

Hastings and St Leonards Local Strategic Partnership Agenda

Monday, 12 October 2020 at 10.00 am

Via Microsoft Teams:

For further information, please contact Chantal Lass tel: 01424 451483 or email: class@hastings.gov.uk

		Page No.
1.	Welcome and Apologies for Absence 10:00	
2.	Declarations of Interest 10:03	
3.	Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising 10:05	1 - 6
4.	Draft Hastings and St Leonards LSP Recovery Statement of Intent - Building Back Better (HBC) 10:10	7 - 22
5.	Update on Town Fund and emerging challenges (HBC and Carole Dixon) 10:25	
6.	Shape of the second wave 10:35 i. Community impact - Steve Manwaring ii. Local business impact – Clive Galbraith / Sean Dennis iii. LSP Partners – feedback on impact	

7. Brexit update
(Clive Galbraith / Sean Dennis)
11:30
8. Climate Emergency Strategy - workshop and sub-group invitation
(HBC)
11:40
9. Any other business
11:55
10. Date of next meeting:
10:00, Monday, 11th January 2021

Agenda Item 3

Hastings and St. Leonards LSP Board Meeting
10:45am, Monday, 11th May 2020
Via Microsoft Teams

Present:

Carole Dixon (Chair) – Education Futures Trust
Alan Sheppard – Hastings Borough Council
Andrew Palmer - Hastings Borough Council
Catherine Orbach – Project Artworks
Chantal Lass – Hastings Borough Council
CI Sarah Godley – Sussex Police
Cllr Kim Forward – Hastings Borough Council
Cllr Rob Lee – Hastings Borough Council
Coral Harding – Hastings Borough Council
Cllr Martin Clarke – Hastings Borough Council
Graham Marley – Let's Do Business Group
Jane Hartnell – Hastings Borough Council
John Shaw – Sea Change Sussex
Lewis Williams – East Sussex County Council
Marc Turczanski – Hastings Voluntary Action
Michael Courts – Hastings Borough Council
Pranesh Datta – Hastings Borough Council
Richard Watson – Hastings and Rother CCG
Simon Hubbard – Hastings Voluntary Action
Steve Manwaring – Hastings Voluntary Action
Tracy Dighton – Citizens Advice 1066
Victoria Conheady – Hastings Borough Council
Victoria Spencer-Hughes – East Sussex County Council
Tracey Rose – Fellowship of St. Nicholas

Apologies received from: Jackie Everett and Vanessa Biddiss

1. Introduction

Everyone was welcomed to the meeting.

The chair stressed that given the impact of COVID-19 in Hastings it is crucial that we have leadership from the council and other leaders from across the town. The LSP has a mandate to be able to take forward the strategic overview of the town. The meeting this morning is to see how we can move forward as a town. For Hastings, the impact is going to be profound. We know that the impact for the whole country is going to be significant, but in Hastings we know that we face a number of additional challenges, particularly with vulnerable people, who won't be able to pick up and take on life in whatever normal looks like, going forward. As an organisation and structure, it is important that we are able to represent all people of the town. We are going to need to work differently, think differently, and it is important that we share

information, retain that overview and look to the future to think in terms of moving forward with a unity and a sense of purpose.

From this perspective, working along side the Town Deal Board, we have slightly different perspectives, the LSP has always had an overview of the town and the Town Deal Board has a very particular purpose, but it is going to be really important that the work of both of these boards come together and that we look to see how the money, the research, the influence and any lobbying can work for Hastings in a united way.

One of the things that we need to do with the LSP is to make sure that business as usual isn't abandoned and we try to run this alongside the impact of the Covid virus. When we look at health, education, the Town Deal, it is all going to be through the lens of the new world that the Coronavirus has brought about. When we talk about business as usual, it is going to be a very different perspective. And we will be looking at education in the light of closed schools; we will be looking at health in terms of the perspective that the virus brings to us.

We are going to look it in 3 particular areas:

- 1) the immediate response, which has been significant in Hastings, with people pulling together and doing things they have never done before
- 2) maintenance and support for those impacted by the crisis. Where some will be able to pick up life and work with the new normal, we know a lot of residents in Hastings will need significant support for a long time to come, and particularly as lockdown starts to ease and we move into our new world and
- 3) recovery and restart, which nobody knows what this will look like yet.

Richard Watson needed to leave the meeting early but provided assurance that NHS locally/Hastings and Rother CCG continue to work hard to ensure an adequate response to COVID-19. He thanked partners for their help and support, particularly the voluntary and community sector. The NHS is now expecting to see an increase in demand in community health, primary care and mental health and is preparing for this. The NHS is open for business as usual and want to work collaboratively with partners to ensure that our responses are safe and effective and will continue to work with the borough council and others to communicate safe and effective messages particularly to the most vulnerable in the town.

