

## Place-based working in East Suffolk

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### 1. Purpose:

At its meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2015 the Board agreed to further explore the local placed based initiatives that have emerged in east Suffolk.

To inform the discussion it has been arranged for members of the Board to receive three short presentations about Lowestoft Rising, Leiston Forward and Felixstowe Forward.

Although other place based working is underway, it is hoped that by focussing on Lowestoft, Leiston and Felixstowe the Board will see the different scope, scale & approach taken in different places in east Suffolk. This should help inform a discussion about how the ESP supports and is influenced by local place based approaches.

### 2. Context:

There are a number of place based initiatives in East Suffolk that bring partners from across the public, private and voluntary sectors together to achieve common priorities by testing new delivery models and ways of working.

The focus on a whole place is consistent with the districts and county council approach to localism in East Suffolk and is consistent with the ESPs founding ambition in relation to better joined up services and redesigning the system for the long term benefit of residents and business in East Suffolk.

It is therefore a key role of the ESP to:

- i) Support communities to do more for themselves by facilitating and supporting local initiatives and provide connections to organisations that can help them progress their ideas.
- ii) Collaborate to harness resources available across the system to respond to issues that are identified by communities.
- iii) See how learning and best practice from locally 'place based' activity can be applied in other localities in East Suffolk.

### 2. Progress:

Examples of where the ESP is already providing support include:

**Lowestoft Rising:** In line with its priorities around employment and skills, the ESP has directly supported the delivery of working it out in Lowestoft and the work inspiration package. The ESP has also taken the lead on facilitating discussions between all the key partners on the development of a joint European funding bid with Great Yarmouth and Norwich. If successful, this bid could bring significant funding to Lowestoft to progress projects for long term unemployed adults through creating employment opportunities and the employability support that open pathways into mainstream employment.

**Leiston Forward:** The ESP and some of the groups and forums that have been established in East Suffolk (for example the East Suffolk Resource Network and the Greenprint Forum) have helped to ensure that the right people have been engaged in this work and that the work has been linked with other activity in the local area.