

**Minutes of the
County Community Safety, Drugs and Alcohol Strategic
Partnership
28th February 2008**

Those Present :

Name	Organisation
Paul Warren Chief Executive and Chair of RAG	Rochford District Council
Carmel Napier Assistant Chief Constable	Essex Police
Mary Archer Chief Probation Officer	Essex Criminal Justice Board
Roger Stewart Assistant Chief Executive, Tendring Council	Tendring RAG
Ian Vipond Executive Director Colchester BC and Chair of CDRP	Colchester CDRP
Cllr Peter Burch Chair of CDRP	Castle Point CDRPCDRP
Clare Butler Strategic Manager, Essex DAAT	Essex DAAT
Hazel Cybyk Acting Head of Community Services	Maldon CDRP
Paula Mason Community Safety Officer	Basildon CDRP
Eric Smith Community Services Manager, Brentwood Council	Brentwood CDRP
John Symonds Mid-Essex Area Co-Ordinator and Chair of RAG	Braintree RAG
Paul Anderson Community Safety Manager, Harlow Council	Harlow RAG
Andy Stapleton	Essex Fire and Rescue
Rebecca Turner Crime and Disorder Reduction Unit	Essex County Council
Jos Tama, Project Manager (part of meeting)	Essex Online Partnership
Apologies Given :	
Cllr Tracey Chapman	Essex County Council
Cllr Frank Kenny Chair of CDRP	Brentwood CDRP
Jenny Owen	Essex County Council

Executive Director, Adults, Health and Community Wellbeing	
Carey Benett, Director Schools, Children and Families	Essex County Council
Malcolm Morley Chief Executive and Chair of RAG	Harlow RAG
Paul Zollinger-Read Chief Executive	North East Essex PCT
Rob Davis Governor Chelmsford Prison	Chelmsford
Sheila Bremner Chief Executive	Mid Essex PCT
Lisel Park Associate Director of Public Health and Health Intelligence	South East Essex PCT
Tanya Gillett Head of Essex Youth Offending Service	Essex YOS
Glen Sumner Head of Mental Health Commissioning	South West Essex PCT
Peter Woollard Essex Probation and Chair of CDRP	Uttlesford CDRP
Alex Bamber Assistant Chief Probation Officer	Essex Probation
Paul Bowers Senior Divisional Fire Officer	Essex Fire and Rescue
Alison Cowie Director of Public Health	West Essex Pct
Richard Puleston Assistant Chief Executive Community Planning and Regeneration	Essex County Council
David Archer Community Services and Play Manager	Chelmsford RAG
Carey Bennet, Director for Schools Childrens and Families	Essex County Council
Richard Puleston, Assistant Chief Executive	Essex County Council

1. Minutes of Inaugural Meeting :

Minutes were agreed with amendments to Job Titles for 3 attendees:

- Roger Stewart : Assistant Chief Executive, Tendring Council
 - Paul Bowers : Senior Divisional Officer, Essex Fire and Rescue
 - Paul Anderson : Community Safety Manager, Harlow Council
- a) Matters arising : Matters arising were to be covered by the agenda
b) Terms of Reference : The redrafted TOR were agreed

2. LAA Update :

The latest version of 'Priority 7 Making Essex a Safer Place' was circulated for consideration. It was noted that contents of the document were subject to change and that a revised version for consideration was being circulated to all partners later this week. The focus for the revised draft will be to establish baseline data, targets and key actions at both district and county level. It was proposed that the thematic partnerships continue to lead on advising about the development of appropriate targets and possible actions. Paul Warren asked that members consider the indicators, issues and copy any Priority 7 comments to Alan Dawkes so that these can be fed into the next meeting to be held on 20th March. At the meeting on 20th March the aim will be to sign up to the indicators, targets and target leads for this thematic partnership.

Action All :

3. Essex Partnership Information Sharing Project:

It was noted that this Thematic Partnership group now had the lead on this project originally within the remit of EPEG.

A presentation advised on progress made in developing a business case and recommended that a pilot project be carried out using 3 months data from Responsible Authorities to identify requirement costs, data/project issues, additional benefits and specific user requirements. It was noted that the trial would be managed by ECC and the Essex Online Partnership with the majority of the development work being met at no cost to the Partnership by targeted software companies. The results of the trial would be brought back to the meeting planned in June/July for a full discussion on system costs and potential funding sources (i.e. Performance Reward Grant etc).

There was general support for the project to move on to the next stage with some concerns expressed that the final solution should:

- Not require agencies to double- enter data
- It should be possible to model data locally to identify local issues
- Essential that data quality is considered and maintained
- Take account of and be flexible enough to link with other agencies data sets ie. data gathered to complete Health's Joint Strategic Needs Assessments
- Include where possible the Unitaries.
- Identify the full costs of the project and its future maintenance

There was discussion as to which districts to be covered by the pilot and it was agreed that these should be:

- Harlow
- Epping
- Brentwood
- Thurrock (subject to their agreement and commitment)

Action : The project is to move to the next stage – completion of a pilot - with a report back to June/July meeting

Rebecca Turner ECC; Jos Tama Essex Online Partnership

4. Crime and Disorder Partnership Implementation

a) Strategic Assessments (SAs) : A paper outlining the current identified priorities for each CDRP was discussed. It was noted that some of the findings were still provisional but it was clear that there were already a number of common themes emerging particularly in relation to Anti-Social Behaviour and Fear of Crime among others. This was an interim report and it was requested that a more detailed report be submitted to the 20 March meeting for consideration and where possible this should be informed by each CDRP's Partnership Plan. This information will form the basis for the Essex Community Safety Agreement.

