

North East Hastings Area Profile

Resident-led Partnership, Big Local North East Hastings

May 2014

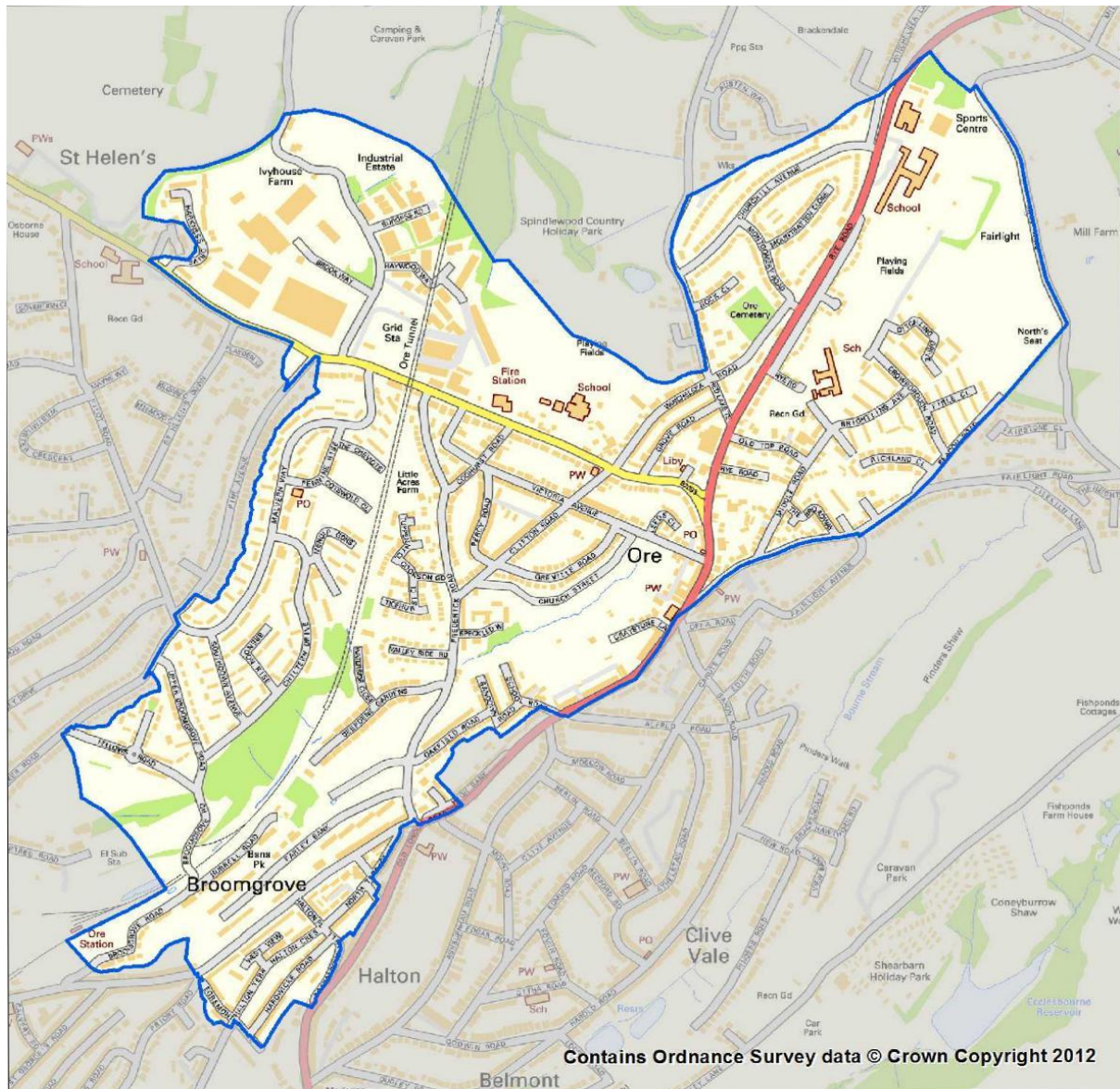
This profile describes what north east Hastings is like, highlighting what is good about it already, the challenges it faces, and some of its history. The profile draws on the findings of a public consultation in the summer of 2013, meetings of the Interim Steering Group, Resident-led Partnership and North East Hastings Big Local Group meetings, information and statistics gathered from national and regional reports, surveys carried out by Hastings Borough Council, information provided by AmicusHorizon (the largest provider of social housing in the area), and the work of our community development worker and consultant. The profile presents a starting point for our Big Local plans, a guide to look back on to help assess change, and a resource to help us make decisions about Big Local in the future.

North East Hastings Profile

- 1 Introduction 2
- 2 People 4
- 3 Places 15
- 4 Facilities including play 17
- 5 Services 21
- 6 Shops, businesses and employment 25
- 7 History 26
- 8 Conclusion..... 27
- Annex A – People 29
- Annex B - Places 39
- Annex C – Services 49
- Annex D – Strategies 52

1 Introduction

1.1 The north East Hastings Big Local area covers parts of three electoral wards – Baird, Ore and Tressell – and has a population of approximately 8,000 people. It is broadly the catchment area of the Ore Village shops but local people tend to identify themselves with smaller neighbourhoods, such as Ore Village, Halton, Broomgrove, Red Lake or Downs Farm for example.



The north east Hastings Big Local area

1.2 The hills and valleys of north east Hastings provide the beautiful views and natural barriers that characterise the area. However, they make moving between the neighbourhoods rather difficult for those without access to a car.

1.3 It is an area of great potential where external appearances disguise high levels of deprivation. Baird and Tressell wards have areas amongst the most deprived 1 per cent in England¹.

A short history of Big Local in north east Hastings

1.4 Local Trust announced in 2012 that North East Hastings had been selected to be a Big Local area and to have £1million to make a massive and lasting difference to the community. An Interim Steering Group was formed bringing together a range of people with a great deal of knowledge about the needs of the north east Hastings area and the local issues. In May 2013, the Interim Steering Group commissioned a consortium led by Hastings Voluntary Action to raise awareness of Big Local and to consult with local residents about what they thought of the area and how the £1million should be spent. The Interim Steering Group was replaced by a resident-led Partnership elected by the first general meeting of the North East Hastings Big Local Group² on 12th December 2013. A Big Local Community Development Worker started work in January 2014 and we also have a consultant on a fixed term appointment looking at, among other things, how Big Local can best support the community centres.

How we consulted residents

1.5 Between May and August 2013 Hastings Voluntary Action (HVA) led a consortium of community engagement specialists from HVA, Nick Wates Associates and Hastings Trust to undertake an in-depth engagement exercise with the residents of North East Hastings. The aim of this work was to start the conversation, spread the word about Big Local, help people to understand how they could get involved and gather ideas about how the area could become an even better place in which to live now and in the future.

1.6 A series of events, road-shows, on-line and leaflet surveys were undertaken together with on-line and social media opportunities for residents to comment and give their ideas. Recognising that some young people may be less likely to participate, a programme of detached youth work was also commissioned which resulted in a small video project which enabled the voices of young people to be presented to the Big Local partnership.

1.7 A literature review was also undertaken looking at previous consultation and engagement results. Some parts of the Big Local area have been the subject of significant and long-standing interventions, albeit by different agencies (or possibly the same agencies with different names and changing targets) involving community

¹ The Index of Multiple Deprivation 2010.

² The North East Hastings Big Local Group is comprised of people who live within the Big Local boundary and others who have a connection with the area who want to help achieve the outcomes of the Big Local programme.

planning, community-led consultation and community involvement in decision making. In other areas this is far less a feature of local residents' experience.

1.8 This area profile draws on the findings of the consortium's work in the summer of 2013, meetings of the Interim Steering Group, Resident-led Partnership and North East Hastings Big Local Group meetings, information and statistics gathered from national and regional reports, surveys carried out by Hastings Borough Council, information provided by AmicusHorizon (the largest provider of social housing in the area), and the work of our community development worker and consultant.

1.9 It is not always possible to obtain statistics solely for the north east Hastings area, because the Big Local area boundary is not the same as ward and other boundaries. Where statistics for the Big Local area are not available, statistics for the three wards (Baird, Ore and Tressell) have been used to give an indication of the numbers.

2 People

2.1 Of the 8,000 or so people living in the Big Local area, over half are of working age, about a quarter are aged 15 or under, and about 13 per cent are over 65. The national census shows that around 400 people living in the area were born outside of the UK, which is a fairly low percentage compared to England as a whole³.

2.2 The majority of households are married or co-habiting couples, with 595 pensioner households and 41% of all families with dependent children are lone parent families. Nearly 20% of households have one person living in them.

Poverty and income

2.3 Well over half of the people in the Big Local area, around 4,700, live in some of the most deprived neighbourhoods in England.

2.4 One-third of households in Baird, Ore and Tressell wards are in poverty:⁴ slightly higher than Hastings generally and significantly more than in East Sussex. An average of 38 per cent of our children are living in poverty in Baird, Ore and Tressell wards compared with 20% across England as a whole (more details are in Annex A).

³ Around 5% of people in the Big Local area were born outside of the UK compared to 13% in England.

⁴ In its Joint Report on Social Inclusion 2004 the EC came up with the following:

"People are said to be living in poverty if their income and resources are so inadequate as to preclude them from having a standard of living considered acceptable in the society in which they live. Because of their poverty they may experience multiple disadvantage through unemployment, low income, poor housing, inadequate health care and barriers to lifelong learning, culture, sport and recreation. They are often excluded and marginalised from participating in activities (economic, social and cultural) that are the norm for other people and their access to fundamental rights may be restricted." <http://www.jrf.org.uk/sites/files/jrf/poverty-definitions.pdf>

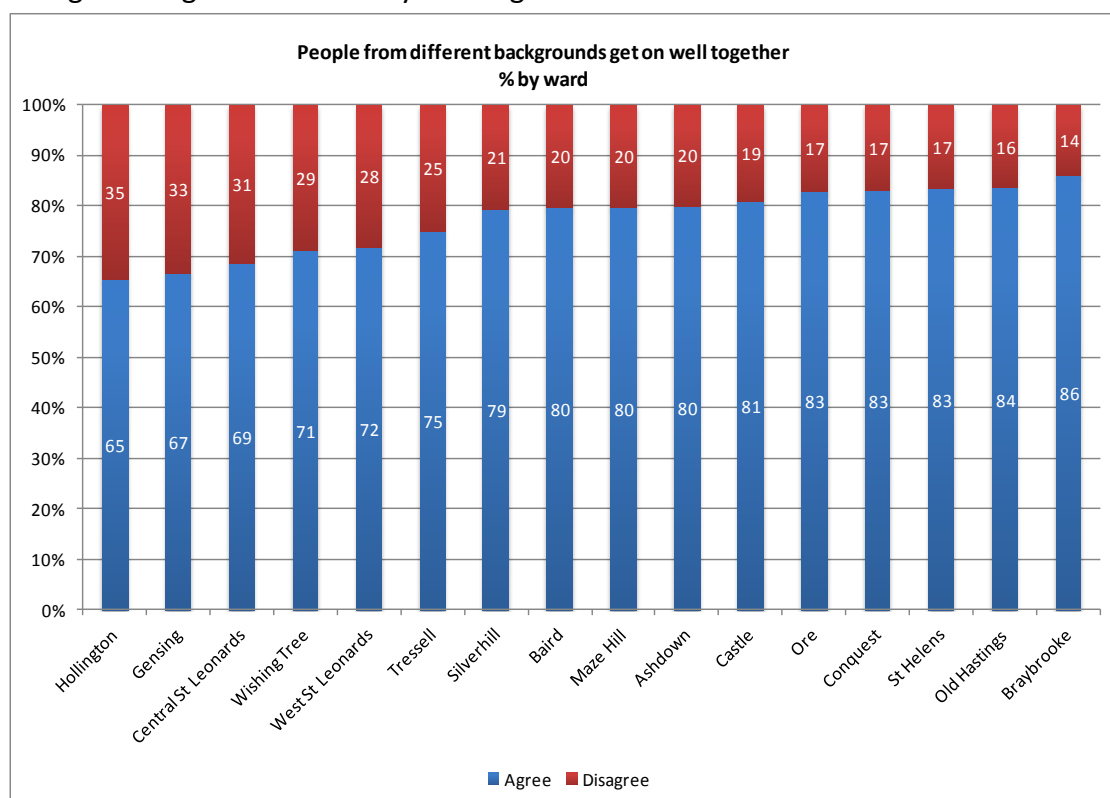
2.5 The average household income for residents living in the three wards is £28,528, some 9 per cent lower than the Hastings average and more than 20% lower than the East Sussex average.

2.6 The number of people claiming Job Seekers Allowance is declining in line with trends across the town but the unemployment rate in the Big Local area is still over twice the rate in the South East of England (see Annex A).

Community relationships

2.7 A number of agencies and local community groups offer essential support and amenities to local residents. However, in the past few years communications between the neighbourhoods and the groups and organisations within them have weakened. Council-led area co-ordination has ended because of public expenditure cuts, community centres are valued but operate on a shoestring, and fewer people now come forward to maintain and reinvigorate resident-led groups and associations.

2.8 Lots of people know each other, have lived in the north east Hastings area for some time and have significant local knowledge and connections to the area. Some people have lived within their communities their entire lives, building up a network of friends, who also ‘come together’ for support when needed. Conversely some of the rented social housing has relatively high tenant turnover rates. More positively, people from different backgrounds get on reasonably well together as indicated in the table below.



2.9 The consultation showed there would be support for more community events within the area, encouraging residents to get out more and allowing for new friendships to develop, because the residents “are kind and caring”. There is a sense that “community events bring everyone together and troubles can be forgotten for the day”.

2.10 Residents feel very strongly about how the area is perceived; not just in terms of deprivation and empty buildings but also very physical and immediate issues such as rubbish and dogs mess. They would like to see any empty shop fronts “brightened up” (although we do not have many of those) and more and better facilities collecting rubbish and recycling. Several residents suggested Big Local could help to “create community clean up groups”. (Since the consultation was completed a new waste collection and recycling service has been introduced across the town by Hastings Borough Council.)

