

People and Families Scrutiny Committee

10:00	Thursday, 04 September 2014	Committee Room 2, County Hall, Chelmsford, Essex
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Quorum: 4**Membership**

Councillor I Grundy

Councillor S Barker

Councillor D Blackwell

Councillor J Chandler

Councillor M Danvers

Councillor T Higgins

Councillor P Honeywood

Councillor R Howard

Councillor A Jackson

Councillor R Lord

Councillor M McEwen

Councillor M Page

Councillor C Seagers

Councillor A Wood

Chairman

Non-elected Members

Richard Carson

Mark Christmas

Rev Richard Jordan

Marian Uzzell

For information about the meeting please ask for:

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www.essex.gov.uk/scrutiny



Essex County Council

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Part 1

(During consideration of these items the meeting is likely to be open to the press and public)

		Pages
1	Apologies and Substitution Notices The Committee Officer to report receipt (if any)	
2	Declarations of Interest To note any declarations of interest to be made by Members	
3	Minutes of previous meeting To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 10 July 2014.	5 - 16
4	Questions from the Public A period of up to 15 minutes will be allowed for members of the public to ask questions or make representations on any item on the agenda for this meeting.	
5	Member visits to Care Homes To receive an update. Councillor Terry Cutmore will be in attendance.	
6	Social Impact Bond MST To receive a report on Social Impact Bond funded Multi-Systemic Therapy. Tanya Gillett, Head of Youth Offending, will be in attendance. PAF/22/14 attached.	17 - 20
7	Occupational Therapy To receive an update on Occupational Therapy, particularly with regard to progress with the District/Borough/City Councils and on improvements to the service. Mike Boyle, Executive Director for Adult Operations, Robert Sach, Countywide Assessment and Review Team, and Diane Brown, Practice and Development Team, Adult Operations, will be in attendance. PAF/23/14 attached.	21 - 24
8	Educational Attainment in Essex To agree the membership of the Task and Finish Group. Scoping document PAF/24/14 (previously circulated as PAF/19/14) attached.	25 - 32

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| 9 | Commissioning Services for Vulnerable People
To agree the membership of the Task and Finish Group.
Scoping document PAF/25/14 (previously circulated as PAF/20/14) attached. | 33 - 40 |
| 10 | Carers Strategy
To establish the need for a Task and Finish Group to consider a Carers Strategy. | |
| 11 | Scrutiny recommendations tracker and work programme
To note developments and work outstanding in the Committee's work programme. PAF/26/14 attached. | 41 - 52 |
| 12 | Date of Next Meeting
To note that the next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 13 November at 10.00am. | |
| 13 | Urgent Business
To consider any matter which in the opinion of the Chairman should be considered in public by reason of special circumstances (to be specified) as a matter of urgency. | |

Exempt Items

(During consideration of these items the meeting is not likely to be open to the press and public)

To consider whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during consideration of an agenda item on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as specified in Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 or it being confidential for the purposes of Section 100A(2) of that Act.

In each case, Members are asked to decide whether, in all the circumstances, the public interest in maintaining the exemption (and discussing the matter in private) outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

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| 14 | Urgent Exempt Business
To consider in private any other matter which in the opinion of the Chairman should be considered by reason of special circumstances (to be specified) as a matter of urgency. |
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Members noted the recent changes, as made at the May Council meeting, as set out in PAF/16/14.

One member suggested that the Chairman of a scrutiny committee should be a member of the opposition, rather than of the administration. In response, it was pointed out that this was not the right place to debate such an issue. However, the Chairman noted the point. He hoped that Committee members felt able to speak freely at these meetings and did not feel constrained by political affiliations.

Councillors Higgins and McEwen were each proposed and seconded as deputy chairmen of the Committee. A vote having been taken, they were both duly elected.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Minutes

The minutes of the People and Families Scrutiny Committee meeting of 12 March 2014 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

5. Questions from the Public

There were no questions registered from Members of the Public.

6. Commissioning Strategies

Members received report PAF/17/14 on ECC Commissioning Strategies.

It was noted that the County Council had set out a clear vision for Essex, agreeing a set of seven outcomes that should be worked toward and which formed part of the Council's corporate priorities. Three of these are considered to fall within the remit of the People and Families Scrutiny Committee:

- People in Essex can live independently and exercise control over their lives
- Children in Essex get the best start in life
- People have aspirations and achieve their ambitions through education, training and life-long learning.

The Committee considered each one, as per the paper.

A) People in Essex can live independently and exercise control over their lives

Members were referred to Annexes C and F to the paper. Councillor Anne Brown, Cabinet Member for Adults Social Care, and Sheila Norris, Director for Integrated Commissioning & Vulnerable People, were in attendance.

Mrs Norris emphasised the importance of getting this right, as there was not only the need to manage resources carefully (especially in view of an ageing population and the requirements of the Care Bill), but it also improved outcomes for individuals and their families, and gave them greater control over their lives.

She added it was structured around those most at risk:

- Young people – those disabled and those acting as carers
- Adults with health problems
- Older people and end of life.

Mrs Norris responded to some questions from Members.

Although the whole population does need to be considered, the main focus has been on those needing support, and mostly the intention is for people to stay in their own homes where possible. But it is acknowledged that some people would prefer a residential option – some through a fear of loneliness, but there may be other reasons. This also applies to end of life scenarios, where some people would prefer to be in a hospital to remaining at home. These demonstrate the need to personalise cases.

With regard to end of life, there is a need to ensure people are kept informed and that close relatives and friends are involved, so that informed choices can be made. Dealing with those who are neither children nor elderly is an area that presents opportunities to hospices and hospitals to provide end of life care best suited to individuals' needs.

The community does have a pivotal role – a question to be addressed is how the County's and the community's roles can complement each other. There is an issue in how to find people from the community. One initiative is the relaunching of the County Council's staff volunteering scheme, which gives Council staff two working days for voluntary activity per annum. Were the uptake widespread, this would contribute many thousands of hours to the voluntary sector's activities in the community. And the intention is to encourage other organisations to consider contributing in a similar fashion.

Mental health, particularly with respect to the elderly, is another key element.

The strategy does not make much reference to the grass roots voluntary sector. Some 10,000 voluntary organisations are active in Essex. The County Council has no intention of imposing any central control over these, but it does wish to engage with local groups, perhaps providing some funding and/or assistance where appropriate and possible.

There is no reference to any market analysis in the report, but there detailed implementation plans, sitting below the strategy.

Another area is that of personal budgets, where the intention is to increase the proportion of individuals with these. It is hard to estimate any actual figures – this will depend on how many individuals are thought to be able to do operate in

this way. And a balance will be required, to ensure that the service they receive is of good quality.

The Chairman thanked the Cabinet Member and Mrs Norris for their input.

B) Children in Essex get the best start in life

Members were referred to Annexes A and D to the paper. Councillor Joe Pike, representing Councillor Dick Madden, Cabinet Member for Families and Children, and Chris Martin, Director for Integrated Commissioning & Vulnerable People, were in attendance.

Before Mr Martin addressed the meeting, Councillor Pike reminded Members that this work was ongoing. Mr Martin acknowledged that the importance of giving children the best start in life is obvious and added that all research carried out in this field confirmed this. When things are got right for children under the age of five – and particularly those under two – this produces the best likely outcomes in terms of educational and personal achievement and wellbeing, throughout those individuals' lives; so this is an important area.

However, it is also important that children in Essex feel loved and safe and that they are valued; that they are able to make lasting relationships with others; that they feel a connection to their place and locality; that they benefit from stability; that they are able to follow their dreams and maximise their potential.