In response to a question about the impact of the virus, Richard explained that a review is being carried out on the impact this has had on the most vulnerable population and the BAME community and that the CCG is reporting findings to central government and is keen to explore the issues with the LSP going forward. Richard is happy to answer any questions that partners may have following this meeting.

2. Minutes of the last meeting – 27th January 2020

Agreed as an accurate record.

Matters arising:

HBC Re-organisation – Jane advised that the HBC has undertaken a small aspect of the senior management restructure. Simon Hubbard has now left and is now working with Hastings Voluntary Action on secondment. She has been appointed as Managing Director. Due to the COVID-19 crisis, HBC needs to further review its budgets, due to costs incurred and income lost, to identify what resources are available moving forward and further work on the re-organisation will progress later in the year. Cllr Kim Forward is now leader of the council and Cllr Colin Fitzgerald is deputy leader.

3. Update – Covid-19 impact and response

A joint presentation on the response to date was given by Victoria Conheady, Assistant Director, Regeneration and Culture and Andrew Palmer, Assistant Director, Housing and Built Environment at Hastings Borough Council and Steve Manwaring, Chief Executive at Hastings Voluntary Action. The highlighted points were:

- Small business and retail, leisure and hospitality grant funding – up to the end of last week, 1,432 grant applications have been processed, totalling £16,745,000. This figure is 80% of the expected applications. Work is underway to identify businesses which are yet to come forward
- Discretionary grant scheme – full guidance is still to be received. It is hoped that the scheme can be operated in alignment with other districts and boroughs across East Sussex, but this is dependent on further guidance
- There are currently 239 households in temporary accommodation, which is a significant increase from 170 during locked
- Homeless presentations continue to rise, with approximately 16 each week, mainly due to eviction, and it is expected this will increase as lockdown measures are eased. New measures to manage a potential influx of evictions are being considered
- The council continues to provide its homelessness advice and support remotely
- Outreach to rough sleepers continues in partnership with others including the Seaview Project, the Clinical Commissioning Group housing associations, and through initiatives such as the Rough Sleeping Initiative and Rapid Rehousing Pathway
- The Hastings Covid-19 Community Hub was set up in response to Covid-19 and supports the extremely vulnerable/shielded, other vulnerable residents, those self-isolating and anyone who identifies themselves as in need of support. The hub includes a number of local organisations including the voluntary and community sector, housing associations, the borough council and others

The are 4 sub-groups on the hub:

1. information/communication,
2. food supply
3. mental health, and
4. children, young people and families

and the 5 areas of activity are:

1) telephone line and triage, 2) volunteer support telephone befriending, 3) resources (relief fund and other forms of funding), 4) information/communication and entertainment and 5) pathways into more specialist/acute services where needed

- There were 900 registrations as of this morning to the Community Hub telephone line. This is operated by the council, which provides an inbound phone line and outbound triage service. A memorandum of understanding and data sharing agreements are in place to enable a joint response and to ensure referrals can be made quickly
- Maintenance planning and options for continuation of the triage and other services are now being investigated

Feedback is sought from LSP partners on how to deal with the response to date – are there any gaps in provision going forward and what additional services should be provided – are we meeting the needs of local people?

Graham Marley, Chief Executive at Let's Do Business Group, gave a presentation on the economic and business position. Highlighted points:

- From a national perspective, the economy wasn't in great shape before the crisis and the Office of Budget Responsibility is predicting it could shrink 35% over the next month
- Locally, the retail sector was struggling before the crisis. In April 2019, 60 empty shops were identified in the town centre and it is likely that this will increase
- The tourism and leisure sector have been significantly affected; all attractions are closed, and it is possible that the whole season may be lost
- In addition, the language school business contributes around £35m to the local economy
- Manufacturing businesses are operating between 0 and 40% capacity and many staff have been furloughed
- Support is available through grants and loans, and businesses have been appreciative of the small business and retail and hospitality grants provided by the borough council
- Let's Do Business Group is one of the lenders accredited to lend under the government's Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme and had a huge number of enquiries during the first couple of weeks of lockdown. These are now reducing although it is expected these will go up again as we come out of the crisis
- The full impact of the crisis is still not known, whether there will be a bounce back and if the various support packages will work

4. Borough Recovery

East Sussex County Council is developing a recovery plan and feedback is being sought from partners by 18th May. All partners were asked to respond to the Slido survey by which will be re-circulated by close of play on Wednesday, 13th May.

