

## IN ATTENDANCE

### ESSP Members present:

Jeremy Leggett (Chair)	Action in Rural Sussex
Becky Shaw (for Cllr Bob Tidy, Vice Chair)	East Sussex County Council (ESCC)
Ian Chisnall	Churches Together in Sussex
Cllr David Tutt	Eastbourne Borough Council
Gary Walsh	East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service
Joanna Hodgson (for Chris Wick)	Environment Agency
Richard Emmens	Government Office for the South East
Cllr Peter Pragnell	Hastings Borough Council
John Hodges	Hastings & Bexhill Economic Alliance
Arthur Norton (for Jon Griffiths)	Highways Agency
Jane Thacker	JobCentre Plus
Charles Everett	NHS Hastings & Rother
Rita Lewis	NHS East Sussex Downs & Weald
Steve Manwaring	SpeakUp Representative
Steve Hare	SpeakUp Representative
Caroline Wood (for Gilly Bartrip)	South East England Development Agency
Cllr David Young	Sussex Association of Local Councils
Robin Smith	Sussex Police
Gill Cameron-Waller (for Cllr Pam Doodles)	Wealden District Council

### Also in attendance:

Sandra Prail	Audit Commission
David Bryant	Audit Commission
Jane Mackney	East Sussex County Council
Kieran McNamara	East Sussex County Council
Shelagh Powell	East Sussex County Council
Lisa Schrevel	East Sussex County Council
Robert Cottrill	Eastbourne Borough Council
Tiga-Rose Nercessian	ESSP
Roy Mawford	Hastings Borough Council
Andrew Palmer	Hastings Borough Council
Shabana Bayjou	Hastings Borough Council
Cynthia Lyons	NHS Hastings & Rother
Scott Lavocah	Rother District Council
Jo Orchard-Webb	University of Brighton
Sharon Ward	West Sussex County Council

## NOTES

### 1) Welcome and Apologies

- a) The chair welcomed all members to the meeting, especially Rita Lewis, who had replaced John Barnes and was attending her first meeting with the ESSP; Andrew Palmer and Joanna Hodgson who were representing the housing and climate change champions Charles Lant and Chris Wick; other's representing members who were unable to attend; David Bryant from the Audit Commission; Jane Mackney who had taken over Alison Horan's responsibilities for ESSP and the LAA; and today's presenters - Kieran McNamara, Shelagh Powel, Sandra Prail and Tiga-Rose Nercessian.
- b) Apologies were received from:
- |                            |                                       |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Cllr Bob Tidy (Vice Chair) | East Sussex County Council            |
| Chris Wick                 | Environment Agency                    |
| Ken Stevens                | Federation of Small Businesses        |
| Jon Griffiths              | Highways Agency                       |
| Debby Gill                 | JobCentre Plus                        |
| Cllr Carl Maynard          | Rother District Council               |
| Gilly Bartrip              | South East England Development Agency |
| Charles Lant               | Wealden District Council              |
- c) Members also congratulated Becky Shaw on her appointment as East Sussex County Council's Chief Executive.

**ESSP Members agreed** for Jeremy Leggett to send Cllr Tidy a get well card on ESSP's behalf

### 2) Urgent items of business

None

### 3) Notes of the meeting held on 2 October 2010 and Matters Arising

- a) The notes of the last meeting were agreed as an accurate record.
- b) Steve Manwaring informed members that the first meeting for Compact Champions had been held. Anyone interested in becoming a Champion, or receiving support in that role should contact Paul Rideout, Voluntary and Community Services Co-ordinator at ESCC ([paul.rideout@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:paul.rideout@eastsussex.gov.uk)).
- c) The effect of central government policies and spending plans locally would be clearer after the general elections. In the meantime, work continues between all six council leaders and on shared arrangements to improve access to and the efficiency of services. Agreement had been reached between ESCC and the Primary Care Trusts to work more closely together.

### 4) Declarations of Interest

None

## FOR DISCUSSION

### 5) The Local Economic Assessment (LEA)

- a) Kieran McNamara introduced this topic, explaining that the LEA will provide a strong evidence base for a new Economic Development Strategy for East Sussex which in turn would be used to update the Economy, Jobs and Prosperity theme in Pride of Place. Also, since the last meeting, the Informal Business Board had met, enhancing engagement with private sector businesses.

