

Hastings and St Leonards Local Strategic Partnership Agenda

Monday, 25 April 2016 at 10.00 am, Council Chamber, Aquila House

For further information, please contact Jenny Ling tel: 01424 451844 or email: jling@hastings.gov.uk

	Page No.
1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence (Chair)	
2. Handover of Chair	
3. Notification of Urgent Items	
4. Declarations of Interest	
5. Minutes and Matters Arising	1 - 4
a) Minutes from the last LSP meeting on 25.01.2016	
b) Matters arising	
<u>FOR DISCUSSION</u>	
6. University of Brighton Update - Cllr Peter Chowney, HBC	5 - 6
<i>10 mins</i>	
7. Hastings Pier - Simon Opie, Hastings Pier and White Rock Trust	
<i>10 mins presentation</i>	
<i>10 mins discussion</i>	
8. Public Space Protection Orders - John Whittington, HBC	
<i>5 mins presentation</i>	
<i>5 mins discussion</i>	
9. Hastings Community Network View - Marc Turczanski, HCN	
<i>5 mins</i>	
10. Post 16 Area Review Update - Clive Cooke, SCCH	
<i>5 mins</i>	
11. <u>BREAK - 10 mins</u>	
12. Strengthening Personal Resilience in East Sussex - Martina Pickin, Public Health	
<i>10 mins presentation</i>	
13. East Sussex Better Together Community Resilience Engagement Work: Locality - Steve Manwaring, HVA	
<i>10 mins presentation</i>	
14. Healthy Hastings and Rother Programme - contributing to	

community and personal resilience - Richard Watson, CCG

10 mins presentation

15 mins discussion

FOR INFORMATION

- | | | |
|-----|--|---------|
| 15. | Seawater Bathing Quality Update | 7 - 8 |
| 16. | Anti-Poverty Update | 9 - 10 |
| 17. | Regeneration Update | 11 - 12 |
| 18. | Executive Delivery Group Notes: 14 March 2016 | |
| 19. | East Sussex Strategic Partnership Notes: 2 March 2016 | 13 - 18 |
| 20. | Urgent Items | |
| 21. | Next Meeting Date: 18 July 2016, Council Chamber, Aquila House | |

Agenda Item 5 Public Document Pack

Hastings and St Leonards Local Strategic Partnership Minutes 25 January 2016

Present:

Statutory Sector	
Cllr Nick Bennett	East Sussex County Council
Alan Blackwell	Sea Change Sussex
Bruce Campbell	Job Centre Plus
Cllr Peter Chowney	Hastings Borough Council
Clive Cooke	Sussex Coast College Hastings
Paul Evans	ESFRS
Paul Frost	University of Brighton
Clive Galbraith	Chamber of Commerce
Simon Hubbard	Hastings Borough Council
Jenny Jones	Hastings Academy
Mike Thompson	Amicus Horizon
Richard Watson	Hastings and Rother CCG

Community and Voluntary Sectors	
Lawrence Bell	Hastings Community Network
Paul Bennett	Hastings Community Network
Marie Casey	Hastings Community Network
Carole Dixon	Education Futures Trust
Julie Eason	Hastings Community Network
Steve Manwaring	Hastings Community Network
Marc Turczanski	Hastings Community Network
Catherine Watson	Hastings Community Network

Business Sector	
Andrew Knight	Chamber of Commerce
Sean Dennis	Let's Do Business

In Attendance	
Monica Adams-Acton	Hastings Borough Council
Viki Ashby	Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
Shabana Bayjou	Hastings Borough Council
Debra Humphris	University of Brighton
Andrew Palmer	Hastings Borough Council
Angela Pickett	Amicus Horizon
Angus Singleton	Hastings Borough Council

Apologies for absence were received from:	
Cllr Nick Bennett	East Sussex County Council
Cliff Slack	Hastings Community Network

1	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u>	
	No declarations of interest were made.	
2	<u>MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING</u>	

