**Brighton & Hove Economic Partnership**  
6th June 2017, 5pm – 7pm  
Harbour Hotel, Brighton

**MINUTES**

**Attendees:** Dean Orgill MWB [Chair]  
 Ed Allison-Wright Haydon Consulting [Vice Chair]  
 Gavin Stewart BHEP/Brighton BID  
 Fiona Ras The Platform  
 Emma Turner The Platform  
 Gary Peters Love Local Jobs.com  
 Martin Searle Federation of Small Business  
 Clive Soper FSB  
 Julia Weeks Tourism Alliance   
 Simon Lambor Matsim  
 Angi Mariani Latest TV  
 Cllr Robert Nemeth BHCC  
 Cllr Allan Robins BHCC  
 Phil Graves Graves Jenkins  
 Tim Hague Shoreham Port   
 Sue Baxter Brighton University  
 Tony Portelli The Argus  
Sophie Moss BHCC  
 Cheryl Finella BHCC  
 Paul Spruce Stiles Harold Williams  
 Paul Burgess Lewis + Co Planning  
 Martin Lawrence HBA   
 Mark Buchanan-Smith Churchill Square  
 Amy Lishman B&H Chamber of Commerce  
 Jon Filby Sussex Cricket  
 Caroline Wood Coastal West Sussex Partnership  
 George Dobson Graves Jenkins  
 Jeremy Barkway Southern Housing Group  
   
**Speakers:** Sarah Chitty U+I  
 Sue McHugh COO University of Sussex  
 Neil Humphreys University of Sussex Fiona Ras The Platform  
 Adam Tickell VC University of Brighton  
 Nick Juba CEO The MET  
 Mike Le Rooy Coast to Capital  
 Kirsten Trussell Coast to Capital LEP  
 Nick Hibberd BHCC  
 Jamie Watson Coast to Capital LEP

**Apologies:** Rodney Lunn Shoreham Port  
 Geoff Raw BHCC  
 Andrew Mosely Grand Hotel, Brighton   
 Cllr Warren Morgan BHCC  
 Martin Harris B&H Buses  
 Jim May Sussex County Cricket Club  
 Alison Addy Gatwick Airport Ltd  
 Caraline Brown Midnight Communications

**1.0 Welcome and Apologies:**Dean Orgill welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised that several apologies had been received.

**2.0 Minutes of Last Meeting**   
DO asked for any comments/changes to the minutes from the previous meeting. None were received and the minutes were agreed as a true reflection.

**3.0 Preston Barracks, Mithras House, Watt Building: Lewes Road Development Proposals**

Dean Orgill introduced U+I and the University of Brighton to outline their development proposals for the Mithras House and Preston Barracks Site.

A full copy of the presentation is available upon request.

The economic Benefit highlights are:

* 369 Homes
* 1,338 Student Beds
* 50,000sqft CRL
* 75,000sqft Business School
* 759 Car Parking Spaces
* Bridge over Lewes Road

**Economic Impact**

* New jobs: 1,584
* Spend over 10 years: £146m
* Value added to local economy: £281m
* Build contract for masterplan: £300m

**Social Benefits**

* Improved connections to Moulsecoomb station, bus stops and over Lewes Road
* Support for brighton & hove cycle hire scheme
* Edible landscaping for whole community
* 1km fitness route with outdoor gym equipment
* Outdoor play space

New public streets and squares

**3.1 Questions from the floor** A question was raised around crime, particularly around the new bridge.  
The group was advised that the development proposed to created large public spaces on either side of the bridge. In doing so, this would create busy areas, but in addition, there would be a management scheme looking after the site along with the university itself, managing the actual bridge. Also, there is a focus on designing out crime as part of the brief.

A further question was raised around the calculation of job creation.   
 The group was advised that the standard office rates were generally 1 in 10 or 1 in 11. With hot desk and fixed desk working the figures were denser at around 1 in 6. With the additional provision of business support, the team are able to accelerate the numbers around job creation to deliver the same benefit as 100,000 sq ft of floorspace on less.   
  
