



Greater Brighton Economic Board

**18 October 2022
10.00am**

QEII Room, Shoreham Centre, BN43 5WU

AGENDA



ADUR & WORTHING
COUNCILS



Lewes District Council



MID SUSSEX
DISTRICT COUNCIL



University of Brighton



University of Sussex



Members:	<p>Councillors: Mac Cafferty (Chair), Appich, Ash-Edwards, Gunner, Cooper, Jones, Nicholson and Parkin</p> <p>Business Partners: Trevor Beattie, Andrew Green, Prof. Debra Humphris, David Maguire, Dean Orgill and Andrew Swayne</p>
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Contact:	<p>John Peel Democratic Services Officer 01273 291058 john.peel@brighton-hove.gov.uk</p>
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AGENDA

PART ONE

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10 PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

(a) Declaration of Substitutes: Where Members of the Board are unable to attend a meeting, a designated substitute for that Member may attend, speak and vote in their place for that meeting.

(b) Declarations of Interest:

- (a) Disclosable pecuniary interests not registered on the register of interests;
- (b) Any other interests required to be registered under the local code;
- (c) Any other general interest as a result of which a decision on the matter might reasonably be regarded as affecting you or a partner more than a majority of other people or businesses in the ward/s affected by the decision.

In each case, you need to declare

- (i) the item on the agenda the interest relates to;
- (ii) the nature of the interest; and
- (iii) whether it is a disclosable pecuniary interest or some other interest.

If unsure, Members should seek advice from the committee lawyer or administrator preferably before the meeting.

(c) Exclusion of Press and Public: To consider whether, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted, or the nature of the proceedings, the press and public should be excluded from the meeting when any of the following items are under consideration.

NOTE: Any item appearing in Part Two of the Agenda states in its heading the category under which the information disclosed in the report is exempt from disclosure and therefore not available to the public.

A list and description of the exempt categories is available from the Secretary to the Board.

11 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

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To consider the minutes of the previous meeting held on 19 July 2022

12 CHAIR'S COMMUNICATIONS

GREATER BRIGHTON ECONOMIC BOARD

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For further details and general enquiries about this meeting contact John Peel (01273 291058, email john.peel@brighton-hove.gov.uk) or email democratic.services@brighton-hove.gov.uk

Date of Publication - Monday, 10 October 2022

The Date of the next meeting is 7 February 2023

GREATER BRIGHTON ECONOMIC BOARD

10.00am 19 JULY 2022

HYBRID MEETING (ZOOM) & COUNCIL CHAMBER, HOVE TOWN HALL

MINUTES

Present: Councillor Mac Cafferty (Chair) Appich, Ash-Edwards, Gunner, Cooper, Jones, Nicholson and Parkin

Business Partners: Sue Baxter, Andrew Green, Prof Humphris, Dean Orgill, Andrew Swayne

PART ONE

1 RATIFICATION OF CHAIR

1.1 Geoff Raw read the following statement:

“At its meeting on 26 April 2022, the Board agreed to a number of recommendations as to its Operating Principles, one being the process by which the Chair of the Board would be nominated for the 2022/23 term. Since the previous meeting, a confidential nomination and voting process was undertaken in accordance with that agreement Councillor Mac Cafferty was nominated by fellow Board Members to the role of Chair of the Board for the 2022/23 municipal year”.

1.2 The Board unanimously agreed to appoint Councillor Mac Cafferty as Chair of the Board for the 2022/23 municipal year.

2 PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

2a Declarations of substitutes

2.1 Prof. Baxter was present as substitute for David Maguire.

2b Declarations of interests

2.2 There were none.

2c Exclusion of the press and public

2.3 In accordance with Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 (“the Act”), the Board considered whether the public should be excluded from the meeting during consideration of any item of business on the grounds that it is likely in view of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the public

were present during it, there would be disclosure to them of confidential information as defined in Section 100A (3) of the Act.

2.4 **Resolved-** That the press and public not be excluded.

3 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

3.1 **Resolved-** That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 26th April 2022 be approved as the correct record.

4 CHAIR'S COMMUNICATIONS

4.1 The Chair provided the following communications:

Transition to net zero work

- The Board already making great progress on building resilience, sustainability and carbon reduction - energy and water plans, GB 10 pledges agreed in 2020.
- The next priority is to develop the Blue/Green Investment Plan, which would include a co-ordinated pipeline of investment projects that support transitioning the city region to a net zero economy. It would form the strategic narrative and each of the projects in the pipeline would have an outline business case in readiness to pitch for investment. It would also act as our pitch to central government.
- We will provide strong support the work of Hydrogen Sussex, which continues to raise the profile of our City region and wider Sussex area.
- We have also started work on looking at food across the City Region. The results of a food scoping exercise will be presented today and I hope this will lead to the development of a regional food strategy as we look to ensure the supply of food for our residents is secure, sustainable and affordable.
- The cost-of-living crisis that the country is grappling with has made the affordability element even more of a priority. It has become urgent and we must act now. Not only with regards food, but with our wider net zero plans, as delivering on our energy and water plans will also make energy and water more affordable for our residents.

Levelling-Up

- Government has set out its ambitions to level-up the regional disparities across the UK. Officers across the City Region have been working hard to develop Investment Plans for the UK Shared Prosperity Fund and these will be submitted to Government in the coming weeks.
- Once submitted we will explore the shared priorities across the Plans and look to collaborate across local authorities when deploying interventions beyond boundaries would result in improved outcomes.
- Some of our Local Authorities have also been preparing bids for Round 2 of the Levelling-up Fund. These innovative bids propose interventions that will level-up within local authority areas, and they have my full support.
- Devolving powers and resources away from central government is a key theme within the levelling up agenda.
- Since achieving the City Deal in 2014, Greater Brighton partners have really seized the opportunity to show leadership and a collaborative approach to tackling the key

challenges facing the city region, some of which I have already mentioned. We have shown we can deliver and will continue to do so.

- Government sees transitioning to a low carbon as a key driver in levelling-up the UK, and the work we are doing on our own journey to net zero places us very much on the front-foot. By working with Greater Brighton, Government can start to realise its ambitions and deliver on its promises, and we will present a strong case for investment in our region.
- Under the levelling up agenda there may be an opportunity to seek extended devolution powers for the city region. Discussions with partners will need to follow.

Creative Industries

- The creative industries sector is crucial to the success of our city region economy. Like transitioning to a low carbon economy, the creative industries have been identified by Government as having a significant role to play in the levelling up agenda.
- Our sector strengths put us in a strong position, but the sector needs support to identify opportunities for the entire city region and for it to achieve its true potential.
- To that end, in April this Board agrees to support development of a Creative Industries Strategy for 2022-25. Against the dual backdrop of Government starting to roll out its levelling up plans, and the cost-of-living crisis, it's essential that we move ahead at pace with this work.

New Website

- The new website is now live and contains all our new design language.
- The work on both is a collaboration between the Communication Team, GBEB Business Managers and two creative companies based within the City Region.
- The new look branding and website are refreshing and re-energising. I think they can help us reset Greater Brighton as we embark on a new period focusing on the transition to net zero work, supporting our creative industries and renewing our inward investment efforts.
- The new Greater Brighton brand is beautifully simple but is also full of activity. Is meant to crackle with purpose, and says we are serious about our work but playful and dynamic. By emphasising the ON of Greater Brighton it says simply that we are 'on it', ready to move quickly to respond to the challenges of the day and, importantly, ready to meet the requirements of those who would come to invest time, money and lives here.
- Inward investment with both brand and website is a key part of our function and no serious organisation can do this without the right branding. It is not just a nice add-on - it is central to what we do and who we are.

C2C

- Coast to Capital took a pause from Board membership earlier this year, but I am pleased to report that our LEP colleagues are keen to once again play an integral role in this Board, and we very much look forward to welcoming them back at our next meeting in October.

5 LEVELLING UP AGENDA

5.1 The Board considered a report of the Chair, Greater Brighton Officer Programme Board that provided an update on the Levelling Up agenda and requested approval for a series of next steps.

5.2 In response to a question from Andrew Swayne, Max Woodford clarified that the process of sharing prosperity plans would demonstrate any gaps in funding, but it was also the case that the overall funding was limited compared to the ESF programme.

5.3 Resolved-

1) That the Board endorses all Levelling Up Fund Round 2 bids submitted by Greater Brighton authorities (appendices 1 & 2) and agrees that the Chair of the Board should write a letter of support in relation to each bid.

2) That the Board notes that the bids outlined in appendices 1 & 2 have the potential to create a new pipeline of Board-backed projects for the city region.

3) That the Board agrees that members should be encouraged to work together on the delivery of UKSPF interventions where such interventions will be more effective on a geographic scale which is wider than an individual local authority's area.

4) That that Board agrees its local authority members to reflect 2.s in all UKSPF Investment Plans they submit.

5) That the Board agrees officers should continue to consider opportunities for the Greater Brighton functional economic area arising out of the Levelling Up White Paper

6 TRANSITION TO NET ZERO ACTION PLAN

6.1 The Board considered a report of the Chair, Greater Brighton Officer Programme Board that sought to bring together those workstreams to articulate a single action plan on Climate Change, Sustainability and Resilience and make recommendations to progress that going forward.

6.2 Board Members commended the report and expressed a desire to build in measurement tools to evidence impact. It was suggested that the Infrastructure Panel could review individual workstreams to consider whether they could be accelerated.

6.3 Resolved-

1) That the Board agree to bring all of the workstreams referred to in paragraphs 1.1 and 1.2 above into a Transition to Net Zero Action Plan.

2) The Board agrees that new workstreams that relate to the environment, climate change, sustainability and resilience should be added to the Transition to Net Zero Action Plan.

3) That the Board agrees that regular progress updates will come back to the Board on all elements within the Action Plan.

7 RETROFIT TASKFORCE

- 7.1 The Board considered a presentation from Ian Fitzpatrick on the work and findings of the Retrofit Taskforce.
- 7.2 In response to a question from Geoff Raw, Ian Fitzpatrick explained that the work of the Taskforce had enabled options on short-term spend where expenditure would make significant difference as well as areas for medium to long term expenditure.
- 7.3 In response to a query from Councillor Mac Cafferty, Ian Fitzpatrick clarified that a presentation had been given by officers at a Local Government Association fringe event and that had received a very positive response from Local Authority's.
- 7.4 In reply to a question from Councillor Appich, Ian Fitzpatrick explained that more work needed to be undertaken about retrofitting leaseholder properties, namely how that would be financed and encouraged.

8 GREATER BRIGHTON FOOD SCOPING

5.1 The Board considered a report of the Chair, Greater Brighton Officer Programme Board that presented findings from a scoping existing policy and partnerships in the Greater Brighton city region. The scoping findings offered the basis of a future Greater Brighton Food Plan, a clear approach to collaborative work and a pathway to implement Government Food Strategy.

5.2 Resolved-

- 1) That the Board agrees to the next phase of work which includes:
- Identification of a mechanism to co-ordinate action and feed progress into the GB10 pledges
 - Advice on alignment of policies, metrics and action focused on food system transformation by LA areas
 - Budget allocation to create investment plans for infrastructure, business support and training (£15,000 allocation from GBEB). This would cover specialist support to properly cost and develop investment plans for the city region food system
 - A call to business, education and food partnerships to support food system transformation
 - Seeking partner updates on how food system innovations are being embedded into practice

9 GREATER BRIGHTON INVESTMENT PROGRAMME UPDATE

Resolved- That the Board note the report and the Investment Programme Update at Appendix 1.

The meeting concluded at 11.55am

Subject: Economic Outlook for Greater Brighton

Date of meeting: 18th October 2022

Report of: Chair, Greater Brighton Programme Board

**Contact Officer: Name: Andrew Hill
Email: Andy.Hill@brighton-hove.gov.uk**

LA(s) affected: All

For general release

1. Purpose of the report and policy context

- 1.1 Over the last six months a cost-of-living crisis has started to grip the UK, affecting both households and businesses. The rising costs of energy, fuel food, and raw materials are the major inflationary pressures.
- 1.2 The Government announced a package of energy market interventions to help alleviate the financial strain caused by rocketing bills. But there are concerns that the plight of small businesses are not being fully addressed by current support packages.
- 1.3 In addition, at the end of September the new Government unveiled Growth Plan 2022 which contained a series of tax-cuts, ranging from income tax to stamp duty. Market reaction to the mini-budget led to the value of Sterling dropping to an all-time low against the Dollar, putting upward pressure on interest rates, including mortgage rates. Many economists believe inflation will rise to yet higher levels in the coming months.
- 1.4 The Institute of Employment Studies (IES) have been commissioned to conduct a research study into the impact of the economic turbulence in Greater Brighton. The research will primarily focus on the impacts on businesses associated with rising costs, increasing interest rates and ongoing uncertainty. These impacts will be documented in a forthcoming report which will also contain some key recommendations.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Board acknowledges the need for a deep-dive into the Greater Brighton economy, so as to understand the sectors and geographic areas that are likely to be most impacted.
- 2.2 That the Board agrees that due to the pressing need to act, the report will be circulated when ready even if this is outside of the usual Board cycle.

- 2.3 That the Board supports the #BusinessSOS campaign submitted by the 300 BIDS asking Government for an urgent package of support for businesses.

3. Context and background information

- 3.1 In August, the UK inflation rate was at 9.9%, slightly down from the 40-year high (10.1%) witnessed in July, but still well above the average experienced since the 1980s. The surge in the costs of energy and fuel in the late spring and early summer are a major driver of this.
- 3.2 When the energy price cap was initially raised in April, average domestic gas and electricity prices jumped by 54% and 96% respectively compared with April 2021. The energy price cap was due to increase by a further 80% in October 2022, meaning a typical household energy bill would rise to over £3,500 (from around £1,400 in October 2021).
- 3.3 The Government have introduced a range of support measures, the chief one being capping *typical* household bills to £2,500 from 1 October. This is still an increase of around £500 from the last price cap raise in April, but over £1,000 below what it would be without intervention. The “energy price guarantee” will last for two years. All households will also receive a one-off £400 fuel discount this autumn, with 8 million low-income households due to receive a further £650 of support, £326 of which was paid out in July and the other £324 to follow in October.
- 3.4 Businesses are not protected by the energy price cap in the same way that households are, so are therefore more exposed to changes in the wholesale price of energy. Recent estimates suggest that many businesses were facing up to a 300% increase in energy bills this year.
- 3.5 There has been growing concern for the impact on businesses, particularly small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs). The Greater Brighton Business Survey (2018) found that 85% of businesses in the City Region were classed as micro, having 10 or fewer employees. Only around 7% of Greater Brighton businesses employ more than 25 people. SMEs are the lifeblood of the Greater Brighton economy, and collectively employ a substantial number of people from across the City Region and beyond. Unlike large businesses, there are limitations on the financial shocks they can absorb. There is a serious risk of widespread business failure, and business failure leads to job losses. Government support is clearly needed.
- 3.6 In mid-September the Government announced details of the Energy Bill Relief Scheme to support businesses. The scheme will fix wholesale energy prices for six months from 1 October to shield businesses from the exponential rise in costs. It’s estimated that this intervention will cut energy bills by around half their expected level. A review will be published at the end of 2022 which will identify the most vulnerable organisations that will need support beyond March 2023.