	<p>The minutes of the LSP Board meeting held on October 19th 2015 were noted and agreed as an accurate record.</p> <p>Matters Arising –</p> <p>(4) Bathing Water Quality: Simon reported that the bathing water quality results have been good, and in some cases excellent. This is a prime example of how partnership working can be undertaken to achieve great success. Work will continue to ensure we maintain or even further improve our rating.</p> <p>(3) Education: Carole Dixon informed the board that Mark Philips has now left Ark William Parker and a new representative on LSP will need to be identified to maintain our links with the school. Jenny Jones reported that a joint principal for William Parker and Helenswood is being sought. Action: Shabana to investigate</p> <p>The additional data on in year admissions, exclusion figures, numbers of children in the town who are educated elsewhere or may only be attending school on a part time basis is expected to be received via Fiona Wright as soon as it is available.</p>	
<p><u>3</u></p>	<p><u>INTRODUCTION TO THE NEW VICE CHANCELLOR AND OVERVIEW FOR HASTINGS CAMPUS</u></p> <p>Professor Debra Humphris, the new Vice Chancellor of the University of Brighton, was in attendance to introduce herself to the Board. The university’s strategy for 2016-21 is now being considered and an internal review of their operation in Hastings is being undertaken to inform this process. She explained that the university has not attracted the number of students it had hoped for into its Hastings campus, and all options are being considered. Nothing is being ruled in or out at this stage. The university’s relationship with the Academies Trust will not form part of the review.</p> <p>A firm of specialist accountants, BDO, have been approached to undertake the work for the university, and they are expected to prepare a report for consideration by the university board by March.</p> <p>The Board welcomed the opportunity to input into this review, a focus group of interested partners will be convened to develop a strong case for the university’s further investment in Hastings. Action: Shabana</p>	
<p><u>4</u></p>	<p><u>PUBLIC SERVICES AND MANAGING DEMAND IN AN AREA OF HIGH DEPRIVATION - IMD</u></p> <p>Angus Singleton, Policy and Performance Coordinator at HBC gave a presentation on the 2015 Indices of Multiple Deprivation. More analysis has been carried out on the result than we’ve ever done before to give the most accurate picture of how Hastings has changed since the last IMD and how we compare with other areas.</p>	

	<p>Pockets of deprivation within the town, especially in some of the major social housing estates, remain. As a result the gap between rich and poor is increasing; gentrification in certain areas may be resulting in displacement of more disadvantaged residents and is a matter of concern.</p> <p>Many of the Board partners recognised the challenges within particular areas of the town in relation to their service provision and that in many cases the same individuals or families will be involved. However, Jenny Jones highlighted the improvement in school performance as reflected in the league tables.</p> <p>More research and analysis is needed to further understand the situation to inform interventions.</p>	
<p><u>5</u></p>	<p><u>PROPOSED RESTRUCTURING OF MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE</u></p> <p>Viki Ashby, Youth Service Project Manager at Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust gave a presentation on mental health services for young people in the area. A one year pilot has been funded based on the service model in Crawley to improve the service and will commence in April. In the past the transition between youth and adult mental health services has been poor and mental health issues can contribute to exclusions and early exit from education.</p> <p>The board welcomed the new project and were keen to offer support where possible. However they cautioned that improving young people’s services without addressing problems in adult services post transition will be a false economy. Richard Watson added that GPs welcomed the project too.</p> <p>Viki welcomed engagement and feedback from all partners.</p>	
<p><u>6</u></p>	<p><u>OPENING OF THE SOURCE PARK</u></p> <p>Richard Moore was in attendance to give an update on the Source BMX Skate Park which is opening next month. A great deal of press and publicity is expected on opening day and he extended his thanks to the borough council and to the University of Brighton for their help and advice during the planning and construction.</p> <p>The Board expressed their excitement and extended congratulations to Richard and his brother for their achievement. Jenny Jones invited Richard to speak at her school assemblies to inspire pupils. Ensuring the town has adequate accommodation provision will be a pertinent issue but hopefully the demand for more accommodation will encourage more businesses.</p>	
<p><u>7</u></p>	<p><u>FOR INFORMATION ITEMS</u></p> <p>The following reports were noted for information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seawater bathing quality update • Regeneration update 	

<u>8</u>	<u>EXECUTIVE DELIVERY GROUP NOTES 8 DECEMBER 2015</u> The minutes of the last LSP EDG meeting were noted for information.	
<u>9</u>	<u>EAST SUSSEX STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP DRAFT NOTES 8 SEPTEMBER 2015</u> The minutes of the last ESSP meeting were noted for information.	
<u>10</u>	<u>URGENT ITEMS</u> An additional agenda item for this meeting is an update on the Source skate park development in the former White Rock Baths. Marc Turczanski requested a report on the County Council's ongoing restructure of Children's Services to come to the April Board meeting.	
<u>11</u>	<u>NEXT MEETING DATE: MONDAY 25 APRIL 2016</u>	

Agenda Item 6



University of Brighton

Hastings Campus: Update (12 April 2016)

Message from Professor Chris Pole

It is now a month since our Board of Governors took their decision regarding our internal review of our higher education provision in Hastings.

