

Public Document Pack

Hastings and St Leonards Local Strategic Partnership

Minutes 29 April 2019

Present:

Clive Galbraith (Chair)
Chantal Lass – HBC
Susan Vaughn – CGL
Caroline Evans – ESCC
Sarah Godley - ESPS
Councillor Peter Chowney - HBC
Julie King -
Teresa Flower - ESCC
Carole Dixon- EFT
Steve Manwaring - HVA
Teresa Andrews- HARC
Simon Hubbard - HBC
Councillor Rob Lee - HBC
Tracy Dighton – Citizens Advice
Teresa Andrews – HARC
Annie Whelan – Seaview
Chris Gibbs (minutes) - HBC

Apologies for absence from:

Sean Dennis
Richard Watson
Catherine Orbach
Vanessa Biddiss
Dr John Smith
Tracey Rose
Cllr Bennett
Mark Turczanski

61	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u> <u>Notification of urgent items</u> Chantal Lass: Prof Chris Witty research Steve Manwaring: Locality meeting in July <u>Declarations of Interest</u> None	
62	<u>MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING (CHAIR)</u> <u>RESOLVED</u> – that the minutes of the meeting held on 28th January	

	2019 be approved as a true record The chair asked that LSP members respond to the Future of the LSP question, which was sent round, as soon as possible.	
63	<p><u>SUSSEX POLICE - DRUGS HARM IN HASTINGS</u></p> <p>(Sarah Godley, Chief Inspector District Commander, Sussex Police)</p> <p>Presentation attached (appendix 1)</p> <p>Sarah Godley presented an overview of drugs harm in Hastings including an overview of how Sussex Police operate locally to nationally, highlighting the ability to draw on national policing resources.</p> <p>She explained the difference between County Lines and Organised Crime Group, locally known as 'OCG Jarrow'. The biggest difference between county lines and OCG Jarrow is the commodity supplied. County lines supply crack and heroin, OCG focus on the supply of cocaine and cannabis. The business model is different between the two but both result in the exploitation of vulnerable people especially local young people.</p> <p>County lines exploit vulnerable households by taking homes 'cuckooing' for short periods of time and deal from these temporary locations. OCG Jarrow have safe houses but don't deal from these they just keep illegal items here. Sarah further explained the established and Organised Crime Group operating in Hastings, advising it was sophisticated and organised and involved the importation and supply of cocaine and cannabis into the UK. The criminal activity includes the wholesale supply of drugs to other OCGs as well as street supply within Hastings and the surrounding area.</p> <p>OCG Jarrow has no competition at this time so there is little violence in Hastings however the potential for violence is high. Demand for drugs is high in Hastings so there is enough space for everyone to operate. . There was a successful campaign at the end of last year where 250 wraps of cocaine were seized from the night time economy. OCG Jarrow is operating internationally as well as locally, the imprisonment of a principal member last year has resulted in 50% of the 'business' being owned by a third person not based in the UK.</p> <p>A local concern is that vulnerable young people are being used by the gangs who are being attracted by the financial rewards. However, once they are involved it is very hard to get out of, with gang members becoming 'debt bonded' to deal and supply for the group. Behind the scenes, OCGJ – exhibit a significant high level of violence to control, coerce and enforce the market share.</p> <p>Sarah advised that locally, Sussex Police led by the Hastings and Rother Prevention Team are working to identify and disrupt the supply chain involved in the supply of illegal drugs.</p> <p>Often cocaine users ignore what's going on behind the scenes that results in</p>	

their personal usage, increasingly 'middle class' users in their 20s and 30s. Sarah advised that recreational cocaine use is a huge issue for Hastings. The police have recently taken swabs of most pubs in Hastings, most tested positive for cocaine.

Sarah asked the LSP how can we collectively work together to help tackle organised crime? How can we better work together?

- How can you help?
- What intelligence gaps can you fill and how?
- What educational gaps can you fill and how?
- Are we working together as effectively as possible to protect vulnerable people?
- How can we reduce the demand for drugs in the town?

Board Members asked what intervention was happening with regard to schools. Sarah advised that there is a Prevention Youth Officer who works with local schools, but as much of the cocaine usage is outside of the school environment, other educational/ informative messages are needed to engage 20- 30 year olds.

The Board asked what is the key to educating people in their 20's /30's? Do these people have prior drugs history or are they just picking it up now due to its popularity?

Caroline Evans answered that there needs to be education around the supply chain, the exploitation that results from the supply of cocaine may put people off buying/using the drug. Involve local employers make sure it is it's on local employer's radars.

She commented that most users don't consider themselves to be addicts and are able to normally function and hold down jobs; however this will cause health problems later on if use continues. She continued to say that it is important to improve existing services rather than making new ones that people will have to seek out. Community projects and outreach services, include as part of everyday conversations. These people may have a previous drugs history but may not and are new. The purity of cocaine is higher and the price is cheaper which is attracting more people to it. It doesn't have the same side effects as heroin. Ultimately we need to reduce the demand. It has become somewhat of a status symbol like party drugs such as ecstasy were. People are buying from people they know that they don't consider dealers and don't think about the supply chain, if they knew more about the violence and exploitation around the supply chain then they probably wouldn't use it.

Members spoke about the drug problems in Rye including open dealing in some specific places and school children dealing. Chief inspector Sarah Godley responded by saying that Hastings has been used as a trial licensing using a range of powers such as Child Abduction Warning Notices and Criminal Behaviour Orders, and a similar approach will be used in Rye. They are aware of the issues in Rye and are currently doing a lot of work in the area. She also commented that they need intelligence to effectively police the issues.

Members commented that harm is being done to people in the supply and the people in use of the drugs. The drugs are illegal so the trade is being run by criminals; cannabis has been a widely used drug for a long time and cocaine appears to be going that way. Members asked if the moral argument would have traction as opposed to the enforcement and health arguments against the drug. Chief inspector Sarah Godley answered that the moral argument will have traction as the damage to humans in the supply chain is large and as they are buying from people they know who they don't see as dealers. There is a massive black market around cocaine and is different to cannabis which is more prevalent as it can be grown in the UK. She also mentioned that investment in the PCC is important and a Bid has been put in for an extra youth officer to help protect vulnerable young people.

Members commented that the education of the out of school cohort will be very important and very difficult to achieve. An example was suggested to be the pirated video campaign which had a large campaign around it that did not really affect the sale of pirated content, members added that best practice should be drawn on to inform the approach to take with this new campaign. Chief Inspector Sarah Godley added that the police are coming from an enforcement side so need help from members around the other approaches, there needs to be a national buy in and a co-ordinated effort. Caroline Evans added that the key is that the conversation doesn't stop here, people don't want drugs in their area and if people keep using then they will suffer medical problems. The health effects of these drugs are not widely publicised and it is a public health issue like drinking or healthy eating.

In order to develop an effective local campaign we need behavioural insight, local expertise and ideas to create social change.

64	<p><u>EAST SUSSEX DRUG AND ALCOHOL SERVICE - UPDATE AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARTNERSHIP WORKING</u></p> <p>(Caroline Evans, Strategic Commissioning Manager – Substance Misuse ESCC AND Susan Vaughan, Implementation Manager for East Sussex, Change Grow Live)</p> <p>Caroline Evans presented an update, the re-tendering process for the drug and alcohol service in East Sussex finished at the end of January and was awarded to Change Grow Live (CGL). She stressed that it would not be a continuation of the services from before but all new services. She then introduced Susan Vaughan the manager for CGL.</p> <p>Susan Vaughan presented an update on the drug and alcohol service. She started by saying that it was day 1 of week 4 in the role so it is still very new. However she commented that she has a long history of working in East Sussex especially in Hastings and is not new to the problems. A fixed term contact for 4 months the first weeks were familiarisation with the team and their challenges. It is an adult treatment service that treats from alcohol through to opiates. Services are across East Sussex and it is a treatment</p>	
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service. One of the main problems is that they cannot treat people who don't want to be treated so they must think of ways to engage with people.

