

ESSEX STRATEGY OUTCOME	Identified as relevant to this LSP in the Essex Strategy	OUTCOMES/IMPROVEMENTS DELIVERED	GAPS AND FURTHER IMPROVEMENTS
Increase educational achievement & skills			
1) Children progress well & achieve more at all key stages	Y	<p>Since August 2008 there are no secondary schools in Harlow with fewer than 30% of students are achieving 5+ A*-C GCSE grades including English & Mathematics.</p> <p>On the latest set of results (August 2008) the % achieving 5+ A*-C GCSE grades include English & Maths has arisen to 41% compared to 37% in 2007.</p> <p>Attainment rose in English at KS2 from 75.1% in 2007 to 77.75% in 2008. In Maths KS2 it rose from 73.9% in 2007 to 76.53% in 2008.</p> <p>Overall attendance in Harlow schools rose in 2007/08 by 1% to 93.89% for primary schools (against an Essex average of 94.8% and England average of 94.7%) and by 0.6% in secondary schools to 92.16% (against Essex average of 92.4% and England average of 92.6%).</p> <p>Harlow primary and secondary schools have the lowest rate of permanent exclusion in Essex and well below national averages.</p> <p>OFSTED has judged all primary and secondary schools to be at least satisfactory, with a number judged good or outstanding.</p>	
2) Fewer primary and secondary school pupils in Essex who are persistently absent from school	N		
3) Fewer 16-18 year olds in Essex who are not in education, employment or training	N		
Support vulnerable people			
4) Increase the number of older people supported to live at home	N	<p>Harlow has the lowest proportion of older people receiving social care services in the area (72.8 per 1000).</p> <p>Harlow Council and West Essex Primary Care Trust have been working together to deliver nurse-led clinics in sheltered housing complexes. This scheme is designed to offer routine testing, close to where people live, for conditions which can be prevented or controlled if diagnosed early, but which can lead to hospital admission if undetected.</p>	It is anticipated that the Nurse-Led Clinics in sheltered housing complexes will expand in time to include, e.g. benefits advice, home safety advice etc.
5) More support for carers	N	<p>Harlow had the lowest rate of unpaid carers in 2006/07.</p> <p>'Caring for Harlow Carers' is an active voluntary sector organisation in Harlow which provides information and support to carers.</p>	
6) Support vulnerable people achieve independent living	N	<p>An exciting new 'Reach Out' service will be supported by CWOP partners. It is based on direct community work to improving access to services, benefits, increase in training/skills and employment. It will be implemented in areas of highest need, Harlow, Tendring, and Basildon. (Possible case study?)</p>	
7) Reduce 'fuel poverty'	N		
8) Protect vulnerable people at risk of abuse/neglect	N		CLA 77 per 100,000. Highest figures, relative to population, in Essex. Amongst the highest numbers of CPP in Essex.
9) Improve access to childcare by low-income families	N		
Better public health and longer lives			
10) Improve life expectancy	Y	<p>Harlow has an all cause mortality rate for females that is below the East of England average.</p>	<p>All agencies working to address low life expectancy need to better target their efforts at areas where life expectancy is lowest. Currently some interventions which support healthy lifestyles are offered to the whole Harlow population rather than having effort focused on target geographical areas for life expectancy, such as Toddbrooks.</p> <p>Harlow is one of 2 Districts in the worst quartile for end of life care.</p> <p>Harlow has a higher rate of hospital admissions for cancer related diseases than the average for Essex. In 2007</p> <p>In relation to all forms of cancer, male mortality rates are above the national average in 2007.</p> <p>Harlow has an all cause mortality rate for men above the East of England average.</p> <p>Harlow has an all cause mortality rate for men aged under 75 which was above the national average in 2007.</p> <p>Harlow was above the national average rate for under 75 circulatory disease mortality rates in 2007.</p> <p>Harlow is above the national and East of England rate breast cancer mortality.</p>

			Harlow is below the England and Essex average for breast screening.