Whilst the review confirmed that our current Hastings Campus is not sustainable either academically or financially we are not, as some have suggested, simply planning to close the Campus and walk away.

Our decision to evolve the Campus into a new University Centre was taken because it offers the best way to continue to provide the people of Hastings with access to educational opportunities that can help them to transform their lives and continue to transform the town.

Over the last month we have confirmed:

- All current students will continue to be supported to complete their studies at the Hastings Campus over the next three to four years
- This means that no students will be required to move
- We are continuing to recruit students to courses in Hastings for 2016 entry and they too will be supported to complete their studies at the Campus
- Which courses we will be recruiting to for 2017 entry and where they will be based

We have also started discussions with our partners at Sussex Coast College Hastings and Hastings Borough Council and other local stakeholders on the development of the new University Centre.

Our shared aspiration is to open the first University Centre courses in September 2017.

We will continue to keep you updated on developments.

Best wishes

Professor Chris Pole
Deputy Vice-Chancellor

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Agenda Item 15

BATHING WATER QUALITY UPDATE FOR LSP JANUARY 2016

Southern Water, the Environment Agency and Hastings Borough Council joined forces to tackle various sources of pollution which were putting the town at risk of failing tough new water quality standards.

Together they have found and fixed a variety of problems which have meant the town's bathing water has passed the tightened standards – which are twice as tough as last year.

The successful project means the bathing water, which was predicted to be classed as poor, now passes the new standard and is classed as good (excellent at St Leonards).

A major source of contamination was found to be misconnections – when foul sewers carrying wastewater from homes to the town's treatment works are wrongly connected into surface water pipes through which rainwater is released into the sea.

Finding these was a priority for Southern Water's contractors MWH and WERM who lifted more than 2,000 manholes and checked more than 1,200 properties in the town. At the same time the teams also identified and upgraded manholes shared by wastewater and surface water pipes which can be a source of contamination during heavy rain.

We had about 81 potential misconnections past over to us to investigate between Jan 2014 and June 2015. Out of those only 2 remain o/s due to access issues.

HBC have served 31 Building Act notices all remediated without works in default being required.

At the same time, the Environment Agency and the council set about cleaning the Alexandra Park stream. The work included the installation of floating vegetated islands in ponds linked to the stream to help clean the water that flows out to sea.

Helping communicate this wide-ranging project to the people of Hastings was Clean Seas Please – a community led campaign managed by Hastings Voluntary Action and Rother Voluntary Action.

With support from the Environment Agency and Southern Water, volunteers from Clean Seas Please held a series of high profile events across the town. The wide-ranging and successful campaign focused on encouraging people to check their domestic plumbing for misconnections and to only flush the three Ps – pee, poo and paper – everything else should go in the bin.

Over the winter SWS have continued to survey their infra-structure in different parts of the borough, particularly on the Eastern side which drains into the Ore Stream.

The Bathing Water Quality Executive Group met on 24th March and received updates from all the agencies involved.

SWS have now completed their survey work and have found very few additional misconnections. These have been referred to the HBC Environmental Health team and only 2 have yet to be remedied.

The Environment Agency have been deploying some new continuous in situ monitoring devices and have experienced some success through this approach, identifying a serious defective sewer, which was then rectified by SWS. They will continue to deploy these new resources and to share the results with SWS and environmental health as appropriate.

The second and final phase of sustainable urban drainage works has been completed within the Alexandra Park stream and pond system. This was jointly funded by HBC and the Environment Agency.

Although the SWS and EA funding for this project have now ended, they along with environmental health, have agreed to carry out some further misconnection survey work in 4 specific catchments. They hope to identify and remedy some more misconnections before the start of the bathing water testing season.

