project Art Works secured an uplift in funding and Glyndebourne, De La Warr Pavilion, Towner Gallery and Home Live Art achieved stand still funding.</li> <li>2017 annual East Sussex Arts Partnership (ESAP) funding support event delivered on Hastings Pier featuring presentations from ACE, HLF and ESCC External Funding team. Approx 60 organisations attended, bringing the total over four events (held in Rye, Eastbourne &amp; Lewes in previous years) to approx 200 in total.</li> <li>ESAP small grants scheme continues to lever grant investment from Grants for the Arts.</li> <li>Wealden DC have awarded community grants (total value £8,000 in 2017/18) to 7 different activities.</li> <li>Hastings BC Match Funding Scheme, to support artists making external funding bids, supported 11 projects in 2016/17 helping to leave in over £300K to the town.</li> <li>3 Stade Saturdays slots were offered to local artists and Coasters funding was shared with 2 local promoters.</li> </ul>   |
| 1.4 | Undertake research which provides the evidence of the impact of cultural activity | G   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DMAC work with Action in Rural Sussex will incl impact assessment on wellbeing &amp; health.</li> <li>HBC looking at longitudinal research into impact of Root 1066. The final report is now available on the HBC website <a href="http://www.hastings.gov.uk/arts_culture/root/">http://www.hastings.gov.uk/arts_culture/root/</a></li> <li>Bridge organisation and HRAEN developing education profiles for East Sussex.</li> <li>DLWP and Charleston trialling Shared Intelligence DIY economic impact tool.</li> </ul>   |

|     | Action  | RAG | Progress   |
|-----|---|-----|--|
|     |   |     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HRAEN Health and Wellbeing in schools report commissioned from Fulcrum Learning.</li> <li>HRAEN providing CCG health inequalities funding project support.</li> <li>Project Art Works' Peer Support Network is launched to connect people who have complex needs, families, carers and social workers. So far we have delivered 2 events with over 60 attendees. A further 3 more events planned this year.</li> <li>Project Art Works &amp; Heart of Hastings continue a partnership alliance of shared interests and aspirations locally. Shortlisted by ESCC/ community asset transfer at 12 Claremont in Hastings as an inclusive, cultural space.</li> </ul>   |
| 1.5 | Lobby and advocate for the value of the cultural sector | G   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing work with Visit Ditchling. Belonging project will reach new partners and audiences around East Sussex.</li> <li>HBC won a tender to develop &amp; deliver a new national Coastal Culture Network. Working with partners around the coast the network aims to facilitate better communication between cultural organisations, local authorities, coastal community teams and others, and to advocate for the value of cultural activity in coastal communities.</li> <li>Coastal Cultural Trail business event hosted at De La Warr Pavilion, showed a notable change in business perceptions of Bexhill. The next business networking event will take place at Jerwood Gallery on 8 Nov.</li> <li>Blackshed Gallery in Robertsbridge won an award at the 1066 Business Awards.</li> <li>RDC DLWP interest in The Hive, Bexhill as a potential hub for incubation space. RDC continuing to work with Rye Studio School on the development of incubation space at the Fisheries.</li> </ul> |

**Priority Two: Create an environment which enables the cultural & creative economy to expand and enhances our ability to attract and retain other businesses.**

|     | Action  | RAG | Progress   |
|-----|---|-----|--|
| 2.1 | A diverse workforce renewing itself and attracting local talent   | G   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>South East Creative Economy Network has secured DCLG ERDF funding to deliver a £5m business support programme for the sector. SECCADS (South East Creative, Cultural and Digital Support) is in its setup phase.</li> <li>Ambition to offer 'Creative Job Club' type offer to rural (and other) YP (required funding). Volunteer programme with young people offers work experience in a skilled creative industries/visitor economy environment. Currently 35 vols incl FOH. Also Virtual Business network partnership with Action in Rural Sussex.</li> <li>A key aim of the Opportunity Area programme is to increase and diversify opportunities for contact between young people and the workplace – HBC will input into how the creative industries can best contribute.</li> <li>Hastings &amp; Rother Music City has launched its Music Advisory Board to be Chaired by Sally Lampit of Battle Festival looking at: Venues/ youth/ audiences/ artists/ music scene/ businesses.</li> <li>Creative Café and Jobs Fair successfully delivered at DLWP on 29 Apr 2016 and repeated on 3 Mar 2017.</li> <li>Rother Festivals Network run by RDC has 2 days of workshops planned addressing the value of their offer and using this to attract inward investment.</li> <li>Results of workspace survey in, to inform forward planning. In Bexhill, Hasting Furniture Service has secured funding to develop the London Road building with potential for workspace behind.</li> <li>DV8 have now moved to the Hive in Bexhill town centre.</li> <li>Parliamentary launch for Cultural prospectus for SELEP area alongside SELEP Economic Plan completed Mar 2016. Prospectus identifies two creative innovation hubs for East Sussex: Hastings &amp; Bexhill led by DLWP; Eastbourne &amp; Lewes led by Towner.</li> <li>South East Creative Economy Network ERDF bid submitted - funds would secure a Creative Navigator to work alongside the East Sussex Growth Hub to support and grow Creative Businesses. Outcome expected autumn 2017.</li> <li>Towner's Sustainable Volunteer Project significantly contributes to workforce development locally: 4000 volunteer hours, and 8 people recruited to entry level Gallery Placement Programmes in 2015. 18 month apprentice placement funded through DDF.</li> <li>Towner working with Talent Match, providing work experience for job seekers.</li> <li>HBC Root 1066 marketing intern has gone on to secure a permanent job with Project Art Works.</li> <li>Charleston advertising vacancies as widely as possible and monitoring applicants. Charleston also has a number of work placements from local schools and University of Brighton. They apply for funding for internships and apprenticeships and have successfully received funding from University of Sussex Graduate and First Generation programmes. They continue to offer 6 month curatorial internship programmes and 12 month Public Programme internships funded through Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) via the Charleston Centenary Project. Charleston currently has a Digital Media apprentice working alongside DV8 Sussex. Charleston is participating in the Skills East Sussex Open Doors programme.</li> <li>Jerwood Gallery volunteer programme includes offering work experience to 18-25s.</li> </ul> |
| 2.2 | Infrastructure decisions take account of the business needs of the sector   | A   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TES has approved a SECEN led Creative Workspace Masterplan. ACE funding has been secured to support its delivery.</li> <li>A workshop took place with the Hastings &amp; Rother Cultural Leaders Group to discuss the masterplan in more detail and this will be followed up through strategic planning for the cultural vision for the area and for the White Rock Theatre specifically. There is cultural representation in discussions about the White Rock Area development and AAP.</li> <li>There are cultural partners involved in Hastings Heritage Action Zone bid.</li> <li>Lobbying for improvements to cycle route to support Coastal Cultural Trail.</li> <li>Developments for Bexhill Seafront.</li> <li>Road changes to create plaza for Devonshire Park project.</li> <li>ESCC and RDC have undertaken a survey of workspace needs by our creative sector to inform studio/incubator space planning.</li> <li>RDC undertaking economic impact study to understand full value of new workspace on Bexhill.</li> </ul>  |
| 2.3 | Strong comms links with key cultural hotspots in East London increase number of creative businesses relocating to East Sussex and number of visitors to the area investing in cultural products | A   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discussion with some key studio providers in London and considering a creative open workspace review SELEP-wide led by the South East Creative Economy Network (SECEN).</li> <li>There have been very positive site visits to Hastings by a London based artist studio provider who is interested in developing their business in Hastings.</li> <li>A major digital and vinyl mastering facility is looking at sites for a relocation to Hastings.</li> </ul>  |
| 2.4 | Clear lines of communication between the cultural sector and the higher education sector  | G   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DMAC working closely with Uni Btn - Graphics and Illustration/Textiles and Uni Suss Art History &amp; Curation MA providing hands on workshops, creative industries work experience and insight into cultural business. Also work with UCA, CSM (London). V positive recent meeting with Adam Tickell VC looking to develop further.</li> <li>Skills East Sussex/CEP Creative and Digital industries group now bringing together businesses and education providers.</li> </ul>   |