A number of key indicators will be used in the process of delivering this strategy. Four of these are regarded as key:

- The percentage of children ready for school
- The percentage of children achieving a good level of development at five years old
- Percentage of families living in temporary accommodation
- Percentage of children from non-working households

Our statistics indicate that 70-73% of Essex children are held to be ready for school, which puts the County in the top quartile. However, this also indicates a significant number of children – 30% – who are **not** ready, and this is a cohort unable to do basic activities, such as eat using cutlery, toilet themselves.

Those children with a good level of development at five is about 52-53% (which is above the national average), but this can vary according to location. For example, the overall figure for the Harlow area is 38% and for boys in Harlow is 29%. This needs to be addressed.

The number of families living in temporary accommodation is relatively low, but research indicates this as a very disruptive element in a child's life, effecting not only education and school life directly, but also reducing connection to place.

The numbers of those in workless households is also not very high, but again research indicates that children being brought up in a workless household has a very negative impact on their ambitions and aspirations, and that this is particularly strong where unemployment has been long term.

An Early Years Review was conducted as part of this project. This showed that, although there are a large number of services available to them, parents can find it difficult to navigate their way through to what they need. This can be a fragmented process, involving a lot of people, which may not be delivering as effectively as it should.

Mr Martin addressed some issues raised by Members.

Identifying those in need and achieving the desired early intervention can be difficult, particularly when the families do not fall into obvious groups. Some people are aware of services, but just do not know how to use them; others lack the confidence to avail themselves of them. Social Services will need to review its whole services package and think hard about how it provides them. As for the harder to reach groups, most people will have certain touch points to the system; the need is to ensure that these are spotted and followed up on.

There has been input from external sources. First, the Commissioning Outcomes Group has been involved in the process and is made up of County Council officers and representatives of CCGs, NHS England and the third Sector. Secondly, a partnership group called "The Public Office" has provided third party input into what is being done, particularly looking at the extent to which the proposals are new, or are essentially what is currently practised.

There are different and specific strategies targeting certain groups (Gypsies and Travellers, for example), although this may not be evident from the broad strategy document.

Parents are key to these proposals, as they are the route to the children, so they need to be engaged. Input has been sought from parents. An ethnographic approach was taken, digging deep into people's lives. There have been accusations of tokenism in the past, but these should now be avoided. It was found that in many cases those unable to access and use the services had blocks in their lives that contributed to this, such as narrow friendship groups, poor relationships with others, and a limited range of external activities.

A targeted approach is needed – dealing with specific areas with specific problems. For example, Basildon, Harlow and Tendring come up frequently as needing attention. There is another element here: poverty. There is a poverty strategy, as every district (barring two) has small pockets of deprivation. This makes a homogenous approach more difficult to achieve.

Councillor Pike added that Children's Centres are still developing. A part of this process is that each Centre has a focus group with input from local Members. Councillor Pike invited Members to get involved in these.

The Chairman thanked the Cabinet Member and Mr Martin for their input.

- C) People have aspirations and achieve their ambitions through education, training and life-long learning

Members were referred to Annexes B and E to the paper. Councillor Ray Gooding, Cabinet Member for Education and Lifelong Learning, and Chris Kiernan, Director of Commissioning: Education and Lifelong Learning, were in attendance.

The Cabinet Member introduced the item by pointing out that education spans both the extremes of the previously covered issues – children to end of life. The local authority has a responsibility to provide the tools to enable people to achieve the others.

There are eight key indicators, as set out in the document. One of the most sobering is the fifth, which concerns NEETs, where one statistic suggested that 25% of those classified as NEETs were likely to be dead or seriously ill by the age of 35. So this is a serious and important issue; Essex must give these young people the tools and the opportunities to take them out of this situation.

Also, the final one, concerning rates of volunteering, which was seen as important in the other presentations. Here, young people can be given the opportunity to contribute in this way. This brings out the fact that these issues do not fit in silos and should not be seen in isolation – it is important to have cross-fertilisation.

Mr Kiernan suggested that, although all the indicators are important, three are particularly significant:

- The percentage of children attending a good school
- The percentage of children achieving at school
- The percentage of young people aged 16-19 not in education, employment or training (NEET).

He pointed out that the County Council that the strategy is a strong one. Essex is more of an influence, rather than a player. Essex has demonstrated a much stronger interventionist role in failing schools over the last few years. Although the Government has reduced the role played by local authorities in schools, it has not repealed any of the legislation giving them statutory powers to intervene in failing schools, or the legislation giving local authorities a duty to ensure that children receive a good education. Also, the commissioning strategy is not merely aspirational – it has been in place for some time and is producing results. An example is: in 2010, 64% of primary schools in Essex were rated good or better (320 schools); in 2014 it is 76% - which represents another 60 schools reaching this standard.

There are still schools that do not meet good enough standards but Essex is taking action and is using its statutory powers to intervene. Two out of every five interventions in the whole country are made by Essex.

Mr Kiernan addressed some issues raised by Members.

Academies are legally independent of the County Council, but Essex still has a duty to ensure they are good enough and subjects them to the same quality assurance process as other schools. If Essex is not happy with the results, it will suggest appropriate action. If the school refuses to respond to this, and the situation persists, Essex will voice its concerns to Ofsted and the Secretary of State. That said, Essex has a very good relationship with its secondary academies, and works alongside them in this regard.

Core adult literacy still receives grants from the Government, which are used to directly fund adult learning programmes in the community; whereas continuing adult learning programmes are provided on a purely financial basis.

With regard to access to these services, much work is going on to attract individuals to these. It was noted that that adult literacy issues have bearing on children as well. Mr Kiernan agreed to ask Peter Cook, as Head of Commissioning: Education and Lifelong Learning, to provide fuller details of what Essex is doing about access.

It was also agreed that Peter Cook would be asked to provide details of the role that employers may be playing in dealing with illiteracy.

Migration (ie children going out of area to attend a school perceived as better than the local one) does create problems. It is the result of parents' natural response to a particular situation, and them wishing their children to get the best possible education. The only way to deal with this is for the local school that is losing pupils to regain its reputation, which can take time. An education panel has been set up in one area, to repair the reputations of certain schools, and this has had some success.

In response to the suggestion that NEETs should be offered voluntary work, Mr Martin pointed out that this should not be at the expense of education and training.

The importance of good leadership teams in schools was noted, but Mr Martin added that it was also important to get good classroom teachers, and this was often difficult in many places, such as rural schools and in commuter areas.

There is a strategy in respect of dyslexia, or rather "specific learning difficulties". It was noted that different parents want different approaches – eg some do not wish their children to be labelled as dyslexic; others want this, to enable them to receive whatever help they can. The key element here is assessment, which the better schools do from a very early age and require no input from County and then put a plan in place to address the condition. Sometimes extra intervention is required and there is a well established process that will be used.

With regard to the size of schools, small schools that are designed as such are seen as viable (although more vulnerable when things go wrong). Where there are several mixed year group classes, the school may think it wise to consider federating with others, to create a larger infrastructure. A large school with low numbers is different. If it is not attracting sufficient pupils, and there is little

prospect of population growth, it may need a difficult decision, and Essex is prepared to close schools if it thinks this a necessary course of action.

At present, the County Council has two aspects of its role with regard to schools over the past few years. These are:

- Quality assurance, including the right to intervene if necessary. This will remain
- A traded service, offering schools the opportunity to buy services from the Council. At present, this service is funded by a grant of £900k to maintain this, which allows Essex to buy services for those schools it believes no longer have the ability to do this. This will reduce to nothing in three years, which may impact the staff of this service as it moves forward.

