

# Your Solent Your Future

Join the conversation



SOLENT  
LOCAL  
ENTERPRISE  
PARTNERSHIP





The Solent economy is strong, with a broad set of sectoral strengths, such as marine and maritime and advanced manufacturing.



The Solent is strategically positioned to be the UK's global gateway through its ports and air connections.



We have a rich array of natural resources, including New Forest National Park and spectacular coastline, giving the Solent a unique economic identity.



The Solent is home to three universities which provide an important catalyst for knowledge-based economic growth.

**We want to build on these successes and we need you to join the conversation.**

**Your Solent, your Future.**

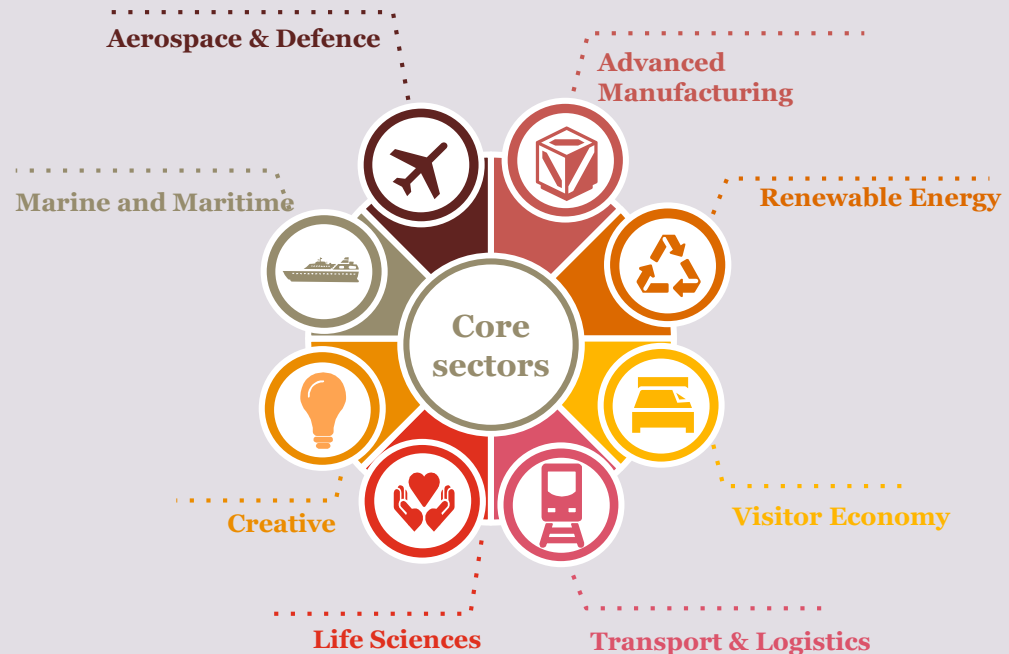




# The Economy

Developing a Local Industrial Strategy for the Solent presents a real opportunity to set the area on a pathway to a more prosperous future for all, and this is our invitation to you to join this conversation and shape the Solent of the future.

The Solent is a major contributor, providing **£30.6bn** GVA to the UK economy. Several key assets are located in the region such as the Port of Southampton, the Portsmouth Naval Base and the ExxonMobil refinery. The Solent has a diverse economy with specific sectoral strengths linked to its coastal location, outstanding natural environment and knowledge assets.



# The Solent's Future: A strategy for 2050

The world is changing fast. We want your ideas to make the most of the Solent's assets whilst retaining young talent and attracting new jobs and investment. In creating a successful place able to take advantage of future opportunities, we think we will need to explore the following components:



**Iconic Brand** - A distinctive offer for residents, businesses and investors and a strong and credible vision about what makes the Solent unique.



**Keystone Assets** - An economy anchored by national and international keystone assets, which range from education institutes to world-class industry clusters and knowledge-intensive assets.