11) Reduce obesity	Y		Better co-ordination is needed between programmes which look at individual disease risk factors. A number of risk factors contribute to poor life expectancy of Harlow men, and work by the Men's Health Foundation suggests that there are best addressed collectively through a more holistic health check service. The vascular risk checks programme being introduced by Essex PCTs will be to address this. Harlow was above the Essex & England average with 26.8% of adults classed as obese. This was the highest rate in Essex in 2005/06. 10.5% (highest in Essex) of Harlow children in Reception classes & 21.2% (highest in Essex) of those in year 6 were obese. Harlow had a rate of diagnosis for diabetes that is above the average for Essex and the East of England in 2005/05.
12) Reduce smoking prevalence	Y		The strong correlation between smoking and deprivation means that efforts to engage smokers need to reflect the demographics of the target group. Social marketing methodology needs to be used more systematically to improve engagement with the worst off men in Harlow, since a health equity audit showed they were underrepresented in services, and had poorer quit rates than the rest of the population. The PCT has invested considerable effort in social marketing smoking cessation and this will continue. High rates of smoking prevalence – 27.5% (2nd highest in Essex). Many of the areas in the 20% highest all-age smoking-attributable mortality rate in Essex are in Harlow. Several areas have high smoking attributed mortality, particularly Church Langley & Harlow Common. MSOA005 (Church Langley ward) has the highest rate for female smoking mortality in Essex. Harlow had a higher rate of hospital admissions for respiratory diseases than the Essex average in 2007. Harlow was above the national rate for lung cancer mortality for males and females in 2007.
13) Improve mental health and well being	N		Slightly above average rate of MH hospital admissions in 2005/06 High rate of MH benefit claimants; above Essex average, but below national average in 2005 Has above the average proportion of the working age population suffering from neurotic disorders/depression in 2000. The male mortality rate for suicide was considerably higher than other areas of Essex and higher than the national average in 2007.
14) Reduce teenage conceptions	Y		Understanding reasons for high teenage conceptions is crucial to addressing them. Social marketing insight work undertaken by NHS West Essex shows that there is a specific "Harlow effect" where the social and cultural norm influences teenage conception rate. Emerging findings from social marketing insight work commissioned by the PCT will inform future work programmes. In Harlow, which has the highest rate of teenage pregnancies, (49.6) the nurses at the 'One Stop Shop' see on average 600 young people per month, school nurse drop-ins are being established in secondary schools, and information leaflets have been distributed widely. (Possible case study?)
15) Reduce sexually-transmitted diseases	Y		Identifying the most effective ways of engaging the target population for chlamydia screening is ongoing work for the PCT. Outreach work to promote screening achieves a degree of success but more work needs to be done to achieve the population coverage required. NHS West Essex is currently reviewing options for call and recall of the eligible population. Harlow had a rate of Chlamydia which is nearly 50% higher than the rate for the UK in 2004
16) Raising birth weights	N		Harlow has the joint highest percentage of birth weight babies below 1500 grams (1.9%). Highest district in the IDACI.
17) Reducing infant mortality	N		Highest district in the IDACI. Highest IMR 2005 6%.
18) Promote breastfeeding	N		More work needs to be done to promote 1) breastfeeding as the preferred feeding method, and 2) an environment where the social norm is breastfeeding, through for example, target group role models and breast feeding friendly venues. This issue is being considered as a priority topic by the NHS West Essex Social marketing Board. Breast feeding is encouraged and promoted by midwives and health visitors throughout pregnancy. Breast feeding initiation in 2006/07 across all five PCTs ranged from 69%-75%, above the national average of 69%. However, there are pockets of lower rates. In 2005/06 there were four districts below 69%, namely Basildon, Epping Forest, Harlow and Tendring. In 2006/07 only North East Essex PCT was above the benchmark group. Harlow has a low breast-feeding rate, which means that infants are less protected against a range of potential problems & are more likely to become obese later in childhood.