2.11 Satisfaction with cleanliness of residential streets

	Very good	Fairly good	Neither good nor poor	Fairly poor	Very poor
Baird	10%	39%	17%	19%	16%
Ore	14%	38%	10%	23%	16%
Tressell	8%	32%	13%	28%	19%

Source: HBC Place Survey 2013

Local government and partnerships

2.12 The Big Local area has two elected borough councillors for each ward (a total of six) and two elected county councillors, all of whom take an active part in the community; holding local surgeries and attending community meetings. East Sussex County Council and Hastings Borough Council share local government responsibilities. Local government strategies that will contribute to achieving the Big Local aims are listed in Annex D.

2.13 The two big housing associations, AmicusHorizon and Orbit South, have residents’ panels and consult residents about new developments. The Ore Valley Forum was formed in the early 1990s to bring together residents, housing associations, council representatives and service providers with the aim of making the area a better place in which to live and work. To some extent the activities of the forum were taken over by a short-lived East Hastings Area Management Board operated by Hastings council. Both the forum and the management board suffered from poor communication with residents. The development land in Ore Valley is owned by Hastings & Bexhill Renaissance Ltd (HRBL), in which Hastings Borough Council, ESCC, and the Homes and Communities Agency all have an interest, and which at one time had liaison and other meetings with the Ore Valley Forum. However, with the difficulties in the housing market the liaison between HRBL and residents’ groups has dwindled to nothing. There are now fewer residents’ associations than there used to be.

2.14 It was evident during the 2013 consultation process that despite the number of ways in which residents could make their views known residents felt that they did not have a voice, either individually or collectively. There could be a number of reasons for this. One of them might be that over the years the numbers of representatives and committees have resulted in responsibilities becoming unclear to residents and now there is “no heart to appeal to and no arse to kick”.

2.15 In the Hastings Borough Council Election on 3rd May 2012 the turnout was: Baird ward: 33.2%; Ore ward: 30.7%; Tressell ward: 23.6%.

2.16 It is said that a democratic society requires an educated and involved population. If residents feel they will not be listened to – although there are many examples in north east Hastings to disprove that perception – and do not participate in the democratic process as a result, a key element of our Big Local programme must be to help residents get to the point where they feel able to challenge and influence policies and services, know how to improve their own quality of life, and to make an active contribution to their neighbourhoods. It may take an action research programme, with the involvement of the University of Brighton, Local Trust researchers and some large organisations to establish what residents in our Big Local area need to know to be empowered to make things better in their lives and area, and how they can get to know what they need to know. We may also need to research whether and how large, influential organisations need to change to empower ordinary citizens to have an impact on policies and services.

The impact of previous initiatives

2.17 Previous interventions to improve the area and the lives of the residents in it have achieved some good things. But, however well intentioned, many initiatives tended to be piecemeal or not kept going for long enough to make a lasting difference to residents’ lives. Some residents undoubtedly had the impression of being done to rather than being partners in projects that would improve their lives.

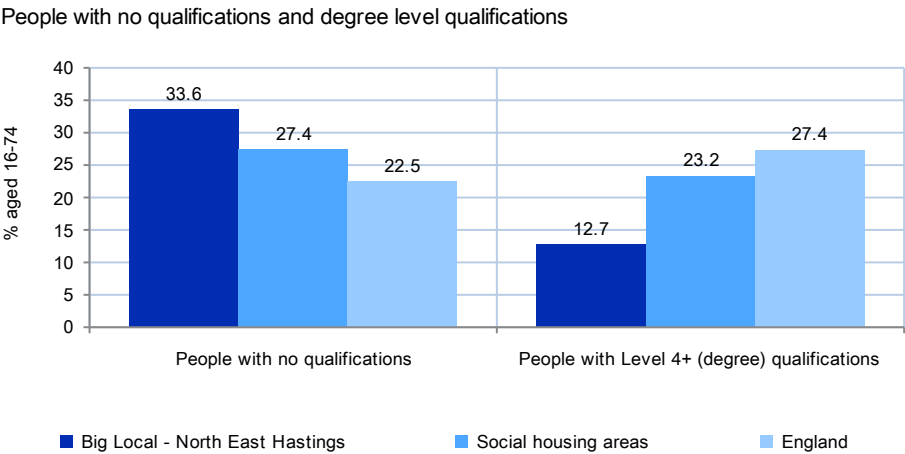
2.18 Some work remains unfinished or has been promised but never started. A Millennium Community originally created in 2002 has less than a quarter of the development completed. As a consequence, some residents feel that a number of consultation and engagement activities that had taken place before had not always resulted in meaningful – or indeed any – change. In some areas “consultation fatigue” was evident and for some this colours their view of what Big Local can and will achieve.

2.19 Some residents, by keeping their heads down, have survived a series of improvement initiatives largely untouched. While the welfare and other policy changes that are being brought in by the present government may in time change that, some of the poorer residents will not be easily convinced that they should now take advantage of the unique opportunity of Big Local to make an active contribution to their

neighbourhoods. But, having said that, there are many residents, groups and organisations represented through the north east Hastings Big Local Group and resident-led partnership that are totally committed to the aims of the Big Local programme.

Learning and skills

2.20 In the north east Hastings Big Local area over a third of people have no qualifications compared with 22 per cent across England as a whole.



<div>People with no qualifications</div> <div>2,060</div> <div>33.6% of working age people (Social housing areas= 27.4%)</div>	<div>People with highest qualification level 1</div> <div>1,150</div> <div>18.8% of working age people (Social housing areas= 13.9%)</div>	<div>People with highest qualification level 2</div> <div>1,100</div> <div>17.9% of working age people (Social housing areas= 14.4%)</div>	<div>People with highest qualification level 3</div> <div>635</div> <div>10.4% of working age people (Social housing areas= 11.7%)</div>
<div>People with highest qualification level 4+ (degree)</div> <div>780</div> <div>12.7% of working age people (Social housing areas= 23.2%)</div>	<div>'Level 1' qualifications are equivalent to a single O-level, GCSE or NVQ. 'Level 2' qualifications are equivalent to five O-levels or GCSEs. 'Level 3' qualifications are equivalent to two A levels. 'Level 4' qualifications are equivalent to degree level or higher.</div>		

2.21 The need for training and skills links to feelings of low aspiration, lack of opportunity, unemployment and poor educational attainment as identified by the residents within the area.

2.22 According to adult and community learning providers⁵, what is needed is to make it easy for people to do something outside the home but not too far away, help them to see a different future and progress to new goals and provide the kind of courses that will help them to make that progress. Among unemployed adults, the providers said the most hard to help were those with mental health and drug and alcohol problems, also older workers forced to find new careers or coming back into the jobs market. Further information is in Annex A.

Young people

2.23 The table below shows the number of pupils who attend schools maintained by East Sussex County Council. The information is presented according to where pupils live. Pupils may not live in the same area as where they go to school and some pupils attending East Sussex schools live outside the county. The data below relates to the numbers of pupils in school in January 2013, during the academic year 2012/13.

	Pupils in school	% Pupils receiving free school meals	% of Pupils with SEN
Baird	874	35.7%	31%
Ore	759	26.5%	28%
Tressell	1025	36%	27%

Source: Targeted Youth Support – Hastings area profile November 2013

2.24 Young people not in education, employment or training (NEET) in November 2013. (These figures includes young people up to the age of 25 that have SEN)

Current Sit Sub group	Baird	Ore	Tressell
Working not for reward	1		
Start Date Agreed for EET	2	1	1
Supporting Family - Young Carer			1
Never Economically Active		1	
Pregnancy	2		1
Illness	1	2	1
Not EET Ready	5	2	5
Seeking EET - Assistance declined	6	4	4
Seeking EET - Accessing other Agencies	8	6	6
Supporting Family - Teenage Parent	22	16	15
Seeking Employment, Education or Training (EET)	33	41	56
Grand Total	80	73	90

Source: Targeted Youth Support – Hastings area profile November 2013

2.25 With the abolition of the national Connexions service individual secondary schools have been responsible for providing their students with careers education, information and advice

⁵ "Journey to Work: Practitioners' experience of employability initiatives in Hastings". Clare Demuth. April 2013

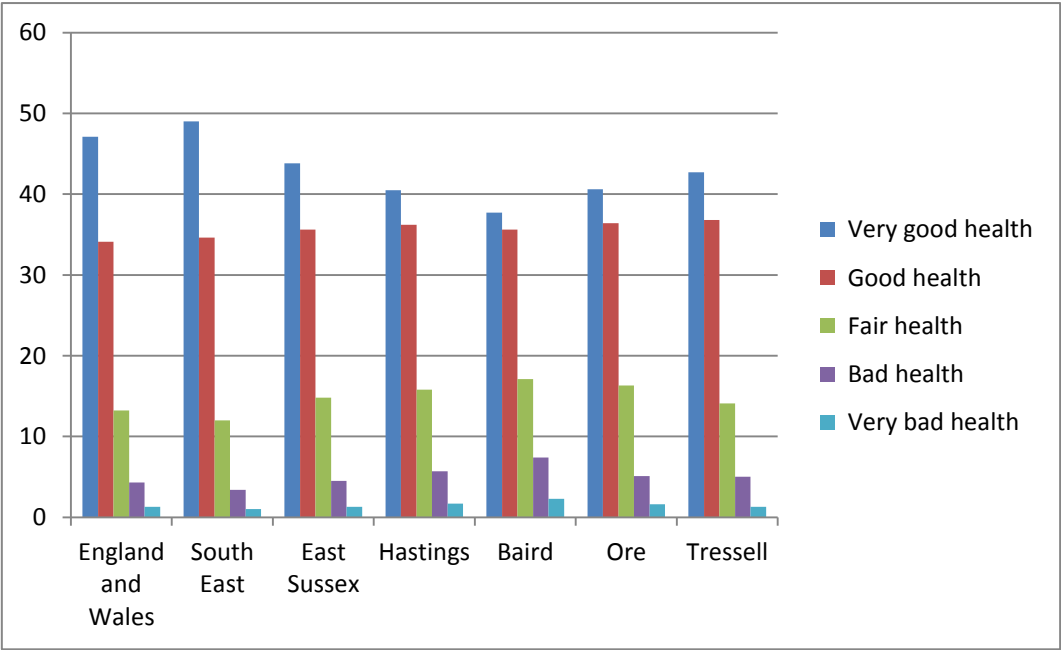
since 2012⁶. This has the advantage that schools can commission the service that best suits their needs: the disadvantage is that unless there is collaboration the service could vary from school to school. Hastings secondary schools have commissioned a bespoke service provided by My Future Starts Here, a local independent information, advice and careers guidance service.

“As a careers adviser, the conversations I have with young people look a bit different (from in previous years), and I think this is because most people are not going to have a job that they choose and there will be times when they are made redundant, lose their job, move on. They need more resilience – they need to be able to deal with life, take the knocks, and carry on. 16/17 year olds haven’t got those skills. They get lost and disenchanted.’ (Interviewee from My Future Starts Here)⁷

Health and wellbeing

Health

2.26 The chart below shows the percentage of people by their health status as at the 2011 Census. People were asked to assess whether their health was very good, good, fair, bad or very bad. This assessment is not based on a person's health over any specified period of time. The numbers are in Annex A.



Source: East Sussex in Figures

2.27 The self-assessment results in the census do not necessarily conform to other data. Poor people in disadvantaged areas tend to die earlier than richer people in affluent

⁶ Careers education and information in primary schools is limited. There is no statutory requirement to teach it. Unless primary schools make efforts to inform their pupils, some young people could go into secondary education knowing little about why work is important to their future wellbeing.
⁷ “Journey to Work: Practitioners’ experience of employability initiatives in Hastings”. Clare Demuth April 2013

areas. North east Hastings is no exception. Life expectancy in the three Big Local wards is less than the East Sussex average.

2.28 The following information is taken from the Hastings and Rother Clinical Commissioning Group 2013 Needs Profile, published by the East Sussex Public Health Department in September 2013. It is for East Hastings which includes Old Hastings ward so it is based on a larger population than the Big Local area but the findings are still relevant to north east Hastings.

Lifestyles

2.29 East Hastings has a:

- significantly higher prevalence of obesity for persons aged 16+ than East Sussex
- significantly higher rates of adults in alcohol treatment, drug treatment, and drug or alcohol treatment, than East Sussex
- significantly higher percentage of mothers known to be smoking at the time of delivery, fathers who are current smokers at the time of their baby's 6-8 week check, and a significantly higher rate of smoking quitters, than East Sussex.

Chronic diseases

2.30 East Hastings locality has

- the highest premature mortality from all cancers
- a significantly higher prevalence of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)⁸ and emergency admissions due to COPD than East Sussex
- significantly lower GP reported versus expected prevalences of hypertension, coronary heart disease and stroke.

Mental health

2.31 East Hastings locality has a significantly higher incidence of depression and emergency hospital admissions for persons with psychosis than East Sussex.

2.32 It has significantly higher rates than East Sussex of working age claimants of employment and support allowance, and incapacity benefits, due to mental health problems.

⁸ Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) is a lung disease characterized by chronic obstruction of lung airflow that interferes with normal breathing and is not fully reversible. The more familiar terms 'chronic bronchitis' and 'emphysema' are no longer used, but are now included within the COPD diagnosis. COPD is not simply a "smoker's cough" but an under-diagnosed, life-threatening lung disease. Source: World Health Organisation <http://www.who.int/respiratory/copd/definition/en/>

Social Care

2.33 East Hastings locality has the joint lowest percentage of adult social care assessments completed within 28 days. It has significantly higher rates of referrals to children's social care, children on a child protection plan and looked after children, than East Sussex.

Hospital activity

2.34 Compared to East Sussex, this locality has a significantly higher:

- percentage of outpatient appointments where the patient did not attend
- A&E attendances, and A&E attendance rates for those aged 5-19 years and 65+
- emergency admissions rate for unintentional and deliberate injuries for 0-17 year olds.

Wellbeing

2.35 During the consultation the isolation of individuals within the area was highlighted, especially amongst older people who sometimes struggle to get out and about. Suggestions here ranged from providing "outreach services in people's homes" to "free transport provision within the area", enabling those that cannot get out the opportunity to visit and use services within the area. There were links made to the need for more play spaces for children not "just for something to do, but for ways to get them out the house and playing with other children" because "we are becoming a nation of computer zombies". In addition to this there were concerns over the "massive obesity issues" within the area as well as "ill health and depressions through obesity and early pregnancy".

Creative activities

2.36 The consultation in 2013 confirmed the desire for a wide range of creative activities in our area. Among the ideas suggested were pottery, drama, needlework and writing classes; and a music facility so that young people could learn all aspects of music production, engineering and radio.

