

Devolution		Timing
<p>Aim:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Press the case for significant devolution of funding and powers, ensuring opportunities are open to all tiers of councils in the South East • Facilitate knowledge exchange between areas to help support robust devolution proposals • Agree joint working with SESL where appropriate, to ensure a single South East voice and avoid duplication. 	<p>Activity planned includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Briefing for Parliamentarians during debate on the Cities and Devolution Bill to emphasise the needs of multi-tier devolution proposals, highlight the potential of current South East devolution bids and support LGA-led Bill amendments. Includes input to Parliamentary committees, APPGs, briefings for Ministers and SE MPs. 2. Commission and publish options for achieving double or triple devolution within the South East as a multi-tier area to ensure devolution reaches all levels of local government. 3. Work with members to share emerging options and models for local business rate retention within devolution deals. 4. Discussion/workshop for members on devolution good practice, review of successful bids, devolution pros and cons. 5. Supporting communications on all devolution work. 	<p>Ongoing, including activity pre Spending Review (SR)</p> <p>autumn</p> <p>post SR</p> <p>post SR</p>
Infrastructure, housing & the economy		
<p>Aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure greater infrastructure investment to help South East councils drive economic growth as part of the engine room of UK plc • Support South East councils in their work to overcome barriers to housing delivery • Work with London and East of England to influence plans for London's future. 	<p>Activity planned includes:</p> <p>INFRASTRUCTURE</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Make the case for the South East's top priority strategic transport investment needs, using the <i>Missing Links</i> report to engage MPs, partners and media. 7. Explore potential for work with member councils on a shared framework for assessing the economic benefit of South East transport investments. 8. Work with London on potential for joint influencing to secure investment in mutually-beneficial infrastructure (eg transport, utilities and services). 9. Present the case for substantial investment in South East infrastructure to support runway expansion. 10. Research & publish options and good practice for funding local infrastructure drawn from inside and outside the South East, including how funding devolution could support investment. Consider joint work with LEPs, including those who form part of emerging South East combined authorities. 11. Research & publish benefits of local skills commissioning in the South East. Focus on cross-tier/ combined authority practical steps to deliver economic benefit/ welfare reductions, including case studies. Consider as joint work with SESL, alongside work to press for greater devolution of skills funding. <p>HOUSING AND PLANNING</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 12. Review impact of unimplemented planning permissions in the South East, building on LGA data with South East case studies. 13. Devise & publish recommendations on overcoming barriers to housing delivery, including a review of planning powers in devolved administrations. Work with South East planners' group to present proposals for 'use-it-or-lose-it' powers & improving 	<p>Oct</p> <p>Late 2015</p> <p>Jan-Mar 2016</p> <p>Dec/Jan</p> <p>2016 (post SR)</p> <p>2016</p> <p>2016</p> <p>2016</p>

	<p>development viability criteria and operation of CIL/S106 to ensure contributions to affordable housing.</p> <p>LONDON</p> <p>14. Establish formal political dialogue with the GLA, Mayor, London Councils and East of England to influence London's next statutory plan, including options for meeting London's housing inside or outside the capital.</p> <p>15. Supporting communications on all infrastructure, housing & economy work.</p>	Dec-Jun
Health and care		
<p>Aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the case for adequate funding and devolved powers to help South East authorities deliver effective, integrated local health and care services for the UK's largest and most ageing population. Agree joint working with SESL where appropriate, to ensure a single South East voice and avoid duplication. 	<p>Activity planned includes:</p> <p>16. Discussion for SEEC-SESL members with NHS England and Department of Health on devolution to South East cross-tier council partnerships/combined authorities.</p> <p>17. Make the case for greater pooling of health budgets/ devolution to local authorities to support integration and streamlining of health and care services for South East residents. Explore the role of all tiers in transforming health, care and prevention services to reduce demand and manage costs – including publication of good practice case studies.</p> <p>18. Press for adequate funding to maintain care services and a viable care market to support the South East's very high elderly population.</p> <p>19. Present the case for greater public health funding for South East authorities, moving more quickly towards higher agreed target allocations. Consider case studies on South East successes, transfer of 0-5 public health responsibilities & and impact of cuts in 2015-16.</p> <p>20. Children's services. Views welcome on whether there are topics of interest to SEEC members as potential joint projects to explore with SESL.</p>	<p>TBC</p> <p>17 & 18 to follow on from item 16 or in response to consultation</p>
Underpinning, on-going work		
<p>Aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raise the profile of SEEC's work with members, Ministers, MPs, Peers, media and opinion formers. Maintain an evidence base to support SEEC influencing work. Monitor emerging policy to ensure topical, timely responses on matters relevant to SEEC councils. Maintain hosting arrangement with South East Strategic Partnership for Migration, ensuring updates for members on key migration issues. 	<p>Activity planned includes:</p> <p>21. Regular communications programme comprising newsletters, briefings, publications for members and contact with Parliamentarians & media.</p> <p>22. Review format & publish two Data Dashboards a year, identifying key policy issues for SEEC and partners to raise with Ministers, MPs and opinion formers.</p> <p>23. Ensure South East views are represented in responses to relevant policy consultations and discussions. Priority topics for SEEC influencing include maximising local control and devolution, while minimising bureaucracy. For any remaining central funding the focus will be on ensuring population-based grants reflect the scale of the demand in the South East as the UK's most populated area.</p> <p>24. Update members on migration trends – eg refugees, Home Office proposals for dispersal of asylum seekers and local authority duties relating to Modern Day Slavery.</p>	