Given that the results for last summer were very good, and that the good work has continued over the autumn and winter, we are hopeful that we may experience even better water quality in years to come. In the circumstances, the justification for an engineering solution such as a long sea outfall is far less than it might have been, and this idea is not being actively pursued at this time.

Agenda Item 16

Report to: **LSP**

Date: **25th April 2016**

Report of: **Andrew Palmer**

Title of report: **Reforms to welfare, housing and planning**

Purpose of report: **To provide an outline of new welfare, housing and planning legislation and a summary of their impact**

Recommendations:

1. That the LSP note the contents of the report
-

1.0 Background

The Government put forward a range of proposals in the 2015 Summer Budget and Autumn Statement that set out their direction of travel in terms of reforms to welfare, housing and planning. A number of these are being brought forward through new legislation.

2.0 Welfare Reforms

The Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016 received Royal Assent on 16th March and introduced a range of new reforms, including:

- A reduction in the Benefit Cap from £26,000 a year to £20,000 a year (outside of London)
- A four year freeze on benefits
- The ending of the family element of child tax credit and restricting payments of the child element in tax credits to two children (and the equivalent changes to Universal Credit)
- Changing Support for Mortgage Interest from a benefit to a loan and the time JSA and ESA claimants must wait before they become eligible from 13 weeks to 39 weeks
- Abolishing the Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) Work-Related Activity component
- Reducing social housing rents by 1% compared to the preceding year, every year for the next four years

There are also new regulations/orders, including:

- A freeze on LHA rates at the April 2015 level (or at the 30th percentile of market rents if lower) over the next four years
- A reduction in the backdating of Housing benefit for working age claimants and the removal of the family premium for all new Housing Benefit entitlements after April 2016
- The introduction of a cap on Housing Benefit payments for social housing at LHA rate

Also announced in the Budget was the withdrawal of housing benefit entitlement for some 18-21 year olds, which is expected to be implemented by further regulations.

3.0 Housing and Planning Bill

A new Housing and Planning Bill is currently being debated in the House of Lords and is due to receive Royal Assent on 8th May 2016. The Bill has a key objective of increasing home ownership, and consequently will redirect resources away from traditional forms of affordable housing. Key measures being introduced through the Bill include:

- Planning authorities will be expected to promote and increase the supply of Starter Homes, which will be available for first-time buyers under the age of 40 and discounted by 20% of the market value
- The RTB will be extended to housing association tenants on a voluntary (non-statutory) basis
- Higher value local authority properties will be sold to fund the extension of RTB; it is being proposed that local authorities are also given the option of paying a levy in lieu of selling high value stock
- The introduction of a 'Pay to Stay' scheme, which will mean that social landlords will be required to charge tenants with an annual income of £40,000 plus a year in London and £30,000 plus elsewhere market rents or similar
- The phasing out of lifetime tenancies for local authority tenants as they are replaced with new secure tenancies lasting for between 2 and 5 years
- A commitment to tackling 'rogue' landlords and to increasing the quality of the offer available from the private sector, e.g. through banning orders, a rogue landlord database and a more stringent 'fit and proper' person test
- Support to help landlords recover properties more effectively in cases where tenants have moved out without serving notice
- A number of planning reforms aimed at increasing the supply and delivery of additional new housing.

4.0 Summary of impact

The Government's direction of travel is clear and at its heart is the overriding priority to increase housing supply and extend home ownership. This is consistent with a view that the benefits of working should be readily apparent and that households should not be incentivised by government to remain in receipt of welfare benefits. At least in the short term, this may be a painful transition for some of the most financially disadvantaged households and the consequences are clear. In summary there are likely to be:

- Reduced income for many benefit recipients
- Increased levels of homelessness, particularly amongst young people
- Fewer properties available at social and affordable rent levels
- Less security of tenure for social housing tenants
- Increased difficulty accessing the private rented sector for people on benefits
- Greater administrative burdens on housing associations
- Reduced income and stock for housing associations and therefore less borrowing capacity for new developments and less resources to invest in existing properties

Agenda Item 17

LSP Board 25th April 2016 – Regeneration update

White Rock Area Development

Preliminary work continues on improving the White Rock area. The 'Academy of Urbanism' are helping us develop our ideas, and will be holding meetings/workshop sessions with key stakeholders during the next two months. The 'masterplanning' brief will also be issued in parallel with this work, to expedite the work, with the stakeholder input from the Academy of Urbanism work being fed into the masterplanning exercise.