2.37 Our area currently has singing, art and other artistic groups; most creative activities take place in community centres. Many creative people live within or close to the Big Local boundary. In the past the Ore Valley Forum supported groups and activities, and organisations benefitted from funding from regional and national sources. The years from 2004 to 2011 were particularly productive with a wide variety of activities for all age groups led by organisations such as Creative Partnerships, One Two One art and architecture network⁹, and Radiator Arts. Residents participated in town-wide events such as architecture week, Coastal Currents and Fat Tuesday. There were also activities designed especially for the locality such as Creative Partnerships' work with Hillcrest School students to produce an exhibition of photographs

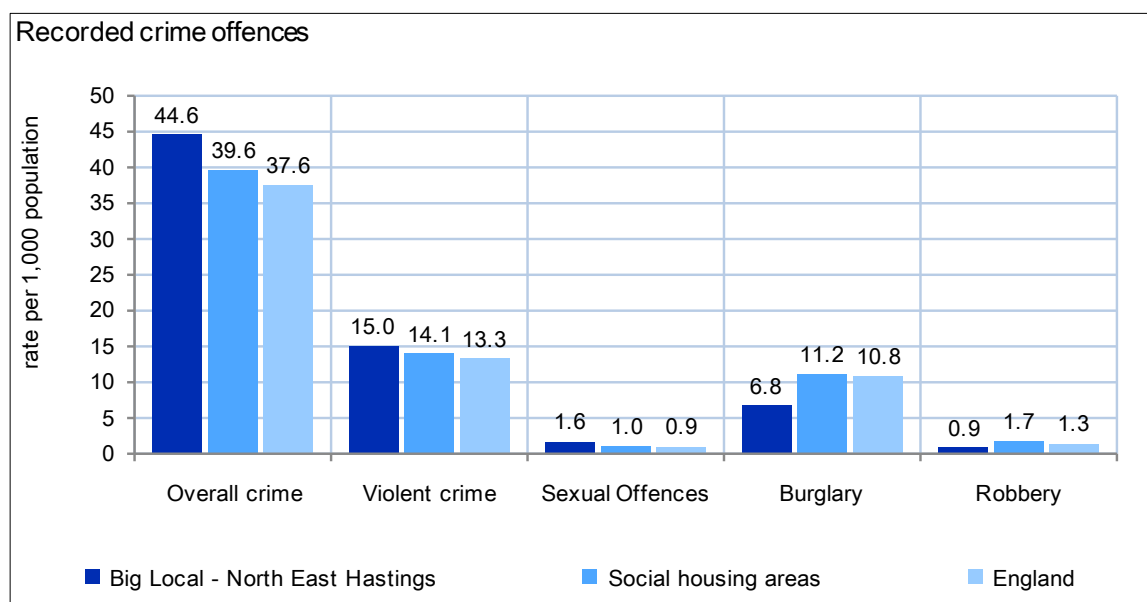
⁹ <http://onetwoone.org.uk/history/>

portraying the students' everyday lives on the Ore Valley estates. Their observations challenged opinions about what matters in urban regeneration¹⁰.

2.38 Latterly, as funding has become more difficult and area co-ordination reduced (see paragraph 2.7) there have been less community-wide activities. We have lacked people to co-ordinate activities and raise money to fund events. However, we hope Big Local will change that. Two creative groups, a sewing bee and Culture Shift, have already benefitted from our first small grants scheme and we are discussing with the Rayne Foundation the possibility of Big Local North East Hastings being a pilot for a new national project to demonstrate the effectiveness of the arts in delivering social impacts for local communities.

Crime and safety

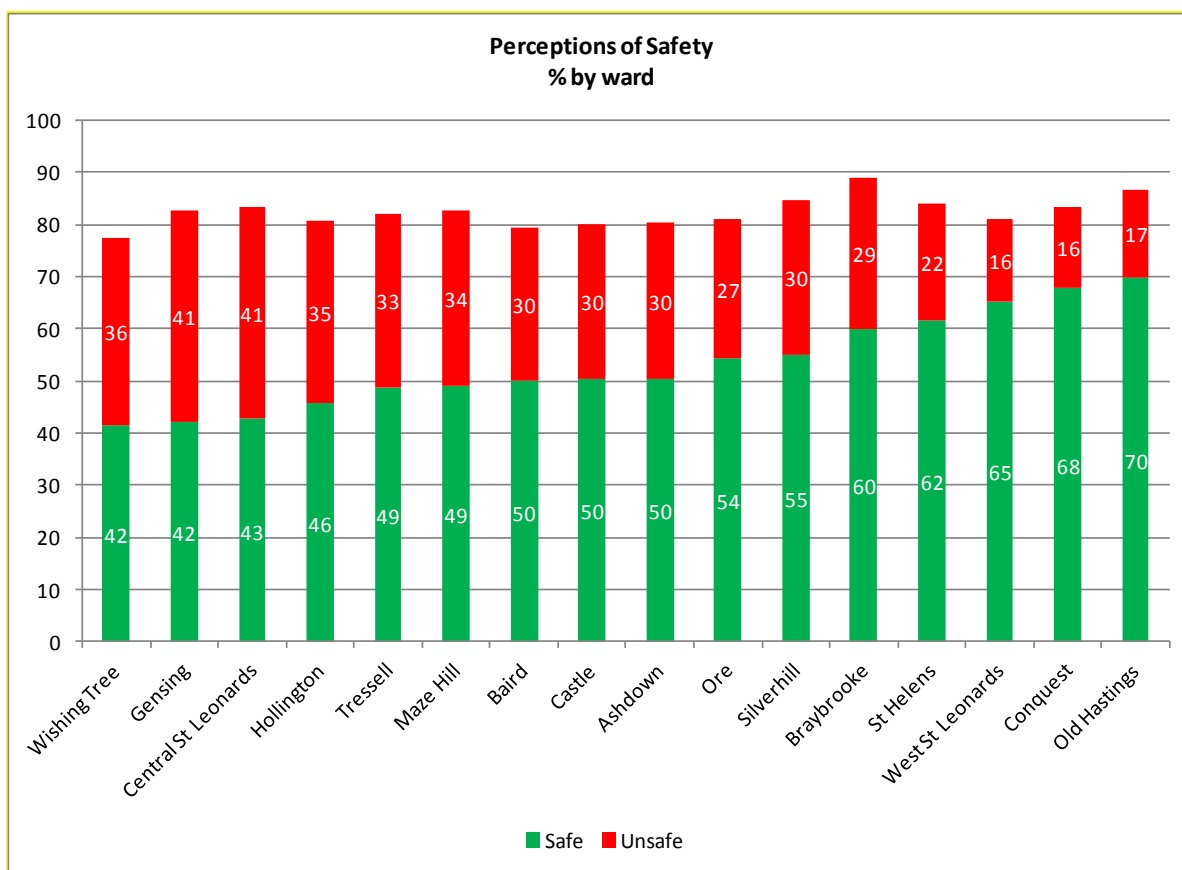
2.39 The overall crime rate in the north east Hastings Big Local area is higher than the national average.



(Source: Home Office 2012)

2.40 More people in Ore Ward feel safe compared with residents in Baird and Tressell wards as the following table from Hastings Council's 2013 Place Survey shows:

¹⁰ <http://www.cultureshift.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2011/12/the-casebook.pdf>. See page 22.



2.41 There was a mixed response in the consultation around the feeling of safety and yet there was a big consensus for an increase in police presence, despite more residents stating that they feel safe rather than unsafe.

2.42 Residents' views of anti-social behaviour incorporate many issues such as, people's behaviours and attitudes, drinking, drugs, vandalism, crime and fighting. Parental control of children within the area and fighting, both in the street and within residents homes were discussed during the consultation as well as a need to tackle drug deals within the area. The majority of residents who highlighted these issues suggested CCTV and an increase in police presence as possible deterrents.

2.43 Respondents said that Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) and wardens should "make people accountable for any damage or criminal behaviour done". In addition to this there were several requests for "neighbourhood watch schemes" to be set up within the area. Poor access and lighting between areas such as "Hurrell Rd and Upper Broomgrove Rd", "The Bridge and The Adventure Playpark" and the path between "Quantock and Waterside" were also mentioned as being something that needed addressing.

3 Places

- 3.1 The geography of the Big Local area is difficult with housing estates built on steep slopes of the Ore Valley, which also has a railway line running through it, and on the high ground of Downs Farm. Despite this the general consensus among those who responded to the consultation was that the area is a nice environment in which to live. This supports the results of Hastings council's Place Survey 2013 where Ore had the fourth highest satisfaction rating (see Annex B).
- 3.2 The main coast road to Dover, Eastbourne and Brighton, the A259, runs through Ore Village which is north east Hastings' main shopping area. The B2093 to Battle connects the A259 to the main employment area in Ivyhouse Lane.
- 3.3 There is a predominance of social housing in Broomgrove, Halton, Red Lake and Downs Farm interspersed by private housing in other areas. There is less private rented accommodation than in some other parts of Hastings.
- 3.4 A Millennium Community was created in 2002 by the then government with the aim of building 700 homes on brownfield sites in Ore Valley. Twelve years on and £millions of public money later, 50 homes have been built plus a campus for Sussex Coast College Hastings. There is the promise of a new doctors' surgery but because of low land values the timescale for building on the remaining land is vague as are the management plans for the empty land. As a result some areas have work that is unfinished, creating "wasted land", highlighting "an overall neglect by planners, developers, politicians and business leaders which has led to social decline and exclusion". An example is "the road to nowhere" at the top of Frederick Rd, opposite Oakfield Rd, which leads to an empty space that was to be part of a Millennium Community. On the plus side, however, there is still the potential for the land to be put to good purposes. The possibility of taking a 'meanwhile lease'¹¹ on some of the land to create a temporary park or for other recreational and educational purposes will be investigated as part of our action plan.

Housing

- 3.5 The boxes below show the number of people in the Big Local north east Hastings living in each accommodation type. Predominantly people live in houses (70%) with a significant proportion living in purpose built flats (25%).

¹¹ <https://www.farmgarden.org.uk/meanwhile-gardening>

Detached	Semi-detached	Terraced	Purpose built flats
292	796	1,419	855
8.4% (England average = 22.3%)	22.8% (England average = 30.7%)	40.7% (England average = 24.5%)	24.5% (England average = 16.7%)
Flats (in converted or shared housing)	Flats (in commercial building)	Caravan or other temporary home	Second homes
73	39	11	12
2.1% (England average = 4.3%)	1.1% (England average = 1.1%)	0.3% (England average = 0.4%)	0.3% (England average = 0.6%)

Source: Accommodation type - Census 2011

3.6 The housing in the Big Local area is dominated by social housing but this is changing. The most significant change over the last decade seems to be the growth of the private rented sector and this is explored in more detail in Annex B.

3.7 The two main social housing landlords in the area are AmicusHorizon and Orbit Housing. AmicusHorizon's housing stock in the area is primarily made up from housing stock transferred from Hastings Borough Council in 1996. It is estimated that 30 per cent of their stock has been subject to right to buy with many of the individual dwelling houses in the area being bought by the residents in occupation.

Other assets

3.8 The Big Local area has within it: four community centres, three children's centres, one secondary and two primary schools, two college buildings offering vocational training, an adventure playground and various small playgrounds near social housing, churches and church halls, a fire station, a railway station, a branch library, two branch post offices, an industrial estate, three chemists, a building society branch, a small supermarket and a range of small shops, three pubs (it once had eight) and a limited range of other business. More details about these are in following sections and the annexes.

The environment

3.9 There are a number of green spaces across the area, the main ones being in Ore Valley. Development of what was the Millennium Community land was intended to bring with it money to maintain and develop the green spaces around the housing. But without the houses there is no money to invest in the green spaces.

3.10 Speckled Wood, is a 12.7-acre woodland with entrances at Ore Village, off Frederick Road and from Victoria Avenue. The woodland has steep sixty degree sides and is a wet woodland. It has paths through it and is a wealth of mammals, birds and invertebrates. There is a meandering stream that runs right through the wood. 'Save Speckled Wood' attracted a lot of support during the consultation but the way in which the wood should be protected has provoked fierce debate among environmental groups. Land ownership in the woodland is complicated, with parts of it unadopted, parts owned by Hastings

Council, and parts of it in private ownership (by many different owners). All of it currently has open access to the public, and is unfenced. Hastings Council has designated Speckled Wood as public open space in its draft local plan. However, as landowners in the wood have objected, the decision will be made by a planning inspector at an inquiry in 2015. Hastings Council says that some parts of the wood cannot be considered for protection as they already have planning permission for housing.

- 3.11 The north of the Big Local area includes North's Seat, an area of outstanding natural beauty and, at 575 feet above sea level, the highest point in the town. Recently this has featured in the North Seat Short Walk Ore Trails 1¹².

Ore Valley Greenway

- 3.12 There is a proposal for an Ore Valley Greenway. It is based on a plan for a Hastings Strategic Greenway that was first conceived 11 years ago as a way of creating a radial network of cycling and walking routes from the Town Centre. The original routes have been refined and improved by subsequent research. The idea is to connect communities with schools, shops, employment areas, rail stations, parks and the town centre and sea front for sustainable (non-car based) utility travel and for health and leisure activities.

- 3.13 One of the key links in the Greenway network runs through the Ore Valley and will be almost entirely off road, utilising green spaces and woodland. It is included in the draft Hastings Local Plan and the Hastings Walking & Cycling Strategy as a proposed route.

4 Facilities including play

- 4.1 One of the key issues raised by residents during the 2013 consultation was that of 'nothing to do'. Generally this is a term linked to bored young people; however many responding to the consultation stressed their perception that there was simply nothing to do for the majority of the residents. It was felt that there was a need for more age specific facilities and services such as more youth clubs, more social clubs for older people, interest groups, workshops and activities. Two proposals were discussed repeatedly throughout the consultation, the need for free training and skills opportunities, and a youth facility.

Community facilities and groups

- 4.2 During the 2013 consultation, there was a huge need identified for the provision of age specific activities. The age groups of under 5s, 8+, 11+ and over 55s were specifically identified as needing activities. Under 5s were mainly linked to play parks as were the over 11's, however the issue here was that the over 11s needed their own space so that

¹² <http://www.thehastingsacademy.org/docs/Ore%20Trails%20Route%201.pdf>

they stayed out of the play parks and the younger children could then enjoy them more. The over 55 activities seemed to focus more around social activities at local community centres and all ages suggested having regular out of area trips and visits.

