

LAA Performance Management Group
Monday 18 January, 14:00 – 16:30

Attendees:

Dan Gascoyne – Essex Partnership Secretariat (Chair)
Wendi Ogle-Welbourn – Children’s Trust Lead
Loretta Sollars – Community Wellbeing and Older People (CWOP) Lead
Mark Janetta - Community Wellbeing and Older People (CWOP) representative
Alan Dawkes – Safer Essex Lead
Gwyn Owen - Sustainable Essex Lead
Fiona Bodle – Essex Economic Board Lead
Dominique Phelan - Essex Economic Board representative
Kathryn Berry - 2012 Olympics/Paralympic Games (2012) representative
Hilary Cooper – GO East representative
Sarah Arnold – GO East representative
Marina Sherriff – Harlow LSP Lead
Matt Twomey – Essex Police representative
Pete Cook – Target Lead (Skills, NI 163-165)
Clare Kershaw – Target Lead (NEETs, NI 117)
Gill Butterworth - Essex Partnership Secretariat
Louise Crew - Essex Partnership Secretariat (Minutes)

Apologies:

Peter Lowton - Essex Police (Chair) (Matt Twomey attending)
Ewen Wilson – Essex Police
Miriam Stead - 2012 Olympics/Paralympic Games (2012) Lead (Kathryn Berry attending)
John Houston – Epping Forest LSP Lead

1. Welcome, introductions and apologies

Dan Gascoyne welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were noted.

2. Minutes of 15 December meeting and matters arising

The minutes of the December meeting were approved as a correct record. Matters arising from the last meeting not already covered on the agenda were outlined as below.

Thematic Leads were reminded to feed any alcohol issues affecting their partnership to Alan for incorporating into the February cross-cutting discussion.

Gill and Dominique confirmed that the NI 166 target for 2009/10 is correct. Gill advised that benchmarking information was being incorporated as supplementary sheets to the Scorecard.

Loretta and Wendi will discuss how to join up and take forward activity on obesity and child poverty.

3. London 2012 Olympic/Paralympic Games

NI 11 (engagement in arts) – Kathryn advised that the interim result from the Active People Survey 3 is 44.6% (+/-1.2), which means that we have met our 2009/10 target of 44.5%. There is a 1.1% improvement from the April 2008 baseline – this is classed nationally as ‘no significant change’. The success is due to a number of projects funded by LAA PRG and other sources. The completed projects (non-PRG funded) include the Jiangsu Festival and the Essex Summer of Art. Current projects (PRG funded) include ExploreCulture and ExploreCulture: One World Festival running from March to October 2010.

NI 8 (adult participation in sport) – The interim result of 21.6% (+/-1.2%), reported against 2008/09, shows that we have just missed our interim target of 21.8%. The direction of travel is positive however, and some of the approaches have been recognised at national level, for example Sport England has asked to use the Essex Delivery Plan for NI 8 as an example of good practice and a Back2Netball course in Thurrock has been highlighted as a success by the National Development Manager of England Netball. Other projects include Futsal, Get Back Into, Workplace Health, Sports Pathway Coordinator, Castle Point Activator and Harlow Kids/Harlow Boxing.

Loretta questioned whether there was a link between one off events of this nature, and long term participative behaviour. Dan commented that the district data indicated variable and changing levels of participation, and that there was a need to offer support to districts where performance may have worsened.

4. Children’s Trust

Wendi took the group through the update paper for the Children’s Trust. Highlights include:

NI 51 (effectiveness of CAMHS services) – the recent review by GO East and the Strategic Health Authority highlighted the progress made in the last twelve months. The 2010/11 target is expected to be met, but is dependent on PCTs continuing to provide funding.

NI 112 (under 18 conception rate) – work is continuing to identify the cohort of young people most at risk, and to mainstream/roll out some of the initiatives such as the Risky Behaviours project in Harlow.

NI 59/60 (initial and core assessments) – Wendi commented that there was a backlog, with more children being referred and cases not being closed as quickly as they might. She referred to a note sent by the new Interim Director highlighting the reduction of unallocated cases, down from 700 since early December, and new strategic capacity to support improvement.

Educational targets – Wendi acknowledged that we are not narrowing the gap as quickly as we need to, and there was a need to do things differently. Although we are improving, we are not improving at the rate others are. Hilary confirmed that the GO will have an increased focus on educational performance.

Wendi would like to consider future presentations from the relevant target leads. Dan stressed the importance of reviewing forecasts in light of new information.

Gill questioned educational attainment for children looked after. Wendi advised that the strategy was now to mainstream the ‘virtual school’ approach, bringing provision for these young people into the School Improvement Service.

NI 111 (first time entrants to the criminal justice system aged 10 – 17) – latest figures indicate a drop in numbers. A revised ‘youth offender pathway’ has been agreed, which includes youth restorative disposals for low level cases, and a triage approach for the more serious.

NEETs Update

Pete and Clare gave a presentation on the current NEET position and actions in place. The lowest levels of NEETs are in Epping and Uttlesford, the highest volume in Basildon. Tendring has the highest percentage, and there are issues in Braintree and Colchester. There is an over-representation of young people in the care system, teenage parents, offenders and those with learning disabilities.



NEETs Presentation

Clare noted that when the targets were set, we were not in a recession. This has had an impact and has increased the NEET figures. The current strategy has been split into reducing the numbers of NEETs and preventing young people becoming NEETs in the first place.