|     | Action  | RAG | Progress  |
|-----|---|-----|---|
|     |   |     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brighton University, Locate East Sussex and DLWP delivered 2 innovation events at DLWP.</li> <li>DLWP developing course modules with University of Brighton – Fine Art &amp; Architecture (2016).</li> <li>Charleston has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the University of Sussex to enable the Trust and University to develop joint research projects.</li> <li>Charleston, Ditchling, DLWP and Towner worked with Sussex University to Sussex Modernism at Two Temple Place in London.</li> <li>Towner staff involved in presenting module in Mar 2016 for University of Brighton Fine Art &amp; Performance students. Towner invited University of Brighton Moving Image undergrad students to curate evening of film in May 2015. Towner hosting Sussex Modernism series of talks in partnership with University of Sussex. Towner in talks with University of Sussex's History of Art department about AHRC research opportunities, student placements and digital opportunities.</li> <li>Jerwood Gallery participating in freshers' offers scheme at University of Brighton Hastings Campus.</li> </ul> |
| 2.5 | A county that is known for its craft sector and known as a county who welcomes new craft based industries.  | G   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As part of its core programming, Charleston offers creative workshops and masterclasses exploring crafts which include needlepoint, knitting, ceramics &amp; stained glass making. As part of the HLF Activity Plan supporting Charleston's Centenary Project, Charleston delivered a creative knitting workshop working with locally sourced Sussex wools and using design motifs inspired by the interior décor of the House.</li> <li>Part of DMAC core offer. We support local craft businesses through exhibition and our retail offer as well as professional development. Recent work with Make Lewes linked to Wood exhibition.</li> <li>Locate East Sussex and ESCC supporting Making Lewes in ambitions to create a Maker Space.</li> </ul>  |
| 2.6 | East Sussex Prospectus includes the ES Cultural offer as part of the overall intention of promoting the county as an attractive place to do business. | A   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ESCC collating possible content.</li> </ul>  |

**Priority Three: Develop and promote well packaged cultural tourism offers which celebrate the identity of East Sussex, raise its profile and attract more visitors and businesses to the County.**

|     | Action  | RAG | Progress  |
|-----|---|-----|---|
| 3.1 | Increase the number of visitors to our cultural offer in East Sussex through an action plan led by the Cultural Destinations Consortium to include the further development of the Coastal Cultural Trail and other themed trails and accompanying research and evaluation | G   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A £1m funding package has been secured to deliver Culture Coasting - a SELEP coastal Geocaching based arts trail involving Towner Gallery, De La Warr Pavilion and Jerwood Gallery. £500k has been secured from Arts Council England (ACE) Cultural Destinations programme, £350k Discover England Funding and £150k from SELEP.</li> <li>Music Month 2018 has begun with key annual events Hastings Fat Tuesday and the International Piano Concerto Competition.</li> <li>HBC are partners in the Coasters Touring Network that is supporting outdoor arts programming from UK and international artists. In Hastings this is contributing to the Stade Saturdays offer. One of the aims is to attract regional visitors to the town. HBC is entering the final year of the Coasters Touring Programme. Coasters will be constituting as an independent association as part of developing future plans.</li> <li>Hastings Autumn Music Month (which runs to 31 Oct) is highlighting the breadth and depth of music programming and is being promoted via Visit 1066 Country Marketing and a rail platform campaign.</li> <li>1066 cycle festival 2017 attracted increased attendance from 2016. HBC and RDC working with Active Hastings and Active Rother to deliver, with Coasters providing creative input.</li> <li>DMAC key partner in Visit Ditchling. Positive meeting with S Downs National Park.</li> <li>TSE consultants have completed a stocktake of existing visitor data commissioned, funded by Districts, Boroughs and County. First workshop to test functionality has taken place with Cultural Destinations Consortium.</li> <li>Sussex Modern delivered, an audience development programme to support Two Temple Place (London) exhibition Sussex Modernism - exhibition footfall 52597, their most successful exhibition to-date. Venues reporting increased footfall as a result, e.g. Farley Farm House report a 20% visitor increase in the first 3 months of opening (Apr, May, Jun) with an overall increase of approx. 10% for the whole season with 6.7% citing Sussex Modern as the reason they visited.</li> <li>Coastal Culture Trail (joint marketing &amp; tourism initiative with Towner, Jerwood Gallery and De La Warr Pavilion) funded through Coastal Communities Fund has included poster campaigns at London train stations, branding on the back of East Sussex buses, a new website and advertising in national culture and tourism publications and has been covered by The Telegraph, Marie Claire and The Standard. Has highlighted need for improvements to the Bexhill to Eastbourne cycle route. Currently looking at Rother Coastal Communities Fund (CCF) bid for further development. Regular cycle trail tours, incorporating planned visits to Towner, DLWP and Jerwood developed and now running in Spring 2016. Press trips in place to review/promote trail.</li> <li>Rother Festivals Network - 2 day workshop with Marina Norris (Cultural Baggage) on knowing your value. More workshops set to follow as this network strengthens and grows.</li> <li>Project Art Works has been added to the South East Coast Art Map and is featured on their website. With the launch of Arch 1 they will be using the site to promote activity to a wider audience.</li> </ul> |
| 3.2 | Deliver Devonshire Park development project   | G   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work on the Devonshire Park site (to be branded the Devonshire Quarter) is continuing. All of the tennis works have now been completed although the LTA has commissioned a feasibility report on work to further develop the existing tennis facilities. The Congress strip out was completed three months ago and an internal scaffold has been erected to enable the replacement of heavy plant and services in the roof. Piling has also been completed and the foundations for the new Exhibition Halls are being developed. The Devonshire Park Theatre has continued to work, often 7 days a week with live performances. The Winter Garden is due to close shortly so that it can be refurbished and the front exterior rebuilt. The Towner's new Auditorium is now open for business.</li> </ul>   |
| 3.3 | Deliver a series of events for the 950th anniversary of the Battle of Hastings which will be of national and international significance   | G   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>'Tone of voice' work on the Visit 1066 Country Marketing platform is continuing and will be formally launched in mid-March.</li> <li>The ROOT 1066 International Festival concluded on 16 Oct 2016 after 6 weeks attracting approx 70k visitors. The festival featured 40 events, projects and associate activities, including 13 new commissions and premieres, over 200 artists and tens of thousands of audience. Qualitative and quantitative data is still be gathered and evaluated, but a few early reflections include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Heritage theme a very rich source of inspiration for artists, particularly with the brief to explore modern day impacts and legacies;</li> <li>- 1066 anniversary pulled in new participants and audiences for the arts projects, but equally, contemporary artists engaged new people in the history and heritage;</li> <li>- Having collaboration as a criteria for projects inspired lots of interesting work and partnerships, many of which will continue;</li> </ul> </li> </ul>  |