 The group was asked about the road improvement to the area as part of the scheme.   
 Members were advised that the two new junctions (north and south) would be smart, signalised junctions, which meant that if one was on red, the subsequent one would be green, allowing a free flow of traffic. In addition, there will be a bridge, so less people will be crossing the road at ground level. Finally, there is also a full transport assessment to ensure that there are enough spaces to satisfy the people on the site and users will be encouraged to use public transport.

To conclude, a question was raised around ‘The Field’ and when its current use would be terminated. The group was told that the developers were already talking to The Field, who are fully aware that they will need to fine new accommodation with 4-5 months. Given that they have been granted the current site rent free, the group was advised that this was not an issue.

**4.0 Social Enterprise In Brighton & Hove**

Fiona Ras, Director of The Platform gave a presentation of the value of Social Enterprise to the local economy. [A copy of that presentation can be viewed here](http://www.brilliantbrighton.com/wp-content/uploads/BHEP-Social-Enterprise-Presentation-6.06.17.pptx).

The highlights from the presentation were thus:

* **70,000** Social Enterprises in the UK
* **73%** of social enterprises earn more than 75% of their income from trade
* Turnover **£8.5 billion**
* **61%** Avg. growth in turnover
* **116,000** Jobs

FR advised that within the context of the current Economic Strategy, there were a number of connections that can already be made to the benefits of Social Enterprise locally, namely:

* SO1: Significant investment in to the city
* SO2: SE businesses often have an environmental focus, they reinvest in their supply chains to support growth of the environmental sector. In addition, The Platform is in the process of creating a Greater Brighton Buy Social Directory to further support this along with meet the buyer events and creating the Buy Corporate Social Challenge
* SO3: They support higher value sectors and support social entrepreneurs along with the development of intrapreneurial skills.
* SO4: With particular respect to barriers to employment – many SE businesses ingrain their mission statements with proposals to get hard to reach groups in to appropriate employment.
* SO5: SE’s effectively promote the social and environmental impact across the piece.

FR concluded her presentation by asserting the need for supporting the Social Enterprise Sector in the city to become part of the Economic Strategy given its impact and growth potential.

DO thanked FR for her input.

**5.0 Sussex University Strategic Plan**

DO invited Adam Tickell, Vice Chancellor of the University of Sussex to outline current work on their strategic plan.

AT advised that the macro environment for the university sector was currently very difficult. With Brexit, come real challenges with 20% of research income coming from the EU along with a significant number of students being EU passport holders. In addition, the Government’s hostile approach to immigration causes issues, which accelerates the problem as one of the easier ways to manage it is to restrict student visas – however, the university sector is the 7th largest export industry in the country. AT went on to say that under a conservative government, there was a move from higher education and a return to polytechnics with a clampdown on visas for students. Whilst under a Labour government, fees were an issue. Fees are the things that drive innovation in universities. By removing the fees, you starve all the other investments in to education. AT advised that:

* The UoS was currently in the top 20 of all British league table.
* They currently have 20% British BME students
* 1500 student beds to be built by sept 2018

AT went on to say that UoS aimed to be progressive and distinctive. When it was set up in the 1960s, its aim was to be a radical alternative to Oxbridge. The university currently had a global reach and global outlook with three Nobel prize-winners, the best international development school in the work and was at the forefront of quantum technology.

**5.1 The Strategy**

AT advised that the strategy had four key elements:

1. **Education**: Radical intervention – inverting and subverting the sector
2. **Research**: Research intensive and genuinely world leading (particularly with the quantum technology sector which allows computing which is currently Impossible)
3. **Sustainability**: Financial, triple bottom line, environmental impact and reducing carbon emissions.
4. **Re-engaging with the local and global community:** closer collaboration withBrighton University, the city council, Economic Partnership and the MET.