Reducing Health Inequalities

In December 2015, Hastings Borough Council, on behalf of Hastings and Rother Clinical Commissioning Group's (CCG) has commenced a consultation and research exercise to inform proposals for the development of Health and Wellbeing Centres in the Hastings and St Leonards and the Bexhill area. The consultation is now complete and includes key recommendations for approval by the CCG governing board in May 2016. Upon approval, it is hoped several projects will be initiated locally leading to the 'establishment' of Health and Wellbeing centres in targeted neighbourhoods, utilising existing community venues.

The project was initiated as part of a programme of activities to tackle health inequalities in Hastings and Rother. The programme follows reports produced by the CCG and East Sussex County Council's Public Health department in 2014.

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Agenda Item 19

Meeting Notes

Wednesday 2 March 2016
Council Chamber, County Hall
Lewes, East Sussex County Council

IN ATTENDANCE

ESSP Members present:

Bruce Campbell
Cllr. Chris Dowling
Cllr. Kim Forward
Steve Manwaring (Chair)
Rosie Ross
Kamini Sanghani

Cllr. Bob Standley
Keith Stevens
Mark Streater

Michael Turner
Gary Walsh

JobCentre Plus
East Sussex County Council
Hastings Borough Council
SpeakUp Representative
Sussex Police
Kent, Surry & Sussex Community
Rehabilitation Company (Seetec)
Wealden District Council
Sussex Association of Local Councils
Office of Sussex Police and Crime
Commissioner
Environment Agency
East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service

Also in attendance (official observers):

Shabana Bayjou
Sarah Feather
Jane Hartnell
Beth McGhee
Paul Rideout
Becky Shaw
Jon Wheeler (speaker)

Hastings Borough Council
East Sussex County Council
Hastings Borough Council
East Sussex County Council
East Sussex County Council
East Sussex County Council
East Sussex County Council

Apologies for absence:

Katy Bourne
Cllr. Keith Glazier (Vice-Chair)
Michael Gough-Buijs
Graham Peters
Andrea Saunders
Cllr. Andy Smith
Cllr. David Tutt

Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner
East Sussex County Council
JobCentre Plus
Team East Sussex
National Probation Service
Lewes District Council
Eastbourne Borough Council

NOTES

1) Welcome and Apologies

Steve Manwaring welcomed ESSP members, delegates, observers, guests and speakers to the meeting. Apologies were given and those attending on behalf of others were identified. Steve gave a tribute, and a minute silence was held for John Hodges, long standing ESSP member and County Councillor for St Helens and Silverhill, who recently passed away.

2) Urgent items of business

None

3) Notes of the meeting held on 21 May 2015 and Matters Arising

The minutes were agreed as an accurate record and actions confirmed as completed.

Steve thanked colleagues for contributing to the paper, which was circulated with the agenda, containing partners' response to questions on how they think a smaller public sector will impact their work and residents.

4) Devolution Update – Becky Shaw

Steve introduced Becky Shaw, Chief Executive of East Sussex County Council (ESCC), to give a presentation on the Three Southern Counties (3SC) Devolution Bid.

Central Government is committed to, and had now legislated for, devolving funding and powers to a local level. The county, borough and district councils across Surrey, West Sussex and East Sussex considered that it was important that they submit a devolution proposal so that local residents could benefit from any localisation of powers. Brighton & Hove had submitted a separated bid, but were working with the 3SC on infrastructure and would continue to collaborate where appropriate.

3SC produced a regular newsletter to keep all stakeholders updated on developments. Becky encouraged members to sign up at 3SCdevolution@eastsussex.gov.uk and share the newsletter with colleagues across East Sussex.

A discussion followed the presentation in which Michael Turner, Environment Agency Sussex Installations Team Leader, welcomed the partnership, as the environment and abundance of outstanding natural beauty is important in all three counties and they will therefore need to be mindful of building environmental resilience into infrastructure plans. It was clarified that no governance arrangements would be imposed without agreement from all parties involved; and that as devolution deals around the country progress, clearer indication of the Government's approach to governance would emerge.

