

Minutes of SAFER ESSEX –1st July 2010

Those Present:

Name	Organisation / Partnership
Paul Warren, Chief Executive Rochford District Council	Chair of Safer Essex
Cllr Terri Sargent (Deputy Cabinet Member) ECC	Essex County Council
Cllr Colin Riley, ECC	Essex Fire and Rescue Authority
Mike Hill, Head of Trading Standards, ECC	ECC Trading Standards
Ewen Wilson, Temporary Superintendent Essex Police	Essex Police
Rob Davis, Governor Chelmsford Prison	Chelmsford Prison Service & ECJB
Richard Puleston, Assistant Chief Executive Policy, Community Planning and Regeneration	Essex County Council
Cllr. Lesley Butcher, Chair Rochford CSP	Rochford CSP
Sallyanne Thallon, Chair Castle Point CSP	Castle Point CSP
Paul Bowers Senior Divisional Officer Operational Resilience Matt Furber	Essex Fire and Rescue
Hazel Berret, Strategic Director Maldon District Council	Maldon District Council
Donia Slyzuk, Strategic Manager	Essex DAAT
Peter Woollard, Essex Probation	Maldon CSP
Superintendent Adrian Coombs, Essex Police	Brentwood CSP
Lynn Seward, Head of Community and Customer Service	Harlow CSP
Peter Kay, Deputy Head of Essex Youth Offending Service	Essex Youth Offending Service
Jim Nolan, Assistant Director, Environment and Neighbourhoods, Epping Forest DC	Epping Forest CSP
Peter Carrington Colchester Community Safety Manager	Colchester CDRP
Leanne Thornton Community Safety Manager	Tendring CDRP
Spencer Clarke, Community Services, Chelmsford BC	Chelmsford CDRP
Mike Ward	GO-East
Jane Stubbs, Business Manager, Adult Safeguarding Unit	Adult Safeguarding Board
Stephen Cook, Area Director North Essex Foundation Trust	North Essex, Partnership Trust
Alex Bamber, Director, Essex Probation Services	Essex Probation
Sharon Spicer, Acting Head of Crime and Disorder Reduction Unit,	Essex County Council
Apologies Given:	
Cllr Tracey Chapman, Cabinet Member ECC	Essex County Council
ACC Sue Harrison, Essex Police	Essex Police
Malcolm Morley, Chief Executive, Harlow District Council	Harlow CDRP
Wendi Ogle-Welbourn, Director for Commissioning	ECC Schools Children and Families
Bala Mahendran, Chief Executive, Basildon Council	Basildon CDRP
Roger Stewart, Assistant Chief Executive, Tendring Council	Tendring CDRP
Alison Cowie South West Essex PCT & Chair Uttlesford CSP	Uttlesford CSP
Stephen Nicholas, Independent Member, Essex Police Authority	Chair Braintree CSP
Cllr Dudley Payne, Chair Brentwood CSP	Brentwood CSP
John Gilbert, Director Epping Forest	Epping Forest CSP

2. Declarations of Pecuniary or other Interests

None were declared.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting 11th March 2010

a) Minutes were noted and approved.

b) Actions arising

1. Action Point 1: This concerns the previous decision that PCTs that had not formally signed domestic abuse information sharing agreements be written to by the Target lead to seek a remedy to this situation. This is still an outstanding action and it was agreed that any information received should be added to the minutes. (Action for Target lead Essex Police)
2. Action Point 3: There is still an issue for clarity in relation to agreement by 2 CSPs to contribute the £833 towards the Domestic Abuse Co-ordinator post for the current financial year. It was agreed that a paper be prepared relating to the Domestic Abuse activity in Braintree and options for resolving this situation, and for the paper to go to Paul Warren to make a recommendation on behalf of Safer Essex. In relation to Uttlesford there is still some difference of view regarding commitment to pay and this should be the subject of final clarification with the Chair of the CSP. (Action for Target lead Essex Police)

