



Youth Futures Foundation – Connected Futures

Connected Futures Hastings

Hastings Strategic Partnership Update

The Core Partnership

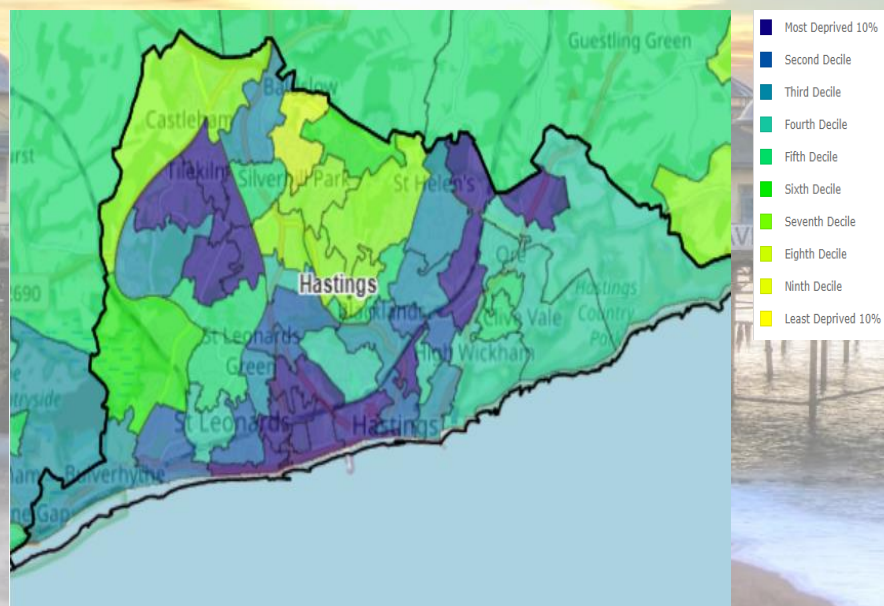
- Young People's Research Group
- East Sussex County Council
- Hastings Borough Council
- CXXK/YES



Wider Partnership

- Hastings Local Strategic Partnership (Virtual Group)
- Fellowship of St Nicholas (FSN)
- Education Futures Trust (EFT)
- Sabden Federation
- East Sussex College Group
- Skills East Sussex
- Culture Shift
- Schools (3 local ones)
- Chamber of Commerce /LDB
- Salvation Army
- OPTIVO
- Little Gate Supported Employment
- University of Sussex & University of Brighton
- Groundwork South

Welcome to Hastings



Focussing across **Hastings** (13th most deprived local council area out of 317 in England) identified a number of Wards (local neighbourhoods) with elevated levels of deprivation.. Most deprived LSOAs by Wards in Hastings:

- Hastings Town Centre and Central St Leonards – Wards:** Castle (Hastings 009B, Hastings 009C), Central St Leonards (Hastings 011A, Hastings 011B, Hastings 011C, Hastings 011D), Gensing (Hastings 008E, Hastings 011E)
- Hollington Chart Area – Wards:** Wishing Tree (Hastings 006D), Hollington (Hastings 003E, Hastings 003A, Hastings 003B, Hastings 003C)
- North East Hastings / Ore Valley - Wards:** Baird (Hastings 005A), Ore (Hastings 004B), Tressell (Hastings 005D)

+The Indices of Deprivation 2019

What's the problem we aim to address?

(part 1)

Persistently high levels of young people Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET) in some areas of Hastings, correlated with higher levels of crime, poor attendance rates at school and troubled families.

These young people either don't engage with existing provision or revolve through it without achieving positive outcomes.

Failure to provide the right support to these young people at this point leads to increased risk of long-term unemployment or inability to access successfully further learning opportunities that meets their needs.

Partners' experience is that at 16 many young people don't know what provision is right for them or how to access it.

What's the problem we aim to address?

(part 2)

Partners and young people have identified a range of factors that may contribute to the problem, these include:

- High rates of school suspension and absence
- Impact of challenging family circumstances on young people
- Lack of appropriate, consistent, integrated support (from across services) for young people with particularly challenging situations or experiences
- Prejudice, discrimination and hostility against young people
- Lack of 'appropriate' tailored provision that address young people's needs post 16
- Insufficiently coherent approaches that enable young people in compulsory education having the 'scaffolding' of support that facilitates their education/learning or progressing to post education EET.

