



Essex County Council

# Corporate Policy and Scrutiny Committee

<b>10:15</b>	<b>Thursday, 28 April 2022</b>	<b>Council Chamber County Hall, Chelmsford, CM1 1QH</b>
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**For information about the meeting please ask for:**

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		<b>Pages</b>
**	<b>Private Pre-Meeting for CPSC Members Only</b> Please note that there will be a private pre-meeting for committee members on Wednesday 27 April 2022 at 4.00pm via Zoom.	
1	<b>Membership, Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest</b>	<b>4 - 4</b>
2	<b>Minutes: 24 February 2022</b> To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 24 February 2022 and consider matters arising.	<b>5 - 13</b>
3	<b>Questions from the Public</b> 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. Please note that members of the public wishing to ask a question must email <a href="mailto:democratic.services@essex.gov.uk">democratic.services@essex.gov.uk</a> by noon on the day before the meeting (Wednesday 27 April 2022) and that questions must relate to an item on the agenda for the meeting.	
4	<b>Everyone's Essex Strategic Performance Measures - Organisation Aims Report (OAR) Quarter Three Performance</b>	<b>14 - 30</b>
5	<b>Analytics and Data Science Overview</b> Paper to follow (CPSC/09/22)	
6	<b>Briefing on s106 and s278 Planning Contributions</b>	<b>31 - 35</b>
7	<b>Work Programme</b>	<b>36 - 40</b>

**8 Date of Next Meeting**

To note that the next meeting will be held on Thursday 26 May 2022, in County Hall.

**9 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)

The following items of business have not been published on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information falling within Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. Members are asked to consider whether or not the press and public should be excluded during the consideration of these items. If so it will be necessary for the meeting to pass a formal resolution:

**That the press and public are excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the remaining items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information falling within Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, the specific paragraph(s) of Schedule 12A engaged being set out in the report or appendix relating to that item of business.**

**10 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.

## Agenda item 1

**Committee:** Corporate Policy and Scrutiny Committee

**Enquiries to:** Graham Hughes, Senior Democratic Services Officer

### **Membership, Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest**

#### **Recommendations:**

To note

1. Membership as shown below
2. Apologies and substitutions
3. Declarations of interest to be made by Members in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct

#### **Membership** (Quorum: 4)

Councillor C Pond	Chairman
Councillor T Cunningham	
Councillor J Fleming	
Councillor P Gadd	
Councillor M Garnett	
Councillor I Henderson	
Councillor S Kane	
Councillor D Land	
Councillor M Mackrory	Vice-Chairman
Councillor A McQuiggan	
Councillor C Siddall	
Councillor M Steptoe	Vice-Chairman
Councillor M Vance	
Councillor A Wiles	

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**Minutes of the meeting of the Corporate Policy and Scrutiny Committee, held at 10.25am on Thursday, 24 February 2022 in the Council Chamber, County Hall, Chelmsford.**

**Present:**

*County Councillors:*

C Pond (Chairman)  
T Cunningham  
J Fleming  
P Gadd  
S Kane  
M Mackrory (Vice Chairman)  
B Massey (substitute)  
A McQuiggan  
C Siddall  
M Steptoe (Vice Chairman)  
M Vance  
A Wiles

Richard Buttress, Democratic Services Manager, and Gemma Bint, Democratic Services Officer, were also present.

**1 Membership, Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest**

The report on Membership, Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations was received and noted.

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Garnett (for whom Councillor Massey substituted), Henderson and Land.

**2. Minutes**

The notes of the meeting held on 27 January 2022 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman of the meeting.

Matters Arising: In regard to the reprofiling of expenditure and over-spend in the Highways Maintenance and Sustainable Transport account relating to 3-year delivery programme for Local Highways Panels, it was noted that Councillor Lee Scott had confirmed that all balances would be carried over.

**4. Questions from the public**

There were no questions from the public.

**5. Levelling Up White Paper**

The Committee considered report CPSC/05/2022 comprising of an update on aspirations and ambitions for levelling up and devolution.