4.3 Residents did not always know what was happening locally, either within their community or at any of the community centres. Whilst online advertising via websites and social media is being used more and more within society, a proportion of people, especially the elderly, do not have access to the internet and so they can miss out on what is happening. The possibility of using an empty property on a 'meanwhile lease'¹³ to give people the opportunity to walk in and talk about Big Local plans and find out what is happening in the community will be investigated.

4.4 Around 65 per cent of households in Baird, Tressell and Ore wards had an internet connection at home in 2012 (compared with 66 per cent across all of Hastings). An unknown number of people also have smart phones linked to the internet.

Community facilities

4.5 The four community centres in the area are: Broomgrove Community Centre in Chiltern Drive; The Bridge in Priory Road; Ore Centre in Ore Village; and Down's Farm Community Centre, Crowborough Road. Just outside the boundary is the West Hill Community Centre which provides a service to, amongst others, residents in Halton Flats.

4.6 Each centre has a life of its own, very self-contained, effective and efficient in offering low cost activities to its target audience. But the centre programmes are largely reactive as centre managements have limited capacity to organise, attend and promote new activities. There is little co-ordination between the centres or with specialist support agencies. To start to address this we have formed, with the aid of initial Pathway Funding from Local Trust, a community centre support project led by a consultant. This has already had a beneficial effect in bringing community centre managers together to talk about common issues and agree on a strategy which will be a key feature in the Big Local resident-led partnership's action plan.

4.7 In the 2013 consultation many residents wanted to see further investment in the community centres within the area, enabling them to enhance their service provision. But to ensure their future these facilities must be utilised and put on a more sustainable footing than at present. This is difficult in areas where people must make every penny count and are often not in a position to pay the true cost of the community facilities and services on which they depend.

¹³ <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/meanwhile-use-leases-and-guidance-for-landlords>

4.8 Broomgrove Community Centre hosts the Broomgrove Residents Association, two youth clubs and a scout group. Oasis Community Project East Hastings is also based in the Broomgrove Community Centre providing: outings and activities during the Easter holidays, summer holidays and Christmas holidays for children and their families (the Broomgrove Playscheme) and regular activities and outings for residents aged 50+.

4.9 Downs Farm Residents Association is based in the Downs Farm Community Centre. The centre is owned by AmicusHorizon housing association. It is run by a committee of local residents and provides a variety of activities for local residents being particularly strong on youth activities.

4.10 Ore Community Centre has a refurbished café, a garden and car park, and hosts a range of groups including arts and crafts, dance, family history, geological society, health and fitness, and social groups. The Ore Valley Forum, Ore in Bloom, the Rainbow Playgroup and Brownies are based in the centre. The centre is the postal address for Big Local North East Hastings.

4.11 The Bridge is also a children's centre (the only one not in an ESCC building); it has a café; hosts a number of groups and services; the garden provides opportunities for training and volunteers as well as providing fresh produce for the café. In2Play, a community based play and activity group for children aged 0-13 years, parents and carers is also based at The Bridge. In2Play operates a mobile toy library and manages the Hastings adventure playground in Upper Broomgrove Road for Hastings Council.

4.12 The Hastings Academy has been built with a room for use by agencies supporting students and families, and a room available for use by the community. The academy has a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) and sports centre which is open to the public when not required by the school.

Churches

4.13 There are a number of churches in or near the Big Local area. A number of activities take place in Christ Church's hall including Ore Church Mice (for young children) and Ore Women's Institute (WI). The Salvation Army has activities for young people and adults and also operates at Downs Farm.

Facilities for young people

4.14 One of the biggest needs that the residents highlighted in the 2013 consultation was for bigger and better play facilities; play parks, outdoor play and skate parks. Whilst the north east Hastings area already has these within it, it was recognised that some needed modernisation, some needed expanding and some needed to be built in areas where there were none, such as Ore Village.

- 4.15 The Hastings adventure playground, predominantly for 8-13 year olds, is situated in Ore Valley off Upper Broomgrove Road. There are various small public playgrounds attached to housing estates. AmicusHorizon and Hastings Borough Council are the principle providers of publicly accessible equipped play space sites in Hastings. They have agreed a shared strategy for future play space provision. More information on play spaces is at Annex B.
- 4.16 There was also great concern raised in the consultation over who uses the play parks and older youths “hanging around in them because they have nowhere else to go”.
- 4.17 The idea for a youth facility has arisen from various other issues, such as vandalism, anti-social behaviour, groups and gangs and more often than not as a way of stopping older youths (deemed 11+) from ‘hanging around in the play parks’. An alternative approach may be for more organised activities or coaching at the facilities that encourages better behaviour and protects more vulnerable children and young people.

Leisure facilities

Sports

- 4.18 The 2013 consultation revealed a big focus on the need for more sporting/leisure facilities within the area and suggestions ranged from multi use games areas (MUGA), to swimming and paddling pools and to a full leisure complex.
- 4.19 There are two MUGA in the north east Hastings Big Local area: Hastings Academy, open for public use when it is not required by the academy, and The Cage, owned by Orbit, in Harkness Drive. There are two MUGAs just outside the Big Local area: in Bembrook Road close to a children’s play area¹⁴, which also has outdoor adult fitness equipment, and at the Parker Road campus of Sussex Coast College Hastings which is available for community use. There is a commercial gym in the industrial estate in Ivyhouse Lane and the possibility of encouraging the provision of further leisure activities in vacant industrial units, e.g. a bowling alley, will be investigated as part of our action plan as and when we have people to pursue the enquiries.
- 4.20 Other than that, the nearest sports and recreational facilities are the public bowling greens in Alexandra Park which also has a big children’s playground; and the Sandhurst Recreation Ground which is public recreation ground with changing and toilet facilities off The Ridge.

¹⁴ The Bembrook Road play areas serve social housing within the Big Local boundary.

4.21 Sandown School has a swimming pool but it is not open to the public and the school has difficulty in raising enough money to keep it going. A campaign to save the swimming pool registered well in the 2013 consultation.

Recreation

4.22 In the consultation there was a call for allotments – there are none in the Big Local area; the nearest are Fernbank (40 plots between Bembrook Road and Old London Road) and Pauls Field (92 plots off Ashburnham Road). All the allotments are occupied and there is a waiting list¹⁵. The Bridge Community Centre has a vegetable garden which is used for training.

4.23 There are two pubs in the Big Local area and another two just outside of the boundary. Several have closed in recent years. The most recent closure was the Kings Head in April 2014; it is rumoured that another supermarket will move into the building.

4.24 Some residents highlighted a need to extend the cycle paths from the seafront up into the area as a way of encouraging “more residents to cycle to and from town” but also to “increase the safety of those wishing to cycle out to the country park rather than driving there to then cycle”.

Networking

4.25 As part of the 2013 consultation, an event was held for community groups and organisations. Although it was predominantly a consultation exercise, it was used by participants as a useful networking opportunity. The evaluation from this event indicated that no single forum or network brought all the community organisations in north east Hastings together and the benefits of sharing intelligence, local knowledge and links was highlighted.

5 Services

Health

5.1 There is one doctor’s surgery in the Big Local area; the Shankhill Surgery in Fairlight Road which has two doctors. Just out of the area are two more surgeries: Beaconsfield Road Surgery with 3 doctors (it is thought that this surgery will move to new purpose built accommodation near to Ore railway station and the college’s Parker Road campus); and Harold Road Surgery which has five doctors. Further afield there are surgeries in Hastings Old Town and on the West Hill. Residents can also use the Hastings Medical Practice & Walk In Centre located in Station Plaza in the centre of Hastings.

¹⁵ Hastings Borough Council web site

http://www.hastings.gov.uk/community_living/places_spaces_facilities/allotments_parks_beaches/allotments/ accessed on 22nd May 2014

5.2 The Priory Road Dental Practice in Priory Road (Halton) is the only one in the Big Local area. There is another dental practice just outside the area in St. Georges Road near its junction with Mount Pleasant Road.

5.3 Hastings & St Leonards Children's Services main office is in Ore Village.

Learning including pre-school

Pre-school

5.4 There are currently three children's centres in the area: East Hastings in Chiltern Drive; The Bridge in Priory Road; and Red Lake collocated with the Ore Village Primary Academy (previously Red Lake Primary School) in Rye Road. Reduction in public expenditure prompted ESCC to issue a consultation document to staff in March 2014 saying that further savings need to be made in spending on children's centres as in other services. The document proposes that the children's centres should focus on fewer priorities and the number of buildings designated as children's centres should be reduced. ESCC proposals, if accepted, will affect The Bridge and Red Lake. ESCC says in its consultation document that it is very keen to increase the use of children's centre buildings for a broad range of community purposes, not necessarily confined to support for families with young children. The outcome of the consultation will be known later in 2014.

5.5 **Nurseries:** There are four nurseries within the Big Local area at Chiltern Drive, Ore Village, Rye Road and on The Ridge. There are a further five nurseries reasonably near to the boundary. Further details are at Annex C.

5.6 During the consultation residents expressed their satisfaction in childcare, playgroups, nurseries and parent and toddler groups within the area. After the consultation was completed the government promised to provide free early education places for the most disadvantaged 40 per cent of two year olds. This represents one of the most ambitious government initiatives in recent years, and one which is based on sound research evidence demonstrating the benefits of early years provision for children from less well-off backgrounds. However, although the programme has significant potential to narrow the attainment gap and improve outcomes for children, the research evidence is clear that developmental benefits will only be achieved if children are able to attend good quality provision¹⁶.

5.7 It is understood that there is a shortage of nursery and pre-school places in our Big Local area and we are not sure how well current provision meets the needs of parents for their children. Clarifying this issue will be an early item in our three-year action plan.

¹⁶ Sutton Foundation report "Sound Foundations" January 2014

Schools

5.8 Within the Big Local boundary there is one secondary-age school for students aged 11-16 and two primary schools for 5-11 year olds. A list of schools inside and outside the Big Local boundary which serve students living in north east Hastings is at Annex C.

College

5.9 Sussex Coast College Hastings has a campus in Parker Road, close to Ore Station, where its Construction, Engineering and IT courses are based. The college also has a specialist Motor Vehicle Centre, in the Ivyhouse Lane industrial estate off The Ridge. The main campus, which also has a 6th form attended by students from north east Hastings, is at Station Plaza in the centre of Hastings.

University

5.10 The University of Brighton in Hastings has two buildings in the centre of Hastings offering undergraduate and postgraduate degrees in subjects including applied social science, business, computing, media, English literature, social history, education and environmental biology, and mathematics. Their Community and University Partnership Programme has offered community development and partnership training to North East Hastings and Devonshire West (Eastbourne) Big Local groups.

Adult education

5.11 Hastings has a strong and established group of community and voluntary sector providers. Horizons Community Learning CIC has its origins in Ore Valley and it still operates classes in the East Hastings Children's Centre. Other groups offer learning at various locations. Much informal learning occurs through groups in community centres and church halls. The Hastings and Rother Adult & Community Learning Strategy recognises the needs of the Big Local area in its action plan. Additional information is provided in Annex C.

Information, advice and guidance

5.12 During the 2013 consultation it was suggested there is a need for some outreach work within north east Hastings from the Citizens Advice Bureau, Hastings Advice and Representation Centre, LGBT support and advice, and "inspiring, creative, motivational style groups/workshops for teenage girls to help develop careers". One resident also discussed the idea of organising "inter-generational activities" and another suggested "tradesmen could teach young people their skills for free in workshops to help keep them off the streets". This linked well with the idea of creating a "young volunteers program to develop skills/confidence...", as well as a "local Ore young apprentice scheme".

Education research

5.13 East Hastings, and particularly the Ore Valley Forum, has a record of involvement in raising educational attainment. It has co-sponsored educational conferences and co-founded the Hastings & St Leonards Learning and Skills Research Partnership.

Representatives and been involved with the University of Brighton in a number of research projects of direct relevance to the Big Local area. It is hoped that as part of Big Local activities research projects will continue and the resident-led partnership will be able to work with schools, the college and university, and community and voluntary learning providers to produce an area curriculum for learning outside of traditional classrooms that will be designed collaboratively not only to help learners of all ages as well but also contribute to achieving the overall aims of the Big Local programme.

Transport

5.14 In the north east Hastings Big Local area 40 per cent of households have no car (compared with 26 per cent across England as a whole). Unsurprisingly, transport was another big issue in the 2013 consultation, especially public transport in relation to cost and service provision. Residents that used public transport felt they were cut off and isolated from the main town as bus provision was poor and costly.

5.15 There are no connecting bus routes between Halton/Farley Bank and Broomgrove on the other side of the valley and the railway line runs between the two estates. This has led to a difficulty in communication as people find it hard to move easily between the areas.

5.16 The lack of accessibility, especially for disabled people, to Ore train station was highlighted in the consultation along with the lack of trains that actually stop at the station. Office of Rail Regulation statistics show that annual passenger usage increased from 22,227 in 2004/05 to 126,558 in 2010/11 but decreased in 2011/12 to 112,458. Proposals for a major re-development of the station as part of the Millennium Community developments and more frequent train services to Ashford have come to nothing.

Pavements, Roads and Traffic

5.17 The A259 to Dover, Eastbourne and Brighton runs through Ore Village where it is joined by the B2093 from Battle; Fairlight Road; and Saxon Road (a bus route to the Old Town and Hastings town centre).

5.18 Pavements, roads and traffic within the area were also highlighted as issues that needed attention in terms of investment within the area. There was a very real concern for the safety of older people in respect of the uneven pavements, especially in the Ore Village area. The general condition of the roads, placement of traffic lights and crossings were also discussed as things that needed improving, and the need for more crossings and traffic calming measures. There is also uncertainty on how the town's new Link Road will impact on traffic in the area, especially considering the current density of traffic at peak times. There were further requests for "salt and grit bins within the area

to help through the winter months”, especially relevant because of the steep gradients on paths and roads.