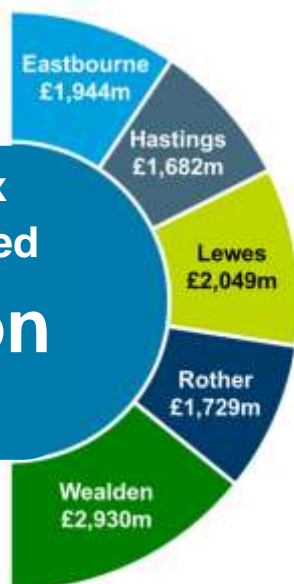


|     | Action  | RAG | Progress   |
|-----|---|-----|--|
|     |   |     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Externally the 1066 theme was great for opening non-arts doors (but a harder sell to the arts specialists);</li> <li>- Major projects like ROOT 1066 help cement partnership working at a strategic and delivery level and will make Hastings and Rother better able to respond to future opportunities.</li> <li>• 1066 Country helping to lead grow and market larger scale projects e.g. Music Month and 1066 cycle festival.</li> <li>• 1066 Country welcomes Stewart Drew as its new chairman.</li> </ul>  |
| 3.4 | Attract more location filming into the county by being proactive in our responses to film enquiries and flexible in our approach to making filming possible | G   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delivered Film Friendly event in partnership with Creative England in Feb 2016, 128 people attended, so far 14 new locations registered.</li> <li>• RDC and HBC working together as 1066 Country Film Office to actively promote the destination as a filming location.</li> <li>• Brighton hosting two drama series with East Sussex locations benefitting.</li> <li>• Life in Squares filmed partly at Charleston - noticeable spike in visitor numbers when it was aired.</li> <li>• Project Art Works produced and distributed The Mask – a Random Acts commission through Screen South and Channel 4 featuring Sharif Persaud on a walk between Hastings and Bexhill shortlisted for the Discover Film Awards 2017.</li> <li>• Project Art Works film The Mask wins best story at Oskia Bright Film Festival in Brighton.</li> <li>• Project Art Works produces the film All Done Up about Hastings Pier and is shortlisted for the De La Warr Pavilion's short film competition.</li> </ul>   |
| 3.5 | Plan and prioritise public realm improvements to enhance the visitor experience to cultural destinations.   | G   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WDC appointed consultants to undertake a feasibility study on Viticulture. At the end of Jan this year 11 vineyards in the district met to discuss the findings and help conclude the final report, which will be available end of March.</li> <li>• 'Tone of voice' work on the Visit 1066 Country Marketing platform is continuing and will be formally launched in mid-March.</li> <li>• Hastings Heritage Action Zone bid unsuccessful but a statement of ambition.</li> <li>• Charleston's Centenary Project has begun with work on site. This will transform Charleston into a unique cultural attraction that will help increase visitor numbers to the South East and help make an important contribution to the South East's cultural economy.</li> <li>• Towner has secured £450K from Arts Council Small Capital fund to build quality cinema/auditorium on ground floor, to be completed summer 2017.</li> <li>• EBC: Devonshire Park public realm improvements, as well as the public realm works included within Devonshire Park, EBC is currently developing a Seafront Strategy, seeking a commercial partner to construct a signature restaurant at the Wish Tower and in partnership with Legal &amp; General redeveloping the main town centre shopping area.</li> <li>• DLWP scoping capital project to include public realm around the site. A Round 1 Application to the Heritage Lottery Fund for the East Parade Heritage Project was submitted in Feb 2017 and we expect to hear the outcome imminently (TBC). If successful, a lead design team and community engagement specialist to develop the project in more detail, with a view to submitting a Round 2 application for delivery in summer 2017.</li> <li>• The High Street improvements in Uckfield are completed and make a significant difference to the look and feel. Similar High Street improvements in Hailsham were completed in summer 2017.</li> <li>• Currently looking at an Eastbourne Town Centre strategy to improve pedestrian navigation including clearer routes to the Devonshire Park Quarter.</li> </ul>                         |
| 3.6 | Plan and encourage investment in appropriate wrap around services such as accommodation and food offer  | G   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2nd 1066 Cycle Festival in development partnering wellbeing and culture and attracting a visitor audience.</li> <li>• New boutique hotel opened in Bexhill; Driftwood to add to recent developments: The Club and Rocksalts.</li> <li>• Launch of the new 10 year 1066 Country Strategy.</li> <li>• RDC embarking on marketing the Colonnade for long-term tenancy to encourage investment in food and drink offer.</li> <li>• Wealden attractions guide out 120k printed; to be launched at Bluebell Vineyard end of February.</li> <li>• WDC commissioned Acorn Tourism Development Consultants to undertake research (visitor/ business and resident surveys) to help inform a future tourism plan for the District. The brief also asked for a number of recommendations around potential opportunities for tourism growth particularly in the south of the district for the Council to consider. WDC Destination Management Plan research completed. Finding shared at Wealden Tourism Conference Mar 2017, Herstmonceux Castle.</li> <li>• EBC accommodation review completed.</li> <li>• Charleston engages with accommodation providers through its work with the annual festival and have launched a walking map and cycling map which links up local villages (and services) to Charleston.</li> <li>• Sussex Coastal Culture Trail Walking &amp; Cycling Map developed by Eastbourne's Bespoke Cycle Group, Hastings Urban Bikes and Bexhill Wheelers, illustrated map launched at Towner in Apr 2016 and now on sale, highlighting key cultural and social sites.</li> <li>• Three training events supporting businesses to use the East Sussex Tourism Data Warehouse have been delivered at De La Warr Pavilion (Cultural Destinations Consortium), Jerwood Gallery (1066 Country) and Uckfield Cinema (Wealden).</li> <li>• Talking to SDNP re sustainable transport and cycling offer. Work with Visit Ditchling - promoting the whole village as a package. Links through Sussex Modern etc. Programme of audience development to grow audience by reaching out into local towns and encourage more visits.</li> </ul> |

