

LAA Performance Management Group
Friday 16 July 2010, 09:30 – 11:30

Attendees:

Sue Harrison – Essex Police (Chair)
Dominique Phelan – Essex Economic Board representative
Loretta Sollars – Community Wellbeing and Older People (CWOP) Lead
Gwyn Owen - Sustainable Essex Lead
Alan Dawkes – Safer Essex Lead
Miriam Stead - 2012 Olympics/Paralympic Games (2012) Lead
Kathryn Berry – 2012 Olympics/Paralympic Games (2012) representative
Jason Fergus - 2012 Olympics/Paralympic Games (2012) representative
Nathalie Collomb – GO East representative
Steve Bird – Basildon LSP representative
Jocelyn Jordan – Brentwood LSP representative
Gill Butterworth - Essex Partnership Secretariat
Louise Crew - Essex Partnership Secretariat (Minutes)

Apologies:

Charlotte Ball - Community Wellbeing and Older People (CWOP) representative
Roger Bullen - Children's Trust representative
Fiona Bodle – Essex Economic Board Lead
Dan Gascoyne – Essex Partnership Secretariat

1. Welcome, introductions and apologies

Sue Harrison welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were noted.

2. Minutes of 14 June meeting and matters arising

The minutes of the June meeting were approved.

Gwyn has spoken with Keith Cheesman regarding the orchards & allotments pledge (action 5.3), but due to cuts in PRG this project may not go ahead as envisaged.

Gill advised that the obesity data could not be broken down to primary school level (action 5.7) because of the small numbers involved, but schools could be identified by whether they were above, equal to or below a comparator. Sue suggested that district level data would be acceptable, supplemented by local knowledge. Kathryn mentioned the opportunity to cross reference with physical activity data from Sport Essex.

Nathalie said that future of Business Link was still uncertain (action 6.1). On action 6.2, Loretta commented that projects had started at different times and would check the specific issue raised by Steve. Other actions will be carried forward.

3. Implications of changes to funding/national policy

Each of the thematic partnerships was invited to provide an update on how the changes to national policy and funding have affected their partnership.

Children's Trust

Gill will check the impact of changes with Roger and Wendi, but observed that most indicators relate to core business so activity is likely to continue. Some targets receive PRG funding, including obesity and CAMHs.

Community Wellbeing and Older People

NI 120 (life expectancy) - has PRG funding, but the performance data is three years out of date by the time it is received and reflects the long term impact of actions over a period

NI 123 (stopping smoking) – no PRG funding, structural changes within the NHS may impact

NI 134 (emergency bed days) – no PRG funding, economic situation more likely to influence

NI 135 (carers) – receives PRG, the reduction may have an impact but it is hoped that other actions will keep the target on track

NI 141 (supporting people) – may be affected as PRG funding is used, and also administration funding has been lost for the Supporting People programme

LI 2.1 (help to live independently) – PRG funded projects contribute

LI 3.1 (mental health into employment) – receives PRG. This project is seen as an exemplar nationally, and CWOP is looking at how support could be provided including the possibility of European funding.

Loretta noted that the biggest impact on CWOP in the short term will be restructuring in the NHS and the plans to abolish PCTs. The NHS White Paper also proposes moving responsibility for public health to top tier local authorities, and the creation of Health and Wellbeing Boards.

Essex Economic Board

NI 151 (employment rate) – receives PRG funding and the reduction will affect activity in Tendring, which has a separate more ambitious target. The impact on the overall target is thought to be minimal given other influencing factors.

NI 163–165 (adult skills) – the apprenticeships programme is part supported by PRG. Reductions in funding will mean will fewer apprenticeship places, which contribute to improving skills levels, but this should not affect the target directly.

NI 166 (earnings) - PRG is allocated to the EMIG (Engineering and Manufacturing) programme, and as there are contractual obligations this will still go ahead.

NI 171 (business registrations) – no PRG attached

LI 8.1 (foreign investment) - was off track before the PRG cut was announced. The funding was due to be used for marketing – this will not now take place and the target is therefore unlikely to be met. Gill queried whether the forecast should be changed to 'at risk'. Sue suggested this should be raised at the next Essex Economic Board meeting for the members to decide, then, if necessary, she will escalate to EMB in November.

LI 8.2 (international trade help) – no PRG attached

Safer Essex

Sue updated on the position for Safer Essex; some areas were dependant on PRG but not all. Safer Essex will also be impacted by other partnership funding cuts.

NI 32 (domestic violence) – PRG is received for the IDVA and MARAC projects; this area was highlighted as a priority at Essex Management Board.

NI 18 (re-offending) – has £50k of PRG attached, but is core police business. Re-offending and Community Payback schemes, and the approach to Integrated Offender Management would be affected by the reduction in PRG.