AT advised that the UoS generated £300m for the local economy. AT went on to say that there was a need to work with the local economy for the benefit of local firms and students.

DO thanked AD for attending. Gavin Stewart to liaise with AT to promote UoS objectives to the group and garner feedback.

**6.0 Greater Brighton Metropolitan College (MET)**DO welcomed Nick Juba to the meeting.

NJ gave a presentation on the Greater Brighton Metropolitan College strategic plan consultation. [The full presentation can be viewed here.](http://www.brilliantbrighton.com/wp-content/uploads/BHEP-Strategic-Plan-consultation.pptx)

The context for the plan include:

* **Policy change:**Apprenticeships  
  Skills plan. T-levels and 15 Vocational routes   
  HE
* **Responding to economic and labour market changes:**Coast2capital, GBEB, CDIT etc
* **Financial challenges:**Low unit funding and marginal profit/contribution  
  Reasonable gearing, improved cash and working capital  
  Challenging EBITDA/CFDS
* **Student support:**Significant and sustained rise in referrals to safeguarding, mental health and all aspects of additional learning support
* **Competition and partnership:**Universities, schools, 6th forms, PTPs, other FE
* **Technological Change:**AI, VR, as well as more blended learning  
  Investment in IT infrastructure  
  Buildings…

NJ advised the **priorities** for then MET thus:

**1. Delivering an exceptional student experience**

Every student and apprentice should receive an exceptional experience. From the point of application, through the teaching on their course to the achievement of their qualification and the advice they get on next steps.

**2. Getting our courses right**

Reviewing and updating of courses to ensure they are relevant, engaging, attractive to students, take account of government policy and support progression to further learning or employment.

**3. Becoming an employer of choice**

Making sure they can attract and retain the very best staff. Common, fair and transparent terms and conditions for all staff. Structured development and progression opportunities that allow them to manage their talent.

**4. Building partnerships**

Serving all communities and meeting the needs of young people and adults across Greater Brighton and beyond

Building relationships with employers so that every student and apprentice has a clear line of sight to work

Using partnerships with schools, colleges and universities for the benefit of our students and to extend sphere of influence.

**5. Making money, buildings and technology work**

They will invest in their buildings so that students at every campus can access fit for purpose classrooms, studios, workshops and social spaces

They will use technology to support teaching and learning and to help staff do their jobs

They will manage their income and expenditure in line with their medium-term financial priorities to ensure they can invest in teaching, learning, buildings and technology.

NJ concluded by saying that he was keen to explore additional ways of working together. GS to take forward with NJ in due course.

**7.0** **Coast to Capital Local Enterprise Partnership - Emerging SEP priorities and links with the B&H Economic Strategy**

DO welcomed Mike Le Rooy (C2C Board Member) and Kirsten Trussell (Head of Strategy and Policy) to the meeting.

MlR gave a presentation covering the following points:

* Success in Brighton has been achieved by doing things differently and I feel it is critical that this continues, especially as the external environment keeps changing (as we saw this morning!)
* The importance of cities being “talent magnets” – to support the higher education and creative sectors, plus the benefits of global links that naturally get established through global talent.
* If immigration and Int’l student numbers decrease, it is important for Brighton to continue to develop its unique offer and global brand to attract that talent relative the rest of the UK (an example of success through being different to the surrounding area is Austin, Texas)
* Brighton already has a global profile, especially in Europe. This can be extended – Football will help (millions follow English football globally!)
* Inbound tourism, the built environment (quality, not quantity), transport links, housing availability all support this.
* Important to support a small number of big projects to get sponsorship and funding – e.g. Rail capacity into London.  One thing completed is better than several “maybe” projects…

Kirsten Trussell highlighted the current issues around Strategic Economic Strategy.

