

# Essex County Council Commissioning Strategies

## Briefing Paper for the Place Services and Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee

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**Report to:** Place Services and Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee

**Date:** 24<sup>th</sup> July 2014

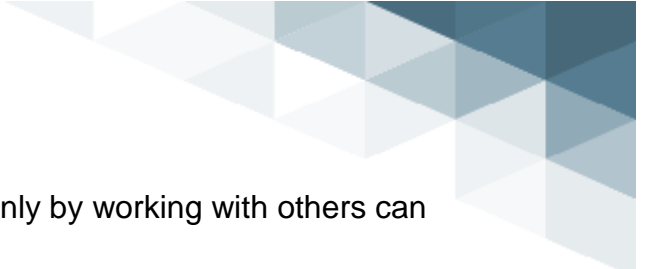
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### Purpose

1. This report has been prepared to inform a discussion with the Place Services and Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee on Essex County Council's developing commissioning strategies. These strategies remain a work-in-progress. They will be shaped by input from the Scrutiny Committee and by the results of a period of public consultation and partner engagement.

### Background

2. Essex County Council (ECC) has set out a clear Vision for Essex – we want to be a county where innovation brings prosperity. To achieve this vision, the authority will need to work in new ways with partners in the public and private sectors, the voluntary and community sector, and with individuals, families and communities.
3. The authority's focus therefore, is on what works best in improving the lives of Essex residents, rather than on which services are delivered and who delivers these services. To support this way of working, the authority agreed (in February 2014), a set of seven "outcomes" that Members and Officers will work towards to ensure prosperity and wellbeing for Essex's residents. These outcomes are:
  - Children in Essex get the best start in life;
  - People in Essex enjoy good health and wellbeing;
  - People have aspirations and achieve their ambitions through education, training and lifelong-learning;
  - People in Essex live in safe communities and are protected from harm;
  - Sustainable economic growth for Essex communities and businesses;
  - People in Essex experience a high quality and sustainable environment; and
  - People in Essex can live independently and exercise control over their lives.
4. These outcomes are supported by a set of 'indicators' – units of data that will be used to assess progress towards these "outcomes".
5. Focusing our work on these outcomes highlights the importance that ECC places on working with partners across the public, private and voluntary sectors, and with individuals, families and communities. None of these outcomes can be achieved by




any person or organisation working in isolation – only by working with others can ECC secure the progress it seeks.

6. The outcomes listed above describe what ECC wants to achieve for Essex as a whole, and how it will measure progress. They do not set out the issues we will address and the actions we will take. To support these outcomes and indicators, ECC has, therefore, developed a set of commissioning strategies – one commissioning strategy per outcome. These strategies are based on:
  - an analysis of Essex's current position with regard to the outcome, including examination of historic trends and what we expect to happen in the future if trends continue;
  - an analysis of the 'story' behind Essex's current position – the forces and factors that have driven historical trends and shaped likely forecast trends;
  - an analysis of the issues that need to be addressed to secure progress; and
  - a high-level action plan that sets out what ECC proposes to do, with partners, to secure progress.
7. It is on these issues and proposals that Cabinet Members seek the views of the Place Services and Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee. Given the specific role of the Scrutiny Committee, specific views are sought on the commission strategies supporting the following outcomes:
  - People in Essex live in safe communities and are protected from harm;
  - Sustainable economic growth for Essex communities and businesses; and
  - People in Essex experience a high quality and sustainable environment.
8. The remaining commissioning strategies have been considered by ECC's People and Families Scrutiny Committee and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 10<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> July respectively.

## Supporting documents

9. In order to support a full discussion of the Commissioning Strategies, a set of supporting documents are provided as annexes to this with this report. These are as follows:

<b>Annex A</b>	Commissioning Strategy Summary: People in Essex live in safe communities and are protected from harm
<b>Annex B</b>	Commissioning Strategy Summary: Sustainable economic growth for Essex communities and businesses
<b>Annex C</b>	Commissioning Strategy Summary: People in Essex experience a high quality and sustainable environment
<b>Annex D</b>	Full Commissioning Strategy: People in Essex live in safe communities and are protected from harm



**Annex E** Full Commissioning Strategy: Sustainable economic growth for Essex communities and businesses

**Annex F** Full Commissioning Strategy: People in Essex experience a high quality and sustainable environment