On the subject of cocaine she said that when she spoke to one of the recovery workers about a cocaine group that he ran and how successful it was he said that he would like to run more. Although lack of engagement is a problem he went to their place of work, with their permission, and engaged with them at work this was part of its success. She commented that a mixture of people come to the building, from people referred by their GP for alcohol use to heavy opiate users, and they need the service to be welcoming to all.

She commented that they are running a number of launches which everyone is invited too. They will be an opportunity to see what CGL do, talk to them and invite them to areas where they might be helpful. They have had a high turnover of staff in management level recently and it has been difficult to recruit these positions. They are now recruiting a locality lead as although there are similarities between Hastings and Eastbourne, there are some specific Hastings issues. This means they need to have someone who knows these issues and can focus on them.

Members commented that people in Hastings have been very challenged in and there has been a lot of work in the area. They are happy to hear of someone to focus on this area. Hastings has low property values and high levels of deprivation and places like this do need high levels of focus. It was asked that given that the services are given in different ways, what are we all doing working together joined up in a simple way the people can see. It was also commented that Seaview would like to have a conversation with CGL around this.

Susan Vaughan answered that things have changed since the first bid was won in Hastings and focus has shifted. This has lost some of the good interactions that were had but it is not too late to get these back. She also commented that she used to be a board member for Seaview and they would have been top of her list to work with so she is happy to have the conversation with them.

Caroline Evans added that working in partnership with key local players she fully anticipates and expects star service (which is the new name of the service) to be part of these discussions.

Members spoke on the challenges of managing the many services in a single environment and welcomed the idea that it can be rolled out in a number of different locations. This will help the people attempting to get help at the early stages not feel intimidated by the diverse needs of the people that receive help. They also spoke on the recent report on prescription addiction and how people don't see themselves as addicts as the opiates are prescribed by a doctor.

Caroline Evans answered that with opiate based painkillers there is a significant problem that is above national average in Hastings and Rother for prescription led addiction. There is a pilot project in station plaza. Routine

reviews have found poor prescription management in some areas, with poor monitoring of repeat prescriptions. . After they undertook work alongside the GP and pharmacist to educate staff about prescriptions and a recovery worker worked with patients and provided a recovery programme, this project has seen a reduction. This project will be rolled out to High Glade surgery next and work will be carried out within the town.

CGL will look at the use of satellite venues where people are going to be anyway instead of places they have to go to, surgeries are a good use for this however anywhere can be used for a recovery worker such as coffee shops, places of employment or voluntary centres.

The custody block and chief inspector will work together to get people the help they need and the recovery worker will work with client after they have left the custody block.

Tracy Deighton commented that they were seeing more clients exhibiting various levels of intoxication at the CAB which was affecting their ability to provide a service to an individual, often requiring them to return for support on another day.

65 FUTURE OF HASTINGS TOWN CENTRE - CREATING A NEW VISION FOR HASTINGS TOWN CENTRE

(Simon Hubbard Director, Hastings Borough Council)

Presentation attached (appendix 2)

Simon Hubbard gave a presentation on a bid submitted by HBC for up to £25m from a budget of £675m that is focused on town centres struggling to transform. It is a two stage competitive process against other towns. He commented that the town centre has done really well, Hastings operates three town centres and its level of empties is at or below national averages. Queen's Road is doing better than ever before, but since the closure of the university, Hastings has to change its brand from a university town and needs a new unique selling point and vision

The town is at an interesting phase and there is lots of office space which is more or less full. There needs to be an answer with what to do next with the university building following public investment. Queensbury house has an uncertain future but has had an approved planning application for change of use to a hotel. There is an absence of accommodation in the town centre which affects potential tourism.

Members commented that if everyone competing for the money asks for £25m then it will fund a total of 27 towns and this would make it an extremely competitive process taking into consideration the amount of towns that will need this. Local towns will also be in direct completion with Hastings and perhaps it should have been considered to make joint applications. Simon Hubbard commented that Bexhill have already applied separately and did not wish to do a joint application.

Members commented that one of the issues is that it is not just about Hastings town centre as central St Leonards could have had a bid all of its own as it needs regeneration. Why are we not applying for these other town centres?

Simon Hubbard answered that a town the size of Hastings can only apply for one town centre, but the way around this is looking at how this is connected to those other areas. If the bid is successful then we must show how all these areas are linked, Bohemia is looking like it is struggling and when we come to do the more detailed work then we can include these linkages

Members commented that as this fund is targeted at failing town centres and compared to other town centres Hastings is not failing as much. Coastal towns have had to fund themselves through competitive bidding for a while now and these are short term in nature. This is forcing the poorest towns in the country to compete amongst themselves for funding. Looking at all the projects that the council could work on they will continue to apply for any funding available.

Simon Hubbard added that he is optimistic about the future of the town and the council will continue to try and fight on every front to acquire funding for the improvement of the town. If this bid doesn't work then we need to continue to look forward.

<u>66</u>	<u>REGENERATION UPDATE(S)</u> See appendix 3	
<u>67</u>	<u>EXECUTIVE DELIVERY GROUP NOTES (11TH MARCH 2019)</u> None see appendix 4	
<u>68</u>	<u>EAST SUSSEX STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP NOTES (20TH MARCH 2019)</u> None see appendix 5	
<u>69</u>	<u>URGENT ITEMS</u> Professor Chris Whitty is the Lead for the National Institute for Health Research and Chief Scientific Adviser to the Department of Health and Social Care. He will be visiting Hastings on the 21 st June as part of a national tour to better understand the public health challenges different areas face and how research could help. Throughout the day, Prof Whitty hopes to see or visit places to get a good sense of what's happening in Hastings. We hope to end the day with some kind of small event which will celebrate the work that is going on in the area. Peter Aston Health Improvement Principal, ESCC is asking LSP members would like to see achieved through the visit and also if any of them would like to be involved in it. Please contact Peter Aston directly with your thoughts	

Email: Peter.Aston@eastsussex.gov.uk Tel: 01273 337207 / 078 2408 5359

Steve Manwaring added that there is a further Locality Network event in July these are attended on average by 70 people representing a broad spectrum of local organisations. Contact HVA for further information
<https://hastingsvoluntaryaction.org.uk/hcn/hcn-information>

Steve Manwaring also advised that Hastings Voluntary Action have secured 'Inclusive and Active Volunteering funding' (£50k) and are one of five national projects following a very competitive process where 200 organisations bid for funding.

LSP members are reminded that their PSPO commentary must be in by the 10th of May.