There was a need to be more joined up and work more closely with partners on this issue. One strategy is to work with schools to ensure that they know where all pupils go once they leave, and the introduction of a 'Certificate of Employability'. There is an issue about the provision of alternative education programmes and capacity.

Pete talked about some of the NEETs reduction initiatives. There is a focus on Basildon and Tendring and work is taking place, including through the Total Place project, to analyse what we know about these young people. The apprenticeship programme is being developed to target those sectors without established schemes, and targeting specific groups of young people and areas. Pre-apprenticeship programmes are also being established, focussing on literacy, numeracy, skills and attitudes.

Pete commented that the European Social Fund funding rules do not support the strategy explained through this presentation, and would like GO East's help to unlock funding for year 2 onwards. A request has already been sent to the GO on this issue, and Hilary advised that a meeting was being held on 19 January to review what help can be provided. She agreed that a joined up, strategic approach is important and the focus on raising aspirations is encouraging.

Actions:

- ***A substantive item on education attainment to be added to the next Children's Trust update (April)***

5. Exception Reports (concerns/successes) & updates on Recovery Plans

Safer Essex – Alan advised that the next meeting of the Board is 28 January. NI 18 (adult re-offending) is still off trajectory and the forecast has been changed to amber. There is ongoing activity towards the domestic violence agenda.

Sustainable Essex – Gwyn noted that there is mixed engagement from partners on NI 197 / LI 10.1 (conservation sites), with some districts struggling with resources. The Partnership was looking at how this could be supported. The good practice research across districts for NI 156 (temporary accommodation) is near completion. NI 154 (housing) is being re-negotiated.

CWOP – Mark advised performance for NI 135 (carers) has been significantly off trajectory and in November 2009 an overhaul of the action plan took place. A benchmarking exercise is being undertaken. Performance for NI 134 (emergency bed days) has generally been positive, however, the current forecast outturn suggests Essex PCTs will miss the 2009/10 target by 1%. This was discussed at the last CWOP Board and actions have been put in place which include a formal request for engagement via joint letter from the chair of CWOP and lead Director and monthly updates.

Essex Economic Board – data for the 2008 calendar year has now been received for NI 171 (new business registrations). Although the rate reduced by 5% in Essex, the target is based on comparisons with the regional rate. The 2008/09 target has been met and the indicator remains on track. The district level data can be found by following this link - http://stats.berr.gov.uk/ed/national_indicators/index.htm.

A meeting is being held next week with GO East on the two economic indicators being reviewed as part of the LAA Refresh. The proposal is to keep the NI 166 (median earnings) and NI 171 targets as they are, given latest performance data. The forecast for NI 166 has been changed to 'on track', and this will be reflected in the GO LAA Review report.

Actions:

- ***Mark to provide a further update on the NI 135 benchmarking exercise and NI 134 performance at the February meeting***

6. GO LAA Review - feedback

Hilary provided copies of the draft report for Essex. She explained that this is a light-touch review in a prescribed format to inform a report which goes to CLG for the whole of the region. The text has been informed by the bilateral meetings held during the previous weeks and focuses on CAA red and green flags/markers, and areas of good practice. The indicators highlighted at risk are NI 56, NI 112, NI 117, and NI 154. NI 166 will be removed as discussed.

The GO welcomes comments and further examples of good practice.

Actions:

- ***All Leads to feed their comments to Sarah, cc Gill, by 20 January***

7. Total Place update

Dan confirmed the project is making good progress. The safeguarding deep dive is slightly behind the NEETs one, with the stakeholder interviews currently taking place.

The NEETs stakeholder interviews are now complete and the findings reviewed. Actions agreed include the benefit of early intervention. Additional data analysis is taking place on the proposed hypotheses and the resource mapping is ongoing. A Total Place section has been added to the Essex Partnership Portal where weekly updates will be uploaded.

8. AOB/next meeting

Dan announced that we have been nominated for Place of the Year at the LGC Awards and the next stage will be a presentation to a panel of judges on 28 January with Jackie Sully and Mike Gogarty. The awards ceremony is being held on 24 March 2010.

The next meeting will be held on 22 February 2010 from 2:00 to 4:30 at Maynetrees, Chelmsford.

Close

LAA Performance Management Group Forward Plan

Date of meeting	Item	Responsibility
22 February 2010	Safer Essex	Alan
	Sustainable Essex	Gwyn
	Alcohol services	Alan/Donia Slyzuk
	Exception reports/update on recovery plans	All
	Draft Essex Strategy Review	Dan
	Total Place update	Dan
	Tracker 8 feedback (results due 22 January)	Duncan Wood/Kay Asuni
22 March 2010	Economic Board	Fiona
	Community Wellbeing and Older People	Loretta/Mark
	Exception reports/update on recovery plans	All
	Total Place update	Dan
19 April 2010	Children's Trust	Wendi
	London 2012 Olympic/Paralympic Games	Miriam/Jason
	Exception reports/update on recovery plans	All
	Total Place update	Dan

Future PMG meetings:

17 May 2010
14 June 2010
12 July 2010
13 September 2010
11 October 2010
15 November 2010
13 December 2010

Essex Management Board meetings:

2 March 2010
29 June 2010
2 November 2010

Essex Partnership Forum meetings:

23 March 2010
14 September 2010