

Report to: East Sussex Strategic Partnership (ESSP)
Date: 22 July 2010
Title: 2009/10 Annual Review
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Purpose: To provide partners with a review of ESSP activities during 2009/10

1) Introduction

- a) This year, ESSP has focused on Pride of Place, the Local Area Agreement and Countywide Action Plan; supporting migrant communities; its communications and engagement; and partnership development. Throughout the year, ESSP has worked closely with the District and Borough Local Strategic Partnerships and those key countywide partnerships that help deliver the strategic priorities in Pride of Place.

2) Pride of Place – the Sustainable Community Strategy for East Sussex

- a) A range of countywide partnership strategies inform and are informed by Pride of Place, and are reviewed regularly by relevant countywide partnerships. During the year, ESSP developed a clear process to work closely with these partnerships and to feed the outcomes of their reviews into Pride of Place. This year Community Safety, Older People and Children and Young People's strategies were reviewed by the Safer Communities Partnership, Older People's Partnership and Children and Young People's Trust respectively, and Pride of Place updated accordingly. Reviews currently underway include Economic Development, Adult Learning and Skills and Transport.
- b) The priorities in Pride of Place are delivered through a variety of action plans. The two that ESSP focuses on are the Pride of Place Countywide Action Plan (longer-term strategic priorities) and the Local Area Agreement (a three year action plan).

3) The Pride of Place Countywide Action Plan

- a) This year ESSP agreed to focus on five top priorities, appointing an ESSP 'champion' to drive forward progress:
 - i) Tackling the effects of recession, championed by Cllr Tidy of ESCC, has seen a number of partnership achievements including a reduction in claimant numbers; evidence gathering on those likely to suffer the greatest from financial exclusion; and agreement on a set of indicators to measure the impact of the recession locally.
 - ii) Tackling climate change, championed by Chris Wick of the Environment Agency, has resulted in a new Countywide Climate Change Partnership for East Sussex. The partnership is currently developing a countywide action plan to compliment existing local and organisational plans.
 - iii) Tackling alcohol misuse, championed by Robin Smith of Sussex Police and Charles Everett of NHS Hastings and Rother, has resulted in progress on IT issues creating confidence that data sharing problems can 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. Extending the benefit of data sharing to more partners is being explored.
 - iv) Developing a coordinated response to housing, championed by Charles Lant of Wealden District Council, has resulted in agreement for East Sussex to develop a

Local Investment Plan - a 10-15 year vision document, using all the evidence that is currently available - with a shorter action plan.

- v) Developing an integrated approach to transport, championed by Jeremy Leggett, Chair of ESSP, has resulted in close liaison on the development of the Local Transport Plan, its inter-relationship with other key plans such as economic development, and stakeholder workshops with partners to inform priorities.

4) Local Area Agreement (LAA)

- a) Performance this year is set out in the LAA end of year performance report (Item 3a). The 2009/10 LAA refresh was successfully concluded, and formal approval received from the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government. The LAA is now in its final year and is due to finish on 31 March 2011.

5) Migrant Action Group

- a) In November 2007, ESSP set up the Migrant Research Project Group. In 2009 this evolved into the Migration Action Group (MAG). Based on locally drawn evidence, MAG successfully bid to the Migration Impacts Fund for a programme of activities and has appointed a Migrant Communities Project Officer to oversee implementation.

6) Partnership Development Activities

- a) ESSP raised £5,000 for development activities and, with the five District and Borough LSPs, a further £5,000 for joint activities. ESSP activities have included an inaugural meeting of the Climate Change Partnership for East Sussex and a stakeholder forum to develop priorities for action; and financial support toward implementing locally the national 'why let drink decide?' young people's alcohol campaign this summer.
- b) Joint activities have included a seminar on marketing East Sussex as place in which to invest in business, and a conference to develop an integrated approach to delivering local housing targets. Recommendations from both events are currently being pursued.

7) Communications and Engagement

- a) The LSP Chairs and Coordinators Group continued to meet during the year to share information and oversee joint projects, such as the pooled partnership development programme; and a Countywide Thematic Partnership Group was established share information on current activities and upcoming issues for ESSP to consider.
- b) A new content management system for the ESSP Website has been procured to offer a better user experience. The site is being redesigned around the themes and age groups in Pride of Place so that people can access information via their areas of interest. The new site will go live in the autumn, after being tested with partners.
- c) The membership of the East Sussex Assembly has been expanded with over 20 organisations and partnerships joining during the year. The Assembly, which acts as ESSP's consultative and advisory forum, now has almost 100 members from across the public, private and voluntary and community sectors in East Sussex.

8) Partnership Support Service

- a) East Sussex County Council provides a range of support services to ESSP including LAA project management and performance monitoring, secretariat for meetings, organising Assembly and other partnership events, and maintaining the ESSP website.
- b) There were a few staff changes within the support team during the year. Becky Shaw was appointed Chief Executive of East Sussex County Council, taking up post at the end of April 2010. Alison Horan, Head of Community Partnerships retired at the end of March and Katherine Perrin, Strategic Partnership Officer took up a new post within the voluntary and community sector. Jane Mackney, Head of Policy and Performance has taken over Alison's work on the ESSP and the LAA. She has continued to be supported in this role by Lisa Schrevel, Partnership Development Manager.