<u>70</u>	<u>NEXT MEETING DATE 15TH JULY 2019</u>	
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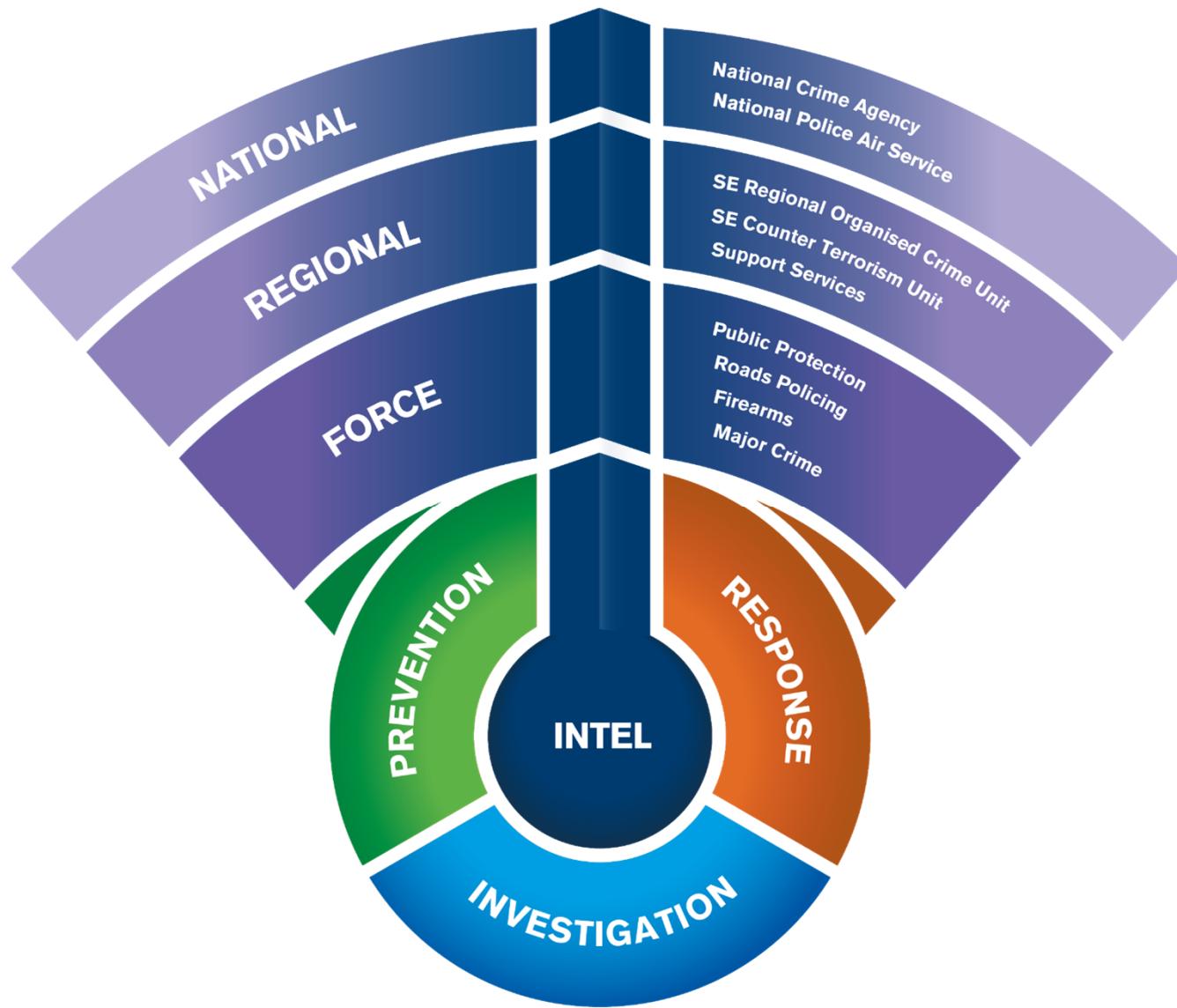
(Meeting closed at 12:07)



Drugs Harm in Hastings

Chief Inspector Sarah Godley

Keeping Sussex Safe



Different Drug Suppliers in Hastings

■ County Lines v OCG Jarrow

- Commodity supplied
- Exploitation of Young People
- Origin of business
- Business Model used
- Use of Drug Lines
- Safe Houses v Cuckooing
- Parallel businesses

- Established Organised Crime Group operating in Hastings.
- Sophisticated and organised. Involved in the importation and supply of cocaine and cannabis into the UK.
- Involved in both the wholesale supply of drugs to other OCGs, as well as street supply within Hastings and the surrounding area.

- One of the principal members is currently serving a life sentence for conspiracy to murder
- This member was in debt to another OCG for 2 Million pounds.
- The debt was paid off by a third person, who now owns 50% of the business.
- This third person is based outside of the UK

- The OCG has a footprint across East Sussex and uses ports/airports nationally to import and distribute drugs.
- On a local level, vulnerable youths are being used; debt bonded to deal and supply for the group.

- They exhibit a significant high level of violence to control, coerce and enforce the market share. This is through actual physical violence and the reputation the group hold.
- During 2018 there were serious violent incidents, including a murder (outside of the UK), aggravated burglaries, kidnap, threats to kill and threats to commit arson

- District level operation led by the Hastings & Rother Prevention Team.
- Entirely overt operation aimed at identifying and disrupting the street level and middle tier suppliers involved in the supply of illegal drugs on our streets.
- Uses a range of powers such as Child Abduction Warning Notice and CBOs to protect vulnerable people, including children, from being criminally exploited.

- Works with partners to build community intelligence on individuals and undertake joint civil enforcement in addition to the usual criminal options open to the police
- Community awareness raising as to the journey undertaken to supply them with drugs associated with the night time economy, such as Cocaine

- How can you help?
- What intelligence gaps can you fill and how?
- What educational gaps can you fill and how?
- Are we working together as effectively as possible to protect vulnerable people?
- How can we reduce the demand for drugs in the town?



Hastings Future High Streets Fund Update

EOI – submitted 22nd March 19

MHCLG – decision expected late June 19

Future High Streets Fund

- £675m focused on town centres struggling to transform – up to £25m + co-funding to:
 - Improve experience
 - Drive growth
 - Ensure future sustainability
- 2 Stage process: EOI Stage - define our place, its challenges, a strategy (submitted)
- Access to revenue funding
- Shovel-ready projects looked on favourably
- National High Street Task Force advising
- £55m for heritage high streets (late May call)

Objective and themes of fund

Self-sustaining, transformative and structural change, incorporating smart-technology:

- Investment in physical structures
- Acquisition and assembly of land
- Improved transport
- ‘Change of Use’ – housing, leisure, density
- Respond to changing technology

‘Destination Hastings’

Strategic reasoning for Hastings Town Centre:

- We have done really well without resources – see what we can do with more investment
- An improved, vibrant town has potential for wider transformational change (jobs, housing, leisure and cultural investment opportunities)
- Within planning policy development framework (Bohemia and Town Centre Area Action Plan and Opportunity Area 1 and Local Plan Review)
- Established Business Improvement District Area, CCT, previous partnership bids – showing council, business, community and third sector engagement
- Scalability : able to address real challenges – undeveloped sites, empty buildings, threats of large scale retail closures, poor housing
- Public realm improvements planned and improved connectivity
- A poor town and a town centre at tipping point