19) More immunisation	N	Harlow is the only area to have an MMR vaccination rate higher than the England average in 2005/06.	
Help parents raise their children well			
20) Parents feel able with community	N		

	help to raise their children well			
Our Communities	Improve access to housing			
	21) Ensure a range of affordable homes are available	Y	<p>During 2008/09, 35 new affordable homes were built. This was less than had been estimated, but is due to the current economic climate and the difficulties being faced by developers and house builders at a time of recession.</p> <p>Work has taken place with owners of private sector empty homes and during 2008/09 4 long term empty homes were returned back into use. This has provided additional housing for those in housing need.</p> <p>During 2008/09 Harlow Council developed a rent deposit guaranteed scheme, and helped 37 households into suitable accommodation in the private sector.</p> <p>Harlow Council will be working with other Essex local authority partners to increase the amount of new affordable housing built in Harlow (and the other Essex authorities), and have developed an action plan to take forward. As part of this project the 12 Essex authorities have received funding which will be used to employ a project officer to assist in the delivery of the action plan.</p>	<p>Harlow has the lowest proportion of owner occupiers (60%), with the social rented sector accounting for 35% of the housing stock</p> <p>Harlow had the highest percentage of lone parent households in the ECC area in 2001.</p> <p>Harlow residents rated affordable housing a particularly high priority in the tracker survey.</p> <p>Harlow had at 13% the highest proportion of households on the LA waiting list housing register in 2006.</p>
	22) Reduce homelessness	N		Highest level of homelessness in Essex - 7.81 per 1,000. More than double the county-wide average in 2005/06.
	23) Increase supply of suitable accommodation for care leavers, youth offenders and runaways	N		
	Improve access to services			
	24) Improved access for residents to education health and leisure facilities	N		
	25) Ensure access to local jobs and community facilities	N		
	Improve transport			
	26) Improve the condition of the roads	N		
	27) Minimise congestion on the roads	Y		
	28) Improved public and community transport	N		
	Strengthen the voluntary sector			
	29) Increase formal participation in voluntary clubs & groups	N		
	30) Increase levels of neighbourly helpfulness	N		
	31) Achieve a good level of support for young carers	N		
	Make communities safer			
32) Better protection from road accidents	N	Harlow performed well on KSIs per resident population in 2006		
33) Better protection from fires	N			
34) Reduce substance misuse - particularly by young people	Y	<p>The Council is actively engaged in the Essex Drug and Alcohol Partnership, programme managing work with NHS and voluntary sector partners - from the Westminster Drug Project and Open Road (major regional drug charities) to the Harlow-based Alcohol and Drugs Advisory Service. This is adults. Crucial Crew event for all Year 6 pupils in Harlow, focusing on personal safety awareness and includes a drinks spiking scenario.</p> <p>A programme of School Theatre Workshops for years 7-9 has been rolled-out covering a variety of messages including the effects of alcohol and drugs.</p> <p>Local treatment providers are also holding a drug treatment awareness stall in the Harvey Centre during National Tackling Drugs Week 8-12 June 2009 and are promoting the national Frank Campaign. Safer Harlow Partnership continues to roll out a programme of local radio advertisements, including the Know Your Limits alcohol campaign and attend the Harlow Town Show to promote alcohol and drug treatment awareness.</p> <p>The Essex Drug and Alcohol Partnership have also delivered a teenage pregnancy and alcohol related publicity campaign.</p> <p>The Partnership also funds diversionary activities for example KICKZ and Firebreak.</p>	<p>It has been estimated that Harlow has a drugs misuse prevalence of 8.6 per 1,000 population; the highest in Essex in 2004/05.</p> <p>High rate of users in treatment.</p> <p>Male alcohol specific hospital admission rate; 309.27 (highest rate in Essex). Female rate; 84.34 (2nd lowest rate in Essex).</p> <p>It is estimated that 17.6% of the adult population in Harlow binge drink, which is above the regional average, & is the second highest prevalence across Essex.</p> <p>Young people are able to buy alcohol most easily in Epping Forest & Harlow.</p> <p>Childrens services transfer to adults currently being examined by Essex DAAT.</p> <p>Alcohol related assault data sharing project to inform enforcement activities (aimed at ages 16+).</p> <p>Seeking funding for to provide alcohol liaison support and brief interventions within the Emergency Department (and specific hospital wards) and Criminal Justice System.</p>	

		Investment in increase the volume of test purchases of underage alcohol sales.	