- 3.7 Analysts suggest that the combined cost of the support packages for households and businesses could be up to £150bn, and details of further support for hospitals, schools and charities are soon to be announced.
- 3.8 Government intervention will help protect businesses and households but will not address the underlying problem which is that the wholesale price of oil and gas remain at an elevated level. In May 2021, the average price of a litre of petrol was 130.5p, but in June 2022 this had risen to 186.6p per litre. Prices have slackened a little, but the cost of petrol and diesel are still well above their 2021 levels.
- 3.9 Additional inflationary pressures stem from the rising prices of food, particularly, cereals, bread and meat. The cost of raw materials has also increased, impacting the price of furniture and other household items.
- 3.10 Much of these price rises are caused by the conflict in Ukraine, so much so that in September, the Governor of the Bank of England stated that “the Russia shock is now the largest contributor to UK inflation.” The war in Ukraine has driven up the cost of crude oil and has resulted in in disruption to food (particularly grain) production and distribution through supply-chains, which has driven up prices. An end to the conflict does not appear near on the horizon, so pressure on prices looks set to continue.
- 3.11 To curb the rising costs the Bank of England increased interest rates to 1.75% in August and followed this up with a further increase to 2.25% in September. Whilst these rates are still historically low, this is the highest rate since 2008, meaning the cost of borrowing, at a time when household and business finances are already squeezed, is at a 14-year high.
- 3.12 On 23 September the Government delivered a mini-budget (Growth Plan 2022) with the aim of stimulating economic growth. Many of the measures did not come as a surprise as they had been floated previously and ranged from reversing the planned 1.25% NI rise due in November, scrapping the 45% tax band (a decision which was reversed on 3 October), cutting the basic rate from 20% to 19% and overhauling the rates at which home buyers pay stamp duty. Concerns among investors around how this £45bn package of cuts would be funded sent the value of Sterling down to \$1.03 on 26 September, a record low, before recovering in the days after following intervention by the Bank of England. The falling value of the Pound is likely to push inflation higher, meaning that future interest rate rises look inevitable.
- 3.13 In terms of managing the threats associated with the cost-of-living crisis, Greater Brighton partners have been doing what they can to provide support, primarily to residents. This includes;
- Lewes DC committing £750,000 to support those on low incomes, with £150,000 ring-fenced for council tenants. The £750,000 includes £50,000 of support for the food bank and the creation of a dedicated

officer post to co-ordinate delivery of this funding and the £220,000 from the East Sussex CC Household Support Fund (HSF).

- Worthing Borough Council declared a cost-of-living emergency in July. Since then the Council has been working on an urgent action plan on how to work with health and education experts and the community to support the estimated 12,000 people in the borough who cannot afford to feed themselves and their families.
- Crawley Borough Council have been running a pilot to better support residents with complex needs who are in financial crisis. Early work is being undertaken to understand how the authority can identify residents most at risk and target support before crisis hits, but this is in its early stages. More widely the Council has brought together a wide range of support, advice and guidance into a self-help page that is being widely advertised and this will be augmented over time.
- Brighton & Hove City Council's response was underpinned by financial support of £2.571m including allocations of £2.140m from tranche two of the Household Support Fund (HSF) together with additional one-off resources of £0.431m provided by the Council. With support from partners, the Council's website has been updated with advice on available energy support and provides a link to the Local Energy Advice Partnership (LEAP) who can provide support and advice on energy saving measures as well as information on the full range of government discounts and grants available. Alongside this, the Council continues to develop the 'Brighton & Hove Warmer Homes' programme. The programme which is due to be launched in Spring 2023 has a capital allocation of £7.2m to support energy efficiency improvements for eligible owner occupiers and households in the private rented sector.
- Mid Sussex District Council is targeting its existing support services to those more impacted by the cost-of-living crisis, including considering how it can enhance support through its partnership working and will produce a winter support guide identifying all the available support. The Council will continue to use its Community Grant Scheme and the UK shared prosperity funding, to fund community and voluntary groups to deliver activities to support communities.

Greater Brighton Study

- 3.14 Whilst the Greater Brighton Local Authorities and other partners have been doing what they can, resources are very limited, and have therefore been targeted at households and residents most at risk. Due to the complexity and costs of providing direct support to businesses, Greater Brighton partners have been lobbying government for much needed business support. The Brighton Business Improvement District (BID) along with around 300 other BIDs from across the UK, have been lobbying government for a number of interventions in their #BusinessSOS campaign. These include reducing VAT to 12.5% (from 20%) and business energy bills from 20% to 5% to match domestic billing, 100% Business Rate relief until March 2023 and Energy Rate relief.

3.15 At a recent session held for Board Members to discuss the Board's priorities going forwards, it was agreed that the cost-of-living crisis was the number one urgent priority. So far there has not been an attempt to co-ordinate a response or interventions across the Greater Brighton geography. There is a real need to understand, using a mix of quantitative and anecdotal data, the likely impact of the economic challenges on our businesses particularly drawing out the sectors and geographic areas that are set to be hit hardest. With robust data in place it will be possible to understand what can be done at a Greater Brighton level that will make the most impact.

3.16 To that end, the Institute of Employment Studies has been commissioned to perform this study and the work will contain the five main elements below;

- Scoping/discussions with leads in each of the councils to understand the approach they are taking now, what analysis they have done, what they plan to do, key gaps.
- Discussions with the business community to explore current and future concerns and challenges.
- Data analysis on Universal Credit/benefits receipt by areas – looking at levels and changes by area (local authority and lower level); comparisons within region and with other areas.
- Desk research on latest (national) analysis of impacts of cost-of-living crisis on different demographic groups, sectors, occupations.
- Detailed analysis to local authority level of places most/ least at risk based on their demographics, sectors, occupations.

3.17 The expectation is that most of the work will be performed during November. This Board is not due to meet again until February so given how serious this situation is, it may be sensible to circulate the information and look at what the Board can do collectively once the findings are ready (recommendation 2.3), otherwise there will be a lag of more than two months between completion of the work and the Board meeting.

4. Analysis and consideration of alternative options

4.1 Paragraphs 3.14-3.15 outline the rationale for the Board to understand the economic impact of the economic turmoil on the City Region. Only by understanding the potential impacts will the Board be able to make informed decisions around what interventions may be possible. To gain reliable information requires the expertise and experience of an external partner.

4.2 The alternative would be to try and pull together data using existing resources. Limited capacity, analytical skills and access to data sources would mean that reliable data would need to be high-level. Drilling down into detail would probably require making some leaps in the data, which will then not provide a robust enough foundation on which to make sound decisions and recommendations.

5. Community engagement and consultation

- 5.1 As outlined in 3.16 above, the methodology employed by IES will involve engaging with local authorities, other partners and businesses to understand what work is already being done and assess where the current gaps may be.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 The current cost-of-living crisis is the most severe witnessed in the UK in the last 40 years. The Government have introduced a range of measures to try and help households and businesses, but with much of the inflationary pressures fueled by the conflict in Ukraine, which does not seem like being resolved any time soon, there does not seem to be a clear break point. There is also concern that Government support for businesses, SMEs in particular, does not address all of the challenges businesses will face over the coming months.
- 6.2 Whilst there is some national data to draw upon, there is a need for a study at a Greater Brighton level to draw out the main impacts on the City Region and make some recommendations around the kind of interventions the Board could make.

7. Financial implications

- 7.1 The Government has introduced a number of measures and actions to support households and businesses against the cost-of-living crises, these are detailed in paragraph 3. Greater Brighton partners have been lobbying central government for additional business support particularly for small businesses including energy rate relief Business Rate relief and VAT reductions. Any direct financial outcomes from the Greater Brighton Study to be undertaken by the Institute of Employment Studies will be reported back to this Board as a matter of priority. Furthermore, paragraph 3.13 details the investment support that each Greater Brighton partner has provided to residents to address the cost-of-living crises within the region.

Name of finance officer consulted: Rob Allen, Principal Accountant
Date consulted 06/10/22.

8. Legal implications

- 8.1 There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.

Name of lawyer consulted: Wendy McRae-Smith, Senior Lawyer
Date consulted: 06/10/22.

9. Equalities implications

- 9.1 The impact of the cost-of-living crisis on businesses and individuals will directly entrench existing inequalities. The study will look to identify which individuals, sectors and geographic areas are potentially most at risk from

current economic conditions. Any recommendations and actions taken by the Board will need to consider the equalities implications.

10. Sustainability implications

- 10.1 None directly arising from this report. Any interventions or actions taken by the Board as a result of the study will need to take into account the relevant sustainability implications.

Supporting Documentation

Appendices

1. None.

GREATER BRIGHTON ECONOMIC BOARD

Agenda Item 14

Subject: Greater Brighton Retrofit Task Force – Emerging Conclusions & Recommendations

Date of meeting: 18th October 2022

Report of: Chair, Greater Brighton Officer Programme Board

Contact Officer: Name: Nick Adlam
Tel: 07841 397 004
Email: nick.adlam@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk

LA(s) affected: All

For general release

1. Purpose of the report and policy context

1.1 Further to the previous reports for the July 2012 and July 2022 meetings, this report is providing the Greater Brighton Economic Board (“the Board”) with a further update and making recommendations to enable City Region housing to reach zero-carbon by 2030.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That the Board notes the research has proven the original concept that Council budgets taken together with Government and Supply Chain collaboration is the optimal way to deliver a medium to long term plan for zero carbon council homes, and that there is a tradeoff between carbon, capital spend, and cost to occupier.

2.2 That the Board given the context of the cost-of-living crisis agrees that a programme to target fuel costs at the same time as developing the supply chain forms the early part of a programme roll out.

2.3 To Board agrees to further develop the zero-carbon business case with a view to submit a joint proposal to Government/BEIS to trial an approach in the Sussex area.

2.4 That the Board agrees with the aim to submit a joint bid for grants to trial the collaborative working of the Board. This will lay the foundation and provide the potential for rapid future expansion. The bid will be an aggregated pipeline with individual authority control.

2.5 That the Board agrees to explore the best procurement option for delivering the zero-carbon works, and notes that Clear Futures (a joint venture between Lewes and Eastbourne Councils, AECOM and Robertson Construction) could be one such option to consider.

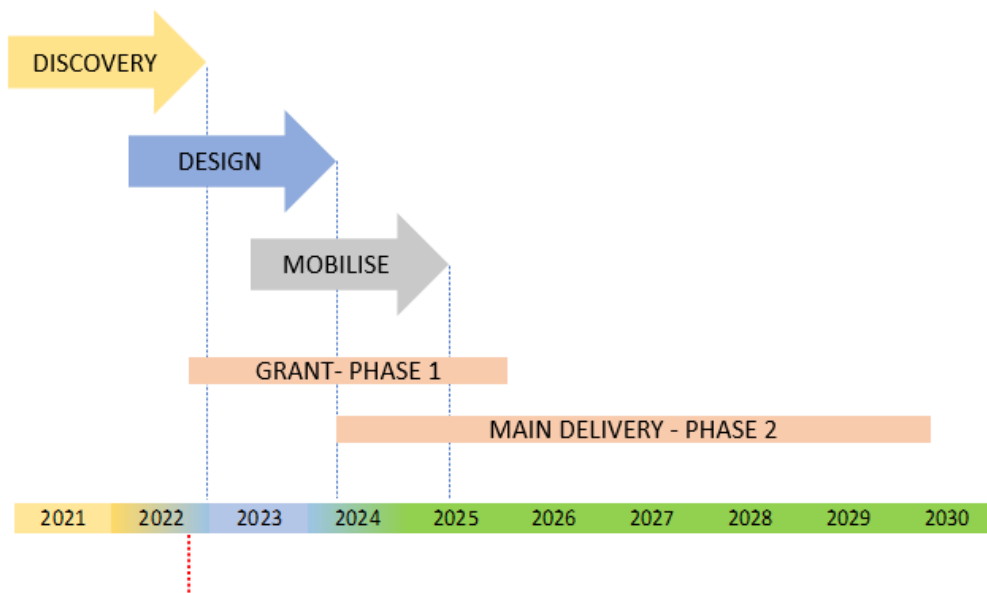
3. Context and background information

- 3.1 The Board agreed in July 2021 to establish a Retrofit Taskforce to meet the challenge of making all City Region Council homes zero-carbon by 2030. This work was coordinated by Lewes District Council. The Taskforce was set up in September 2021, and it included specialists from the University of Brighton and external organisations such as AECOM, Robertson Construction, Gleeds, Value Optimised Retrofit (VOR), Elementa, Parity and IOPT devices.
- 3.2 The Taskforce didn't just look at how it could carry out a deep retrofit of all Greater Brighton Council homes; it was assessing what the optimum pathways could be to meet a range of key policy drivers such as the ability to actually install measures by 2030, not exceeding the available capital in HRA business accounts and mirroring what might be achievable in the private sector. A full list of these policy drivers is listed in Appendix 1.
- 3.3 The main work of the task force was concluded in June 2022, with the subsequent months spent peer reviewing the findings. It has also taken on board the recent inflationary cost issues and economic challenges.
- 3.4 Key conclusions of the Taskforce work are that:
- a. It proves the original concept that Council budgets with Government and Supply Chain collaboration is the optimal way to deliver a medium to long term plan for zero-carbon council homes.
 - b. Costs of deep retrofit have steadily risen over the last 12 months, leaving a funding gap to what is available in the HRA 30-year plan.
 - c. Even if budgets were not an issue, the supply chain will struggle to deliver a full deep retrofit for all City Region homes by 2030. This could improve if we gave certainty with a 5–10-year programme of works, but not guaranteed.
 - d. The longer-term programme gives certainty to skills colleges and apprenticeship places
 - e. A light inspection process with simple fabric targets could deliver the same outcome, be more efficient and save money i.e. just aim for windows with a U value of 1.1 as there is no need for additional energy assessments to confirm this.
 - f. Improving windows, doors, roofs and cavity walls to the best standard (e.g. triple glazing windows with U value 1.1) will still deliver carbon savings and could be more deliverable within the existing HRA budgets.
 - g. Energy tariffs and tenant behaviour can have just as much impact on energy bills.
 - h. Switching away from gas has the biggest carbon impact. Embedded carbon has a relatively small impact.
 - i. Solar PV is a no regret solution as it will in effect lower household energy tariffs, deliver immediate carbon and energy savings, and can be used for power or heat. It is also a mature and cost-effective technology, and has a supply chain that has the best chance of scaling up.
 - j. If green heat can be delivered directly at a low enough price (and this still might not be achievable) then deep retrofits would not be required - even

though deep retrofit is an admirable thing to do. Further work is still required on this.

- k. Interest in hydrogen at a regional and global scale has intensified over the last 18 months. It is still too early to say how much and indeed if hydrogen can assist in heating, but it could be seen as less challenging than deep-retrofitting all 424,000 homes (social and private) in the Greater Brighton region (Census 2021 data).
- l. Overheating (as a result of a warming climate) will be just as important as energy efficiency in the 2030s, so if deep retrofit is not pursued on all properties, the budgets could be spent on climate change adaptation measures instead.

3.5 Although the initial research work of the taskforce has been completed, we are now moving into design phase to support the delivery of zero carbon homes by 2030, summarised by the figure below. This will be updated with other work that is ongoing i.e. the viability of green heat networks.



4. Analysis and consideration of alternative options

4.1 This approach has formed part of the retrofit task force remit, analysing the original concept against the alternative pathways.

5. Community engagement and consultation

5.1 This has not been carried out as this is an emerging policy.

6. Conclusion

6.1 Delivering zero-carbon homes is a complex and challenging problem, made more difficult with the need to deliver them by 2030. This has focused efforts on what is actually going to be achievable in the time we have left and has led to discounting some solutions (for now) which might have worked if there were more time and greater funding i.e. Deep retrofit all properties from year 1.

