



South East LEP Local Industrial Strategy

Supporting Pack

November 2019





Introduction

This paper summarises the emerging propositions and underpinning themes developed for the South East Local Industrial Strategy (SE LIS). It is structured as follows:

- An overview of the proposed approach to the LIS
- Outline of the three proposed strategic opportunities
- Outline of the four policy themes, and logic chains for proposed interventions in each of these
- Potential local commitments and potential 'asks' to government

This represents the latest thinking at the point of drafting and it should be noted that work continues to refine the opportunities, commitments and asks.

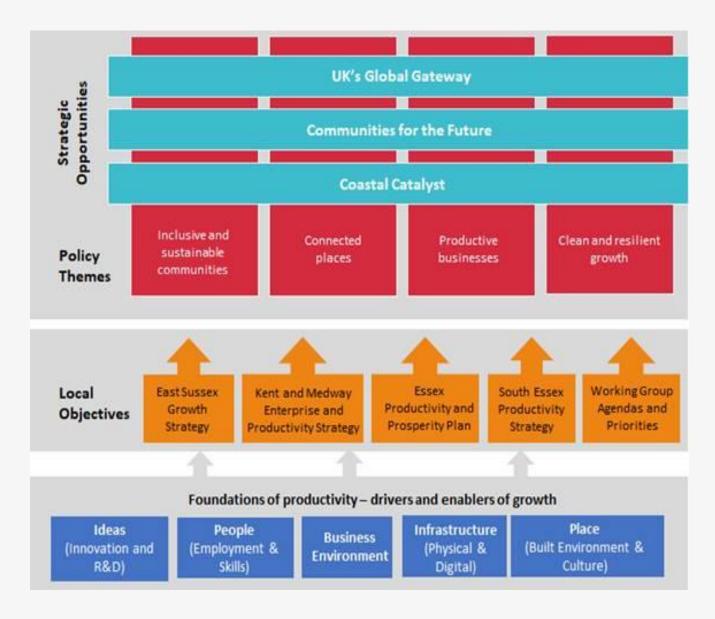


Proposed Approach

The South East LIS builds on an evidence base structured around the five foundations of productivity defined by government, and considers these through the lens of the local objectives.

From this, three distinctive strategic opportunities for the SELEP region have been identified, which are underpinned by four policy themes around which we define future local commitments and potential 'asks' to government.

Achieving greater **innovation**, **skills and inclusivity** are core principles that will feature throughout the LIS.





Policy Themes



SELEP will lead the country in creating communities for the future, spearheading innovation and investment, where people not only want to live but do business and spend time.



Productive businesses

SELEP will attract, retain and help to accelerate the productivity of businesses in the South East, leading to greater growth and innovation.



Connected places

SELEP will deliver strategic infrastructure that maximises our role as a gateway region for the UK.



Clean and resilient growth

SELEP will maximise the opportunities to protect, enhance and promote the region's natural assets, and drive clean and resilient growth.



"SELEP will lead the country in creating communities for the future, spearheading innovation and investment, where people not only want to live but do business and spend time."

Strategic Opportunities

- UK's Global Gateway support delivery of major projects and investments
- Communities for the Future pioneer innovative and sustainable new communities
- Coastal Catalyst to apply learning from new community development to revive existing coastal & rural

Grand Challenges

- ✓ Clean Growth
- ✓ Future of Mobility
- Ageing Society

Inclusive and sustainable communities

Logic chain



Strong population growth projected to continue in future, placing increasing pressure on housing supply and affordability across SELEP
Sizeable capacity for growth and development of new communities, but concerns over deliverability of major projects and development
The need to respond to the climate change emergency through a more sustainable and inclusive approach to development

Overseeing a co-ordinated approach to workforce planning and skills to ensure a sufficient supply of skilled labour to deliver major projects
 Facilitate opportunities to embed innovative design and technology in settlements of the future, inc. commercial space, building on presence of existing clusters

•Instill a focus on wellbeing and healthy and age appropriate living to encourage labour market participation amongst resident base

Establish a major projects group (or equivalent) to lead strategic resource planning for major developments and projects across SELEP
Oversee development of a more visible and thriving innovation ecosystem to more effectively link business, HE/FE and public sector bodies to collaborate in development of new communities fit for future living, work and leisure
Instigate and co-ordinate application of new technologies across new developments

Provision of a sufficient workforce (scale and skills) to successfully deliver planned new development and investment
 Increased collaboration between business, academia and public sector/Government around innovation and its commercialisation
 Application of green technology principles across SELEP's major projects, new development and existing communities



 Provision of high quality communities, housing, business premises and infrastructure that is fundamental to attracting and retaining skilled workers and business investment

•Growth in high productivity sectors implementing new, innovative technology (including construction, low carbon/green energy)
 •Achieve clean growth principles (in line with national industrial strategy), and support wellbeing and healthy living



"SELEP will deliver strategic infrastructure that maximises our role as a gateway region for the UK."