Action: ALL

5. Town Deal update

Pranesh Datta, Economic Development Manager at HBC gave an update:

The Hastings Town Deal Board met on 4th March and came up with ideas for the vision for the town. However, this was before the pandemic and there may be a need to review this piece of work. The update from the minister, Simon Clark, is still keen to proceed with the work and some councils are keen to put their plans forward for approval as quickly as possible. Government has appointed the contractor to support towns to develop their plans. It is hoped a new prospectus will be issued in late June. The Town Deal EDG will be meeting next and Pranesh can inform LSP partners of decisions on how to take the work forward.

The Town Deal Board meeting is scheduled for 25th June.

6. Any other business

The chair thanked everyone for their attendance and asked for feedback on what worked or didn't work and would be happy to receive comments from partners.

Choice of online platforms for these meetings seems to be quite challenging for some partners. Microsoft Office and Teams is OK for some organisations and not for others due to the licencing costs and that may prohibit some organisations from participating. Zoom is better for meetings but is not being used by the statutory sector due to security issues.

7. Date of next meeting:

10am, Monday, 20th July 2020

This page is intentionally left blank

Agenda Item 4

Report to: Hastings Local Strategic Partnership

Date of Meeting: 12th October 2020

Report Title: LSP Statement of Intent – Building Back Better

Report By: Victoria Conheady
Assistant Director of Regeneration and Culture

Purpose of Report

To present a draft 'LSP Statement of Intent' document for discussion at the LSP. The statement of sets out how the LSP will work together to 'build back better' following the current pandemic crisis.

Recommendation(s)

1. LSP members now review, add/ adjust content by the 31st October 2020
2. To recommend for approval by the LSP following final edits at its next meeting.
3. It is also suggested that LSP establish Task and Finish groups to address key challenges arising from the crisis and to ensure a strategic approach to solutions and positive impact on the town.

Reasons for Recommendations

The LSP is the agreed strategic body for Hastings in terms of the collective strategic approach to Covid -19 response and recovery. There are numerous discussions and recovery documents being developed by a range of organisations and partners. The LSP wishes to collate and harness this collective activity in the most strategic way.

It is felt that by creating a shared statement of intent for the future of Hastings we can make sure we can recover and evolve from the impacts of the pandemic in a more collective and strategic manner.

Summary of need for 'statement of intent'

1. The attached draft statement of intent (Appendix 1) follows discussion among some LSP partners to strengthen our partnership and working relationship for the future.
2. As a good example this draft is based on that produced by Bristol City Council – Bristol Hopes

[Bristol Statement of Intent 2020](#)

3. By creating a statement of intent for the future of Hastings we can make sure our joint efforts focus us as a town to recover and evolve from the impacts of the pandemic.
4. This draft statement of intent is a recognition and agreement amongst LSP partners of the way we as a town want to rebuild after Covid 19. It is to present a collective Town and LSP view on recovery and is a:
 - It is a recognition of the way we as a town want to rebuild after Covid 19 crisis
 - A description of how Hastings strategic partnership work will contribute to the wider recovery work and interact with existing governance structures
 - A way for us to communicate our priorities to regional, national and international stakeholders
5. The draft has been produced by senior HBC officers in consultation with the Chair of the LSP and lead members of the council.
6. At this stage it is presented for full discussion. We are now proposing that all LSP partners and leads aid the collective authorship of this draft by providing brief additions to their area of service as required.
7. It is also suggested that LSP establish Task and Finish groups to address key challenges arising from the crisis and to ensure a strategic approach to solutions and positive impact on the town.
8. A finalised draft to be presented to LSP on 11th January 2020.

Wards Affected – ALL

Policy Implications

Please identify if this report contains any implications for the following:

Equalities and Community Cohesiveness	Yes
Crime and Fear of Crime (Section 17)	No
Risk Management	Yes
Environmental Issues	No

Economic/Financial Implications	Yes
Human Rights Act	No
Organisational Consequences	No
Local People's Views	No
Anti-Poverty	No

Additional Information

Appendix A – Hastings Statement of Intent – ‘Building Back Better’

Officer to Contact

Pranesh Datta

Economic Development Manager

This page is intentionally left blank

Hastings Local Strategic Partnership

Recovery Statement of intent - 'Building Back Better'

FORWARD

To be drafted by Chair of LSP and Leader of the Council

Introduction

Following the outbreak of the global pandemic we face an enormous challenge. But we face it together. We have a once-in-a-generation opportunity to use this crisis to our advantage by focussing on what is important to us and making sure we put all our collective effort into our vision of making our town a great place to live, work and thrive.

The Local Strategic Partnership draws together our communities, private sector, academics, voluntary, community and social enterprise sector, public sector and regional networks of expertise. As this umbrella organisation we have developed this statement of intent to set out what we want to build back to as a town. LSP Membership see Appendix 1.

