

**SOUTH EAST ENGLAND COUNCILS
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & ALL-MEMBER MEETING**

Date: 11 July 2013

Subject: **Summer 2013 Data Dashboard**

Report by: Nick Woolfenden, SEEC Head of Policy Co-ordination



Recommendation:

That members agree proposed key messages to highlight to Government and other decision makers in the Summer 2013 Dashboard update.

1. Background

1.1 This is the 5th edition of SEEC's Data Dashboard. Published twice a year, it is used to highlight key issues to Government and other decision makers, as well as helping SEEC members identify key issues where action is needed. For example SEEC arranged action-focused events on the ageing population and skills/youth unemployment as a result of member discussion of previous Dashboards.

2. Draft Dashboard Summer 2013 - Key Issues for Member Comment

2.1 A high-level overview of key data follows on the next page. Due to the large electronic file size, draft overviews for the six key themes in the Dashboard update will be available in hard copy at the AGM rather than emailed. The full Dashboard, some 40+ sheets, with local data where available, will be on SEEC's website for members during August.

2.2 At a high level the South East continues to perform relatively well on a number of issues. As demonstrated by Oxford Economics' latest data, the South East offers significant returns on investment to Government and the UK as a whole, making a net contribution of £6.3bn in 2010/11. However a number of challenges exist. Maximising the South East's key role in driving the national economy will require national and local infrastructure/transport investment and action to maximise success, as well as tackle significant deprivation and meet the needs of our large growing & ageing population. Based on the latest Dashboard data, we recommend the following issues are emphasised, in addition to more detailed points highlighted in the overviews available in hard copy at the AGM. Members' views are invited on these or any other issues:

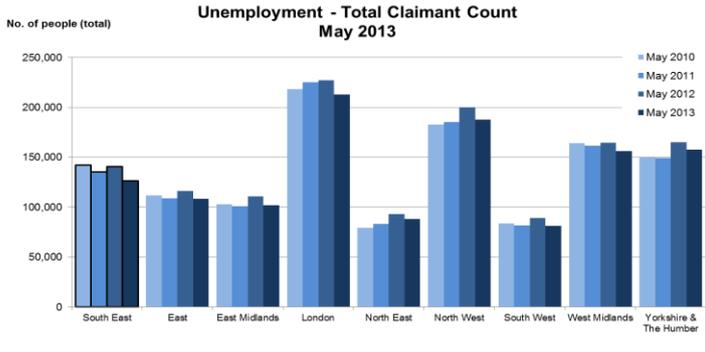
- A) **Economy & Employment** - *There is a strong message that the SE's economic success cannot be taken for granted - appropriate policy & investment is required in skills & employability to meet business needs and tackle key challenges eg high unemployment.*
- B) **Housing & Infrastructure** - *There remains need for significant local and national action & investment to deliver sufficient affordable housing, as well as infrastructure to support the SE's high levels of housing growth, given both population size and the need to ensure economic success.*
- C) **Public Finances & Grants** - *There is a need for appropriate levels of central government and European funding in the SE to support the local commitment to growth and fuel our potential to support national economic recovery and reflect the SE's large population.*
- D) **Demography** - *Continued investment and action is needed to address the opportunities & challenges of population change, including care and health services given our large and growing older population, and long-term areas of deprivation.*
- E) **Migration** - *Long-term national & local financial commitment is needed to address migration issues in the SE, given our highest levels of net migration in England. Time lags and limitations in official data (for example latest Census-based mid-year estimates for migration flows are awaited) must be addressed by government so local needs and central funding requirements can be better addressed.*
- F) **Environment** - *Overall whilst some of the trends are positive, there is a need for continued effort & investment to address the significant levels of waste arising in the SE.*