The Cabinet Member added that encouraging and assisting schools to improve on their Ofsted ratings should also be seen as part of the overall process.

The Chairman thanked the Cabinet Member and Mr Kiernan for their input.

The Chairman then informed the Members that he intended to write to each Cabinet Member on their behalf, expressing broad support for these three strategies and recognising the work involved.

He will also consider three particular issues, determining how the Committee might take these forward:

- End of life
- Voluntary sector engagement
- Adult literacy.

7. Sensory Service Review Update

Members received report PAF/18/14 on pathway redesign for people with sensory impairments. Anna Saunders, Head of Commissioning for Vulnerable People, was in attendance.

The Chairman welcomed Ms Saunders and invited her to introduce the item.

Ms Saunders drew attention to the 180,000 people living with sensory impairment in Essex. Most of these are elderly and many refuse to identify themselves as having any impairment, so this represented a challenge to the County Council, to reach these people, many of whom had a higher risk of other injury because of their sensory impairments.

The Reablement Support Service is a major function. This has been carried out by Essex Cares, whose contract is being renewed for a further year. As part of the review process, a "Requirements Document" has been prepared. In response to suggestions that it was not very accessible, it is being simplified and Ms Saunders will circulate a copy to Members when this process is complete.

She listed four key elements of the new pathway:

- People should be able to live independently- in line with corporate outcome 7
- There is true integration of Social and Health services
- The pathway applies not just to adults but for whole life
- The Care Bill requires increased preventative services, which may mean an increase in required budget

If services were to be reduced, public consultation would be required, but the increased demands of the Care Bill make a shrinking of the service unlikely.

Ms Saunders responded to some questions asked by Members.

There are three areas of sensory impairment: sight loss, hearing loss, and those who are affected by both (the biggest group in older people). There is a considerable amount of data on the first two, but less on the third and this is an area needing more attention. Ms Saunders agreed to provide statistics to the Committee.

Regarding statutory requirements – these are undergoing change with the introduction of the Care Bill, so are under current review.

Although the Health Service would provide glasses or hearing aids, if someone was considered in need of 'sensory rehabilitation' (eg, long cane training for those losing their sight, or support around hearing aids), they would be referred to the County Council's Services. The Council already commission voluntary bodies to help in various processes. The intention with the new pathway is for the system to become seamless, so that the individual will automatically get appropriate help at point of diagnosis.

As well as Essex Cares, there are some providers interested in providing a similar service but doing it differently. The model being explored is a lead provider model who coordinates the overall provision, but does not make all the provision itself. This reflects the emerging national model and could ensure equity across the county.

Equity of service across the county is important – at the moment, there are pockets of provision. The intention going forward is to ensure quality provision all across the county. It was noted that there is a risk that the lead provider could add another layer of complexity but it is felt that specialist organisations are best placed to ensure joined up support and that it should feel seamless to the users .

8. Educational Attainment in Essex

Members received scoping document PAF/19/14 (previously circulated as PAF/13/14). It was agreed that this item should be considered at the September meeting.

9. Commissioning Services for Vulnerable People

Members received scoping document PAF/20/14. It was agreed that this item should be considered at the September meeting.

10. Scrutiny recommendations tracker and work programme

The Committee noted the tracker and work programme. The Chairman drew Members' attention to the scrutiny website, which publishes papers for Task & Finish Groups

www.essex.gov.uk/scrutiny

One Member expressed his disappointment at the ostensible lack of representatives of charities, voluntary organisations and other interested parties who might attend meetings. He believed consideration should be given to encouraging this.

Members noted this point.

11. Date of next meeting

The Committee noted the date of the next meeting: Thursday 4 September 2014, in Committee Room 1.

The meeting closed at 12.57 pm.

Chairman

		AGENDA ITEM 6
		PAF/22/13
Committee:	People and Families Scrutiny Committee	
Date:	4 th September 2014	
<u>Outstanding Items</u>		
Enquiries to:	Tanya Gillett Head of Youth Offending Service Family Operations Tanya.Gillett@essex.gov.uk	

Purpose of the Paper:

To update and inform members of the People and Families Scrutiny Committee of the progress and outcomes to date of the **Social Impact Bond (SIB) funded Multi-Systemic Therapy (MST)**

Context

In November of 2012 Essex County Council signed a contract with Children's Support Services LTD and Social Finance LTD to provide the United Kingdom's first Local Authority based Social Impact Bond to fund preventative services to young people at the edge of care.

The concept behind the Social Impact Bond is that investors establish preventative services at their own risk with significant social investment funding addressing areas of demand with known long term costs but associated poor outcomes. Essex County Council as the commissioner will only pay when these outcomes are successfully achieved within a defined metric. Payments are based on a share of savings in favour of the council and constrained within a defined time scale based on observed average stays of young people in care.

The contract is eight years in length with services being provided within the first 5 years but paid for on an outcomes basis across eight years.

The Social Impact Bond funds an intensive community and family based intervention know as Multi-Systemic Therapy playing a role within a cohesive system of locally developed preventative services for children, young people and their families in Essex.

Multi-Systemic Therapy (MST) was initially developed in the United States and has a bank of research trial evidence indicating some level of effectiveness with young people and families where offending and anti-social behaviours are the main presenting issues. More latterly in the United Kingdom MST has been applied with families where public care is a probable outcome because of likely break down of the families ability to cope with the young person. Interventions have a 3 – 5 month typical duration but involve a

very high level of involvement with families and a 24/7 out of hours on call service. As yet there is no clear evidence in the UK of impact in MST's ability to affect change in this population, although the current DOH research project is expected to indicate the model's efficacy in this area of social work. The publication of the interim findings is expected later this year.

An important element of MST is that the US based programmes developers oversee the delivery of the programmes, including weekly quality assurance reviews. They set out the referral requirements for the programme and also the behaviours that their research has considered not to be amenable to MST.

The Essex MST service is provided by Action for Children a well-established not for profit provider of children's services and the largest voluntary sector provider of evidence-based interventions in the UK.

Investors have established an initial £3.1 million to mobilise and run the scheme and will re-invest future outcome payments to take the scheme to conclusion which will increase their investment to around £5.9m.

Savings associated with the scheme at the medium level of performance, at the point of the ratification of the Business Case in 2012 were assumed to be £17.3m gross with a net retained saving assured to Essex of £10.3m.

Progress and Outcomes

The scheme became partially operational in April of 2013 with one of the two teams established while recruitment issues delayed the start of a second team. Fully operational by July 2013, the scheme has ramped up provision in accordance with an agreed mobilisation plan.

Referrals to the Multi-Systemic Therapy Services are through the established Quadrant Resource Panels to be considered by the Directors of Local Delivery thus ensuring that the usual quality assurance processes expected of all social workers requesting resources from the Panel are adhered to.

Governance around the scheme is well developed, primarily the Essex County Council Project Board Chaired by Helen Lincoln Executive Director Operations and key membership of the Elected Member Lead for Children Cllr Dick Madden. The Board receives a quarterly performance score card from the contractor that shows volume and flow of referrals and the characteristics and outcomes associated with the young people referred to the scheme. Membership of the Board reflects the whole council nature of the scheme with finance, legal, procurement, service, policy and commissioning representatives in attendance.

This Board is also supported by an Evaluation Steering Board that oversees the separately commissioned evaluation provided by the Office for Public Management and funded by the Department of Work and Pensions. The focus of this evaluation is

specifically to review the effect of the Social Impact Bond and not on the efficacy of MST.