The Chairman welcomed the following to the meeting to introduce the item and respond to questions:

- Councillor Kevin Bentley, Leader of the Council
- Councillor Graham Butland, Cabinet Member for Devolution, the Arts, Heritage and Culture
- Richard Puleston, Director - Policy

During questioning and discussion, the following was acknowledged, highlighted and/or noted:

- Essex had drawn up their own detailed levelling up paper to accompany and supplement the Government White Paper.
- The Government White Paper was about planning for the future and providing a direction, in collaboration with local people. It was important that people had equal opportunities and the same chances in life. For example, the Essex Year of Reading had just been launched and would help ensure young people had equal opportunities to learn, read and be at the same level through their education and to receive extra help if needed.
- In practice, conversations with Government were with counties and unitaries but ECC would be collaborating and seeking consensus with all Districts and Boroughs in Essex. The county needed to decide how ambitious it was going to be in regard to what freedoms and control Essex would want.
- In terms of housing, the White Paper provided an opportunity for Essex to focus more on building communities and have more spatial planning powers. Current and future generations needed to live in good quality affordable homes but the infrastructure had to be considered first to support that.
- Public transport was not reliable in some areas of Essex. The White Paper could give Essex the ability to become a transport authority and have an integrated system and greater control of the routes and integrated ticketing. Public transport was the key to economic success, with people needing to be encouraged to use it, however it also needed to be more affordable and reliable with better connectivity.
- One of the significant elements of the White Paper was that the conversation regarding devolution had been decoupled from a conversation on local government reorganisation. In order to negotiate a devolution deal with the government there was no longer a need first to reorganise the structures of the local authorities. Proposals to

reorganise structures of local government would have to go through the existing legislation which required there to be a broad level of public support.

- It was highlighted that the A127 Task Force, which looked at the economic corridor of the A127 had paused, due to the pandemic.
- It was queried how the Levelling Up Missions would be reached. Some members specially referred to the differences in life expectancy and healthy living across the county. The White Paper stressed the importance of early interventions and increasing opportunities and ECC would be working with partners as part of working towards greater levelling up.
- The White Paper recognised there was a deficiency of granular data to enable progress to be mapped to the local level against some of the missions, the commitment as a sub-national data strategy was being worked on through the ONS to ensure there was better access to data to enable local places to be able to evaluate their progress against the key missions.
- Essex was not included as one of the newly announced education improvement areas. The reason for this could be because the spatial geography was at the local educational authority level. However, within Essex there were significant differences in educational attainment but compared to Suffolk, which was an education investment area, the education performance in the aggregate was higher in Essex and above the education investment area criteria that the government had set out.
- It was confirmed that the aspirations of Everyone's Essex did also include people on the county border. Cross border collaboration with neighbouring authorities was taking place and would continue.

#### Conclusion:

The Leader offered to return to further update the Committee at an appropriate future date. It was **agreed** that further information be provided to local members on:

- (i) The A127 Task Force

The witnesses were thanked for their attendance and left the meeting.

## 6. **Commercial Property Investment Update**

The Committee received report CPSC/06/22 which summarised the Commercial Property Investment portfolio and provided an update on

performance and issues since the last report that went to Scrutiny in September 2020.

The Chairman welcome the following to the meeting to introduce the item and respond to questions:

- Councillor Chris Whitbread, Cabinet Member for Finance, Resources and Corporate Affairs
- Stephanie Mitchener, Director - Finance
- Ian Fulton, Commercial Finance Business Partner

Councillor Whitbread and Ian Fulton opened the item highlighting the history of the Commercial Property Investment and the current position, and the key points included:

- In 2017, Cabinet had agreed the initial phase of investments with £50m added to the Property Investment Fund and to date £33.9m had been spent. The programme was paused in 2018 due to Brexit uncertainties and anticipated changes in Government guidance.
- The three investments the Council had currently were Keighley Retail Park in Yorkshire, a trade counter industrial in Guildford and an office block in Watford. Investment had been made for the long-term although short term market fluctuations had impacted on current values.
- The portfolio had been performing well with no significant loss of income during the pandemic.
- The Covid-19 pandemic had put additional pressure on tenants particularly in the retail sector, and some had requested assistance. The Council had worked with them by mainly putting tenants on quarterly rent schedules onto monthly rent schedules, with all of those arrangements but one having now finished. During that period, over 90% of rents were recovered which was a good performance benchmark against the market as a whole.
- There was a balance sheet reserve set at a prudent 75% to 80% of the annual rental income.
- New regulations meant that the County Council could no longer borrow to invest primarily for yield and required a broader benefit.