By creating a shared statement of intent for the future of Hastings we can make sure our joint efforts focus us as a town to recover and evolve from the impacts of the pandemic, creating a fairer, healthier, vibrant, sustainable and resilient future for our town. We want to develop and implement approaches that support our diverse communities and puts them at the heart of re-shaping Hastings, to create one we all want, now and for future generations.

As we look towards a brighter future for our town, we need to continue to build on the strengths we have demonstrated over the past months. We need to harness the neighbourliness that has led people to support each other in new ways and support our local businesses to help them grow and thrive. Above all we need to provide as many opportunities as possible for all our people to flourish and live happy, healthy lives with access to work which enables them to live a good life.

We will do this not by returning to all the old ways, but by capitalising on our strengths and tackling its deep-rooted inequalities to create a new economy which includes everyone in our town, builds resilience and tackles the climate and ecological emergencies.

The situation facing us is incredibly serious and it's end cycle unknown. We appreciate that there remains an uncertain and difficult path ahead through an unprecedented situation. Navigating this requires collective vision and commitment.

But this is what Hastings has., Renowned for a 'can do' attitude, we are ready to begin planning for the economic renewal of our town, learning from our experiences of the past and ready to develop new and innovative solutions for the future.

With targeted government and private investment, and a coordinated, integrated approach to partnership working, we can maximise the opportunities for investment in our unique town. In doing this, we must make sure we deliver economic inclusion, challenging the systemic injustices that have historically existed and impacted the communities of our town. We will work to ensure that we have a joined-up approach, ensuring no one is left behind. We'll use our experience and partnerships to work together, to lobby for additional funding and to accelerate our recovery.

We will make the most of all the resources we have in the town and Hastings will 'Build Back Better'. This is our statement of intent.

This document is a statement of intent about getting things done better and together; having clear goals backed by robust plans, but a good statement of intent is no good unless it unites people on a common purpose, a golden thread that pulls people together to face an unprecedented challenge.

This statement of intent is:

- A recognition of the way we as a town want to rebuild after the Covid-19 crisis;
- A means to deepen the new, and existing forms of cooperation across the town that have happened in response to Covid-19, and to ensure no-one misses out on benefitting from our recovery
- A description of how Hastings Local Strategic Partnership will contribute to the wider recovery work and interact with other existing governance structures
- A means to share a statement of intent which all partners' activities, actions and programmes seek to deliver.
- A way to collectively seek to reduce poverty and inequality, increase the towns resilience and environmental sustainability, and enhance the economic and social wellbeing of every community
- A way for us to communicate our priorities locally and to regional, national and international stakeholders and provide a deeper understanding of the Hastings context within the wider regional and national setting

This Statement of intent **is not** our full recovery plan, nor is it an action plan which LSP partners must undertake; nor a strategy document duplicating or replacing other local or regional activities. This statement of intent and the commitment to work

together will help shape and influence the plans and activities being developed by all partners.

Setting the Scene

Hastings is an ambitious town that thrives on making things happen. Our response to the COVID-19 pandemic crisis and the innovation of service delivery via strong partnership working is testament to that; the Local Strategic Partnership wish to address our recovery in much the same way.

Despite all the growth and positives Hastings has, parts of the borough have always been held back, affecting people's life chances and stifling our full economic potential. Inequality is deeply ingrained in our communities and current events provide an opportunity to spark meaningful structural and behavioural change. Doing this well will help enable all people in Hastings to benefit in future successes and to mitigate the worst impacts of the pandemic. We will continue to work with partners to develop longer-term pathways for residents living with poverty, ensuring that they do not fall to the back of the queue for recovery focussed opportunities.

Prior to COVID-19 the packed seasonal events calendar was proof enough of a town with a relentless need to express itself. This year many events quickly migrated to online and still delivered a creative and innovative diary of happenings, though the loss of physical events has been felt keenly.

A steady stream of creative entrepreneurs and business people were drawn to relocate to Hastings, partly due to the seaside location, relatively low rents and house prices and the 'feel' of Hastings as place to set down roots. The lockdown has the potential to build on this, giving the opportunity for London and larger city occupying businesses to rethink their need for office space, a trend that is likely set to continue.

In some respects, the town was at a significant pivotal moment in terms of regeneration, however significant commitment was still needed by a range of partners to enhance and bolster the regeneration investment we've seen over the last 20 years.

We know many families and businesses have been impacted by the pandemic and the lockdown, and some will take a long time to recover, if at all. The full impact on our residents and our economy will not be known for some time and we will need to act quickly to mitigate against the worst affects that could further widen the health, social and economic inequalities within our town, and between our town and other areas. We already knew that our Town had its challenges as well as its strengths. This worldwide pandemic has shone a spotlight on both.