# Gross Value Added

- GVA per head has grown by 19.4% in the county since 2006, but this compares with growth of 24.2% nationally and in the SE region<sup>1</sup>.
- Growth of GVA per head in the county was higher than average in 2014/15 (6.6% compared with 2.2% nationally) but fell back again in 2015/16 (1.6% against 2.8% nationally)<sup>1</sup>
- Structural differences to the national economy include a much higher proportion of GVA from Real estate; a higher proportion in Public administration, Education & Health, and Construction sectors; while Information & communication and Financial & insurance services are under-represented.
- The Professional and administrative services sector and Other services grew most strongly in the year 2015-2016 compared to the national change, while the construction sector also saw significant growth but this was similar to the national change.
- Growth in Manufacturing and Distribution, transport, accommodation and food was much slower than the national average, and there was a significant fall in the Financial and Insurance sector.

The East Sussex economy generated  
**£10.3 billion**  
GVA in 2016<sup>1</sup>



Total GVA  
**Up 20.0%**  
since 2011  
and  
**2.3%**  
since 2015



GVA per hour<sup>2</sup>:  
**£30.30**

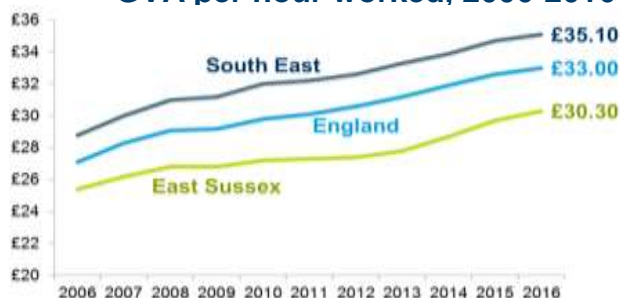
**93%** of the UK average



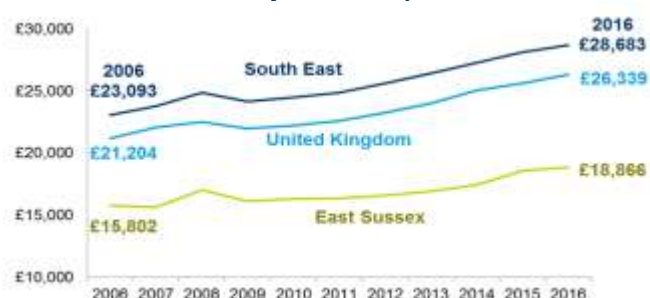
GVA per head<sup>1</sup>:  
**£18,866**

**72%** of the UK average

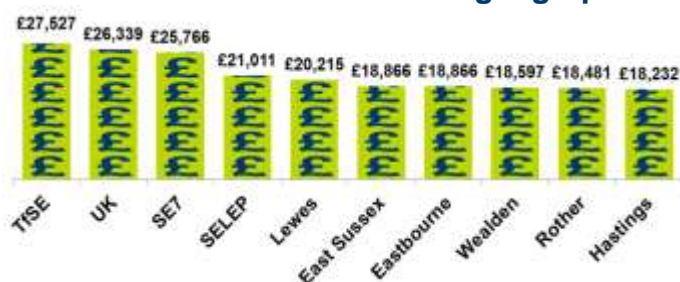
GVA per hour worked, 2006-2016<sup>2</sup>



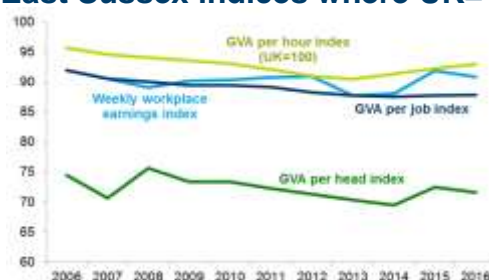
GVA per head, 2006-2016<sup>1</sup>



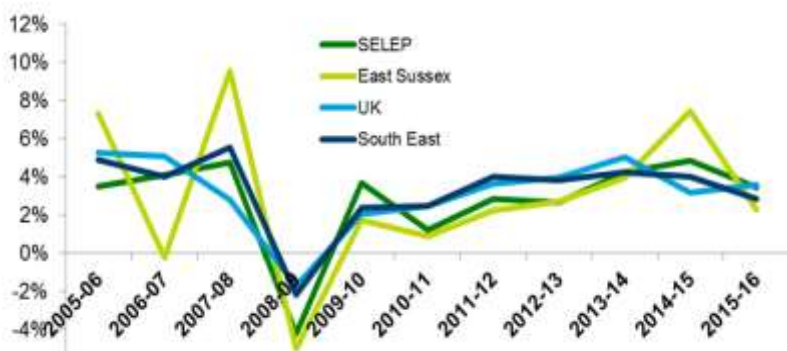
GVA per head in 2016 by district, SELEP & other geographies<sup>1</sup>



Productivity & earnings measures compared:  
East Sussex indices where UK=100<sup>1,2,7</sup>