Banks and access to money

- 5.19 There is one building society, the Nationwide in Ore Village. The main banks (Barclays, Lloyds and NatWest) which once had branches in Ore Village closed them in the last few years and the nearest branches are now in Hastings town centre.
- 5.20 There are two Post Offices, one in Ore Village and one in the supermarket in Malvern Way. A sub-post office in Mount Road closed within the [last 2 years?] and the closest sub-post office to Halton is in St Georges Road and that also has an ATM.
- 5.21 There are four ATM (cash) machines in Ore Village, at the Post Office, Co-Op, Tesco and the Nationwide. Other ATMs are located by the convenience store in Ore Valley Road by Ore Station and Sussex Coast College nearby. There is an ATM machine which charges for withdrawals in the supermarket in a convenience store in Priory Road.
- 5.22 The Hastings & Rother Credit Union provides services to individuals and community groups, social enterprises and businesses; helping organisations that need financial services and attracting investment into community. It offers a specific service to tenants to help them manage their rent. The nearest credit union office is central Hastings. Exploring ways of boosting saving and accessing fair credit through the Credit Union are proposed in the action plan.

6 Shops, businesses and employment

Shops

- 6.1 The majority of shops are in Ore Village of which the small Co-operative supermarket (which has a car park on the roof) and a B&Q store are the largest. There are few vacant shops in the area. The B&Q store is due to be replaced by an Aldi supermarket and a disused public house in the centre of Ore Village has become a Tesco Express: there is local opposition to both of these developments with people and some shopkeepers fearing that Aldi and Tesco will take business away from the existing shops. However, some residents welcome the idea of bigger stores coming into the area, because they see them as bringing with them an increase in footfall as well as employment opportunities.
- 6.2 There is a small supermarket and sub-post office on Malvern Way. A small parade of shops in Mount Road is the closest to Halton flats.

6.3 Just outside of the area there is a convenience store in Ore Valley Road by Ore Station; a small supermarket in St Helen's Down; and a sub-post office in St Georges Road.

6.4 Residents like the smaller shops and the interactions and friendships they have with the staff and other shoppers.

6.5 Shop owners do not belong to a local group. Supporting independent shops was a high priority in the consultation.

Businesses

6.6 There is one industrial estate in the Big Local area at Ivyhouse Lane located off the northern side of The Ridge. An hourly bus service (service 28) stops on The Ridge and runs through Pennine Rise, Ore Village and past Halton flats. The businesses range from advanced manufacturing and engineering businesses, to printers, vehicle maintenance and driver training, a government heavy goods vehicle testing station, to retail and wholesale businesses and physical fitness facilities. All businesses on the estate are members of the Business Watch partnership. North Ridge Park, off Haywood Way, is the newest development; some of the older premises look in need of modernisation. There are some empty units.

Employment

6.7 The largest sectors of employment for residents in the Big Local area are health and social work activities (20.3%); Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motors (18.42%); and construction (11.4%). There is more information on this in Annex A.

7 History

7.1 From its earliest beginnings the Big Local area was an edge of town community which provided lower cost accommodation for workers. As a consequence the area was, in the words of one historian "a place which housed the labourers rather than the bosses".

7.2 Housing was developed incrementally leading to a "sprawling" rather than designed feel to the area. A clearance area was declared in the 1950s to remove some of the poorest standard accommodation and the gradual increase in the population led to the development of larger planned areas of Council (now Housing Association) properties in Broomgrove, Halton, Farley Bank and Downs Farm. As well as providing low cost housing for local people these estates were, in part, developed to accommodate London families who were part of a significant re-location scheme administered by the Greater London Council which brought workers and businesses to Hastings in the late 1960s and early 1970s.

7.3 Economically the area and its residents have fared badly during periods of recession and a significant number of the smaller industrial units and factories providing local employment left the area. Ore Valley was once a hive of industry. It had, among other employers, a railway depot; a power station (originally coal-fired with railway access); two hospitals, one of which was converted from the town's workhouse; an electricity depot; a milk depot; a shirt factory supplying Marks & Spencer; and a kitchen equipment manufacturer, WM Still & Sons, known internationally for its quality products. None of these survive today.

7.4 Ore Village was the site of the first theatre in Hastings. More recently, from 2004 to 2007, One Two One leased a flat rent free from 1066 Housing Association in Farley Bank. The flat was on the top floor of a four storey block, now demolished, overlooking the Ore Valley. During this period One Two One was established as a network of artists and designers, and developed a programme of activities related to the regeneration of the valley.

8 Conclusion

8.1 Compared with most other areas across the country, we have more people seeking employment; not enough people with good educational qualifications; more adults and children living in poverty; fewer residents in good physical and mental health; and more people without a car.

8.2 Many people like the area, some do not. Some are not convinced that Big Local is real or that it will not be like some of the other initiatives in the past – promise a lot and deliver little.

8.3 There is a widespread view that there is not enough to do, particularly for younger and older people. Residents say more needs to be done to publicise the events and services that are available.

8.4 There is a great desire for investment in community centres, learning and skills, sports, leisure and play facilities, the economy and in green spaces. Residents want to see less litter and dogs' mess and less anti-social behaviour.

8.5 North east Hastings is an artificial area: it comprises a number of neighbourhoods that are not well connected by public transport and divided by hills and valleys. Getting to places can sometimes be difficult.

8.6 We have huge potential in our people, community assets, businesses and land; and we have many residents, groups and organisations that are totally committed to the aims of the Big Local programme. But currently there is insufficient coordination and not

enough people with the time, skills and knowledge to expand the community centres and groups and to realise the full potential in the area.

Annex A – People

Population

Population by age groups in 2011

A1. Baird, Ore and Tressell wards all have more young people under the age of 14 than the Hastings average and Tressell ward has a higher percentage of people under the age of 44 than the Hastings average. Table A1 shows the numbers and Table A2 the percentages.

Age	All people	0-14	15-29	30-44	45-64	65+
Baird	4,838	965	845	824	1,207	997
Ore	5,195	958	1,002	912	1,399	924
Tressell	5,317	1,263	1,137	1,143	1,251	523

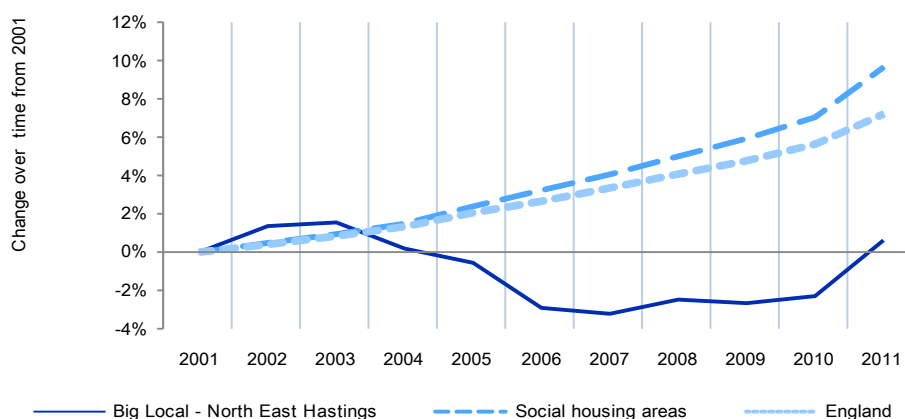
Table A1 - Numbers

Age	All people	0-14	15-29	30-44	45-64	65+
Hastings	100.0	17.3	19.0	19.6	27.0	17.1
Baird	100.0	19.9	17.5	17.0	24.9	20.6
Ore	100.0	18.4	19.3	17.6	26.9	17.8
Tressell	100.0	23.8	21.4	21.5	23.5	9.8

Table A2 - Percentage

A2. The population density in the north east Hastings Big Local area has changed over time, as the graph below (Table A3) shows:

% change in total population from 2001-2011



Source: Community Insight profile of Big Local – North East Hastings 14 August 2013

Table A3

Ethnic Groups

A3. The vast majority of people in Baird, Ore and Tressell wards are White. Table A4 below shows the numbers and the percentages.

Ethnic group in 2011 - Numbers							
Ethnicity	All people	All White	All Mixed	All Asian or Asian British	All Black or Black British	Other ethnic group	Total non white
East Sussex	526,671	505,422	7,473	9,143	2,912	1,721	21,249
Hastings	90,254	84,631	1,948	2,126	1,065	484	5,623
Baird	4,838	4,612	101	58	49	18	226
Ore	5,195	4,972	81	61	63	18	223
Tressell	5,317	5,090	117	56	37	17	227

Ethnic group in 2011 – Percentage %							
Ethnicity	All people	All White	All Mixed	All Asian or Asian British	All Black or Black British	Other ethnic group	Total non white %
East Sussex	100.0	96.0	1.4	1.7	0.6	0.3	4.0
Hastings	100.0	93.8	2.2	2.4	1.2	0.5	6.3
Baird	100.0	95.3	2.1	1.2	1.0	0.4	4.7
Ore	100.0	95.7	1.6	1.2	1.2	0.3	4.3
Tressell	100.0	95.7	2.2	1.1	0.7	0.3	4.3

Table A4

Numbers of Households in 2001 and 2011

A4. By 2011 the number of households in Ore and Tressell wards had increased compared with 2001 but decreased slightly in Baird because some social housing had been removed and not yet replaced.

Year	2001	2011
Baird	2,100	1,982
Ore	2,132	2,281
Tressell	2,064	2,216

Table A5

General health in 2011

A5. The following tables show the number (Table A6) and percentage (Table A7) of people by their health status as at the 2011 Census for East Sussex.

General health	All people	Very good health	Good health	Fair health	Bad health	Very bad health
Baird	4,838	1,823	1,722	825	359	109
Ore	5,195	2,111	1,890	846	267	81
Tressell	5,317	2,272	1,956	751	267	71

Table A6

General health	All people	Very good health	Good health	Fair health	Bad health	Very bad health
England and Wales	100.0	47.1	34.1	13.2	4.3	1.3
South East	100.0	49.0	34.6	12.0	3.4	1.0
East Sussex	100.0	43.8	35.6	14.8	4.5	1.3
Hastings	100.0	40.5	36.2	15.8	5.7	1.7

Baird	100.0	37.7	35.6	17.1	7.4	2.3
Ore	100.0	40.6	36.4	16.3	5.1	1.6
Tressell	100.0	42.7	36.8	14.1	5.0	1.3

Table A7

Disability Living Allowance: Number of claimants 2008-2013

A6. Disability Living Allowance provides a non-contributory, non means-tested and tax-free contribution towards the disability-related extra costs of severely disabled people who claim help with those costs before the age of 65. Table A8 below shows the number of people claiming Disability Living Allowance by broad age groups.

	Feb 2008	Feb 09	Feb 10	Feb 11	Feb 12	Feb 13
Hastings	5,180	5,490	5,750	6,060	6,160	6,330
Age under 16	600	640	700	710	680	670
Age 16-59	3,000	3,150	3,260	3,440	3,500	3,650
Age over 60	1,580	1,700	1,780	1,910	1,970	2,010
Baird	395	425	445	465	450	465
Age under 16	45	55	60	60	60	50
Age 16-59	205	225	225	235	230	250
Age over 60	145	145	160	170	160	165
Ore	265	295	310	335	340	350
Age under 16	35	35	35	35	30	35
Age 16-59	150	170	180	200	210	205
Age over 60	80	90	95	100	100	11
Tressell	340	360	375	390	385	395
Age under 16	65	65	75	65	55	65
Age 16-59	215	225	225	235	240	235
Age over 60	60	70	75	90	90	95

Table A8

Poverty and Income

A7. Table A9 below shows the median incomes and the number of households, and also gives the number and percentage of all households, whose income is below 60% of the Great Britain median household income, which in 2013 is £16,814. This is commonly used as a definition of poverty.

Households in poverty in 2013

	Median household income (£)	Total number of households	Number of households below 60% of GB median	Percentage of households below 60% of GB median
South East	31,850	3,636,820	897,564	24.7
East Sussex	27,198	236,516	65,181	27.6
Hastings	24,255	41,768	13,013	31.2
Baird	21,702	2,063	711	34.4

Ore	22,359	2,309	776	33.6
Tressell	22,432	2,237	750	33.5

Source: East Sussex in Figures

Table A9

Children living in poverty

A8. The measure used is the proportion of children living in families in receipt of out-of-work benefits or in receipt of tax credits with a reported income which is less than 60 per cent of national median income. The figures in Table A10 below released September 2013 are based on September 2011 data:

Percentage of children in poverty 2006-2011

Year	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
England	20.8	21.6	20.9	21.3	20.6	20.1
South East	14.4	14.9	14.5	15.4	15.0	14.6
East Sussex	17.2	17.7	17.7	18.5	18.0	17.4
Hastings	28.0	28.8	28.8	29.3	28.7	28.0
Baird	38.8	41.0	43.2	44.2	40.5	39.1
Ore	32.9	35.4	34.5	36.2	36.3	33.6
Tressell	42.0	43.2	42.6	42.7	41.8	41.3

Table A10

School pupils receiving free school meals 2012/13 – schools

A9. The rate of free school meals is used as an indicator of poverty. However, despite efforts by schools to get eligible parents to apply, not all pupils entitled to receive free school meals are registered. Table A11 shows the percentage of pupils receiving free school meals by the ward in which they live (regardless of which school they go to) and Table A12 shows the school they attend (regardless of where they live).

	All pupils	Number receiving free school meals	Percentage receiving free school meals	Number not receiving free meals
Baird	874	312	35.7%	562
Ore	759	201	26.5%	558
Tressell	1,025	369	36%	656

Table A11

Percent	Receiving free meals	Not receiving free meals
Schools in bold are in the Big Local area		
East Sussex	14.60	85.40
Hastings	26.07	73.93
All Saints Church of England Junior School	21.21	78.79
Blacklands Primary School	11.52	88.48
Castledown Community Primary and Nursery School	46.49	53.51
Dudley Infant School	19.77	80.23
Elphinstone Community School	50.47	49.53
Helenswood School	15.30	84.70

Red Lake Community Primary School	43.16	56.84
Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School	10.62	89.38
Sandown Primary School	40.05	59.95
Saxon Mount School	51.72	48.28
The Hastings Academy	34.84	65.16
Torfield School	46.84	53.16
William Parker Sports College	16.17	83.83

Source: East Sussex in Figures

Table A12

Fuel poverty

A10. The government has recently set out the new definition of fuel poverty which it intends to adopt under the Low Income High Costs (LIHC) framework¹⁷. Under the new definition, a household is said to be in fuel poverty if:

- they have required fuel costs that are above average (the national median level)
- were they to spend that amount they would be left with a residual income below the official poverty line

A11. Statistics are also available for the 10 per cent definition. Under this, a household is said to be fuel poor if it needs to spend more than 10% of its income on fuel to maintain a satisfactory heating regime (usually 21 degrees for the main living area, and 18 degrees for other occupied rooms).

