



## Levelling Up Programme Feature

### Open Mic & Marketplace

28<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Hastings Centre

*Hastings Community Network is hosted by Hastings Voluntary Action*

*Tracey Rose (HCN Co-Chair) opened the event, welcoming everyone and thanking them for coming. She spoke briefly about the work and the purpose of the HCN Executive Group.*



Welcome to Hastings Community  
Network  
Levelling Up Partnership Programme  
Feature  
Open Mic & Marketplace  
28<sup>th</sup> March 2024

*Tracey then introduced Victoria Conheady & Dawn Poole from HBC to the attending representatives from 42 local organisations from the community, public and statutory services.*

<b>National Academy of Social Prescribing</b>	<b>St. Michael's Hospice</b>
<b>Hastings Voluntary Action</b>	<b>Soundcastle</b>
<b>Karmabank</b>	<b>Energise Sussex Coast</b>
<b>Hastings HEART</b>	<b>Hastings &amp; Rother YMCA</b>
<b>Adfam</b>	<b>Southeast Communities Rail Partnership</b>
<b>Transition Town Hastings &amp; St Leonards</b>	<b>The Advocacy People</b>
<b>Hastings Community Network</b>	<b>NHS Health in Mind</b>
<b>Hastings Borough Council</b>	<b>Southdown Housing Association</b>
<b>Mediation Plus</b>	<b>Groundwork South</b>
<b>Hastings Contemporary</b>	<b>Alexandra Park Community Greenhouse</b>
<b>Salvation Army</b>	<b>Little Gate Supported Employment</b>
<b>East Sussex Hearing</b>	<b>Fellowship of St Nicholas</b>
<b>Quakers</b>	<b>Dementia Information &amp; Support Courses</b>
<b>First Potential</b>	<b>Just Friends</b>
<b>East Sussex ICB</b>	<b>Ore Community Land Trust</b>
<b>Seaview Project</b>	<b>Care for the Carers</b>
<b>Education Futures Trust</b>	<b>The Advocacy People</b>
<b>Lets Do Business</b>	<b>Women's Voice</b>
<b>Rother Voluntary Action</b>	<b>Black Butterfly</b>
<b>East Sussex County Council</b>	<b>Association of Carers</b>
<b>Mosaic Malarky</b>	<b>Salvation Army</b>
	<b>Department of Work &amp; Pensions</b>

## Levelling Up Programme Feature

*Presentation by Victoria Conheady & Dawn Poole*

The funding for the Levelling Up Programme comes from

- Town Deal Programme
- UK Shared Prosperity Fund
- Levelling Up Partnership
- Long Term Plan For Towns

The Town Deal Programme is a 6yr programme which will include the Churchfield Business Centre and the Freedom Works Projects providing office and business units. The Hastings Commons buildings are being built back up as community assets, improvements are being made at Hastings Castle and the Town Centre will be transformed.



The UK Shared Prosperity Fund will focus on Broomgrove, building sustainable partnership working networks. Improvements to parks will be made.



**The Levelling Up Partnership funding will tackle homelessness, complete the Queensway Gateway Road, get the Ore Health Centre open and enhance Family Hubs. Access to cultural assets and projects will be improved.**



**The Long Term Plan will invest in Safety & Security, Transport & Connectivity and High Streets, Heritage & Regeneration.**



The long term plan is to be informed by community consultation and submitted to the Department of Levelling Up by 1<sup>st</sup> August 2024.

- A 250-word vision
- A ten-year high-level plan
- A detailed three-year investment plan

*The new Hastings Board at HBC will refresh every few years – the details of the Hastings Board are on the Hastings Borough Council website.*

For more information, you can go to the HBC website at: [www.hastings.gov.uk](http://www.hastings.gov.uk) where there is a webpage for each of the programmes

Following the Levelling Up feature, there was an opportunity for people to network and look at the Marketplace tables.

*The Marketplace had representation from the following organisations*

Association of Carers	East Sussex County Council
Adfam	Dementia Information Support Courses
Mediation Plus	Hastings & Rother YMCA
East Sussex Recovery Alliance	Little Gate Farm Supported Employment
Education Futures Trust	Womens Voice
Lets Do Business	East Sussex Hearing

*Kim Batty from Hastings HEART and a HCN Executive member then introduced speakers for the Open Mic sessions*

Session 1	Session 2
Juliet Privett – Association of Carers	Louise Stears-Smith - DISC
Judith Monk – Hastings & Rother YMCA	Susanna Wallace – Care for the Carers
Rachael Perrin - Soundcastle	Anne-Marie Watson – Womens Voice
Andrea Randall-Smith-Little Gate Supported Employment	Rupert Kirby – Lets Do Business
	Mark Dimmock – East Sussex Hearing

*The Open Mic session was a lively affair with music from Soundcastle and some of the speakers using videos with music and Powerpoint slides*



*Steve Manwaring (Director, HVA) closed the event, thanking everyone for taking part in the event and encouraging people to fill in Feedback Forms.*

*It was clear from the feedback we received that the chance to hear more about the 'Levelling Up Programme' was appreciated and as always so were the opportunities for networking and hearing about the work of other attending organisations.*

Greater understanding of the 'Levelling Up'/Shared Prosperity Fund.

Really helpful information on the 'Levelling Up' plans.

Made connections with organisations to work together on new referral pathways.

Useful networking & making connections.

Overview and understanding about groups and charities that I knew little about.