

Minutes of SAFER ESSEX – 28th January 2010

Those Present:

Name	Organisation / Partnership
Paul Warren, Chief Executive Rochford District Council	Chair of Safer Essex
Cllr Terri Sargent (Deputy Cabinet Member)	Essex County Council
Cllr Colin Riley	Essex Fire and Rescue Authority
Bala Mahendran, Chief Executive, Basildon Council	Basildon CDRP
Mike Hill, Head of Trading Standards, ECC	ECC Trading Standards
Ewen Wilson, Temporary Superintendent Essex Police	Essex Police
Chief Inspector Nick Lee, Maldon District	Maldon CDRP
Daniel Carlin	Rochford CDRP
Donia Slyzuk, Strategic Manager	Essex DAAT
Mary Archer, Chief Probation Officer	Essex Probation Service
Tanya Gillett, Head of Essex Youth Offending Service	Essex Youth Offending Service
Peter Kay, Deputy Head of Youth Offending Service	Essex Youth Offending Service
John Gilbert Director, Environment and Neighbourhoods, Epping Forest DC	Epping Forest CDRP
Peter Carrington, Community Safety Manager	Colchester CDRP
Averil Price, Director of Community Services, Chelmsford BC	Chelmsford CDRP
Roger Stewart, Assistant Chief Executive, Tendring Council	Tendring CDRP
Stewart Thompson Director Safer Communities, EFRS	Essex Fire and Rescue
Mike Ward	GO-East
Andy Mattin, Director Operations	North Essex, Partnership Trust
Yvette Wetton Area Co-ordinator ECC	Chair Uttlesford CDRP
Richard Puleston, Assistant Chief Executive Policy, Community Planning and Regeneration	Essex County Council
Alex Bamber, Director, Essex Probation Services	Essex Probation
Sharon Spicer, Acting Head of Crime and Disorder Reduction Unit,	Essex County Council
Duncan Wood, Head of Public Engagement and Corporate Analysis	Essex County Council
Nicoli Thompson, Cabinet Adviser to Cllr Tracey Chapman	Essex County Council
Apologies Given:	
Malcolm Morley, Chief Executive, Harlow District Council	Harlow CDRP
ACC Peter Lowton, Territorial Policing	Essex Police (Vice Chair Safer Essex)
Rob Davis, Governor Chelmsford Prison	Chelmsford Prison Service
Wendi Ogle-Welbourn, Director for Commissioning	ECC Schools Children and Families
Ian Vipond, Executive Director Colchester BC	Colchester CDRP
Cllr Tracey Chapman, Cabinet Member, ECC	Essex County Council
Nicky Pace, Director Schools Children and Families	Essex County Council

2. Declarations of Pecuniary or other Interests

None were declared.

3.. Minutes of Previous Meetings

- a) Minutes agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.
- b) Actions arising completed.

4 EDAAT Items

4a) System Change Pilot

Key points from report circulated were as follows :

1. A new Criminal Justice Service has now been commissioned to commence on 1st April 2010. The new service arises out of the Freedoms and Flexibilities provided under the System Change Pilot arrangements and will bring together 2 previously commissioned services which are the Drug Intervention Programme (DIP) and the Counselling, Assessment Advice and Through Care (CARAT). This is a first of its kind service and the contract has been awarded to Westminster Drug project.
2. Communications: A new Communications Sub-group has been formed to target public information campaigns, communications and community engagement.
3. Re-integration : A fixed term (6 months) strategic housing officer post has been created with responsibility for delivering the DAAT Housing Strategy
4. Strategic Assessment :The Adult Strategic Assessment has now been submitted to the National Treatment agency. It is interesting to note that 37% of all people in treatment are not Problem Drug Users and this will have an impact on capacity of services.

In discussion it was noted that there has been joint work between Probation and the Chief Constable to develop Terms of Reference for developing an Integrated Offender Management (IOM) approach. This will link in with approaches being developed in the systems change pilot and be informed by the information identified in the Strategic Assessment

Action 1: It was agreed that the TOR for IOM be reported to the March Safer Essex meeting (Mary Archer)

It was also noted that there has been a greatly improved information flow between DAAT and the CDRPs and that work was underway to develop a more joined up approach to working with CDRPs particularly with regard to Strategic Assessments.

