# Challenges – Communities and Place

High Peak Borough Council

| Context | | Proposed Interventions | Opportunities |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Challenges** | **Impact of challenge** | | |
| **Communities and Place** | | | |
| Decline in high streets in towns and villages | • Job losses and lower earnings<br>• Negative impact on pride of place<br>• Unattractive retail/service offer leading to higher vacancy rates<br>• Less money spent locally (vicious cycle) | • E1: Funding for improvements to town centres and high streets, including better accessibility for disabled people, including capital spend and running costs. General fund for any town centre/high street improvements that are needed to improve their attraction and encourage more business. | • Reinvent the high street (renovate historic buildings) and attract new brands<br>• Enable community organisations to deliver events in town centres – celebrate pride in place |
| Limited local sustainable travel | • Poor accessibility for residents outside the towns to visit (less money spent in local businesses – vicious cycle)<br>• Poor infrastructure for tourists – limited visitor numbers (less money spent in local businesses – vicious cycle)<br>• Negative impact on community engagement | • E7: Support for active travel enhancements in the local area. Improve accessibility from rural areas to town centres improving footfall on high streets and increase spending in local businesses.<br>• E8: Funding for the development and promotion of wider campaigns which encourage people to visit and explore the local area. Advertising the local area and attractions to improve tourism and increase local spending.<br>• E11: Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups. Develop the capacity of community groups to deliver services and support for local people improving resiliency. | • Develop sustainable travel plans |
| Limited climate change agenda/ High-carbon producing quarrying activities | • Environmental degradation<br>• Negative impact on pride of place<br>• Not achieving 'green targets' | • E13: Community measures to reduce the cost of living, including through measures to improve energy efficiency, and combat fuel poverty and climate change. Possibility to alleviate cost of living crisis (e.g. insulating homes to reduce energy costs) and mitigate possible reduction in local spending. | • Improve the green economy and decarbonisation<br>• Develop skills for the future relevant to the 'green' sector<br>• Develop tourism focused on the natural landscape |
| Cost-of living crisis | • Financial hardship and poverty<br>• Less money spent locally (vicious cycle)<br>• Higher demand for services | • E14: Funding to support relevant feasibility studies. Planning work to support civil society capacity building – connects to E11. | • Develop community capacity to meet local needs. Support community and voluntary sector etc.<br>• Target energy crisis – opportunity to insulate homes (support green economy, see above) |

# Challenges – Local Business

| Context | | Proposed Interventions | Opportunities |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Challenges** | **Impact of challenge** | | |
| Local Business | **Job losses**<br>• Financial hardship and poverty<br>• Less money spent locally (vicious cycle)<br>• Higher demand for services<br>• Working aged people move away | • E17: Funding for the development and promotion (both trade and consumer) of the visitor economy, such as local attractions, trails, tours and tourism products more generally. Opportunity to promote local tourism industry and boost demand to address fall in demand during Covid-19 and improve spending in local business.<br>• E20: Research and development grants supporting the development of innovative products and services. This is general and can be used for any desired development of products and services. Aimed to improve the development of local business.<br>• E24: Funding for new and improvements to existing training hubs, business support offers, 'incubators' and 'accelerators' for local enterprise… Develop support for new enterprise and small businesses as a solution to low business formation rates and to improve local skills.<br>• E26: Support for growing the local social economy, including community businesses, cooperatives and social enterprises. Able to develop community capacity and develop new enterprise to create more opportunity and demand in the local economy.<br>• E31: Funding to support relevant feasibility studies. Planning work to develop support for new enterprise, business and the local social economy (E24 and E26). | • Reinvent the high street (renovate historic buildings) and attract new brands<br>• Develop skills for the future (digital, green etc.)<br>• Support initiatives creating higher paid employment and improve demand for knowledge-based workers<br>• Improve business support for new and micro businesses<br>• Improve local connectivity and transport options |
| | **Lack of local jobs**<br>• Workers travel elsewhere for employment<br>• Lack of local investment from business<br>• Less money spent locally (vicious cycle) | | |
| | **Low business formation rates**<br>• Lack of new opportunities<br>• Lack of responsiveness in the market<br>• Not exploiting opportunities to develop new industries or skills for the future | | |
| | **Tourism badly affected by Covid-19**<br>• Less money spent locally (vicious cycle)<br>• Not exploiting opportunities to develop tourism industry further<br>• Less incentive for investment<br>• Loss of skilled hospitality staff | | • Celebrate heritage, arts, crafts, and culture<br>• Build upon the strengths of the natural landscape and historic attractions<br>• Create new businesses and jobs |

# Challenges – People and Skills

| Context | | Proposed Interventions | Opportunities |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Challenges** | **Impact of challenge** | | |
| People and Skills<br><br>Increasing number of Universal Credit claimants | • Financial hardship and poverty<br>• Less money spent locally (vicious cycle)<br>• Higher demand for services | • E38: Support for local areas to fund local skills needs. This includes technical and vocational qualifications and courses up to level 2 and training for vocational licences relevant to local area needs and high-value qualifications where there is a need for additional skills capacity that is not being met through other provision. To support the development of necessary skills and to retrain people for demand in growing industries with job vacancies. | • Improve business support for new and micro businesses<br>• Create new businesses and jobs in tourism<br>• Develop skills for the future (digital, green etc.)<br>• Support initiatives creating higher paid employment and improve demand for knowledge-based workers<br>• Develop community capacity to meet local needs. Support community and voluntary sector etc. |
| Lack of opportunities | • Decreasing apprenticeship starts<br>• Residents are commuting for better paid jobs elsewhere<br>• Vulnerability in the market. Dependance on a few large employers | • E39: Green skills courses targeted around ensuring we have the skilled workforce to achieve the government's net zero and wider environmental ambitions. Focus on skills development for the future and supporting the new green economy. The natural environment is a strength of the local area and there is an opportunity to develop this sustainably. | |
| Decreasing number of skilled workers | • Limits innovation and potential for new businesses<br>• Lower paid jobs | • E41: Funding to support local digital skills. Focus on skills development for the future and to address the digital skills gap in the rural area. Develop the local workforce for opportunities in higher paid roles and attract new business. | |