

East Sussex Strategic Partnership

Notes of the meeting of the East Sussex Strategic Partnership Executive Board Friday 17 July 2009, St Peters Community Centre, Bexhill

IN ATTENDANCE

Executive Board Members present:

Jeremy Leggett (chair)	Action in Rural Sussex
Cllr Bob Tidy (vice chair)	East Sussex County Council
Martin Ray	Eastbourne Borough Council
Charles Lant (for Pam Doodles)	Wealden District Council
Cllr Mathew Beaver (for Peter Pragnell)	Hastings Borough Council
Charles Everett	NHS Hastings and Rother
Robin Smith	Sussex Police
Adrian Brown (for Gary Walsh)	East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service
Leighe Rogers	National Probation Service, Sussex
Chris Piper	Learning & Skills Council
Chris Wick	Environment Agency
Jon Griffiths	Highways Agency
Debby Gill	Job Centre Plus
Steve Hare	SpeakUp
Steve Manwaring	SpeakUp
Ian Chisnall	Churches Together in Sussex
John Hodges	Hastings & Bexhill Economic Alliance
Ken Stevens	Federation of Small Businesses

Observers:

Richard Emmens	Government Office for the South East
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In attendance:

Sandra Prail	Audit Commission
Shan Allan	Audit Commission
Becky Shaw	East Sussex County Council
Lisa Schrevel	East Sussex County Council
Katherine Perrin	East Sussex County Council
Alison Horan	East Sussex County Council
Gill Cameron-Waller	Wealden District Council
Lucy Dixon-Thompson	East Sussex County Council
Alison Jeffery	Children & Young People's Trust
Debbie Charman	East Sussex County Council
Barry Atkins	Older People's Partnership Board
Marcus Gomm	Safer Communities Partnership
Justine Armstrong	Safer Communities Partnership
Brenda Mason	Rother District Council
Jane Hartnell	Hastings Borough Council
Anita Counsell	NHS East Sussex Downs and Weald

NOTES

1) Welcome and Apologies

- a) Welcome to the new Executive Board members Debby Gill representing Job Centre Plus, and Jon Griffiths representing the Highways Agency. The Chair also welcomed the speakers for the meeting – Sandra Prail from the Audit Commission, Marcus Gomm from the Safer Communities Partnership, Barry Atkins from the Older People’s Partnership Board and Alison Jeffery from the Children and Young People’s Trust.
- b) Chairs and Coordinators of Countywide Thematic Partnerships and District/Borough Local Strategic Partnerships who were in attendance were also welcomed.
- c) Apologies were received from:

Cllr David Young	Sussex Association of Local Councils
John Barnes	NHS East Sussex Downs & Weald
John Crawford (for Cllr James McLeary)	Lewes District Council
Gilly Bartrip	SEEDA
Cllr Carl Maynard	Rother District Council
Cllr Pam Doodles	Wealden District Council

2) Urgent items of business

- a) Election of the Chair: Councillor Bob Tidy took the Chair as Vice Chair, he noted that at the last meeting Jeremy Leggett’s name was put forward as a potential chair. No other nominations were submitted, and Jeremy was re-elected as Chair of the ESSP. Jeremy was thanked for all of his previous work in relation to the ESSP and congratulated on his re-election.

3) Declarations of Interest

- a) None.

4) Notes of the meeting held on

- a) The notes were agreed as a correct record of the meeting with the following addition:
 - Change date on Summary of Agreed Actions from 27 November 2008 to 12 March 2009.
 - Item 13, change the name of the GOSE representative from Clare Wormald to Richard Emmens.
- b) The Board were advised that the revised LAA2 had been approved by Government.
- c) Anna Czepil was thanked for her work with the Migrant Research Group, and the group was congratulated on their successful funding bid which has secured £340,000 for work to support migrant communities.
- d) The Board reflected on the success of the Progress through Partnership (PtP) programme and thanked all those who have been involved in the recent events. It was noted that there would be a further round of PtP funding, and that the Board will need to undertake another self-assessment and consider further activities it may wish to use the funding for.