Action 2: It was agreed that this joined up approach be developed and an early meeting arranged to so that this can be taken forward. (CDRU and EDAAT)

b) DARG Review

Proposals were put forward for the future arrangements for Drug and Alcohol Reference Groups that have been established around the County. After discussion of the report it was agreed that written comments on the proposals and preferred options should be sent in to the EDAAT office by 17th February. This would enable further discussion with the EDAAT Localities Group and CDNE before the next meet of Safer Essex on 11th March. It was noted from comments around the room that some partners had concerns about the proposals and would put these in writing so that they could be taken into account.

Action 3: All partners submit written responses to the proposals to Ellen Collen at the EDAAT office by 19th February (all partners). This will be brought back to the March Safer Essex meeting.

Ellen.Collen@essex.gov.uk

c) EDAAT Finance Report

It was noted that the EDAAT budget should come in on line this financial year, with the possibility of a small under-spend around £55,000 currently predicted.

However it was also noted that indications had been given of a possible 10% cut amounting to £566,000 for 2010/11 for the Adult Treatment plan and an uplift of £55,000 for the Young persons budget.

The Treatment Plan has been submitted on a worst case scenario basis to take account of potential funding cuts.

5. Performance Report and Target Lead Reports

1) Performance Report :

The report was noted particularly in respect of a general fall in crime levels. In Basildon December 2009 had seen the lowest recorded crime level for burglary for the area, and that this was due in large part to the national pilot Operation Vigilance set up to tackle burglary. Basildon has now been invited to sit on the Vigilance Board Chaired by a Home Office Minister. From this it was expected that good practice could be identified for dissemination across partnerships.

It was also noted that whilst crime was going down this had not, as yet been reflected in the number of Probation Clients going through the system.

2) Target Lead Updates

2a). PRG Funding Progress Report

This report set out the requirements for a return to be made to the Essex Partnership Forum (EPF) regarding progress against the budget allocated to Safer Essex (£610,069 plus £123,000 for the Essex Casualty Reduction Board). It was noted that the largest portion of funding relating to the Independent Domestic Advisers contract would be spent during 2010 into 2011/12. This had already been notified and informally discussed and is subject to final ratification by the EPF.

Other priority areas were also identified as on target for spend and delivering outcomes. The Chair of safer Essex is required to endorse the submission to the EPF. It was agreed that the return as set out would be endorsed for submission.

Action 4: Formal submission of PRG return as set out in the report be agreed (CDRU and Chair of Safer Essex)

2b)_ **Assault with Less serious injury:** Good progress being made on this indicator although there had been a slight setback over the previous period. Good actions in place including rolling out the lessons learned in Chelmsford and Colchester to areas such as Harlow and Basildon should help to restore performance to predicted levels.

2 c)_ **Perceptions of Anti-Social behaviour NI 17:** Perceptions of ASB are improving and it was noted that in some areas ASB was no longer the prime concerns of residents at Neighbourhood Action Panel meetings. However, where intensive activity is ongoing it has been noted that reports can rise which perhaps reflects the improved confidence in reporting

2.di). **Domestic Abuse** : It was reported that there are now 6 MARACs operating around the County and on current performance are better than the national average of repeat offences which now stands at around 23%. Some caution is required in this as it is the case that figure will probably rise with time. This is true of the national situation. Work is also ongoing around the development of a perpetrator programme. One issue is of concern however and this relates to the administrative resources available to support the MARACS. This is the subject of a separate report below.

2dii) **MARAC Resource Bid** : A bid for PRG resources for administrative resource to support MARACS was put forward. Total cost to employ 2 staff over 3 years amounts to £170,000. It was agreed that as Domestic Abuse remains a priority for Safer Essex and that current result for MARACS are impressive that a bid for PRG resources should be supported. However it was noted that any PRG funding approved will not provide a long term sustainable solution and if approved it should only be seen as securing window of opportunity in which to secure more permanent funding resource.

Action Agreed 5: It was agreed that a bid for MARAC administrative resources should be supported in a bid for PRG funds.

2e) **Feeling Safe** : An update of the Colchester pilot was given which continues to progress well, having moved into a second area. A full evaluation framework is being developed.