A12. The key drivers behind fuel poverty are:

- The energy efficiency of the property (and therefore, the energy required to heat and power the home)
- The cost of energy
- Household income.

Households in fuel poverty: 2011

	Fuel poverty 10% definition			Fuel poverty New LIHC definition		
	Percentage of fuel poor households	Number of fuel poor households	Total number of households	Percentage of fuel poor households	Number of fuel poor households	Total number of households
England	14.6	3,201,948	21,918,363	10.9	2,390,053	21,918,363
South East	10.3	363,556	3,533,163	8.2	289,858	3,533,163
East Sussex	13.7	31,126	226,703	9.1	20,732	226,703
Hastings	13.1	5,149	39,376	11.5	4,518	39,376
Baird	11.4	226	1,982	7.6	151	1,982
Ore	13.3	290	2,188	10.1	221	2,188

¹⁷ Source: Department of Energy & Climate Change <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/fuel-poverty-statistics> (accessed 7th February 2014)

Tressell	13.8	292	2,115	12.0	254	2,115
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Source: East Sussex in Figures (accessed 7th February 2014)

Table A13

Income

A13. The average household income for residents living in the area is only available by wards. Table A14 below shows it to be approximately 9% lower than Hastings average and over 20% lower than East Sussex average.

Average Household Income		
Average	Mean income (The average)	Median income (The middle value between the highest and lowest)
Great Britain	35,994	28,024
South East	40,249	31,850
East Sussex	34,945	27,198
Hastings	31,167	24,255
Baird	28,212	21,702
Ore	28,723	22,359
Tressell	28,649	22,432
% Difference to Hastings		
Baird	9.48%	10.53%
Ore	7.84%	7.82%
Tressell	8.08%	7.52%

Source: East Sussex in Figures and CACI PayCheck data

Table A14

Employment and Unemployment

A14. There are a total of 7201 individuals aged 16 to 74 in the Big Local area (6 SOA areas). Of these 4593 (63%) are economically active and 2608 (37%) economically inactive. Of the economically inactive 943 (36%) are retired and 303 (12%) are students. The remaining inactive residents are long-term sick or disabled, looking after home or family and others.

A15. Of the economically active residents 3320 (46%) are employees, 612 (8%) self employed, 458 (14%) unemployed, and 203 (6%) economically active (full time students).

A16. The main occupation groups of residents living in the area are as follows:

- Managers, directors and senior officials (7.7%)
- Professional occupations (9.4%)
- Associate professional and technical occupations (9.6%)
- Administrative and secretarial occupations (10.4%)
- Skilled trades occupations (14.7%)
- Caring, leisure and other service occupations (16.5%)

- Sales and customer service occupations (10.6%)
- Process, plant and machine operatives (7.8%)
- Elementary occupations - tasks which mainly require the use of hand-held tools and often some physical effort (13.4%)

A17. The largest sectors of employment for residents in the Big Local area are health and social work activities (20.3%); Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motors (18.42%); and construction (11.4%).

A18. It is often thought that in deprived neighbourhoods such as these there are many families with no adults working in the households. Table A15 below however shows only 10.8% of households with dependent children have no adults working in the households. In some areas, e.g., Broomgrove, Farley Bank and Halton this is high as 20% and in other areas, it is as low as Ore Village, Fredrick Road, Victoria Rd, and the Fire station it is as low as 5%.

Household Composition	Hastings		Big Local Area	
	number	%	No	%
All households	41,159	100.0	4,350	100.0
No adults in employment in household	15,692	38.1	1,819	41.8%
No adults in employment in household: With dependent children	2,246	5.5	468	10.8%
No adults in employment in household: No dependent children	13,446	32.7	1,351	31.1%
Dependent children in household: All ages	10,883	26.4	1,492	34.3%
Dependent children in household: Age 0 to 4	4,426	10.8	649	14.9%
One person in household with a long-term health problem or disability	12,182	29.6	1,333	30.6%
One person in household with a long-term health problem or disability: With dependent children	2,104	5.1	297	6.8%
One person in household with a long-term health problem or disability: No dependent children	10,078	24.5	1,036	23.8%

Source: ONS Crown Copyright Reserved [from Nomis on 14 August 2013]

Table A15

Jobs density 2000-2011

A19. Information is available only for all of Hastings. Table A16 below shows the number of jobs and Table 2 shows the ratio of the number of jobs in Hastings to the resident working-age population of that area. For example, a jobs density of 1.0 would mean that there is one job for every resident of working age.

A20. The total number of jobs is a workplace-based measure and comprises employee jobs, self-employed, government-supported trainees and HM Forces. Table 16 below

shows the total jobs in Hastings and Table 17 shows the ratio of jobs to the working-age population (we do not have figures for the Big Local area).

Year	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
	35,000	34,000	35,000	35,000	37,000	37,000	38,000	39,000	34,000	34,000	35,000	37,000

Table A16:

Ratio of jobs to working-age population

Year	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Great Britain	0.79	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.81	0.79	0.80	0.79	0.78	0.77	0.78
South East	0.84	0.84	0.85	0.83	0.83	0.84	0.82	0.82	0.82	0.80	0.80	0.80
East Sussex	0.71	0.71	0.71	0.70	0.69	0.71	0.69	0.71	0.71	0.72	0.71	0.64
Hastings	0.68	0.66	0.67	0.66	0.68	0.68	0.69	0.71	0.63	0.62	0.63	0.63

Table A17

Job Seekers Allowance Claimant Count - 2012-2013

A21. To get JSA you must be:

- available for and actively seeking work
- aged between 18 and state pension age (JSA can be paid to 16 or 17 year olds in special cases)
- working less than 16 hours per week on average.

A22. Claimant rate is a residence-based proportion, expressing the number of claimants resident in an area as a percentage of the working age population resident in that area. The working age population figures are derived from mid-year population estimates which are compatible with the 2011 Census. The working age definition was changed in 2010 to reflect changes to the female state pension age and now includes all people aged 16-64.

JSA Claimant rate

Month	Mar 12	Jun 12	Sep 12	Dec 12	Mar 13	Jun 13	Sep 13	Dec 13
Great Britain	4.0	3.8	3.7	3.7	3.8	3.5	3.2	2.9
South East	2.7	2.5	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.2	2.0	1.8
East Sussex	3.4	3.1	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.7	2.4	2.4
Hastings	6.0	5.8	5.5	5.7	5.5	5.0	4.5	4.3
Baird	6.2	6.3	5.8	6.4	6.2	5.7	5.2	5.3
Ore	5.0	4.4	4.0	4.0	4.4	3.8	3.4	3.3
Tressell	7.8	7.9	7.6	7.6	7.3	7.4	6.1	6.2

Table A18

Number of JSA claimants

	Mar 12	Jun 12	Sep 12	Dec 12	Mar 13	Jun 13	Sep 13	Dec 13
Great Britain	1,604,509	1,502,357	1,488,740	1,459,647	1,519,233	1,378,001	1,262,739	1,143,413
South East	150,547	137,520	134,136	131,877	138,029	119,382	108,277	98,453
East Sussex	10,557	9,739	9,360	9,458	9,507	8,339	7,605	7,377
Hastings	3,469	3,311	3,136	3,261	3,184	2,849	2,592	2,493
Baird	174	176	162	180	173	158	145	148
Ore	160	141	128	130	143	123	111	107
Tressell	253	254	245	247	237	238	196	199

Source: Office for National Statistics/NOMIS

Table A19

Learning and skills

Qualifications in 2011 - people aged 16 and over

A23. Table A20 below shows the number of people aged 16 and over holding qualifications and Table A21 shows the percentage.

Qualifications Numbers	All people	None	Level 1	Level 2	Apprenticeship	Level 3	Level 4 and above	Other qualifications
Baird	3,804	1,307	634	628	120	387	550	178
Ore	4,169	1,259	738	702	121	471	703	175
Tressell	3,944	1,068	731	763	90	462	655	175

Table A20

Qualifications Percentages	None	Level 1	Level 2	Apprenticeship	Level 3	Level 4 and above	Other qualifications
England and Wales	22.7	13.3	15.3	3.6	12.3	27.2	5.7
South East	19.1	13.5	15.9	3.6	12.8	29.9	5.2
East Sussex	22.6	14.1	16.8	3.5	12.0	26.2	4.7
Hastings	25.4	15.8	17.5	3.0	12.1	21.2	5.0
Baird	34.4	16.7	16.5	3.2	10.2	14.5	4.7
Ore	30.2	17.7	16.8	2.9	11.3	16.9	4.2
Tressell	27.1	18.5	19.3	2.3	11.7	16.6	4.4

Table A21

Barriers to learning

A24. In 2013, the Hastings & Rother Adult and Community Learning Forum prepared a Statement of Adult Learners' Needs in Hastings & Rother. It recognised that barriers to learning vary from community to community but are more likely to be concentrated in the areas of social housing and areas of poor private rented accommodation, and can

vary in intensity between communities. The barriers include the following (not in any particular order):

- not knowing what training and support is available
- particular states of mind brought about by, for instance, workless households long dependent on benefits or the black economy. These become evident in, for example, lack of recognition of the need to work to a learning provider's or employer's hours, and a lack of readiness for study or work
- reluctance to travel out of a particular locality to access training
- lack of regular transport links or the cost of transport
- lack of access to affordable child-minding services
- physical and mental health issues
- antipathy towards authority or establishments seen to represent authority which results in potential learners not wanting to attend a college, school or children's centre
- low aspiration; high aspirations unmatched by an understanding of what qualifications or skills are required to achieve them; or having and losing aspiration because of broken progression, lack of jobs or lack of the right support at the right time in the right place
- failure or unhappiness in the compulsory state education system.

Barriers to employment

A25. Many people living in the area face multiple barriers to getting paid employment. These include¹⁸:

- lack of relevant experience and skills for the current job market
- lack of experience in job search and competing for jobs
- getting sufficient, sustained income from employment to risk giving up benefit income – however inadequate
- childcare costs
- other caring responsibilities
- transport costs
- training course costs.

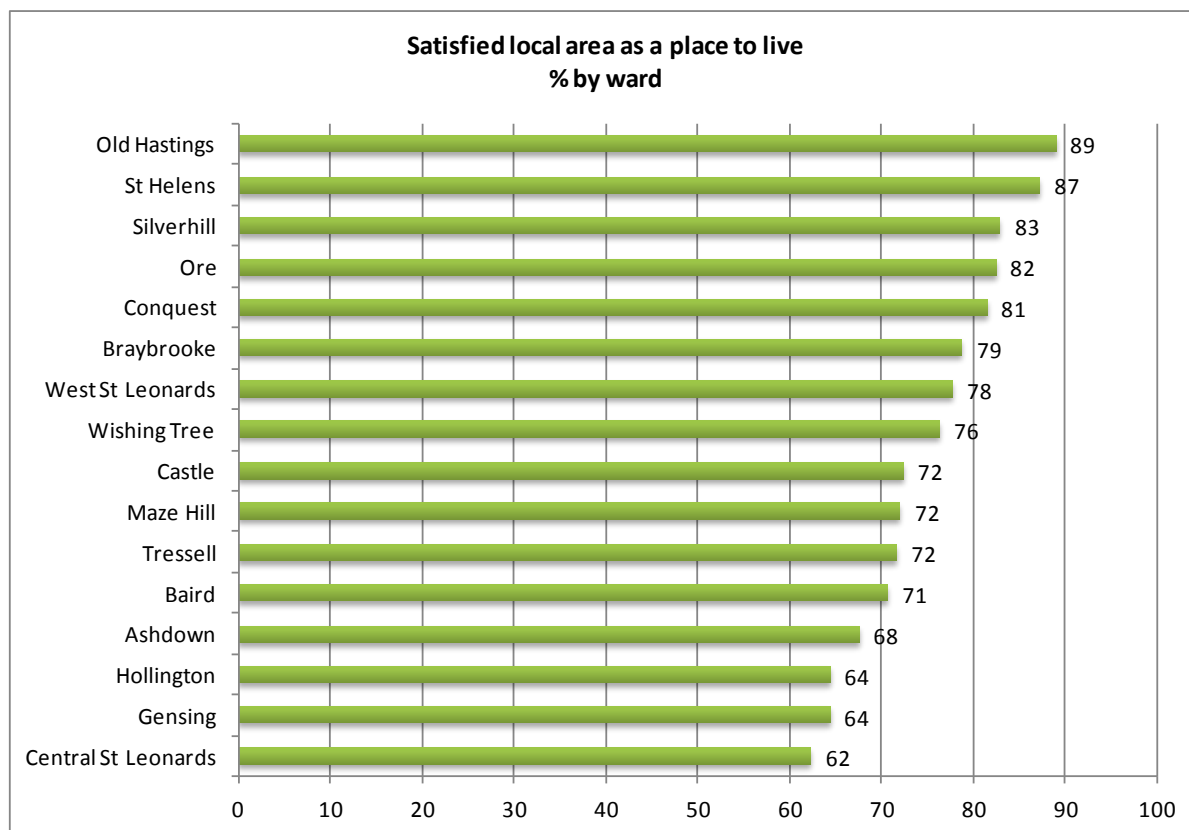
A1. Practical problems loom larger and are exacerbated by individual circumstances, particularly where people have:

- disabilities or health problems
- mental health problems
- little self-confidence and low aspirations
- previously negative experience of learning
- poor (and maybe undisclosed) literacy and numeracy.

¹⁸ "Journey to Work: Practitioners' experience of employability initiatives in Hastings". Clare Demuth, April 2013.

Annex B - Places

B1. The following table shows that the majority of people in Baird, Ore and Tressell wards are satisfied with them as a place to live.



Source: HBC Place Survey 2013

Housing – tenure profile

B2. The table below shows the tenure profile for the Big Local Area in 2011 first in totality and then by super output areas. The SOA figures are shown to highlight changes in the tenure profile over the past decade in particular neighbourhoods. However, it is important to note that some of the Supper Output Areas (SOAs) such as Hastings 004A includes small amount of residential areas outside of the Big Local area.