- 6.2 The proposed recommendations will allow collaborative action to continue and enable the Government to adopt a long term and managed programme of works.
- 6.3 To support this, Lewes District Council with its joint venture partners AECOM and Robertson are working on developing the supply chain to reduce costs, increase capacity, and improve delivery times. This will significantly improve the business case of delivering zero-carbon homes.
- 6.4 Lewes District Council will report back to the Board in April 2023 and in the interim will also provide the Board with a summary report of the Taskforce work.

7. Financial implications

- 7.1 The full scope of the cost to the works has yet to be quantified and will form the basis of the zero-carbon business case. Any future proposals will be submitted to the relevant authorities and it is assumed that the founding principles will continue in that retrofit works use existing Housing Revenue Account (HRA) budgets.
- 7.2 The Board will support the proposal for the submission of joint bid for grants to trial the collaborative working of the Board. This will lay the foundation and provide the potential for rapid future expansion. The bid will be an aggregated pipeline with individual authority control.

Name of finance officer consulted: Rob Allen, Principal Accountant
Date consulted: 07/10/22

8. Legal implications

- 8.1 There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.

Name of lawyer consulted: Wendy McRae-Smith, Senior Lawyer
Date consulted: 06/10/22

9. Equalities implications

- 9.1 For City Region housing to reach zero-carbon by 2030 the benefits will need to be shared across the City Region. Work around decarbonising homes and help to tackle fuel poverty and address inequalities.

10. Sustainability implications

- 10.1 This is a sustainability report, the purpose of which is to help the City Region to move to net-zero by 2030, so no further action required.

11. Other Implications

- 11.1 There will be procurement implications, but these will be resolved between each local authority and won't affect the Board directly i.e if a joint bid for a

Government grant is considered, each authority will need to be satisfied about procurement and project management before it is submitted.

Supporting Documentation

Appendix 1 – Policy Drivers for Zero Carbon

1. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Policy Drivers for Zero Carbon Taskforce

Policy	Why
1. Speed of Delivery	It recognises the need to act urgently. We need to focus on solutions that can be rolled out quickly by the supply chain otherwise we will miss our 2030 target.
2. Scalable	We need solutions that can be standardised, aggregated and repeated across large numbers of properties. We can't afford multiple bespoke solutions, nor fragmented solutions that split investments to transform whole communities, nor solutions that require long and large periods of training and upskilling.
3. Cost (Capex)	We have no new money and need to work within our current asset management budgets, stretching this with grants etc where available.
4. Repairs & Maintenance (R&M)	Any retrofit measures should not increase ongoing repairs and maintenance costs.
5. Fuel poverty	We can't install solutions that will make fuel poverty worse. We actually need to be asking, how can we make energy bills cheaper, which is maximising renewables. It should be noted that during the life of this study this has now become a major issue for a large proportion of the population – social and private housing residents,
6. Whole life carbon	We don't want to make the problem worse by using materials that have a high carbon content or create a lot of waste. Again, it should be noted that this has risen in significance over the lifetime of the study.
7. Private Housing Adoption	Linked to policy 2, scalability, any investment by the social sector should be able to be mirrored by the private housing sector otherwise it will be an isolated solution for a community-wide problem and risks tax-payers money being used inappropriately.
8. Community Wealth	Making sure we use local companies to give resilience and sustainability to the local economy and help them to gear up here needed.
9. Natural Resource Depletion	We have an ecological emergency as well as a climate emergency, so we should be looking to limit the amount of raw material we excavate. We also want to promote biodiversity.
10. Tenant Disruption & Decent Homes	We would want to avoid measures that cause residents to temporarily lose some of their living space or require internal redecorating as this will add to the cost of any intervention (either from reduced rent we can charge or actual costs). They also need to be nice homes to live in.
11. Thermal Comfort	Residents need to have a quality home where they have the ability to feel warm. This will be linked to fuel poverty.
12. High Density Housing	Some buildings simply may not have the space to accommodate certain solutions e.g. thermal buffers.
13. Climate Resilience	Using solutions and materials that will be ready for extreme climate events, in particular overheating during heatwaves.
14. UK Manufacturer and Supply Chain	This has become increasingly important over the lifetime of the project as over relying on imports will affect cost and delivery timescales.
15. Non-building carbon	How can we promote water saving, better air quality, local food growing and active travel, and reduce the impact of fossil fuel-based transport?

Greater Brighton Economic Board

Agenda Item 15

Subject: GB10 Pledges on the Environment Update 2022

Date of meeting: 18th October 2022

Report of: Chair, Greater Brighton Programme Board

Contact Officer: Name: Kirsten Firth
Email: kirsten.firth@brighton-hove.gov.uk

LA(s) affected: All

For general release

1. Purpose of the report and policy context

- 1.1 The Greater Brighton Economic Board ('the Board') oversaw the development of 10 Pledges on the Environment, which all Board members signed up to in October 2020. It was agreed at the October 2020 meeting to report back on progress annually.
- 1.2 An update was presented to the Board in October 2021 and this paper is therefore the second annual update. **Appendix 1** provides more detail on each Pledge, and **Appendices 2 and 3** provide a list of relevant research in the University of Sussex and University of Brighton.
- 1.3 The Pledges form the background to the Board's development of a Blue/Green Investment Plan. They contribute to demonstrating that the Greater Brighton area can be an exemplar to government about how to decarbonise a small city, rural communities, and coastal areas.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Board notes the progress demonstrated on the 10 Pledges on the Environment since October 2021.
- 2.2 That the Board supports the actions needed to take the Pledges forward in the next year to October 2023.
- 2.3 That the Board agrees that the GB10 pledges work and monitoring progress should be included in the Transition to Net Zero Action plan (agreed at the July 2022 meeting).

3. Context and background information

- 3.1 The Greater Brighton Economic Board oversaw development of the [GB10 Pledges on the environment](#) that sit above the Greater Brighton Energy and Water plans previously adopted in 2019. These 10 environmental pledges are

approved actions agreed and ratified by the Board in October 2020. The Pledges are a promotional tool which is used to push forward the city region's work towards a post carbon economy through a variety of channels. When they were agreed in 2020, the Board asked to be updated on their progress annually, and this update follows the first in October 2021.

- 3.2 At the October 2021 Board Meeting, some of the key successes that were highlighted relating to progress on the GB10 included;
- Sussex Kelp Restoration Project and development of the Sussex Bay initiative to restore nature and enhance the potential of marine and coastal environments to deliver carbon sequestration, biodiversity and other public benefits.
 - Joint working on high-profile infrastructure including Hydrogen Sussex and the Housing Retrofit Task Force.
 - Members in an improved position to bid for national funding on public sector decarbonisation.
 - Delivery of the first school raingarden at Moulsecoomb Primary school through The Aquifer Partnership's 'Rainscape Campaign'.
 - South Downs National Park Authority launching 'ReNature' nature recovery campaign.
 - Adaptive work by water companies to deliver water efficiency messages during Covid when home visits were not possible.
- 3.3 Over the last 12 months, the need to tackle climate change by moving towards net zero has become even more urgent. The record-breaking temperatures and other extreme weather conditions experienced in the UK and Europe during the summer, provide a stark reminder of the need to transition to net zero in the fastest time possible. In addition, the spiralling costs of many commodities, particularly energy, fuel and food, have been driving the highest inflation rates witnessed in a generation. Interest rate rises and economic uncertainty have followed, and a cost-of-living crisis is taking hold.
- 3.4 The incoming Chair for 2022/23 has put transitioning to net zero front and centre of the Board's ambitions. A recent session for Board Members to review current and future priorities reinforced this ambition as a key priority for the Board. There is a desire and need to move ahead at pace.
- 3.5 The Greater Brighton Energy Plan identifies proposals to accelerate the delivery of energy projects that will boost resilience and security and at the same time help reduce carbon emissions to zero. This makes the important work of the Energy Plan even more crucial than ever as many of the interventions will also help tackle the burden of rising prices. For example, retrofitting will help decarbonise homes by reducing energy usage, but that will also drive down energy bills.
- 3.6 The Water Plan builds on work around the water environment that is already in progress across a number of organisations to set out opportunities to address ongoing challenges in new, innovative ways, yielding much increased benefits

for the local area, compared to current, 'conventional' approaches. The intention is to move new building development towards 'water neutrality', which is particularly crucial in Crawley given the constraints around water.

3.7 During 2021/22 the Board's commitment to transitioning to a net zero carbon region has helped to drive solid progress on:

- Significant increase in partnership working on green spaces projects and strategic preparation for local leadership on Nature Recovery Networks
- Homes Retrofit Task Force engagement with local authorities and supply chain to develop analysis of social housing stock types, impact and cost of decarbonisation measures.
- Rapid progress on installing electric vehicle charge points and fleet decarbonisation in all areas.
- Securing funding for the Waterhall wilding project.

3.8 The above shows the great progress being made by Greater Brighton local authorities and other partners, but it is important that the Board follows up on previous commitments to transition to a low carbon economy. Substantive next steps are being progressed including:

- **Homes Retrofit Task Force** – social housing providers working together to develop archetypes, aggregate and drive forward efficiencies in improving social housing energy efficiency
- **Sussex Kelp Restoration Project** – focus on science and evidence for benefits for carbon and biodiversity.
- **Hydrogen Sussex** – developing a Hydrogen strategy for Greater Brighton and the wider Sussex area to promote and support a hydrogen economy (by February 2023).
- **Net Zero Fleets** – reviewing what can be done together to accelerate the switch from diesel/petrol vehicles to alternative fuels.
- **Local Nature Recovery Strategies** – champion the creation and delivery of the new Local Nature Recovery Strategies for Sussex through the delivery of robust local plan policies that support nature recovery
- **Food** – taking forward the regional food strategy to ensure the supply of food is secure, sustainable and affordable
- **Lobbying** Greater Brighton lobbying to enable and facilitate the environmental pledges:
 - Have written to last two Secretaries of State for Levelling-up, Housing and Local Communities articulating GBEB aspirations and action on the ground, particularly around net zero.
 - Engage with local MPs, specifically on the emerging Hydrogen Strategy to promote the city region as a hydrogen hub.

3.9 The GB10 Pledges have been a very helpful communications tool, as they are easy to understand and progress/successes relating to each pledge can be readily transmitted to a wide audience. This will continue to be the case. However, the increased urgency and need to move ahead at pace, as outlined

in 3.3-3.4, require a more robust method of monitoring progress towards achieving net zero. There is a need to set clear targets/outcomes, milestones and timescales and to monitor progress against agreed parameters. Recommendation 2.3 proposes that this should fall under the Transition to Net Zero Action Plan, which is still under development having been agreed at the July Board meeting.

4. Analysis and consideration of alternative options

- 4.1 The 10 Pledges have formed an excellent platform for joint work between Greater Brighton members. The next steps highlighted in paragraph 3.8 outline a range of practical actions that Board members individually and together are going to be taking forward over the next 12 months.

5. Community engagement and consultation

- 5.1 Where community engagement and consultation is required for individual projects, this is being done by project owners.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 The 10 Pledges on the Environment have supported Board members in carrying forward their own actions and targets on climate change. Progress also demonstrates that Greater Brighton is developing leadership and capacity on a range of climate actions.

7. Financial implications

- 7.1 There are no direct financial implications resulting from this report. Members of the Board are carrying forward their own actions and targets on climate change. Progress also demonstrates that Greater Brighton is developing leadership and capacity on a range of climate actions. The Board will continue to explore funding options to support the 10 Pledges on the Environment in particular opportunities for support through the national funding on public sector decarbonisation.

Name of finance officer consulted: Rob Allen, Principal Accountant
Date consulted 06/10/22:

8. Legal implications

- 8.1 There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.

Name of lawyer consulted: Wendy McRae-Smith
Date consulted: 06/10/22

9. Equalities implications

- 9.1 The projects that will deliver on the commitment of the GB10 pledges will ensure the benefits are shared across the City Region. In addition, one of the ongoing aims of the work is to address inequalities by looking at how, for example, access to energy and water can be made affordable for all Greater Brighton residents. Work around decarbonising homes and building resilience in energy supply will help to tackle fuel poverty.

10. Sustainability implications

- 10.1 The driving force behind the GB10 pledges is to help Greater Brighton to transition towards net zero. The various projects that underpin the GB10 will help to protect the environment, enhance natural capital, limit the effects of climate change, and build resilience in key infrastructure and the supply of energy and food.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. 10 Pledges on the Environment – Update October 2022
2. Developing new solutions for tackling climate change: some examples from University of Sussex
3. Key projects from University of Brighton aligning with GB pledges

APPENDIX 1 - 10 Pledges on the Environment – Update October 2022

1. **Kelp:** backing a scheme to introduce a carbon capturing kelp forest off the Sussex coast

Key achievements	<p>Sussex Kelp Recovery Project champions first year of ecological research and benchmarking in line with the UN decade for Ecosystem restoration timeline and IUCN standards.</p> <p>Sussex Kelp recovery stays high on local and national agenda – presenting at COP26.</p> <p>Anecdotal changes taking place on the Sussex seabed showing that ecological succession is starting to take place.</p> <p>Sussex Bay Project moving at pace with a focus on mechanisms for delivering blended finance into the Sussex marine recovery sector.</p> <p>Sussex marine recovery stakeholders engaged with developing clearer plans on how everyone works together going forward.</p>
Next steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Board to note the natural recovery process of the Sussex Kelp, and to note that we are still early in the journey. ➤ Sussex and national organisations and individuals working together to shared ambition of ecosystem recovery.

2. **Water Recycling:** partnering projects to introduce recycled water into new homes

Key Achievements	<p>The draft South-East Water Resources Management Plan (WRMP), as well as South East Water and Southern Water WRMPs should be published in November and are expected to feature the Peacehaven water recycling scheme in some future scenarios, but currently no earlier than the 2060s.</p> <p>Most of Crawley and small sections of Mid Sussex and Adur are affected by new water neutrality obligations linked to the wider impact of water abstraction on sites protected for their nature conservation interests in the Arun Valley. Any new development applying for Planning Permission is required to demonstrate the site is Water Neutral by reducing consumption, reusing water (e.g. rainwater harvesting or greywater recycling), then offsetting the remaining balance of additional demand (e.g. retrofitting water efficient technologies or reuse options in existing properties).</p>
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UoS	The Jubilee building has rainwater harvesting, and grey water recycling equipment has been installed in the East Slope halls of residence development, with a target of 30% of used water from showers being redirected to toilet flush systems. The grey water is currently being supplied to 1,434 student bedrooms.
Southern Water	Outside of the areas affected by water neutrality, a slightly more flexible approach to water neutral development can be taken (see the Waterwise guidance). LPAs can achieve this by strengthening planning policy, or through direct engagement with developers working in partnership with Southern Water as part of the T100 programme. This would potentially be able to move forward more rapidly with initiatives and may be able to make use of the proposed Developer Incentives which Southern Water will be consulting on shortly.

3. Zero Emission Fleets: committing to phasing out diesel cars, refuse trucks, vans

Arun DC	Arun District Council is working to transition its vehicle fleet to electric vehicles. ADC currently has a fleet of 16 vehicles. 14 are expected to be replaced by full electric vehicles over the next twelve months, whilst two will remain diesel fuelled. As technology evolves and suitable vehicles become available the remaining diesel vehicles will be replaced by fully electric ones.
Adur & Worthing Councils	AWC are purchasing its first all-electric waste disposal trucks with five 3.5-tonne vehicles recently ordered. A wider fleet decarbonisation strategy is due to be commissioned.
BHCC	<p>BHCC has over 500 cars and vans, and 56 trucks/HGVs – a mix of leased and owned vehicles. In March 2022, work commenced to increase the electrical power intake to the fleet depot and a new electricity sub-station was installed to accommodate extra charging points for the fleet. The depot will have one rapid charger, 11 HGV charging points and 24 small vehicle charging points. Currently 9% of the vehicles are electric and 32% hybrid. The council has two EV HGV's ready for delivery and five on order for delivery over the next 18 months.</p> <p>The Fleet team have pushed manufacturers into bringing innovations into EV trucks in production, such as side loading and top loading RCVs. The first truck was converted from our existing fleet of diesel to electric this year. Eleven new EV vans will replace existing diesel and six new EV cars are due to arrive in the next two months.</p>
Crawley BC	A Fleet Replacement Strategy is being developed to transition to low carbon or active transport options for the complete fleet by 2030.