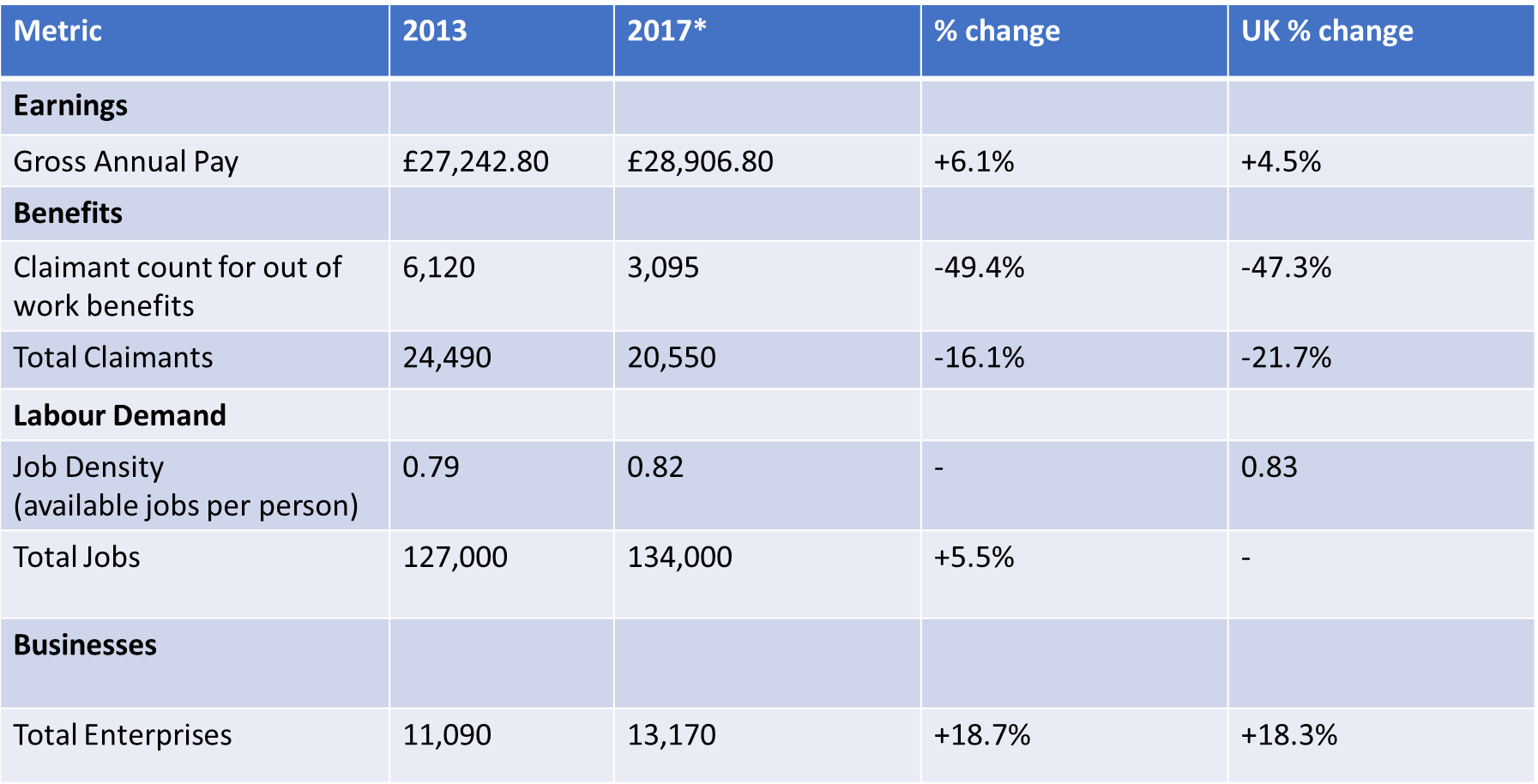
* The new SEP will largely follow the priorities set out in the Industrial Strategy
* KT asked for involvement from stakeholders and would be implementing an engagement plan with a small task group to carry out some visioning
* Focus needs to be on what makes the region stand out
* There is a need to engage with experts, e.g. the Sub National Transport Body
* The existing SEP is unwieldy (180 pages with a transport annex)