Strategic Opportunities

- UK's Global Gateway high quality infrastructure to support trade, investment and enterprise
- Communities for the Future support more sustainable patterns and modes of travel
- Coastal Catalyst improve connectivity to coastal areas to increase productivity

Grand Challenges

- ✓ Clean Growth
- ✓ Future of Mobility
- ✓ A.I.& Data

Logic chain

• SELEP's global gateway role potentially undermined by increasing road and rail congestion and reliability associated with digital infrastructure and a skills deficit

Connected places

• Presence of key growth corridors that provide strategic opportunities to stimulate economic and productivity growth, including our relationships with London

•Responding to digital connectivity "not spots' and wider opportunities presented by digitalisation/digital technologies

Provide the conditions to enable the South East to be a catalyst for new enterprise and international trade
 Unlock potential of key growth corridors through targeted infrastructure investment, sector initiatives and closer working with London
 Adopt digital technology to facilitate more efficient transport networks and cutting edge connectivity within our new and garden communities

• Explore initiatives to expand the role major infrastructure assets can play in boosting the regions international trade and business growth • Establish a framework to co-ordinate investment within SELEP's key growth corridors, inc Thames Estuary • Eacilitate partnership working between digital infrastructure providers (inpovators, skills providers (inc EE/HE) and developers to accelerate

• Facilitate partnership working between digital infrastructure providers/innovators, skills providers (inc FE/HE) and developers to accelerate digitalization across the region

SELEP maximises its role as the UK's global gateway to become location of choice for high value business activity and investment
 Growth corridors provide catalyst and driver for strategic development (inc new communities) and sector based innovation
 Digital technology fully integrated across SELEP's economy and driving solutions to connectivity challenges/constraints



Strengthened inward investment proposition and improved access to supply chains, customers and export markets
Development and growth of high productivity sector clusters supported by agglomeration benefits from improved B2B connectivity
A more efficient economy through enhanced digital connectivity, capacity and reliability



Productive Businesses

"SELEP will attract, retain and help to accelerate the productivity of businesses in the South East, leading to greater growth and innovation."

Strategic Opportunities

- UK's Global Gateway grow our business base and innovation activity
- Communities for the Future create new economic opportunities including creative and clean growth sectors
- Coastal Catalyst improve the growth potential and productivity of coastal economies

Grand Challenges

- ✓ Clean Growth
- ✓ A.I.& Data
- ✓ Ageing Society

Logic chain

	• Business start-ups and growth of business base underperforms the UK average
	Lower rates of business scale-ups compared to other southern LEP areas
ssues	• R&D intensity and leverage of innovation funding very low, particularly in terms of higher education

• Pro • Initi

Strengthen business awareness and access to business support and skills and actively target businesses in hard to reach coastal & rural areas
Provide the conditions that businesses require to operate more productively, including provision of high class commercial space
Initiate programmes to drive innovation and the transfer and adoption of new technologies across clusters and sectors

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Activities	• I I+iI

Co-ordinate a high-quality business support offer to meet the future needs of businesses of all scales, sectors and areas, including skills development
 Establish a scale-up programme to support break through businesses to grow faster, particularly in key sectors
 Implement an innovation, research and development offer in conjunction with universities, catapults and innovation networks
 Utilise opportunities through new developments and initiatives around future high streets and stronger towns for appropriate commercial space

Increased business turnover, employment and economic output within the region
 Increase scale-ups per 100k population to levels comparable to other southern LEP areas
 Increase R&D intensity within region, and total amount of innovation spending secured

• Greater levels of competition leads to more efficient allocation of resources and specialisation
 • Foster innovation activity in products, processes and through cross-industry collaboration and supply chains
 • Development and growth of new industry/sector specialisations within region and more commercialisation of FE/HE research



"SELEP will maximise the opportunities to protect, enhance and promote the region's natural assets, and drive clean and resilient growth."

