

# District & Parish Council Joint Committee Update

18<sup>th</sup> March 2021

# Folkestone & Hythe High Street Fund



## Background

### Objective

- Bring empty high street properties back into commercial use
- Upgrade and adapt existing properties to improve appearance and street scene
- Improve townscape
- Introduce innovative products to support commercial operations

### Launched October 2019

- 11 district High Streets eligible to apply

*Folkestone, Hythe, Cheriton, Sandgate, New Romney, Dymchurch,  
Hawkinge, Sellindge, Lydd, Lyminge, Elham*

- Grants from £5,000 to £50,000
- Up to 50% of total project costs (capital expenditure) but 100% may be considered for special cases. Grants issued on completion of project works

# FHDC High Street Fund External Applications

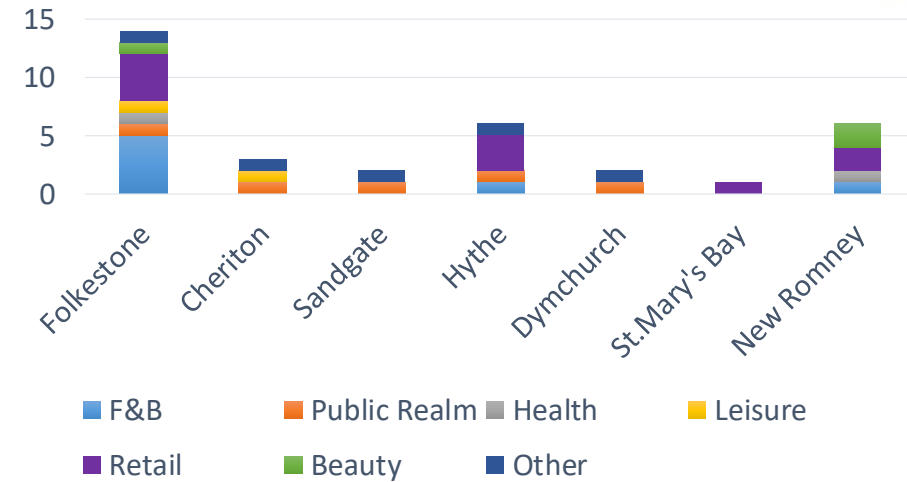
## Summary

	Agreed				Rejected	Cancelled/With drawn	Pending	New	
	No.	Grant Awards	Total Project Costs	Match Funding levered				No.	Grant sought
Folkestone	14	£282,057	£612,600	£330,543	3	4	1	7	£173,522
Cheriton	2	£11,600	£21,600	£10,000	1				
Sandgate	2	£53,500	£56,000	£2,500				1	£1,918
Hythe	6	£59,743	£296,247	£236,504	2	1	2	4	£48,000
Dymchurch	2	£36,000	£69,216	£33,216					
St Mary's Bay	1	£2,469	£4,938	£2,469					
New Romney	6	£24,891	£69,232	£44,341	7			7	£141,704
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>£470,260</b>	<b>£1,129,833</b>	<b>£659,573</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>£365,144</b>

## Status

- **33** projects awarded HSF grants
- **11** projects successfully delivered
- Pandemic has caused delay in delivery
- Scheme extended for additional 12 months to March '22
- **17** new applications received and in process

## Sector Spread – Grants approved



## Projects delivered

- Renovation of a local Mexican restaurant including facilities for disabled people
- Expanded CCTV programme for Cheriton, Folkestone and Sandgate High Street
- Delivery of a scheme for a marketplace of artisan food producers and additional kitchen capacity
- External shop front works completed for businesses in Folkestone, Hythe and New Romney
- Internal refit in support of better training facilities for local trainees and apprentices within the health and beauty business.
- Delivery of a themed Escape Room in a vacant retail building in support of improving the leisure offer and a local heritage asset.
- Levelling and resurfacing of Parish Council Car Park improving safety for users and visitors to high street
- Martello 24 refurbishment programme, funding for new educational displays and scaled model of the tower as part of the enhancement of visitor experience.

# FTC Place Plan - Brief



- A collective vision for the Council, partners, stakeholders and community
- Celebrating and building upon the great work and investment to date
- Recognise the town's inherent strengths and position Folkestone for the future
- Some of the key themes to cover:
  - Investment/development opportunities - setting an ambition
  - Establishing a civic 'heart' & purpose - "One public estate"
  - Creating great animated public spaces for residents and visitors
  - Create a broader leisure offer 'for all'
  - Deliver a shift in transport movements & maximise accessibility
  - Encourage TC living as a vital component of a vibrant mixed use with an appropriate evening economy
  - Create an exemplar in sustainability and reap the benefits of compact growth
  - Foster a dynamic/flexible employment environment transitioning away from a solely retail lead economy
  - Future town centre animation, markets, management and maintenance
  - Inform wider review of Licensing Policy
  - Place branding and promotion
- Identify the challenges, issues and the potential solutions
- Consider impacts of national policy
- Funding Opportunities
- An **Action Plan** for Folkestone Town Centre