2f). **Adult Re-offending** : Although performance is improving on this indicator the re-offending rate is not seen as coming down fast enough. The key to further improvements on this lie in developing locally targeted initiatives and this will be enhanced by the new duty on CDRPS regarding re-offending that comes into effect on 1st April 2010. The newly developing Integrated Offender Management approach will assist in developing new ways of working and it is important to recognise the links with the transitional age group from young people to adult where services must be maintained.

Drug and Alcohol Targets NI 39 and NI 115

2g) **NI 39: Rate of Alcohol related Admissions to hospital** : Essex is performing better than the target with some local variations. However it should be remembered that this indicator is about slowing the rate of increase and although this is being achieved in Essex it is still not totally clear which activities are having most impact in this regard. The data being used is the most up-to-date available but this does have a minimum 18 months lag. On this basis caution must still be used in relation to the data.

An Alcohol Commissioning Group has now been established and a one year Strategic Alcohol Lead post has been created with a responsibility to establishing a Countywide approach to alcohol misuse and crime and disorder, harm reduction, treatment and public health. The Brief Interventions training programme for GPs has commenced and this has also been extended to cover Probation staff.

2h) **NI 115: Substance misuse by young people** : No up to date Tellus data is currently available but Quarter 2 NTMS data shows that against a target of 90% of young people requiring specialist substance misuse treatment, catered for in young peoples services 99% of young people are in effective structured treatment. Other key targets were also being met or surpassed.

The Young People's Problem Profile and Treatment Plan has been completed and submitted with revisions now being drafted following initial comments from the NTA. A key finding of the strategic assessment has shown that levels of acquisitive crime are very strongly associated with drugs misuse in the under 25 age group. Further analysis of this group has also shown linkages to educational attainment, NEET and a range of other indicators.

The Drug and Alcohol Referral Team (DART) is a newly created specialist support service for Children and Young people Looked After. This is a collaboration between EDAAT and the ECC Permanency, Leaving and Leaving and After Care Services.

The new and improved EDAAT website has been launched www.essexdrugaction.org and in addition in December 2009 interactive Facebook pages were launched to assist young people with information and advice.

2i). **Essex Neighbourhood Information Management System**

A progress report was presented which identified that :

- Work is in progress for delivery and CDRP use by November 2010
- The high level business specification has been signed off subject to a final challenge process
- To complete the project management arrangements funding from Performance Reward Grant was required and this was the subject of a separate request set out in agenda item 6(dii)

Action Agreed 6: It was agreed that a bid for Project Management resources should be supported in a bid for PRG funds. See item 6(dii)

6. **Safer Essex Business:**

6a) **Partnership review:** An action plan was presented and agreed. The plan sets out how to take forward the results of the Partnership review. 4 key areas of activity are identified with a review of the Terms of Reference to take account of the changes made. The 4 areas are :

- Communication of Partnership decisions, *particularly utilising the newly launched Partnership Information Portal (PIP)*
- Risk, including *development of a Risk register for Safer Essex and associated requirements in terms of risk assessment on partnership issues.*
- Learning and Development, *to include the development of Safer Essex element of the PIP for promotion of good practice information and Safer Essex sponsored events themed around current issues such as the Anti-Social behaviour event to be held on 5th March 2010.*
- Partnership engagement, *including formation of time limited working groups from across the partnership and more encouragement for a wider range of agencies to draft and present agenda items.*

6b) **Forward Plan :**

The outline forward plan was noted with the addition of items for March to cover :

- Re-offending and Health
- Strategic Assessments
- Funding

6c) Strategic Assessments

It was noted that not all strategic assessments had been completed and that a further report would be brought to the March meeting. Generally there did not seem to be material changes in priorities identified but Basildon had noted that Hate Crime was now more significant and that this had become a greater priority for them.