During questioning, the following was acknowledged, highlighted and/or noted:

- ECC would be bringing forward a new investment strategy shortly focusing on investing in Essex, regeneration and recovery post-pandemic.

- The investments were long- term and it was highlighted that property assets values were expected to increase again as the economy bounced back.
- ECC was looking to get a 5.5% yield from the investments. ECC had used reserves to fund the investments.

Conclusion:

The witnesses were thanked for their attendance and left the meeting.

**7. Work Programme**

The Committee received report CPSC/07/22 comprising the current work programme of the Committee which was noted.

The following was agreed:

- (i) The Economic Renewal Investment Fund item would be held jointly with the Place Services and Economic Growth Policy and Scrutiny Committee.
- (ii) A briefing to be arranged on understanding how the Council was improving data collection and analysis to show granularities at local level.
- (iii) A briefing on the s106 planning contribution process be scheduled.

**8. Date of Next Meeting**

It was noted that the next meeting was scheduled to be held on Thursday 31 March 2022.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 12.06pm

**Chairman**

**Corporate Policy and Scrutiny – Matters Arising as at 28 April 2022**

<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Agenda item</u></b>	<b><u>Action</u></b>	<b><u>Status</u></b>
31 March 2022	<b>Briefing – s106 and s278 planning contributions</b>	Further information to be provided on how members can get involved in developer contributions and mitigating impacts on development.	To be circulated
		Further information to be provided clarifying the County Council's role and interactions with Health and NHS	To be circulated
		Further information to be provided clarifying the data held on specific s106 holdings and the status of planned projects	To be circulated
24 February 2022	<b>Levelling Up White Paper</b>	Further information on the A127 Task force to be provided to local members	TBC
27 January 2022		Further information was requested on financing climate commission aspirations and targets and other identified climate change actions.	Email from Stephanie Mitchener (attaching November 2021 Cabinet paper and appendix) circulated 16 February 2022
		Further information was requested on the reprofiling of funding of Local Highways Panels.	Email from Adrian Osborne with extra information circulated 9 February 2022
		Further information was requested on the budget slippage for Active Travel and what it would have been spent on	TBC
		Further clarification was sought on levels and component parts of reserves. It was noted that reserves and provisioning was already an item on the Committee's work programme so this could be picked up when that formal agenda item is scheduled.	On Work Programme – to be scheduled

8 December 2021	<b>2021/22 Financial Overview as at the Half year Stage and Budget Setting Process</b>	To bring more finalised 2022/23 budget proposals to the scheduled Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> January 2022 meeting of the Committee (ahead of February Full Council)	Included in January 2022 agenda papers
		Provide a further progress update on savings being delivered against the targets set in the MTRS. This would be included as part of the third quarter outturn update at the next meeting	Included in January 2022 agenda papers
		Whilst acknowledging that some detail on concurrent savings and one-off savings had been included in the Budget setting agenda papers, this would be further broken-down for the Committee	Included in January 2022 agenda papers
		Further detail to be provided on the reprofiling of expenditure and over-spend in the Highways Maintenance and Sustainable Transport account relating to 3-year delivery programme for Local Highways Panels.	Included in January 2022 agenda papers
		That a future more detailed agenda item on reserves and provisioning be scheduled	Add to Work Programme
		Further detail to be provided about the impact of the proposed CIPFA / Government restrictions on property investments, the level of provisioning required and its impact on the 2022/23 budget.	Included in agenda papers
8 December 2021	<b>Work Programme</b>	Financing the delivery of the Climate Commission report recommendations to be added to Work Programme.	Complete
		Information on the section 106 process and why some monies were not used or reallocated - particularly in relation to Health schemes to be added to Work Programme.	Complete
30 September 2021 (informal)	<b>Ways of Working Programme update (agenda item 4)</b>	The cost of converting meeting rooms	Update requested - this may be scheduled into formal agenda item.