Action : All CDRPs to finalise strategic priorities and partnership plans ASAP and submit to Alan Dawkes for a report to be compiled.

b) Strategic Funding :

Revenue :

It was confirmed that the total current funding level available was the same as last year and included the £25,000 per CDRP for ASB and the Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund (ALSF) of £113,000.

A table setting out how this could be distributed for 2008/09 to match the current year was circulated. This table included a distribution of the total ALSF on the same basis as the Safer and Stronger Communities Grant.

There was a general discussion on how funding should be used for 2008/09 that allowed for each CDRP to deliver against local priorities and also allow for some genuine cross-border strategic proposals to be considered. Some concern was expressed that any reduction in the level of funding to CDRPs would have a serious impact on the ability to deliver local priorities and could not, therefore, be supported by all CDRPs. However there was also agreement on the need for an effective way for this partnership group to achieve real strategic progress in Essex and ensure some efficiencies can be achieved. A further view was expressed that the current Home Office formula used for distribution of funding was out of date and did not take account of current circumstances in relation to crime and disorder (i.e. per head of crime per population, levels of deprivation etc).

There was further discussion on the possibility of retaining a funding pot for delivering against cross-border strategic objectives. ACC Napier illustrated the potential benefits of taking this approach by illustrating the strategic needs of responding to Domestic Violence in the county (see 4c below). It was suggested that any proposal for a resource from a strategically held pot would have to have demonstrable benefits for the county as a whole or for a group of CDRPs. Following on from these discussions it was agreed that:

Action Agreed :

1. The Area Based Grant for Safer and Stronger Communities be distributed to CDRPs in accordance with the current years arrangements and that this be confirmed for the next 3 years

2. No decision be made on distribution of the ALSF (£113,000) until the meeting on 20th March when the report on Essex Community Safety Priorities (08/09) can be considered. If key cross-border strategic priorities are identified this should be considered as a possible Partnership resource over the next 3 years.

Capital Funding :

There is £375,000 Capital available for the next 3 years. This has been distributed in 2007/08 on the same basis as the revenue funding. There was discussion as to how this fund should be distributed in future and whether or not it should be identified for strategic purposes. In addition it is possible, subject to a case being made, that a swap could be made at County level to release additional revenue funding instead of the full amount of capital identified above (if CDRPs were finding capital difficult to spend). It was also possible that some CDRPs could trade their capital/revenue allocations with each other locally thus making best use of available funding proportions.

It was agreed that :

Agreed :

1. Each CDRP should consider the question of what to do with capital funding on the basis of :
 - a. Should this be a strategic pot
 - b. Would it be beneficial to have more or less revenue funding or capital funding allocations with the possibility of the County Council facilitating this
 - c. The possibility of trading capital and revenue allocations between CDRPs
2. Each CDRP report back their preferred approach to the next meeting on 20th March (and amounts if they wish to trade with other CDRPs)

c) Domestic Violence funding :

ACC Napier circulated an internal police report on a proposal for responding to the strategic needs of delivering against the domestic violence agenda countywide in Essex. The proposal was meant to be illustrative of a general range of crosscutting arrangements that could benefit Essex.

Specifically the report was about the need for a 3 year commitment to funding existing and future DV posts that would lead on delivering against the Domestic Abuse agenda. A discussion took place about the need to include the Women's Safety Workers and Independent Domestic Violence Advisers in this piece of work. It was agreed that :

Agreed : A detailed report be prepared setting the detail of what partnership DV posts exist that the Partnership Group need to consider alongside any funding discussions. To be submitted to the next meeting on 20th March

d) Youth Issues : This item was deferred to a later meeting

5. Drug and Alcohol Issues :

Clare Butler introduced a report that covered

- Strategic update including reference to the newly launched National Drug Strategy and this overlaps with the Essex Plans
- A commissioning update including the Adult Treatment Plan and Children and Young People's Plan
- A locality update
- Future agenda items

The contents of the presentation are attached with these minutes.

It was noted that Health presence was crucial for future meetings so that a full debate on issues relating to drugs enforcement, treatment and alcohol can take place, but it was also noted that the meeting today clashed with a nationally organised Flu-pandemic exercise. It was also noted however that full consultations had taken place with the relevant service areas on the plans and strategies being presented at the meeting today.

It was agreed that :

Agreed :

1. The EDAP Quarterly report was now available and all partners should consider this document and how this could be improved for future editions
2. The Adult Treatment Plan be approved in principle but because formal notification of funding had only just been received the Chair be authorised to sign off the final version for submission to the NTA with funding allocated against each element
3. That all should note the timetable of key decisions to be made at this meeting :
 - a. LAA key EDAP indicator updates June 08
 - b. Sign off the EDAP Strategic Plan- June 08
 - c. Delivery against EDAP Strategic Plan – June 08 onwards

6. AOB : There were no items of any other business

Dates of future meetings:

20th March in County Hall at 2pm Committee Room 1

1st July 2008 9.30 am (provisional)

2nd October 2008 at 9.30 am

22nd January 2009 at 2pm

5th March 2009 at 2pm