Lewes-Eastbourne	Pathway to 2030 prepared and agreed by Cabinet June 2022- Dedicated EV food waste fleet being procured for 2023 with street cleansing to follow in 25/26. Renewable diesel being purchased from April 2023 (up to 90% emission saving at tailpipe)
Mid Sussex	Provided electric vehicle charging points at Council offices and electric bikes for staff. Upgrading the parking enforcement fleet with electric vehicles.
UoS	The University's Sustainability Strategy contains a commitment to "make all of the University's vehicle fleet ultra-low emissions by 2025 by only procuring and leasing new vehicles that are ULEVs"
Southern Water	Net Zero Plan pledges to transform company vehicles by electrifying the fleet or introducing alternative low carbon fuels by 2030.

4. EV Charging Points: supporting a huge increase in electric vehicle charging points.

WSSCC, Districts & Boroughs	West Sussex County Council and 6 District and Borough Councils, in August 2021 awarded a contract with a company to install, operate and maintain a West Sussex county-wide EV Charge Point network. Charge points have now started to be installed on streets and council car parks in all areas of West Sussex, including Arun, Adur, Crawley, Mid Sussex, and Worthing.
Arun	ADC is part of the west Sussex Chargepoint network. Between October & December 2022 42-50 should be installed within ADC owned car parks in LA, BR & Arundel. From November 22 – March 23 there should be 30 on-street EVCPs installed, subject to West Sussex Highways approval. Funding application is underway for EP Village Green & Aldingbourne Community Centre sites (6 plugs on each site). Site selection will start for phase 2 on council owned car parks shortly.

BHCC	<p>Over 300 public electric vehicle charge points have been installed throughout Brighton and Hove. These include lamppost, fast and rapid chargers so that every resident in the region is within a convenient distance from an energy source for their electric vehicle by 2030.</p> <p>BHCC also has a rolling programme to convert bays for the use of electric vehicle charging only, to improve access. This network is essential in giving residents confidence that support is in place to power low-carbon vehicles.</p> <p>The council is working through the planning process to ensure all new homes have access to EV charge points and on-street EV charging is rolled out along key transport corridors and residential areas with no off-street parking.</p> <p>The Council is also working to identify land suitable for a rapid charging station close to the A27.</p>
Crawley BC	<p>EV chargers are being rolled out across residential areas of the borough as part of the West Sussex contract with Connected Kerb, aimed at enabling residents without off-street parking to switch to EVs.</p> <p>A specific commitment is included in Crawley's new Local Plan which requires new development to meet the anticipated demand for Electrical Vehicle (EV) Charging Infrastructure. Provision of EV charging infrastructure in Crawley is further supported by West Sussex County Council's 2019 'Guidance on Parking in New Developments'.</p>
Lewes-Eastbourne	<p>Supplier due to be announced- surveys already underway – anticipating around 60 EVCPs to be installed over next 6 months.</p>
Mid-Sussex	<p>Mid Sussex District Council is a partner of the West Sussex ChargePoint Network. To date 52 EV charging points have been installed in 9 council owned car parks. Installation of 14 EV charging points is in progress for a further 2 car parks. 60 on-street EV charging points are planned for 10 residential locations with installation expected to start later in 2022.</p> <p>The 3,500 new homes in Brookleigh (formerly known as Northern Arc) must provide EV charging points for each on-site parking space for residential dwellings. For the remainder, a minimum provision of at least 1 EV rapid charging point per 10 residential dwellings and / or 1,000m² of commercial floor space.</p>
UoB	<p>Rollout of electric vehicle charge points (EVCPs) has gone from strength to strength, increasing from eight to 63 in one year, following 55 new charge-points now installed at our Moulsecoomb campus multi-story car park.</p>

	The regeneration of the Moulsecoomb area through the £300m Big Build programme has enabled a redesign of the community streetscape to promote and prioritise active travel by foot and by bike.
UoS	Sustainability strategy commits the University to “begin to invest in replacing priority fossil fuel dependent infrastructure with lower carbon alternatives by December 2026, with a first step of producing feasibility studies in a number of areas including upgrading electric vehicle, scooter and bike charging infrastructure.”

5. **Rewilding:** supporting an increase in natural landscapes and rain garden projects

Key achievements	<p>East Sussex County Council (ESCC) and West Sussex County Council (WSCC) have been informed by Defra that they are likely to be appointed as Responsible Authorities for preparation of Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRS) as per the Environment Act 2021. Each will prepare a strategy - with the area of Brighton and Hove included within the LNRS for East Sussex. The purpose of these is to identify (and map) priorities and spatial opportunities for nature’s recovery across their geographies to create a nature recovery network.</p> <p>In preparation for this new role, ESCC and WSCC have created a ‘proto-board’ which also includes BHCC - to oversee deployment of these new statutory responsibilities and to formalise a commitment across the three Tier 1 authorities to work closely together in preparation of these strategies at a pan-Sussex scale.</p> <p>The Aquifer partnership’s Rainscape Campaign – Wild Park (Moulsecoomb) rainscape has secured funding and is underway.</p>
UoS	The University hosted a Big Biodiversity Conversation throughout 2022. They have mapped biodiversity and established that 38% of the campus is already set aside for nature. Plan to launch an internal consultation on increasing the percentage of land set aside for nature – including passive rewilding – to 40, 45 or 50% of campus land set aside for nature. £20k pot created for practical staff and student led biodiversity projects on campus and have a biodiversity strategy and draft policy which includes a commitment to biodiversity net gain.
Southern Water	Developed a desktop baseline of biodiversity value of own estate and identified opportunities to deliver BNG and carbon offsetting. This is being used to inform a BNG and offsetting strategy (focussed on delivering nature uplift across the estate).

	Environmental champions scheme launched internally with funding for operational staff to undertake small scale site improvements.
BHCC	Countryside Stewardship and Heritage Lottery Fund monies for Waterhall wilding site secured. Conservation grazing introduced using novel GPS technology. Education ranger recruited and in place. Site designated as public open access. Next steps are to complete designation as a Local Nature Reserve, set up school visits, and install waymarked trails to guide the public around site.
BHCC, SDNPA, Southern Water, Environment Agency	The Aquifer Partnership (TAP) has secured funding for Wild Park 'Rainscape' project – this will create several shallow planted basins which can hold water during heavy rainfall, it will help to reduce pollution and improve the area for people and nature. Large scale consultation and community engagement on the scheme is underway. TAP has also launched a Rain Garden Campaign "Slow it Down, Soak it Up" on World Water Day 2022 – 3yr campaign designed to encourage as many rain gardens as possible in the TAP area – involving training, awareness-raising and developing guidance, case studies and community rain garden networks over a three-year period.
BHCC, Lewes & Eastbourne Councils, SDNPA, National Trust, Biosphere	Changing Chalk is a partnership of 10 organisations aimed at connecting nature, people and heritage on and around the South Downs. Led by the National Trust and supported by a £2.23m National Lottery Heritage Fund grant and funding from People's Postcode Lottery, it will restore lost landscapes and habitats, bring history and local cultures to life and provide new experiences in the outdoors.
Adur & Worthing, SDNPA, ESCC, WSCC, Wealden DC, Sussex Nature Partnership	A ' Greenspaces Project ' is working with local authorities and town/parish councils in Sussex to develop a suite of methodologies for developing the potential of green and open spaces in public ownership to deliver benefits for nature and people – thus increasing their relevance across a range of public sector objectives including climate change, health and wellbeing, biodiversity and environmental quality. A number of case studies have been developed using a selection of green spaces in Sussex to guide learning and development of tools for park managers.
Sussex Nature Partnership and Sussex Local Authorities	In August 2021 Sussex Nature Partnership established a Local Authority Network to help local authorities prepare for new obligations arising from the Environment Act (e.g. Biodiversity Net Gain, Local Nature Recovery Strategies), by creating a safe shared space to troubleshoot, plan and share best practice and learning. Feedback shows this to have been a huge success and Las have agreed to fund it for another year (£650 per council). Town and Parish Councils have also shown an interest so development of a webinar programme for them is ongoing.

Next steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Board to champion the creation and delivery of the new Local Nature Recovery Strategies for Sussex through the delivery of robust local plan policies that support nature recovery and by supporting the development of a pipeline of projects aimed at delivering biodiversity, carbon offsetting, health & wellbeing, and wider societal benefits.
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6. Home Visits: supporting Southern Water’s 50,000 water and energy efficiency home visits

Key achievements	<p>This year 1,211 home visits have been undertaken in the Greater Brighton area.</p> <p>T100 is a commitment that by 2040 consumption of water on average will be reduced to 100 litres per person per day. There is an interim goal of 129 litres by 2025 to keep on track. As part of T100 Southern Water are trialling new clip-on smart meters in 4 locations including Brighton. This will test an assumption that water consumption can be reduced by a further 3-5% simply by giving people data on how much they use and behavioral nudges. 1,044 devices have been deployed (1500 planned) and so far, 60 property level leaks have been detected. Connectivity to mobile networks causing biggest blocker.</p>
Next steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Board to continue to use collective voice to push for tighter water and energy efficiency standards in new homes and to champion retrofitting. This should be supported by local planning policies.

7. Low Carbon Heating: rolling out schemes to replace oil home heating with electric and other low carbon fuels

Key achievements	<p>The Greater Brighton Homes Retrofit Taskforce promotes sub-regional working to seek the best solutions for delivering the decarbonisation of council owned housing stock. The aim is to achieve this through analysis of stock types (archetypes) to consider the impact and cost of applying a range of decarbonisation measures through an assessment of 10 main types of housing. Scenarios are modelled across stock types to provide evidence of carbon impact, household fuel costs and implementation costs.</p>
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	<p>Costs to landlord, energy cost for tenants and whole life carbon costs are the key metrics.</p> <p>Modelling and building assessments include impacts of different levels of intervention ranging from minimum, through medium to deep, with measures from replacement lighting, windows and doors, through to solar PV, wall, roof and suspended floor insulation, and replacing of heating systems.</p>
Adur & Worthing Councils	<p>The council received £5m of Heat Networks Investment Project funding to commercialise and deliver the Worthing Heat Network and is in the dialogue phase of procurement. An appointment of a concessionaire partner is expected to be made in Spring 2023.</p> <p>This will decarbonise a significant percentage of public sector buildings within Worthing, including the hospital, Civic Quarter and cultural sites whilst providing infrastructure for new developments and retrofit connections to decarbonise more economically than through individual building-level solutions.</p> <p>Two large Adur Homes gas boilers have been turned off permanently and replaced with ground source heat pump systems. Air Source heat pumps will be installed at the Shoreham Centre in autumn 2022.</p>
BHCC	<p>Currently scoping the next contract for heating and hot water provision in council-owned housing, that will support a transition away from gas over the next 10-15 years. Installed some air-source heat pumps in council housing over the last year.</p>
Crawley BC	<p>Crawley Homes working on plan to decarbonise social housing and working with Net Zero collective to develop deep retrofit plans progressing with trial of initially 10 house archetypes that will inform blueprint for decarbonisation for whole housing stock.</p> <p>Crawley Town Centre District Heat Network became operational in May 2022 and is now providing affordable low carbon heat to residents in three social housing blocks (approx. 300 units) and the new Civic Centre and commercial offices. A feasibility study on possible expansion and further decarbonisation of the heat network is currently underway.</p>
Southern Water	<p>Heat exchange from sewers - Southern Water are working with local councils and specialist suppliers to help harness the power of the sewer network. On average, sewers have an ambient temperature of 17°C. Using heat exchange to provide heat generated from sewers, provides an alternative source for existing buildings and new developments. Currently working with Worthing Borough Council, on the heat network project that will eventually link up 20 public buildings including the town hall, hospital, leisure</p>

	centre, schools and law courts as well as new developments. This has the potential to reduce carbon emissions by up to 3,000 tonnes a year - the equivalent of the energy used by 1,325 average-sized homes.
UoS	The University of Sussex commissioned Greater South East Energy Hub to undertake a feasibility study into the replacement of its Combined Heat and Power Plant with a low carbon alternative. The findings are being analysed ahead of undertaking more detailed feasibility and design work as part of a larger programme of work to be a net zero campus by 2035. This work will be funded through a £1.9m sustainability budget within our Education Research and Investment Programme.

8. **Public Buildings:** reducing energy use by 50 per cent by 2030

Adur & Worthing Councils	<p>£2m of Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS) funding has been spent on reducing emissions from public sector buildings, this included multiple heat pumps, solar PV, control system and fabric efficiency upgrades at a variety of council owned sites.</p> <p>£140k of Low Carbon Skills Funding has been secured to deliver heat decarbonisation plans for the remainder of AWC's corporate boilers.</p> <p>Further PSDS funding opportunities are being sought to deliver improvements to buildings connecting to the Worthing Heat Network.</p>
Arun DC	Arun District Council is currently in the process of commissioning energy audits for a number of buildings, including its main office (Civic Centre, Littlehampton) and some of the leisure centres. This work will help highlight the best way forward to reduce the emissions these buildings produce. Improvements could include some of the following; upgrades to the building envelope and thermal insulation, review of heating and heating control systems, reductions in water usage and the installation of PV and battery storage systems. A fabric first approach will always be taken
BHCC	<p>High-level designs and business cases have been completed for an additional 0.5MW of rooftop solar commissions in 2022/23, currently carrying out pre-procurement checks and financial appraisals with the aim to be on-site by winter 2022.</p> <p>Energy audits completed on 60 of the biggest consuming sites, responsible for around 50% of the total corporate operational emissions.</p>

	<p>Low Carbon Skills Fund (LCSF) funding secured for another 30 sites, to be commissioned across operational and rented commercial portfolio by the end of 2022-23. Heat decarbonisation Plan produced to identify opportunities for implementing Low carbon heat and enabling improvements works.</p> <p>Will be submitting Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme 3b application for qualifying sites.</p> <p>Pilot programme underway to install tranche of 50 AMR devices to highest consuming water sites. Data will be scrutinised to identify areas for introducing additional efficiency measures. Internal recycling fund established to support education property with commissioning any remaining LED retrofit works. Heat pump retrofit underway to community hub applying 'Whole Building' fabric first with hopes of extrapolating the model to multiple similar sites into 2023/24.</p>
Crawley BC	New Town Hall being constructed, connected to District Heating Network, to BREEAM Excellent standard; due for completion autumn 2022.
Lewes-Eastbourne	Developing proposals for 2023/24 for energy surveys to prepare for any future capital grants
Mid-Sussex	Adopted the Sustainable Economy Strategy and Action Plan which features 23 actions designed to reduce carbon emissions of both the Council and the District. Applied for a national grant to decarbonise one of our largest leisure centres. Installed PV solar panels on Council buildings that generated 27,404 kwh of pollution-free electricity during 2020/21, a carbon reduction of 6.9 tonnes.
Southern Water	Three sites have been identified for developing solar in the GB area totalling 2MW, as well as continuing to use alternative fuel by generating biogas. This forms part of Southern Water's Net Zero Plan, with a target to generate 24% of its own renewable energy by 2025.
UoB	<p>One of the top-10 UK universities for solar power, our 1,500 solar panels generate over 445,000kWh per year - equivalent to energy used in 150 homes.</p> <p>Innovative partnership approaches with Brighton Energy Cooperative have overcome financial and technical barriers to implementation with our demonstration of solar-powered electric vehicle charge points at Varley Park student halls of residence.</p>
UoS	The University of Sussex Sustainability Strategy commits to improving the energy efficiency of our estate. Work is being commissioned to enable the university to undertake a detailed audit

	of the 20% most poorly performing buildings and begin to produce business cases for improvements by 2023.
Next steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Local authorities are carrying out programmes of energy efficiency in public sector buildings and bidding for funds. Greater South East Net Zero Hub is supporting local authorities to bid for government decarbonisation funds.

