

EBC Corporate Plan 2020-24: Year 1 progress (April 2020-March 2021)

GROWTH & PROSPERITY	
4 year goals	Yr 1 2020-21 progress against 4 year goals
<p>1. Outstanding in tourism & leisure</p> <p>and</p> <p>Exciting Cultural Events</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tourism figures impacted by C-19 but despite this the Congress Theatre, largest venue in the south east, transformed into a cinema during October half-term. • The 40th anniversary of the Beachy Head Marathon was a runaway success. The event saw the marathon, half marathon and 10K races spread over 3 days to combat overcrowding and had strict Covid-safe measures in place. • New Visitor Centre opened in The Welcome Building • Refurbishment of the Beachy Head centre • Visit Eastbourne- German version launched to help attract foreign visitors.
<p>2. Attractive & Thriving town</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expansion of College Conservation area • Eastbourne Town Centre Movement & Access: phase 2 key stakeholder consultations. • Support for re-opening the town centre.
<p>3. Supporting and attracting business</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retail vacancy rate over 20/21 = 11.26% vs national = 11.5% • 858 accounts were awarded Expanded Retail Relief (business rates holiday). This was a 100% reduction in their rates and ran from 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021 and amounted to £25,336,384. • Support for businesses during pandemic included fast-tracked distribution of Government grants to small businesses and retails, leisure and hospitality sector. CV-19 Business Grants expenditure since March 2020 exceeds £39.2 million which equates to approximately 4,400 businesses. 'Additional Restrictions Grant'- £1.3m awarded to 384 businesses Exceptional Hardship – paid a total of £602k to 195 businesses Taxi Drivers – paid a total of £170k to 340 drivers Adaptations Grants – paid a total of £256k to 186 businesses Business Futures BID fund - £50k to Eastbourne Hospitality Association

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launched new website 'eatlocal.info' to showcase and support local businesses. Website provides details of local food and drink services offering deliveries. • Launched new website 'shoplocal.info' promote local independent businesses. • Launched new website 'makelocal.info' to promote local manufacturers. • Free licences for outdoor seating to support Eastbourne businesses.
4.Improved Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social distancing signage throughout the town • New cycle racks throughout the town • Emergency Active Travel Fund: ESCC were allocated £1,820,200 to start the delivery of Tranche 2 projects. The programme included measures to support safer and inclusive walking and cycling, with a specific emphasis on walking measures. As part of the programme, ESCC will be carrying out minor footway repairs which include installing dropped kerbing, some tactile crossing points, footway widening, resurfacing and vegetation clearance.
HOUSING & DEVELOPMENT	
4 year goals	Yr 1 2020-21 progress against 4 year goals
1.Address homelessness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Households in Emergency accommodation: March 2021 – 122 vs 148 March 2020 • 148 rough sleepers newly accommodated in 2020 • EBC - Rough Sleeper Initiative (RSI) / Rapid Re-housing Pathway activity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Current rough sleeper verified count =4 ➢ Current emergency accommodation (EA) placements = 62 ➢ EA placements since March 2020 = 152 • Headline preventative work: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Funding a homelessness advice and education programme delivered by YMCA. ➢ Targeting discretionary housing payment at those at risk of eviction, who can demonstrate viability going forward