Our focus must be to protect jobs and address the immediate threats to lives and livelihoods, but it must also reset the local economy to address structural inequalities in our town, as well as place a fairer and greener future at the heart of our recovery.

Before the coronavirus pandemic we had a growing economy with Hastings developing a name for itself as a creative and digital hub, with an influx of new and growing businesses locating themselves here, as well as a core mix of high-tech vacuum manufacturing businesses including aerospace, precision optics and high-tech electronics. Many businesses looking for space to base themselves or grow found just that in Hastings. From creative start-ups seeking offices and unusual studio space to specialist manufacturers needing warehouse and engineering facilities.

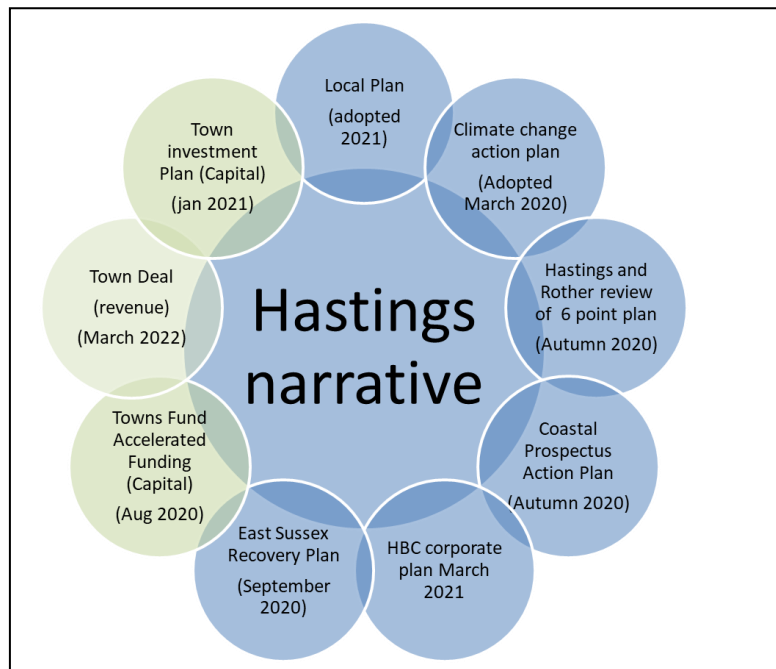
The town is renowned as culturally rich, with its assets such as the Old Town and Castle, for all its year-round events, festivals and music, appealing to residents and visitors alike, as well as its busy tourism industry contributing £266m to the economy and supporting over 6500 jobs in the town. Hastings is a town that appeals to residents, visitors and those seeking something different in equal measures. For many it has a sense of community like no other.

These facts, combined with our natural environment and coastline, amenities and normally-thriving visitor economy, mean that Hastings is well placed to build back better – but only with meaningful investment and joined-up intentions from partners locally, regionally and nationally.

The impact of COVID-19 has increased the pressure on our communities already struggling, potentially being pushed deeper into poverty as the impacts of the pandemic play out in Hastings. COVID-19 has clearly highlighted the impact of existing inequalities in Hastings.

What we build back is likely to be incredibly different to anything we have known before with many more working from home, residents needing new jobs/having to re-train to re-enter the job market, changes in our connectivity (both digitally and public and active transport), and probable changes in our supply chains and business models. We have the opportunity to shape a future economy that not only delivers growth and jobs but delivers outcomes for wider society as well as responding to a changing climate. It will take more than relying on our traditional strengths and previous plans to form the basis of a thriving long-term future.

The Hastings Narrative/ Story (illustrative only)



To include Draft Sussex Health and Care Plan

Figure 1 The Hastings Narrative

COVID-19 has shown us that whatever we do next, our working arrangements and plans need to remain nimble, flexible and to some extent reactive to the challenges that will arise in the coming months and years. The above diagram illustrates some of the strategic and policy documents that are emerging that will underpin our recovery.

As a strategic partnership we plan to take the following steps to support and ensure the towns recovery in the future.

Our immediate next steps are to:

1. Put health, sustainability, equality, inclusion and resilience at its heart, including mitigating health impacts, both physical and mental
2. Continue to engage meaningfully with our communities and stakeholders to understand the short, medium- and long-term impacts of COVID-19 and the needs of our communities
3. Work with local organisations, supporting short term interventions and initiatives to support the towns recovery and a thriving local economy
4. Protect and sustain jobs through the partnership and new funding opportunities through the development of the towns strategic policies and Town Deal

5. Work together to deliver the ambition of the Climate Emergency Declaration for Hastings.

We know that we don't have all the answers and there is still much that will continue to be unknown and out of control. There will unfortunately still be more of the loss that we have already experienced from COVID-19 and we must recognise this.

