



## Spring Budget 2020 - South East

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### Today's announcements for the South East include:

- In the South East, the increase to the National Living Wage (NLW) this April is expected to benefit around 223,000 people.
- In the South East, the increase to National Insurance thresholds to £9,500 in 2020-21 will result in a tax cut for 4.4 million people and will lift 185,000 people out of paying Class 1 and Class 4 National Insurance Contributions.
- **£57 million** for Southampton including funding for new Rapid Bus links through the Transforming Cities Fund.
- **£2.9 billion** spending on strategic road schemes in the South East between 2020 and 2025. This will help fund the Lower Thames Crossing. We will also develop plans for dualling the A2 in Dover.
- **£83 million** additional funding for local road maintenance through the Potholes Fund in 2020-21.
- Developing major local road upgrades, including the A127 growth corridor in Essex, A326 capacity enhancements in Hampshire and the Chelmsford Army and Navy roundabout.
- Accessibility improvements at East Grinstead and Eridge railway stations, as part of a wider **c. £50 million** investment in station accessibility.
- A share of the next **£5.2 billion** flood and coastal defence investment programme starting in 2021. These locations will benefit from at least the following levels of funding as a result of this programme: **£9 million** for Pevensy and **£7.5 million** for Eastbourne to better protect over 16,000 properties.
- **Around £400 million** to commercialise nuclear fusion technology at Culham Science Centre.
- **£1.4 billion** investment over 10 years in our animal health science infrastructure at Weybridge, underpinning agricultural trade and protecting the UK from the increased threats of current and emerging animal diseases.
- **£180 million** will be invested over the next 6 years for a new state-of-the-art storage and research facility for the Natural History Museum at Harwell Science and Innovation Campus near Oxford, enhancing Oxfordshire's reputation as a world-class research location.
- **£172 million** housing investment in Harlow and Gilston Garden Town.
- The South East will benefit from the significant steps the Government is taking on delivering further growth in the **OxCam Arc**, including:

- **£94.6 million** for the 'Milton Keynes East Sustainable Urban Extension' Housing Infrastructure Fund bid. This will support a range of infrastructure improvements to unlock up to 5,000 homes across 3 sites;
- Announcing plans to explore the case for up to four new Development Corporations;
- Plans for a Spatial Framework for Arc-wide strategic planning;
- **£170.2 million** bid from the Housing Infrastructure Fund to unlock up to 9,539 homes in Aylesbury Garden Town;
- **£41.8 million** from the Housing Infrastructure Fund for the A30 North of Woking bid, which will be used to fund improvements to the M25 and A320 to unlock up to 3,687 homes.

**The South East will also benefit from its share of:**

- **£5 billion** to support the rollout of gigabit-capable broadband in the most difficult to reach 20% of the country, particularly benefiting rural areas.
- **£510 million** to support the Shared Rural Network to extend 4G mobile coverage across the UK, particularly in rural areas.
- **£1.5 billion** over five years to return the entire Further Education college (FEC) estate to a good condition.
- **£100 million** seed funding for 21 schemes from the Health Infrastructure Plan, three of which are in the South East.
- **Up to £400 million** immediate boost for world-leading research, infrastructure and equipment in 2020-21.
- At least **£800 million** in a new blue skies research and innovation agency. This ground-breaking institution will provide new funding for high-risk, high-reward science across the UK.
- **£80 million** will be made available over the next five years to support the UK's foremost specialist institutions build on their global influence.
- **£13 million** to expand the British Library's network of Business and Intellectual Property Centres to 21 cities and 18 surrounding local library networks across the UK, including Brighton and Hove.
- **£90 million** Cultural Development Fund for cultural and creative-led regeneration outside of London, to be allocated by competition.
- **£10 million** additional funding for Growth Hubs to increase the number of business advisors by over a third and ensure that high quality advice and guidance is available across all regions.
- **Over £500 million** to cement our world-leading position in cutting edge technologies including space, electric vehicles and life sciences.
- **£387 million** in 21-22 to continue priority Local Growth Fund projects before decision on the Local Growth Fund are made at the Spending Review. MHCLG will provide further guidance on how the department will work with places to identify relevant projects.