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



**Three broad sectors account for 60% of GVA in East Sussex¹:**



**Real Estate - 21.5%**



**Public admin, Education and Health - 21.2%**



**Distribution, Transport and Accommodation & food - 16.9%**

**Gross value added by sector in 2016¹**

**Different sectors make a higher than average contribution to GVA in the districts:**

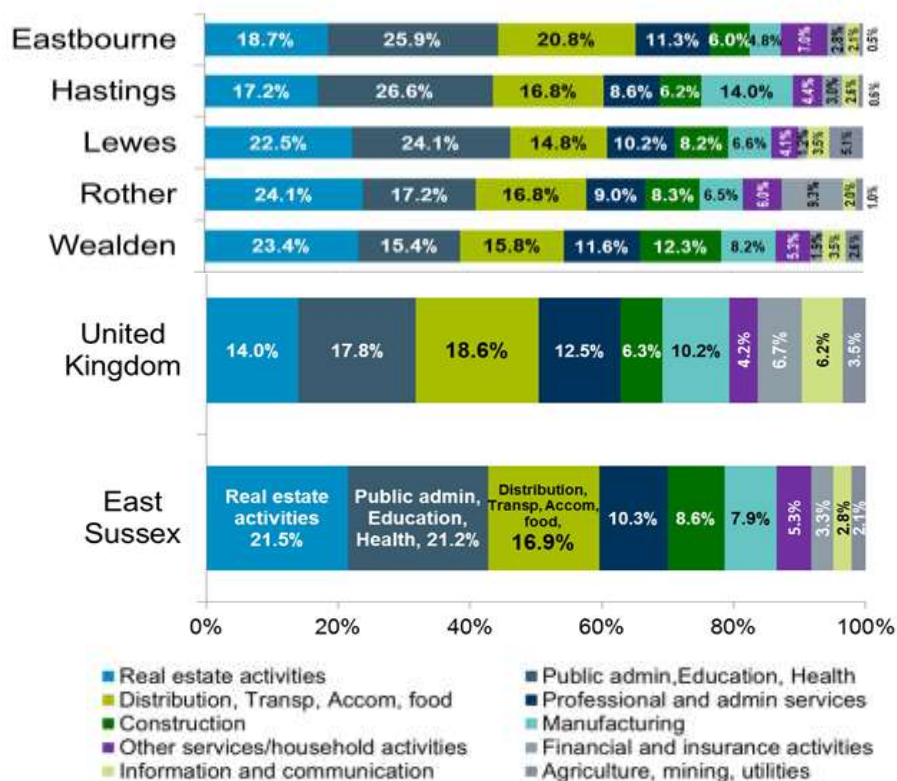
**Eastbourne:** Public admin etc. (26% of GVA in 2016); Distribution etc. (21%)

**Hastings:** Public admin etc. (27%); Manufacturing (14%)

**Lewes:** Public admin etc. (24%); Real estate (23%)

**Rother:** Real Estate (24%); Finance etc. (9%)

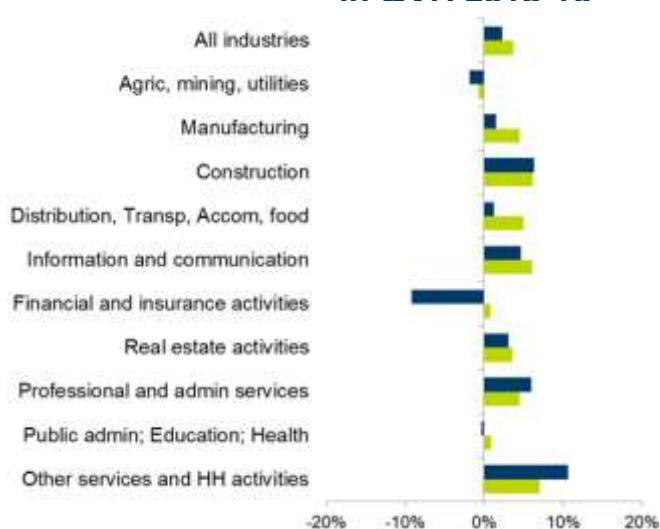
**Wealden:** Real estate (23%); Construction (12%)



**Long-term change in GVA 2006-16**



**Short-term change in GVA 2015-16¹**



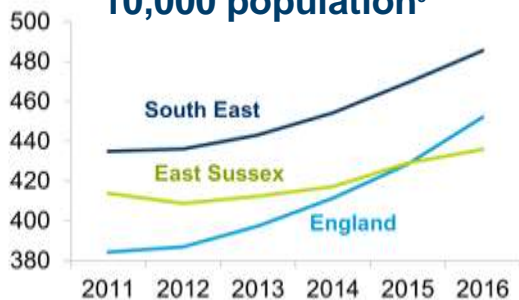
**Change in GVA by industry varies significantly over time. Some sectors which saw significant growth over a 10 year period have shown a decline more recently.**



