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| ESSP new without graphic | **Meeting Notes**  **Monday 12 November 2018**  **Muriel Matters House, Hstings** |

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| **IN ATTENDANCE** |

**ESSP Members present:**

Ashley Scarff High Weald Lewes and Havens CCG

Charlie Edwards National Probation Service

Cllr Kim Forward Hastings Borough Council

Cllr Keith Glazier East Sussex County Council

Steve Manwaring (Chair) SpeakUp Representative

Cllr Carl Maynard Rother District Council

Chief Superintendent Jason Taylor Sussex Police

Graham Peters SELEP

Ed Schmidt Environment Agency

Keith Stevens Sussex Associations of Local Councils

Dawn Whittaker East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service

John Willett Sussex Police and Crime Commission

**Also in attendance (official observers):**

Kevin Brooksure Hastings Borough Council

Sarah Feather East Sussex County Council

Jo Harper Eastbourne and Lewes Councils

Becky Shaw East Sussex County Council

Vicky Smith (speaker) East Sussex Better Together

**Apologies for absence**:

Cllr Bill Bentley East Sussex County Council

Carole Dixon Speak Up

Jane Hartnell Hastings Borough Council

Petrina Mayson Action in Rural Sussex

Cllr Elayne Merry Lewes District Council

Andrea Saunders National Probation Service

Michael Turner Environment Agency

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| **NOTES** |

1. **Welcome, introductions and Apologies**

Steve Manwaring welcomed ESSP members, delegates, observers, guests and speakers to the meeting and apologies were given. Steve took the opportunity to recognise the themes of twin centenaries of the Armistice and female suffrage campaign. Steve thanked East Sussex County Council for the work the First World War project had done in recording and highlighting the impact of the First World War on the county and the experiences of those who lived in East Sussex. The information contained within the website is intended to be archived and remain accessible into the future.

1. **Urgent items of business**

There were no urgent items of business.

**3a) Notes of the meeting held on 30 April 2018 and Matters Arising**

The minutes, were agreed as an accurate record and an update on actions from the meeting was received.

**3b) Report of the East Sussex Annual Assembly held on 9th July 2018.**

Steve thanked colleagues who attended the Annual Assembly on the theme of ‘Furthest First’. Steve explained how the feedback highlighted that attendees appreciated the ability to connect with people on the ‘front line’ of service delivery. This was helpful with reducing the gap between people planning services and people using them.

Dawn Whittaker, ESFRS, agreed that the presentations were inspiring and that the Fire Service had already made a connection with Seaview, one of the organisations at the Assembly, and the Fire Service now had a regular slot with the organisation to look at the provision of services.

Steve finished by saying it was particularly good to hear from award winning, best practice organisations and that they all came from inside Sussex.

**4) Women’s Suffrage**

Steve asked Kevin Brooksure, Hastings BC, to introduce a video. Kevin explained that Jane Hartnell has asked him to film an interview of Jane speaking with Frances Bedford the Founder of Muriel Matters Society. Jane asked a series of questions about Muriel Matters, Frances’ own career and the importance of partnerships.

Steve thanked Kevin for his work in filming and editing and then introduced Dawn who spoke briefly about her career prior to joining the Fire Service and then spoke about how she joined Northamptonshire Fire Service as a senior manager when deregulation happened in 2004.This meant that there was a no longer a requirement to ‘come through the ranks’ to senior positions. Dawn also gave some statistics about females in the uniformed services and the steps being taken to address the balance. Dawn spoke about her own work in this area and why it’s important as well as highlighting the Home Office campaign launch to help fire and rescue services change the face of their workforce. Dawn explained that with this on the Home office agenda it will move onto the Inspectorate agenda and help drive change.

Steve thanked Dawn for her presentation and then invited Becky Shaw, ESCC, to provide feedback on the mentoring event that formed part of the ‘Vote 100’ work across the Country. Becky spoke about the event she hosted in Uckfield that bought together current female leaders with women at the early stages of their careers, who are on the path to be future leaders. Becky explained that once in a senior position it is easy to forget how difficult it was to get there. Becky said it was interesting that women were asking the same questions separately so it was important to get together and the work would be repeated.

Becky also took the opportunity to mention Barbara Bodichon who was nominated by us (in partnership with the district and boroughs) was born in Whatlington near Battle and grew up in Hastings. She:

* Was a leader in a committee who drafted a petition which marked the start of organised campaigning by women for the vote. It was given to MP John Stuart Mill who presented it to Parliament in 1866, which then led to the first Parliamentary debate on votes for women
* Published an influential pamphlet – *Reasons for and against the Enfranchisement of Women*
* Championed women’s rights more broadly, with campaigns to reform laws related to divorce, marriage and property and setting up the Society for the Promotion of Employment for Women in London.