Town Centre Facts

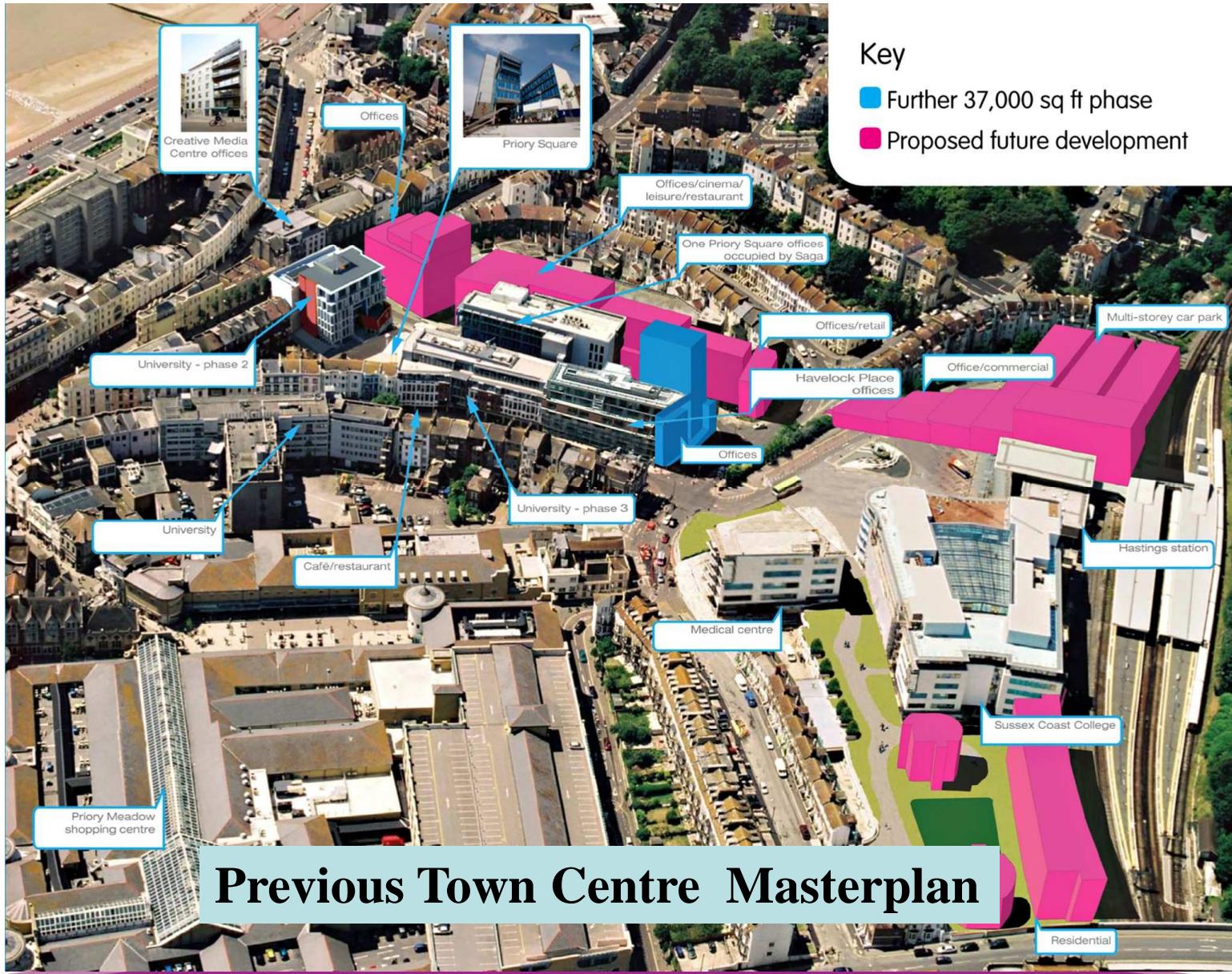
- The town centre (Castle Ward) provides 20% (6,000 FTE) of all jobs in Hastings, with 1,500 FTE of these jobs in the retail sector.
- Number of commercial vacancies in the town centre totals 60 units (12%) of mainly different A Class uses.
- Footfall in the town centre (Priory Meadows) has been declining from 8.06m in 2016 to 7.34m in 2018
- Tourism numbers in Hastings have been increasing but its impact on the town centre itself is relatively minimal – due to poor linkages between all the main tourists' attractions and the retail heart of the town centre.
- No Town Centre hotel provision – a major concern for a town with tourism, business and education ambitions.

Empty retail and commercial properties include:

Current Buildings	
The Observer Building - recently purchased for development by White Rock Neighbourhood Ventures	43,000 sq ft over 7 floors
Hastings Old Post Office & University of Brighton Priory Square	20,000 sq ft for sale
University of Brighton Havelock Road	25,000 sq ft for sale
Queensbury House (7 floors overlooking the main station)	Planning application for conversion to 103 rooms Easy Hotel approved Jan 19
12 Claremont (listed building – street property in the creative quarter)	Due for development by Community Land Trust and Project Art Works
Bank Buildings (for office use)	2,372 sq ft
60 empty street shops in the Town Centre	various sizes
Potential Risks and Opportunities	
Debenhams Department Store	96,000 sq ft (freehold on sale) Not on immediate closure list. Major challenge.
ESK Warehouse	18,000 sq ft (owner intends to close business and sell building)
New Look (Priory Meadows Shopping Centre) - operating under Company Voluntary Agreement (CVA)	28,750 sq ft
several others under review	

Future High Street Intervention Area





Previous Town Centre Masterplan

Our Strategic Aims : defined in the EOI submission

Five strategic aims to deliver our vision by 2030.

- 1) A new town centre vision and identity – to inject new purpose for the town centre
 - 3) Opportunities for residents – jobs, learning and skills, higher incomes and well being
 - 3) New quality homes and employment spaces
 - 4) Improving connectivity – fibre network etc. and continuing to develop even if major infrastructures are not forthcoming
 - 5) A greener town - taking on the global challenge for ambitious climate action
- Our ask £25m – for transformational capital intervention over 10 years.

Our Vision (summary)

- A lively, attractive, safe town centre is now a key driver of economic growth and social cohesion.
- The streets are buzzing, business is thriving and it's a place residents are proud of. It's a joy to visit, a destination where people love to live, turn up, unwind and hang out.
- Retail has become entertainment. The year-round leisure destination appeals to everyone with some of the most innovative activities around.
- A mix of well-known brands rub shoulders with independent businesses, providing a vibrant feast for the senses, and bringing diversity and vitality to the town centre.
- A repurposed Hastings town centre embraces its historical roots. It's radical and encapsulates Hastings' old and new in one walkable package.
- Visitor accommodation is concentrated here to support tourism, education and business.

A Possible new USP

Hastings geography and history allows us to develop a USP for the town centre:

- Focusing on the history of the English language / nation (the amalgamation of Norman French and Anglo Saxon), its accents and it's ancestry.
- We are also able to reflect on the impact and significance of migration, immigration and invasion and the birth of the modern English story.
- These reflect the nation's current narrative. Given our history nowhere is better placed to open the window on these issues and positively respond to the debate.
- Our challenge is to create a fresh identity and sense of place that is rooted and becomes a destination. It needs to harness the creative and cultural energy of the present.

FHSF – EOI vision document submitted
(not for circulation due to purdah)



Minute Item 66

Regeneration Update for the LSP Board 29th April 2019

Bohemia Area

Funding for a comprehensive feasibility study to identify the scale and location of the new leisure and cultural facilities in the Bohemia area was agreed at the council's cabinet in March, and the tender for this work is now live. The work is expected to be completed by September.

Funding has been secured from the 'One Public Estate' programme to conduct a feasibility study to assess the viability and cost of relocating the 'make ready' element of the ambulance station to a larger site in the area. SECAMB is also considering the provision of an operational base for ambulance crews between calls and on break at the East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service fire station in Bohemia Road.

Community Partnership Funding (CPF) 2019-2021

The Community Partnership Fund applications for 2019-2021 assessed by the CPF panel in November 2018 were approved by Cabinet in February 2019. £371,341 has been allocated across the two years to six organisations covering the following priorities: support for victims of domestic violence; housing, legal, welfare and debt advice; advice and support to organisations; rough sleepers outreach support; advice and support to migrant and newly settled communities.

Connecting Hastings and Rother Together (CHART)

Is the local grants programme which supports the social and economic development of the most deprived areas within Hastings and Bexhill. The first Call for Projects ran from June – August 2018; 23 stage 1 applications were received, and nine were chosen to progress. Of those nine, four will be assessed between May – July 2019 and contracted June – August to commence September 2019.