Steve requested that devolution remain a standing item on the agenda so that updates could be provided to the ESSP when further substantive developments had taken place.

ACTION: Devolution to remain a standing item on the agenda

5) Public Sector Post-Budget Discussion – All

The ESSP had discussed in September how partners could work together to mitigate the challenges created by a shrinking public sector, and partners outlined how they were approaching their budget setting in light of the current financial situation. Six months on, Steve asked members to feed back on their budget setting process and what lessons they had learned for future years.

East Sussex County Council (ESCC)

Becky reported that in the lead up to setting this year's budget, ESCC undertook a much higher level of partnership working than they had previously, holding multiple engagement events with stakeholders. During consultation it was observed that in all sectors there was less debate on whether savings would have to be made and instead there was a certain level of acceptance of the new reality.

Partnership working will remain vital for ESCC moving forward. The East Sussex Better Together (ESBT) partnership will enable ESCC, Hastings and Rother CCG, and Eastbourne, Hailsham and Seaford CCG to make the best use of limited resources, and partnership working will also be required for effective joint lobbying of Government in the upcoming consultation on needs and proposed changes to local government funding.

A question was raised on how ESCC judged the impact savings would have on different communities across East Sussex. Becky explained that detailed impact assessments were carried out on all proposed savings, and extensive consultation provided ESCC with a good understanding of the potential impacts and mitigations were made where possible in response.

Wealden District Council (WDC)

Cllr. Bob Standley, Leader of WDC, fed back that the process of making savings over the last 6 years through prioritising services, the sale of assets and partnership schemes, had produced surplus and thereby made this year's budget setting much easier than it otherwise would have been. Principally, WDC had raised significant revenue from house building and the New Homes Bonus.

Environment Agency (EA)

Michael Turner, said that for the first time the EA had received a four year budget settlement from the Treasury which would enable longer term planning. In addition, the EA were undertaking a review of national fees and charges, one of their key sources of revenue, so that the charges businesses pay reflect the resources they require.

The EA have transformed the way they work to ensure funding they receive is used to solve problems by flexibly directing funding and resources towards areas and incidents around the country that require focus. Flooding, water regulation and waste disposal continue to be key areas of work so work continues, through schemes such as Pollution Assessment Volunteers, to ensure communities and the EA can respond to flooding and pollution incidents in the most efficient way possible.

Sussex Association of Local Councils

Keith Stevens, East Sussex Association of Local Councils Chairman, anticipated that as residents begin to feel the full effect of cuts, Parish and Town Councils would increasingly recognise the potential in raising funds. Keith also agreed that partnership working is vital but that partnerships must be open and foster inward and outward communication.

East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service (ESFRS)

Gary Walsh, ESFRS Chief Fire Officer, reported that the ESFRS were in a broadly reasonable position and had set a balanced budget for the next four years. Looking ahead, ESFRS were aware that new housing would create pressures that would require planning and renewed partnership working; proposed changes to business rates were creating considerable uncertainty around future grant funding; and the change in Government departmental home from DCLG to the Home Office was anticipated to bring positive change. ESFRS were also looking to review the services they offer.

Kent, Surrey & Sussex Community Rehabilitation Company (KSS CRC)

Kamini Sanghani, KSS CRC Director of Partnerships, fed back that the KSS CRC's budget setting had recently been adjusted by the Ministry of Justice. The KSS CRC benefited from using internal monitoring to evidence service user volume to prevent the move to a markedly detrimental funding band. The KSS CRC will continue to provide core services and also plans to commission support for women, accommodation support and some finance benefit and debt support.

Hastings Borough Council (HBC)

Jane Hartnell, HBC Director of Corporate Services and Governance, fed back that HBC had not made any significant savings or service reductions this year as a three year budget was set last year. However, changes to business rates and the potential loss of EU funding following the referendum were both creating significant financial uncertainty. An increase in the concentration of poverty in Hastings has also added pressure to services. In response, HBC considered how to make the best use of digital technology and potential methods of income generation. Looking ahead, Jane encouraged partners to share information as early as possible in future years to enable informed budget decision making in all sectors.