		The advice provided to staff around home working (and in particular security)	Update requested - this may be scheduled into formal agenda item.
		A breakdown of numbers of staff in each of the four workstyles identified by ECC. It was highlighted and acknowledged that this would only be available around January 2022 and this timing may be the opportunity for a follow-up discussion to include how Tranche 2 had worked and latest staff feedback	Update requested – this may be scheduled into formal agenda item.
		Copy of procedure notes on welfare issued to Heads of Department, and line managers and others	Update requested - this may be scheduled into formal agenda item.
		Copy of notes/minutes of discussions with Trade Unions	Update requested - this may be scheduled into formal agenda item.
		<p>Further information on the hybrid meeting rooms including confirming:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) The suitability of the microphones for the size of room;</li> <li>(i) That the quality of a meeting would be no worse than would be experienced in person, particularly for the hard of hearing;</li> <li>(ii) Availability of training for staff to use the new equipment;</li> <li>(iii) The acceptance criteria for the commissioning of a room and the minimum remote equipment required;</li> </ul> <p>Arrangements for ensuring the security of the tools permitted in hybrid meetings and the use of end-to-end encryption.</p>	Subsequent email correspondence between Councillor McQuiggan and Executive Director, People and Transformation to be circulated to members

		Joint work being done with other local authorities on the experience of hybrid working in the public sector.	Update requested – this may be scheduled into formal agenda item.
30 September 2021 (informal)	Corporate Systems update	The Committee be kept updated on the roll-out	TBC - this may be scheduled into formal agenda item.
		A summary report be provided to outline the pre-work undertaken before Oracle was selected and to indicate the level of security in place for such a cloud-based system.	Provided and to be circulated to Members via link here <a href="#">Matter Arising - Oracle Security</a>

<b>Report title: Everyone's Essex Strategic performance measures. Organisation Aims Report (OAR) Quarter Three performance</b>	
<b>Report to:</b> Corporate Policy and Scrutiny Committee	
<b>Report author:</b> Richard Puleston, Director; Chief Executive's Office	
<b>Date:</b> 28 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	<b>For:</b> Discussion
<b>Enquiries to:</b> Suzanne Barcz, Head of Performance and Business Intelligence.	
<b>County Divisions affected:</b> All Essex	

## 1 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 This report introduces the Organisation Aims Report (OAR) on performance for Q3 2021-22. The report is provided as an annex to this paper and outlines performance of agreed strategic measures for October to December 2021.
- 1.2 The OAR is prepared on a quarterly basis. The report is designed to:
- help monitor progress towards the delivery of the organisation's strategic aims; and
  - enable the Chief Executive to discharge his responsibilities towards Cabinet
- 1.3 In January 2022, it was agreed that quarterly performance would be shared in this format with Scrutiny.

## 2. Background

- 2.1 In October, Council agreed the performance framework as part of the Everyone's Essex strategic plan, this included
- contextual measures (high level, cross-function / systemic and outcome focussed) and
  - strategic measures (linked to our overarching measures, but more directly related to ECC activity and more routinely available)
- 2.2 Both the ambitions within Everyone's Essex and the performance framework that underpins the strategy are focussed on improving the outcomes for Essex residents in a sustainable way over the long term and focussed on those most in need. The performance framework reflects this, and targets are set to be ambitious over the life of the strategy.

This is the first year of reporting for some of the measures, and we will continue to keep both the measures and the targets under review to ensure that they stretch the council to achieve its ambitions.

- 2.3 The performance framework also includes headline measures (both in the strategic and contextual parts of the framework) that reflect our ambitions to “Level up Essex”. Ensuring that ECC supports the conditions for good jobs, a quality environment, maximises opportunities and improves the health and wellbeing of our residents – across the county and for all residents.

A separate suite of tracking measures for Levelling Up was agreed by the Levelling Up Board on the 4<sup>th</sup> April. These measures are currently being baselined and a summary of these are attached as a separate annex.

- 2.4 Prior to agreement at Council, Corporate Scrutiny reviewed the strategy and the proposed performance framework. It was agreed that corporate scrutiny would have a role in the review of the council’s progress against our ambitions for the County and its residents. The scrutiny session in January agreed the use of the attached format to update the committee.

### **3 Recommendations**

The report is for information and discussion

### **4 Summary and headlines**

- 4.1. The attached annex details the most recently available strategic performance measures, with a brief commentary and an indication of direction of travel where these measures were updated in this quarter.
- 4.2 Some highlights from the report to note:
- The council is making good progress on delivering the LED street light programme. When complete, it is anticipated that over 25 years this will save £39 million from lower energy use and reduced replacement lights.
  - Entry level roles directly created in the council (for example through the national Kickstarter programme) remain challenging, but considerable progress is expected in quarter 4. The future focus will be on the conditions to support good jobs and ensuring that we are getting positive outcomes long term for these schemes.
  - Technology enabled care is exceeding targets, and it is estimated that this service has saved nearly 200 ambulance call outs and 50 unnecessarily admission to hospital
  - There is a mixed picture for employment for people who use social care. For people with learning disabilities the new contract is exceeding its target, and we note that in addition to having a high number of people in employment, people are staying in these jobs. For people with mental health needs, although ECC performs better than similar authorities there is a reduction in the proportion who are in employment. We

are working with the providers and our MH partners to improve outcomes in this area.