6d) LAA Refresh and Performance Reward Grant Funding

1. **LAA Refresh** : The final position for the LAA Refresh were agreed as set in the appendix 1 of these minutes :
2. **Performance Reward Grant (PRG)Funding Proposals**
Safer Essex was advised of the availability of an additional £1.2M PRG funds to be received in 2010/11 and invited to consider proposals for submission to the Essex Partnership Forum in March. It was agreed that the following proposals be submitted but without any order of priority being assigned :

Proposed Project	Suggested Budget	LAA
Promote more community works initiatives to rehabilitate offenders and provide payback to the community. This would contribute to our re-offending targets and increase levels of engagement and community confidence	£150,000	NI 18 – Reduce adult re-offending rates for those under probation supervision
Invest in additional project management capacity to ensure the Essex Neighbourhood Information System (ENIMS) is implemented during 2010/11 to provide a data sharing solution for partners	£100,000	LI 7.2 – Feeling Safe (and cross-cutting for all Safer Essex priorities)
Investment to support key domestic abuse projects, including for example the MARAC arrangements to protect high risk victims and their families	£170,000	LI 7.1 (NI 32) – Repeat incidents of Domestic Abuse (relating to MARACs)

Action 7 : The outline proposals for PRG funding be submitted to Essex Management Board prior to agreement by the Essex Management Forum on 23rd March (CDRU)

6e) Anti-Social Behaviour

1. Funding Update

In October 2009 the Home Secretary notified all CDRPs of a new drive to tackle ASB. Funding was also allocated to support local areas in achieving this and in Essex this amount was £54,000. At the same time Essex County Council was also considering this issue and agreed to top up the fund to a total of £100,000.

A schedule of agreed projects was presented for information.

2. Anti Social behaviour (ASB) Event

An event is planned for 5th March 2010 which will focus on ASB and the development of a minimum standard for response. Invitations will be sent out to all CDRP Chairs and ASB lead officers in each area.

Action 8 : The ASB event on 5th March will be sponsored by Safer Essex through Essex Police and invitations be sent out as soon as possible. (Essex Police and CDRU)

6f) Domestic Abuse Co-ordinator funding

Target lead updated the meeting in connection with the partnership funding for the County Domestic Abuse Co-ordinator post. To date there had only been 4 positive responses from CDRPS regarding the £833 that each would be required to contribute. Safer Essex confirmed that it is essential that written responses are received from CDRPs as soon as possible either confirming financial support or otherwise by 5th February 2010 so that options can be considered.

Action 9 : CDRPs be reminded of the need to respond to the request for top-up funding for the post of Domestic Abuse Co-ordinator and if necessary an early meeting of the EDASG be arranged to consider the matter. (Target Lead/CDRU)

6g) Safer and Stronger Communities Capital Fund 2010/11

There was discussion about the cuts in funding which will be wider for some CDRPs than the Capital cuts referred to in the Home Office letter sent out to all CDRPs. Given the impact of these cuts there will be an increasing need to do things differently in the future possibly through a Total Place approach. It was agreed that there was a need for a "Forward Planning" event to be sponsored by Safer Essex to be arranged for sometime in September/October 2010 to fit in with the next round of Strategic Assessments. It was anticipated that the financial situation would probably be worse in 2011/12. It was also noted that this emphasised the need for Safer Essex to consider risk management issues, as previously agreed under item 6a

Action 10: A "Forward Planning Event" be planned for the Autumn to be sponsored by Safer Essex.

7. Reports back from Other Groups

There was one report back from the Children's Commissioning Board which confirmed the establishment of the 6 County Implementation Boards and the "Think family" and Family Intervention Projects approaches which targeted families. It was noted that this was inline with the approaches to be developed, especially around re-offending and the development of local responses.

8. AOB

There were no items of other business.

Date of next meeting: 11th March 2010 at 9.30 am Committee Room 2

Dates for 2010/11: 1st July 2010; 7th October 2010; 20th January 2011; 10th March 2011
All meetings to commence at 9.3

Appendix 1: LAA Refresh :

Priority	Indicator(s), including those from national indicator set (shown with a *)	Baseline	LAA Improvement Target, including those to be designated (shown with a *), and including education and early years targets ¹			Partners who have signed-up to the target and any which are acting as lead partner/s (shown with a *)
			08/09	09/10	10/11	
<p>Essex is a safe place to live</p> <p>GO-East agreed Baseline and Targets/ Email dated 21 December 2009</p> <p>TL: Peter Lowton</p>	<p>*Perceptions of anti-social behaviour (NI 17)</p> <p>Target for 2010/11 is 1.8% point target reduction between the 2008 and 2010 phases of the national Place Based Survey. The measurement to judge the achievement of the target will be made using Place Survey results from a comparably sized sample.</p>	<p>2008/09</p> <p>16.5%</p> <p>(Place Survey Oct 2008)</p>	N/A	15.7%*	14.7%*	
	*Adult re-offending rates for those	(2008/09)				

¹ Please highlight any of these targets clearly. The education and early years targets will be set on an annual basis ONLY, and therefore only the column which relates to the appropriate year needs to be completed with respect to these. As these targets are set on an academic year basis, the template should list targets for 2008 and 2009. These will not be signed-off by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government and should be clearly distinguished.