35) Reduce re-offending by adults and young people	Y		
36) Reduce number of first time entrants to the criminal justice system	Y		Highest rates in Essex for young victims of crime.
37) Reduce serious violent crimes and assaults causing injury	Y	790 offences from May 07 – May 08 762 offences from May 08 to May 09 Equates to a 3.5% reduction	Highest rate in Essex for young victims of crime.
38) Reduce incidents of domestic violence	Y	Harlow Sanctuary Scheme enables victims of domestic violence to remain in their own homes and feel safe and also prevents a homeless application. From January to March 09 one property has been converted and since April four further requests have been received, one of which is going ahead. The Safer Harlow Partnership has contributed to the funding of Women's Safety Workers who support the victims of perpetrators of domestic violence included under Essex Probation's Integrated Domestic Abuse Programme (IDAP). This contributes to the safety of victims and helps reduce repeat incidents of domestic violence. Safer Harlow Partnership's Domestic Violence Group has engaged with and supported the introduction of a MARAC in the Harlow area. This provides greater support for high risk victims of domestic violence and reduces repeat incidents.	Highest rate in Essex for repeated domestic violence. The Sanctuary Scheme is expensive with an average cost to convert a property at £2,000. More funding is required. Harlow & Broxbourne Women's Aid are intending this year to establish a specialist unit in Harlow where they will provide more intensive support (including longer staffing hours and a specialist support programmes) to support women with complex needs. There is a gap in service in terms of what can be done to support women with the most serious drug and alcohol problems and prevent them from returning to situations that put them at further risk of victimisation.
39) Reduce serious acquisitive crimes	Y		1484 offences from May 07 – May 08 1607 offences from May 08 to May 09 Equates to a 8.3% increase in offences
40) Provide specialist support to victims of a serious sexual offence	N		
41) Reduce racial crime	N		
42) Reduce incidents of arson	N		
43) Reduce crime on public transport	N		
44) Reduce number of children and young people experiencing crime or bullying	Y		
45) Reduce antisocial behaviour	Y	'Be Smart-Be Safe' a high-profile campaign for older people. The handbook was originally piloted in December 2007 to five areas in the county (Braintree, Basildon, Tendring, Harlow and Canvey Island) and was so successful it has now been updated and is being expanded countywide. (Existing case study) . Safer Harlow Partnership's ASB Sub Group has produced a Practitioner's Guide to ASB initiatives and projects in Harlow and distributed to all relevant agencies. The outcome is that now all agencies have a greater understanding of how each organisation fits together to tackle ASB and what is available to assist with intervention programmes etc.	It is estimated that 17.6% of the adult population in Harlow binge drink, which is above the regional average, and was the second highest prevalence across Essex in 2007. Young people are able to buy alcohol most easily in Epping Forest & Harlow. Harlow has the highest rate of alcohol related recorded crime and alcohol related crime than the other Districts. Highest percent of recorded ASB. Harlow had higher than average crime rate, violent crime rate and alcohol related crime rate in 2006/07.
46) Reduce fear of crime	Y	With our partners, we have made huge strides in managing the night-time economy, such as the Harlow based Criminal Justice Alcohol pilot which has successfully targeted prime and prolific offenders. (Possible case study?) The Safer Harlow Partnership (Harlow's Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership) has achieved significant reductions in levels of crime in Harlow. Several very innovative schemes have been developed which have received national acclaim (e.g. Talking CCTV, the 'Catch and Crush' Initiative and Taxi Marshalls Scheme).	District with the highest rate of abandoned vehicles which was above the England and ECC average in 2005/06. Most deprived district. 74% of Harlow SOA's fall in to the 20% most deprived domains in Essex using the Crime IMD figures. Harlow has the highest fear of crime score looking at combined tracker data. Highest proportion of offences against a person. The Safer Harlow Partnership will continue to take a targeted approach to reducing crime and anti-social behaviour.