Action Point 1: *A paper be prepared relating to the Domestic Abuse activity in Braintree and options for resolving this situation, and for the paper to go to Paul Warren to make a recommendation on behalf of Safer Essex. (Action by Target lead, Essex Police)*

4. Funding

a) PRG Funding update: Richard Puleston advised the meeting of the background to the cuts in PRG funding and the decision making process now required to address the funding shortfall. Implicit in this process is the need for Safer Essex to take a view on the projects previously agreed that should continue to be supported when the final decisions are made working on an assumption of a 50% cut. A table of these schemes had been circulated and it was noted what expenditure had already occurred against them leaving an estimated balance of funding of £350,750.

Brief description	Amount allocated	Amount spent	Balance
Independent Domestic Violence Advisor service (IDVA) To provide a service across Essex to provide support to the highest risk victims of domestic abuse.	£315,000	£43,000	£272,000
Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) Staffing to support the MARAC process and ensure that the most serious Domestic Abuse case reviews are processed in an accurate and timely way.	£170,000	nil	£170,000
Assault with Less serious injury Funding to support development of initiatives and operations that address issues of crime with a view to developing models of response for deployment across Essex	£105,000	£52,500	£52,500
Essex Neighbourhood Information System (ENIMS) £130,000 allocated to purchase the system for the partnership. £100,000 allocated to project management costs to develop the project up to the point of delivery.	£130,000 £100,000	£20,000	£210,000
Community Payback Project Officer (employed by Essex Probation) This scheme is for the development of greater community	£60,000	£38,000	£22,000

engagement in Community payback schemes.			
Reduction of Re-offending PRG funding agreed at EPF in March 2010 This funding is to support the development of schemes and initiatives to address the issue of adult re-offending in Essex.	£150,000	£6,000	£144,000
Essex Casualty Reduction Board Funding to run the Community Wheels project	£123,069	£66,284	£56,785
Total	£1,153,069	£225,784	£927,285
50% cut	£576,534		

Balance available to commit; £576,534 minus £225,784

= £350,750

Discussion around the table identified the following:

1. Domestic Abuse schemes should be considered as a priority for Essex inline with previously identified need. In particular the IDVA project would require full funding due to the nature of the contract.
2. Re-offending and Community Payback schemes should also be supported where possible linking in with the newly emerging approach to Integrated Offender Management and recognising the potential for future savings resulting from this work.
3. ENIMS should be supported using the retained Area Based Grant funding (£113,000) and Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) should be invited to contribute to the balance from existing Area Based Grant allocations. The second aspect of this was not supported by the CSPs around the table due to extreme pressures on their budgets which have already been committed for 2010/11
4. Assault with Less Serious Injury whilst important as a previously identified priority could not be supported in light of the reduced funding available
5. Essex Casualty Reduction Board is meeting next week and Safer Essex agreed that this issue should be considered directly by them

Decision: Safer Essex agreed the following recommendation with the remaining £350,750, which will be fed into the wider Essex Partnership discussions for final decision

Decisions	Balance of scheme costs	PRG Funding supported	PRG Balance Available £350,750
1. The IDVA scheme be supported in full	£272,000	£272,000	£78,750
2. MARAC be supported subject to funding becoming available	£170,000	£28,000	£50,750
3. Re-offending schemes be partially supported in year 2 i) Community Payback ii) Re-offending	£22,000 £144,000	} £50,750	nil
4. Assault with less serious injury	£52,500	£0	nil

schemes for 2 nd year not be funded			
5. ENIMS not be supported with PRG for implementation	£210,000	£0	nil
6. Essex Casualty Reduction Board as a formally constituted body should consider its own representations to support continued funding in year 2	£56,785	£0	nil

4.b. Area Based Grant (ABG) update: As part of the discussion around ABG a proposal was put forward (as referred to above) that :

1. ENIMS should be supported using the retained Area Based Grant funding (£113,000)
2. A CSP contribution be made from each of the partnerships to cover the balance of £97,000 required to deliver ENIMS

From discussion it was clear that CSPs would not be able to support the second part of this proposal and unless alternative funding could be found then ENIMS would have to be deferred until such time as it could.