FOR DECISION

5) CAA Progress Report, Audit Commission

- a) Sandra Prail, CAA Lead for Sussex, gave a brief presentation on the emerging issues for East Sussex. Sandra reiterated that this is a process of ongoing dialogue, and while the full picture of delivery was not yet clear in terms of outcomes, no green or red tags had been identified as yet. Thanks were given to all those who had been involved in the process so far, for the courteous manner in which they had approached the dialogue.
- b) Sandra explained it was important to note that some current assessments are ongoing and the results of these will feed into the CAA process. Sandra also noted that she was aware of very positive feedback of those who worked pan-Sussex and therefore were well placed to make comparisons. The presentation highlighted the current thinking and areas for focus for each of the themes of Pride of Place, the sustainable community strategy for East Sussex and the Board's views were invited on the issues presented.
- c) Sandra informed members that the draft report is due on 16 October 2009, and the inclusion of any flags will trigger a right of appeal, with a final publication on 10 December 2009 on the "One Place" website. Sandra informed the Board that she would come back after the meeting with a clear plan for next steps and who will be involved.
- d) The Audit Commission were thanked for organising their presentation around the themes of Pride of Place as this improved the clarity of the information given.
- e) Members commented that a lack of joined up Government can, at times, thwart the economic prosperity of the area, such as the removal of key rail services. GOSE was keen to obtain information where it is available to evidence the impact of this. Hastings and Bexhill Economic Alliance explained that the Chamber of Commerce was gathering data and could circulate this once it was produced.
- f) Members were concerned about how issues and decisions that were beyond the partnership's control could affect the outcome of CAA. Sandra explained that CAA focuses on the "do-able" and if there are significant barriers that can be evidenced which are affecting delivery, then these will be flagged.
- g) Members confirmed that Pride of Place contains 9 themes and 2 cross-cutting age groups which are embedded in all themes. Sandra noted that there was no concern over the number of themes, but wanted clarity about ESSP's understanding of how age groups fitted in. Following discussion, Sandra commented that they will structure the final report in line with the nine themes.
- h) Members were asked to consider how they were tackling 'narrowing the gap', and how outcomes and SMART targets relating to key tasks were defined and measured, following a challenge from the Audit Commission on going beyond measuring targets and having a clear understanding of what will change for local people.
- i) At the request of members, Sandra clarified that "BEST partnership" stands for the Brighton and East Sussex Partnership, which deals with private sector housing, targeting vulnerable people.
- j) Members also noted that they may challenge the absence of green flags and provide the Audit Commission with further examples of exceptional performance.

6) Agenda error – there is no agenda item number 6

7) SCS Countywide Action Plan delivery planning

- a) Lisa Schrevel briefly updated the partnership that after consultation and discussions with the Chair, focusing on high priority areas of the Pride of Place Countywide Action Plan would be a helpful start. Five priorities had been identified, along with potential champions to take delivery planning forward – the recession, improving transport, coordinating housing services, tackling climate change and tackling alcohol misuse.
- b) Councillor Tidy of East Sussex County Council agreed to champion the recession, and Martin Ray at Eastbourne Borough Council agreed to facilitate a District or Borough lead for housing, in association with East Sussex Housing Officers group, before his retirement.
- c) Robin Smith, Sussex Police agreed to champion the action on alcohol misuse. However, members noted that treatment, not just criminalisation, must feature when targeting alcohol misuse. Charles Everett, on behalf of both the local NHS, agreed to work alongside Sussex Police on this action.
- d) Jeremy Leggett, Action in Rural Sussex, agreed to champion the action on improving transport.
- e) Members agreed to focus on the 5 proposed priority areas and endorsed the selection of champions.

ESSP members agreed:

1. To focus on the recession, improving transport, coordinating housing services, tackling climate change and tackling alcohol misuse as the priority actions from the Pride of Place Countywide Action Plan.
2. To endorse the action plan champions of Councillor Tidy, East Sussex County Council (recession), Jeremy Leggett, Action in Rural Sussex (improving transport), Chris Wick, Environment Agency (climate change) and Robin Smith, Sussex Police (alcohol misuse), and to endorse the nominee from the Boroughs and Districts to champion housing

8) SCS Countywide Action Plan reviews and updates

8a) Community Safety

- 1) Marcus Gomm, on behalf of the East Sussex Safer Communities Steering Group, introduced the review of Community Safety, highlighting a number of successes and current areas for concern, including the number of killed and seriously injured on the roads and alcohol-related hospital admissions.
- 2) Members welcomed the inclusion of the number of killed or seriously injured on the roads (KSI) and the positive nature of the report. Robin Smith informed members that the Road Policing Unit focuses most of its activity around enforcement, however education is another strand. Work with the Probation Service was underway on Integrated Offender Management as this was seen as key to alcohol misuse and accommodation issues.
- 3) Members were informed that Wealden District Council is doing an in-depth scrutiny review on KSI and will feed information from this review into it, along with feeding information back into housing support development for young offenders.
- 4) Members were keen to investigate proactive approaches by listening to local residents and community engagement, with the intention that improved communication will drive up public confidence and reduce the fear of crime.