At the last reporting date in August of this year the scheme was meeting targets in relation to work flow and referral levels and has reported on a small number of outcomes associated with the earliest cohorts passing through the scheme. Outcome payments to Social Finance have been in line with the profile.

Now that the service has been in place for over 12 months, a benefits realisation exercise will commence to review the assumptions contained in the Business Case to assess the accuracy of the assuming savings to the council (expected to be £10.3 million). The review, led by the Family Operations Finance Business Partner will focus on the MST model to see if some of requirements of the scheme (such as the need for the case to remain and open social work case during the therapy and the inability of the scheme to work with young people with autism) are inadvertently increasing some of the costs as well as the cost savings to date based on young people who have been diverted from care. This work will be completed in time for the December ECC Board meeting.

		AGENDA ITEM 7
		PAF/23/14
Committee:	People and Families Scrutiny Committee	
Date:	4 September 2014	
<u>Outstanding Items</u>		
Enquiries to:	Mike Boyle Executive Director Adult Operations 01245 431429 mike.boyle@essex.gov.uk	

Purpose of the Paper:

The last time **Occupational Therapy** (OT) was considered at Scrutiny was February 2013. This update to the People & Families Scrutiny Committee is with regard to progress with the District/Borough/City Councils and on improvements to the service.

Background

In 2010 there were 794 people waiting for Occupational Therapy assessments over 28 days. There were long waiting times for people to access adaptations within their homes in some cases over 18 months. There was little flexibility in the way that the leadership at the time were able to respond to the way they delivered Occupational Therapy with 80% of Occupational Therapists employed by ECC. Pathways for people to access services were fragmented.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY SERVICES

The former Community Wellbeing and Older People Policy & Scrutiny Committee conducted an in-depth review on Occupational Therapy services culminating in a final report with recommendations being presented to the Committee and the Cabinet Member in April 2011. The final report can be found at: [OT Service Review - 14 April 2011](#).

Subsequent reports and updates were received by that Committee at its meetings in:

- October 2011
- April 2012
- January 2013
- February 2013

One of the recommendations from the OT review related to the Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG), and the Committee conducted a separate follow-up review of the DFG, publishing a report in May 2012, which can be found here: [DFG Review - May 2012](#).

The Committee is receiving an update on OT services as part of its work programme to update Members on developments within the service since the former Scrutiny Committee received its last report 17 months ago.

Occupational Therapists (OTs) in social care maximise the number of people living independently in the environment of their choice. OTs do this by: the promotion of health and wellbeing through occupation; enabling people to participate in everyday life; enhancing people's ability to engage in activities they want to, need to or are expected to and modifying the environment to better support their occupational engagement.

OTs' unique skills and training in all aspects of rehabilitation, recovery and enablement make them well positioned to support and enable front line staff to embed a reabling culture throughout the organisation and with partners. They focus on targeted interventions to maximise independence and minimise the need for longer term support, thereby reducing the costs on social care budgets.

They are well placed to recommend assistive technology and the removal of environmental disabling barriers. OTs work with people to re-engage with their local communities, networks and leisure activities to reduce social isolation and maintain health and wellbeing.

In order to support ECC to discharge the requirements of the Care Act, OTs have a key role to play in prevention and early intervention through their expertise relating to aids, assistive technologies and adaptations that help people maintain or regain their independence and delay or prevent the onset of longer term dependency on social care support and health service interventions.

OTs can contribute to the following Essex County Council's corporate outcomes:

- People in Essex can live independently and exercise control over their lives.
- People enjoy good health and wellbeing.
- People have aspirations and achieve their ambitions through education, training and lifelong learning.

Progress with district, borough & city councils (disabled facilities grants)

Disabled facilities grants are awarded by the district, borough and city councils under the Housing Grants, Construction and Regeneration Act 1996. The Act states that the housing authorities are required to consult with the social services authority before it approves the grant application, to satisfy themselves that the proposed works are necessary and appropriate. The works will usually facilitate access into and within the disabled occupant's dwelling (eg widen doors and install ramps, install a stair lift or a level access shower).

An ECC officer met with every district, borough or city council regarding the throughput of referrals from Essex County Council (ECC) regarding applications for disabled facilities grants. This is because some of the councils had reported a reduction in the number of referrals. Following these meetings, the officer attended the Essex Housing Officers Group (EHOG) in late 2013, along with OTs representing the Countywide Assessment and Review Team (CART, formerly the Commissioned Workflow Team). The meeting heard all council areas report a significant improvement in the flow of referrals. The ECC attendees advised that a Senior Occupational Therapist would be the point of contact for the councils. There are four Senior OTs, one per quadrant (North - Colchester & Tendring, Mid - Chelmsford, Braintree & Maldon, West - Harlow, Epping Forest & Uttlesford, South - Basildon, Brentwood, Castle Point & Rochford). The officers

outlined that the majority of referrals are likely to come from CART. The district, borough and city councils know they can liaise directly with their OT regarding any issues, eg throughput, quality and standards. One of the CART Senior OTs attends the quarterly EHO meeting.

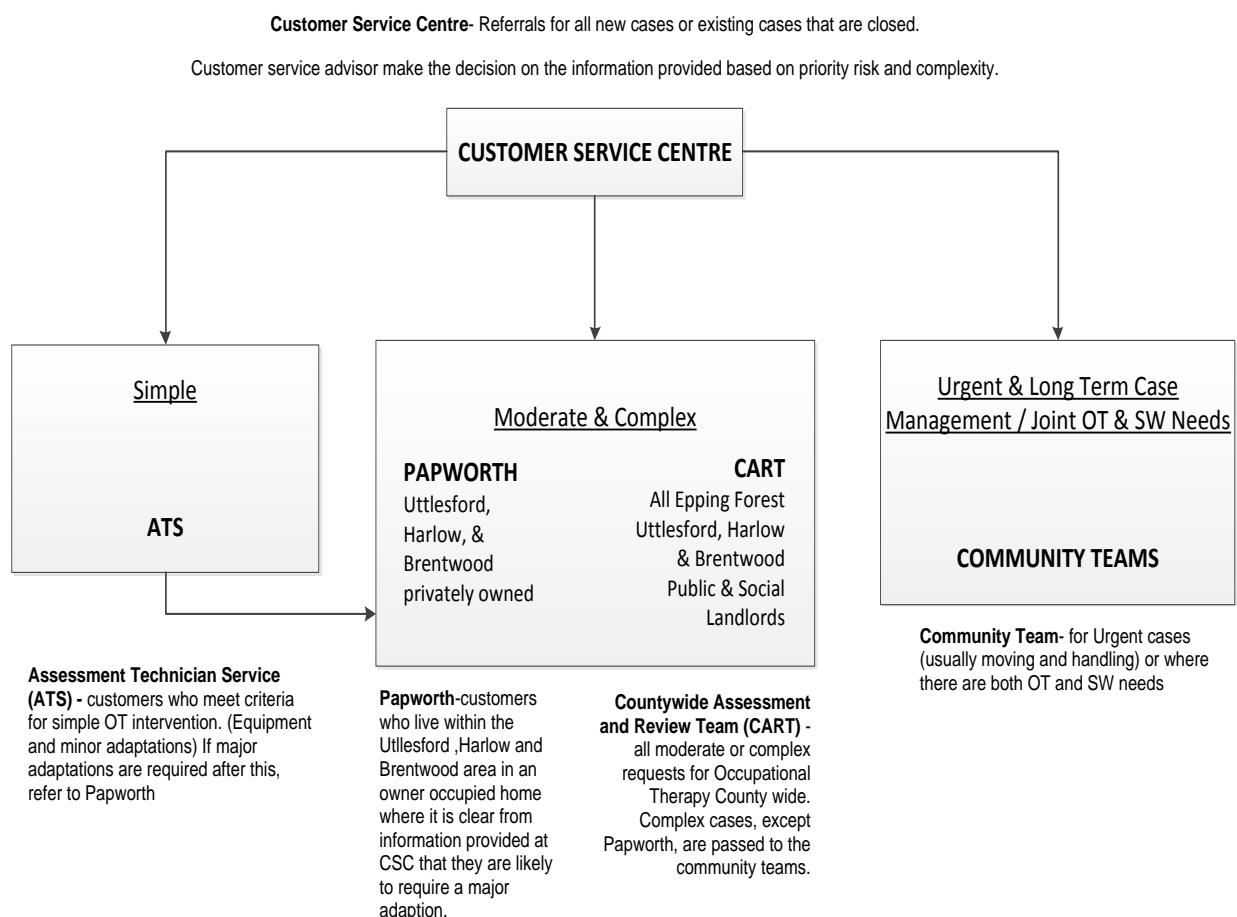
The Basildon Borough Council (BBC) pilot for DFG was extended to September 2013. ECC seconded an OT to BBC enabling quicker assessments to take place. Following the end of this pilot, all moderate cases are dealt with by CART.

