Rising to the Challenge East Sussex Assembly Annual Conference



Background paper

- 1. HM Treasury Spending Review Framework, June 2010 (click here to access)
 - a. The Government has said its Spending Review will:
 - deliver its guarantee on health spending;
 - limit the impact of reductions in spending on the most vulnerable in society, and on those regions heavily dependent on the public sector;
 - protect as far as possible spending that generates high economic returns; and
 - make further savings to fund the priorities set out in its programme.
 - b. The Government will approach the Spending Review by:
 - thinking innovatively about the role of government in society;
 - taking decisions collectively as a Government to reduce the deficit; and
 - consulting widely to deliver a stronger society and a smaller state.
 - c. The Spending Review will set out a long-term vision for public services, a programme of reforms to deliver that vision, and specific actions to implement reforms including:
 - continue the drive for efficiency and value for money in the public sector...;
 - challenge departments, local government and delivery partners to consider fundamental changes to the way they provide vital services...;
 - set out its plans to reform the welfare system, and to restrain the costs of public sector pay and pensions...;
 - look beyond near-term pressures to support reforms that better position the UK for meeting long-term demographic, economic, environmental and social challenges....; and
 - look closely at the effects of its decisions on different groups in society, especially the least well off, and on different regions.
 - d. Departments will be asked to prioritise their main programmes against the following criteria:
 - Is the activity essential to meet Government priorities?
 - Does the Government need to fund this activity?
 - Does the activity provide substantial economic value?
 - Can the activity be targeted to those most in need?
 - How can the activity be provided at lower cost?
 - How can the activity be provided more effectively?
 - Can the activity be provided by a non-state provider or by citizens, wholly or in partnership?
 - Can non-state providers be paid to carry out the activity according to the results they achieve?
 - Can local bodies as opposed to central government provide the activity?

2. Related Government action

- a. Government Department's structural reforms (click here for links to reform plans)
- b. Decentralisation and Localism Bill due November (<u>click here</u> for a summary)
- c. Health White paper released (click here to access)
- d. Revoking some statutory duties
- e. Ending or changing funding for public services
- f. Ending Comprehensive Area Assessment
- g. Abolishing Regional Development Agencies and Regional Strategies

- h. Reviews e.g. Review on Poverty and Life Chances, to be led by Frank Field MP
- i. Asking the public for their ideas on cutting costs and rules and regulations

3. Public Service Jobs in East Sussex

We have an extreme over dependence on the public sector in large parts of East Sussex. Public sector employment equate to 33.6% of all employee jobs in the county. This proportion is substantially higher than regionally (26% in SE) and nationally (27%). The coastal areas of East Sussex are amongst the most dependent in the country on public sector employment and are therefore likely to be disproportionately affected by reductions in public sector spending. In Hastings, the most deprived town in the South East, and 31st most deprived nationally, 43% of all jobs are in the public sector, the 4th highest in England. In Eastbourne it is 37%, similar to Swansea, Liverpool, Newcastle and Blackpool. For the County area as a whole the picture is similar at 34%.

Public administration, education and health employee jobs

District	Total	Percentage
Eastbourne	14,500	38.1
Hastings	12,400	42.6
Lewes	11,200	35.0
Rother	7,900	31.5
Wealden	10,800	23.8
East Sussex	56,800	33.9

Source:

East Sussex Public administration, education and health employee jobs

NOMIS official market

statistics 2008

https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/

Note: the above cannot be split to District level in respect of health/education

- 4. **Strategic Added Value (SAV):** is coordinating strategy and influencing others to help achieve objectives/desired outcomes. The three categories of SAV capture:
 - a. **Strategic catalyst role/leadership** i.e. encouraging partners and stakeholders to adapt and/or change in order to contribute to shared objectives.
 - b. **Contribution to broader policy development/intelligence** i.e. undertaking or stimulating activity that informs and defines what needs to be done by different partners.
 - c. **Cross-cutting** i.e. activities which benefit other areas, priorities or partnerships e.g. because:
 - The risk is so great that it has to be shared.
 - The target beneficiary moves across borders or has multiple needs.
 - An activity has been so beneficial that it would benefit a wider public.
 - Improved effectiveness and efficiency of public services is required to improve outcomes, reduce costs and/or reform ways of working.
 - d. There are 8 'tests' to help recognise where SAV is being generated, i.e. if the activity:
 - Creates confidence in the prospects for growth
 - Provides strategic leadership (of partners and stakeholders)
 - Exerts a strategic influence (over key partners and stakeholders)
 - Levers in investment from other sources
 - Develops synergy (in activity of partners, stakeholders and target audiences)
 - Stimulates a scaling up of beneficial activity
 - Enhances the quality of a desirable activity
 - Encourages engagement in relevant strategies