4.c. Funding Event: A date has been proposed for the event as 28th October 2010 as this will allow for the announcements in the Comprehensive Spending Review on 20th October to be better understood.

Feedback from consultation so far had identified the following points:

- The need to explore joint working opportunities
- The importance of analysis and evidence based work
- CSP Managers want to be involved in the event
- The need to consider a wider range of funding sources and opportunities

Action point 2: *A funding event be developed for 28th October 2010 with a small working group established to oversee arrangements lead by CDRU. The working party to include Spencer Clarke from Chelmsford CSP, Sallyanne Thallon from Castle Point CSP and Leanne Thornton from Tendring CSP. (Action point lead CDRU)*

5 EDAAT Items

5.a. Governance update :

A new Essex Drug and Alcohol Board (EDAP) has now been formed following agreement by Safer Essex and this has now had its first meeting.

Terms of reference for the EDAP are being finalised and are reflected in the new Safer Essex TOR.

5.b. System Change Pilot update

With changes in staff Bill Puddicombe has now taken the role to manage the remainder of the pilot year arrangements to 31st March 2011.

Action plans are being refreshed following feedback from regional stakeholders.

The new Criminal Justice service “Inside Out” commenced in April 2010.

The first meeting of the new Integrated Commissioning Group has taken place bringing together both Young People and Adults commissioning groups.

In relation to employment and training an offender and employment mapping workshop has taken place and from this it is hoped that improvements will be developed in supporting individuals on prison to access information and service provision on release.

Action point 3: *Action plan document to be forwarded to Rob Davies for information (Action point lead EDAAT Strategic Manager)*

5.c. Finance Update

As this is only the first quarter report there were no specific issues of note but as with all areas of public sector spending there is a concern around future funding levels that will be available following the autumn CSR.

6. Performance Report and LAA2 Target Lead Reports

6.1. Performance report: This is generally a positive report with end of 2009/10 data showing an overall reduction of 7% in recorded crime in Essex. For 2010/11 the Essex Police target reduction for all crime is 1% with a higher percentage target for specific crime types where required such as domestic burglary where the target is set at 4%.

Recently it has been announced that no further work will be undertaken on the Place Survey or the TellUs survey. This will obviously affect the ability to monitor performance against NI 18 "perceptions of ASB" and also NI 115 "Substance misuse by young people".

6.2 Target Lead updates

6.2.a,b,c: NI 20 Assault with Less Serious Injury; NI17 Perceptions of ASB; NI 32 Domestic Abuse

a) NI20: Assault with Less Serious Injury: Performance shows an improvement of 2.5% over the same quarter from the previous year. Withdrawal of PRG funding to support this particular indicator could have an impact on the ability to maintain this performance but the position will be closely monitored.

b) NI 17 Perceptions of ASB: Good performance on this indicator is being maintained but the ability to measure this against the benchmark will be affected by the decision of Government centrally to not carry out a Place Survey this year. In addition it was also noted that Police Single Confidence measure has been dropped along with the Policing pledge. However the target lead, Essex Police, confirmed that ASB will remain a priority and that until specifically required to do so will continue to measure performance accordingly.

c) NI 32 Domestic Abuse cases referred to MARAC: Good performance in respect of MARAC compared to national figures but with the caveat that Essex MARAC are still relatively new. There is concern, however, that the MARAC caseload is still rising even with a risk assessment process in place and this is placing severe pressure of the administration of the scheme.

d) LI 7.2 Feeling safe: The key work ongoing in Colchester developing the model of a joint interactive community and agency approach is now in the third area and it continues to be very well received with positive feedback. A DVD has been produced

by the project board and there will be a full evaluation produced on completion of the pilot in September which will be reported back to Safer Essex. It was noted that sustainability will be an issue but the initial view from Colchester is that as this project has been so successful it will be included amongst those projects for consideration for ongoing support when resources are allocated. The evaluation will also consider the cost benefits of this approach to inform future discussions about resources.