Papworth Trust Home Improvement Agency process started on 7 January 2013. Referrals for disabled facilities grants are passed to the Papworth Trust for the Harlow and Uttlesford areas from the Customer Service Centre.

Improvements in the OT Service

The OT pathways have been redesigned as part of the Adult Customer Journey. See diagram below.

OT PATHWAYS



The flow of referrals from the Customer Service Centre (formerly Essex Social Care Direct) is as follows:

- Simple cases are sent to Essex Cares Assessment Technician Service.

- Urgent cases (usually but not always involving moving and handling difficulties) are sent to the community teams.
- Cases requiring long term involvement are sent to the community teams.
- Cases where a joint response is needed from both a social worker and an OT are sent to the community teams.
- Complex cases are sent to the Community Teams.
- Moderate cases are sent to CART.

The Assessment Technician Service target is to complete their initial visit within four working days. Their performance in this area has significantly improved and at the time of writing this report, they are meeting this target in 99.1% of the time.

The Community Teams target is to complete assessments within 28 working days. They are meeting this target. In the three months from April - June 2014, they completed 626 assessments. There are currently 8 people from the Community Teams waiting for their OT assessment.

CART's target is to complete assessments within 28 days. They are meeting this target. CART allocates cases to self-employed OTs and ECC OTs completing overtime. Approximately 600 cases have been allocated per month. There are currently four people waiting for their OT assessment.

Early indications are that the OT Pathways are effective. This is evidenced by:

- Greenfields have dealt with all referrals sent direct from CSC (success).
- Papworth Trust have dealt with all referrals sent direct from CSC (success).
- Social Workers requiring an OT to work jointly with them have been able to identify OTs in the Community Teams (success).
- Urgent OT cases have been allocated within 10 days to OTs in the Community Teams (success).
- CART have a process in place to filter referrals daily and transfer complex cases direct to community teams (success).

Community Equipment Budget

In the first quarter of 2014-15, 37,286 items of equipment have been provided at a cost of £2,272,697. This includes community equipment, assistive technology and minor adaptations.

<p align="center">Essex County Council People and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee 4 September 2014</p>
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This form is a tool that should be compiled at the start of each inquiry to set out clearly the aims and objectives of the committee's involvement in a particular matter, and will be completed at the end of the inquiry to confirm what has been achieved. The form also provides an audit trail for a review.

Review Topic (Name of review)	EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT IN ESSEX
Committee	People & Families Scrutiny Committee
Terms of Reference	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To identify the levels and trends in educational attainment in schools in Essex at each Key Stage. 2. To evaluate how the levels of attainment compare nationally. 3. Where underperformance exists, to identify the causes. 4. To identify and evaluate all options to address the causes of underperformance. 5. To understand the barriers to improving school performance. 6. To understand the reduced funding regime. 7. To identify how School Governors can influence improving performance. 8. To make recommendations to the Cabinet Member for Education and Lifelong Learning to support improvement in educational attainment across the county
Lead Member, and membership of Task and Finish Group	To be confirmed
Key Officers / Departments	Clare Kershaw, Head of Commissioning Education & Lifelong Learning
Lead Scrutiny Officer	Robert Fox

Relevant Portfolio Holder(s)	Cllr Ray Gooding, Education and Lifelong Learning
Relevant Corporate Links	To be discussed with key officers of the County Council.
Type of Review	In depth review
Timescales	An update on school performance will be brought to the People & Families Scrutiny Committee in March 2014 and this will be the precursor for the Committee to undertake an in-depth review of educational performance in the county throughout the civic year 2014/15.
Rationale for the Review	Priority 1 in the current ECC Corporate Plan is: <i>Enabling every individual to achieve their ambition by supporting a world-class education and skills offer in the county.</i> There are areas in Essex where school performance at both primary and secondary performance is significantly below standard. The Committee should scrutinise performance in Essex schools; but wider, in the new school world of Academies what is the role of the Local Authority and how can it plan strategically if it has little or no control.

<p>Scope of the Topic</p>	<p>Specify what is to be included/excluded from the review</p> <p><u>Include</u></p> <p>The following is included in the scope of the review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current and historic performance data for all schools in Essex (both primary and secondary) • Educational performance in neighbouring authorities and in statistical neighbour authorities • School estates <p><u>Excluded</u></p> <p>The following falls outside the scope of the review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special Educational Needs (this is subject to an ongoing review by Task and Finish Group)
<p>Key Lines of Enquiry</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance data on all schools in Essex • An understanding of past and present arrangements for managing the whole school estate, and the influence of new buildings and facilities on educational attainment • An understanding of any influence the County Council can bring to bear on Academies. How does the Council fund the continuing services? • The information the County Council has on proposals for the establishment of Free Schools in the county • The role and influence of LA School Governors with regard to school improvement • An understanding of the reduced funding regime • An understanding of statutory requirements • An understanding of partnership working in local education with District/Borough/City Councils • An understanding of the Ofsted inspection regime • Understanding the influence of new buildings and facilities on educational performance • How do schools spend the Pupil Premium they receive?

Other Work Being Undertaken	ECC Policy Paper for Education Estates Strategy.
What primary / new evidence is needed for the scrutiny?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School attainment data to be received at the March 2014 meeting of the People & Families Scrutiny Committee • Performance plans that seek to bridge the gap in educational attainment • Oral evidence from the Cabinet Member and senior officers • Support plans for schools in special measures • Details of staff vacancies across schools in the county • Information on the capital programme • Plans for schools to increase/reduce admission numbers
What secondary / existing information will be needed?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School performance and attainment data • Ofsted reports • Information on the Pupil Premium • Existing legislation and Government reports
What briefings and site visits will be relevant to the review?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request specific briefings and reports from the Cabinet Member and senior officers of the County Council including current strategies, performance data, Ofsted reports etc. • Invite oral and written evidence from others identified in the section below • Commission specific research and consider the findings • Undertake site visits to relevant institutions • Committee meetings held in public session
Who are the witnesses who should be invited to provide evidence for the review?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Cabinet Member for Education and Lifelong Learning • Senior officers from Essex County Council • Headteachers • School Governors • Faith and Denominational representatives • Young people through School Councils • Young Essex Assembly • Parents • District/Borough/City Councils • Experts on teaching and learning strategies • Youth Service • Designated experts on teaching and learning strategies