- Children's social care have a renewed focus on the experience of children, young people and families from BAME communities to understand the representation in our services. A new lead has been recruited to support this work.
- The council's commitment to deriving social value from contracts has made significant progress this quarter. Nearly 1,000 entry level jobs have been committed by our suppliers. This is significantly above our target (210) and many of these roles were the result of the 'Live at home' tender in adult social care.

4.3 Please note that Performance and PPH colleagues are currently exploring the options for including a measure on infrastructure.

## **5 List of Appendices**

Annex A Quarter Three: Everyone's Essex performance  
Annex B Overview of Levelling up tracking measures

## Annex A – Quarter Three: Everyone’s Essex performance

This pack provides information to inform Essex County Council's (ECC's) Political and Executive Leadership in managing performance, and in tracking progress towards the delivery of ECC's strategic aims.

It sets out current performance for each of the council’s strategic performance indicators. The pack has been prepared to support discussion of ECC's performance as at Quarter 3 2021-22.

Each indicator has been ‘RAG’ rated based on the current performance, or projected outturn,

**Green** is on target,

**Amber** is within 5% of target

**Red** is more than 5% below target

Direction of Travel arrows are also included to show how the indicator is progressing, regardless of the current RAG rating

Improving performance 

Declining performance 

Sustained performance 

Where a measure has not been updated this quarter, the previous rating has been included but no direction of travel indicated.

## STRONG, INCLUSIVE & SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

Measures	Baseline	Value at Q3	Target/Range	RAG	Comments
Number of people benefitting from ECC skills and employability programmes	N/A	1,684	3,000	Amber ↑	Level 3 qualification numbers increased by 139, while level 2 increased by 866. Options to work with local businesses to turn some Kickstart placements into government subsidised apprenticeships are being explored.
Jobs created directly through ECC programmes	N/A	368	655	Amber ↑	Although the figure for directly created jobs is currently under target, a further 439 jobs are forecasted.
Jobs created indirectly through ECC investments	N/A	No update	N/A	N/A	
Investment secured from third parties to fund local regeneration programmes	N/A	£49.3m	£96.0m	Amber ↑	This quarter, investment secured include Greenstead Estate Regen £2.3m CRF for Harlow and Tendring (£4.4m) and an additional £700k for GBF (Braintree and Harlow). ECC has been unsuccessful in bids for a further £20m for Harlow and £20m for Clacton
Infrastructure investment secured from developer £m (via S106)	£9.6m	£5.6m	Increase	Green ↓	Of the £5.61m awarded this quarter, 61% was distributed to priority regeneration areas (Basildon, Tendring, Harlow). Investment in 2021/22 has reflected ECC's priorities, including the county's first net zero school and replacing 8 temporary classrooms. Outturn is projected to exceed 2020/21 figures, so is rated green, but Q3 investment is slightly below Q2 (£6.2m)
New homes delivered (via Essex Housing and ECC Independent Living programme)	N/A	No update	113	Green ↔	14 new homes are expected to be completed by Essex Homes and a further 99 units are due to be delivered by our partners in January.