Owner occupied	Owner-occupied: owned outright	Owner-occupied owned: with mortgage or loan	Owner-occupied: shared ownership	Social rented households
1,513	659	840	14	1,305
44.4% (England average = 64.1%)	19.3% (England average = 30.6%)	24.6% (England average = 32.8%)	0.4% (England average = 0.8%)	38.3% (England average = 17.7%)

Rented from Council	Rented from Housing Association or Social Landlord	Rented from private landlord or letting agency	Other rented dwellings
219	1,086	524	68
6.4% (England average = 9.4%)	31.8% (England average = 8.3%)	15.4% (England average = 15.4%)	2.0% (England average = 2.8%)

Tenure Profile – Big Local Super Output Areas¹⁹

	SOAs	Hastings 004A	Hastings 004B	Hastings 004C	Hastings 004D	Hastings 005A	Hastings 005D
Housing Tenure 2011	Hastings %	Part of 4A Area (Middle Rd /school / fire stn)	Downs Farm & Red Lake	Ore Village	Frederick Rd and Victoria Rd	Ivyhouse & Broomgrove	Farley, Halton & Deepdene
All		1,729	1,617	1,787	1,811	1,549	1,606
Owned:							
Total	57.6%	75%	37%	60%	70%	20%	20%
Social rented	14.5%	6%	50%	5%	5%	70%	60%
Private rented	26.6%	18%	11%	34%	24%	9%	19%
Tenure 2001							
Owned	63.1%	84.3%	38.9%	74.1%	81.9%	18.9%	25.4%
Social Rented	15.7%	5.2%	53.5%	3.4%	2.7%	73.8%	61.2%
Private Rented	17.8%	8.3%	3.7%	17.8%	13.5%	4.1%	10.8%

Source ESiFigs & NOMIS (ONS 2011 Census)

B3. The tenure mix in the area is changing. As the above table shows, the social rented sector in most of the SOA areas has been marginally reducing reflecting demolition of social housing stock and transfer of some social stock to private ownership (through the right to buy scheme). The most significant change over the last decade seems to be the growth of the private rented sector. This is particularly apparent in and around the Ore Village, where now a third of the housing stock is privately rented, and Frederick Rd and Victoria Road area where a quarter of the housing stock is privately rented.

Neighbourhood pen pictures**Ivyhouse Lane and Harkness Drive**

B4. In the 2013 consultation people liked the employment that Ivyhouse Industrial estate offered and there was the idea of building a theme park within this area. Harkness Drive is a new Orbit development (as is Norcross Close next to it but not built when the Big Local boundary was decided). Residents, supported by their local Police Community Support Officer discussed the need for a play park for the younger children and the desire to have a roof added to the MUGA, providing shelter for when the weather is less favourable.

¹⁹ Super Output Areas (SOAs) are smaller neighbourhoods than electoral wards. Not all of the streets in the SOAs fall within the Big Local area.

Ore Village

- B5. Ore Village is approximately 2 miles from the centre of Hastings and is built around the junctions of the A259, the main coast road to Dover, Eastbourne and Brighton; the B2093 to Battle; Fairlight Road; and Saxon Road to the Old Town and Hastings town centre.
- B6. It has a thriving community centre, a small branch library, a doctor's surgery, two chemists, a number of small retail and service businesses, a small Co-operative supermarket and a B&Q DIY store. It has two public houses, two others having closed in recent years. There is a recently refurbished public toilet and it has a small 'village green' maintained by Ore in Bloom volunteers. Ore Village is well served by busses during the day but Ore railway station is nearly a mile away.
- B7. The "village feel" was deemed quite prominent in this specific area and there was great support for the local shops within the area, however the need for bigger supermarkets was also highlighted by some residents, especially those who "now have to travel out of the area to do their shopping". There were specific features that residents disliked and felt needed improving; the toilets, the pavements, the empty shops, vandalism, anti-social behaviour, parking and through traffic. One resident went on to explain why they felt "the traffic lights in the village were ill placed and caused more traffic issues". There was a good level of commitment to the Ore Centre and its need for further funding to deliver more services, such as training, classes, social groups and events. Another idea for improving the area was to have a cinema/bowling complex within the village. The need for something for young people to do within the area was evident; a skate park, a play park and a youth facility. Support was shown for both the library and the fire station, whilst some people indicated the need for a bank and a dental surgery within the village. There was a strong desire shown for the need to improve public transport within the area.
- B8. The majority of businesses and services are strung out along the A259 but some are in adjoining roads. A primary school, fire station and an industrial park are on The Ridge. To east of the village centre are Red Lake and Down Farm housing estates, a primary academy and a secondary academy.

Red Lake

- B9. Red Lake is a post-war housing estate consisting of around 500 households in predominantly 3 and 4 bedroom houses and about 80 flats designed for the elderly. About half of the housing stock is social housing the other half having been sold under the right-to-buy schemes.

- B10. Many generations/branches of the same families have remained on the estate. The properties have generous gardens and this has kept the estate popular with larger families. The turnover of tenants here is the lowest in the borough.
- B11. A residents association has existed on the estate for over 30 years although it's activity ebbs and flows according to local issues.
- B12. While there are no community facilities on the estate, it is close to local amenities and to the A259 which during the day has a regular bus service.
- B13. In the 2013 consultation, the main need was to have "something for the children" in the area and play parks as some residents do not "want to go into Downs Farm", the suggested areas were Churchill Avenue, Fairlight Rd and Middle Rd. Rock Lane was identified as an area that could have an "outdoor adventure play area that had ropes etc". A skate park in Rye Rd was also mentioned. It was here that a zoo was suggested and there were mixed feelings around the schools within the area.

Downs Farm

- B14. Downs Farm is a 1960's estate of around 400 households in 2 and 3 bedroom houses, maisonettes and flats predominantly managed by two housing associations. The estate has three Roads: Brightling Avenue, Crowborough Road and Firle Close.
- B15. Until the 1990's the state was largely occupied by generations of the same families although in more recent times it is widely perceived to be home to mostly young, single parents. Although this perception is true of some properties (flats) many of the houses are now privately owned / privately let and larger families occupy the maisonettes.
- B16. Its geography is not appealing to many families as it has one road going in and one out and this gives rise to a feeling of remoteness. It is built on one of the highest points in the county and steep hills deter those incapable of walking. The Flats suffer high levels of tenant-turnover as relatively high levels of rent and no lifts, make private tenancy more appealing. Most housing association tenants leave for private rented accommodation.
- B17. For many years Downs Farm had one of the oldest and best supported residents associations in the town who managed their own community centre on the estate. As the committee have aged, the association has not been able to replace members and it currently struggles to maintain the same level of support locally.

- B18. Over the last 10 years the estate has been blighted by anti-social behaviour. There are no immediate shops or facilities on the estate apart from the Community Centre that offers a range of activities.
- B19. In the 2013 consultation, despite the area being described as “a bit isolated and there is not much for its residents” there was a great respect shown to the community centre and what they offer to the residents. There was a strong desire to invest in it, enabling the centre to build up the services and facilities they offer, including things such as “free gaming access”. There was strong consensus that young people needed things to do and with regards to play parks the residents were quite specific in the need for their own skate park and the preferred location was by Red Lake School. Alongside this there was a big focus on the need for a bigger play park located by the community centre and more play sessions available (these were not specific as to whether they were community centre focused or outreach from Active Hastings). Dog mess, litter and drunks were also listed as being issues that needed to be dealt with within this area.
- B20. The estate borders on the lovely woods where North’s Seat can be found in an area of outstanding natural beauty and part of Hastings Country Park. The Hastings Academy, Red Lake Children’s Centre and the Ore Village Academy (which until September 2013 was known as Red Lake Community Primary School) are close by.
- B21. There is a bus stop at the north end of Brightling Avenue that is well used to take the residents into Hastings town centre via Ore Village. Bus services to the Conquest Hospital, Rye and Hastings town via Halton run from Ore Village.

Broomgrove²⁰

- B22. Broomgrove is a 1960s estate, built on the slopes of a valley. The estate is made up of a small number of 1 bed bungalows, 1&2 bedroom flats, 3, 4 & 5 bedroom houses and 3 bedroom maisonettes, in general terms around 50% of the properties are housing association and the rest are privately owned or rented.
- B23. Built initially to house the first phase of a London - overspill, this became the second largest council housing estate in the borough. By the mid-1990s the estate had local notoriety for anti-social behaviour and following the transfer of housing stock to a housing association, the housing association led a multi-agency group to address the problems in the area and the name ‘Ore Valley’ was adopted to describe this and neighbouring social housing estates.
- B24. At the turn of the millennium the estate was already benefiting from regeneration in terms of improved housing stock and new Community organisations (OASIS and

²⁰ Sources include AmicusHorizon pen picture; East Hastings Children’s Centre business plan 2012/13

Horizons Community Learning) dedicated to improve the social capital amongst residents. A new community centre was underway and the arrival of a trailblazer SureStart programme provided added impetus and resources to further improve the area. Along with a healthy residents association, the community were participating in the several regeneration projects and were well represented in the governance structures of all local projects and organisations.

- B25. Over the years the demography has changed as a result of Right-to-buy policies and the Buy-to-let market. Local housing policy and changes to the housing benefit system have also contributed to a shift away from the family-based community that was the key-stone to the resident's involvement of the first decade of regeneration. In 'whispered' conversations the phrase 'regeneration fatigue' is used to describe the decline in community involvement over the last 10 years.
- B26. AmicusHorizon (the local housing association) has an office on the estate which in recognition of the deprivation and needs of the local community.
- B27. There are large areas of green space to the north east end of the estate which include two play parks and a small skate-park as well. Another play area including an all-weather football area is at the lower end of Quantock Gardens. Peppered throughout the properties are small grassy areas that are utilised by residents in blocks as a space for children to play safely. Electricity power lines are strung from pylons running across the housing estate.
- B28. An adventure playground for children aged 8-13 is at the lower end of Upper Broomgrove Road. It is operated by In2Play under contract from Hastings Borough Council.
- B29. The Children's Centre on the corner of Chiltern Drive and Quantock Gardens has a nursery and a community café which is heavily used by residents, as is the Broomgrove Community Centre at the top of Chiltern Drive which has toddler groups, coffee mornings, fitness classes and various courses. The families living in the Valley can be isolated due to the demographics of the area and lack of regular transport links, so the Children's Centre offers services within the community. The Centre is mostly office space with limited delivery space, so the Centre works with the local Residents Association, using Broomgrove Community Centre to deliver wider services. There are also no Primary schools in the Valley and with historically low Early Years Foundation Stage Profile (EYFSP) results, the nursery provision in the Centre can provide the first introduction to early education for children in the community. Children living in workless households are a high priority for the centre, which offers regular adult education for families.

B30. Malvern Way has a small supermarket including a post office, an ethnic grocery store and a fast food (chicken) take away but other shops in the row have been turned into flats. There is a bus to the town centre and another than runs from Conquest Hospital, via Pennine Rise and Ore Village to the town centre.

B31. Where Fellows Road meets Parker Road two new development sites provides further 1&2 bedroom flats and houses.

B32. In the 2013 consultation residents knew that the area has had a very negative label attached to it; the fact it is not “visually appealing”, that it has a “high density of social housing” and that other people would like to see it “bulldozed” to the ground. Many residents would like to challenge that label and feel that the roads within the area “need great improvement” and that there should be a “Community Purchase Order” placed on the Malvern Pub to “actually do something proper with it”. Some residents felt that new homes could be built on the open spaces where the flats used to be, but one young boy felt it was the perfect space to have solar panels that could generate electricity for the area. There were responses surrounding the rubbish and dogs mess within the area as well as a focus on more activities for young people. Some highlighted the need for better parking spaces in Mendip Gardens and the need to improve their play park, expand it and bring back the “missing swings”. There were requests to “fix the football pitch” and “make it level”. The skate park was a popular choice with local young people and they wanted to see it made bigger and better, especially as it was used by other young people from outside the Broomgrove area.

B33. Further investment in both The Adventure Playground and The Community Centre was highlighted to enable them to be open more to the public and offer a wider range of services and facilities. The Adventure playground received a lot of positives about it, but it was felt it was still “hidden from the public” and people “didn’t know it was there”. The Broomgrove community centre needs to “be utilised” more but there was also recognition for Kool Klub. Some young people indicated that the area needed more shops.

Deepdene Gardens/Waterside Close

B34. Deepdene Gardens and Waterside close area relatively new development of social housing situated in a valley off Frederick Road. Although it is between Farley Bank and Broomgrove it can seem isolated although there is a footpath connection to Mendip Gardens and Chiltern Drive. In the 2013 consultation the need for a skate park was the main focus, in particular some young people suggested having two; one for beginners and one for those who are more skilled. The route between Waterside and Quantock was also mentioned as needing to be “tidied up”.

Frederick Road / Victoria Avenue / Clifton Road / Greville Road area

B35. A new private housing development has been built on the site of a hospital and a few of the hospital buildings have been converted into houses. Victoria Avenue, Clifton Road and Greville Road are long established private houses. There was concern over speeding vehicles in Frederick Road and the suggestion of more speed bumps being placed in the road. Better and quicker walking access to Ore Station was also mentioned, especially as the “old route through has been closed for some time”. A “free cash machine at Mount Rd” was also suggested by a few residents.

Ore Valley - development area

B36. The Millennium Communities programme was launched by the then government in 1997. Ore Valley was one of six sites in the Hastings Millennium Community project approved in 2002 with an expected completion date of 2012.

B37. The land which originally formed part of the Millennium Communities project was assembled by Seaspaces (HBRL) through a lengthy CPO process, for the purpose of establishing a mainly housing development throughout the valley. There were four phases to the development: three of them stretching up through the valley from Ore Station to Broomgrove Road, with the fourth phase a separate site on Frederick Road.

B38. Because of the very long time it took to get the compulsory purchase orders (CPOs) through and assemble the land, and then the economic downturn, the project effectively ran out of steam. Only one phase of the four phases in Ore Valley has been completed. A set of design codes that had been agreed for the land (determining densities, design details, and the future of the Green Space area) were also abolished by Hastings Borough Council in 2012, although a commitment was maintained to continue to protect the green space in any future development. The Millennium Communities programme was ended by the Coalition Government in 2012. The future of the land in Ore Valley is, at the time of writing, uncertain although it does provide potential for development.

Farley Bank and Halton²¹

B39. Farley Bank is situated off Frederick Road and consists of 1 and 2 bed flats and 3 bed town houses for approximately 160 households arranged around a cul-de-sac. There is a play area at the end with swings and slides and plenty of off road, unallocated parking.