9. **Innovation:** establishing an Innovation Forum to share latest research and best practice

Key Achievements	<p>Extensive programme of research to advance Pledges 1-10 continues at pace - see list of research projects at Appendix 2</p> <p>UoB is the research lead for the GBEB Retrofit Taskforce supporting the decarbonisation of social housing stock. This research work was completed in the summer.</p> <p>The Living Coast Biosphere Partnership has continued delivering and supporting urban nature recovery and resilient natural environments through projects such as the National Lottery Heritage Funded Changing Chalk – Greening The Cities and Natural England funded Wilder Verges, which specifically aims to start enabling the development of an urban nature recovery network in response to the Environment Act.</p> <p>The Biosphere continues to utilise active arts, web and social media based public engagement opportunities to communicate across multiple audiences in support of resilient natural environments and via projects such as The Living Coast Undersea Experience, City Nature Challenge, The Living Coast Business Network, and The Living Coast Artist Residencies.</p> <p>The Living Coast is also enabling original research in SuDS effectiveness, development and delivery with support from an international multi-disciplinary team including the Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme via the Promoting Sustainable Development through UNESCO’s Programmes and Sites project. As well as continuing to deliver the current programme the Biosphere Partnership’s focus for 2022 – 2024 is also to develop a new 10-year strategic plan for the region focussed on resilient natural environments and support the data, governance and stakeholder review required as part of the decennial UNESCO periodic review process for the designation.</p>
Next steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Academic-led collaboration between both universities to convene key Greater Brighton decision-makers and scope out a Green Blueprint (i.e. a route map) for becoming a net

	<p>zero city region, drawing on developments and learning to date across all other Board pledges and plans.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Green Blueprint will set out what changes need to be made, by when, who is responsible, likely costs, dependencies, consequences and risks. It will serve as a guide for major investment planning, policy change and organisational action.
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10. Lobby: using Greater Brighton’s powerful voice to lobby government for investment

Next Steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Board is supporting development of a Greater Brighton Hydrogen Strategy, which will form the blueprint for future investment in hydrogen in the city region. Once published (February 2023), the Strategy will be a tool to generate engagement with local MPs and Central Government. ➤ The emerging Blue/Green Investment Plan will contain a pipeline of investment projects, which will showcase the work taking place and state future ambitions. Projects in the pipeline would have an outline business case in readiness to pitch for investment. The pitch document can be communicated to government to drive government interest in the activities of the region leading to investment.
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**Appendix 2 - Developing new solutions for tackling climate change:
some examples from University of Sussex**

Innovation	Academic lead/ research group	Outline	GBEB Pledges
Electric vehicle battery developments	Prof Peter Kruger Sussex Programme for Quantum Research (SPQR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Just completed: a new quantum sensor commercial battery imaging system co-developed with local green energy start-up, CDO2, unveiled at low carbon vehicle technology event Cenex-LCV (22-23 September 2021). ▪ Under development: Safer more efficient batteries for airline industry 	3, 4 & 9
Energy demand & infrastructure planning	Profs Tim Foxton, Steven Sorrell, Dr Mari Matskaninen Dr Ralitsa Hiteva Centre for Research into Energy Demand Solutions (CREDS)	<p>Consortium researching into the changes in energy demand needed for the transition to a secure and affordable, low carbon energy system and the implications for infrastructure planning.</p> <p>Live project: Sussex University-sponsored programme of Innovation Forums on tackling aspects of climate change for local stakeholders.</p>	4, 7, 8 & 9
Kelp	Dr Mika Peck	<p>Expert in the conservation of tropical environments and development of new tools to monitor the state of the environment, from tropical rainforest to reefs.</p> <p>Live project: Sussex University-sponsored kelp sample collection (with University of Brighton) and evaluation to produce a roadmap for kelp farming in Sussex Bay area.</p>	1, 3 & 9

Net zero neighbourhoods	Dr Marie Claire Brisbois & Dr Donal Brown	Experts in domestic energy policy. Live projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improving energy efficiency in private rented accommodation, working with the UoS student accommodation service; stakeholder event planned in Oct / Nov (incl. landlords, letting agencies, BHCC private housing team and Sussex Student Lettings) to expand the project ▪ Analysing EPC and HMO data to correlate relationship between housing condition and landlord type ▪ Consortium with Glasgow & Leeds to understand consumer behaviour in energy choices. 	3 & 7
Improving water pump and domestic appliance efficiency	Dr Esra Sorguven, Thermo-fluid Mechanics Research Centre	Live project to improve energy efficiency of water pumps through novel flow measurement techniques (Sussex funded project, working with Southern Water) Several live projects to improve the design and manufacturing of domestic appliances which use c 2.5% of the UK's energy consumption and generate £7bn in annual revenue – with Beko; Arcelik & AIRONN.	2, 3 & 9
Hydrogen Engineering expertise	Dr Spyros Skarvelis-Kazakos Dynamics, Control and Vehicle Research Dr Fan Zhang	Expert in hydrogen-related technologies and a member of the Supergen H2FC Science Board (http://www.h2fcsupergen.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/UK-H2FC-Capability-Document.pdf - see p.90). Smart grids: His current focus is on hydrogen as a multiple energy carrier optimisation and on increasing renewable energy capacity by improving electricity grid reliability and controllability (thus reducing the impacts of the uncertainty of renewables). Expert in hydrogen embrittlement of duplex stainless steel: Hydrogen embrittlement is a widely known phenomenon in high strength materials that are responsible for subcritical crack growth in material, fracture initiation and catastrophic failure with subsequent loss in mechanical properties such as ductility, toughness and strength.	3, 7 & 9

	<p>Dr Kun Liang</p> <p>Prof Julian Dunne</p>	<p>Hydrogen energy systems are reliant on the production, transportation, storage, and use of gaseous hydrogen. The safety, durability, performance and economic operation of these systems is challenged by the hydrogen embrittlement of the materials. Fan has the expertise required to assess safety and materials efficiency in a demonstration project.</p> <p>Expert in hydrogen laminar flame measurement and engine performance with addition of hydrogen. Recently he has some work on cryogenics systems which can re-liquify hydrogen if there is boil-off gas in the charging point. Kun has the expertise required for engine performance measurements and modelling hydrogen combustion in IC engines, as well as similar measurements and modelling in CHP.</p> <p>Developed new patented technologies at Sussex for free-piston engines offering electrically-controlled VCR (variable compression ratio) needed for hydrogen or ammonia combustion in internal combustion (IC) engines. Free-piston engines are being seriously considered for hybrid electric powertrains, either in series propulsion or as a range extender.</p>	
Zero waste RFID tags using new nanomaterials	<p>Prof Alan Dalton</p> <p>Materials Physics Group</p>	<p>Commercial work with business partner AMD to develop a number of graphene-based nanomaterials which are metal-free and more ecologically-friendly. Current developing an alternative metal-free radio-frequency identification tag for use by supermarkets to track products with major supermarket chain.</p>	3 & 9
Vehicle to Grid optimisation	<p>Dr Arash Moradinagade-Dizkah</p> <p>Dynamics, Control and Vehicle Research</p>	<p>Live project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Optimisation and control, energy efficient control allocation, vehicle to grid and smart grids 	3, 4 & 9

Improved efficiency of current combustion engines	Profs Julian Dunne & Peter Fussey Dynamics, Control and Vehicle Research	Live projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Optimised Resonating Free Piston Generator ▪ Evaporative Cooling of Internal Combustion Engines - with Ricardo. Technology available to be licensed: High Energy Density Power Generator.	3 & 9
Renewable Power generation	Prof Martin Rose	Expert in renewable power generation – urban wind and wave. Live project to design wind powered car “Sussex Power Storm”	3 & 9
Future Refrigeration: ammonia linear compressor	Dr Kun Liang	International partnership to investigate future refrigeration systems using a novel oil-free linear compressor and ammonia as refrigerant. The benefits of such systems are zero ozone depletion potential (ODP), zero global warming potential (GWP), high efficiency and low cost. Live Sussex University-sponsored project to support linear technologies including development of Stirling engine for electric vehicle range extension.	3 & 9 3, 4 & 9
Renewable energy from waste	Dr Mark Puttock-Brown	Experimental and numerical investigation of heat transfer and fluid dynamics of rotating cavities in gas turbine secondary air systems working with partner GE Aviation. Numerical design of radial turbines for waste heat recovery utilising organic working fluids.	3 & 9
Civic crowdfunding	Dr Donal Brown & Dr Anna Watson SPRU	This project funded by the Local Government Association Net Zero Innovation Programme (LGA NZIP) Lewes and Eastbourne councils partnered with researchers from the University of Sussex to explore alternative community finance mechanisms and ownership of low carbon and natural infrastructure. This ‘community led finance’ may include different forms of philanthropy, community share offers or community bond.	9

Energy Demand Research Champion	Dr Mari Martiskainen	Develop an inclusive, interdisciplinary and cross-sectoral Centre that advances knowledge and uptake of energy demand reduction solutions,	7, 8 & 9
Advancing Capacity for Climate and Environment Social Science	Benjamin K Sovacool	Advancing Capacity for Climate and Environment Social Science (ACCESS) aims to champion and coordinate social science to address key environmental challenges spanning biodiversity, sustainability and decarbonisation. Provide social science insights to support the transition to a sustainable and biodiverse environment and a net zero society.	9
Biodiversity and the water cycle: can rewilding mitigate the impacts of hydrological extremes	Dr Christopher Sandom	Determine the ways in which rewilding influences hydrology and hydrological extremes. (O2) Support decision-making in rewilding practice across public and private sectors. (O3) Inform future research priorities and improved monitoring of rewilding programmes.	5

Appendix 3 – Key projects from University of Brighton aligning with GB pledges – October 2022

Innovation	Academic lead/ research group	Outline	GBEB Pledges
Blue Carbon Research	Ray Ward Centre for Aquatic Environments	<p>The Universities of Brighton and Portsmouth have agreed to co-fund a Blue Carbon Research fellow post to support and develop marine and coastal research within the Sussex region and will help develop research involving climate change mitigation, biodiversity enhancement, environmental contamination, fisheries management and ecosystem service provision.</p> <p>The University of Portsmouth has submitted a bid to the Natural Environment Research Council with University of Brighton and other partners to carry out a project to establish a research network to examine practical opportunities to better integrate biodiversity and finance in seascape restoration.</p>	1 & 9
Grass to Gas	Penny Atkins Advanced Engineering Centre	Ongoing research for the development of waste to energy systems able to process grass and other waste streams into biogas and biofuels. Various collaborations with local and national partners.	3 & 9
Hydrogen vehicles	Rob Morgan/ Penny Atkins Advanced Engineering Centre	Long lasting collaborations and research on the development and testing of hydrogen/hybrid engines for vehicles, including road vehicles and ships with local, national and international partners.	3 & 9

Electric vehicles	Steven Begg Nicholas Miche Advanced Engineering Centre	Projects focusing on development and optimization of electric vehicles in collaboration with local and national partners.	3 & 9
Rewilding	School of Applied Sciences	East Sussex County Council is working with Sussex Nature Partnership and Kent Wildlife Trust on a SELEP project, which includes Lewes District, to develop knowledge around supply and demand and brokerage hub model for nature-based solutions. The project will report its findings in Q4 2022. University of Brighton is on the steering group. University of Brighton delivered a Masters student project under the environmental placement module (coordinated with Green Growth Platform) on woodland creation mapping using GIS for Lewes DC. This led to a large mapping project of the SDNP area by the same student which she undertook as a job following graduation. Based on this work SDNPA will publish a woodland opportunity mapping report in Q4 2022.	5 & 9
Electric Batteries management	Marco Bernagozzi Advanced Engineering Centre	Ongoing research on optimization of electric batteries, with particular focus on thermal management, energy efficiency, and the impact of external conditions such as temperature and vibrations on the performance of batteries.	3 & 9
Waste to Energy	Angad Panesar Advanced Engineering Centre	Design, prototyping and testing of various innovative energy generation power cycles and energy storage solutions, with a focus on low temperature waste heat and molten salts storage solutions.	3, 7 & 9
Water Recycling	Ian Mayor Smith Centre for Aquatic Environments	Various ongoing projects and collaborations with national and international partners focusing on water quality and water recycling.	2 & 9

Low Carbon Heating solutions	Marco Picco Advanced Engineering Centre	Development and validation of innovative low carbon heating solutions and heating strategies, including Personal Comfort Systems, Radiant Systems and Waste Heat Recovery.	7 & 9
Net Zero Buildings	Duncan B. Brown Marco Picco Design for Circular Cities and Regions (DCCR) Research and Enterprise Group Advanced Engineering Centre	<p>Numerous ongoing projects with local partners and stakeholders supporting the development of roadmaps toward net-Zero in private and public buildings. With strong focus not only on energy savings, but financial savings and embodied carbon/circular economy aspects.</p> <p>Leading the work of the GBEB Retrofit Taskforce supporting the decarbonisation of social housing stock.</p>	8 & 9

Subject:	Greater Brighton Investment Programme – Progress Update		
Date of Meeting:	18 October 2022		
Report of:	Chair, Greater Brighton Programme Board		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Andy Hill	Tel: 01273 291873
	Email:	<u>andy.hill@brighton-hove.gov.uk</u>	
LA(s) affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT

- 1.1 The purpose of the Investment Plan Update is to provide the Greater Brighton Economic Board (“the Board”) with an update on progress on the Greater Brighton Investment Programme (“the Investment Programme”) since the Board’s last meeting on 16 July 2022.
- 1.2 Updates are included on the Local Growth Fund (LGF) allocations made as part of the Growth Deal Rounds 1, 2 and 3. The period covered by this report is 1 July 2022 to 30 September 2022.
- 1.3 This cover report provides some context on the LGF Funding Rounds and narrative updates on the Investment Programme projects. Further details on the individual projects can be found in the Investment Programme Update report at Appendix 1.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the Board note the report and the Investment Programme Update at Appendix 1.

3. CONTEXT/BACKGROUND INFORMATION

LGF Growth Deal Rounds 1 & 2

- 3.1 A total of approximately £90m was allocated to projects across the City Region from LGF Growth Deal rounds 1 & 2. These projects will deliver a total investment of approximately £376m into the City Region, unlocking an estimated 14,000 jobs, 8,200 homes and 450,000m² of employment floor-space. Current active projects are listed below with a summary of progress since the last update.

3.1.1 New England House Growth Centre (Brighton) - £4.9m

Further fire compartmentation survey work still awaiting commencement but should commence and be completed by end of year. Design process will recommence in new year once this has been completed. Filming of NEH businesses has been completed and an edit has been accepted for screening in CineCity (Brighton Festival) in November. Further edits will be used to assist promotion of project and future funding bid(s). Project Manager has been appointed and commenced duties for Elder Place Corridor improvements – NEH works will contribute to overall placemaking in the vicinity.