The second Call for projects went live on 20 March and will run until 20 June 2019. Stage 1 Expressions of Interest are being invited to apply for funding. A third Call for projects will run from 20 September 2019 to 20 December depending on available funds. <https://www.hastings.gov.uk/chart/>

DESTI-SMART

'Delivering Efficient Sustainable Tourism with low carbon transport Innovations: Sustainable Mobility, Accessibility and Responsible Travel (or 'DESTI-SMART'). An Interreg Europe project led by Thessaloniki in Greece, with partners in Italy, Germany, Portugal, Spain, Latvia, Hungary, Cyprus and the UK (Hastings Borough Council and Bournemouth University).

The objective of the programme is 'to improve the transport and tourism policies of EU destination regions, by integrating strategies for sustainable mobility, accessibility and responsible travel with sustainable tourism development.'

Through the programme the Council is exploring possible options for low carbon and sustainable transport along the seafront, to more effectively link The Stade in the Old Town and West St Leonards. For example, currently this journey is only possible by taking more than one bus. This project will enable us to consider pilot schemes, which if successful could be applied elsewhere.

Consultants are about to be appointed to carry out this work, fully funded by the EU. A local stakeholder group has been established.

Fisheries Local Action Group (FLAG)

The FLAG Programme funds have now all been allocated (£640k) and 19 projects have been agreed. All of the projects will be completed by December 2019. Projects included a new Ice Maker for the fish market; the development of Hastings Fish Brand; a health training programme (Fit to Fish), two single use plastic reduction programmes and a business strategy and skills analysis for the Fishing Fleet.

Future High Street Fund bid

An expression of interest was submitted March 2019 for funding to work up a bid of £25m grant to transform the town centre. Nine specific challenges were identified including housing, empty properties, investment and connectivity and a vision developed to grow the centre as the major economic engine of the town to include anchors of all year round entertainment and a heritage attraction. First stage decision expected summer 2019, with full bid submission spring 2020 if successful at the first stage.

Hastings Museum update

LEGO® Innovation Studio

HBC and Creative Hut have signed a three year Service Level Agreement for the museum to host a LEGO® Education Innovation Studio. LEGO® Education uses hands-on learning to actively involve pupils in their own learning process. It supports a range of curricular outcomes but is particularly focused on computing, science, technology, engineering and maths, but can also be used across other areas of the curriculum. The Innovation Studio will 'go-live' from September, but the launch event and testing will be happening from May. During the summer holiday there will be a free weekly LEGO® makers club for 10-16 year olds.

LGBTQ+ = Equals me. A hop, a skip and a jump

Is a youth led project examining East Sussex's LGBTQ heritage and is funded by the Heritage Lottery fund. Working in partnership with East Sussex County Council, De La Warr Pavilion, Towner Art Gallery and Charleston to work with young LGBTQ+ people as they explore the histories of LGBTQ+ communities in East Sussex over the past 100 years. The outcome will be an exhibition and events co-curated by the young people. The exhibition will tour schools across the county.

Local Growth Fund (LGF)

A successful application to SELEP's LGF round 3b will enable £0.5 million to go towards a £2.7m project to build 28 new units for small and start-up businesses on vacant land in Sidney Little Road, expected to generate up to 74 jobs. Design work is underway with construction scheduled for January 2020 and handover expected by March 2021

'Lower Tier' plans

The council is finalising the funding agreement with Homes England under the Local Authority Accelerated Construction programme to take forward the residential development of the Lower Tier site at the rear of Bexhill Road. The grant, which is up to £6.9m, is conditional on using an agreed level of modern methods of construction and achieving a higher rate of pace than a traditional housing scheme. The development will produce a range of outcomes, including circa 190 new homes, 40% affordable housing, employment and training opportunities, as well as improvements to sports/recreation facilities. The grant will be used to prepare the site and pay for any flood remediation measures necessary for development to take place. Early consultation with key stakeholders will take place once the grant agreement has been concluded.

The West Marina site

The West Marina site is owned by Hastings Borough Council and has been largely vacant for over 30 years, following the closure of the former lido. In line with the Local Development Framework the council is looking to see the site developed to provide a mixed use development (residential and commercial). The site is one of the few remaining significant re-development sites on the seafront. The Council is seeking a high quality innovative design with particular regard to sustainability.

At Cabinet on 4 March 2019 it was agreed to enter into a long lease (250 years) with County Gate/Sunley (the developers). The Council's Agents are in the process of finalising the Heads of Terms with the developers and once agreed our legal advisers will start drawing up the agreement.

Once a lease is in place the developers will commence with their detailed studies and surveys. We understand they will establish a website for the site/their proposals and will be responsible for carrying out consultation on the detail of the plans, a pre-application planning forum and other consultation sessions.

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Minute Item 67

LSP EDG Meeting

11-03-19

1. Welcome and Apologies

Attendance:

Simon Hubbard (chair)
Chantal Lass
Chris Gibbs (Minutes)
Ian Sycamore
Prannesh Datta
Jacki White
Inspector Jon Hartley
Steve Manwaring
Carole Dixon
Vanessa Biddiss
Sarah Feather

Apologies for absence from:

Cllr Peter Chowney - HBC
Chief inspector Sarah Godley (substituted by Inspector Jonathan Hartley)
Jim Sharpe – East Sussex College Hastings
Richard Watson – CCG
John Williams – Sea Change Sussex
Caroline Evans – ESCC
Stuart Gallimore – ESCC (substituted by Sarah Feather)
Dr John Smith - UOB

2. Declarations of Interest

None.

3. Minutes of the Last Meeting and Matters Arising

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the meeting held on 10th September 2018 be approved as a true record

4. Sussex Police Update - Verbal update Key challenges and priorities for 2019/20 including new resources allocated to Hastings & St Leonards

(Inspector John Hartley, Sussex police on behalf of District Commander Chief Inspector Sarah Godley)

Inspector John Hartley presented an update on Sussex Police. He stated that they were entering into a positive period for the force following on from the previous 5 years of budget cuts. Additional funding was being allocated for up to 15 new PCSOs for Hastings and Rother (although the final figure is not yet confirmed) and a new focus on preventative and community policing.

Their key challenges and performances are the same as before and they are looking at a control strategy around organised crime and exploitation of the vulnerable.

There is a lot of work around county lines which are moving from London to Brighton and then from Brighton to Hastings. There has been a decrease in burglary dwellings but a rise in domestic abuse crimes. Reported crime rates for weapons and gun crime are low. There is a national project looking at knife crime.

Main concerns for the police are exploitation of the vulnerable and children and the increase in what are deemed more socially acceptable drugs such as cocaine. They are looking at educating and raising understanding about these drugs and the exploitation surrounding them in the same way as heroin although the exploitation is different.

Partners asked questions around the active 'county lines' in Hastings and were advised that the number is less than 5 at the moment. This is a reduction compared to previous figures of 12. However this could be a reflection of 4-5 criminal gangs having 'secured the market' locally.

Partners discussed the importance of working together in a structured way to pool resources and to make sure that the resources we have are used to reduce the threats of harm and risk to our more vulnerable communities.

It was suggested that a partnership meeting is convened which brings together partners including and chaired by Cllr Colin Fitzgerald – partners to include are ESCC (children's services), the voluntary & community sector (Optivo, Orbit) and HBC and the Police and the new drug & alcohol service provider. Inspector Jon Hartley said that there is currently no date for the recruitment of the new PCSOs but will be in the new financial year.

5. Future High Street Fund - expression of interest for Hastings Town Centre – update

(Pranesh Datta, Economic Development Manager, Hastings Borough Council and Phillip Johnson, Locate East Sussex)

Pranesh Datta, Economic Development Manager for Hastings Borough Council presented an update on the future high street fund and the draft expression of interest for Hastings Town Centre. (see attached briefing note and proposed map of the area)

The government launched this fund in the beginning of January with 460 towns eligible to apply for it. Bids can be up to £25m but are encouraged to be between £5m-£10m. It is to support town centres and more specifically struggling town centres.