# Businesses

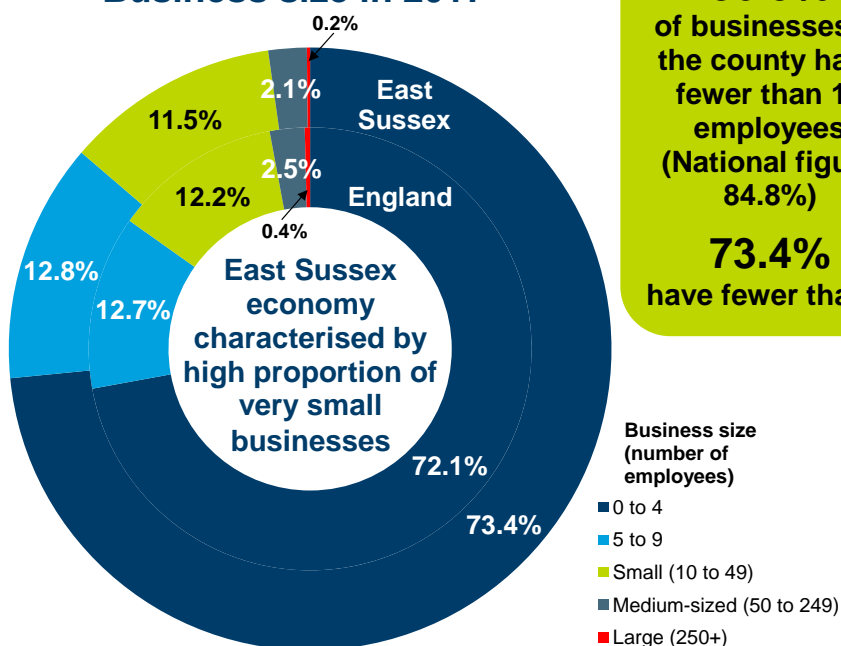


## Active businesses per 10,000 population<sup>3</sup>



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

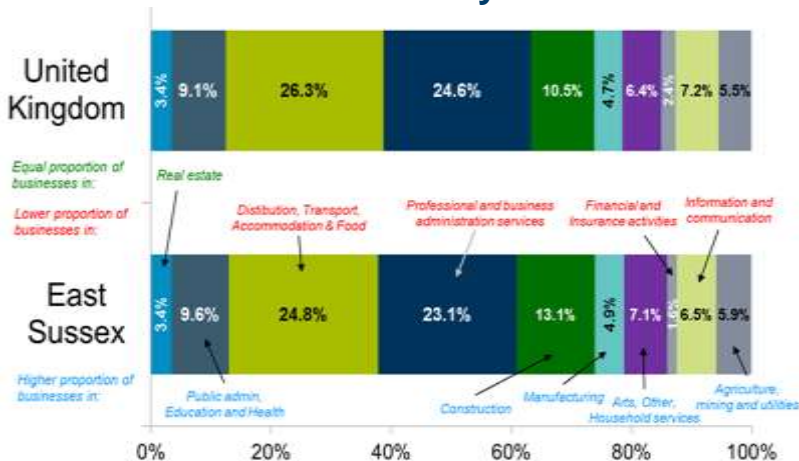
## Business size in 2017<sup>4</sup>



**86.3%** of businesses in the county have fewer than 10 employees (National figure 84.8%)

**73.4%** have fewer than 5

## East Sussex businesses by sector in 2017<sup>4</sup>



- While Real Estate contributes most to GVA, it make up only a small proportion of businesses (3.4%)
- One quarter of all businesses are in the Distribution, Transport, Accommodation & food sector, but they make up a smaller proportion than the national average, and only account for 16.9% of GVA.
- The second largest sector in terms of number of businesses is the Professional, technical and business administration services, but these account for only 10.9% of GVA.

## Fastest growing sectors in the county<sup>4</sup> (2012-2017)



**Business administration and support services - (England up 53%)**

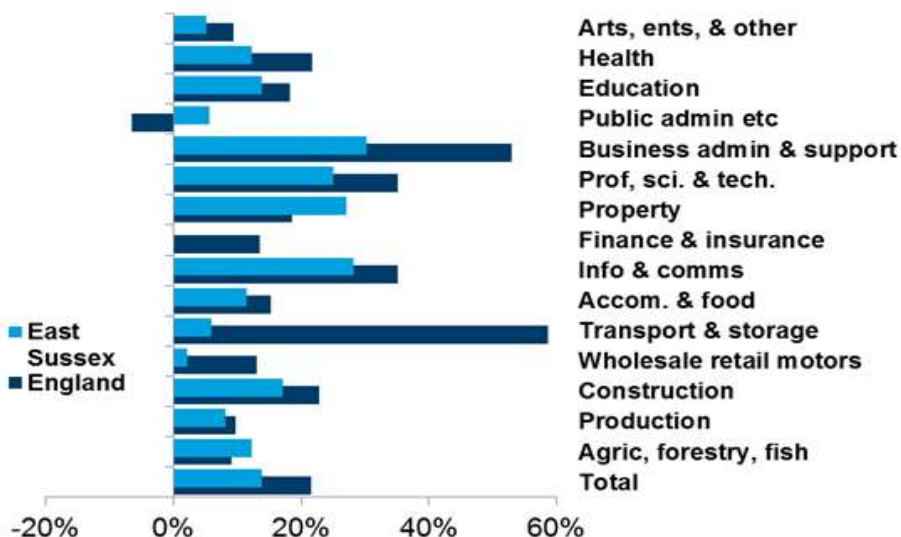


**Information & communication - up 28% (England up 35%)**



**Property - up 27% Higher than national rise (England up 19%)**

## Percentage change in businesses by sector 2012-2017<sup>4</sup>



# Business starts, closures and survival

**23,880**

active businesses in  
East Sussex in  
2016 - highest since

**2004<sup>3</sup>**

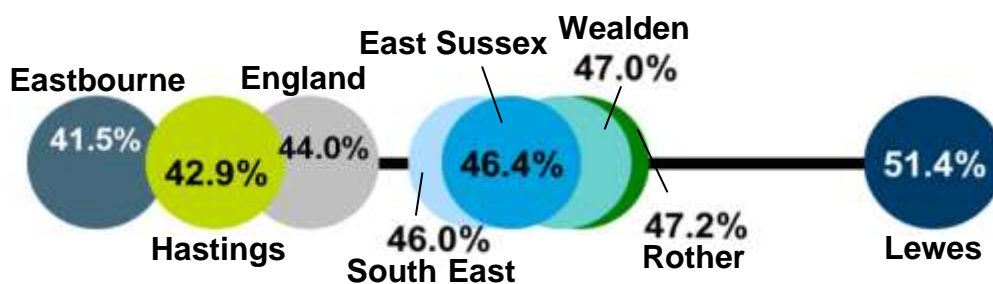
- ◆ 1 in 9 of these were new start-ups
- ◆ That's 2,590 new businesses
- ◆ But 7% fewer new businesses than in 2015
- ◆ And new business registration rates down

**Active  
businesses**

**Up 9%**  
since 2011,

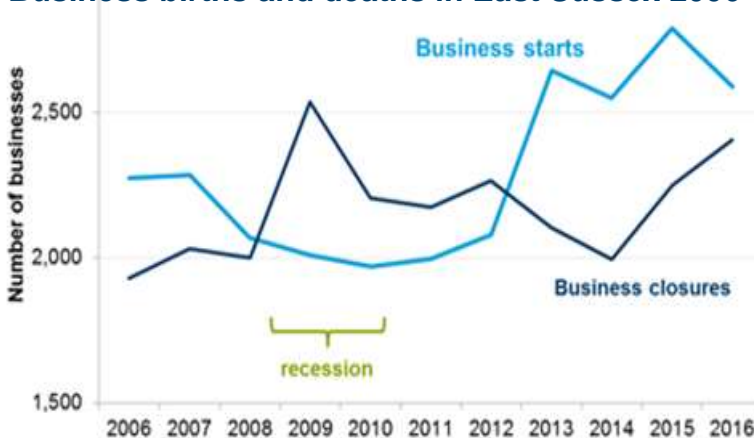
**up 2.3%**  
since 2015

**46.4% of businesses in East Sussex started in 2011 survived their first five years**  
5 year business survival rates for the county are higher than the England average<sup>3</sup>:

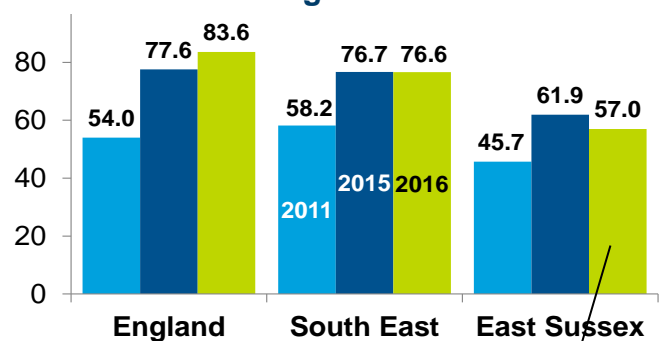


- 530 more active businesses in 2016 (23,880) than in 2015 (23,350).
- New business growth slower - 200 fewer new business starts than in 2015 and only slightly more business starts (2,590) than closures (2,405) in 2016.<sup>3</sup>

## Business births and deaths in East Sussex 2006-16<sup>3</sup>

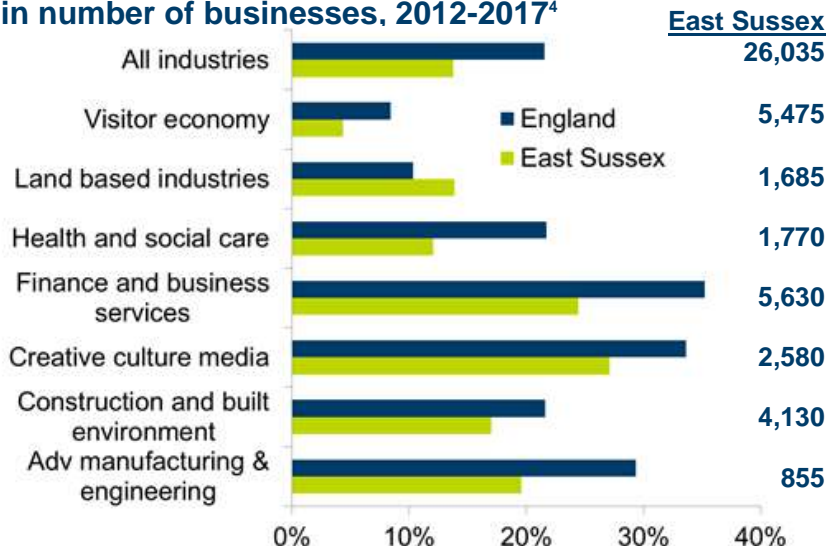


## New business registration rates 2011-16<sup>3</sup>



Second lowest of all counties/  
UAs in the South East

## East Sussex priority sectors: percentage change in number of businesses, 2012-2017<sup>4</sup>



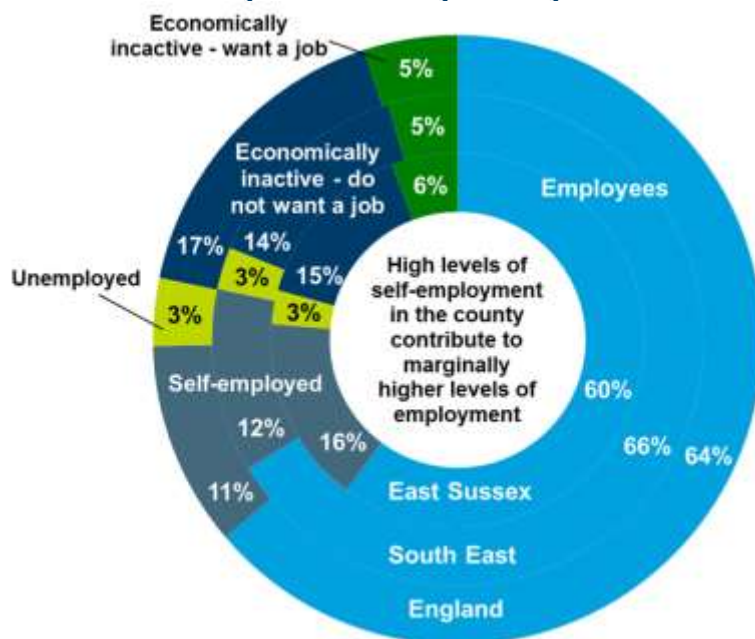
- The finance and business services combined sector is the largest of the priority sectors (as defined in the growth strategy), with Visitor Economy businesses forming the next largest group.<sup>4</sup>
- Growth in most priority sectors was slower between 2012 and 2017 than in the country as a whole

(note that some SIC sector divisions occur in more than one priority sector)



# Labour market

## Economic activity and inactivity in the year to June 2017<sup>5</sup>

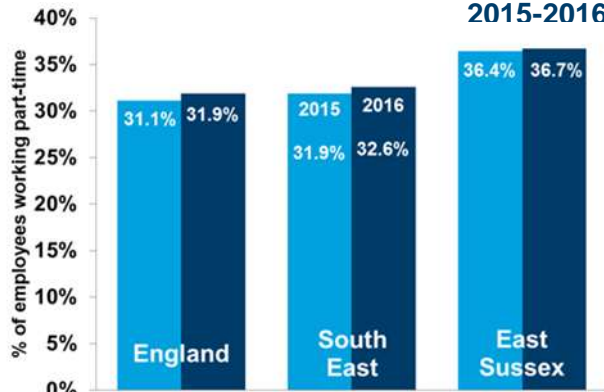


- At 76.4%, the East Sussex employment rate<sup>5</sup> is above average (England 74.7%) with comparatively high levels of self-employment and people working part-time<sup>6</sup>.
- The Claimant Count rose in the month to January in line with the national trend and the claimant count is now 35% higher than in January 2017<sup>9</sup>.
- In November 2016, 9% of the county's working age population were claiming out-of-work benefits.
- Average earnings for jobs in the county are lower than average
- A lower proportion of the county's residents have higher level qualifications compared to national and regional populations, and a higher level have low or no qualifications.