Priority	Indicator(s), including those from national indicator set (shown with a *)	Baseline	LAA Improvement Target, including those to be designated (shown with a *), and including education and early years targets ¹			Partners who have signed-up to the target and any which are acting as lead partner/s (shown with a *)
			08/09	09/10	10/11	
GO-East agreed Baseline and Targets/ Email dated 27 February 2009 TL: Alex Bamber	under probation supervision (NI 18) Gross target reduction is from 1256 to 1187 by 2010/11 (a reduction of 5.52%)	7.9% 0%	N/A	7.7%* N/A	7.4%* 5.52% reduction*	
GO-East agreed Baseline and Targets/Email dated 24 August 2009 TL: Peter Lowton	*Assaults causing injury (NI 20)	2008/09 6663 offences (4.8 per 1000 population)	N/A	6330 offences (4.6 per 1000 population)*	6257 offences (4.5 per 1000 population)*	
GO-East agreed Baseline and Targets/ Email dated 2/3/09	*Rate of Hospital Admissions per 100,000 for Alcohol Related Harm (NI 39)	2006/07 1005	1192*	1245*	1276*	

Priority	Indicator(s), including those from national indicator set (shown with a *)	Baseline	LAA Improvement Target, including those to be designated (shown with a *), and including education and early years targets ¹			Partners who have signed-up to the target and any which are acting as lead partner/s (shown with a *)
			08/09	09/10	10/11	
TL: Donia Slyzuk						
GO-East agreed Baseline and Targets/ Email dated 11 February 2009	*First time entrants to the Criminal Justice System aged 10-17 (NI 111) TL: Tanya Gillett	2007/08 2,040 per 100,000 population	2,000 per 100,000* (2% reduction on baseline)	1,932 per 100,000* (3.5% reduction on baseline)	1,855 per 100,000* (4% reduction on baseline)	
GO-East agreed Baseline and Targets/ Email dated 2nd March 2009	*Substance misuse by young people (NI 115) TL: Donia Slyzuk	2008/2009 10.9%	N/A	10.5%*	8.5%*	

Priority	Indicator(s), including those from national indicator set (shown with a *)	Baseline	LAA Improvement Target, including those to be designated (shown with a *), and including education and early years targets ¹			Partners who have signed-up to the target and any which are acting as lead partner/s (shown with a *)
			08/09	09/10	10/11	
<p>GO-East agreed Baseline and Targets/ Email dated 23rd May 2008</p> <p>TL: Jason Searles</p>	*Improved street and environmental cleanliness (levels of litter and detritus) (NI 195)	<p>2006/7 and 2007/8</p> <p>Litter 22%</p> <p>Detritus 26%</p> <p>Baseline from LEQSE (Local Environmental Quality Survey for England) results</p>	<p>21%*</p> <p>25%*</p>	<p>19%*</p> <p>23%*</p>	<p>16%*</p> <p>20%*</p>	

Priority	Indicator(s), including those from national indicator set (shown with a *)	Baseline	LAA Improvement Target, including those to be designated (shown with a *), and including education and early years targets ¹			Partners who have signed-up to the target and any which are acting as lead partner/s (shown with a *)
			08/09	09/10	10/11	
TL: Peter Lowton	Repeat incidents of domestic violence reviewed at Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC)	Current performance across Essex (including Southend and Thurrock) is 11% for January – December 2009. However, as it is too early to set a target until MARACs have been established for at least 24 months, we are currently monitoring our performance against the national average (23% based on July 2009 data)				
TL: Sam Grant (interim TL: Sharon Spicer)	Feeling safe	2007/8 44.9	46.9	48.8	50.8	