The total fund is £675m for struggling town centres to help them in the current environment.

Hastings town centre is doing relatively well, we have forty national outfits located in the town centre this is important for Hastings as it drives and gives opportunities for local jobs.

We are going for something different apart from retail, a place where people want to live and 'hang out'. We are 'playing on' our historical roots to change the town centre from just retail to a destination. National retailers are struggling and other retailers are at risk so they are reconsidering their position, approaches and business plans. We have 60 empty stores out of the 540 total which works out at around 12% which isn't high as compared to other towns.

We are looking at building capacity to physically transform the town centre. We are looking at new forms of housing that support the most vulnerable to those with expendable income. Need to work on the digital transformation of the town to create more technologically friendly town centre that helps businesses promote themselves. A fibre optic network will be essential for this.

The loss of the University of Brighton creates a new challenge for the town centre. We are developing ideas around Hastings being the point in England where English culture changed forever following the Norman invasion. Therefore, we could perhaps look at a museum themed around the change in English culture following the Norman invasion and migration.

The bid needs to be submitted by the 22nd of March. There are challenges in the town centre around large empty buildings. The University of Brighton leaving was a large disappointment and other large vacant buildings include the Observer Building and Queensbury house. We need to re-think how we are going to use these large non retail buildings. Whether we win this bid or not these challenges will still remain so it is good to be thinking about it now. Simon Hubbard added that the town centre needs to provide shops for local people; economically we are a poorer town and have more affluent shopping centres in the Old Town and St Leonards.

There are still a number of unknowns that may still impact on the town centre including uncertainty around Debenhams future and the HS1 high speed rail link. We need to look at repurposing large buildings that may no longer be suitable for retail as the way people are shopping is changing. The government has pledged money to towns post Brexit we need to be clear about our ideas and develop a new vision for the town centre.

Partners discussed how developing the town centre as a destination with shopping as a bi-product of something else would most likely be the strongest approach.

There are currently very little interpretative navigation about Hastings. Partners also discussed how some retailers are changing their size or shape and the way they do business. Mainly moving into a pre-order system where the product is not on the shelves but can be ordered in, mirroring online shopping habits. It was commented that Amazon are opening high street shops so even the online only businesses deem that physical store fronts are still relevant. Super outlets no longer seem to be working but street outlets do allow for better customer engagement.

Leisure facilities are being considered but there are many organisations developing them at the moment that would directly compete with anything we would build and /or develop. Priory Meadow are currently applying for planning permission for a gym in the shopping centre. Deliverability and investment are important to these plans.

Partners discussed whether this bid would help independent traders, but were told that this fund is not for this purpose and there are other funds available that can help with this. Small independent stores are becoming more popular and trends are changing. It was also noted that Banks are moving a lot of their services online and their future on the high street is uncertain. Questions were asked around who the town would be attracting if it is revitalised. It was commented that more affordable housing for younger people were needed. The town centre will need to be adaptable to be able to change to people's interests as they change.

6. Hastings Borough Council - Energy plans - verbal update (Chantal Lass, Sustainability Manager)

Chantal Lass (Sustainability Manager for Hastings Borough Council) gave an update on the energy generation plans of the council. She said that there was a motion passed at council by the leader for Hastings to be carbon neutral by 2030 or 2050 at the latest and to aim for the borough to become more energy self-sufficient through local sustainable energy generation.

An update was provided about the proposed ground mounted solar project in the Country Park. The Council will be commissioning a number of studies to inform its decision about pursuing this project. Formal advice will be sought from Natural England and a business case developed for a Cabinet decision in the autumn this year.

This and other proposed renewable energy projects meets 3 key drivers for the Council

- Reducing the towns greenhouse gas emissions
- Playing a leadership role in sustainable energy projects
- Helping to address fuel poverty and create local energy

Simon Hubbard added that Hastings Borough Council are reviewing the Local Plan and its associated policies to make sure going forward we can enable as much local energy generation as possible. There is going to be some very interesting debates about how we power the town into the future and how this may visibly affect the town. It will be important to hear everyone's opinion.

Partners discussed how to broaden involvement on the process of the local plan. It was commented that younger peoples voices and planning policy are both important in this process.

7. Brexit - 'no deal Brexit' all partner discussion - risks of a no deal Brexit and potential impacts for Hastings
Led by Simon Hubbard –HBC have identified key risks for service Provision and for the town – what have other partners considered in Their risk management processes?

Simon Hubbard led a discussion on the impact of a no deal Brexit, highlighting the key risk issues the Council had been considering from a service perspective, as well as wider transport issues that may be affected by delays at the regional ports and airports. Transport and congestion is likely to be an issue – plans are in place for the Kent ports (Folkestone and Dover) Newhaven and Portsmouth. The main issues are the ability to ‘stack’ large volumes of lorries.

Other issues include consideration of the supply chain for our services that are reliant on imports e.g. maintenance arts for the crematorium

As a town and community we need to look at retaining our language schools and making sure our young visitors continue to feel welcome.

Simon advised there may be added pressure on our environmental health team as they will potentially need to certify the fishing fleet exports such as cuttlefish and crab to France and Belgium. There may be fuel shortages so we have prioritised services that will still need to commute into the office.

It is organisations such as East Sussex County Council, the NHS and Sussex police who will be the most impacted.

Inspector Jon Hartley added that Sussex police had significant plans in place. There is a mutual aid agreement with Kent which will mean remaining staff will be working 12 hour shifts to provide cover. Community policing is likely to suffer as a result. There are concerns nationally about a rise in hate crime, especially in places like London, where further mutual aid support is in place. The police are monitoring social media etc for ‘Brexit tones’ and hate crime. Annual leave has been cancelled and the Government have looked at military assets should there be a no deal Brexit.

Partners discussed the spike in vulnerability locally, and that some organisations are starting to identify concerns including The Links project and the one stop shop. Concerns were raised about the levels of hardship already being witnessed by local charity food organisations; there is a huge volume of food being distributed to the local community and local hardship is likely to increase.

8. Any Other Business

Steve Manwaring advised that Hastings Voluntary Action have secured 'Inclusive and Active Volunteering funding' (£50k) and are one of five national projects following a very competitive process where 200 organisations bid for funding.

Carole Dixon advised Comic relief have filmed some of the work the Educations Future Trust are doing with local young people. The film will be shown on Comic relief night and is available to watch on their website.

Simon Hubbard advised subject to confirmation the Council have been granted £500k to develop incubator units.

9. Item for information - East Sussex Drug and Alcohol Service - recommissioning update - briefing note to follow Briefing note and update provided by Caroline Evans, Strategic Commissioning Manger – Substance Misuse, ESCC)

The tender process is now completed and the successful bidder was Change Grow Live (CGL) <https://www.changegrowlive.org/>

The new contract will begin on 1st June 2019.

The transition period has now begun (as of Friday 8th March). Local open days are being organised and details will be available shortly. Individual meetings will be arranged as discussed.

East Sussex county council substance misuse commissioner and a representative of the treatment provider will attend the LSP meeting on 29th April 2019.