Implications	<p>In terms of topic, have the following matters been taken into consideration in the planning of this review:</p> <p>Legal implications Yes/ no</p> <p>Financial implications Yes/ no</p> <p>Equality and diversity issues..... Yes/ no</p> <p>Other critical implications.....</p>
What resources are required for this review?	<p>In planning the review it is necessary to identify what resources are required to undertake the review, and any costs associated with the committee's activity. Given that the resource available is finite, it is necessary to consider carefully the timing of the review within the Committee's overall work programme.</p>
Indicators of Success	<p>The recommendation of service improvements to improve educational attainment in Essex to assist ECC in meeting Priority 1 of the ECC Corporate Plan .</p> <p>An ongoing role for Members in monitoring and reviewing educational attainment in the county.</p>
Notes	<p>Co-opt representative from the Young Essex Assembly onto the Committee for this review.</p> <p>Hold at least one of the Scrutiny sessions within an educational establishment.</p>

<p>Provisional Timetable</p>	<p>The Committee will undertake the in-depth review throughout the civic year 2014/15 with an aim to publish a final report with recommendations to the Cabinet Member at the May 2015 Committee.</p> <p>The Committee will receive a position statement at the March 2014 Committee meeting and establish the review shortly thereafter, following agreement of the scoping document.</p> <p>There will be six scheduled Committee meeting dates in 2014/15. There will also be other dates available for specific briefings, site visits or other activity.</p>
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Audit Trail

Date review formally proposed	Thursday, 16 January 2014 (Minute no. 7; pages 5 and 6)
Date of Committee's approval of original scoping document	Identify minute number and date of meeting
Date of Committee's approval of Scrutiny Report	Identify minute number and date of meeting
What was the outcome of the review?	Summarise outcome of review and identify if any recommendations have been agreed.
Date proposals arising from review are formally forwarded to the Executive	
How will the outcomes of the review be monitored?	
Date outcomes of review monitored formally by the Committee	Identify minute number and date of meeting

Essex County Council
People and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee
4 September 2014

This form is a tool that should be compiled at the start of each inquiry to set out clearly the aims and objectives of the committee's involvement in a particular matter, and will be completed at the end of the inquiry to confirm what has been achieved. The form also provides an audit trail for a review.

Review Topic (Name of review)	COMMISSIONING SERVICES FOR VULNERABLE PEOPLE
Committee	People & Families Scrutiny Committee
Terms of Reference	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Do we (ECC) know enough about the most vulnerable in the county? 2. An understanding of the process of commissioning services for vulnerable people. 3. The governance processes involved in commissioning of these services. How are decisions made? 4. What does ECC do to engage service users, families and carers in the commissioning of services? 5. Is the internal support and structures at ECC which underpin the commissioning of services appropriate-to-need? 6. How are Personal Budgets utilised? 7. How are/will commissioned services monitored and evaluated? How are service providers monitored to ensure the quality delivery of the commissioned service? 8. Do the commissioning strategies of ECC clearly articulate ECC's expectations of service providers? Is there a clear demarcation where responsibility and accountability lie? 9. To understand the implications of The Care Bill on the commissioning of services. 10. What are the risks of commissioning services for vulnerable people? 11. What are the implications for social care professionals of commissioned services? 12. Are the IT systems in place at ECC appropriate-to-need for commissioned services? 13. How is the transition between children's and adult services managed?

Lead Member, and membership of Task and Finish Group	To be confirmed
Key Officers / Departments	Dave Hill, Executive Director for People Commissioning
Lead Scrutiny Officer	Robert Fox
Relevant Portfolio Holder(s)	Cllr Anne Brown, Adults Social Care Cllr Dick Madden, Families and Children Cllr Ann Naylor, Public Health & Wellbeing
Relevant Corporate Links	To be discussed with key officers of the County Council.
Type of Review	In depth review
Timescales	An initial briefing to Members will be requested for May 2014 and this will be the precursor for the Committee to undertake an in-depth review of commissioning services for vulnerable people throughout the civic year 2014/15.
Rationale for the Review	<p>Priority 3 in the current ECC Corporate Plan is <i>Improving Public Health and Wellbeing</i> with Outcome 1 being <i>Helping Essex residents to live full and independent lives</i>.</p> <p>Priority 4 in the current ECC Corporate Plan is: <i>Protecting and Safeguarding Vulnerable People</i> with Outcome 1 being <i>Enabling vulnerable people to enjoy a better quality of life</i>; Outcome 2: <i>Protecting Essex residents from harm and injury</i>; and Outcome 3: <i>Creating an environment in which economic opportunity is made available to all</i>.</p>

<p>Scope of the Topic</p>	<p>Specify what is to be included/excluded from the review</p> <p><u>Include</u></p> <p>The following is included in the scope of the review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All services commissioned for vulnerable people in the county • Governance processes and audit trails related to commissioned services for vulnerable people in the county • ECC internal structures supporting commissioned services • IT infrastructure supporting services for vulnerable people • Statutory services <p><u>Excluded</u></p> <p>The following falls outside the scope of the review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commercially sensitive information
<p>Key Lines of Enquiry</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does commissioning provide value for money? • Are the needs of service-users central to decisions around commissioning? Are service-users consulted? • What are the strategic and operational risks associated with commissioning of services to vulnerable people? • Evidence of commissioned services that have worked well and others that haven't • Are governance processes robust and do they stand up to scrutiny? • Is the Voluntary and Community Sector under-utilised in terms of what it could deliver at a local level? • Are and how are service providers held to account? • Transition services • Future needs: how are these identified? • Identification of improvements
<p>Other Work Being Undertaken</p>	

What primary/new evidence is needed for the scrutiny?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Care Bill (when published) • Oral evidence from Cabinet Members and senior officers • Oral evidence from service providers/service users
What secondary/ existing information will be needed?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance data related to the ECC Corporate Plan regarding the Priorities outlined above • Reports from service providers • Audit trails of the governance processes behind awarded contracts • Relevant Internal Audit Reports • Existing legislation and Government reports • Scrutiny reports from other local authorities • Care Quality Commission Reports
What briefings and site visits will be relevant to the review?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request specific briefings and reports from the Cabinet Member and senior officers of the County Council • Invite oral and written evidence from others identified in the section below • Commission specific research and consider the findings • Undertake site visits to relevant institutions • Committee meetings held in public session
Who are the witnesses who should be invited to provide evidence for the review?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Cabinet Members for Adults Social Care; Families and Children; and Public Health & Wellbeing • Senior officers from Essex County Council • Service users, their families and carers • Youth Service • District/Borough/City Councils • Service providers (including): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>EssexCares</i> ○ Voluntary and Community Sector groups ○ User Planning Groups ○ Mental Health Partnerships

Implications	<p>In terms of topic, have the following matters been taken into consideration in the planning of this review:</p> <p>Legal implications Yes/ no</p> <p>Financial implications Yes/ no</p> <p>Equality and diversity issues..... Yes/ no</p> <p>Other critical implications.....</p>
What resources are required for this review?	<p>In planning the review it is necessary to identify what resources are required to undertake the review, and any costs associated with the committee's activity. Given that the resource available is finite, it is necessary to consider carefully the timing of the review within the Committee's overall work programme.</p>
Indicators of Success	<p>The recommendation of service improvements to improve educational attainment in Essex to assist ECC in meeting Priority 3 and Priority 4 of the ECC Corporate Plan .</p> <p>An ongoing role for Members in monitoring and reviewing any recommendations.</p>
Notes	<p>None.</p>