3.1.2 Digital Catapult & 5G Testbed (Brighton) - £1.8m

A follow-on strand from the successful 5G Festival in May has been launched. Alternative Stages continues the partner's work with the regional music industry to help develop the skills required to effectively utilise 5G-powered technologies in that sector. Working with Leeds University, Alternative Stages delivered 2 days of events and workshops during the last period.

Digital Catapult Brighton continued its in-depth review of last year's activity, and has developed a new programme to be called Futurescope. The first Fututrescope business support activity is expected to launch later this year.

Work continues apace on the procurement and installation of the specialist technical equipment required to upgrade the 5G testbed to align with BHCC's Research & Innovation Fibre Ring project. The 2 distributed 5G centres in NEH and at Brighton Dome now have dark fibre connections available to link them together.

3.1.3 Circus Street Innovation Centre & Regeneration (Brighton) - £2.7m

All works complete. Various post Practical Completion snagging works ongoing.

3.1.4 Plus X (Brighton) - £7.7m

Plus X remained operational and continued to grow membership. Since its opening in August 2021, the new ground floor café, Café Domenica, has proved a huge success with members and visitors. The café also provides training opportunities for young people with learning disabilities. The Brighton Research Innovation Technology Exchange programme for ambitious and established businesses primarily based in the Coast to Capital Local Enterprise Partnership region continued. Other elements of the Preston Barracks redevelopment are at an advanced stage, with several buildings at or nearing completion. The first residential blocks are due for completion and occupation in the coming months, and external works to other residential blocks continues. The University of Brighton's adjacent development also progressed well. The new student halls on the Mithras House site were completed. Construction of the new pedestrian bridge spanning the Lewes Road is now complete, and the bridge was officially opened by the Greater Brighton Chair on 5th October.

3.1.5 Valley Gardens – Phase 3 (Brighton) - £8.0m

Following the third public consultation exercise for Valley Gardens Phase 3 which completed in late 2020, and further stakeholder engagement the final General Highway Arrangement was agreed by ETS Committee in January 2022. Furthermore, the additional budget requirement needed to deliver the project was approved by Policy & Resources Committee which would be acquired through borrowing. Cost estimates have increased due to rising construction costs and

additional stakeholder infrastructure included in the plan, such as those required for sustainable events and cycling. The construction contract procurement will commence in autumn 2022 and be completed by winter 2022/3. Construction to complete spring 2024.

3.1.6 Adur Tidal Walls & Western Harbour Arm Flood Defences (Shoreham-By-Sea) – £10.5m

Demolition of redundant Yacht Club October/November 2021.

Continued pluvial and fluvial modelling to inform design.

3.1.7 A2300 Corridor Improvements (Burgess Hill) - £17.0m

See 4.13 below

LGF Growth Deal Round 3

3.2 In February 2017 Coast to Capital announced that it has secured £66m through Round 3 of the Growth Deal. All six projects put forward by the Board were allocated funding - totalling £48.77m. The project updates are as follows:

Worthing Central Phase 1 (Worthing) - £5.6m

3.2.1 Teville Gate:

Site acquired by Worthing Borough Council for redevelopment in August 2021. Development Strategy and approach involving joint investment with London & Continental Railways confirmed in December 2021. March 2022 Development Partner agreed by JSc Committee – Hyde Housing Group.

3.2.2 Union Place:

S106 agreement drafted and formal planning permission issued. Roffey Homes agreed as Development Partner on the site

3.2.3 Decoy Farm (Worthing) - £4.8m

Appointment of the full design team including commercial advice, surveying team, architectural team and wider suite of advisers.

Phase 2 of the development and output to deliver employment floorspace is progressing well.

The Strategic Outline Case and Outline Business Case for the development of Decoy Farm are approved.

Approval to progress the project through to Full Business Case in readiness for project delivery received at the Joint Strategic Committee meeting on 13 July 2021.

3.2.4 New Monks Farm & Airport (Shoreham-By-Sea) - £5.7m

There is no further update for this period. Previous report is as follows:

- Housing and infrastructure development has continued at pace with a number of units completed and occupied on the site.
- Work is due to commence on the A27 roundabout in Autumn 2021 for completion in late 2022.

- Ikea announced that they will not continue with their proposed new store and that they will market the site for a suitable development in September 2021

3.2.5 Growth Location (Burgess Hill) - £14.9m

Town Centre Regeneration: Completion of the S106 agreement and planning permission for the redevelopment of the Martlets Shopping Centre was issued on the 2nd July 2021.

Brookleigh (Northern Arc): The development has been re-named from the Northern Arc to Brookleigh. Work is continuing on site with housebuilder Countryside Properties with first occupations of homes on Freeks Farm anticipated September 2022. Work is complete on the Western Link Road Roundabout with full use underway following the completion of the A2300 dualling. The bridge on the Eastern Bridge and Link Road was lowered into position on the 22nd August 2022. The road is due to be completed by December 2022.

Discussions are ongoing between Homes England and the Department for Education regarding procuring a developer for the first primary school on the site. A feasibility study for the Centre for Outdoor Sports has been completed and next stage plans agreed with facilities to be developed for use by the public by 2025.

Place and Connectivity: Work continues on delivery of the MSDC Led Phase 1 schemes including public art and other public realm improvements to the underpass at Wivelsfield Railway station. WSCC Phase 1 schemes are currently in delivery and are due to complete Spring/Summer 2023; communications and stakeholder management is ongoing. Delivery near completion on Green Link (99% complete, 6.7km/6.8km) and Green Circle routes (100% complete, 4.55km).

A2300 corridor improvements: Construction began in spring 2020; programme now complete with both carriageways officially opened on the 8th April 2022.

Employment space, Panattoni Park (The Hub): The site was purchased by developers Panattoni and renamed Panattoni Park Burgess Hill. The second phase of development (a 5,000m² warehouse for Roche Diagnostics) was completed in early February. Outline planning permission for the remaining 40,000m² has been approved, and issued.

Digital Infrastructure: Works to implement the Digital Infrastructure across and around Burgess Hill, including a southern link to Brighton and a northern link via Horsham to Crawley, are well progressed. The Local Full Fibre Network (LFFN) project has now been delivered totalling 15km of dark fibre and the Burgess Hill Fibre Exchange. Customer enquiries being received and are responded to through the CNI co-operative partners.

One public estate (OPE) 7: The Brow - redevelopment of an extended Brow site in Burgess Hill will provide enhanced accommodation for the emergency and primary care services and to create space for 440 new homes (led by WSCC). Consultants Faithful and Gould have completed a draft viability study which is currently being reviewed to agree next steps.

Land adjacent to Burgess Hill station - Officers are working with key stakeholders including Network Rail and The Arch Company (the principal landowner at the site). Review of feasibility and appraisal work is underway.

Goddards Green Waste Water Treatment Works: Phase 1 of the project has been completed delivering most of the odour reduction benefits. All the £4m LGF-funding has been spent, alongside the £6.54m HIF grant. The remainder of the project will be funded by private Southern Water investment (£13.6m).

3.2.6 Black Rock /Waterfront (Brighton) - £12.1m

April 22 - Boardwalk completed. Reading Room started on site. Sea wall 90% completed. Due for completion July 2022. Link Road final package agreed with SOS planned for July 2022. A short film about the project has been produced Black Rock rejuvenation (brighton-hove.gov.uk) Channel 5 documentary regarding Kew Gardens filmed piece with team planting vegetated shingle.

Blackrockcommunity.com website is ongoing for community inquiries.

The local wildlife site has been successfully relocated and is growing well in the new location. The 2nd and 3rd phases have also been completed with successful planting of seedlings taking place in December and March 2021/22. Two further short films describing this part of the project are on the BHCC website.

LGF Growth Deal Unallocated Funds Rounds 1 & 2 – December 2016 Call

3.3 In December 2016 Coast to Capital announced that it had approximately £46.65m of unallocated funds available to support capital growth projects. The Greater Brighton Economic Board put forward eight bids, five of which received funding totalling approximately £9.9m. The project updates are as follows:

3.3.1 Adur Civic Centre (Shoreham-By-Sea) - £1.8m

Phase 2: Public consultation on proposed development by Hyde Housing took place on 20/02/2020 and detailed design work was undertaken throughout 2021.

3.3.2 Springman House (Lewes) – £2.0m

There has been no further update since the last meeting and the last position is as follows:

Following the purchase of the site by Lewes District Council, plans were drawn up with the East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service Sussex Police and the South East Coast Ambulance Service. NSQL, the majority landowner at the NSQ site, has now sold its land to the developer – Human Nature. In December 2020, the Council's Cabinet agreed heads of terms for the sale of its own land to this same developer in order that it can comprehensively redevelop the site. Human Nature has confirmed that it will submit a new planning application for the NSQ and the Council is now liaising with the developer to understand its plans and timescales for the site, including the fire station.

3.3.3 Railway Quay (Newhaven) - £1.5m

LDC has secured £1.3m from the Getting Building Fund to convert the former UTC building into a maritime and sustainable technology hub, offering education / training space and commercial facilities for SME's. This has been augmented by a commitment of £1.05m from LDC towards the estimated £2.35m project costs. The building purchase completed on 17 June 2022.

Initial works have focused on recommissioning the building. The next phase of works will be to create car park improvements and works associated with tenants moving into the building. A final tenant layout plan / occupier mix is being prepared. It is hoped that LDC will be the first to start occupying the building with use commencing October 22 followed by full relocation of office accommodation by January 2023.

3.3.4 Heritage Centre Stage – Corn Exchange & Studio Theatre (Brighton) - £3.0m

The Council's appointed Management Contractor, Westridge Construction Limited, continues to progress works to the 200-year-old Corn Exchange timber framed building and the 1930's Studio Theatre. The Studio theatre fibrous plaster ceiling and copper roof had reached the end of their useful lives and were brought into scope and have been completed. Further discoveries on site requiring remedial works have delayed the programme. Finishing and completion works are continuing with the Corn Exchange, Studio Theatre and upper gallery oak timber floors installed and public WCs fitted out. 2nd fix and decoration of 29 New Road, Corn Exchange foyer offices, basement dressing rooms and Creation Space are nearing completion. Theatre trusses have been installed in the Corn Exchange and audio and electrical theatre systems are progressing. Covid-19 and possibly Brexit appear to be impacting availability of materials with longer lead in and delivery times, associated delays and increasing costs with inflation now an additional issue. These impacts remain an on-going risk. In line with Government guidance on site measures related to Covid-19 have been relaxed. Practical Completion is now anticipated in December 2022.

4. ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

4.1 None required.

5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION

5.1 None required.

6. CONCLUSION

6.1 The Board is asked to note the contents of this report.

7. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

7.1 There are no direct financial implications associated with this report regarding the progress made in the second quarter of this financial year on approved schemes within the Greater Brighton Investment Programme. Schemes already included within the Greater Brighton Investment Programme have approved business cases in place with funding options identified and these have been reported to their respective bodies. The progress of each scheme is detailed within the Investment Plan Update Report in appendix 1. The progress of each scheme is detailed within the Investment Update Report in Appendix 1 and in paragraphs 3.1,3.2 and 3.3 above. Future or revised business plans will be reported accordingly within the timescales of the project timetables.

Finance Officer Consulted: Rob Allen, Principal Accountant
Date: 06/10/22

Legal Implications:

There are no legal implications arising directly from this report

Lawyer Consulted: Wendy McRae-Smith, Senior Lawyer
Date: 06/10/22

Equalities Implications:

- 7.2 None arising from this report. Equalities issues will be addressed on a project-by-project basis.

Sustainability Implications:

- 7.3 None arising from this report. Sustainability issues will be addressed on a project-by-project basis.

Any Other Significant Implications:

- 7.4 None.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

Greater Brighton Investment Update Report October 2022

Background Documents:

None

Greater Brighton Economic Board

Investment Programme Update Report

October 2022

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Adur Civic Centre - Shoreham



Aims & objectives

Adur District Council have led on the development of a two-phase scheme for the former Council offices in Shoreham. Phase 1 involved the development of a 30,000 sqft (gross) office building which is now complete and let to local business Focus Group following £9.89m of Council investment.

For Phase 2 the Council have identified Hyde Housing as the preferred bidder for the site (Hyde Housing) and are working to finalise contracts. A planning application was submitted in August 2021 for 173 homes (100% affordable in line with Hyde Housing's strategic partnership with Homes England) and ground floor commercial space.

Key facts

Delivery Partners: Adur District Council, Willmott Dixon, Hyde Housing Group

Funding (all years)

Total LGF Funding	£1.71m
Total Public Funding	£0.0m
Total Private Funding	£9.89m
Total Other Funding	£0.00m
Total Funding	£11.60m

Outputs

Phase 1 North Site -30,000sqft of employment space

Phase 2 South Site – 987sqm of employment space and 171 residential units

What happened in the last period

Phase 2: Public consultation on proposed development by Hyde Housing took place on 20/02/2020 and detailed design work was undertaken throughout 2021.

Target milestones

Planning Determined: February 2022 – approved at planning committee on 1st March 2022.

Start on site: summer 2022

Completion: by autumn 2024

Black Rock - Brighton



Aims & objectives

The scope and outputs for the Waterfront project have now evolved to two projects, with the agreement of the Local Enterprise Partnership. A revised series of outputs has been agreed for the Black Rock project which focus upon two key phases of enabling (underway) and future permanent development (to be progressed with a target of 2026/7 for completion).

The regeneration of the Black Rock site is now underway, with a successful planning application achieved in June 2020 and two of the five works packages now completed. The first two works packages, to deliver improvements to Dukes Mound junctions and the new beach boardwalk completed in November 21 and April 22. The Sea Wall works will complete in July 2022. Works to bring back into use Grade 2 listed buildings are now underway and letting of these will complete in July 22 for occupation in October 22. The new pedestrian and cycle link into the Marina (the “promenade link”) will complete in July 23.

Completion will result in full remediation of a site that has lain empty for over 40 years. A future potential direct link to the Pier, relocated utilities, new sea defences and a decontaminated site will allow for a future development to be de-risked and also to be able to achieve the planning requirement for a development “of significance”. It will also provide much needed improvements to amenity and appearance. Development Brief for the Black Rock site will link to Eastern Seafront SPD, currently underway, which will inform the wider objectives for the area.

While the site remains empty pre-development, the project will deliver much needed improvements to amenity and appearance. A new play area and restored Reading room and Temple will help to begin to create a greater sense of place. A temporary pump track or skate park also remain under final discussion.

Key facts

Delivery Partners: Brighton and Hove City Council are leading the project, with Rose Project’s, J.T Mackley & Co Ltd, Edburton Contractors Ltd, and Landbuild Ltd.

Funding (all years)

Total LGF Funding	£12.11m - underway
Total Public Funding	£3.9m
Total Private Funding	Subject to final business case
Total Other Funding	1,398 S106, Departmental contributions and additional corporate funding by BHCC from reserves
Total Funding	£14.409m

Black Rock - Brighton

Outputs

Outputs for the permanent Black Rock development will deliver between 163 – 354 jobs and a NPV of an estimated £86,847 - £160,259 depending upon the final composition of mixed uses.

What happened in the last period

April 22 - Boardwalk completed. Reading Room started on site. Sea wall 90% completed. Due for completion July 2022. Link Road final package agreed with SOS planned for July 2022. A short film about the project has been produced Black Rock rejuvenation (brighton-hove.gov.uk) Channel 5 documentary regarding Kew Gardens filmed piece with team planting vegetated shingle.

