

## **Statement – Bexhill Town Centre Steering Group – 16<sup>th</sup> May 2016**

Members of the steering group received a presentation from the Council's Planning and Environmental Enforcement Team Leader on S215 notices and in particular, the work this team has undertaken at Marina Arcade, followed by a presentation from the Public Realm Working Group.

Each of the four project teams updated on activity and progress against the actions within the Bexhill Town Centre Strategy:

### Branding and Vitality:

- Jobs and Apprenticeship fair held at the DLWP on 29<sup>th</sup> April, 650 delegates attended and excellent feedback received
- Poster campaign on Southeastern train stations will be launched mid June to promote a Summer of Events in Bexhill
- Best for Business Conference being held at the DLWP in October

### Built Environment, Traffic Management and Public Realm:

- ESCC Highways – the new joint venture; Costain CH2M commenced on 1<sup>st</sup> May, a draft delivery programme is expected shortly
- Town centre traffic management and accessibility study and the proposed cycle route networks studies - awaiting the findings of these studies

### Investment and Development:

- Development and Site Allocations Plan will be out for consultation later this year
- Key sites within the town centre – the team are considering key sites with potential for development and will seek to enter into discussions with relevant owners and stakeholders as appropriate

### Housing

- Stock condition survey and housing needs survey – officers will be finalising the brief following the forthcoming Local Strategic Partnership annual conference which will have a focus on housing and health

### S106 Funding

The group received a request to replace the missing tree on Devonshire Road; Officers will look into the condition of all trees within the town centre and seek advice on maintenance and species of tree etc and report back with recommendations.

The issue of accessibility for wheelchairs to a number of town centre shops was raised with the group, whilst this was considered to be an issue further investigations will be made with comparable towns to see how they have tackled this issue.

Emma Wray

Partnership Co-ordinator

[emma.wray@rother.gov.uk](mailto:emma.wray@rother.gov.uk)