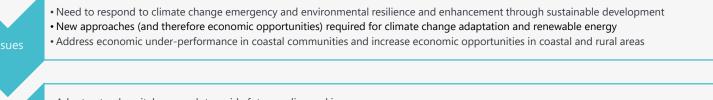
Strategic Opportunities

- UK's Global Gateway become a leader in clean growth sectors, and maximise the role of ports
- Communities for the Future maximise opportunities for delivering clean growth at scale, and promoting healthy living
- Coastal Catalyst harness new opportunities including energy and visitor economy, and develop response to climate change

Grand Challenges

- ✓ Clean Growth
- ✓ A.I.& Data

Logic chain



- Adopt natural capital approach to guide future policy-making
 Embed clean growth and sustainability principles within delivery of new garden communities, and through retrofit programmes
- Implement Tri-LEP Energy Strategy, supporting the transition to a net zero carbon economy
 - Optimise the growth of agri-tech, agri-food and forestry-tech sectors to support and enhance natural habitats
- Explore approaches to extend the visitor season and develop the tourism sector through a potentials tourism sector deal
- Link FE/HE and public sector agencies to industry to establish a programme that can deliver the skills and capabilities the energy sector requires
- Greater innovation to alleviate pressure on natural assets and increased investment in climate change resilience measures
 New communities drive growth of sustainable design, construction and energy production
 New sector-based opportunities within coastal and rural areas increases local opportunities for business and skills development



Achieve clean growth principles (in line with national industrial strategy), and support wellbeing and healthy living
Pioneer new technologies and solutions with high-growth potential and routes to scale-up/commercialisation for business
Support more inclusive growth and address structural challenges in coastal and rural communities thereby reducing productivity gap

Clean and resilient growth



Strategic Opportunities

From the content developed through the policy themes, three strategic distinctive opportunities are proposed

UK's Global Gateway

Our infrastructure provides key connectivity for the UK into Europe and the world.

We will work with our gateways to identify how we can strengthen these locations by addressing congestion and reliability associated with transport and digital infrastructure, incl. routes to London, and how we can capitalize on this to increase two way international trade and enterprise for the region.

Communities for the Future

We will deliver 30% of the Garden Communities housing in the UK and drive design and innovation that provide communities for the future, across the region.

Our developments and interventions will deliver R&D outcomes that will embed the future of living and work, including resident well-being, mobility, healthy ageing and sustainable energy and learn lessons and share knowledge for application to existing communities.

Coastal Catalyst

We will improve the economic fabric of our coastal areas to encourage private sector investment, supply chain development and job growth.

We will implement programmes to increase productivity through growth of the Visitor Economy and the creative and cultural and tourism sectors; capitalize on the clean energy potential of the coast and establish a new maritime sector group to maximise growth opportunities.

Innovative – Skilled – Inclusive



Potential activities

Connected places	
 Build on existing TfSE analysis to enhance understanding of future road and rail connectivity and investment needs across the region, incl. impact of major developments and access to ports Identify and support key growth corridors linked to major infrastructure, sector/cluster initiatives & planned new communities Assessment of opportunities for digital technology incl. building upon the LEP's role as a digital skills partnership Facilitate the quick adoption of 5G/fibre technology, and explore new models for delivering digital infrastructure in hard to reach places, supporting our thriving rural business community Consider opportunities to accelerate the South East's role as a gateway for global (two way) trade and enterprise, incl. potential of Freeport status and tech solutions for 'Smart Borders' Review criteria for future funding assessments to reflect LIS priorities 	
Clean and resilient growth	
 Deliver clear plans to address connectivity challenges in coastal and rural areas; accelerate Government's Rural Connectivity Programme Apply learning from innovative new community development activities to existing communities Support the implementation of the Tri-Lep South2East Local Energy Strategy and deliver initiatives that support sustainable energy to transition to a net zero carbon economy, incl. alignment with the Offshore Wind Sector Deal Work collaboratively to protect and enhance our natural resources, and explore opportunities to commercialise our assets incl. to support resilience in the rural economy Optimise the growth and development of Agri-tech, Agri-food and Forestry-tech sectors Develop the Visitor Economy, ensuring culture is embedded in its growth potential and incl. alignment to the Tourism Sector Deal/Tourism Zone Create a maritime cluster group, supported by Maritime UK to drive growth directly (on the coast) and in supply chains and detail how Ports can catalyse trade and enterprise 	