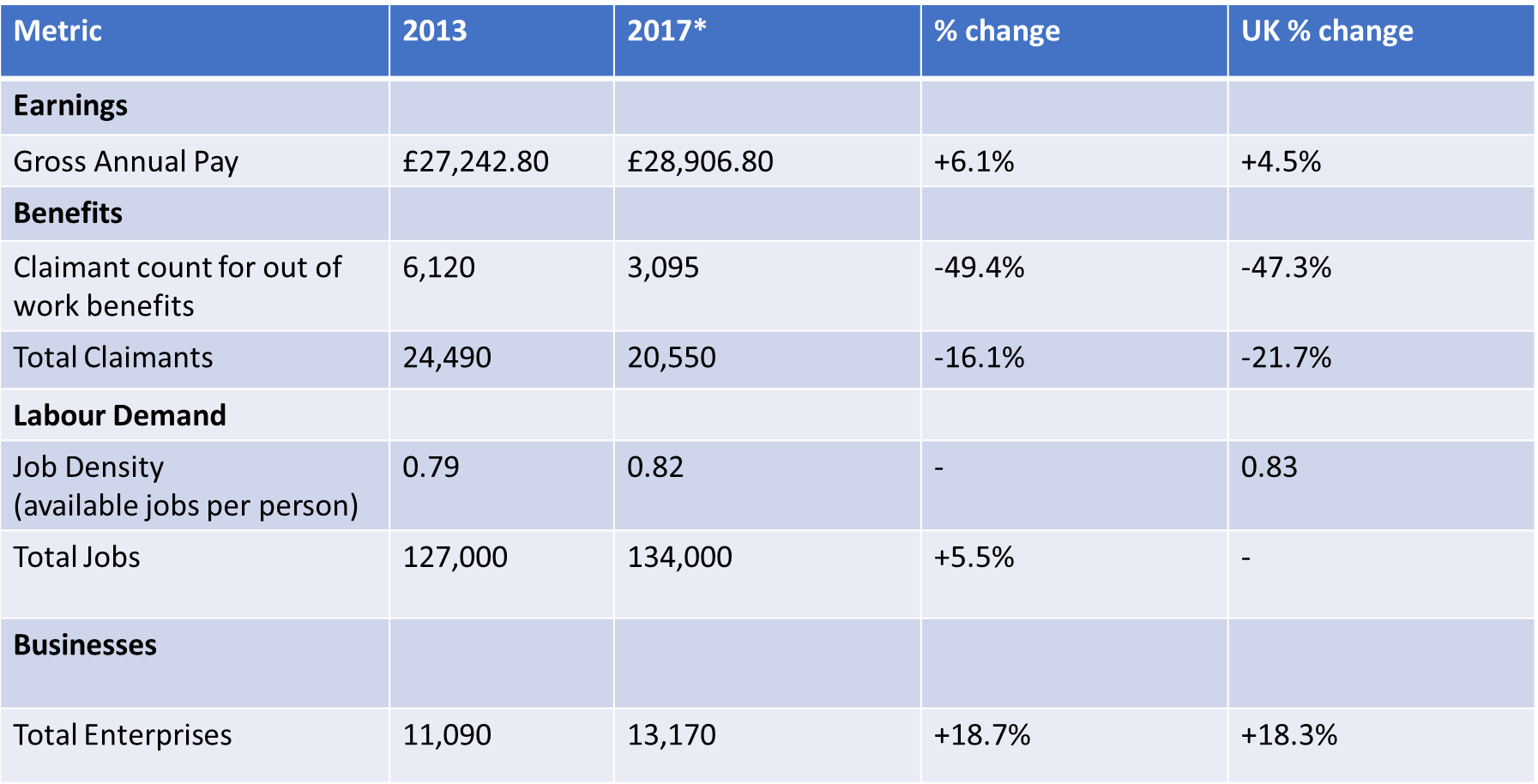
KT concluded by saying that they are keen to engage as much as possible going forward.