- b) Shelagh Powell, East Sussex County Council (ESCC) gave a presentation on the LEA, related plans, timescales and stakeholder engagement. Key points included:
  - i) The Work and Skills Plan, being developed by the Future Jobs Fund Steering Group and local economic assessment groups, would sit under the Adult Learning and Skills Plan and be a cornerstone of the Economic Development Strategy.
  - ii) There was already a good evidence base including the annual business survey (now in its fourth year), which would be published on East Sussex in Figures in May/June this year. Other evidence suggests that East Sussex needed an additional 8,500 jobs if everyone out of work or on job seekers allowance was to be offered a job.
  - iii) ESSP would have ownership of the LEA and the Economic Development Strategy, the development of which would include stakeholder events and a 12 week Compact Compliant consultation period before being brought back to ESSP next year for sign off.
  - iv) The strategy would be refreshed annually, but would need a major review in 2014 when the 2011 Census data will become available.
- c) Members noted the following emerging issues:
  - i) The timetable was challenging, although there was confidence that the key dates and deadlines would be met. The next major release would be a detailed scoped document in May/June.
  - ii) The need for, but complexity of, linking the LEA and Economic Development Strategy with a number of other concurrent developments such as LDF, the Single Conversation, LTP3, the Child Poverty Strategy – many of which need to be concluded by 2011 to take account of, for example, the vital inter-relationship between housing and jobs.
  - iii) Whilst some new issues were emerging from evidence gathering, such as increased interest in environmental issues, some known and fundamental issues remain including availability of jobs, sites and premises, business growth, and infrastructure (including broadband).
  - iv) Having a coherent plan for East Sussex as an area, whilst recognising that there will be different geographical emphasis because there are different needs and opportunities in different parts of the county.
- d) Members were pleased to note that the Further and Higher Education sectors were involved via their membership of the Adult Learning and Skills Board.
- e) Members felt that vision and aspiration needed to be injected into the Economic Development Strategy, and the Business Board was one of the ways in which that could be done.

## **6) Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA)**

- a) Sandra Prail, Audit Commission gave a presentation on the next steps and timetable for CAA 2010. Key points included:
  - i) The learning from national evaluations of CAA last year will be applied.
  - ii) CAA 2010 will not be a repeat of last year - it will be proportionate, risk-based and continue to focus on value for money, delivery of local priorities, sustainability and the needs of vulnerable people.
  - iii) Transport and Communications, and Housing will be subject to in-depth review and, as part of a wider national investigation Older People will be subject to a short 'light touch' desktop study to understand how partners work together to meet the needs of an aging population.
  - iv) With regard the transport and housing reviews – the aim would be to understand the priority, see what the outcomes have been for local people, and identify prospects for improvement.

- v) In relation to Transport and Communications, the focus was being developed but might include young people, rural broadband and older people's access to services (which were identified by ESSP as issues during their LTP3 stakeholder workshop). In terms of housing, vulnerable people needs will be investigated – specifically disabled people and young offenders.
  - vi) The role of District and Borough LSPs would be fed into the area assessment via the organisational assessments of District and Borough Councils.
- b) Members supported these broad areas for focus noting however that:
- i) Broadband was not just a rural issue, high speed broadband was needed across East Sussex particularly to assist in economic growth.
  - ii) Members felt that the Audit Commission should involve providers such as BT in their assessment, as improving broadband could not be done without their engagement.
  - iii) Development and commissioning for Older People, should be explored.
  - iv) The approach should be proportionate, recognising that other assessments have taken place and will take place, for example on older people.

Councillor Tutt reported that he was working with South East Councils to lobby regulators to encourage greater competition to drive broadband improvements forward. He would welcome evidence from partners to support a business case for better broadband in the County

**ESSP Members agreed** that the Audit Commission should hold scoping meetings with the lead for the three areas for focus namely:

- Jeremy Leggett - Transport and Communications
- Charles Lant – Housing, and
- Keith Hinkley, Chair of the Older People's Partnership Board – Older People.

## FOR DECISION

### 7) LAA 2 Performance Monitoring

- a) Becky Shaw introduced the performance monitoring report, which included the changes agreed during the LAA refresh.
- b) Whilst the target for reducing killed and seriously injured on our roads (NI 47) would not be met, the outcomes of a recent scrutiny review by Wealden District Council and a new Casualty Reduction Board would help advance coordinated activity in East Sussex.
- c) Successes in Brighton to reduce the number of teenage pregnancies (NI 112) should be investigated to see if there is any good practice that could be adopted.
- d) Members noted that the Place Survey was not necessarily the most effective way to measure community strength and leadership locally – levels of volunteering, Trustees and user-led/community-led organisations could be more useful alongside engagement in democratic processes.
- e) GOSE congratulated partners on the effectiveness of their performance management systems, including the level and detail of performance data and commentary.
- f) Jeremy Leggett thanked everyone involved in producing the LAA performance reports.