What we can do is to work together, flexibly, openly and responsively as a town; as one community for the benefit of all.

It is essential we recognise that that COVID-19 is still present in our community. The impacts to our economy, our health and wider resilience will be felt for some-time, and as such we need to continue to work in partnership to build local resilience, support our community where it continues to be impacted and work together. Scenario planning for a second wave or localised outbreak of COVID-19, and the implications this would have for the town needs to be central to these plans.

What is our ask of town partners?

1. To listen as widely as possible the views of communities and businesses by using your own networks to help raise awareness of this work
2. To work with the Hastings Local Strategic Partnership to provide constructive ideas, suggestions and solutions
3. To provide robust data and evidence that you have for your area that could contribute to an understanding of the issues we are facing
4. To look at how you can support your community through the recovery 5. Champion this statement of intent and vision

What will the LSP do?

1. Be open and transparent
2. Recognise and be realistic about our collective strengths, weaknesses and capacity
3. Drive the vision in this statement of intent, championing it at all levels
4. Build on lessons learned from the initial onset of COVID-19
5. Remain nimble, responsive and flexible to new challenges and opportunities as well as the ongoing COVID-19 recovery
6. Be a voice for the town using the statement of intent to draw our community together in collaboration for the benefit of all

Appendix 1 - Membership of the Hastings and St Leonards Local Strategic Partnership (LSP)

The Hastings and St Leonards Local Strategic Partnership is a well-established, respected, long running structure operating in the town, recognising that decisions made by one organisation impacts on the whole town and all other partners

The LSP Board brings together leaders from the boroughs public, private, community and voluntary sector organisations and is supported by the Council. It has been meeting for almost 20 years and has worked tirelessly to ensure a joined approach is developed and taken to address common issues in the town, raise awareness of one another's activities and work together for the positive good of all those who live, work and visit the town.

Membership of LSP

- Hastings Borough Council
- East Sussex County Council
- Sussex Police
- East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service
- DWP
- Optivo
- Sea Change Sussex
- Let's Do Business
- East Sussex College
- Public Health
- Education (schools, college and EFT)
- Community and Voluntary Sector representatives
- CCG

Appendix 2 - What we already know about Hastings – the statistics (July 2020)

For a detailed statistics about the town please visit East Sussex In Figures
<http://eastsussexinfigures.org.uk/webview/welcome.html>