We propose within phase 1 to explore these further to identify and understand the ramifications on individuals and the local communities.

The system change we hope for the young people in Hastings (part 1)

Truly personalised support that enables young people to tackle barriers they face (health, caring responsibilities, financial, housing and learning) informed by their abilities, ambitions and need

A system that identifies, captures and addresses social capital with cultural, and learning needs without stifling creativity and success

Improving focus and responsiveness of support across a young person's journey into adulthood and beyond

Organisations collaborate - shared ambition and aspirations – that ensures our persistent and long-term NEETs receive early and appropriate interventions into Employment, Education or Training

That our young people know what decisions they are able to make and what areas they are unlikely to change – where they need to access support (early) and how to affect change

The system change we hope for the young people in Hastings (part 2)

Safe and supported platform to be heard - that all voices are listened to and acted upon

Responding to young people's individual and family context

Creating a holistic approach, to not pigeonhole, stigmatise, or pre-empt needs

Support is relevant to young persons needs/barriers - meeting cultural, personal preferences and social requirements

A responsive approach which is flexible and adaptable

The system change we hope for organisations working with young people

(part 1)

Interventions are identified and delivered earlier - with a holistic approach to reduce exclusions and absenteeism

The 'scaffolding' needed for YP to thrive is provided at all stages and is consistent and YP led

Accurate and detailed mapping of pathways and critical transition points where young people disengage

That young people have the mechanisms to inform future funding models both locally/nationally and strategic development

Agencies open to work collaboratively to deliver personalised responses that address individual young people's requirements

Statutory organisations support all staff to develop expertise/ confidence in working across prof' competences, to co-produce solution for YP's needs

The change we would like to see for the organisations working with young people

(part 2)

Engaging schools & additional provision within the research process will mean that the voices of pre-16s and their experiences are acted upon

Timely and accurate assessment for neurodiverse needs used to plan and inform holistic support at an early age to ensure inclusion and parity with mainstream offers

Young people empowered to ask the difficult questions and challenge assumptions

Young people will have the self-confidence and will be empowered to access personalised solutions, that enable them to thrive

Staff will be better prepared and equipped to meet future needs - through developing existing staff

Holistic approach to the benefit system that's not punitive or restrictive for enterprise and initiative

How our young people will be involved? (part 1)

Young people are central, and a group of 10 young people will drive the research and follow the lines of enquiry searching for evidence and implications. As a project:

- We will recruit a group of 10 young people, train and support them through additional development to become peer to peer researchers. Additional training is planned to address wider skills and knowledge for handling difficult conversations. We aim to accredit the young people researchers over the lifetime of the projects.
- Selection of the young person research group will be informed by the existing youth voice and focussed on local residents within Hastings either currently engaged with the partnership organisations or responding to local calls for support.
- Young people's leadership and voice will be key in both the co-production of the research outcomes along with the decision making and the activity undertaken within the phase 1 focus, activity and reporting.
- The Young Person Research Group will lead the research activity with a focus on fact finding, challenging the status quo and current practices. It will report making recommendations to the two project groups (Core Partnership and Reference Group) who will enable and facilitate access to [partners and stakeholders] investigate and identify the root cause/s to inform system change and suggest recommendations.
- There will be 2 members of the Young Person Research Group that will sit on both the Core Partnership Group and the wider Reference Group. The young person research group voice is central to decision making and the success of phase 1.

We propose within phase 1 to explore these further to identify and understand the ramifications on individuals and the local communities.

How our young people will be involved? (part 2)

We will ensure that YP understand their influence, the decision-making process and what areas of work they are unable to currently influence. Young people will be empowered to be in control of their future aspirations/goals and lives through their roles within the research group and representation on both project groups representing the project and the communities they represent.

- The model of delivery relies on the young people research group being central to the research and reporting capturing both the views of young people and the perceptions of both statutory and charitable organisations supporting them.

The young person research group will:

- nominate it's lead and representatives to attend Core Partnership and Reference Group meetings
- have a voice and votes when decision needs to be made in the Core Partnership Group
- be supported by a research expert to make recommendations, influence the direction of travel, and focus of the research activity
- be supported by youth leadership expert to support, develop, train and coach the group
- receive training and developing to enable the design, planning and focus, and activity in relation to both the qualitative and quantitative techniques needed for accurate data/information collection

Connected Futures – Hastings

Thank you

Questions and discussion