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Supporting / sustaining vulnerable tenant / homeowners via referrals to STEPS / Southdown Housing. ➤ Funding advice services via CAB / BHT
2.Promoting homes that sustain health & well-being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disabled facilities grant: 54 approved; total spend: £753,300; average spend per home: £13,000 • STEPS – no. cases / positive outcomes STEPS -561
3.Good access to housing that meet modern standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting access to low-cost through our forging key relationships with local private rental sector landlords – dedicated liaison role now in place. • 80-Bed Care home under construction at 282 Kings Drive
4.Safe, well managed decent homes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall resident satisfaction : 74,9% (new methodology based on 10-point scale means cannot be compared to last year
5.Locations regenerated and more housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 230 new homes built in total • 63 affordable homes with permission to build • 977 homes with permission (including those under construction)
Quality Environment	
4 year goals	Yr 1 2020-21 progress against 4 year goals
1.Effectively tackling waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SEESL continuing full waste services despite C-19. Household, recycling, clinical and garden waste collections operated as normal in the town.
2.Protecting the Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EBC has supported Treebourne in its successful grant funding applications, crowd funder appeal and project planning and implementation.https://treebourne.org/ Total funding from Trees for Cities = £20,669.95 Total funding from Urban Tree Challenge Fund = £14,250, including year 2 and 3 maintenance funding This has resulted in nature regeneration projects in Sevenoaks and Tugwell parks in Eastbourne: • Over 14,000 trees planted, along with hedges and climbing plants; wildflower planting.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wildlife habitat (bird/bat boxes) installed • New equipment bought, tree guards fitted, mulching taking place. • Changes to Eastbourne Borough Council's grass cutting regime resulted in an increase of wildflowers and insects in green spaces across the town. • Diseased Die Ashback removed- By removing the dead timber, new sunlit glades and small meadows are being created that will benefit insects and chalk grassland species, old dew ponds will be reawakened as a water source for wildlife, while the natural woodland regeneration, alongside some targeted replanting with mixed species, will avoid a future monoculture and panoramic views from the upper reaches of the downland will be restored. • Eastbourne Borough Council is maintaining its pesticide-free approach wherever possible to controlling weeds across the town this spring. • Over the last year, the council has not used any chemical weed killers, including glyphosate, in any of its parks, open spaces or children's play areas. • Eastbourne Whole Downland Estate Plan adopted in July 2020. The Council is committed to the conservation and enhancement of the Downland Estate to preserve it for future generations and it has developed a Whole Estate Plan (WEP) to help guide the longer-term management of the Estate. The Council's priority is the preservation of the Estate's special qualities and the ecosystem services it provides. (https://www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/resources/assets/inline/full/0/292934.pdf)
3.A low carbon place	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eastbourne Carbon neutral 2030- A plan for action (strategy produced) • Successfully gained funding from LGA for Alternative Financing for Net Zero • Key developer of newly launched Hydrogen Sussex group- to bring Hydrogen technology to Sussex • Promotion / take-up of green initiatives to privately owned homes.

	<p>Warmer Sussex – private homes retrofit scheme- Nov 2019 to March 21.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ EBC- 2 clients- 23.1 tonnes CO2 saved <p>Solar together PV panel purchasing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EBC- 3kw installed PV 0.8 tonnes/CO2/yr saved
<p>Thriving Communities</p>	
<p>4 year goals</p>	<p>Yr 1 2020-21 progress against 4 year goals</p>
<p>1.Promote inclusion & address deprivation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council developed Community Directory to enable statutory agencies to sign post vulnerable residents to support services • Conducted disability access audits of over 10 public buildings and amenities. These have resulted in changes to buildings and the way services are delivered to promote inclusion of disabled people. • Facilitated and supported Eastbourne’s Disability Involvement Group to work to have a say in key strategic projects such as the Town Centre Redevelopment. • Hosted an online Holocaust Memorial hub to commemorate all those who were persecuted under Nazi persecution and subsequent genocides.
<p>2.Promote physical health and mental well-being</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walking Festival (September) • Support for local charities that work in this area
<p>3.Actively engaged communities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wide range of small local initiatives supported including: ... https://www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/eastbourne-borough-council-news/councillors-give-welcome-boost-to-community-projects/
<p>4.Safe communities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early intervention scheme to tackle the underlying causes of criminal behaviour among young people awarded £8,000 towards its running costs in Eastbourne and Lewes.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘Restoring Eastbourne and Lewes’, operated by the Eastbourne Business Crime Group in partnership with Eastbourne Borough Council and Lewes District Council working with Sussex Police and the Youth Offending Team, was successful in its bid for a grant from the Community Safety Partnership. The scheme, for young people aged 12 and over, began in 2015 using restorative justice to reduce reoffending for shoplifting and this has evolved into addressing the causes of a wide range of low-level offences with an emphasis on early intervention. • Renewal of four Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs) to prevent street drinking and control dogs. <p>PSPOs are measures councils can use to protect the community from anti-social behaviour and they restrict what people can do in specific areas.</p> <p>The four orders, which were put in place in 2017 for three years, were due to expire this month unless renewed. They now run until 2023 and ban the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • consumption of alcohol in any street in Eastbourne town centre • dog fouling in any public area of the borough • dogs being off the lead in certain areas of the borough either at all times or at certain times of the year. • dogs entering specified areas of the borough either at all times or at certain times of the year.
5.Safe residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community hub team deployed to help the most vulnerable and isolated residents during the latest period of lockdown. • £420k of government funding secured to help tackle anti-social behaviour, theft and burglary in a part of Eastbourne deemed to be disproportionately affected by these offences. The fund is a national scheme which aims to help reduce burglary, vehicle crime and other theft-based offences.