Make communities cleaner			
47) Improved street and environmental cleanliness	N		
Promote participation in sport and culture			
48) Promote participation in the arts and cultural activity	N	For three days in January, Essex celebrated Chinese New Year – The Year of the Ox, as 'China Towns' comes to Harlow, Colchester and Chelmsford.	

			The Essex Jiangsu Centre for Chinese Studies, which has two bases at the Anglo European School in Ingatestone and at the Harlow Study Centre.	
	49) Increase participation in sport – particularly young people	Y	In the last two years more than £1.5 million from Local Transport Plan funds has been spent on cycling infrastructure including improvements to the National Cycle Network in Maldon, Chelmsford and Harlow. Harlow Adventure Challenge' is a one day event for young people aged 16 to 18 taking place at Harlow Outdoors. Participants will be provided with information and advice about exit routes and local clubs. Chelmsford, Braintree, Brentwood, Colchester, and Harlow LSPs are planning to direct significant PRG into increasing participation in sport. This investment will focus on older people, those with disabilities, cycling, those at risk of offending, and other hard to reach groups. This investment will transform sports engagement in these areas.	Harlow was one of 4 Districts in the worst quartile for adults participating in 30 minutes of moderate intensity sport at least 3 times a week in 2005/06. Harlow is one of 4 Districts with the lowest adult participation in sport, although this is improving. Harlow is one of 3 Districts with below the average satisfaction with leisure sites. Harlow has a significantly reduced percentage of children undertaking 2 hours or more of PE or sport than most other Districts.
	50) Provide play facilities that meet local needs	N		
	51) Maximise the benefits from the 2012 Olympics	Y		
	Promote sustainable economic growth			
	52) Higher educational attainment and skills levels in the adult population	Y	The success rate for adults aged 19+ living in Harlow in gaining a qualification rose to 80% in 2007/08 (71% in 2006/07). This is 1% below the average success rate for Essex in 2007/08. The success rate for young people aged 16-18 living in Harlow in 2007/08 was 88.6%. The Teaching and Learning Strategy adopted by Harlow College is designed to achieve excellence and to enable learners of all ages to reach their potential. Targets have been applied to the Strategy in order to improve outcomes to ensure the learning delivered has a strong and positive impact on learners. It is expected that the success rates will improve in 2008/09. This performance data is collected and published by the Learning and Skills Council.	Ranked as the worst district in Essex for Education, skills & training (46% of small areas in the 20% most deprived). Whilst the College Strategy will continue to raise the educational attainment of residents in Harlow, the learning opportunities for adults is becoming more restricted. In response to Learning and Skills Council expectations, course fees charged by the College must now be set at 47.5% of cost. This will be prohibitive for some Harlow residents. In addition, Learning and Skills Council funding for adult learners in 2009/10 will be cut by 2%. The funding for the Train to Gain initiative for employed learners is also likely to diminish over the coming year with less opportunity for new starts on the programme. To deliver improved educational attainment for adults in Harlow, a strategy will be required to promote increased demand for learning matched by adequate levels of funding. It is proposed to build a Higher Education Centre on the Harlow Campus in partnership with Anglia Ruskin University. The restriction on growth in HE places however, will impact adversely on the development of HE in the town.