8b) Older People

- a) Barry Atkins, on behalf of the Older People's Partnership Board, introduced the review of Older People, highlighting a report from CSCI that stated that older people are served well within the county. However, key challenges were

highlighted on the nuance of how services will be delivered in future, including the National Green Paper on the funding of long-term care, and supporting older people as a whole population group, rather than just those individuals who meet certain financial/needs assessment criteria.

- b) A recommendation was made to include carers in the older people's strategic priority statement. Members welcomed the convergence of these two areas.
- c) Members commented that there is no mention of end of life care and asked for information on the contribution carers make to the economy. Members were informed that an estimated £6 billion worth of care is provided by unpaid carers.
- d) Members discussed a number of issues relating to older people, including the new Hasting partnership on the back of the 2012 Olympics which will impact on NI 8 and innovations such as the use of the Nintendo Wii which enables active living for those with transport and mobility difficulties. Members also noted the massive transformation in partnership working over the past five years and the increased reflection of cross-cutting issues in a range of associated strategies and plans for older people and carers.
- e) Members were informed that a report on carers would be presented at the January 2010 ESSP meeting.

8c) Children & Young People

- a. Alison Jeffery, on behalf of the Children & Young People's Trust, introduced the review of Children and Young People, highlighting four key issues of educational attainment, narrowing the gap (and better understanding what we mean by this), teenage pregnancy (which has seen a slight decrease compared to slight national increase) and 16-18 year olds not in employment, education or training (NEETs).
- b. Alison suggested that ESSP could help by increasing the number of youth apprenticeships, in the public, private and voluntary and community sectors. Lessons could be shared by East Sussex County Council's apprentice scheme, which had seen a large increase in apprenticeships, particularly through more opportunities within the voluntary and community sector. A workshop on Apprenticeships will be held in the autumn.
- c. Members were also informed of the increased pressure on Social Care following the Baby P case, as referrals have doubled.
- d. Members expressed concern over the education attainment rates in Hastings, and over youth homelessness, particularly those "sofa surfers" not recorded.
- e. Members were encouraged to contact East Sussex County Council before setting up any new groups or networks as there are strong partnerships already in existence in all local areas, and countywide.

ESSP members agreed:

1. To receive a report on carers at the January 2010 Executive Board meeting
2. To provide Lisa Schrevel with contacts details for those interested in participating in a workshop on Apprenticeships
3. To approve recommendations within all three Pride of Place review recommendations, namely: to discuss how the different partnerships can work together to support the community safety priorities; to consider receiving monitoring information on NI 125; to amend the older people strategic priority and key tasks to include carers; to consider ways in which ESSP and its partners can further assist in delivering outcomes for older people and carers; to note the summary of progress and proposed key areas of focus for the Children and Young People's Trust partnership in 2009-10, set out in the 2009 annual CYPP review; and consider how all ESSP partners can contribute to the continuing

priorities for children and young people set out in both “Pride of Place” and the CYPP.

9) Local Area Agreement Performance Report

- a) Lisa Schrevel briefly introduced the Local Area Agreement (LAA) Performance Report which shows over 60% of LAA1 targets achieved, and encouraging performance in LAA2.

ESSP members agreed:

1. To approve the Local Area Agreement Performance Report

10) Governance Review

- a) Lisa Schrevel briefly introduced the report which details findings and recommendations following the recent governance, communications and engagement review, noting that a few late submissions had been received offering additional comments.
- b) Jeremy Leggett took members through the recommendations which fell into five areas:
 - i. Interim update of the Constitution so that it better reflected the reality of how ESSP operated. This would include the clarification that the current Board would in future be known as the ESSP, and the current Assembly would continue as an important advisory and consultative forum of the ESSP
 - ii. Discussions between the Chair, the District and Borough LSPs, countywide thematic partnerships and SpeakUp to clarify relations and representational roles
 - iii. Further refinement of the structure diagram to better reflect relationships, representation and accountability between ESSP and other partnerships in the county
 - iv. Clear proposals for targeted recruitment to the Assembly based on the criteria recommended in the report, and
 - v. Updating the ESSP Communications and Engagement Plan and developing guidance to support partners’ engagement and representational roles.
- c) Members agreed that an interim update of the Constitution, as recommended, was a sensible next step, and that further discussions were needed to clarify and agree relationships with the District and Borough LSPs, countywide thematic partnerships and SpeakUp. The structure diagram would need to be refined after agreement had been reached on these relationships.

