



5 November 2008

Essex Partnership News

- keeping you in touch

Welcome to the latest edition of the Essex Partnership News. November 2008 has been a landmark month in Essex Partnership history; Phase 2 action plans to meet LAA2 targets have been finalised; partners set in motion a package of measures to support Essex through the recession and Essex Partnership agreed how the six countywide thematic partnerships and the 12 LSPs will spend £10million of Performance Reward Grant on a range of actions that will improve the quality of life across the county.

Local Area Agreement

During late October and early November Essex Partnership Secretariat met with each Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) and countywide thematic partnership to agree which action plans went forward to the Essex Partnership Forum (EPF) on 28th November.

[The Summary Action Plans can be downloaded here](#)

All Phase 2 action plans will soon be available on the [LAA Action Planning webpage](#).

Essex Partnership Forum

Essex Partnership Forum met at Waterfront Place, Chelmsford on 28th November 2008. The agenda and notes are available via the [Essex Partnership Forum webpage](#).

All LAA2 summary action plans were discussed by EPF and the indicative allocation of £10million of Performance Reward Grant was agreed. The final decision about the use of each partnership's indicative allocation will rest with the partnership itself. PRG allocations have been confirmed at the level of the indicative allocations previously notified. Formal letters will be sent to all partnerships confirming the allocations of PRG next week.

[View the Summary Action Plans that include PRG allocations here](#)

The report reviewing progress against LAA2 targets, as well as discussing the need for possible refresh of some areas of the LAA2, was approved.

[View report and annexes here](#)

Supporting Essex through the recession

Essex partners have agreed that Essex Management Board should take forward scoping work regarding a set of initial proposals to support Essex families and businesses, equipping them to thrive as conditions improve. Following an expert analysis of how economic changes will affect Essex the package of measures were recommended at a Special Session of the EMB on 26th November 2008

[View Oxford Economics presentation here](#)

The full report from this meeting of EMB will be available next week on the [EMB webpage](#).

Lord Hanningfield, said:

"Supporting our residents is why we are here. ...It's our duty to do whatever we can to assist in countering the effects of the economic downturn. I am delighted that the public sector in Essex has risen to the challenge and produced a set of practical proposals that will offer real help and assistance to Essex families and businesses."

Essex Conference 2009

At the Essex Partnership Forum, Dan Gascoyne introduced the concept of the Partnership hosting a conference of senior managers from all partner organisations to discuss taking the county forward together. A task group will be brought together to develop this event and the Partnership Secretariat would be pleased to hear from partners keen to join this group. The provisional date and venue of the Essex Conference 2009 will be the Weston Homes Community Stadium in Colchester on 9th July 2009.

Local Democracy Week 2008

The summary and detailed reports from Local Democracy Week are now available on the [LDW webpage](#).

Essex Partnership Forum - 28th November 2008

Confirmation requested - Essex Partnership Forum next meet at Waterfront Place, Chelmsford from 9.30 – 15.30 on Friday 28th November 2008. All [Essex Partnership Forum members](#) are asked to confirm their attendance to the secretariat by replying to this email. The agenda will include highlights of how partners are working to deliver the targets set out in the Local Area Agreement and the allocation of Performance Reward Grant to projects improving quality of life across Essex– further details will be sent to delegates later in November.

Date for diaries – we're pleased to announce that the first meeting of the Essex Partnership Forum in 2009 has now been set for 24th March, also at Waterfront Place, Chelmsford, please could this be noted in all EPF members' diaries.

Essex Management Board

The Essex Management Board took place on 17 October at the Learning and Skills Council. Use the links below to view the notes, which include links to the presentations and hand-outs from the day.

[EMB Notes 17 October 2008](#)

Essex 's Response to the Economic Downturn

On Wednesday 26th November 2008 Essex Management Board will come together with financial, economic and legal experts in a special meeting to discuss how Essex partners can work together to optimise a response to the economic downturn. This work will be further supported by thematic partnerships considering all LAA2 targets in the context of the economic climate and Essex Partnership Forum will take decisions about the LAA Refresh when they meet in March 2009.

Local Democracy Week

Nearly 1,000 children and young people took part in LDW last week when Councillors and Senior Managers went out to ask school councils and citizenship classes what they thought about Local Area Agreement Action Plans for Essex.

"Being Healthy" is the highest priority for both children and young people with most being interested in having more outdoor opportunities for exercise, with better facilities in local parks and for cycling to school. More support for healthy eating was considered important; they suggested setting out standards for healthy eating across schools in Essex.

Their second highest priority is "Feeling Safe"; traffic congestion in local streets was cited as the biggest problem with graffiti and litter coming second and children having problems with young people, when outside, coming third. They said that young people need more things to do.

All of the views will be reported to the Essex Partnership Forum in November to inform decisions on Action Plans for Essex. The full LDW report will be found in November on www.essex.gov.uk/localdemocracyweek

Essex LAA Review & Refresh - timetable

As you know the LAA will be going through its Annual Review and Refresh over the next couple of months. Below you see a link to the outline timetable which highlights the key dates we are working to, agreed with the Government Office.

An essential element of the Review and Refresh is the meeting of the Essex Partnership Forum that will be held on the 28th of November 2008 and we would expect to be able to report an up-to-date summary of progress on the LAA to this partnership.

If you would like further information regarding the Review & Refresh please contact Stephen Baldry by email Stephen.baldry@essex.gov.uk or telephone 01245 437216.

[LAA Annual Review and Refresh Timetable](#)

LAA – A Brief Guide

The Brief Guide to the Local Area Agreement was published last week. You can download a copy from the [Essex Partnership website LAA page](#) or to order a hard copy email your name and address and number of copies you would like to info@essexpartnership.org

Diversity & Equality Survey of Essex Partnership Representatives

In order for the Essex Partnership to meet level 3 of the Generic Equalities Standard we need to have a full understanding of the diversity of representatives of all partner organisations. This is to ensure all events, communications and policies of the Essex Partnership are assessed for their impact upon all members of the Partnership and are provided in an accessible and non-discriminatory fashion.

For these purposes please could you complete this short survey which asks for information about you as individuals who represent Essex Partnership member organisations. The data gathered will be collected, stored and analysed anonymously and will be used for the sole purpose of improving Essex Partnership activities. We would be grateful for responses as soon as possible, the first analysis will take place after Thursday 6th November 2008. The survey should take you no more than 5 minutes and we thank you for your assistance.

[Essex Partnership Equalities Survey](#)

Communities of Practice

Remember the Essex Partnership Community of Practice is available for up-to-date information and discussions. Click on the link below to register and log in.

[Essex Partnership](#)

Don't forget

If you have any items you'd like to include in a future edition email info@essexpartnership.org

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