# FTC Place Plan Update



- **Webpage launched** on FHDC corporate website with **generic Place Plan email** to contact us:

<https://www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk/folkestoneplaceplan>

[placeplan@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk](mailto:placeplan@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk)

- ***Urban appraisal*** undertaken to inform Place Plan and potential areas of focus
- **Initial engagement** on key themes and issues
- **Public engagement** event on 19 April 2021



# Re-opening High Streets safely - planning

- Multi service area project team including

- Economic Development
- Communications
- Grounds Maintenance
- Enforcement & Licensing

- Intervention plan underway

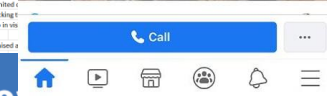
- Reviewed of existing risk assessment
- 2020 post-lockdown experience
  - Signage
  - Beach and traffic management
  - High St business support
  - Enforcement needs

- Ongoing monitoring

- Interventions identified as required

Location	Level	Etcham	Lymington	Lydd	Selridge	Hawkinge	Dymchurch
Toilets	1	1	0	2	0	2	1
Bus Shelters	1	1	0	2	0	2	1
Car Parks	2	1	0	0	0	0	2
Entrance Exits	4	4	9	4	5	9	

**Etcham** Only 6 shops, with plenty of car space  
**Lymington** 10 shops, 5 of which have been open for an extended period of time. The additional opening of the shops is  
**Lydd** 14 businesses, 8 of which have been open for an extended period of time, queuing at Spar and takeaway out  
**Selridge** 2 businesses  
**Hawkinge** 11 businesses, the majority of which have been open. Queuing may appear at takeaways and kindergartens, b  
**Dymchurch** 43 businesses, main concerns relate to larger queues at takeaway outlets during busy sunny days and limited  
**New Romney** 52 businesses, main concern relates to large queues at takeaway outlets during busy sunny days and limited  
**Cheriton** 43 businesses, busy road with some shops who will be unable to have many queues outside without blocking t  
**Hythe** 44 businesses with a wide footpath relieving most of the risk. Many shops are walked too or quick stop in a  
**Etcham** 40 businesses, narrow pathway, long high street current traffic restrictions in place.  
**Lydd** 120 businesses. District town centre with secondary and primary shopping areas. Includes pedestrianised a



**Please wear a face covering**

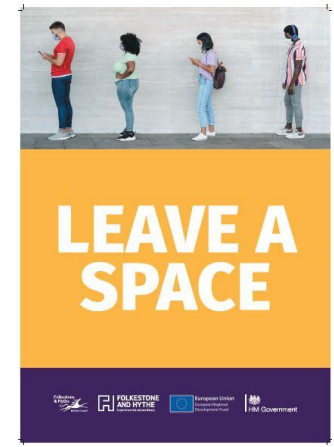


**BACK IN BUSINESS**  
ISSUE TWO | SEPTEMBER 2020

Thank you for your continued commitment and support for helping to build the future of communities. Businesses across the district have been adapting to trading under new conditions, following the guidance and law that has been put in place to help you get started.

**NHS COVID-19 APP**  
Businesses across the district have been adapting to trading under new conditions, following the guidance and law that has been put in place to help you get started.

**HANDS, FACE, SPACE.**  
The development is providing...  
 • Wash your hands regularly  
 • Use hand sanitiser when you are out  
 • Avoid touching your face  
 • Stay away from people who are coughing or sneezing



**THE RULE OF SIX**  
Social gatherings of more than six people are not allowed. This includes both indoor and outdoor events that are open to the public and where there are likely to be queues, such as at shops, restaurants and public houses.

**FACE COVERINGS FOR STAFF**  
From 25 September it is compulsory for staff, before and throughout their shift, to wear a face covering in areas that are open to the public and where there are likely to be queues, such as at shops, restaurants and public houses.

**TEMPERATURE CHECK**  
The key will be to ensure that the temperature of all staff and customers when they enter your premises is checked. This is to ensure that anyone who is showing signs of illness does not enter your premises.

**WHAT'S THE GUIDANCE ON SOCIAL DISTANCING?**  
THE GOVERNMENT IS ASKING YOU TO STAY AWAY FROM OTHER PEOPLE AS MUCH AS YOU CAN.

**ACCESS TO FUNDING AND SUPPORT**  
There are a number of support and funding available to businesses, including the government's Business Recovery Loan Scheme. To find out more about these schemes, visit the Business Recovery Loan Scheme website.

**SIGN UP TO RECEIVE UPDATES**  
Folkestone & Hythe regularly update businesses and residents on the latest news and information. Sign up to receive updates from us by email or text.