An introduction to SPACES

SPACES is the acronym for the **Strategic Property Asset Collaboration in East Sussex** Partnership Programme. The partnership was formed in 2011 with a number of public and third sector organisations coming together with the aim to improve the customer journey, whilst creating efficiencies and more effective environments to deliver services. The focus was largely on co-locations and collaboration around property assets and strategies.



SPACES has since become the One Public Estate (OPE) Partnership for East Sussex, and continues to grow from strength to strength, with broadening support for regeneration and housing priorities, as well as continuing collaboration and utilisation of public sector assets.

SPACES Programme is supported by a dedicated Programme Manager and Programme Support officer, who work on behalf of all partners.



We currently have 20 partners including all East Sussex Local Authorities, NHS Health, Emergency Services (Blue Lights), Education and Enterprise, VSCE, and other central government bodies. Each organisation is represented by a SPACES Programme Board Member, who meet bi-monthly to discuss existing project progression, strategic opportunities and explore current priorities and challenges.

What is the One Public Estate (OPE)?

OPE is a national Programme that recognises and supports locally-led partnerships of public sector bodies to collaborate around their public service delivery strategy and estate needs. SPACES forms the OPE Partnership for East Sussex. Benefits of being part of OPE include access to capital and

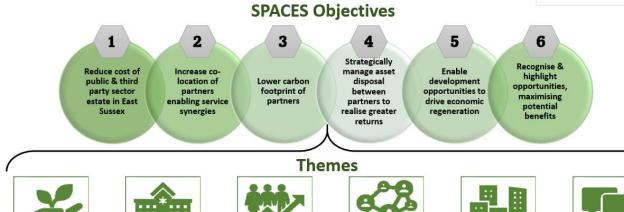


revenue funding opportunities for projects including the repurpose of surplus public estate for housing, regeneration, and other locally determined uses. It also provides access to information from national learning, and to a vast network of other OPE partnerships. For more details on OPE, visit www.local.gov.uk/onepublicestate

SPACES Objectives, Strategy Themes and the Implementation Plan

In May 2021, the Programme Board approved its first *SPACES Strategy (2021 to 2024)*, which outlines the Partnerships' key priorities in supporting the six *Objectives* that continue to ring true for SPACES 10 years on. Partners collectively identified and developed six strategic Themes which represent their organisations priorities over the 3 years. To deliver the Strategy, an Implementation Plan was developed (approved in October 2021), which details different activities under each theme to deliver benefits – both direct outputs and wider impacts.





As well as the SPACES Strategy and Implementation Plan, the SPACES Programme Team also support in delivering a number of business-as-usual activities, including:

Programme
management &
reporting of
projects
(including OPE
funded)

Information

sharing

Identifying collaboration opportunities

Benefit

measures

Identifying & sharing other external funding opportunities (outside of OPE)

& Housing

Collaboration

projects

Making

connections

Sharing information, resources & best practice

Project

management

Identifying, tracking & reporting of quantitative & qualitative benefit measures

Insight

Funding

& Bids

Governance & administration

Resources

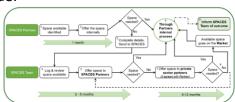
Active

engagement

Space Needed and Available (SNAA) process

A key part of SPACES partnership has been the ability to match space needs and availability of the partners, to make best use of public sector assets to support staff and service users. This opens opportunities for colocation and collaboration between partners, as well as generated revenue income and potentially release assets for capital gain. Utilising this workstream, partner benefits include:

- Better utilisation of public assets
- Saves time
- Reduces need to go to privately owned assets
- Keeps financial spend within public sector
- Neutral perspective to ensure the right asset is selected



For more information or to request copies of the SPACES Strategy, Implementation
Plan or Programme Board Terms of Reference, email the team at

<u>SPACES@eastsussex.gov.uk</u>