## HEALTH WELLBEING & INDEPENDENCE FOR ALL AGES

Measures	Baseline	Value at Q3	Target/Range	RAG	Comments
% schools in Essex participating in the 'Daily Mile' initiative	62.4% (June 21)	64.1%	65.6%	Amber ↑	9 more schools have signed up to the daily mile. Sign-ups tend to slow over the winter months. There is a new campaign planned in Jan/ Feb in to boost sign up, particularly in areas where fewer schools currently take part.
Number Receiving Weight Management Support	N/A	9,668	12,000	Green ↑	In Q3 of 21/22 weight management services were relaunched post covid. The total number of referrals received for weight management services in Q3 was 9,668. The programme also has significant engagement through social media channels.
Percentage of residents who report being lonely	N/A	No update	5.5%	N/A	Next Residents Survey due mid 2022
Percentage of physically active adults	67.6% (2019/20)	No update	68.0%	N/A	Next update due mid 2022
Non re-presentation to treatment within 6 months of successful completion - Opiates	80.5% (Q4)	78.9% (Sept-21)	83.0%	Red ↓	Covid is expected to be negatively impacting on performance in these measures, and is being discussed with providers. The successful conclusion of recent procurement activity is also expected to have a positive impact.
Non re-presentation to treatment within 6 months of successful completion – Non-opiates	96.6% (Q4)	92.7% (Sept-21)	97.0%	Red ↓	
Non re-presentation to treatment within 6 months of successful completion - Alcohol	97.2% (Q4)	95.2% (Sept-21)	97.0%	Amber ↓	

Measures	Baseline	Value at Q3	Target/Range	RAG	Comments
Number of adult social care users in receipt of care technology	N/A	3,214	2,877	Green ↑	Care Technology remains ahead of its budgeted savings target and is currently over-achieving by c£3.4m. To date the service has helped to avoid an estimated 199 ambulance call outs and 50 hospital admissions.
Number of adults with learning disabilities known to social services in paid employment	323	432	344	Green ↑	We have now exceeded the full year 21/22 target, despite a challenging economic environment. Both the Realise Futures and ECL Live programmes are achieving positive results for adults with learning disabilities. Sustaining employment is also important, and of the 374 adults who were in employment at the end of Q2, 372 remained employed at the end of Q3.
Number of adults with learning disabilities known to social services who secure new employment	N/A	145	86	Green ↑	We have now significantly exceeded the target for 21/22 full year.
Percentage of adults known to secondary mental health services in paid employment	15.6%	14.0%	15.8%	Red ↓	Whilst 14% still benchmarks well with similar authorities, there has been a steady decline in the percentage of adults known to mental health services in paid employment since the beginning of the Covid pandemic. We are taking forward a set of coordinated actions to improve performance.
Percentage of adults with a learning disability that transition into adult social care in residential care	18%	13.0%	N/A	N/A ↑	A total of 62 young people have transferred to adult social care services in the past 12 months. 8 of these young people were in residential care

Measures	Baseline	Value at Q3	Target/Range	RAG	Comments
The proportion of adults in contact with secondary mental health services living independently, with or without support	72.9%	67.3%	73.9%	Red ↓	Essex performance is below both the region and England averages for this measure, and we are working with our Mental Health Provider (EPUT) and employment services to improve performance and reporting in this area.
Percentage of adults who are self-caring post reablement on discharge from hospital	48%	52%	50.0%	Green ↓	While still above target, trends on this measure have been impacted by the pandemic and changes to hospital discharge processes which mean the reablement service has seen higher levels of incoming need, making it more difficult to achieve self-caring outcomes. Q3 performance is below Q2 outturn (54.7%.) but remains above target.
Number of total population aged 40-74 receiving an NHS Health Check	4,394 (Q1 2021/22)	19,261	23,000	Green ↑	As of the end of December there have been 19,261 health checks completed, remaining on track to meet the end of year target
Percentage of older people (aged 65+) who received reablement/rehabilitation services after hospital discharge	2.9%	No update	N/A	N/A	
The proportion of carers who stated they were 'extremely' or 'very' satisfied with social services	34.9%	No update	N/A	N/A	Bi-Annual

## HIGH QUALITY ENVIRONMENT

Measures	Baseline	Value at Q3	Target/Range	RAG	Comments
ECC electricity from renewable sources (GWh)	-	No update. Under review	TBC	N/A	Annual
Retrofit in low income households	N/A	No update	80	Green	Target achieved. Awaiting confirmation of further funding to extend programme.
Replacing streetlights (mainly residential roads) in Essex with new LED lights	N/A	16,803	27,500	Green ↑	When all ECC's lights are replaced with energy saving LED lamps, it will save 6,500 tonnes of carbon per year, and will save the Council £39m over the next 25 years.
Sections of coastal paths completed	-	N/A	2	N/A	
Number of national flood management schemes delivered	-	N/A	No Target	N/A	
Total household waste collected per household (kg)	1,070kg (2020/21)	N/A	1,100	Green	Annual
Percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting	51.8% (2020/21)	N/A	50.0%	Green	Annual
Number of trees planted from Essex Forest Initiative	38,305 (2020/21)	31,353	50,000	Green ↑	The 'planting season' continues to at least mid February, and thousands of additional trees are being planted each week. We are therefore confident that the 50,000 target for 2021/22 will be met.