DRAFT DATA DASHBOARD SUMMER 2013

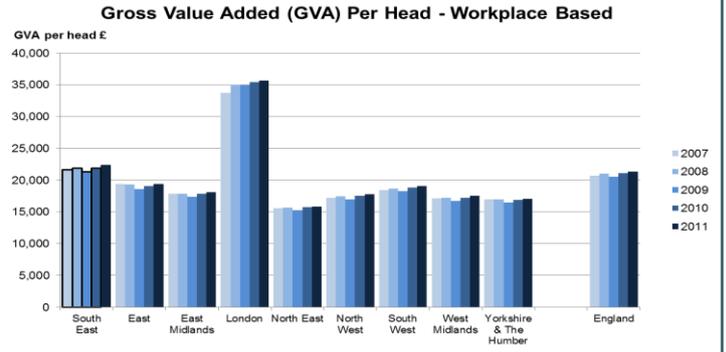
SE KEY FIGURES

More detailed information available @
www.secouncils.gov.uk

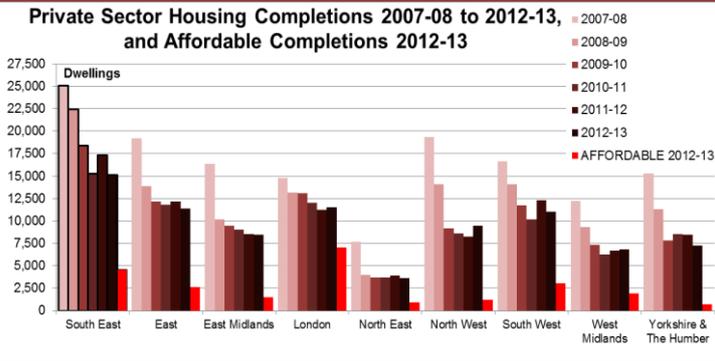
SE has over 126,000 unemployed - higher than East, E Mids, NE & SW.



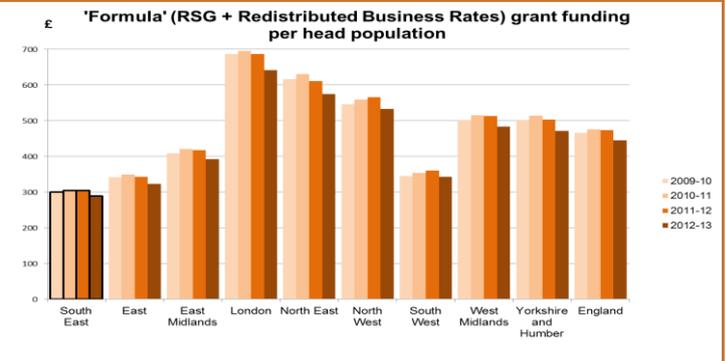
At over £22k, economic output (GVA) per head is strong, but well behind London & only just above national average.



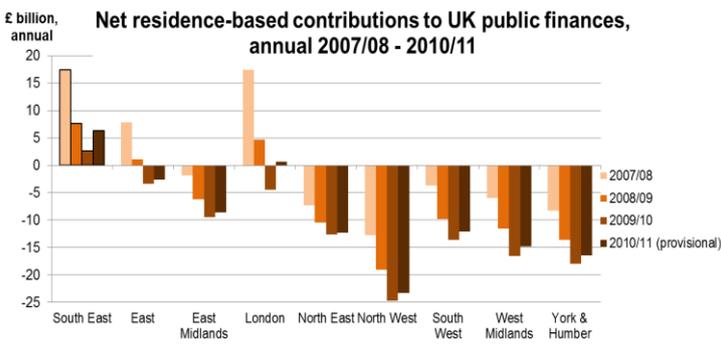
SE builds the most homes, 19,700 private+affordable in 2012-13. But this is well below levels 5 years ago.



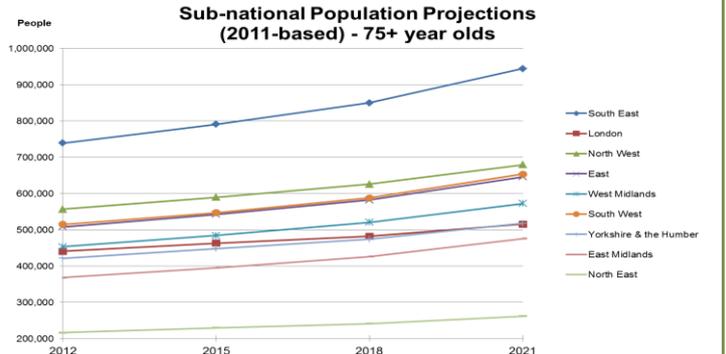
SE received lowest Gov formula grant funding - £289 per head in 2012-13, £156 below average & half London.



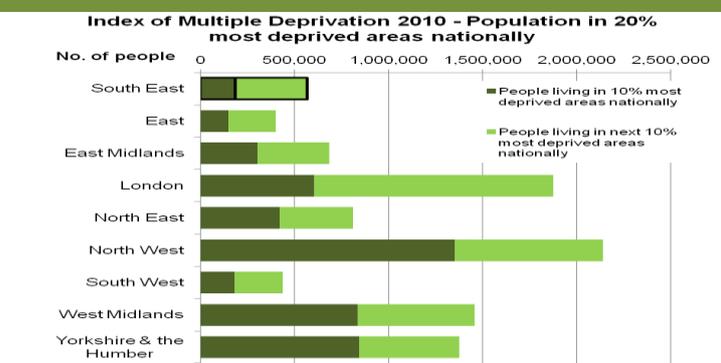
At £6.3bn in 10/11, SE makes highest net contribution to Treasury - the only area making net returns over last 8 yrs.



At 8.7m people SE has largest population, & over 30% growth in over 75s in next 10 yrs, the highest in country.



SE has 565,000 living in 20% most deprived parts of the country.



SE has high levels of international net migration, over 35,000 people in 2009-10.