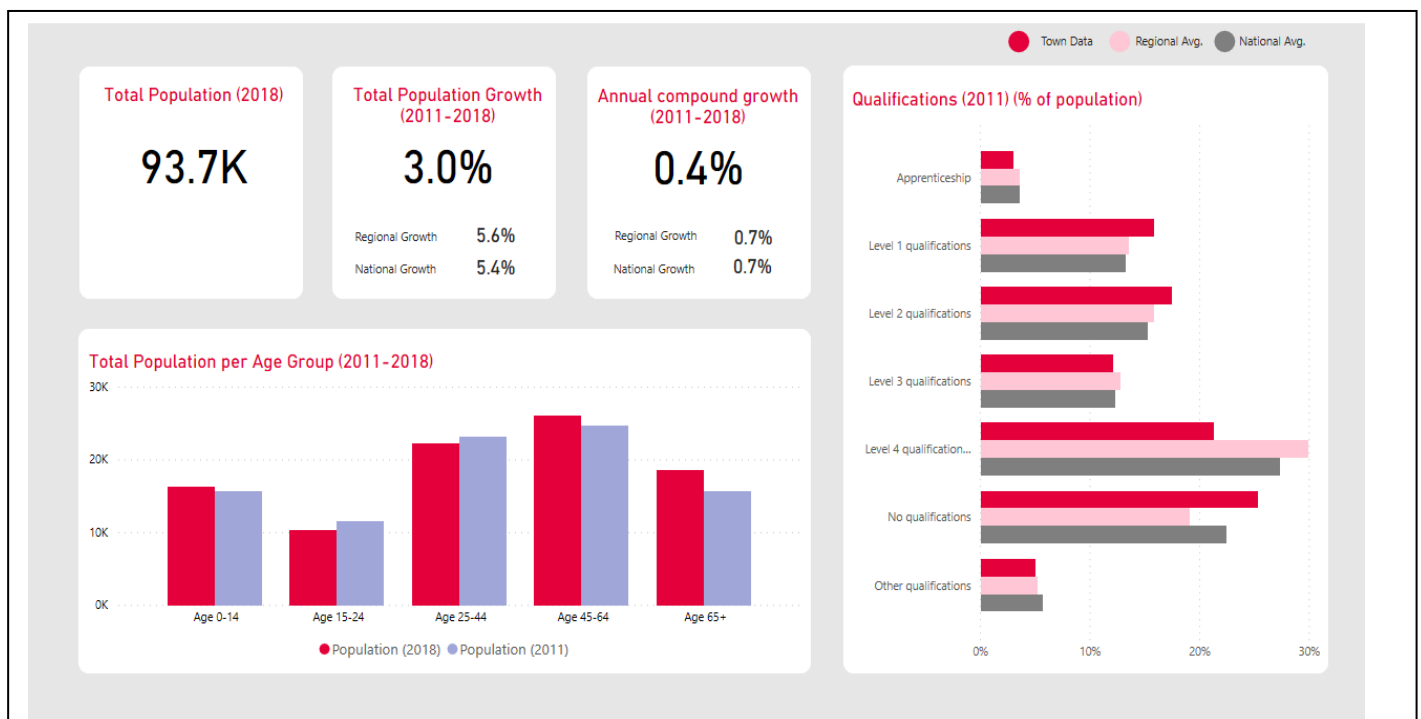
What we already know about Hastings

Hastings has significantly higher income and employment deprivation than East Sussex, including the percentage of older people affected by income deprivation and children in low income families, rates of working age people claiming ESA, JSA and UC, households with dependent children and no adults in employment (Census 2011) and households in fuel poverty, and, in all cases, the highest rates of all East Sussex districts/boroughs.

Of the 53 neighbourhoods in the town, 2 are ranked in the top 1% nationally as experiencing the greatest levels of deprivation, with a further 14 in the highest 10%, the town's previous success has not reached everyone and has left some communities behind for many years

Over 5800 (27 %) of all Hastings children live in low-income families and are living in poverty (before housing costs are considered)