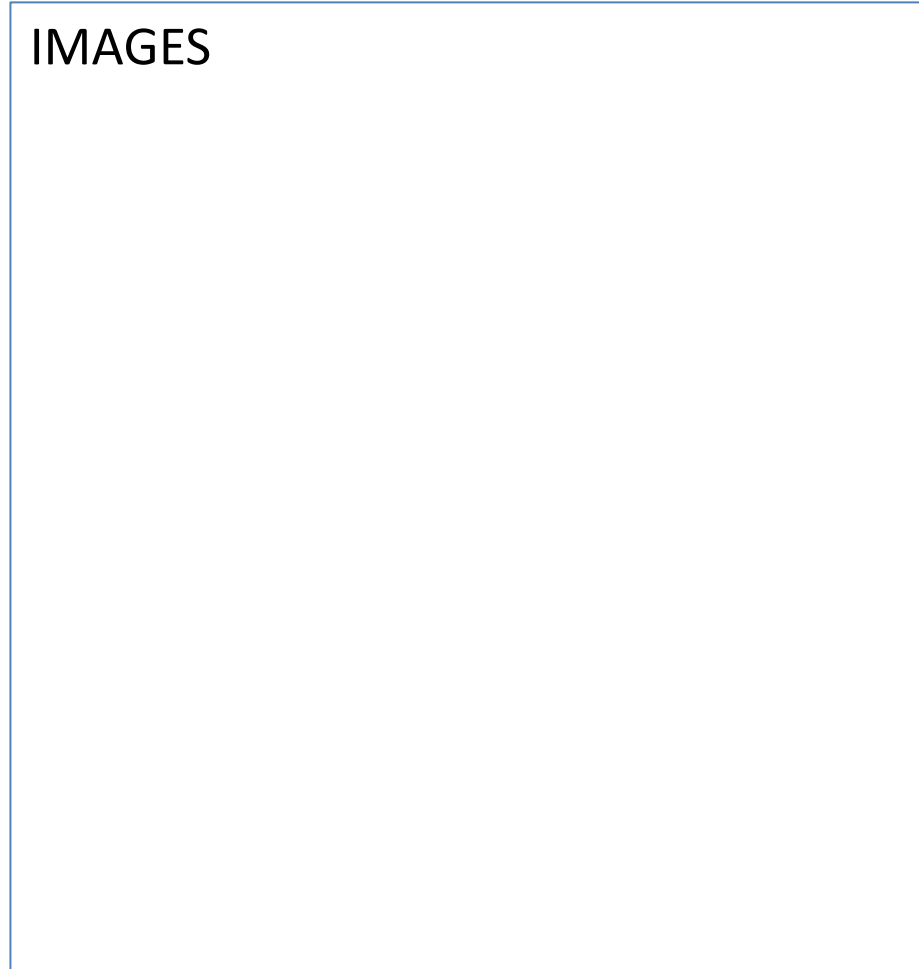
Blackrockcommunity.com website is ongoing for community enquiries.

The local wildlife site has been successfully relocated and is growing well in the new location. The 2nd and 3rd phases have also been completed with successful planting of seedlings taking place in December and March 2021/22. Two further short films describing this part of the project are on the BHCC website The relocation and expansion of Black Rock's Local Wildlife Site - YouTube. .

Target milestones

Phased Completion – November 2021 to May 2022 – subject to a start on site in January for the Link Road/Promenade. Link Road delays due to funding and redesign now planned for May 2022 with completion December 2022.

IMAGES



Burgess Hill Strategic Growth Programme



Artist's impression

Aims & objectives

The programme will deliver transformative change to the town, secure major growth and significant improvements in housing, jobs, infrastructure, and social and community facilities. To support the programme the following grant funding has been secured:

- **£17 million** from the Local Growth Fund (LGF) to support A2300 corridor improvements comprising an upgrade to a dual carriageway, junction improvements, and the provision of a footway and cycleway linking to the National Cycle Network.
- **£10.9 million** LGF funding for a Place and Connectivity package of sustainable transport schemes including improvements to Burgess Hill and Wivelsfield railway stations, public realm improvements, and an inter-urban cycle route between Haywards Heath and Burgess Hill.
- **£4 million** LGF and a further **£6.5 million** Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF) to improve the Goddard's Green Waste Water Treatment works, unlocking land to develop a further 256 homes.
- **Up to £2.2 million** from the Government's Local Full Fibre Network fund and **£2 million** LGF and **£1.6**

million retained business rates to support the implementation of new digital infrastructure for Burgess Hill which in turn will stimulate the market for internet service providers. • **£165k** from One Public Estate for design and feasibility studies to redevelop 'The Brow' and land adjacent to Burgess Hill Station. • **£1 million** Access for All funding to improve accessibility at Wivelsfield Station.

Key facts

Delivery Partners: Mid Sussex District Council, Homes England, West Sussex CC, Burgess Hill Town Council, Coast to Capital, Department of Transport, and developers.

Funding (all years)

Total LGF Funding	£33.9m
Homes England Funding	£370.5m
DCMS & Other Digital Funding	£3.8m
OPE Funding	£165k
Total Public Funding	£0.0m
Access for All	£1.0m
WSCC Funding	£3.34m
MSDC Funding	£3.69m
Total Public Funding	£416.39m
Total Private Funding	£643.3m
Total Funding	£1059.7m

Following their acquisition of the Northern Arc land parcels, the Council has an approved Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) with Homes England which confirms an investment of £162m in strategic infrastructure.

Burgess Hill Strategic Growth Programme

Outputs

5,000 new homes, a Science and Technology Park (up to 100,000m² employment space), two business parks, 15,000 new jobs (including construction jobs), a major town centre regeneration (offering retail space, commercial leisure space including a cinema and a bowling alley, a hotel as well as new homes), improvements to the A2300 corridor, a package of public realm and sustainable transport schemes, new schools, increased GP capacity, improved leisure facilities, full-fibre digital infrastructure.

What happened in the last period

Town Centre Regeneration: Completion of the S106 agreement and planning permission for the redevelopment of the Martlets Shopping Centre was issued on the 2nd July 2021.

Northern Arc: The development has been re-named from the Northern Arc to Brookleigh. Work is continuing on site with housebuilder Countryside Properties with first occupations of homes on Freeks Farm anticipated September 2022. Work is complete on the Western Link Road Roundabout with full use underway following the completion of the A2300 dualling. The bridge on the Eastern Bridge and Link Road was lowered into position on the 22nd August 2022. The road is due to be completed by December 2022. Discussions are ongoing between Homes England and the Department for Education regarding procuring a developer for the first primary school on the site. A feasibility study for the Centre for Outdoor Sports has been completed and next stage plans agreed with facilities to be developed for use by the public by 2025.

Place and Connectivity: Work continues on delivery of the first of the MSDC Led Phase 1 schemes including public art and other public realm improvements to the underpass at Wivelsfield Railway station. A contractor has been appointed for the WSCC Phase 1 schemes in February 2022 with programmed start on site in June 2022 and completion Spring/Summer 2023. Delivery near completion on Green Link (99% complete, 6.7km/6.8km) and Green Circle routes (100% complete, 4.55km).

A2300 corridor improvements: Construction began in spring 2020; programme now complete with both carriageways officially opened on the 8th April 2022.

Employment space, The Hub: The site was purchased by developers Panattoni and renamed Panattoni Park Burgess Hill. The second phase of development (a 5,000m² warehouse for Roche Diagnostics) was completed in early February. Outline planning permission for the remaining 40,000m² has been approved, and issued.

Digital Infrastructure: Works to implement the Digital Infrastructure across and around Burgess Hill, including a southern link to Brighton and a northern link via Horsham to Crawley, are well progressed. The Local Full Fibre Network (LFFN) project has now been delivered totalling 15km of dark fibre and the Burgess Hill Fibre Exchange. Customer enquiries being received and are responded to through the CNI co-operative partners.

One public estate (OPE) 7: The Brow - redevelopment of an extended Brow site in Burgess Hill will provide enhanced accommodation for the emergency and primary care services and to create space for 440 new homes (led by WSCC). Consultants Faithful and Gould have completed a draft viability study which is currently being reviewed to agree next steps.

Land adjacent to Burgess Hill Station: - Officers are working with key stakeholders including Network Rail and The Arch Company (the principal land-owner at the site). Review of feasibility and appraisal work is underway.

Goddards Green Waste Water Treatment Works: Phase 1 of the project has been completed delivering most of the odour reduction benefits. All the £4m LGF-funding has been spent, alongside the £6.54m HIF grant. The remainder of the project will be funded by private Southern Water investment (£13.6m).

Target milestones

Various (project specific)

Circus Street - Brighton



Aims & objectives

The mix of residential, business, education and cultural occupiers on the site will bring a wide variety of people into the area, benefitting existing local businesses. Economic impact studies indicate that the development will create approximately 232 predominantly local jobs. It will generate £1 million in council tax, new business rates contributions and new homes bonuses. It would encourage student and new resident population spending in and around the site and would boost the local economy by more than £10m each year due to a multiplier effect.

The main office building will be a new centre for innovation and enterprise that will maximise the potential for linking the University's research functions and private organisations that will cohabit in the building. This Innovation Hub will, in turn, create and support fledgling new business in the City and generate opportunities for students, graduates and university staff to work alongside SMEs and larger organisations.

The Dance Space provide a new HQ for South East Dance as well as 3 studios (one for public performances) and office space for other cultural industries. The growing artistic community in Brighton has no dedicated space for dance and it is estimated that 60,000 people will use the space every year. It will become a cultural and community hub, where people gather to collaborate, participate, watch and learn.

Key facts

Delivery Partners: U+I plc (Cathedral Brighton), Brighton & Hove City Council

Funding (all years)

Total LGF Funding	£2.70m
Total Public Funding	£0.40m
Total Private Funding	£106.57m
Total Other Funding	£0.00m
Total Funding	£109.67m

Outputs

new homes; 387 additional jobs and 232 net additional jobs after displacement and substitution; 30,000 sq ft. office building; 450 student accommodation bed spaces; "The Dance Space" (dance studios, offices, public performance space and HQ for South East Dance); start-up workshops, retail units and restaurant; public realm to include a square and landscaped courtyards.

What happened in the last period

Phase 2: Public consultation on proposed development by Hyde Housing took place on 20/02/2020 and detailed design work was undertaken throughout 2021.

Target milestones

All target milestones achieved.

Decoy Farm - Worthing



Aims & objectives

An ambitious plan to upgrade an environmentally challenging but sizable plot of allocated employment land that has stood unused for over three decades. The completed project will boost employment opportunities and economic performance in the entire Coast to Capital LEP region.

Key facts

Delivery Partners: Worthing Borough Council, West Sussex County Council, Coast to Capital LEP.

Outputs

Phase 1: To remediate the 7-hectare former landfill site, unlocking it for commercial development.

Phase 2 – To deliver up to 13,536sqm of employment floorspace by developing new commercial units to meet existing and future industrial demand.

Funding (all years)

Total LGF Funding	£4.84m
Total Public Funding	£4.84m
Total Private Funding	£15.0m
Total Other Funding	£0.00m
Total Funding	£11.60m

What happened in the last period

Appointment of the full design team including commercial advice, surveying team, architectural team and wider suite of advisers.

Development Strategy

- Phase 2 of the development and output to deliver employment floorspace is progressing well.
- The Strategic Outline Case and Outline Business Case for the development of Decoy Farm are approved.
- Approval to progress the project through to Full Business Case in readiness for project delivery received at the Joint Strategic Committee meeting on 13 July 2021.

Target milestones

Planning Determined: February 2022 – approved at planning committee on 1st March 2022.

Start on site: summer 2022

Completion: by autumn 2024

Digital Catapult Centre - Brighton



Funding (all years)

Total LGF Funding	£0.50m
Total Public Funding	£1.00m
Total Private Funding	£0.50m
Total Other Funding	£0.00m
Total Funding	£2.00m

Target milestones

5G testbed upgrade complete by December 2022
Research & Innovation Fibre Ring DCB outputs delivered – March 2025

Outputs

10,000 businesses receiving information about emerging technology opportunities; 1,000 businesses receiving non-financial support; 250 businesses assisted to cooperate with universities and other research institutions; 100 businesses supported to introduce new products or services to the market or the firm; 30 hackathons, boot-camps or pit-stops; and 10 in-depth collaborative R+D projects.

What happened in the last period

A follow-on strand from the successful 5G Festival in May has been launched. Alternative Stages continues the partner's work with the regional music industry to help develop the skills required to effectively utilise 5G-powered technologies in that sector. Working with Leeds University, Alternative Stages delivered 2 days of events and workshops during the last period.

Digital Catapult Brighton continued its in-depth review of last year's activity, and has developed a new programme to be called Futurescope. The first Futurescope business support activity is expected to launch later this year.

Work continues apace on the procurement and installation of the specialist technical equipment required to upgrade the 5G testbed to align with BHCC's Research & Innovation Fibre Ring project. The 2 distributed 5G centres in NEH and at Brighton Dome now have dark fibre connections available to link them together.

Aims & objectives

To enable businesses to develop and exploit new products and services utilising emerging technologies (AA/VR, 5G, AI, etc), in order to improve productivity, develop better employment prospects and increase GVA in the region. The Digital Catapult Centre Brighton (DCCB) provides opportunities for start-ups and small businesses to connect with university research knowledge, work with large corporations, access innovation expertise and to engage with two core emerging technology platforms - the Immersive Lab and the 5G testbed. The 5G testbed received additional funding and the initial development and engagement activity is taking place at DCCB, hence the project date extension.

Key facts

Delivery Partners: Wired Sussex, University of Brighton, University of Sussex, BHCC, American Express, BDBF.

Heritage Centre Stage - Brighton



Aims & objectives

New Business Model & Commercial Strategy that increases future resilience by improving commercial performance and reducing running costs:

- Enhanced contribution to Brighton's cultural tourism by a strengthened City Centre & Cultural Quarter offer
- Returning the Royal Pavilion Estate to a world class heritage destination & protecting the heritage
- Achieving the long-term vision for both organisations
- Evidence-based improved Visitor/ Audience experience, and improved learning, access & participation).

Key facts

Delivery Partners: Brighton & Hove City Council & Brighton Dome & Brighton Festival

Funding (all years)

Total LGF Funding	£3.00m
Total Public Funding	£26.60m
Total Private Funding	£5.20m
Total Other Funding	£1.84m
Total Funding	£36.65m

Target milestones

End Date: December 2022

Outputs

- Employment: created and/or safeguarded - 337
- Businesses assisted: financial and non-financial - 624
- New floor space constructed/refurbished: learning - 157 m² new floor space constructed/refurbished, Commercial - 2,652 m²
- Carbon reduction: 39.961 tonnes of CO₂.

What happened in the last period

The Council's appointed Management Contractor, Westridge Construction Limited, continues to progress works to the 200-year-old Corn Exchange timber framed building and the 1930's Studio Theatre. The Studio theatre fibrous plaster ceiling and copper roof had reached the end of their useful lives and were brought into scope and have been completed. Further discoveries on site requiring remedial works have delayed the programme. Finishing and completion works are continuing with the Corn Exchange, Studio Theatre and upper gallery oak timber floors installed and public WCs fitted out. 2nd fix and decoration of 29 New Road, Corn Exchange foyer offices, basement dressing rooms and Creation Space are nearing completion. Theatre trusses have been installed in the Corn Exchange and audio and electrical theatre systems are progressing. Covid-19 and possibly Brexit have impacted availability of materials with longer lead in and delivery times, associated delays and increasing costs with inflation now an additional issue. These impacts remain an on-going risk. In line with Government guidance on site measures related

New England House - Brighton



Aims & objectives

Upgrade and expand New England House so that it becomes a credible and highly visible hub for Greater Brighton's creative, digital and IT (CDIT) businesses.

