

# **HASTINGS & ST LEONARDS LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP**

## **BRIEFING NOTE ON REGENERATION**

### **Employability & Apprenticeships**

- Own Grown Challenge - 1,502 pledges to date, towards a target of 2,014 pledges by end of 2014. HBC taking a leading role in managing the project, including 1-2-1 brokering, social media/publicity
- Academies Employability Action Plan – HBC officers and FSB are working with Heads of the 4 Academies to finalise actions to better coordinate and increase business engagement with the Academies. Long-term goal to better prepare young for the world of work.
- Employability Forum - the forum met July 2014. They discussed briefing on Talent Match Funding and other potential new funding streams, and discussed the draft Academies Employability action plan.
- Apprenticeship Promotion - National Apprenticeship Service funded project ended July with all targets exceeded, including 75 apprenticeship starts (target of 50). Further funding bid submitted to deliver further Own Grown business engagement initiatives

### **Evening and Night Economy and Students**

- The Evening Economy Partnership meets quarterly to discuss development and progress towards a better evening economy.
- Hastings Town Centre Management is currently developing proposals to become a Business Improvement District (BID) area. There are 170 BID areas in the UK and in most cases, they support town centres to carry out promotional activities, organising large and small events, enhance the evening economy, increasing safety and security for businesses and customers and enhancing the customer experience.
- A number of new venues are opening or have opened, for example the Owl and the Pussycat Lounge and the Crown in All Saints Street. The Kino Theatre in Norman Road is set to reopen very soon as an art, music and cinema venue.
- The Reduce the Strength campaign, introduced in October 2013, is currently being reviewed.
- Seafood and Wine Festival takes place on 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> September. Please see attached web link: <http://www.hastingsfestivals.com/>
- Brighton University Freshtival is from 26<sup>th</sup> September to 12<sup>th</sup> October 2014. There is an organised activity taking place every day of the festival including exploring all the main attractions in Hastings and the surrounding area.