ESSP members agreed:

1. To approve the recommendations in the report as outlined above,
2. To receive and agree electronically, an interim update of the Constitution, and
3. To hold a meeting of the Form and Function Group to consider further revisions of the Constitution following discussions with the District and Borough LSPs, countywide thematic partnerships and SpeakUp, and prior to bringing a final Constitution to ESSP for approval in January 2010.

11) Coordinators Report

- a) Lisa Schrevel briefly introduced the Coordinators Report, detailing a business quarter that included Pride of Place action planning and strategy reviews, website development and the Progress through Partnership funded programme.
- b) Members thanked Lisa Schrevel, Katherine Perrin and Lucy Dixon-Thompson for their work in supporting the partnership in recent months.

12) Any Other Business (AOB)

- a) **Recession:** Becky Shaw updated members that the Recession Task Force was helping to share information to assist local residents and businesses through the recession. A survey of local businesses showed a mixed picture with some businesses having difficulties, and others experiencing growth
- b) **LAA Exemplar Projects:** Alison Horan advised members that, following circulation to members, the two projects that were rated highest by those members who responded were the project on Housing (led by Wealden) and the project to prevent NEETs in Rother(led by ESCC).

ESSP members agreed:

1. Members agreed to support the two highest rated Exemplar Projects for submission.

13) Dates of future meetings

- a) Members were asked to note the dates of future meetings
10am **2 October 2009**, Council Chamber, East Sussex County Council, St Anne's Crescent, Lewes, BN7 1UE
10am **14 January 2010**, Conference Room, East Sussex Fire and Rescue HQ, Upperton Road, Eastbourne, BN21 1EU

The Chairman thanked St Peter's Community Centre for hosting the meeting. There being no other business, the meeting closed at 12.30pm.

East Sussex Strategic Partnership Executive Board

Friday 17 July 2008

SUMMARY OF AGREED ACTIONS

Item	Action
FOR DECISION SECTION	
5	CAA Progress Report 1. None.
6	Agenda Error – no item 6
7	SCS Community Action Plan delivery planning 1. To focus on the recession, improving transport, coordinating housing services, tackling climate change and tackling alcohol misuse as the priority actions from the Pride Countywide Action Plan. 2. To endorse the action plan champions of Councillor Tidy, East Sussex County Council (recession), Jeremy Leggett, Action in Rural Sussex (improving transport), Chris Wick, Environment Agency (climate change) and Robin Smith, Sussex Police (alcohol misuse), and to endorse the nominee from the Boroughs and Districts to champion housing.
8	SCS Strategy Reviews and Updates 1. To receive a report on cares at the January 2010 Executive Board meeting 2. To provide Lisa Schrevel with contact details for those interested in participating in a workshop on Apprenticeships 3. To approve recommendations within all three Pride of Place reviews, namely: to discuss how the different partnerships can work together to support the community safety priorities; to consider receiving monitoring information on NI 125; to amend the older people strategic priority and key tasks to include carers; to consider ways in which ESSP and its partners can further assist in delivering outcomes for older people and carers; to note the summary of progress and proposed key areas for focus for the Children and Young People’s Trust partnership in 2009-10. set out in the 2009 annual CYPP review; and consider how all ESSP partners can contribute to the continuing priorities for children and young people set out in both Pride of Place and the CYPP.
9	Local Area Agreement Performance Report 1. To approve the Local Area Agreement Performance Report.
10	Governance Review 1. To approve the recommendations in the report, 2. To receive and agree electronically, an interim update of the Constitution, and 3. To hold a meeting of the Form and Function Group to consider further revisions of the Constitution following discussions with the District and Borough LSPs, countywide thematic partnerships and SpeakUp, and prior to bringing a final Constitution to ESSP for approval in January 2010.
FOR INFORMATION SECTION	
11	Coordinators Report None.
12	Any Other Business (AOB) 1. Members agreed to support the two highest rated Exemplar Projects for submission.

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