Points for discussion

Board members are asked to consider the content in the preceding slides and provide feedback on the following questions:

- Do you agree with the three distinctive strategic opportunities, that SELEP should promote to Government through the LIS?
- Are there any key challenges or opportunities that you feel are not represented through the proposed opportunities and/or policy themes?
- Are there any specific local commitments or actions that you would like to see reflected in the LIS, or specific asks which you feel we should take to Government?

Feedback from Board members will be incorporated into the drafting of the LIS document, to be presented to the Strategic Board on 31st January 2020.





Evidence Base Summary



A comprehensive evidence base has been developed for the LIS, building upon wealth of existing intelligence and analysis held by SELEP and its partners





The LIS evidence base has been used to identify particularly pertinent productivity points, challenges and opportunities to help to frame LIS development



Productivity Overview

- SELEP is a major contributor to the UK economy, generating more economic output (GVA) than any other LEP outside of London
- But relatively poor performance across a variety of productivity measures, including GVA per hour worked/job filled and GVA growth over time
- Significant geographical variation in productivity performance across SELEP larger urban economies close to London are generally more productive than coastal areas
- Emerging sector opportunities in particular around digital/creative, maritime, life sciences and low carbon (energy and technology)



- Substantial higher education base with research strengths and strong alignment with key sectors (inc agri-food and creative)
- Supported by strong network of innovation assets (such as Enterprise Zones and science parks)
- Relatively low levels of R&D intensity and spending amongst SELEP's business base, but strong critical mass of firms engaged in product and process innovation
- R&D expenditure by higher education sector amongst the lowest in the country
- SELEP's share of national innovation funding has been substantially lower than it's share of population and business stock



The LIS evidence base has been used to identify particularly pertinent productivity points, challenges and opportunities to help to frame LIS development



- Track record of population growth, which is expected to continue in future – reflecting SELEP's attractiveness as a place to live and migrate to
- Strong levels of labour market participation, with consistently high employment and economic activity
- But declining working-age population in some parts of SELEP (particularly coastal) resulting in ageing society
- Population lacks many of the higher level skills crucial to drive productivity growth through high value, knowledge intensive activity
- Significant spatial variation in resident higher level skills (NVQ4+), coupled with pockets of persistent socioeconomic deprivation, especially within some coastal communities



- SELEP is home to a large and diverse business base (approx. 170,000), and high business density relative to the UK average
- Stock of businesses has been growing, but generally behind national growth levels, partly due to business start-up trailing behind other areas
- SELEP's business base underperforms when it comes to scaling-up (demonstrating strong and sustained growth)
- Low business representation in some of the most productive sector groups (such as ICT, finance and insurance)
- Strong track record in securing inward investment/FDI, but uncertainty going forward, and some investors concern about skills availability and reliability of infrastructure



The LIS evidence base has been used to identify particularly pertinent productivity points, challenges and opportunities to help to frame LIS development



nfrastructure

- Highly significant infrastructure assets within national context (inc major ports, airports, continental rail connection, road and rail networks) - international 'gateway' function provides unique trade and connectivity benefits and opportunities
- But SELEP's transport infrastructure suffers from congestion despite receiving investment in recent years
- Major contribution to UK energy generation new nuclear facilities planned at Bradwell and major offshore wind generation capacity in the Thames Estuary, North Sea and English Channel
- Generally good levels of digital connectivity, but some rural and coastal 'black spots' hindering productivity
- Identified risks from flooding and erosion across many coastal parts of SELEP



- Dispersed nature of SELEP's geography, economic areas and assets makes it difficult to articulate a clear and distinctive identity
- Sizeable capacity for growth and development of new communities, including garden settlements (29% of national total)
- Complex travel-to-work flows with strong labour market relationships with London in particular
- Strong housing delivery in recent years, but issues relating to housing supply and affordability remain
- Growing shortage of good quality business space
- SELEP's geography supports rich natural capital, much of which is under threat from climate change
- Key opportunities for rural and coastal economies to increase their contribution to productivity growth