Population



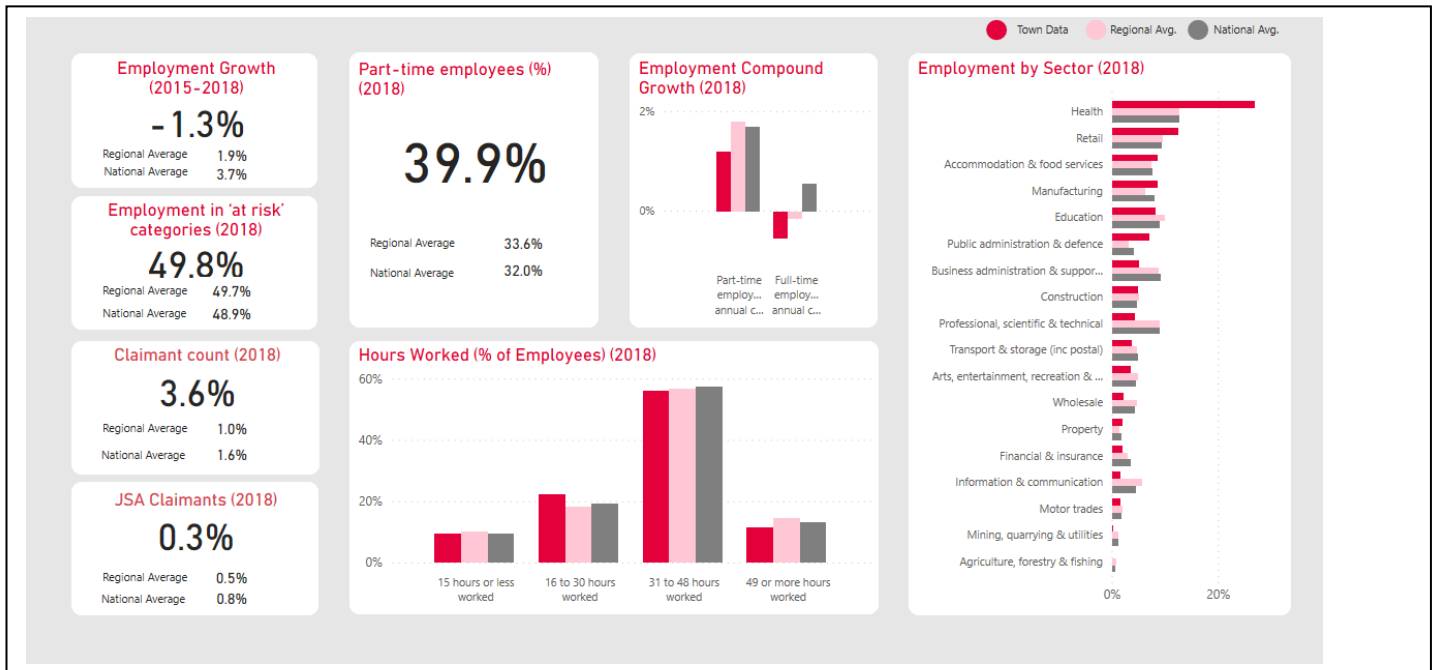
Housing



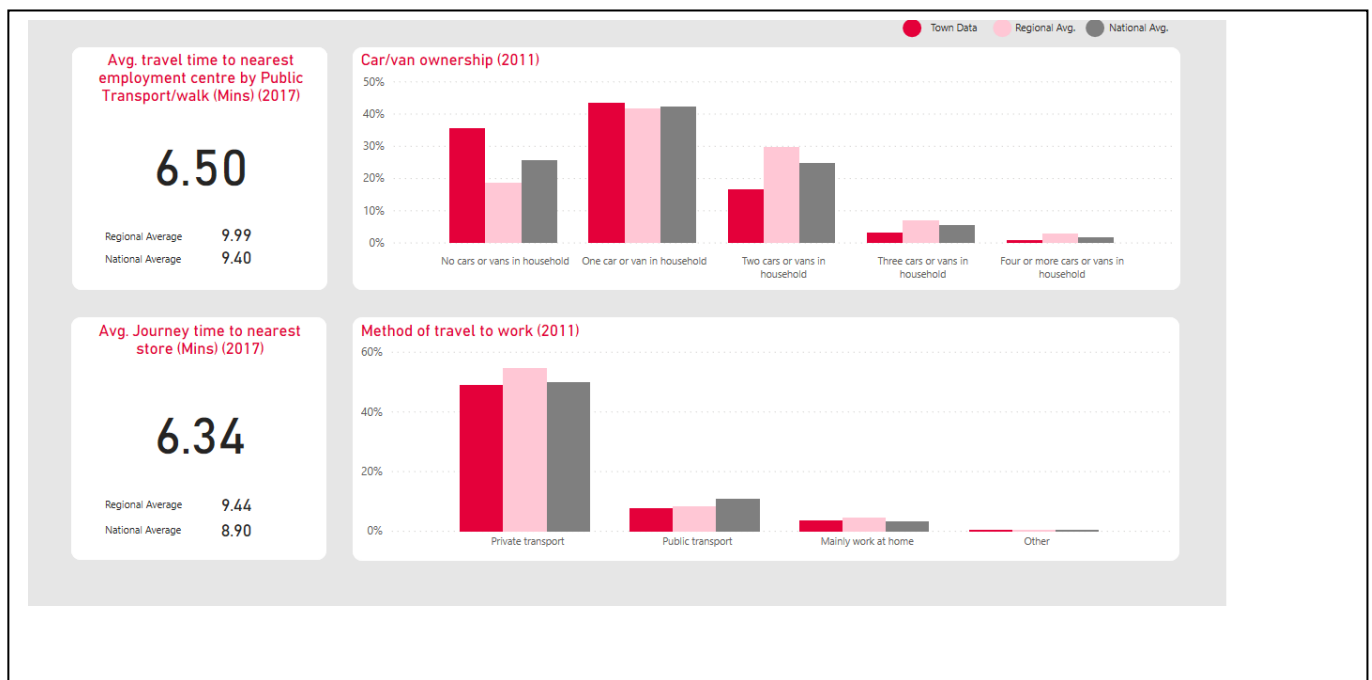
Income



Employment



Travel



The impact of COVID-19 in Hastings so far:

We are seeing claimants almost double to 4,900 on the previous year, resulting in 8.6% of working age population now claiming benefits in Hastings. This is second

highest claimant rate across the South East Local Enterprise partnership (SELEP) area and South East region after Thanet and far above our neighbouring district who are recording a level of 5.7% and nationally at 6.4%

In July 2020 1 in 7 young people are claiming Universal credit, 1 in 6 young men are claiming – at county level it is 1 in 9.

This will only rise as the furlough scheme changes and finishes. At the 30th June a total of 16,000 Hastings residents were either being supported by the -job retention scheme (furlough) or the Self -employment income support scheme – a total of 28% of the working aged people in Hastings.

Hastings has the second highest claimant rate across the whole of the south east local enterprise partnership. Across East Sussex 29 ward have rates at or above the England average, with 3 wards showing the highest levels in the county: Central St Leonards – 14.2%, Gensing – 11.8%, Castle – 11%

The Institute for Social and Economic Research (ISER) at the University of Essex study predicts that the lockdown could cost the UK 6.5 million jobs, with many people facing unemployment, lower pay, less hours – very tough times indeed. The Office for Budget Responsibility predict that by the end of this year 12%, nearly one in eight, of the workforce will be unemployed, this would have huge implications for Hastings.

This page is intentionally left blank