e) NI 18 Adult Re-offending: Performance is still improving for this indicator but not at the pace originally envisaged. It was noted that the Integrated Offender management Conference is scheduled for 12th July. It was also noted that with the withdrawal of PRG monies, referred, to above item 4, funding may not be available to develop IOM in the way that was going to be proposed by the Target Lead.

f) NI 39 Rate of Alcohol related admissions to hospital: Very latest provisional data available (January to Sept 2009) indicates that the target may be missed, but as the data lags so far behind it is difficult to be accurate on this.

It was noted that through joint work of DAAT officers and the 5 PCTs the county-wide alcohol commissioning group had secured new arrangements for realignment of current contracts with the 2 Provider Trusts to prioritise delivery of Alcohol Treatment on behalf of Probation. This commenced in April 2010.

The alcohol strategic lead will be in place by September 2010

20 Alcohol Identification and Brief Advice (IBA) training sessions have been undertaken this year. These have mainly been targeted at Health staff but they have also included probation staff in line with the new arrangements for delivering Alcohol Treatment Referrals in Essex.

g) NI 115 Substance Misuse by Young People: The main measure for this indicator is the TellUs Survey and this will not be carried out this year as a result of central government cut backs. At the last survey result Essex was on target for this indicator. Results of the latest SHEU survey were set out from Spring term 2010. This a good proxy measure but will not be able to replace the TellUs survey results for comparison with other organisations.

Data from the National Drugs Treatment Monitoring Service (NTDMS) shows that among other key indicators 99% of young people requiring specialist treatment had their needs catered for in Essex against a target of 90% and 100% of young people have a care plan within 2 weeks of starting specialist treatment. Other points noted included the following:

- The launch of a Drug use Screening Tool (DUST)
- First draft of Schools drug and alcohol policy completed
- TONIC consultants have been appointed to lead on improving services to families where parents misuse alcohol or drugs with a particular focus on safeguarding children

h) ENIMS: It was noted that this project had now reached the final tender stage with a potential for the contract to be awarded in September 2010. However in view of uncertainty around funding for the project and the fact that partners could not commit additional funding to the project given the current funding uncertainties it was agreed that the project should not proceed until such time as suitable alternative funding could be identified.

7. a) Forward Plan: The plan was noted with the addition of the funding event scheduled for 28th October 2010.

7.b) Community Safety Agreement CSA :The CSA as set out with the proposed amendments was agreed.

7.c) Annual Report for Essex Partnership Board: This was noted

7.d) Neighbourhood Resolutions: Essex Police gave a short introduction to the concept of the Neighbourhood Resolutions approach to policing that was being rolled out across the county. Currently 70 to 80 Neighbourhood Resolutions per week were being undertaken and there had been a positive feedback from the public on this. A conference is arranged for 14th July 2010 to formally launch this scheme.

8. Reports back:

1. Children's Trust: No report back was available
2. Community Wellbeing and Older Persons (CWOP): Mike Hill reported back that it was clear from the meeting he had attended that there were significant overlaps; particularly of interest was the development around Integrated Offender Management and an invitation had been extended to the conference on 12th July. CWOP were keen to address Safer Essex about how areas of activity overlap and perhaps identify where joint work could be undertaken.

Action point 4: *It was agreed that a CWOP representative be invited to the next meeting (lead CDRU)*

9. AOB

There were two items of other business.

1. It was noted that the ASB telephone reporting line as set up in Tendring had been withdrawn due to funding cuts nationally. Callers were being redirected to the Council number.
2. A question was asked about ring-fencing of BCU funds but at this stage no further information was available

Date of next meeting: 7th October 2010 at 9.30 am Chelmsford Borough Council, Council Chamber

Dates for 2010/11: 20th January 2011; 10th March 2011
All meetings to commence at 9.30 am