

Appendix 1 – Towns Fund programme projects update October 2023						
Projects per theme						
Challenge Theme	Projects & Project Lead	Town Fund Contribution	Total Project Value	Brief description	Project status	Results
Jobs and enterprise growth (Skills & Enterprise)	Hastings co-working flexible office space - FreedomWorks Ltd	£116,732	£313,374	Creation of shared work spaces at the former Debenham building - 3rd, 4th and 5th floor	Build Completed	Provided 968m2 of new office space in a green retrofit town centre building, operating at near full capacity.
	Churchfield Business Centre - Hastings Borough Council	£778,211	£4,804,068	Creation of 29 Business incubation units on Churchfield Industrial Estate, Hollington	Build Completed	One new BREEAM standard building providing 1,196m2 of new office space (29 Business Units). So far 12 new units let (tech and light industrial)
	Green Construction, Energy and Vehicle Training Centre - East Sussex College Group	£2,638,758	£3,068,758	Infrastructure for provision for Green Low Carbon Skills & business startup / development opportunities	Planning & under development	Target - To provide 650m2 of new and improved educational facilities to support various courses for a target of 150 students by Q1 2026. Expected Completion Sep 2024.
	Enterprise Space, Ponswood - Unveiled Ltd			Repurposing existing open plan office spaces on Ponswood Industrial Estate	Project cancelled due to incomplete business case.	N/A
	Broadening Futures Together - Education Futures Trust and Plumpton College	£417,121	£686,896	New education and skills offer linked to land based occupations and business opportunities - fast track project	Build Completed	Provided 100m2 new educational facility and, so far, 11,000m2 of improved outside space. So far, 243 new students have enrolled with 188 obtaining an education certificate
Forgotten history and assets (arts, culture & heritage)	Hastings Castle - Hastings Borough Council (bbc)	£3,450,069	£6,299,634	Telling the story of the Norman invasion and its impact Project value estimated and TBC	Project currently under review as delivery partners sought	Target - to make the Castle a primary destination, increasing the visitor numbers to 100,000 and to improve 3,380 m2 of outside space
	Hastings Commons OB Creative Creative Technology Hub - Hastings Commons Neighbourhood Ventures	£3,997,203	£4,299,203	Development of a community led creative quarter in the heart of the town centre - gallery, workspaces, homes, community spaces, wellbeing facilities; digital and education learning facilities.	Build Completed	Target - to improve/ green retrofit 1,996 m2 of existing space, including 1,027 of new office space. To improve 200 m2 of public realm. To provide improved and new educational facilities for 640 new students by the end of the programme
	Hastings Commons Cambridge Rd (Eagle Hse) - Hastings Commons Neighbourhood Ventures				Purchase Completed. Planning and Development	
	Hastings Commons 12 Claremont - Hastings Commons Neighbourhood Ventures				Planning & under development	
Disconnected, unloved town centre (urban regeneration & connectivity)	Town Centre Core Project 1a (New Look Fast Track) - NewRiver REIT	£349,676	£1,059,970	Gym Group now open on the upper floors and new office spaces on the ground floor (DWP has recently vacated, and alternative user being sought).	Build Complete	Provided 2,171m2 of green retrofit to an empty town centre building, homing a new gym and providing 1,041 of new office space
	Town Centre Core Project 1B Redevelopment of Priory Meadow Shopping Centre (West Wing) - NewRiver REIT			Project withdrawn following indicative assessment of site as a possible mixed use development . Cost of development ; extent of funding gap; and changes to the current leasing arrangements of the centre were the main factors taken into consideration.	Cancelled. Funds re-allocated	N/A
	Priory Street Car Park (Project withdrawn) - Hastings Borough Council	£80,157	£80,157	Project withdrawn following indicative assessment of site as a possible Leisure and Housing project. The assessment showed considerable funding gap and the full report will be made available on the Council's website in October 23.	Cancelled. Funds re-allocated	N/A
	1-7 Wellington Place - Hastings Borough Council			Purchase and redevelopment of building for mixed use development. Project withdrawn very early in the stage due to current owners wanting to continue to operate from the building.	Cancelled. Funds re-allocated	N/A
	Former Debenhams Site (additional project) - Moxie Management Two Ltd and C&O Entertainments	£400,000	£826,345	Development of an indoor entertainment centre at former Debenhams Building (ground, 1st and 2nd) - children's play, food and drink, games, indoor bowling, visuals, etc.	Build Completed	Provided 7,432m2 of retrofit to an empty town centre building, homing a new family entertainment destination and providing 278m2 of new office space
	Town Centre Public realm and green connections - East Sussex County Council	£9,754,458	£10,154,458	Focus on improving active travel connectivity (walking and cycling) and the enhancement of the public realm in Hastings town centre. It will encompass ideas from the Hastings Garden Town - inspired by Great Dixter's philosophy of creative ecology, horticultural innovation and biodiversity. There has been a significant increase in the value of the project from @£3m to £10m - agreed in March 23.	Planning and under development	Target - to improve 14,580 m2 of town centre public realm, including the planting 35 trees, improved public transport links and community space. Design stage to commence October 2023
	Lack of Quality Housing (urban regeneration)	Town Living - Hastings Borough Council	£1,037,615	£1,657,615	Town Centre Housing Investment Proposal - providing new and renovating existing. This project is currently being reviewed.	Project being reviewed
Improved access to Source Park	Source Park - White Rock Courtyard - The Source Hastings Ltd	£65,000	N/A	Installation of lift to the courtyard - project partly previously funded via the Town Fund Accelerated Fund	Build Completed	Improved access to the Source Courtyard
Totals		£23,085,000				
Including the programme 5% M&A allowance of £1,215,000 the TF programme totals £24,300,000						All projects have employment targets during delivery and post-delivery. The Programme target is in excess of 140 full time, temporary jobs and the creation of 360+ fulltime, permanent jobs.