Minute Item 68



Meeting Notes

Wednesday 20 March 2019
Bexhill Town Hall, Bexhill on Sea

IN ATTENDANCE

ESSP Members present:

Mark Andrews
Cllr Bill Bentley
Olivia Carroll
Carole Dixon
Cllr David Elkin
Cllr Kim Forward
Jane Hartnell
Steve Manwaring (Chair)
Cllr Carl Maynard
Petrina Mayson
Graham Peters
Nicola Walker

East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service
East Sussex County Council
Sussex Police
Speak Up
East Sussex County Council
Hastings Borough Council
Hastings Borough Council
Speak Up Representative
Rother District Council
Action in Rural Sussex
South East Local Enterprise Partnership
Sussex Police and Crime Commission

Also in attendance (official observers):

Gill Cameron-Waller
Sarah Feather
Jo Harper
Becky Shaw
Alison Spring
Andrew Palmer (speaker)
Jon Wheeler (speaker)

Wealden District Council
East Sussex County Council
Eastbourne and Lewes Councils
East Sussex County Council
Rother District Council
Hastings Borough Council
East Sussex County Council

Apologies for absence:

Cllr Keith Glazier
Cllr Elayne Merry
Michael Turner
Andrea Saunders
Ashley Scarff
Cllr Bob Standley
Keith Stevens
Dawn Whittaker

East Sussex County Council
Lewes District Council
Environment Agency
Probation Service
East Sussex CCGs
Wealden District Council
Sussex Associations of Local Councils
East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service

NOTES

1) Welcome, introductions and Apologies

Steve Manwaring welcomed ESSP members, delegates, observers, guests and speakers to the meeting and apologies were given.

2) Urgent items of business

There were no urgent items of business.

3) Notes of the meeting held on 15 January 2019 and Matters Arising

The minutes were agreed as an accurate record, with a minor amendment, and actions from the meeting were complete.

4) Nominations for Chairperson and proposal to review the ESSP

Steve explained, in Cllr Glazier's absence, that the position of Chair is now open to everyone. Partners were invited to make nominations and Cllr Glazier, Becky and Steve are happy to talk to anyone if they have any questions about the position. Steve reminded the group that any nominations can be sent to essp@eastsussex.gov.uk by Friday 3rd May 2019. The new Chair will take up the post after this year's Assembly.

ACTION: Partners are invited to make nominations for the ESSP chair by Friday 3rd May.

5) Housing update – Andrew Palmer Chair of the East Sussex Housing Officers Group

Steve introduced Andrew Palmer to provide the update on housing across East Sussex. Andrew told the group that there have been a number of significant legislative and strategic developments nationally which continue to have an impact on local approaches to housing and homelessness. Andrew explained that the Homelessness Reduction Act presents both challenges and opportunities. Local authorities are required to work with people at risk of homelessness at an earlier stage and provide a more intensive level of support to each applicant. The steps the council and the individual will take to address their housing situation are set out in a Personalised Housing Plan (PHP), which must be reviewed regularly. So far, 1,323 PHPs have been issued across the county.

The Act also introduced a new Duty to Refer people at risk of homelessness to their housing authority for certain public bodies (including adult social care, prisons and the DWP), to ensure assistance was given at an earlier stage.

Andrew said that the number of homeless households in East Sussex has increased by 122% over the past 5 years and this is compared to a national increase of 9%. The number of rough sleepers across the county has increased by 208%, compared to a 70% rise nationally. Andrew highlighted that people are requiring temporary accommodation for longer and one family is costing a local authority £50k a year to temporarily house and it is unlikely that an alternative that meets the family's needs will be found for the next five years. Hastings now has the highest rate of rough sleeping outside of London, it used to be Brighton but their rough sleeping numbers have been reducing. Andrew said that reasons for homelessness and rough sleeping have not changed but more people are requiring support than previously and indicated this was most likely down to welfare changes.

Andrew pointed out that the opportunity to refresh and enhance existing multi-agency approaches to tackling homelessness was a strength. Local housing authorities are trying to address demand by setting up housing companies to address the issue of housing supply and there have been some successful partnership bids for money. However, the grants and bid funding does not solve the problem as these funding streams are only for short periods of time. Carol Dixon, Speak Up, agreed that the partnership approach had delivered some of the best solutions as well as acting as a model for other pieces of work.

Becky Shaw, ESCC, explained that even the County Council feel the impact of homelessness and are supporting families to stay in homes where they would otherwise be considered to have made themselves 'intentionally homeless'.

Petrina Mayson, AiRS and Speak Up, thanked Councils for supporting the Community Land Trusts in identifying sites for building.

Questions were raised about the amount of former military personnel looking for accommodation and being given priority. Andrew was not aware this was a particular issue in East Sussex. Steve asked if more people living independently was becoming an issue and Andrew responded by saying that the disabled Facilities Grant is available to people but it was difficult to keep pace with demand. Steve also raised the issue about the increase in deposits and rent in advance for the private rented sector, and how this was pricing people out of the market. Andrew said that there are lots of good landlords and they were not actively discriminating but given the demand they didn't need to engage with people in receipt of welfare benefits. Andrew explained that East Sussex is piloting a 'guarantee scheme' which includes helping tenants to maintain the tenancy.

Mark Andrews, ESFRS, asked if there were any lessons to be learnt from Brighton & Hove City Council (BHCC) on reducing rough sleeping numbers and Andrew explained that on speaking to BHCC there was nothing new that BHCC had tried but potentially the interventions implemented over a number of years were having an impact.

6 Transport update – Jon Wheeler

Steve introduced Jon Wheeler, ESCC, to provide this update. Jon began by providing an update on a range of strategic and local transport projects. Jon emphasised the link between transport and delivering the County Council's key priority, driving sustainable economic growth.

Jon then spoke about the last twelve months of work in the following areas:

- Strategic Roads and Major Road Network – Jon said that the Highways Agency were progressing work with smaller scale improvements for the A27 beginning in 2019/20. Jon said the work was expected to take around 2 years and although the improvements were welcome they did not address the issues between Polegate and Lewes. Jon spoke about a study into a new dual carriage way and a decision on this from the Department for Transport (DfT) could be published this autumn for works from 2020-2025. For the Highways Agency improving the economic connectivity of the A21 was a high priority. The DfT are offering funding between £20m-£50m for major A road projects that could include bypasses, road widening and smart technology. Funding would be available to those that could contribute 15% of the cost of the project.
- Rail – Jon told the Partnership that there would be physical changes at Ashford International into the marsh link. Design work is coming to a conclusion and there is a signalling assessment taking place, final costs and designs are expected in May 2019. Jon explained that the South Eastern Franchise would likely receive a 12 week extension while DfT evaluated proposals. Brighton mainline was undergoing work to improve its resilience and there is remodelling of East Croydon platforms is ongoing and there will be some re-signalling work between Lewes and Newhaven. Jon explained that this would result in more closures but the service would then be more reliable.
- Aviation – Jon explained that Gatwick was looking to increase capacity at the airport by using the emergency runway; a master plan would be published later this year. Funding is in the process of being signed off for a new station concourse. A Government Green Paper is expected on a new aviation strategy to take the UK into 2050 and beyond, with a final White Paper in mid-2019.
- Transport for the South East - Sub National Transport Body – Jon highlighted that Cllr Glazier, ESCC, chaired this Group and the transport strategy would be published by December this year. Jon pointed out there would be a formal consultation period on the strategy.
- Local Transport – Jon highlighted the following areas for work during 2019/20:
 - Infrastructure to unlock jobs and homes
 - Local Transport improvements and pipeline projects

- Regenerating town centres
- Local Cycling and Walking Investment Plan and Active Access for Growth programme

At the end of Jon's presentation Steve asked if the County's infrastructure was ready for electronic vehicles. Jon said that there was a close eye being kept on the demand for electric charging points, however, there was a challenge as to whether the County Council should be a facilitator or a provider. Given that this new technology was changing at pace it was best to 'wait and see' what developed so that the best technology could be supported.