Other notable East Sussex suffragists mentioned by Becky were Clementina Black, born in Brighton, who campaigned passionately for better working conditions for women and the vote and Mary Richardson, who lived in Hastings who found most fame when she took an axe to a Velasquez painting ‘Rokeby Venus’ in the National Gallery.

Steve thanked the speakers for their interesting contributions.

**5) Autumn Budget Round Table Discussion**

Steve introduced Cllr Glazier, ESCC, to begin the discussion on the Government’s spending plans and its effect on partner organisations.

**East Sussex County Council**

Cllr Glazier said that the announcement was early and some of the announcements were good news. Cllr Glazier explained that Adult Social Care across the Country will receive an additional £240m in 2019/20, and £410m will be allocated in 2019/20 for adult and children’s social care. Althoughany specific conditions of this money allocation have yet to be announced.Cllr Glazier also mentioned the one off capital payment direct to schools averaging £10,000 per primary school and £50,000 per secondary school.

There was also a further £420 million announced to fix potholes and carry out other repairs. If money is distributed on the same basis as the additional money provided in March this year Cllr Glazier said the Council could receive circa £4.8m, but this is usually for additionality and ESCC await detail of the allocations and their restrictions.

Cllr Glazier informed the Partnership that the planned increase to £8.21 per hour of the National Living Wage from April 2019 is within the Council’s current planning assumptions. Cllr Glazier also mentioned the additional £55m for the Disabled Facilities Grant in 2018/19 that will go to District and Borough Councils directly.

Cllr Glazier then explained that there are some things that ESCC are awaiting details on to know what impact they will have in East Sussex and these included:

Children’s social care improvement

The Budget provides £84m over 5 years for up to 20 local authority pilots, to help more children to stay at home safely with their families.

Roads Infrastructure

The Chancellor has also announced a £30bn cash injection to upgrade major routes across England. East Sussex has not yet been mentioned.

High Streets

A £675m Future High Streets Fund will help support councils to draw up plans to transform high streets by improving transport access and turning empty shops into homes and offices.

Small Business Rates Relief

The business rates bills of all small business retailers will be cut by one third, for retail properties with a rateable value below £51,000.

Cllr Glazier also took the opportunity to provide details on the Core Offer that ESCC is looking into. He explained that the Core Offer is a realistic assessment of what ESCC consider the minimum outcomes a competent and efficient Council could expect to be able to provide by 2020/21 given the continuing financial pressure. Cllr Glazier went on to say that the Core Offer is ambitious but realistic. It explains what ESCC believe local people most need from the Council, based on the agreed priorities, local knowledge, evidence of need and demand and Members’ ambitions for East Sussex.

Cllr Glazier informed the Partnership that ESCC has not made a decision to move to this level of service nor is it being asked to. The purpose of this is to start a more detailed discussion with partners, residents and the Government about what East Sussex needs and the impact of having insufficient resources. The Core Offer will be discussed at the Cabinet meeting on Tuesday 13 November. ESCC will also be talking to residents, partners and community groups to get their views.

Cllr Glazier pointed out that the one off funding for this year and next is very welcome and detailed in the report available on the ESCC website, but over the next three years ESCC still faces up to £46 million of savings at the upper end of the scenarios being modelled. He went on to say that the Council doesn’t yet know exactly what savings they’ll need to find over the next three years from 2019-2022 and won't know for next year until the local government settlement is received. This is due on 6 December. There are proposed areas of search for savings for the next three years, and Cllr Glazier said that again these are detailed in the report.

Finally Cllr Glazier spoke about how the work to lobby the Government has stepped up since July to ensure Ministers and MPs understand our needs. The Core Offer work has been significant in drawing the Government's attention to the challenges councils face.

Graham Peters (Team East Sussex) asked about briefing pack/ copy of the papers on the core funding plans and these will be circulated to the Partnership once they have been to Cabinet.

**Fire and Rescue Service**

Dawn said there had been no mention of the Fire and Rescue Service and therefore no capital allocation at all. ESFRS are modelling a 5-7% reduction in budget which meant they would be carrying out a Fore Cover Review looking at every community risk and the demographics and reducing levels of resourcing. This could be seen as a more towards core funding for core service levels.

**High Weald Lewes Havens CCG (HWLH CCG)**

Ashley Scarff (HWLH CCG) said there had been a welcome addition to resources of £206m but there were still lots of detail that the NHS doesn’t know. Ashley said that planning guidance was expected on Christmas Eve and that even with 1-1.5% uplift in funding this will not meet the growth in demand.