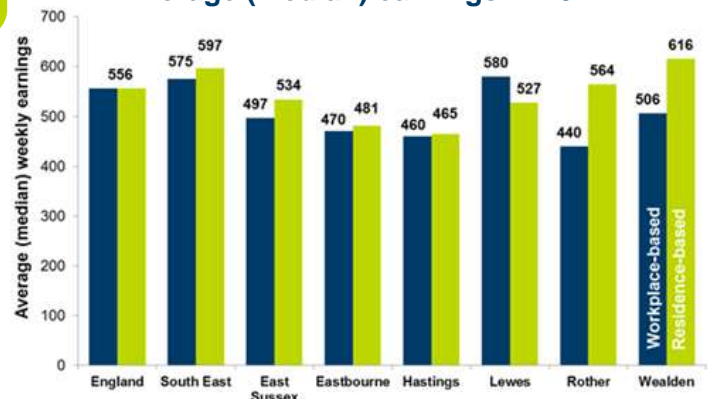
## Workforce projections<sup>8</sup>

Between 2015 and 2020 there is projected to be little change in the number of people in the East Sussex labour force, although after 2022 there is projected to be a slight decline.

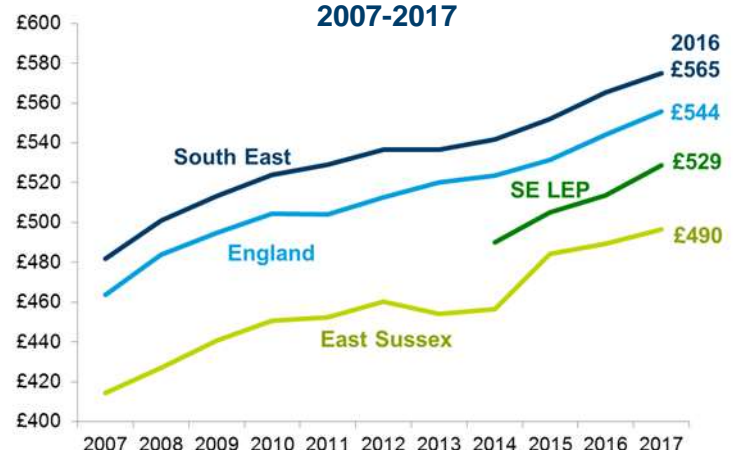
## Percentage of employees working part-time, 2015-2016<sup>6</sup>



## Average (median) earnings in 2017<sup>7</sup>



## Workplace-based median full time earnings, 2007-2017



**5,950 claimants**

of Universal credit (UC) and Job Seeker's Allowance (JSA) in East Sussex Jan 2018

**1.9%** of the working age population

Now **Equal** to the national average and

**↑ 35%** since January 2017

## Table of targets

| Growth measures<br>February 2018   | 2013   | 2014   | 2015  | 2016  | 2017  | 2018                     | 2019 | 2020 |
|--|--|--|---|---|---|--------------------------|------|------|
| Contribute to unlocking key employment floor space allocated in Local Plans (Square metres)  |  | Havelock Place<br>2,248                          | Glovers House and Sovereign House<br>4,690      |   | Swallow Business Park<br>3,409                  |                          |      |      |
| Achieve average annual housing completions of 1,504 in East Sussex to 2020 in accordance with our Local Plans<br><small>(Source: East Sussex County Council On-line Housing Monitoring Database)</small>           | 1,298<br><small>(2012-13 data)</small>           | 1,208<br><small>(2013-14 data)</small>           | 1,358<br><small>(2014-15 data)</small>          | 1,509<br><small>(2015-16 data)</small>          | 1,445<br><small>(2016-17 data)</small>          | Data due: September 2018 |      |      |
| Increase GVA per capita by 20% by 2020<br><small>(Source: Office for National Statistics)</small>  | £16,929<br>+22.3%<br>2003-13                     | £17,423<br>+22.1%<br>2004-14                     | £18,574<br>+25.4%<br>2005-15                    | £18,866<br>+19.4%<br>2006-16                    | Data due: December 2018                         |                          |      |      |
| Maintain the employment rate for East Sussex at a higher level than the England rate to 2020<br><small>(Source: Annual Population Survey/Labour Force Survey, NOMIS/ONS)</small>                                   | 71.3%<br>+0.1% points higher than England (Sept) | 75.3%<br>+3.2% points higher than England (Sept) | 73.5%<br>Equal to England rate (Sept)           | 72.5%<br>-1.6% points lower than England (Sept) | 76.4%<br>1.7% points higher than England (Sept) | Data due: April 2018     |      |      |
| Maintain the Claimant Rate for East Sussex at below the England rate to 2020<br><small>(Source: Office for National Statistics/NOMIS)</small>  | 2.9%<br>-0.8% points lower than England (April)  | 2.1%<br>-0.6% points lower than England (April)  | 1.5%<br>-0.4% points lower than England (April) | 1.4%<br>-0.4% points lower than England (April) | 1.6%<br>-0.3% points lower than England (April) | Data due: May 2018       |      |      |
| Increase the percentage of working age residents in East Sussex with a Level 4 qualification to at least 35% by 2020<br><small>(Source: Annual Population Survey, Nomis/ONS)</small>                               | 32.4%<br>-2.5% points lower than England         | 36.7%<br>1.0% points higher than England         | 31.2%<br>-5.5% points lower than England        | 34.1%<br>-3.8% points lower than England        | Data due: April 2018                            |                          |      |      |
| 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<br><small>(Source: Annual Population Survey, Nomis/ONS)</small> | 23.5%<br>+2.2% points higher than England        | 19.4%<br>-1.2% points lower than England         | 23.1%<br>+3.1% points higher than England       | 22.4%<br>+3.3% points higher than England       | Data due: April 2018                            |                          |      |      |

## 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.

### Gross value added

<sup>1</sup> 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. With the release of the 2016 GVA data a major change in methodology took place. Please ensure you use only the most recent data.

<sup>2</sup> 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 though 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 higher proportion of part-time jobs.

## **Businesses**

<sup>3</sup> The Office for National Statistics (ONS) provides 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.

<sup>4</sup> 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](#).

## **Employment, earnings, and benefits data**

<sup>5</sup> Employment data is sourced from the Annual Population Survey (APS) which is published by the ONS on the [Nomis](#) website.

<sup>6</sup> 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](#).

<sup>7</sup> 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.

<sup>8</sup> 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 population projections, and published on [East Sussex in Figures](#).

<sup>9</sup> 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 be found on the DWP's [StatXplore](#) website.

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](#), [claimants of Universal Credit and JSA](#) and [workforce projections](#).

## 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.

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](mailto:mariahelena.santamaria@eastsussex.gov.uk).

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).

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for more information.