

LAA Performance Management Group
18 May 2009, 14:00 – 16:00

Attendees:

Peter Lowton - Essex Police (Chair)
Louise Aitken – Essex Economic Board representative
Loretta Sollars – Community Wellbeing and Older People (CWOP) Lead
Wendi Ogle-Welbourn – Children & Young People's Strategic Partnership (CYPSP) Lead
Dominique Phelan – Essex Economic Board representative
John Houston – Epping Forest LSP Lead
Miriam Stead – 2012 Olympics/Paralympic Games (2012) Lead
Alan Dawkes – Safer Essex Lead
Gwyn Owen – Sustainable Essex Lead
Hillary Cooper – GO East representative
Gill Butterworth - Essex Partnership Secretariat
Dan Gascoyne – Essex Partnership Secretariat
Pauline Angus - Essex Partnership Secretariat (Minutes)

Apologies:

Marina Sherriff – Harlow LSP Lead

1. Welcome and Introductions

Peter Lowton welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising

Minutes of the April meeting were approved for publication, subject to minor clarifications.

The findings suggested by the Place Survey about activities for teenagers, and the possible impact on other measures, will be explored further at the next meeting. This could be a good topic for discussion at the Essex Conference and Dan will consider.

3. Review of Annual Reports

Economy

Louise gave a brief summary of the draft Annual Report on behalf of the Economic Board. Highlights in the first year include the setting up of a new skills team, the development of business support guidance and the employer survey in Tendring. First year targets had been exceeded for the number of jobs saved and created (LI8.1) and companies positive about the international trade help they had received (LI8.2), although these and all targets for this partnership are likely to be affected by the economic downturn.

The Terms of Reference for the new Economic Board, which will probably meet four times a year, are being developed. Target leads will continue to meet as a group and links maintained with Economic Development Officers in districts.

Interim data sources are being developed where there are gaps in data. The skills team is looking at supplementary measures of success in improving skills levels (NI163-5), such as

the number of apprenticeships created, and Business Link is providing information on new business start up advice and support to monitor progress against NI171 (business registrations).

Action:

Dominique/Fiona Bodle to arrange to update the 'next steps' part of the Annual Report and brief the Group on these at the next meeting. Also to update on the direction of travel for those indicators where there are data gaps.

Community Wellbeing and Older People (CWOP)

Loretta advised that the Report is a working draft and there is an intention to broaden the coverage to include other areas of interest for the partnership.

Achievements so far include bringing together representatives from the health sector and other partners, with Directors of Public Health from the five primary care trusts included in the membership. In the last year CWOP has developed a range of initiatives for which alternative funding has now been found, such as the Connected Care and Reach Out projects. Mainstreaming of these projects by partners has freed up PRG to support other key priorities.

The importance of developing links with LSPs to monitor, support the delivery and assess the effectiveness of contributory projects was discussed, acknowledging that direct representation by each of the 12 LSPs on thematic partnerships was logistically difficult. Target leads are expected to take account of what is being delivered locally and have a key role in talking to LSPs about their plans and any performance issues. The PMG needs to have a better understanding of where partnerships are working to common targets. From an LSP perspective, John advised that there was a need to know what feedback was required and the importance of thematic leads articulating progress and issues at a district level was reinforced. Hilary suggested that other areas might have similar issues in terms of thematic/LSP links.

Action:

Peter, Gill and John will review how the PMG can be better informed about emerging LSP plans and delivery issues.

Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership

Wendi pointed out the draft was in its rough stages and that it would be improved. There are still some gaps to fill, for example on obesity. Target leads have been reconfirmed.

On the reduction of under 18 conceptions (NI112), we appear to be doing well compared to others, but there are hotspot issues. A targeted action plan is being put in place and Wendi is looking at interim measures to track direction of travel.

There was a discussion on issues around the first time entrants to the youth justice system (NI 111). Peter expressed concerns that the issues as presented seem to focus on how the indicator was counted, and stressed the importance of continuing to work together to divert young people from crime and prevent them from getting into trouble in the first place.

The number of schools leavers not entering education, employment or training (NI117) have risen to 6.7% against an interim target of 5.4%. Hilary advised that this was one of the highest rises in the region and nationally, and that traditionally Essex perhaps had less young people staying on at school. This was considered to be an important indicator because of possible knock-on effects, for example to increased incidence of anti-social behaviour.

Action:

Wendi to report back to July meeting on NEETS (NI117).

