

## **SOCIAL INVESTMENT BUSINESS STATEMENT**

“The Youth Investment Fund (YIF) is over £300m of capital and revenue grants, funded by UK Government. It is a commitment to young people to transform and level up the out of school youth sector, providing innovative youth facilities in levelling up priority areas, and early stage resource funding to underpin them, enabling more positive activities that deliver improved outcomes for young people. Applications were assessed on their own merit, and no area allocations were given (so funding one project in an area did not rule out other local projects). Due diligence was conducted on all approved grants, looking at legal and financial elements, as well as Governance arrangements being considered at assessment. Funding given through the YIF can only be used as per the grant agreement with the grantee, so only used for agreed purposes, and will be evidenced and monitored through the life of the funding.

The YIF is enabling Hastings Commons through an agreement with HCNV to which HCCLT is a party to deliver a range of opportunities for Young People leading to an additional 1,544 young people being supported through activities in both Eagle House and The Observer Building. The YIF is focusing on the Youth opportunities within The Observer Building and Eagle House. They aim to:

- Create environments in which people can enhance their lives and shape their neighbourhoods – where they look out for each other and look after the place
- Engage widely, deeply and systematically on the design, use and management of community spaces at scale
- Squeeze the buildings for life-changing opportunities for local people
- Build the pipeline of future trustees, staff and volunteers to sustain community ownership and benefit.
- Each of these key priorities has a strong youth angle and the YIF project specifically draws this out, shifting the balance of influence towards 11-18 year olds”