<p>Provisional Timetable</p>	<p>The Committee will undertake the in-depth review throughout the civic year 2014/15 with an aim to publish a final report with recommendations to the Cabinet Member at the May 2015 Committee.</p> <p>The Committee will receive an initial briefing in May 2014 and establish the review shortly thereafter, following agreement of the scoping document.</p> <p>There will be six scheduled Committee meeting dates in 2014/15. There will also be other dates available for specific briefings, site visits or other activity.</p>
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2014/15 SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS TRACKER AND WORK PROGRAMME

PAF/26/14

COMMITTEE: PEOPLE & FAMILIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 4 September 2014 Agenda Item 11								
PRE-MEETING					POST-MEETING		AGREED ACTION & IMPLEMENTATION	
COMMITTEE	SCRUTINY ITEM & REF.	APPROACH	LEAD OFFICER	COMMITTEE DATE(S)	OUTCOMES, ACTIONS ARISING & UPDATES	RESPONSIBLE MEMBER/ OFFICER	REVIEW DATE	IMPLEMENTATION REVIEW DATE AND OUTCOME
People & Families	Sensory Services Recommendation to the Cabinet Member (COP/25/12)	T & F Group (Chairman: former Cllr Mike Garnett)	Anna Saunders	13-Sep-12 05-Dec-13 10-Jul-14	RECOMMENDATION: ECC should commission a new integrated service on the open market via the councils regulated procurement process.	Cllr Anne Brown	Jan-15	UPDATE: A revised recommendation to be submitted for Committee approval, prior to receipt by Cabinet Member. An update was delivered to the Committee in December 2013 and agreed to receive a further update on the two potential provider options in 2014. A further update was received in July 2014.
People & Families	Occupational Therapy (COP/02/13)	Full Committee	Mike Boyle	10-Jul-14	RESOLVED: Officers to produce a report for the February 2013 meeting, which provides full details of the problems, including numbers of delays by area, and relevant budget/spending.	Cllr Anne Brown	Jul-14	UPDATE: The Committee will receive a further update in September 2014 as well as progress on DFG discussions with District/Borough/City Councils

People & Families	All Age Disability Framework (COP/11/13)	Task and Finish Group	Barbara Herts	14-Mar-13	RECOMMENDATION: The cost benefits of a computer system to be implemented that allows Children's, Adults and Health Services to 'talk to each other' which allow for a universal care record. This should be a financial priority. A small Members focus group be established to follow the project through to implementation		Sep-13	UPDATE: The All Age Disability Strategic Framework will be incorporated into People Commissioning as part of the new approach to commissioning services for disabled children, young people and adults and those with special educational needs. It will act as a set of guiding principles for commissioners across the Council. Health partners are supportive of the approach and will adopt the framework as colleagues work together to develop fully integrated commissioning strategies in areas such as LD and emotional health and wellbeing services for children and young people. The Committee is asked to note the progress and maintain a watching brief. Therefore, the Task and Finish Group is placed in hiatus.
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People & Families	Ageing Well (COP/16/13)	Task and Finish Group (Chairman: former Cllr Janet Whitehouse)		11-Apr-13	<p>RESOLVED: The Scrutiny Board would consider the Report (and the 15 recommendations therein) at its first meeting following the County Council elections in May 2013. A decision in terms of attributing the recommendations across Portfolios and Committees will be made at that meeting.</p> <p>RECOMMENDATIONS: 1. Data regarding falls and their severity should be recorded, while recognising that many are not reported, to ensure better maintenance of footways; 2. There should be data gathered on pedestrian foot journeys to map priority pedestrian routes throughout the county. This could be undertaken by local</p>	Chairman of the Scrutiny Board/Cabinet Members	Jan-15	<p>UPDATE: The Scrutiny Board referred the recommendations within the report to the relevant Cabinet Members in June 2013. Therefore, the impact review date is December 2013. Cabinet Members have been requested to respond to the November meeting of the Committee prior to the impact review date. The Cabinet Member responses were received in January 2014. The responses which were accepted (including partially) were: Recommendation 2 which can be investigated; Recommendation 6 which was agreed; Recommendation 7 which was agreed; Recommendation 8 which was agreed; Recommendation 11 which will be investigated once a permanent Diversity & Equality Manager is appointed; Recommendation 12 which was agreed; Recommendation 13 which was agreed; and Recommendation 14 which was agreed.</p>
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People & Families	Children's Partnership Review (CYP 7 Feb 13, minute 4)	Full Committee (Briefing)	Roger Bullen	07-Feb-13	RESOLVED: A chart and explanation of the future structure of children's partnership arrangements was requested alongside regular progress reports	Cllr Dick Madden	Mar-14	UPDATE: The Children's Partnership Board has been re-established with revised Terms of Reference. The Board met for the first time (Chaired by Cllr Madden) in May 2013. A revised Children, Young People and Families Plan has been developed drawing together the national priorities for improving outcomes for Children and Young People in Essex. The Plan is due for endorsement by Cabinet and the HWB in September 2013. The Committee is asked to note progress and maintain a watching brief.
People & Families	Families with Complex Needs (CYP/01/13)	Full Committee (Briefing)	Alastair Gibbons/ Philippa Bull	07-Jan-13	RESOLVED: A progress report for spring 2014 has been requested	Cllr Dick Madden	Nov-14	
People & Families	Special Educational Needs and Disability (CYP/03/13), (PAF/04/13) and (PAF/15/13)	Task and Finish Group (Chairman: Cllr Theresa Higgins)	Karen Jones	05-Dec-13	RESOLVED: An interim progress report was received in July 2013	Cllr Theresa Higgins	Sep-13	UPDATE: Task and Finish Group re-established. Membership (Cllr's Higgins, Gadsby, Honeywood and Rev. Richard Jordan). Meets on 30 September 2013. A report on the strategy to be received on 5 December 2013 . The Committee approved the Strategy.

People & Families	Carers Strategy (COP/08/12)	Task and Finish Group	Sharon Longworth	12-Sep-13		Cllr Theresa Higgins	Oct-14	UPDATE: Task and Finish Group to be re-established. Membership (Cllr's Higgins, Chandler, Gadsby and Howard). A meeting with officers taking place on 7 October to move the issue forward. The strategy is likely to be on hold until spring 2014, at the earliest, due to implications in the Care
People & Families	The Deanes School (PAF/03/13)	Task and Finish Group and Full Committee (for ratification of Report and call-in)	Tim Coulson	14-Nov-13	RECOMMENDATION: There is insufficient evidence to close The Deanes School on the basis of current evidence, and a repositioned school could be a success and offer an alternative to other schools in the area. Before reaching any decisions on the future of the School the Cabinet Member is requested to review carefully his proposal to consult on its closure taking into account the following points that are drawn from the main body of the scrutiny report: Governance Arrangements, Housing Demand and Pupil Forecasting Data, Other Local Schools, School's Business Case, Glenwood School and Community Role.	Cllr Graham Butland	Sep-13	UPDATE: Task and Finish Group established on 4 July 2013. Five evidence sessions and final report published with recommendation to Cabinet Member on 30 August. Report was ratified on 12 September meeting of the Committee. Cabinet decision called-in by six Members of the Committee.