**ESSP Members Agreed to:**

1. Note the overall performance, and
2. Carry out any action needed to ensure the future delivery of LAA2

## 8) Pride of Place Champion updates

### a) Climate Change – Joanna Hodgson

- i) Joanna Hodgson confirmed that the priority action in the Pride of Place countywide action plan to establish a Climate Change Partnership for East Sussex had been achieved. The Partnership held its inaugural meeting on 1 April, agreeing to have a board, a working group and a stakeholder forum.
- ii) The Partnership was now gathering all existing plans, strategies and 'big ideas' to identify any gaps and opportunities that the partnership can take forward countywide. Its next meeting in June would aim to bring this information together into a countywide partnership action plan.
- iii) Members suggested that it would be helpful to involve the Sustainable Development Commission and ensure there is good private sector representation.
- iv) Jeremy Leggett encouraged all members to get involved with the work of the new Partnership to ensure they are actively engaged in action planning and delivery.
- v) Any ideas for membership and actions should be sent to [Joanna.hodgson@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:Joanna.hodgson@environment-agency.gov.uk)

### b) Recession – Becky Shaw

- i) Although the Country was officially out of recession (two consecutive quarters of growth), there were big pressures on public finances which would have a knock on effect locally.
- ii) Claimant numbers had reduced, but the number of long-term claimants continued to increase, a pattern also being seen in other parts of the country.
- iii) A successful financial inclusion event had been held recently at the Towner. Data gathering continued but evidence to date suggested that older people on fixed incomes and people in low paid jobs were two groups at risk of financial exclusion. Referring back to the item on the Local Economic Assessment it was clear that more high quality well paid jobs were needed in the County.
- iv) The multi-agency Recession Task Force had agreed a set of indicators to measure the impact of the recession locally, and help target action e.g. number of insolvencies. Contact [kieran.mcnamara@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:kieran.mcnamara@eastsussex.gov.uk) for a copy of the document.
- v) The local voluntary and community sector had undertaken a survey on the impact of the recession on voluntary and community organisations in East Sussex. The report, 'Meeting the Challenge', is available at [www.askcasper.org.uk/speakup/recession](http://www.askcasper.org.uk/speakup/recession)
- vi) Build East Sussex ([www.buideastsussex.co.uk](http://www.buideastsussex.co.uk)), a joint initiative by East Sussex County Council and Brighton & Hove City Council, had been launched to improve opportunities for local companies in the construction sector.
- vii) Jeremy Leggett suggested that it would be helpful if Cllr Tidy's role as the recession champion should be expanded to cover Economic Development.

### c) Improving Transport – Jeremy Leggett

- i) Jeremy Leggett suggested that this be the major topic for debate at the next meeting, embracing other connected thematic and population reviews and developments such as Climate Change, Economy, Housing, Children and Young People, and the Comprehensive Area Assessment.

#### **ESSP Members Agreed to:**

1. Discuss LTP3 at the next meeting alongside other related developments, and
2. Request feedback on how the ideas and issues they raised in their LTP3 stakeholder workshop were being fed into the LTP3 development.

d) Alcohol Misuse – Charles Everett and Robin Smith

- i) Charles Everett and Robin Smith confirmed that since the last meeting:
- Progress had been made on IT issues creating confidence that data sharing problems could be overcome. The outcome would be that Accident & Emergency data could help the Police target resources to prevent alcohol related crime and reduce alcohol related admissions to hospital.
  - Members discussed the wider impact of data sharing, as it was not just crime related. The Fire Service for example has evidence of alcohol related fires and burns injuries, but without hospital data are unable to target resources or education and awareness campaigns.
  - An Alcohol Communications and Social Marketing Plan had been developed and a range of campaigns were being planned including a strategy to manage alcohol misuse during the World Cup, and amongst young people. Natalie Butler of the Safer Communities Team was commended for her work on developing these plans.
  - Members discussed the role of street pastors, noting that in some areas their presence had helped reduce hospital admissions. The PCTs confirmed that they had been involved in training.