**Commercial Culture** - A commercial culture which allows entrepreneurship, investment and innovation to flourish.



**Liveable Place** - A balance between jobs and income, health, housing, transport connections and the environment.



**World Class Talent** - A hub that trains, attracts and retains world - class talent, as well as nurtures the talent of its own residents and encourages aspiration.



**Strong Financing** - Financing available for supporting innovation, scaling spin-outs and investing in infrastructure.



# Unlocking Solent's vision and growth ambitions

## Building on our strengths

We want to maximise the impact of our economic and environmental assets and promote the Solent as the leading growth hub for our key industries and SMEs.

## Developing and attracting talent

We envision the Solent where local talent can obtain the right skills and access opportunities. Attracting global top talent is crucial for allowing the critical sectors to grow.

## Focusing on sustainability

We need to secure a prosperous future for our coastal communities and the next generations. We will need to effectively balance social, economic and environmental interests.

## Unlocking innovation

We need to enable the links between our Higher Education Institutions and businesses to encourage knowledge-exchange and innovation.

# The building blocks for success

We need to make the Solent Industrial Strategy stand out. We will develop a strategy that:

1



Innovate

**Thinks innovatively about Solent's future.** We need to think about new ways of how we support businesses, better connect people, and compete globally.

2



Evidence

**Has a robust evidence base** that demonstrates a granular understanding of the Solent economy, its challenges and opportunities.

3

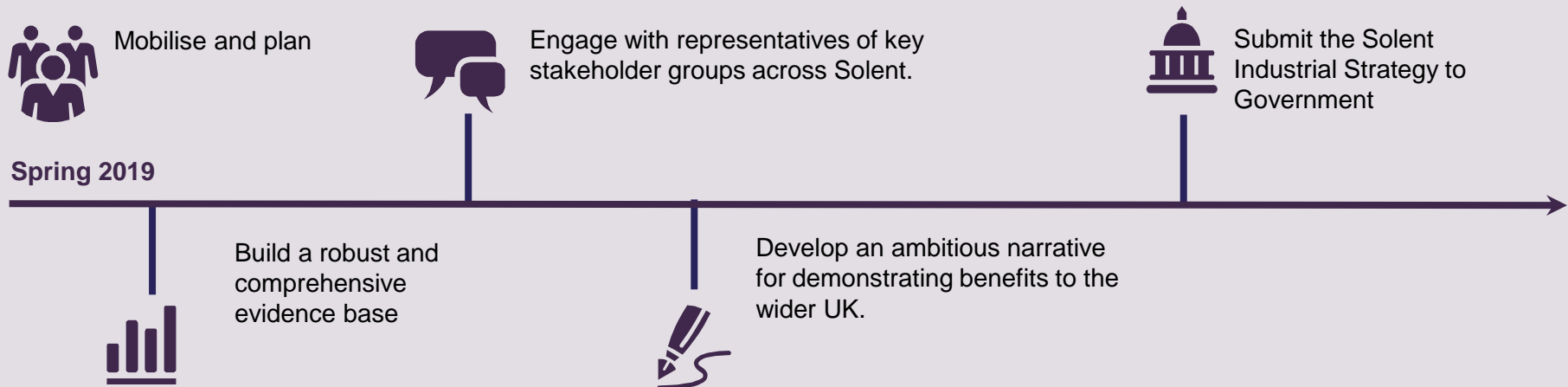


Support

**Has a broad base of engagement** and support from stakeholders across Solent, including business leaders. To do this, we will make sure we engage widely with key stakeholder groups.

# Key Steps

We will be engaging widely with our stakeholders and partners on the Local Industrial Strategy and would welcome your input. **We have outlined below the key next steps.**



**This is the start of our journey towards building Solent's future.**

**For more information about the Solent Local Industrial Strategy and how you can take part, please get in touch with the Solent Local Enterprise Partnership:**



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**@solentlep use #Solent2050**

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