**Voluntary and Community Sector**

Steve spoke about the few announcements for the Voluntary and Community Sector and that the position was not clearly articulated, particularly in relation to the European Social Fund. The move to a Core Offer needed the VCS to take a whole population approach as people in receipt of services do not disappear just because the services do. Steve gave an example of the Peer Led Support Groups that are addressing more and more complex mental health issues than it used to but without finding the delivery offer will shrink further.

**Sussex Association of Local Councils**

Keith Stevens (SALC) said that Parish and Town Councils would also be receiving a reduction in funds from Council Tax, down from 6% in 2017 to 4.5% in 2018. Keith did point out that there appeared to be a diminishing demand for grant funding. Even though the funding available might be in small amounts it was still there for people to apply for.

**ACTION: Sarah Feather to circulate a copy of the report on the Core Offer once it has been to Cabinet.**

**6 Annual Reports on pathway progress of East Sussex Better Together and Connecting 4 You.**

**6a East Sussex Better Together (ESBT)**

Steve introduced Vicky Smith, ESBT, to give an update on specific work within the ESBT programme. Vicky explained that ESBT formed an Alliance Agreement in 2017/18 that gave ESBT the framework and governance to operate collectively for a test bed phase. There had been lots of learning form this year and improvements in activity and delivery across the programme. ESBT were managing demand and patient flow but as across the Country there are still increases in admissions into hospitals.

In the 2018/19 financial year Eastbourne, Hailsham and Seaford and Hastings and Rother CCGs have had legal directions placed on them because of financial deficits. So Vicky explained that there was a focus on financial recovery with input from NHS England and NHS Improvement.

Vicky said that ESBT would be focussing on the relationship with the Sussex and East Surrey Transformation Partnership (STP) to ensure a clear role of the STP and its impact on local services. Vicky mentioned the shared Accountable Officer across all 8 CCGs in the STP and that this could be useful for future working.

Vicky pointed out that working closely as a health and care system still remains a high priority for all the ESBT partners, and CCG Governing Bodies, Trust Boards and Council leaders. All have recently renewed commitment to the ESBT Alliance, by extending the ESBT Alliance Agreement for a further year until March 2020. This will help provide stability and continuity for our Alliance working during this complex and challenging period.

**6b Connecting 4 You (C4Y)**

Steve thanked Vicky and then introduced Ashley Scarff (HWLH CCG) to provide an update on the C4Y programme. Ashley began by reminding the Partnership about the area covered by the Connecting 4 You programme and how 80% of residents travel outside this location for secondary care. Ashley also highlighted the different levels of planning and delivery and their complexities. Ashley informed the partnership that the biggest issue is the financial challenge, the NHS is spending more money but demand is outstripping resources. Ashley felt there needs to be a national conversation about what the NHS can offer, like a ‘core offer’ and the time for that conversation was coming. Ashley pointed out that having one Accountable Officer across the STP can drive through consistency but there was still a need to retain localism.

Ashley said that he felt the 10-15 years of having an ‘internal market’ in the NHS meant that it had become a case of ‘pass the deficit’ and the idea to work more collectively was paramount. In the immediate future Ashely explained that there was a 10 year plan due out in the next month or two that wold look at more formal consolidation, a 20% reduction in cost and more structural changes.

Steve thanked Ashley for his presentation and said that the real solution to the increase in demand was to help people to help themselves by investing in community based initiatives that help people with long term conditions.

**7) Any other business**

Forward Plan

Steve spoke about the Forward Plan that had been circulated and asked all to send any other suggested items for the plan to Sarah.

**ACTION: All to send any other items for the Forward Plan to Sarah Feather** [**sarah.feather@eastsussex.gov.uk**](mailto:sarah.feather@eastsussex.gov.uk)

**8) Future meetings**

Steve asked the partnership to note the dates for the ESSP meetings for 2019:

**15 January 2019 -10.00am-12.00pm Council Chamber, County Hall, Lewes**

**Wednesday 20th March 2019- 10.00am-12.00pm Council Chamber, Town Hall, Bexhill on Sea**

**Wednesday 10th July 2019 – 9.30-12.30pm – International Tennis Centre, Eastbourne**

**Tuesday 5th November 2019- Court Room, Eastbourne Town Hall, Eastbourne**

**Thursday 16th January 2020 -Civic Community Hall, Hailsham**

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| **SUMMARY OF AGREED ACTIONS –** | |
| **Item** | **Action** |
| 5 | **Sarah Feather to circulate a copy of the report on the Core Offer once it has been to cabinet.** |
| 7 | **All to send any other items for the Forward Plan to Sarah Feather** [**sarah.feather@eastsussex.gov.uk**](mailto:sarah.feather@eastsussex.gov.uk) |

A copy of all the presentations from the meeting can be found on the ESSP website ([http://www.essp.org.uk/Meeting-papers-and-reports](http://www.essp.org.uk/Meeting-papers-and-reports/ESSP/2016)).