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## Committee seeks written evidence



23 July 2018

The House of Lords Select Committee on Regenerating Seaside Towns and Communities today invites written submissions to its inquiry. The deadline for submissions of written evidence is 1pm on Tuesday 9 October 2018.

- [Call for evidence \(PDF 153 KB\)](#)
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Lord Bassam of Brighton, Chairman of the Committee, said:

"Seaside towns and communities face a range of complex challenges. Our Committee will explore issues such as housing, transport, education, health and the local economy. We want to find out what the problems are and how they can be solved.

"We also want to look at 'what works' as a regeneration strategy and how we can ensure the benefits that come from regeneration can be better shared so that local people don't feel excluded from rising prosperity and growth.

"We welcome submissions of written evidence from anyone with knowledge of and an interest in seaside towns and coastal communities."

The call for written evidence contains 16 questions and can be found via the link at the top of this page.

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# HOUSE OF LORDS

## SELECT COMMITTEE ON REGENERATING SEASIDE TOWNS AND COMMUNITIES

### CALL FOR EVIDENCE

The House of Lords Select Committee on Regenerating Seaside Towns and Communities was appointed by the House on 17 May 2018. The remit of the Committee is “to consider the regeneration of seaside towns and communities”.

The Committee will explore the following key issues in detail and would welcome your views on **any or all** of the following questions. Please note that questions are not listed here in any particular order of importance.

**This is a public call for written evidence to be submitted to the Committee. The deadline is 1pm on Tuesday 9 October 2018.**

#### Background and understanding

1. What are the challenges facing seaside towns and communities? Which of those challenges are common to many seaside towns, and to what extent (and why) have such challenges persisted over a number of years?
2. Has sufficient research been conducted to provide robust analysis of the economic and social health and vitality of seaside towns? What are the main conclusions to be drawn from such data and research – and where are the principal gaps in knowledge and understanding?

#### Housing and demographics

3. To what extent are seaside towns affected by issues arising from the nature of their housing stock, including Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) and former tourist accommodation that has been converted for other uses? How might any such issues be addressed – and are any changes to Government policy required?
4. Do population transience, and demographic changes more widely, present any particular issues for seaside towns and communities? What is the nature and scale of such issues, and how can local organisations and communities be assisted in seeking to address them?

## **Transport and connectivity**

5. Do problems relating to transport and connectivity (including digital connectivity) present a barrier to economic growth for seaside towns and communities? What action has been taken to address such matters, and is any further Government action required? To what extent would addressing such issues create the opportunity for future inward investment and growth?

## **The role of the visitor economy**

6. How successful have initiatives that seek to promote tourism and the visitor economy in seaside towns proven to be? How important are these sectors to the economies of seaside towns? Is sufficient attention being given to the potential contribution that could be made by other sectors, beyond tourism?

## **Physical regeneration**

7. Are sufficient tools and resources available to local authorities, property owners and other stakeholders to allow them to promote and deliver the restoration and regeneration of the physical environment in seaside towns? Could new approaches – or the removal of any existing barriers – support further regeneration?

## **Social and economic regeneration**

8. What work is being done in seaside towns to support social and economic regeneration, and to improve social mobility across the whole community? What more could or should be done by the Government, and relevant organisations, to deliver such initiatives?
9. What role should local businesses, SMEs and social enterprises play in seeking to deliver regeneration in seaside towns? How effective is any help currently provided to these groups by the Government, local authorities and others? Are there any barriers to growth that could be addressed by changes in policy?

## **Education, health and wellbeing**

10. Is educational provision in coastal communities of a good enough standard? Do coastal communities experience any particular challenges around the provision of secondary, further and higher education and, if so, what action should be taken to promote positive change?

11. Is there evidence to suggest that certain health conditions are more prevalent in seaside towns? What factors might contribute to levels of poor health in coastal areas? Would any targeted interventions help to address any such issues in these areas?

### **Delivery structures**

12. What impact has the Coastal Communities Fund had upon seaside towns and communities? Are any further targeted interventions from Government required?
13. To what extent is it currently possible to develop a 'vision' for individual seaside towns? Is there a need for longer-term thinking and, if so, is that need currently being met? What role should Government departments, local authorities, local enterprise partnerships and other stakeholders play in delivering against such a vision, and is any action required to improve integrated working between these groups?
14. Are there fiscal or financial measures available which could help to support the regeneration of seaside towns? Could the Government provide any financial freedoms or investments which would help to generate positive change?

### **People and place**

15. What role should local people and local communities play in the regeneration of seaside towns and communities? Do good processes of community engagement, and community resilience and capacity building, currently exist and, if so, could they be applied more widely?
16. Do any integrated models of regeneration, bringing together local communities, businesses, public sector bodies and others to pursue common goals, currently exist? If so, how do such models seek to promote physical, social and economic regeneration in seaside towns? How can any lessons learnt from such work be applied more widely – and is further innovation required?

## Guidance for making submissions

Written evidence should be submitted online using the written submission form available at <https://www.parliament.uk/regenerating-seaside-towns-committee-submission-form>

If you do not have access to a computer you may submit a paper copy to:

Clerk to the Select Committee on Regenerating Seaside Towns, Committee Office, House of Lords, London SW1A 0PW.

The deadline for written evidence is 1 pm on Tuesday 9 October 2018.

Short, concise submissions, of no more than seven pages, are preferred. A longer submission should include a one-page summary. Paragraphs should be numbered. Submissions should be dated, with a note of the author's name, and of whether the author is acting on an individual or corporate basis. All submissions made through the written submission form will be acknowledged automatically by email.

Personal contact details supplied to the Committee will be removed from submissions before publication but will be retained by the Committee staff for specific purposes relating to the Committee's work, such as seeking additional information.

Submissions become the property of the Committee which will decide whether to accept them as evidence. Evidence may be published by the Committee at any stage. It will normally appear on the Committee's website and will be deposited in the Parliamentary Archives. Once you have received acknowledgement that your submission has been accepted as evidence, you may publicise or publish it yourself, but in doing so you must indicate that it was prepared for the Committee. If you publish your evidence separately, you should be aware that you will be legally responsible for its content.

You should be careful not to comment on individual cases currently before a court of law, or matters in respect of which court proceedings are imminent. If you anticipate such issues arising, you should discuss with the Clerk of the Committee how this might affect your submission.

Certain individuals and organisations may be invited to appear in person before the Committee to give oral evidence. Oral evidence is usually given in public at Westminster and broadcast online. Persons invited to give oral evidence will be notified separately of the procedure to be followed and the topics likely to be discussed.

Substantive communications to the Committee about the inquiry should be addressed through the Clerk, whether or not they are intended to constitute formal evidence to the Committee.

This is a public call for evidence. Please bring it to the attention of other groups and individuals who may not have received a copy direct.

You can follow the progress of the inquiry at [www.parliament.uk/regenerating-seaside-towns/](http://www.parliament.uk/regenerating-seaside-towns/)