Peter and Gill to schedule time during the next few meetings to look at specific targets where there is concern. Peter expects detailed presentations on recovery plans, with an idea of the help or support needed and as a means of sharing learning. He will bring the recovery plan for domestic violence (LI7.1) to the June meeting.

Safer Essex

Alan presented the draft Annual Report for Safer Essex; information on the KSI target (LI47) will be incorporated.

There is a mixed picture of performance, with some good indications of improvement, e.g., assaults causing injury (N120) and perceptions of anti-social behaviour/feeling safe. Some targets were confirmed or revised as part of the LAA Refresh as new data became available. It is expected that improvements from the additional investment from PRG will become evident during 2009.

The next steps include a review of how the Partnership is operating, including revisiting the terms of reference, reviewing partner's engagement and the development of a more effective performance management framework and a risk register

4. Arrangements for finalising Annual Reports

Gill confirmed that the aim was for all leads to have signed off their Annual Reports with their thematic partnership by the end of June or soon after, and to arrange to publish these on the partnership website. Final 2008/09 results will be available to a similar timescale (and are likely to be published as an annex to the refreshed LAA).

Actions:

Thematic Leads to bring final draft Reports to the June meeting, highlighting differences from the drafts already presented.

5. Progress updates/next steps for each Thematic Partnership

Thematic Leads updated on key issues and areas of focus going forward.

Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership

Wendi is focussing on getting completed action plans in place, including targets and impact statements showing what 'good' looks like.

Safer Essex

The partnership review is a key piece of work – this will help gather partners' views on what needs to be improved and developed within the partnership.

Sustainable Essex

Gwyn talked to the briefing note and analysis prepared by the target lead Duncan Wood on NI4 (influencing decisions). The economic context and cynicism with 'decision takers' could have had an impact on perceptions at the time the Place Survey was done. An action plan is in place, and 'Engage Essex' has recently been launched to help join up public engagement better across agencies and improve responses and feedback.

Gwyn will be able to update on actions being agreed to support delivery of the CO2 emissions target (NI186) at the next meeting.

Economy

The new Board is being established.

Community Wellbeing and Older People

Review of the carers' indicator (NI 135) has led to better understanding of how the indicator is defined and calculated, but there is a need to delve a little deeper to look at how the data is generated. Data for Q4 smoking is expected soon, which will show whether the impact of actions taken to encourage people to quit in the New Year is as expected.

2012

Projects are on track and the new 'Explore Culture' marketing initiative will be launched in June.

6. Thematic work plans

Gill reminded thematic leads that there was still a need to maintain thematic workplans, developing these to capture cross-cutting impacts. Help was available on reformatting if needed.

Action:

Thematic leads to continue to share updated workplans routinely before each meeting.

7. Milestones due/Forward plan review

There will be a focus on 'recovery plans' for the next three months. The issue of links with LSPs will be revisited at a future meeting (July/September).

8. AOB

There was no other business raised.

LAA Performance Management Group Forward Plan

Date of meeting	Item	Responsibility
Standing items:		
Progress updates, to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • agreed updates from previous meetings • other 'exceptions for attention/discussion' <p><i>achievements/good news stories; barriers to delivery and actions needed; assurance where data is not available; resource issues, including use of PRG; locality and 'hotspot' issues</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • milestones (key actions/new information) due in next period 		Thematic Partnership Leads or deputies <i>Please send updated workplans to Gill for circulation at least 7 calendar days before each meeting</i>
Proposed items		
22 June 2009	Place Survey/Tracker 7 feedback <i>(including an update on activities for teenagers findings/impact on other measures)</i> Safeguarding Children thread Participation intelligence Domestic Violence (LI7.1) recovery plan Update on Annual Reports Update on Essex Strategy Review Focus on recovery plans for 2 thematics?	Duncan Wood/Kay Asuni Wendi Ogle-Welbourn Miriam Stead Peter Lowton All thematic leads Dan Gascoyne
20 July 2009	NEETs (NI117) recovery plan 2008/09 performance results? Focus on recovery plans for 2 thematics? (inc CYPSP?) LSP linkages?	Wendi Ogle-Welbourn
24 September 2009	Focus on recovery plans for 2 thematics? LSP linkages?	
19 October 2009	Thematic Partnership Mid Year reports x 3 (tbc)	
16 November 2009	Thematic Partnership Mid Year reports x 3 (tbc)	Tbc
15 December 2009		
18 January 2010	Tracker 8 feedback	Duncan Wood/Kay Asuni
15 February 2010		
22 March 2010		

Informal feedback on CAA (end July)?

Proposed approach to reporting to EMB/EPF (June/July)