

# LEP Governance and Structures

- A main Board of 43 members:

Representatives from East Sussex are:

councillors from Wealden, Lewes, Hastings, Eastbourne and ESCC; Brighton University & Sussex Downs College; the FSB, Hastings and Eastbourne Chambers of Commerce; BT and General Dynamics

- A smaller more 'work orientated' Executive of 24 members:

Representatives from East Sussex are: councillors from Eastbourne, Wealden and ESCC; General Dynamics, BT, Eastbourne Chamber (interim)

The Interim Chair is George Kieffer (of the Haven Gateway Business Partnership - Essex)

Essex CC is acting as LEP Secretariat for the first 6 months.

Contacts for the LEP are:

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# Priorities / Rural Issues agenda and progress

- unlock the potential of the Thames Gateway
- unlock the potential of coastal East Sussex, Greater Essex and Kent and Medway
- unlock the potential of rural East Sussex, Greater Essex and Kent and Medway
- unlock the potential of our key towns and cities

Away day of the LEP Executive 23rd June when priorities will be further worked up

# Broadband Summit

Discussions focused on the importance of superfast broadband in:

- providing a boost to the economy, particularly in more remote, rural areas
- the retention and growth of small businesses
- the capability of businesses to operate in today's world – good broadband speeds and connectivity are vital (eg farming and DEFRA)
- raising skill and achievement levels
- avoiding a digital divide, particularly older and isolated people
- modernising and cost-effectively delivering public services online

# Next Steps

- Broadband Plan being developed with a view to submitting this to BDUK later this year
- ESCC will be procuring a countywide PSN compliant network within the current year, and seek to use this procurement to aid in the delivery of connectivity and better e-services to the community, particularly rural areas
- up to £2m ESCC capital investment

# Activity underway now

- mapping out the scale of the problem
  - in the rural districts there are some 22,500 properties under the USC (2mg)
  - 44 out of 63 (70%) of exchanges countywide have not been unbundled.
- talking to carriers about their investment plans
- investigating possible solutions
- in negotiation with BDUK about its requirements

# Vision

The competitive provision of superfast broadband (both fixed and mobile), offering typical speeds of 100Mbps, to everyone (100% of homes and small businesses) in East Sussex by 2017.