7 Round table discussion

7a Spring Budget

Steve invited Becky to begin this discussion; Becky said that the Chancellor had confirmed that the government will hold a Spending Review which will conclude alongside the Budget. It will cover areas including social care, local government, schools, police, defence, and the environment. This will set departmental budgets, including 3 year budgets for resource spending, if an EU exit deal is agreed. Becky explained that successful lobbying had enabled the County Council to receive some 'one off' funding for this year. However, planning on a year to year basis was difficult to make plans for future years.

Becky also mentioned the extra funding to tackle serious violence and knife crime, with £100 million available to police forces in the worst affected areas in England and Wales. The cash is to be used for police overtime and to fund new 'Violent Crime Reduction Units' to help respond to the increase.

Finally, Becky said that the government has pledged to deliver 30,000 more affordable homes to tackle the UK's housing crisis. £717 million will be 'unlocked' from the Housing Infrastructure Fund - the 2017 grant introduced to invest in new build homes - to unlock up to 37,000 more affordable homes.

Jane Hartnell, Hastings Borough Council, agreed that the year on year planning was hard for Councils to make any concrete plans. Funding that was offered for 12 months leads to uncertainty about how long projects can continue.

Cllr Elkin said it was important to recognise the extra money that the County Council did receive and the successful lobbying work that took place to secure it. One off funding does not allow for planning but the money is welcome.

7b Brexit

Steve began by saying that he had never known such a period of uncertainty and it was likely to continue for some time yet. Steve then introduced Becky to give an update on any preparations. Becky explained that the Sussex Local Resilience Forum was ready for any short term interventions and this was well rehearsed. Becky also mentioned the Local Authority Regional Information Hub that works with 74 authorities to pass information and feedback both into and out of the Government, she said it seemed that there were three options going forward:

- 1) Leaving the EU with no deal on 29 March
- 2) Short extension beyond the 29 March
- 3) Longer extension before anything is agreed

Becky also highlighted the EU settlement scheme will be open fully by 30 March 2019.

Mark Andrews explained that the Fire Service is training tactical staff to respond to any emergencies if needed, this includes a full time communications team. Mark also told the group that there is a strategic group of senior staff meeting every day to take the temperature of the current situation. This is linked to other Fire and Rescue Services such as Hampshire and Kent. Mark concluded that in terms of preparation the Fire Service is where it wants to be, however, that did not make managing the ambiguity any easier.

8) Review of the ESSP

Steve introduced this item by reminding the Partnership that the previous review carried out in 2015 highlighted that there was still merit in the Partnership. It was now time to test if that was still the case.

Steve reminded the Partnership of the questions that had been circulated in advance:

- 1) Given the changing landscape and the other countywide partnerships how does the ESSP ensure it adds most value and avoid duplication?
- 2) With the Assembly event attracting most interest and attendance, should we make this the only formal ESSP event and invest in its purpose and productivity?
- 3) How do we ensure we maintain a coherent overview of issues and partnerships so that gaps are spotted and addressed?
- 4) Is there value in offering ad hoc opportunities for partners' to engage, in a range of formats, about any relevant or topical issue? These events could be initiated by any partner and could be supported by the ESSP administration who will seek to provide a suitable format, location and invite appropriate partners. These events could replace the regular, formal ESSP meetings.

Steve explained that the Probation Service and Environment Agency had submitted their responses in advance of the meeting, as they were unable to attend today, and the NHS have asked for a conversation with Steve as they were also unable to attend the meeting.

Gill Cameron-Waller, Wealden District Council, said that having the big picture view is important, as is exchanging views across organisations. Gill felt that the ESSP should continue in some way but agreed the shape of it needs to change.

Cllr Maynard, Rother District Council, felt that recently there had been less of a turnout of Council Members attending the ESSP. He agreed that there was value in partnerships but unsure if the ESSP was still fit for purpose in its current format. Cllr Maynard felt that the Assembly was a good opportunity to engage with Members but felt the Partnership could consider ways of working together without meeting up.

Cllr Elkin, ESCC, spoke about the Eastbourne Strategic Partnership that he attends on behalf of the County Council; he recognised the changes there that meant they focus on one theme for each year. Cllr Elkin also said it was important that people knew why they were attending the meeting and what its purpose was.

Graham Peters, Team East Sussex, also queried if the ESSP was the most effective way of sharing information, whilst recognising that engagement was important for all around the table. Graham felt that whether the dissemination of information was through a conference or meetings or other formats the most appropriate method might depend on the subject.

Jane Hartnell, Hastings Borough Council (HBC), explained that the Hastings and St Leonard's Local Strategic Partnership was also reviewing its purpose. Some of the information at the

ESSP was already known to some partners but there might still be value in focussing on a topic such as climate change to have a wider discussion and joined up actions.

Cllr Forward, HBC, thought that understanding what people take away from the meeting would help make its value clearer.

Becky, ESCC, said it was important the ESSP made the best use of people's time and that the Partnership had been good at spotting the issues that fall through the gaps. The ESSP had been able to raise a voice on behalf of the county. However, Becky said the Partnership needs to remain current and fit for purpose.

Petrina Mayson, Action in Rural Sussex and Speak Up, felt the ESSP added huge value and it enabled her to listen to a breadth of information that could be passed down into the voluntary sector and it would be a huge loss to the Voluntary Sector to not get that information.

Probation Service Response

There may be more specific areas which would benefit from greater focus on an ad hoc basis in response to emerging issues: a key maybe for example offender accommodation, homelessness and rough sleeping which requires in our view a multi-agency strategic and operational response?

It may therefore be better to no longer have a specific ESSP given the other effective working arrangements in place?

Environment Agency Response

The ESSP has provided some opportunity to network. It has been interesting to have a wider view of the matters that my partners are struggling with. It provided the opportunity to bang the drum for the environment and the ESSP have always seemed engaged.

There are other forums for the Environment Agency to engage (especially Team East Sussex and the new Environment sub group) and the Local Resilience Forum (Sussex-wide) so the EA is ambivalent about the ESSP continuing – but would be keen to see ad-hoc events and other opportunities to network with directors of ESCC and other councils.

ACTION:

- i) Sarah to arrange conversation with Steve, Ashley Scarff and Jessica Britton to discuss to discuss the review.
- ii) Steve to meet with Sarah to work up a proposal to be circulated before the next meeting.

9) Any other business

Assembly - Steve asked the Partnership to consider the theme of Inward Investment as the ESSP Assembly theme. It would cover things such as

- Opportunistic funding – whereby the Government may announce a fund to bid for a specific project such as knife crime etc.
- Pipeline approach – having bids in the ‘pipeline’ ready to submit when the right opportunity arises.
- Crowdfunding - a way of raising finance by asking a large number of people each for a small amount of money. Becky also mentioned that CrowdFunder have new partners Natwest Back Her Business - this supports women in business to raise money for their

businesses through crowdfunding, and Natwest will also provide free coaching, and mentoring.

The Partnership felt this would be a good topic and it was agreed that a draft programme would be circulated.

ACTION: Sarah and Steve to meet to work up a draft programme and circulate to the Partnership.

10) Dates of future meetings

Wednesday 10th July 2019 - 10.00am-12.00pm– International Tennis Centre, Eastbourne

Tuesday 5th November 2019-10.00am-12.00pm Court Room, Eastbourne Town Hall, Eastbourne

Thursday 16th January 2020 -10.00am-12.00pm TBC

SUMMARY OF AGREED ACTIONS –	
Item	Action
4	All Partners are invited to make nominations for the ESSP chair by Friday 3rd May 2019
8i	Sarah Feather to arrange conversation with Steve Manwaring, Ashley Scarff and Jessica Britton to discuss the review.
8ii	Steve Manwaring and Sarah Feather to work up a proposal for a revised way of working for the ESSP and share with the Group.
9	Steve Manwaring and Sarah Feather to meet to work up a draft programme and circulate to the Partnership.

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>).

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