**ESSP Members agreed to ask that Gary Walsh, East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service be included in discussions with the PCTs and Police on sharing data**

e) Housing – Andrew Palmer

- i) Andrew Palmer updated ESSP on progress made on LAA performance and the Single Conversation.
- ii) The refreshed LAA housing targets (NI 154 and 155) reflected the impact of the recession on the housing markets yet are still quite stretching.
- iii) Early indications were that NI 155 (affordable homes) is on target and NI 154 (net additional homes) would be achieved by the end of next year. Progress on NI 156 was well ahead of target, with significant reductions in the numbers of households living in temporary accommodation, a very positive example of successful partnership working.
- iv) Meetings regarding the Single Conversation had been held with the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA), Government Office South East (GOSE) and the South East England Development Agency (SEEDA), to scope what was required and consider the degree of fit with related developments such as LTP3 and the Local Economic Assessment.
- v) Subsequent meetings had been held, and the HCA felt that East Sussex's partnership arrangements are well advanced. Agreement had been reached for East Sussex to develop a Local Investment Plan - a 10-15 year vision document, using all the evidence that was currently available - with a shorter action plan. The Plan would be concluded by July, with a refresh in January 2011 when more up to date evidence would become available.
- vi) Andrew re-iterated that the Plan would use Pride of Place as its starting point (and would inform a refresh of the Housing theme), building from the bottom up with reference to the key local differences between Districts and Boroughs as well as linked priorities such as the relationship between employment space, housing and transport infrastructure.
- vii) East Sussex had received the highest funding allocation in the country for private sector housing renewal. The funding would enable significant improvements to ensure private housing met decent homes standards, as well as bringing empty homes back into use. The funding would be available across East Sussex, both rural and urban areas.
- viii) Andrew Palmer and his team were congratulated for the strength of their evidence base in helping negotiate a positive way forward for housing in East Sussex.

## 9) Forward Plan

- a) Members discussed the proposed Forward Plan noting that it would be positive to have both specific topic focus, but also to consider cross-cutting priorities. Jeremy Leggett also confirmed that his tenure as Chair would end in June next year and put forward a proposal to combine the next ESSP meeting with the annual meeting of East Sussex Assembly.
- b) Topics for inclusion were:
  - i) A 'standing item' on economic development to include:
    - Local Economic Assessment priorities and prioritisation (July 2010)
    - Signing off the Economic Development Strategy (January 2011)
    - Feedback on actions to market East Sussex as a place to invest in business and business growth
  - ii) Health inequalities and deprivation – a report from the PCTs (November 2010 or January 2011)
  - iii) CAA updates and reports (July, November 2010 and January 2011)
  - iv) Chairman – nominations (January 2011) and election (April 2011)

### **ESSP Members agreed:**

1. To approve the Forward Plan with the addition of the following topics:
  - Economic development (standing item)
  - Health inequalities and deprivation
  - CAA updates and reports
  - Nomination and election of ESSP Chairperson, and
2. To combine the July ESSP meeting with the East Sussex Assembly annual meeting.

## **FOR INFORMATION SECTION**

## 10) Migrant Research Update

- a) Tiga-Rose Nercession, Migrant Communities Support Officer for ESSP presented this update highlighting three key achievements:
  - i) Two members of staff had been recruited, Tiga-Rose and an English as a Second Language (ESOL) Coordinator working with migrant parents
  - ii) Research into migrants' needs and perceptions of service providers had been commissioned, and
  - iii) An officer had been appointed, based with Hastings Borough Council, who was making good progress on identifying and meeting migrants' housing in Hastings and Eastbourne, working with borough council housing officers.

## 11) Coordinator's Report

- a) Becky Shaw summarised the staffing changes at ESCC including:
  - i) The merger of Law, Personnel and Democratic Services and Policy and Communications Departments, creating a new Governance and Community Services Department. An interim Director had been appointed.
  - ii) Kieran McNamara had been appointed Assistant Director of Economic Development and Community Services his responsibilities now included community safety and travellers (areas previously managed by Alison Horan).
  - iii) The Chief Executives Department would be replaced with a small Chief Executive's Office comprising policy, performance and partnership officers. This unit would be headed up by Jane Mackney, reporting directly to Becky Shaw as Chief Executive.

**ESSP Members agreed to** thank Alison Horan, formerly Head of Community Partnerships at ESCC and Katherine Perrin, formerly Strategic Partnership Officer at ESCC for the support they have provided ESSP over the years.