B40. This estate has always had to struggle against a reputation for anti-social behaviour and worklessness. As a site of a Millennium project, 4 blocks of 1 bed flats (64 in total) were demolished in 2006. As these previously housed a predominantly young and transient cohort it was largely felt by the residents that much of the estate’s problems

²¹ Sources: AmicusHorizon pen pictures and The Bridge Children’s Centre business plan 2011/12

were eradicated by this change. A new development of 29 homes consisting of 21 3, 4 and 5 bed house and a block of 8 2 bed flats is now being built.

- B41. During the 90's a strong and active residents association grew and were successful in attracting many changes such as the Bridge Centre, a football pitch and a play-street. Following the death, retirement and relocation of the most established members the association is no longer active.
- B42. Halton flats is social housing of 1 and 2 bed flats and 2 and 3 bed maisonettes arranged in blocks along Priory Road, Egremont Place and North Terrace for around 380 households. To the rear of the Priory Road flats is a well landscaped communal area consisting of a play park, recycling site and grass with mature bushes. There is also off road, unallocated parking, garages and bin areas.
- B43. This estate has benefited from major investment in external property improvement and landscaping over the last 10 years. The estate has a more settled feel as a result and it still has many long term residents. It is 'popular' amongst younger parents because of good transport links and proximity to the town centre facilities. The housing of vulnerable people in the past has caused friction with the landlord and the estate has suffered relatively high levels of arson in flats where alcohol and mental health issues exist.
- B44. Halton is another estate that has seen the demise of an active residents association, many of whose members moved into community work as a result of their involvement.
- B45. Halton Heights, on Priory Road, is sheltered accommodation administered by AmicusHorizon.
- B46. Priory Road is well served with regular buses. There are several local shops and takeaways within walking distance. There is also a pharmacy and a dentist.
- B47. The Bridge community centre is located on Priory Road between Farley Bank and Halton flats. It offers meeting and training rooms; IT facilities; a training kitchen and a children's area. It also has a very popular café. Many local people and groups use The Bridge for all sorts of activities such as training courses and youth groups. It's a fabulous looking building as well.
- B48. Bembrook Road, just outside of the Big Local boundary, has 3 and 4 bed semi detached houses with fantastic views over the Old Town of Hastings and the sea. The West Hill Community Centre is at the western end of Bembrook Road.

Churches

B49. There are a number of churches in or near the Big Local area: Jehovah's Witnesses in Old Top Road, in Ore Village there is Christ Church, St Helen's Methodist Church, the Salvation Army and Seventh-day Adventist. Nearer to Halton there is the Bethel Full Gospel Church Centre. Just out of the area there is Calvert Memorial Methodist Church in Mount Pleasant Road; Clive Vale United Reform Church; Emmanuel Church in Priory Road, Halton Baptist Church, Old London Road, and St Barnabas Church, Hoads Wood Road.

Play spaces

B50. AmicusHorizon and Hastings Borough Council are the principle providers of publicly accessible equipped play space sites in Hastings. They have agreed a shared strategy for future play space provision²². To inform the strategy, an audit was carried out which highlighted the quality and value of play provision.

Amicus owned play grounds

Farley Bank

Mendip

Quantock

Halton west view

Crowborough Road Rock Lane

Red Lake

Rock Lane- Decommissioned as a play space but residents would like a playground back

Amicus Skate ramps

Farley Bank- in need of refurbishment

Chiltern Drive- in need of refurbishment

HBC owned playgrounds

The Adventure Play ground- Upper Broomgrove Road- High quality but requires ongoing staffing cost to maintain this/ keep it open to the public

Waterside Close

Cookson Gardens

Orbit owned

Deepdene

Muliti use games areas

The Cage- owned by Orbit in Harkness Drive

One at the Hastings Academy - not yet open to the public

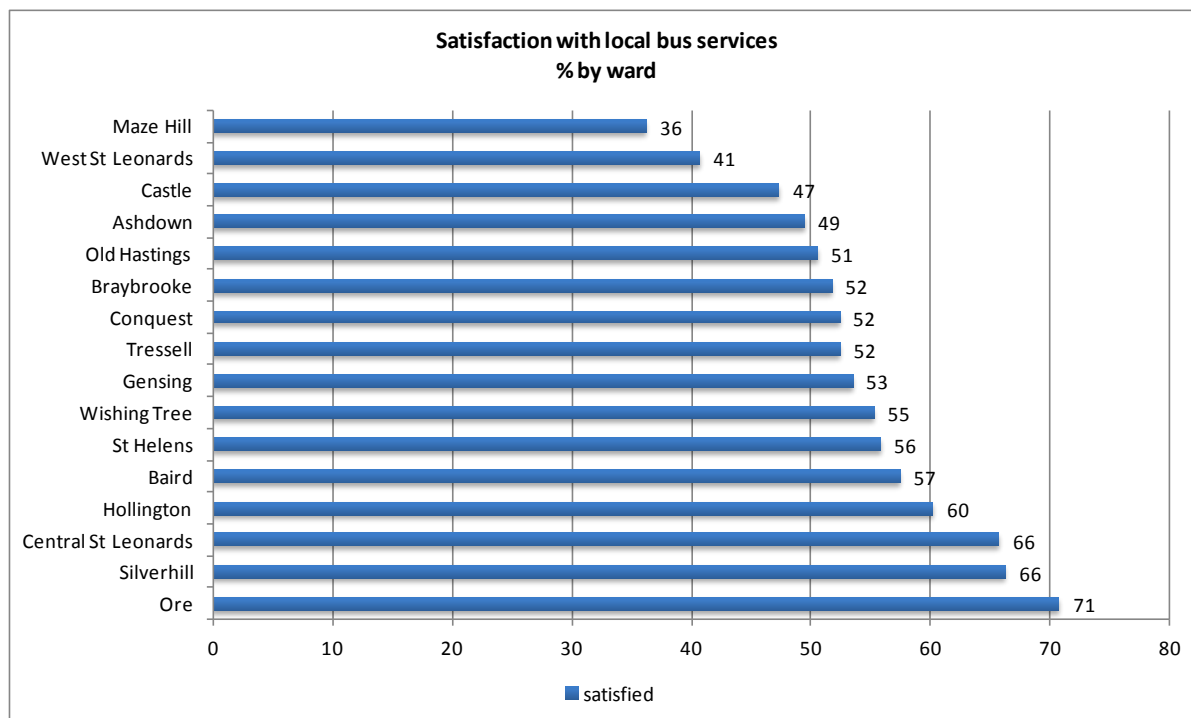
Source; Hastings Borough Council play service

²² The play space strategy is at http://www.hastings.gov.uk/decisions_democracy/how_we_make_decisions/policies_strategies/playspace_strategy/playspaces_strategy/

Annex C – Services

Transport

C1. The results of a survey carried out by Hastings Borough Council across the town showed more satisfaction with bus services than was the case in the 2013 Big Local consultation.



Source: HBC Place Survey 2013

Internet connection in 2012

C2. The number of households with home internet connections was slightly lower in Baird, Ore and Tressell wards in 2012 compared to the whole of Hastings. Over a third of households had no internet connection.

Households	Percentage of households with internet connection at home	Number of households with internet connection at home	Total number of households
Hastings	66	26646	40375
Baird	63.9	1274	1994
Ore	65.7	1444	2197
Tressell	64.7	1444	2231

Childcare and early years education

C3. Within the boundary there are five organisations offering pre-school care. Carousel Nursery School, Chiltern Drive; Maplehurst Nursery, c/o Sandown School, The Ridge; Ore Church Mice Pre-school, Ore Village; Ore Village Primary Academy nursery, Rye Road; and Rainbow Playgroup, Ore Centre, Ore Village.

- C4. Outside of the boundary are Clive Vale Nursery School, Clive Avenue; The Athelstan Nursery, All Souls Church Hall, Athelstan Road; Castledown Community Primary School Nursery, Priory Road; Artemis Nursery, Calvert Road; Blacklands Playgroup Nurseries, Elim Church Hall, Elphinstone Avenue; Elphinstone Community School and Nursery; The Meadows Nursery School, 18 St Helens Crescent; Laton Ash Nursery, 18 Laton Road; and Whitehall Nursery School, 15 Elphinstone Road.

Schools, colleges and universities

Schools

- C5. Within the boundary there is one secondary-age school for students aged 11-16 and two primary schools for 5-11 year olds. The secondary school is The Hastings Academy in Rye Road. Prior to September 2011 it was Hillcrest School. It is part of The Hastings Academies Trust with The St Leonards Academy and shares a joint governing body. The sponsors are Brighton University, East Sussex County Council and BT. The primary schools are Sandown Primary School on The Ridge, and Ore Village Academy in Rye Road. Prior to 1st September 2013 the Ore Village Academy was Red Lake Community Primary School. It is sponsored by The Kemnal Academies Trust.

Just outside of the boundary

- C6. There are two primary schools for 5-11 year olds: Castledown Primary School in Priory Road; and The Baird Primary Academy (a member of The Hastings Academies Trust and previously Elphinstone Community School) in Parker Road.
- C7. Further away are Blacklands Primary School in Osborne Close; Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School, Old London Road; Dudley Infant School (5-7 year olds), Harold Road which is linked to All Saints Church of England Primary School, Githa Road. Dudley Infant School is considering joining The Hastings Academies Trust.
- C8. Torfield School in Croft Road is a special school for 3-11 year olds with pupils with communication, speech and language difficulties, complex learning difficulties and autism. Torfield School is federated with Saxon Mount School (a community special school in St Leonards for 11-17 year olds). Federation means the schools work closely together and are led and managed by an Executive Headteacher and a single governing body.
- C9. There are two other secondary schools which students aged 11-18 from the Big Local area attend: Helenswood Academy for girls on The Ridge; and ARK William Parker Academy for boys in Parkstone Road. These schools share a joint 6th Form called Parkwood 6th Form. Helenswood School, William Parker Sports College and Parkwood 6th Form opened as academies, sponsored by the ARK academy chain, in September 2013.

College

- C10. Sussex Coast College Hastings has a campus in Parker Road, close to Ore Station, where its Construction, Engineering and IT courses are based. The campus has 7,000 square metres of realistic working environments, workshops and 'live build' areas. Students here have access to

the latest equipment and digital technology, learning resource centre, a sports pitch, diner and coffee shop.

C11. The college also has a specialist Motor Vehicle Centre, in the Ivyhouse Lane industrial estate off The Ridge. It is an accredited centre that specialises in teaching and learning car restoration, maintenance and repair. The Centre will soon deliver courses specialising in motor sports.

C12. The main campus which also has a 6th form attended by students from North East Hastings is at Station Plaza in the centre of Hastings.

University

C13. The University of Brighton in Hastings has two buildings in the centre of Hastings offering undergraduate and postgraduate degrees in subjects including applied social science, business, computing, media, English literature, social history, education and environmental biology, and mathematics.

Adult education

C14. Horizons Community Learning CIC operates from the East Hastings Children's Centre in Chiltern Drive and offers a wide range of tasters, short and longer courses to adults wishing to return to learning in an informal setting, close to home. Accredited and non-accredited courses are available.

C15. AmicusHorizon and Orbit, the largest social housing providers, run courses that are open to the whole community whether or not they are Amicus or Orbit tenants, and are in part funded externally.

C16. Non-accredited and accredited learning also takes place in community centres and church halls arranged by other organisations. The Bridge is a partner in the Reach programme which among other things offers free help with computers. Hastings Furniture Service, a social enterprise that collects and sells furniture at affordable prices and provides a range of training courses to help people into employment.

C17. There are a number of other organisations in Hastings and St Leonards offering adult and community learning. For neighbourhood-based providers the aim is not just to benefit the individual learner but also to spread those benefits to family and community, developing role models and raising aspirations.

Annex D – Strategies

Local government and other major strategies that will contribute to achieving the Big Local aims include the following.

Hastings Borough Council

Anti-Poverty Strategy -

http://www.hastings.gov.uk/decisions_democracy/how_we_make_decisions/policies_strategies/anti_poverty_strategy/

Climate Change Strategy -

http://www.hastings.gov.uk/decisions_democracy/how_we_make_decisions/policies_strategies/climate_change_strategy/

Corporate Plan 2013/14 - 2015/16 -

http://www.hastings.gov.uk/decisions_democracy/how_we_make_decisions/policies_strategies/corporate_plan/

Hastings and Bexhill Economic Development and Inclusion Strategy 2008-13 -

http://www.hastings.gov.uk/decisions_democracy/how_we_make_decisions/policies_strategies/inclusion_strategy/

Hastings and St Leonards Sustainable Community Strategy 2009-26 -

http://www.hastings.gov.uk/decisions_democracy/how_we_make_decisions/policies_strategies/community_strategy/

Hastings Community Safety Plan 2013-14 - <http://www.saferhastings.co.uk/strategy/>

Hastings Cultural Regeneration Strategy 2010-15 -

http://www.hastings.gov.uk/decisions_democracy/how_we_make_decisions/policies_strategies/cultural_regen_strategy/

Housing Strategies -

http://www.hastings.gov.uk/decisions_democracy/how_we_make_decisions/policies_strategies/housing_strategy/

Leisure Facilities Strategy -

http://www.hastings.gov.uk/decisions_democracy/how_we_make_decisions/policies_strategies/leisure_facilities_strategy/

Play Space Strategy -

http://www.hastings.gov.uk/decisions_democracy/how_we_make_decisions/policies_strategies/play_space_strategy/

Parks and Open Spaces Strategy -

http://www.hastings.gov.uk/decisions_democracy/how_we_make_decisions/policies_strategies/parks_openspaces/

Sport and Physical Activity Strategy 2012 – 2015 -

http://www.hastings.gov.uk/decisions_democracy/how_we_make_decisions/policies_strategies/sport_physical_activity_strategy/

East Sussex County Council

Draft Hastings Walking and Cycling Strategy (January 2014) -

https://consultation.eastsussex.gov.uk/economy-transport-environment/hastings-walking-and-cycling-strategy/supporting_documents/Hastings%20Draft%20Walking%20%20Cycling%20Strategy%20January%202014.pdf

The East Sussex Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2013-2016 - <http://www.essp.org.uk/what-we-do/Pride-of-Place/Health.aspx>

Hastings and Rother Adult Learning & Skills

Hastings and Rother adult learning & skills strategy 2013-16

South East Local Enterprise Partnership

Growth Deal and Strategic Economic Plan - <http://www.southeastlep.com/about-us/activities/262-developing-a-growth-strategy-and-prioritising-investment-in-the-south-east>

End of document