

# Arun District Council

<b>REPORT TO:</b>	<b>Economy Committee 16/04/24</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>UK Shared Prosperity Fund – update report</b>
<b>LEAD OFFICER:</b>	<b>Denise Vine, Group Head of Economy</b>
<b>LEAD MEMBER:</b>	Councillor Roger Nash, Chair of Economy Committee
<b>WARDS:</b>	<b>ALL</b>
<b>CORPORATE PRIORITY / POLICY CONTEXT / CORPORATE VISION:</b>	
<u>Fulfilling Arun’s economic potential</u>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Increase opportunities for more high-quality, well-paid employment, encouraging more people to live, work, study and visit Arun.</li><li>• Use regeneration opportunities to attract new and relocating businesses to the district.</li><li>• Encourage the development of the district as a key tourist destination,</li><li>• supporting and enabling improvements and activities to increase visitor spend.</li><li>• Make best use of our natural assets to help drive the economy.</li></ul>	
<b>DIRECTORATE POLICY CONTEXT:</b>	
The Arun Economic Development Strategy includes the following ‘Building Blocks’ and priorities:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Shaping our places for people to live, work and visit</li><li>• Attracting investment and success giving businesses the space and support to grow and prosper</li><li>• Putting people centre stage: healthy, happy, prosperous lives</li><li>• Growing business population</li></ul>	
<b>FINANCIAL SUMMARY:</b>	
There is no specific budget allocated to support the Arun Growth Deal. Any funding secured, either from external or internal sources to support specific project delivery would be secured separately and follow the council’s normal governance processes and procedures.	

## 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To advise members of the refreshed Arun Growth Deal 2024-29 and seek their approval.

## **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 That the committee approves the Arun Growth Deal 2024-29 (Appendix A) between Arun District Council and West Sussex County Council and continues to support the Arun Growth Deal Programme Board.

## **3. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 3.1. The Arun Growth Deal 2024-29 (Appendix A) is a partnership between Arun District Council (ADC) and West Sussex County Council (WSSCC). The shared aim is to create better places for our residents by using public resources and assets more effectively and efficiently to support sustainable economic growth in Arun District.
- 3.2. Set within the context of great uncertainty from the ongoing cost of living crisis and economic and environmental conditions, the Deal sets out a set of shared principles to working collaboratively with public sector partners to deliver best value for Arun residents.
- 3.3. This document identifies the priority projects both councils consider will have a significant impact on the economic growth in the district in the next five years and creates the framework to jointly develop and monitor the delivery of these proposals.

## **4. BACKGROUND**

- 4.1. The first Arun Growth Deal (2018-23) was approved by WSSCC in 2018. That document set out a joint commitment between ADC and WSSCC to align resources, where possible, to deliver sustainable economic growth. The programme sought to unlock opportunities for new homes, infrastructure, employment floor space - preserving and creating new jobs, supporting our key sectors such as tourism and rejuvenated town centres.
- 4.2. Over the last five years, officers and councillors (ADC & WSSCC) have met quarterly to review the progress of the programme and support delivery where needed.
- 4.3. This approach has had a positive impact on the progress of significant projects in Arun. A review of the key investments and successes in Arun as well as areas for improvement and reflection on the delivery of intended priorities and projects over the Growth Deal period, are explained further in Appendix B.
- 4.4. It is clear, that by working in partnership, the Growth Deal has delivered and supported key projects and is channelling significant levels of funding and inward investment into Arun. These initiatives support growth outcomes in the coastal West Sussex community and economy, particularly at key locations such as Bognor Regis and Littlehampton.

- 4.5. Arun's ability to attract funding and coordinate resources to enable projects and initiatives should not be underestimated. The ability to bid for external funding whilst matching this with wider grants and capital funding has been the result of careful planning, pipeline development and astute political management and decision making, all achieved in a complex environment.
- 4.6. The refreshed Arun Growth Deal 2024-29 (Appendix A) will continue this successful collaboration and ensure the priority projects in the district remain the focus of activity and support. More broadly, the Growth Deal will continue to support the aims of the Arun Local Plan and the WSCC Corporate Plan.

## **5. CONSULTATION**

- 5.1. The Leader of Arun District Council and the Cabinet Member from WSCC attend the quarterly Arun Growth Board. The priority projects included are based on the continuation of the previous deals projects that have not yet been completed, but are progressing, and new or emerging projects that have been developed more recently and that may have attracted funding to support their delivery.
- 5.2. A briefing on the refreshed Arun Growth Deal, to all members of the Economy Committee, was provided on the 25<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

## **6. OPTIONS / ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED**

N/A

## **7. COMMENTS BY THE GROUP HEAD OF FINANCE/SECTION 151 OFFICER**

There are no financial implications arising from this report at this time.

## **8. RISK ASSESSMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

None.

## **9. COMMENTS OF THE GROUP HEAD OF LAW AND GOVERNANCE & MONITORING OFFICER**

There are no legal implications in this report.

## **10. HUMAN RESOURCES IMPACT**

None.

## **11. HEALTH & SAFETY IMPACT**

None

**12. PROPERTY & ESTATES IMPACT**

None

**13. EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) / SOCIAL VALUE**

None.

**14. CLIMATE CHANGE & ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT/SOCIAL VALUE**

None.

**15. CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION IMPACT**

None.

**16. HUMAN RIGHTS IMPACT**

None.

**17. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION / DATA PROTECTION CONSIDERATIONS**

None.

---

**CONTACT OFFICER:**

**Name:** Denise Vine

**Job Title:** Group Head of Business and Economy

**Contact Number:** 07714138571

**BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:**

*Appendix A Arun Growth Deal 2024-29*

*Appendix B Arun Growth Deal 2018-2023 Review*