NI 39 (alcohol related hospital admissions) – no PRG attached

LI 47 (road casualties) – not affected by the PRG reduction, although could be vulnerable in future years if other funding is cut

Sue observed that public perception (anti-social behaviour and feeling safe) could not now be measured by the Place Survey as it had been suspended. British Crime Survey results may help. Funding had been removed for the Police Confidence Survey.

Alan added that the ENIMS project was reliant on PRG and had not been prioritised. Other funds had been sought. Steve said that Basildon was very supportive and suggested approaching districts. Loretta commented that this will have an impact on the plans to share the JSNA. There will be an issue about how health data will be collected in future, with the White Paper suggesting national collection.

Safer Essex is holding a conference on 28 October to look at funding reductions more generally and issues arising.

Sustainable Essex

Gwyn stated that the voluntary sector has been affected by various cuts over the last 18 months or so, including PRG. Volunteer centres were particularly impacted by reductions in funding as was support to capacity building in the sector. Suspension of the Place Survey meant that it may not be possible to assess progress against NI 4, NI 5 and NI 6.

NI 4 (influencing) – no further PRG funding allocated to districts was to be spent

NI 7 (support to third sector) - the Third Sector Commissioning Champion post which was going to provide a link between public and third sector will not now go ahead.

NI 154 (dwelling stock) - the target has already been renegotiated to a sensible level

NI 156 (temporary accommodation) – already ahead of target as forecast – the rent and deposit scheme has had a big impact, but this is an important indicator to watch as funds for the county scheme runs out and demand rises through job losses etc

NI 186 (carbon reduction) – the recession helps with this target

NI 188 (climate change) – a post funded by ECC is helping partners achieve this

NI 191/2 (waste/recycling) – this is being delivered from core funding

NI 195 (cleanliness) – PRG funded some independent validation of data

NI 197 (conservation) - reduced PRG could affect this target and funding for the natural environment generally may be under pressure

NI 198 (school travel) – fewer infrastructure works are likely to be completed

LI 2.2 (affordable houses) – under a lot of pressure, although the renegotiated target is realistic

LI 5.1/5.2 (access to services) - £100k PRG is likely to be retained, with additional funding

LI 10.1 (living landscapes) – can continue, but without using consultants to write plans

Gwyn advised that he did not wish to change any forecasts at the moment, although the greatest risks were NI 7, NI 156, NI 197 and LI 10.1.

2012

NI 8 (sport participation) - Kathryn advised that there was a risk of losing three PRG funded projects, and five other projects will continue without a project coordinator. A series of events have been planned for the summer. Department of Health Physical Activity funding has also been cut.

NI 11 (arts participation) - Miriam commented that the One World festival would be most affected by reduced PRG. It was being delivered through grants to ethnic arts groups and the voluntary sector, which may be affected. The next phase of publicity has been stopped.

Jason commented that the 2012 partnership will continue to contribute to cross cutting themes including obesity and volunteering.

LSPs

Jocelyn commented that LSPs are now waiting to find out what their final allocation will be before they can determine the exact impact of the cuts to their partnerships. Steve observed that PRG had clouded the issue re: partnership working and it would have been better to focus on pooling budgets. The main issue for LSPs is loss of support for capacity building.

Sue reinforced the importance of people continuing to work collaboratively, and noted the vulnerability of the voluntary sector.

4. AOB/forward plan

The next meeting is due to be held on 13 September 2010 from 14:00 to 16:00 at Maynetrees, Chelmsford. Sue will be unable to chair, and it was agreed to check at towards the end of August whether it would be valuable to meet in September.

The October meeting will focus on changes in the partnership environment, following on from Essex Partnership Forum, and the planned review of the Children's Trust LAA performance.

Close

Outstanding Actions

Ref	Description	Responsibility
5.1	Discuss and feedback changes to forecasts on scorecard for the educational attainment targets by the next meeting (June)	Roger
5.4	Schedule presentation from ECC/Essex Police on work done to improve public confidence in the police and inform thinking on the promotion/marketing of good news stories (<i>on hold</i>)	Gill
7.1	Check the impact of government changes in policy and funding on delivery of the Children's Trust LAA targets with Roger/Wendi.	Gill
7.2	Essex Economic Board to confirm the change in forecast to 'at risk' for LI 8.1	Dominique

Annex A

LAA Performance Management Group Forward Plan

Date of meeting	Item	Responsibility
13 September 2010 (Sue Harrison unable to Chair)	Tbc	
11 October 2010	Partnership development/new ways of working	All
	Children's Trust to include <i>Educational attainment update (for onward report to EMB 2/11)</i>	Wendi/Roger
	Exception reports/update on recovery plans	All
15 November 2010	Tbc	
	Exception reports/update on recovery plans	All
13 December 2010	Tbc	
	Exception reports/update on recovery plans	All

Essex Management Board:

2 November 2010
(PMG update on risks, including report on educational attainment from Children's Trust?)

Essex Partnership Forum:

14 September 2010