DO thanked Mike and Kirsten for their contribution and advised GS would work with them to take their plans forward with the BHEP.

**8.0 Current B&H Economic Strategy Review**DO welcomed Nick Hibberd, Executive Director Economy, Environment and Culture for Brighton & Hove City Council to the meeting.

NH gave a presentation updating the group on the progress made on the current Economic Strategy due to end in March 2018. A copy of that presentation is available on request. Highlights from the presentation are outlined below.

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NH further outlined a number of successes under the five strategic headings from the current Economic Strategy:

**SO1: To enhance Brighton & Hove’s distinctive destination and lifestyle offer**

**VisitBrighton’s year-round programme of events**

Total expenditure by visitors to Brighton & Hove is estimated to have been in the region of £858.1 million in 2015.

* Brighton Marathon
* Brighton Fringe
* Brighton Festival
* The Great Escape Music Festival
* London to Brighton Bike Ride
* Speed Trials
* London to Brighton Veteran Car Run
* Royal Pavilion Ice Rink
* Burning the Clocks
* Pride

**Reinvigorating the Royal Pavilion Estate**

* Phase 1 will deliver a major restoration of the Grade I listed Corn Exchange & Grade II listed Studio Theatre to enhance audience comfort and interpretation
* The Estate wide Wayfinding and branding will be commenced and continue through the following phases.
* Works started on site on 13th February 2017 and are programmed to be completed in Autumn 2018.

**SO2: To grow quality jobs and business opportunities in higher value and low carbon sectors**

**Digital Catapult and 5G**

* + Awarded £1.77m Local Growth Fund (Round 1)
  + The Digital Catapult Centre Brighton celebrated its first anniversary in March 2016.
  + The Centre creates links between universities and business that enable R&D findings in Digital Catapult technology to be converted into commercial opportunities.
  + New products and services such as the latest 5G technologies.

**Greater Brighton Broadband Voucher Scheme**

* Scheme launched in Brighton & Hove in April 2014 to provide up to £3,000 to small businesses, charities and voluntary organisations to gain access to faster broadband connectivity.
* Scheme extended to encompass much of the Greater Brighton area.
* Over 1,000 businesses in the Greater Brighton area have taken up the offer and benefiting from improved broadband speeds.

**Advanced Engineering Centre: University of Brighton**

**Awarded £7m Local Growth Fund (Round 1)**

* The University of Brighton scheme to create an Advanced Engineering Centre in Brighton
* The Centre’s objective is to advance the design and development of low carbon internal combustion systems and wider objectives to advance technological knowledge and support training needs of the next generation of engineers in the City Region.
* Construction has begun and the project remains on-track for the Centre to open in September 2017.

**Sussex Bio-Innovation Centre**

**Awarded £5.520m Local Growth Fund (Round 3)**

* Deliver a new £99m Life Sciences building at the University of Sussex’s Falmer campus. Fostering pharma and biotech companies.
* Providing a dedicated teaching space, modern laboratory equipment, technical support and inspiring collaboration spaces for academics, researchers and clinicians to share knowledge and create partnerships.
* Support 20 new businesses at a time, and creating over 60 specialist bio-science graduate-level jobs, 20 specialist technicians, business support and management positions, as well as 147 new indirect academic and teaching jobs.

