



SOLENT
LOCAL
ENTERPRISE
PARTNERSHIP

[#solentadvantage](#)

Solent advantage:
Investing in our future



The Solent's marine and maritime sector is one of the largest and most productive sectors, accounting for 20.5% of Solent's GVA, providing nearly 40,000 jobs and supporting more than 3,000 businesses.

More than £77.5bn worth of export and imports are moved through our major ports of Portsmouth and Southampton every year. Export trade generates an estimated general contribution of at least £20bn for the national economy. The Solent's exceptional global reach was clearly highlighted during a transatlantic trade mission to New York in 2018.

Picture by Christopher Ison, courtesy of Cunard





HOW THE LEP CAN HELP YOU

The Solent Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) is a locally-owned partnership of businesses, local authorities and the higher education sector.

Together we play a leading role in determining economic priorities in our region and investing to drive economic growth and job creation.

We are a national leader in helping SMEs find alternative finance and we have recently launched an improved business support service for companies seeking to kick-start growth plans.

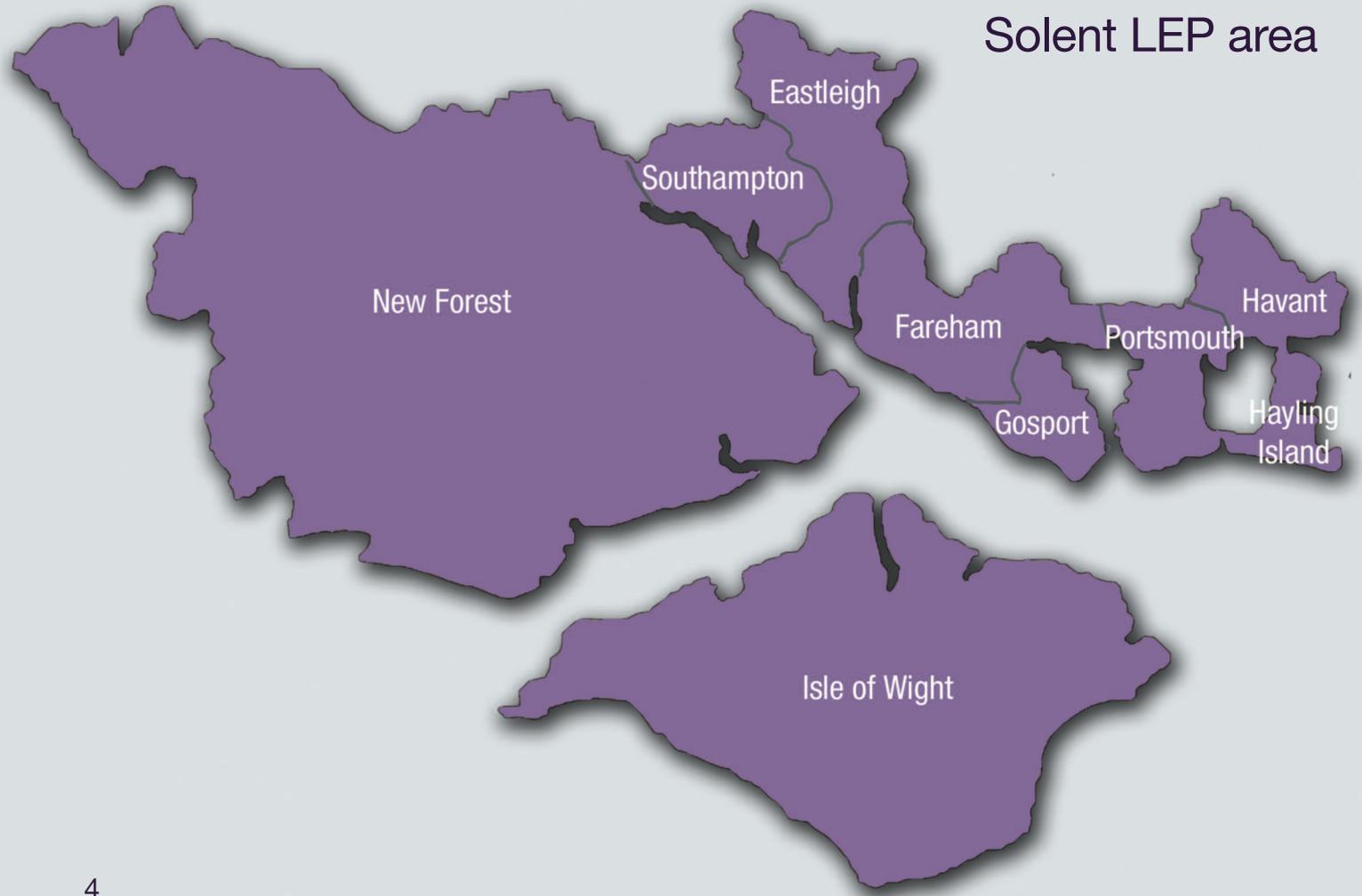
This booklet is intended to showcase a flavour of the many activities taking place under our strategic priorities of infrastructure, innovation, business support, skills, housing and future investment.

If you would like more information on how we can help your business:

Call 02392 688924

Email info@solentlep.org.uk

Solent LEP area



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

£10m

Total LEP grant value invested in SMEs



271

Total number of SMEs funded, of which 77 were new start-ups



£37.4m

Total amount of additional funding leveraged for SMEs



£120m

Total invested in the region by Solent LEP



Nearly 1,000

businesses and start-ups have received support from the Solent Growth Hub



More than 1,500

jobs created or safeguarded



Over 10,000

residents supported to achieve a full qualification



Nearly 3,000

new homes built with Solent LEP funding