	53) Stimulate the creation of more high value-added jobs in Essex	N		
	54) Attract inward investment	N		
	55) Stimulate business innovation	N		
	56) Stimulate business expansion	Y	Delivery of IIC funded Developing Entrepreneurship programme. HDC partnership with Business Link – Start your own Business Surgeries and workshops in the Civic Centre. Increased enquiries to Business Link re business start up. Harlow Enterprise Hub – new business centre opened with on site business support aimed at SMEs a proportion of which to be from innovative/knowledge based sectors. Town centre north redevelopment 'The Quarter Harlow' concluded an agreement to take the scheme forward to outline planning with the developer Stockland. This will enhance Harlow's position as a sub-regional shopping centre and contribute to Harlow's offer as an attractive business location.	Harlow's working age population demonstrates high levels of economic participation. Workplace earnings in Harlow are higher than national average; our concentration of R&D employment is second only to Cambridge. The Town Centre is weathering the economic recession better than comparative areas. Key challenges for business expansion are improving infrastructure needs particularly transport and tackling congestion (i.e northern bypass to connect to new M11 junction to the north of Harlow), improving electricity supply capacity, providing improved quality business accommodation and in particular ensuring grow on space for the Hub, and, realizing the opportunity of Stansted Airport expansion in terms of attracting off airport business development to Harlow. Ensuring Harlow Business can access opportunities arising from the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic games. Continuing to develop entrepreneurial skills in the local community. Improving & promoting Harlow's image and developing an inward investment approach.
	57) Regenerate selected town centres	N		
	58) Help jobless people and disadvantaged groups to enter the workforce	Y	Redundancy Support group continues to work with companies and individuals in Harlow facing redundancy, connecting them with sources of information, advice and support and drawing in regional resources. Harlow College have secured funding to deliver programmes for people at risk of and made redundant and additional funding for programmes for individuals unemployed for six months plus.	Highest unemployment rate (4.3%) 37% of small areas in the 20% most deprived in the County. Job prospects are a high priority for Harlow residents Ranked as the 3 rd worst district in Essex, with 37% of small areas in the 20% most deprived in the County. Harlow has experienced one of the fastest growing rates of unemployment in the region. Therefore getting people back into employment is now a key challenge. A bid to the Future Jobs Fund is currently being investigated. Skills and education attainment levels remain an issue of concern for the resident population leading to the huge disparity between the workplace earnings on offer and the lower earnings of Harlow residents. Improving skills levels and therefore access to quality employment with decent pay will remain a high priority. Improving the further & higher education offer in Harlow will be critical to this success and will encourage workforce development and training.
○ ☞	Protect the environment			

	59) Ensure development avoids adverse impacts on the environment	N		
	60) Manage the Essex countryside	N		
	61) Reduce or limit the extent of Essex's carbon footprint and effectively adapt to climate change	Y	<p>Harlow is one of 3 Districts with an ecological footprint less than the figure for England in 2004. Harlow Council has, with effect from October 1, 2008 joined a 'buying consortium' to purchase all its energy (gas and electricity) needs. This consortium specializes in identifying sustainable sources so reducing the partners' carbon emissions and carbon footprint.</p> <p>Harlow Council, in partnership with the Energy Savings Trust, Kier Harlow and Mark Insulation have embarked on a rolling programme of cavity wall insulation to the town's housing stock having now completed over 400 jobs with a net reduction in energy usage to householders and reduction in carbon emissions.</p>	<p>Harlow is one of 4 districts with which are higher per capita emitters of CO2. Yet to establish a definitive, base 'carbon footprint' from which to assess improvements.</p>
	62) Manage risk from flooding and coastal erosion	N		
	Reduce waste and recycle more			
	63) Reduce the amount of waste produced in Essex	N		
	64) Increase recycling levels	N		
Other			<p>Was the Chinese Elders scheme set up via the Supporting People programme?</p> <p>The children's hearing services working groups have improved services and outcomes for children and families. Independent government commissioned auditing of the working groups and services has taken place in Harlow(25) and Colchester(26), 2 of the 5 areas, and has rated the social care element as excellent.</p>	<p>Harlow is significantly worse than the average on processing applications as measured against targets for minor application types (Jan-Mar 07)</p> <p>?</p>