Key facts

New England House (NEH) is a business centre, built by the local authority in the early 1960s to provide workspace for industrial businesses. Over time, it has been subdivided into around 120 units. It is actively marketed as a centre for CDIT businesses and is much in demand for its relatively affordable workspace.

The building is in urgent need of refurbishment – especially its exterior. Under the Greater Brighton City Deal, BHCC was awarded £4.9 million in 2014 towards the refurbishment and expansion of NEH to consolidate its role as a flagship for the city's CDIT sector.

Delivery Partners: Brighton & Hove City Council

Funding (all years)

Total LGF Funding	n/a
Total Public Funding	£11.1m
Total Private Funding	n/a
Total Other Funding	n/a
Total Funding	n/a

Outputs

Upgrade building, including providing a net additional 7,090m² of new employment floor-space. Following the land deal with Legal & General on the adjacent Longley Industrial Estate, some of this City Deal floorspace output will be provided on the Longley site, with the remainder forming part of a proposed extension to New England House.

What happened in the last period

Further fire compartmentation survey work still awaiting commencement but should commence and be completed by end of year. Design process will recommence in new year once this has been completed. Filming of NEH businesses has been completed and an edit has been accepted for screening in CineCity (Brighton Festival) in November. Further edits will be used to assist promotion of project and future funding bid(s). Project Manager has been appointed and commenced duties for Elder Place Corridor improvements – NEH works will contribute to overall placemaking in the vicinity.

Target milestones

Planning application: Mid 2023

Commence works on site: Late 2024

Completion: Mid 2026

New Monks Farm - Shoreham



Aims & objectives

The project is to develop a strategic employment and housing growth centre in Shoreham. Its main components are: (a) The provision of a new and improved signalised 6-arm junction on the A27 which will unlock housing and employment space by allowing access to and from the wider area and the specific development sites; (b) The building of 600 new homes and 10,000m² employment floor-space at New Monks Farm.

Key facts

Delivery Partners: New Monks Farm Development Ltd, Highways England, West Sussex County Council (WSCC) and Adur District Council (ADC).

Funding (all years)

Total LGF Funding	£5.70m
Total Public Funding	£5.70m
Total Private Funding	£144m
Total Other Funding	£0.00m
Total Funding	£150m

Outputs

1. A £150 million capital investment;
2. The delivery of 600 new homes, 30% of which will be affordable;
3. 876 gross new jobs;
4. £2.8m in public sector receipts from council tax revenues, new homes bonus and new business rates; and £11.5m additional annual GVA to the Adur economy

What happened in the last period

- Housing and infrastructure development has continued at pace with a number of units completed and occupied on the site.
- Work is due to commence on the A27 roundabout in autumn 2021 for completion in late 2022.
- kea announced that they will not continue with their proposed new store and that they will market the site for a suitable development in September 2021.

Target milestones

Delivery of new junction to A27: December 2022

Completion of Development: December 2028

Plus X - Brighton



Aims & objectives

The 'Plus X' seven storey innovation hub is a U+I Plc concept, a model they have delivered successfully elsewhere. As a key element of the comprehensive mixed-use redevelopment it provides a unique, high quality workspace model, tailored to the unique needs of Brighton's creative and entrepreneurial businesses, particularly those designing and making physical products. It aims to be somewhere inspiring, functional, sustainable and flexible in its design. It is an innovative provision of shared workspaces and facilities that promote collaboration and facilitate serendipity. The shared spaces range from events spaces to prototyping labs, meeting rooms and cafe/break out spaces, something that attracts both small and larger tenants.

Key facts

Delivery Partners: Brighton & Hove City Council (Delivery Body), U+I Group Plc (Developer) and University of Brighton (together the partners in the overall mixed-use development across the combined sites).

Funding (all years)

Total LGF Funding	£7.70m
Total Public Funding	£7.70m
Total Private Funding	£12.0m
Total Funding	£19.7m

Target milestones

Complete development end date: December 2022

Outputs

Contractual outputs: 4,910m² of new employment space, 517m² of high specification prototyping labs/workshops, 100 onsite jobs, £5.427m of match funding.

Non-contractual outputs: 200 other jobs, £250,000 follow-on investment, 141 businesses supported.

What happened in the last period?

Plus X remained operational and continued to grow membership. Since its opening in August 2021, the new ground floor café, Café Domenica, has proved a huge success with members and visitors. The café also provides training opportunities for young people with learning disabilities. The Brighton Research Innovation Technology Exchange (BRITE) programme for ambitious and established businesses primarily based in the Coast to Capital Local Enterprise Partnership region continued. Other elements of the Preston Barracks redevelopment are at an advanced stage, with several buildings at or nearing completion. The first residential blocks are due for completion and occupation in the coming months, and external works to other residential blocks continues. The University of Brighton's adjacent development also progressed well. The new student halls on the Mithras House site were completed. Construction of the new pedestrian bridge spanning the Lewes Road continued, with the foundations on either side of the road advancing, with completion expected in mid-2022.

Railway Quay - Newhaven



Aims & objectives

The Newhaven Enterprise Zone (EZ) is a cross-agency that aims to shift the town towards a higher-value economy over the next 25 years. The EZ covers eight key strategic sites (79ha) in a mixture of public and private ownerships, offering a mix of greenfield sites and the opportunity to develop, refurbish and intensify economic activity across a number of brownfield sites formerly used by heavy industry. The focus of the EZ is on growing the emerging 'clean, green and marine' sectors in particular. Over the 25-year lifespan of the EZ, it is estimated that 55,000m² of new commercial floor-space will be created, 15,000m² of existing commercial floor-space will be refurbished. This will create / sustain up to 2,000 FTE jobs.

Key facts

Delivery Partners: Lewes District Council

Funding (all years)

Total LGF Funding	£1.5m
Total Public Funding	£840k
Total Private Funding	£TBC
Total Funding	£TBC

Outputs

New commercial floor-space, job creation and land remediation. Details currently being finalised.

What happened in the last period?

LDC has secured £1.3m from the Getting Building Fund to convert the former UTC building into a maritime and sustainable technology hub, offering education / training space and commercial facilities for SME's. This has been augmented by a commitment of £1.05m from LDC towards the estimated £2.35m project costs. The building purchase completed on 17 June 2022.

Initial works have focused on recommissioning the building. The next phase of works will be to create car park improvements and works associated with tenants moving into the building. A final tenant layout plan / occupier mix is being prepared. It is hoped that LDC will be the first to start occupying the building with use commencing October 22 followed by full relocation of office accommodation by January 2023.

Target milestones

End date: TBC

Springman House - Lewes



Aims & objectives

The project involves the formation of new fire and ambulance station facilities. A key project aim is to deliver modern new premises for both services.

Key facts

Delivery Partners: Lewes District Council are the lead delivery body in partnership with East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service (ESFRS), Sussex Police and the South East Coast Ambulance Service.

Funding (all years)

Total LGF Funding	£2.00m
Total Public Funding	£4.34m
Total Private Funding	£12.0m
Total Funding	£6.34m

Outputs

By enabling the development of a new blue light facility on the site of Springman House, this project will unlock the North Street Quarter scheme - a major, strategic mixed-use development in Lewes. Relocating the Community Fire Station from its existing premises on North Street, Lewes will enable the delivery of new homes and commercial floor-space through the North Street Quarter (NSQ) regeneration scheme, and enable Lewes' "blue light" services to be co-located.

What happened in the last period?

Plus Following the purchase of the site by Lewes District Council, plans were drawn up with the East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service Sussex Police and the South East Coast Ambulance Service. NSQL, the majority landowner at the NSQ site, has now sold its land to the developer – Human Nature. In December 2020, the Council's Cabinet agreed heads of terms for the sale of its own land to this same developer in order that it can comprehensively redevelop the site. Human Nature has confirmed that it will submit a new planning application for the NSQ and the Council is now liaising with the developer to understand its plans and timescales for the site, including the fire station.

Target milestones

End Date: to be confirmed, subject to Human Nature's programme including planning

Teville Gate - Worthing



Teville Gate House construction, December 2019

Aims & objectives

The Teville Gate (TG) forms part of the Worthing Central Programme (Phase 1) to transform key brownfield sites in Worthing town centre. This project will facilitate the redevelopment of the site by undertaking site preparation works, consisting of the demolition of all buildings within the redline and provision of a temporary surface car park. Thereafter the Council will continue to support the freeholders, Mosaic Global Investments (Mosaic) and Hanson Development to develop out the scheme for office, residential and commercial.

Key facts

Delivery Partners: Worthing Borough Council, Mosaic Global Investments, Coast to Capital LEP, Hanson Developments & HMRC, Homes England

Funding (all years)

Total LGF Funding	£2.09m
Total Public Funding	£2.0m
Total Private Funding	£79m (wider site), £32m (Teville Gate House)
Total Funding	£6.34m

Outputs

(a) 375 new homes (b) 3,410sqm of commercial floor-space (restaurants, cafes and on-site gym) (c) 6,740sqm of retail floor-space (state of the art supermarket) (d) 493 gross jobs (net jobs 314) (e) Modern car parking infrastructure (over 160 spaces for residents and visitor use) (f) New public realm (approx. 4,000sqm, creating an improved public corridor from Worthing station to the town centre). 70,000sqft office building at Teville Gate House for HMRC.

What happened in the last period?

- Site acquired by Worthing Borough Council for redevelopment in August 2021
- Development Strategy and approach involving joint investment with London & Continental Railways confirmed in December 2021
- March 2022 Development Partner agreed by JSc Committee – Hyde Housing Group.

Target milestones

Spring/summer 2022 – finalise agreements with Hyde Housing Group.

Winter 2022 – planning process commence

Spring 2023 – planning application submitted

Union Place - Worthing



Aims & objectives

Union Place (UP) forms part of the Worthing Central Programme (Phase 1) to regenerate key brownfield sites in Worthing town centre. The Council has entered into a land pooling agreement for the site with partners London and Continental Railways (LCR). The partners have prepared a development strategy for the sites which has been approved at JSC. The development strategy could include direct delivery or selling the consented scheme to a developer.

Key facts

Delivery Partners: Worthing Borough Council (WBC), London & Continental Railways, Coast to Capital LEP

Funding (all years)

Total LGF Funding	£3.60m	
Total Public Funding	£5.0m	
Total Private Funding	£31.4m	
Total Funding	£36.4m	Estimated GDV £70m

Outputs

- 169 - New Homes – 30% affordable
- 610sqm - Commercial Space
- 90 - Guest room Hotel
- 3 /4 Screen – Cinema
- 1072sqm- Flexible Cultural Space
- 245 – Parking spaces

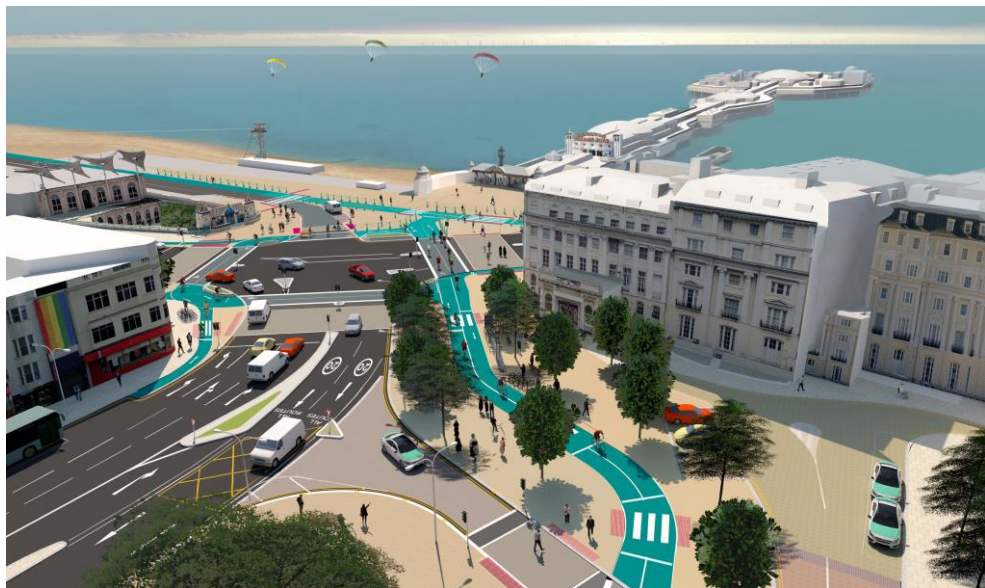
What happened in the last period?

- S106 agreement drafted and formal planning permission issued
- Roffey Homes Agreed as Development Partner on the site

Target milestones

- Finalise JV agreement – June 2022
- Detailed/ revised matters planning application due autumn 2022
- Commence on site spring 2023

Valley Gardens Phase 3 - Brighton



Proposed scheme

Aims & objectives

Simplification of traffic network, provision of 'public transport corridor' to the west with general traffic on the western corridor. Enhanced public realm, gardens and materials throughout. The scheme aims to contribute to improved air quality, safety, accessibility, connectivity, improve efficiency and upgrade signals at junctions. Reduce street clutter and provide enhanced greenspace for public enjoyment.

Key facts

Delivery Partners: Coast to Capital LEP

Funding (all years)

Total LGF Funding	£6.00m
Total Public Funding	£1.84m
Total Private Funding	£0.0m
Total Borrowing	£5.0m
Total Funding	£12.84m

Outputs

Match Funding (BHCC) £1.712m, Local Funding £0.414m, Total resurfaced roads - 1,588m, Total length of cycle ways - 670m.

What happened in the last period?

Following the third public consultation exercise for Valley Gardens Phase 3 which completed in late 2020, and further stakeholder engagement on the final General Highway Arrangement was agreed by ETS Committee in January 2022. Furthermore, the additional budget requirement needed to deliver the project was approved by Policy & Resources Committee which would be acquired through borrowing. Cost estimates have increased due to rising construction costs and additional stakeholder infrastructure included in the plan, such as those required for sustainable events and cycling. The construction contract procurement will commence in autumn 2022 and be completed by winter 2022/3. Construction to complete spring 2024.

Target milestones

End Date: Spring 2024

Western Harbour Arm - Shoreham



Proposed scheme

Aims & objectives

A new flood defence wall and cycle path to be constructed in Shoreham adjacent to the A259 on Brighton Road where the flood defence is at its most vulnerable point for flooding. ADC purchased a 3.5m strip of land off Sussex Yacht Club through grant funding from Coast 2 Capital LEP. The sale of the land would enable the yacht club to build a new club house and allow the council to demolish the redundant club house where the new flood wall will be located.

Key facts

Delivery Partners: Adur District Council (ADC), Environment Agency and Sussex Yacht Club, Shoreham Harbour Partnership.

Funding (all years)

Total LGF Funding	£3.50m
Total Public Funding	£1.14m
Total Private Funding	£0.0m
Total Other Funding	£0.0m
Total Funding	£4.64m

Outputs

- Flood defence scheme to protect residents and businesses
- Cycle path
- New yacht club for Shoreham.

What happened in the last period?

- Demolition of redundant Yacht Club October/November 2021
- Continued pluvial and fluvial modelling to inform design

Target milestones

- Commencement of Flood Defence construction 2022
- Completion autumn 2022

CONTACT

Who to talk to if you have any questions

Andy Hill, Business Manager

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