- b) Lisa Schrevel highlighted:
- i) A number of partnerships and organisations had accepted invitations to join East Sussex Assembly, including the Children and Young People's Trust Executive group, SpeakUp Forum, Southeastern rail and Southern rail. Membership was now above 90 and further acceptances were expected and likely to push Assembly membership to over 100 organisations and partnerships.
  - ii) Progress through Partnership funding (both ESSP's and joint funding from the six LSPs) was supporting the delivery of a number of the top priority actions including:
    - Climate Change – funding to support the inaugural meeting of the partnership and the second meeting to develop an action plan.
    - Recession – a very successful event had identified a number of ways to market East Sussex as a place to do, and invest in, business. A report with recommended next steps would follow.
    - Alcohol Misuse – funding toward the summer campaign to reduce alcohol misuse amongst young people.
    - Housing – a housing event on 25 May would explore how to progress work currently underway to develop a coordinated, cross-cutting and countywide approach to housing delivery, including the role of the Homes and Communities Agency. Details would be circulated.

## 12) Any Other Business

- a) The Learning and Skills Council (LSC) had closed. Chris Piper, the LSC representative on ESSP was thanked for his contribution over the years. As ESCC had taken up the lead on LAA and other service delivery led by LSC, there was no representational gap on ESSP with LSC's departure.
- b) As part of future governance discussions, members may wish to consider how new agencies, such as the Young Persons Learning Agency and National Parks Authority, might be involved in the work of the ESSP, for example by joining the Assembly.
- c) Members noted the conclusion of the ESCC scrutiny review on procurement and believed a discussion of this, within the context of economic development, would be useful.
- d) A joint press release had been issued on the significant reductions in crime in East Sussex, noting that these reductions could not have been achieved without the strong and effective partnership working that exists within the county.

**ESSP Members agreed:**

1. To note the closure of the Learning and Skills Council (LSC) and to thank Chris Piper, their representative, for his contributions over the year; and
2. To include the subject of procurement with small to medium sized enterprises within the wider discussions on economic development.

## 13) Dates of future meetings

- a) Members were asked to note the next two meeting dates: 22 July 2010 (to be combined with the East Sussex Assembly – venue to be confirmed) and 3 November 2010.

**There being no other business, the meeting was concluded at 12.30pm.**

<b>SUMMARY OF AGREED ACTIONS</b>	
<b>Item</b>	<b>Action</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Welcome and Apologies</b> Jeremy Leggett to send Cllr Tidy a get well card on ESSP's behalf.
<b>FOR DISCUSSION SECTION</b>	
<b>5</b>	<b>Local Economic Assessment</b> None
<b>6</b>	<b>Comprehensive Area Agreement</b> The Audit Commission should hold scoping meetings with the lead for the three areas for focus namely: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jeremy Leggett - Transport and Communications</li> <li>• Charles Lant – Housing, and</li> <li>• Keith Hinkley (Chair of the Older People's Partnership Board) – Older People.</li> </ul>
<b>FOR DECISION SECTION</b>	
<b>7</b>	<b>LAA2 Performance Monitoring</b> 1. To note the overall performance, and 2. To carry out any action needed to ensure the future delivery of LAA2
<b>8</b>	<b>Pride of Place Champion Updates</b> Gary Walsh, East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service, to participate in discussions with the PCTs and Police on sharing data.
<b>9</b>	<b>The ESSP Forward Plan</b> 1. To approve the Forward Plan with the addition of the following topics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Economic development (standing item</li> <li>- Health inequalities and deprivation</li> <li>- CAA updates and reports</li> <li>- Nomination and election of ESSP Chairperson, and</li> </ul> 2. To combine the July ESSP meeting with the East Sussex Assembly annual meeting
<b>FOR INFORMATION SECTION</b>	
<b>10</b>	<b>Migrant Action Group Update</b> Share the outcomes of commissioned research into migrant's needs and perceptions of service providers when available.
<b>11</b>	<b>Coordinators Report</b> To thank Alison Horan, formerly Head of Community Partnerships at ESCC and Katherine Perrin, formerly Strategic Partnership Officer at ESCC for the support they have provided ESSP over the years.
<b>12</b>	<b>Any Other Business (AOB)</b> 1. To note the closure of the Learning and Skills Council (LSC) and to thank Chris Piper, their representative, for his contributions over the year, and 2. To include the subject of procurement with small to medium sized enterprises within the wider discussions on economic development