6) Report of the ESSP Assembly – Steve Marwaring

Steve introduced the report from the East Sussex Annual Assembly. Steve celebrated the good level of attendance and engagement at the Assembly; the presentations on work currently going on at a local level to build community resilience; and the opportunity to learn about the range of issues facing communities in East Sussex.

Steve directed members to page 12 of the report which outlined the suggestions, given by assembly attendees, for next year's assembly theme and asked members to narrow the suggestions down. It was agreed that the proposed themes would be included in the minutes and members would feed-back to Sarah Feather their top three suggested themes.

ACTION: members to pick their top three themes for this year's annual assembly and feed-back to Sarah Feather at essp@eastsussex.gov.uk by 31st March 2016

The themes proposed by assembly attendees were:

- 1. An update on the progress of Community Resilience – e.g. 'Community resilience one year on'**
- 2. Mental Health**
- 3. Income generation**
- 4. Doing more for less**
- 5. How communities can successfully inform statutory agencies**
- 6. Working Age**
- 7. Working with Local Enterprise Partnerships**
- 8. Rurality**
- 9. The connection between authorities and community organisations**

- 10. Community Health
- 11. Transport
- 12. Data/information sharing between groups in the future
- 13. Equal working between voluntary, public and private sector
- 14. Equality and Diversity
- 15. Supporting volunteering
- 16. Capacity building in communities

7) ESBT Community Resilience Engagement Work – Steve Manwaring

Steve gave a presentation that provided an update on ESBT's community resilience engagement work. ESBT had commissioned a project team, composed of an East Sussex Community and Voluntary Sector Partnership (Hastings Voluntary Action, Rother Voluntary Action and 3VA), Nick Wates Associates and Asset Based Consulting, to undertake engagement work to find out the issues facing communities in East Sussex and the actions required to build resilience. ESBT would use the findings to formulate a comprehensive 'asset based approach' to building community resilience to improve health and wellbeing in East Sussex.

A discussion followed the presentation. The training of community facilitators was praised as it brings statutory officers and grassroots volunteers together to share learning. The importance of directly linking people in communities together to build capacity, rather than managing relationships and responses, and creating a 'safety net' to ensure resilience is enduring, were all noted as vital. It was raised that comparable work is underway across East Sussex to determine how communities could be resilient in emergencies such as flooding: Parish and Town Councils had developed resilience/ emergency plans and ESFRS had mapped community assets to inform their work. ESBT would build on existing work and experience.

It was agreed that Steve would provide an update on any substantive developments at a future ESSP meeting.

8) Update on the Local Transport Plan – Jon Wheeler

Steve invited Jon Wheeler, Team Manager of Strategic Economic Infrastructure at ESCC, to give a presentation which provided an update on a range of strategic transport developments in East Sussex, ESCC's Strategic Economic Plan and Local Transport Plan, and sources of future transport funding.

Following the presentation there was a discussion. Cllr. Bob Standley established that Wealden District Council, along with a number of other councils surrounding Gatwick, did not support an additional runway at Gatwick and Cllr. Chris Dowling welcomed the work underway to reduce the noise from flightpaths. Steve praised the Bexhill-Hastings link road and the difference it had made to journey time. Becky fed-back that ESCC had recently entered into a new highways contract with Costain who would be responsible for delivering an improved pothole repair service in East Sussex.

9) Any Other Business - All

Cllr. Chris Dowling suggested that due to the growing importance of businesses in East Sussex and many partners' reliance on business rates, the ESSP should consider adding a further voice of businesses to the partnership. It was agreed that the voice of business

currently provided by Team East Sussex was vital on the partnership. Consideration would be given to whether another body representing businesses in East Sussex should be added.

10) Future meetings:

- Monday 9 May 2016, 10.00-12.00pm, Venue TBC
- Tuesday 13 September 2016, 9.00-12.30pm, East Sussex Assembly, Venue TBC
- Monday 5 December 2016, 10-12.00pm, Venue TBC

SUMMARY OF AGREED ACTIONS –	
Item	Action
4	Devolution to remain a standing item on the agenda.
6	Members to pick their top three themes for this year's annual assembly and feed-back to Sarah Feather at essp@eastsussex.gov.uk by 31 st March 2016

A copy of all the presentations from the meeting can be found on the ESSP website (<http://www.essp.org.uk/Meeting-papers-and-reports>).