People & Families	The Deanes School (PAF/12/13) CALL-IN	Full Committee	Dave Hill/ Tim Coulson	14-Nov-13	Cabinet decision called-in by six Members of the Committee. Call-ins heard on 14 November. Committee voted 9:6 to refer decision back to the decision-taker (The Cabinet). There was unanimity amongst the Committee that the decision be referred to the Cabinet or Full Council.	Cllr Ray Gooding	N/A	UPDATE: Following of referral back to the decision-taker a special meeting of Cabinet was convened on 28 November to reconsider the decision. The original decision was unanimously ratified. NO FURTHER ACTION.
People & Families	Children in Care	Task and Finish Group (Chairman: Cllr Norman Hume)	Helen Lincoln	12-Sep-13	The Committee agreed to establish a Task and Finish Group, to be Chaired by Cllr Norman Hume.	Cllr Norman Hume	Oct-14	UPDATE: Task and Finish Group established. Membership (Cllr's Hume, Blackwell, Gadsby, McEwen, McGeorge, Maddocks and Rev. Richard Jordan). Task and Finish Group has met three times 9 October (witnesses Councillor Madden and Helen Lincoln), 27 November 2013 (scrutiny review scoped) and 13 January 2014. An Ofsted Inspection of ECC Children's Services was announced on 14 January 2014 so it was agreed by the Committee to suspend the work of the T&F Group until the Report of the Inspection is
People & Families	Proposal for partnership working between the Committee and the YEA (PAF/08/13)	Full Committee	Clare Ratcliffe/ Sheila Woodward/ Lee McDermid	12-Sep-13	The Committee agreed that a small group of Members of the Committee attend a YEA Cabinet meeting.	Clare Ratcliffe	May-14	UPDATE: Cllr's Butland, Blackwell, Deakin and McGeorge attended YEA Cabinet on 11 October 2013 to discuss potential future work. Potential areas for joint-working were established and will be taken forward.

People & Families	Home to School Transport (PAF/13/13)	Full Committee	Tim Coulson	05-Dec-13	The Committee made suggestions of revisions to the Cabinet Member.	Cllr Ray Gooding		UPDATE: CABINET MEMBER DECISION CALLED-IN (SEE LINE BELOW).
People & Families	Home to School Transport (PAF/04/14) CALL-IN	Full Committee	Tim Coulson	04-Feb-14	The Call-in was heard by the Committee. The Committee voted 12:3 to ratify the Cabinet decision.	Cllr Ray Gooding		NO FURTHER ACTION.
People & Families	ECC Youth Services Strategy (PAF/14/13)	Full Committee (Briefing)	Tim Coulson	05-Dec-13	The Committee received a briefing on the Youth Service Strategy consultation. A decision is expected in the winter/spring of 2014.	Cllr Ray Gooding		NO FURTHER ACTION.
People & Families	New Operating Model for the Youth Service (PAF/07/14) CALL-IN	Full Committee	Tim Coulson/ Michael O'Brien	12-Mar-14	The Call-in was heard by the Committee. The Committee voted 11:1 to ratify the Cabinet decision. RESOLVED: It was noted that the Cabinet Member for Education and Lifelong Learning should return to the Committee in October 2014 to give a six-month report on the implementation of the new delivery model. The Chairman pointed out that the Committee would invite the Cabinet Member to attend, as the majority of Committee Members have concerns and doubts about certain aspects of the decision.	Cllr Ray Gooding	Oct-14	
People & Families	Safeguarding Adults Annual Report (PAF/01/14)	Full Committee (Briefing)	Stephen Bunford	16-Jan-14	The Annual Report was presented to the Committee.	Cllr Anne Brown	N/A	NO FURTHER ACTION.

People & Families	Children's Centres (PAF/05/14) CALL-IN	Full Committee		04-Feb-14	The Call-in was heard by the Committee. The Committee voted 9:3 to ratify the Cabinet decision.	Cllr Dick Madden	N/A	NO FURTHER ACTION.
People & Families	Increasing Independence for Working Age Adults (WAA) (PAF/06/14) and (PAF/09/14)	Full Committee (Briefing)	Nick Presmeg	04-Feb-14	RESOLVED: A briefing on the increasing Independence for WAA project was received at the Committee meeting of 12 March 2014. Cabinet report received (25 March Cabinet). The Full Business Case was made available for Members to view.	Cllr John Aldridge	Mar-14	NO FURTHER ACTION.
People & Families	Educational Attainment In Essex (PAF/08/14)	Full Committee (for Briefing) Task and Finish Group	Tim Coulson/ Clare Kershaw	13-Mar-14	Scoping document agreed by the Committee on 12 March. An initial briefing was provided by officers with attainment data presented. Scoping document shared with the relevant Cabinet Member.	Cllr Ray Gooding	Jul-14	UPDATE: The Committee will agree on T&F Group membership for the review to commence in July 2014.
People & Families	<i>EssexCares</i>	Full Committee	Peter Martin (Chairman, Essex Cares) Liz Chidgey (Managing Director, <i>Essex Cares</i>)	13-Nov-14	To receive the Annual Report of <i>EssexCares</i> .	Cllr Anne Brown	Nov-14	
People & Families	Social Impact Bonds	Full Committee (Briefing)	Clare Burrell/ Tanya Gillett	04-Sep-14	A briefing will be provided at the next meeting of the Committee.	Cllr Dick Madden	Sep-14	

People & Families	Commissioning of Services for Vulnerable People	Task and Finish Group		08-May-14	Scoping document agreed by the Committee on 12 March. Scoping document shared with the relevant Cabinet Members.	Cllr Dick Madden, Cllr Ray Gooding and Cllr Ann Naylor	Jul-14	UPDATE: The Committee will agree on T&F Group membership for the review to commence in July 2014.
People & Families	Commissioning Strategy: People in Essex can live independently and exercise choice and control over their lives	Full Committee	Sheila Norris	10-Jul-14	Draft strategy received and considered by the Committee on 10 July 2014. Letter sent from Committee Chairman to the Cabinet Member highlighting issues to be addressed as part of the consultation phase. It was RECOMMENDED i) it is not completely clear in parts of the strategy whether total populations or specific targeted populations are being referred to; ii) there should be an overt acknowledgement in the strategy that 'one size doesn't fit all'; iii) tackling loneliness and isolation through community involvement; iv) voluntary sector engagement and the recruitment of potential	Cllr Anne Brown	Sep-14	NO FURTHER ACTION.

People & Families	Commissioning Strategy: People have aspirations and achieve their ambitions through education, training and lifelong learning	Full Committee	Chris Kiernan	10-Jul-14	Draft strategy received and considered by the Committee on 10 July 2014. Letter sent from Committee Chairman to the Cabinet Member highlighting issues to be addressed as part of the consultation phase. It was RECOMMENDED i) consideration should be given to how we engage adults with literacy and numeracy problems to go to courses and ensure they can access services; ii) the strategy should contain a section on engaging with employers so that they might assist with adult literacy and numeracy; iii) no reference is made in the strategy to gypsy/traveller education; or those	Cllr Ray Gooding	Sep-14	NO FURTHER ACTION.
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People & Families	Commissioning Strategy: Children in Essex get the best start in life	Full Committee	Chris Martin	10-Jul-14	Draft strategy received and considered by the Committee on 10 July 2014. Letter sent from Committee Chairman to the Cabinet Member highlighting issues to be addressed as part of the consultation phase. It was RECOMMENDED i) early intervention is laudable but solutions for locating those hard-to-reach people that do not actively seek out services should be sought; ii) with regard to hard-to-reach people there is no mention in the strategy of gypsy/traveller groups; or those who are home-educated; iii) there should be consideration to referencing other partners who have	Cllr Dick Madden	Sep-14	NO FURTHER ACTION.
People & Families	Family Solutions	Full Committee	Helen Lincoln	13-Nov-14		Cllr Dick Madden		