**SO3: To better align jobs skills to projected needs and in support of higher value sectors**

Key Projects

* Greater Brighton Metropolitan College
* Greater Brighton City Deal Growth Hub – Regional Growth Fund
* Greater Brighton Employer Skills Task Force
* Green Growth Platform
* City Employment & Skills Plan 2016-2020

**SO4: To tackle barriers to employment and to create employment opportunities for all**

**Raising Attainment in Maths**

* City wide project to place maths in more applied contexts, particularly in relation to business and enterprise
* Partnership with the Universities of Brighton and Sussex, Her Majesty’s Inspectorate (HMI) and Brighton & Hove City Council has allocated £150,000 funding toward delivery

**Living Wage Campaign**

* Launched in 2012, the Brighton & Hove Living Wage Campaign aims to encourage local businesses to voluntarily pay all employees a decent hourly rate and commit to paying their employees the Living wage.
* Brighton & Hove City Council funds the Living Wage Campaign which is delivered by Brighton & Hove Chamber of Commerce.
* There are now 324 Living Wage employers in Brighton & Hove and over 3,020 salaries have been raised as a result.

**SO5: To establish a strong and influential Greater Brighton City Region**

**Greater Brighton City Region Investment Programme**

* A total of approximately £150m has been allocated to projects across the City Region.
* Rounds 1 & 2 LGF - 14 projects will deliver a total investment of approximately £376m into the City Region, unlocking an estimated 14,000 jobs, 8,200 homes and 450,000sqm of employment floorspace.
* Round 3 LGF – 6 projects will bring a combined private sector match fund of £745.4m into the City Region and deliver approximately 9,844 direct jobs, 5,965 homes and 299,428sqm of employment floor space.

**Projects**

* Digital Catapult and 5G (£1.77m)
* The Advanced Engineering Centre (£7m)
* Central Research Laboratory, Preston Barracks (£7.7m)
* Newhaven Flood Defences (£7.5m)
* Newhaven Port Access Road (£10m)
* Shoreham Flood Defences (£10.5m)
* Circus Street Innovation Growth Centre (2.7m)
* City College Brighton & Hove, Construction Trades Centre (£9m)
* Brighton Valley Gardens Phase 1 & 2 (£8m)
* Brighton Valley Gardens Phase 3 (£6m)
* A2300 Burgess Hill (£17m)
* Brighton & Hove Intelligent Transport Systems Package (£1.83m)
* Brighton & Hove Bike Share (£1.16m)
* Worthing Sustainable Transport Package (£0.8m)
* Royal Pavilion Estate (Corn Exchange and Studio Theatre) (£3m)
* Adur Civic Centre (£1.8m)
* Springman House (£2m)
* Railway Quay (£1.5m)
* Eastside South (1.6m)
* Worthing Centre Phase 1 (£5.692m)
* Decoy Farm (£4.844m)
* New Monks Farm & Airport (£5.71m)
* Burgess Hill Infrastructure package (£14.9m)
* Sussex Bio-Innovation Centre (£5.52m)
* Black Rock Site Development (£12.111m)

**One Public Estate Programme**

Public property valued at over £2 billion is set to be unlocked in the next five years throughout the region. Potential to create more than 1,300 new jobs and 1,200 new homes in the region over the next ten years

* Springman House, Lewes
* Worthing Civic Centre
* Brighton General Hospital
* Dyke Road Barracks, Brighton
* Moulsecoomb Neighbourhood Hub
* Preston Barracks, Brighton
* Preston Circus Fire Station

**International Trade & Export**

* Build a strong and distinctive brand for the City Region that will attract investment and build business resilience post Brexit

**8.1 Next Steps**

NH advised that the city council was currently coping what needed to be at a city scale and what needed to be at a regional level with a view to have completed the new strategy by March 2018.

NH went on to say that it was critical to influence and support the LEP and that the Government was interested in Brighton & Hove as a place to ‘land’ national policy in the local place.

NH concluded by saying that the city council and BHEP would jointly prepare the new strategy for the next five years.

DO thanked NH for the presentation and advised that the following meeting would draw in the themed discussed here with a view to collectively influencing the new strategy.

**9.0 Any Other Business**No other business was discussed.

**10.0 Date and Time of Next Meetings**

**5pm – Tuesday 5th September**

**5pm – Tuesday 5th December**

**Venues to be confirmed**