## A GOOD PLACE FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES TO GROW

Measures	Baseline	Value at Q3	Target/Range	RAG	Comments
% schools engaged in Trauma Perceptive Practice	N/A	50%	42%	Green ↑	These indicators relate to schools engaged in the ECC provided scheme, and some schools may have chosen to use an alternative approved provider. At mid-year 50% of 553 schools and 6% of the 900 settings were engaged in Trauma perceptive practice
% settings engaged in Trauma Perceptive Practice	N/A	6%	7%	Red ↑	
Percentage of eligible 2 year olds accessing funding for childcare in a setting rated at least good by Ofsted	96.6% (2020/21)	No update	96.6%	Green	Annual
Percentage of all 3 and 4 year olds accessing funding for childcare in a setting rated at least good by Ofsted	95.2% (2020/21)	No update	95.2%	Green	Annual
New primary school places created	N/A	No update	410	N/A	Annual
New secondary school places created	N/A	No update	360	N/A	Annual
Percentage of 16-18 year olds who are NEET/unknown (Dec-Feb average)	4.3% (2020/21)	No update	4.3%	Amber	Annual
Percentage of families with successful intervention (Family Solutions)	84%	82.0%	85.0%	Amber ↓	The proportion of successful interventions for Family Solutions is currently 1% lower than Q2 and 4% lower than Q1 The services are experiencing rising case complexities.
Percentage of CYP who do not enter the care system following D-Bit intervention	78%	No update	80.0%	N/A	
The number of children known to social care per 10,000	196.9	188.4 (2020/21)	190-210	Amber ↔	The annual rate is published during Q3, and is therefore reported here. This continues to fall at a relatively stable rate, maintaining levels below that of statistical neighbours and the England average but slightly below range.

Measures	Baseline	Value at Q3	Target/Range	RAG	Comments
The number of children subject to Children in Need plans per 10,000	46.5 (1473)	44.4	47.3 – 63.1	Amber ↔	The rate of children on a Child in Need plan in Essex continues to fall, a trend that was initially seen towards the start of the pandemic but has since continued, and remains slightly below range.
The number of children subject to child protection plans per 10,000	21.3 (675)	20.3	17.3 – 20.5	Green ↔	The number of children subject to a child protection plan continues to fluctuate but volumes remain to be within expected levels, with rates stable compared to last quarter.
Number of looked after children per 10,000	33.8 (1073)	34.1	34.7 – 39.4	Amber ↔	The number of children in care has declined slightly since a peak in August. While volumes continue to sit below expected levels, the range in which was set when it was not known what the longer term effects of the pandemic would be on the number of children open to social care.
Percentage of those supported by youth offending services who reoffend within 12 months	32%	No update	N/A	N/A	
Average number of offences per re-offender in 12 months	3.1	No update	N/A	N/A	
Percentage of CYP seen by the CAMHS service	32.7%	No update	N/A	N/A	This measure relates to the % of expected levels of children and young people seen by the CAMHS (i.e. relates to expected prevalence not whole CYP population)
Review representation of BAME** CYP across the statutory social care system: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Open to social care</li> <li>• Children in Care</li> <li>• Child protection</li> </ul>	18.7% 21.4% 14.1%	18.9% 24.4% 12.3%	N/A	N/A	The service is committed to understanding the experience of children, young people and families from BAME communities to ensure that interventions continue to meet the diverse needs of all Essex families, as identified through the renewed focus on the equality

Measures	Baseline	Value at Q3	Target/Range	RAG	Comments
					<p>characteristics of supported families. A new position of Anti-Racist Practice Lead has been developed. This will also support our insight into the performance in this area. Baselines have been updated for this measure.</p>

## SERVICE EXCELLENCE

Measures	Baseline	Value at Q3	Target/Range	RAG	Comment
Residents who think Essex County Council provides good value	46% (2020)	No update	48%	N/A	Next Residents Survey due mid 2022
Collection rate of Council Tax achieved for this year	96% (2020/21)	No update	96.0%	N/A	Update due Q4
IMPOWER Council Productivity Ranking	7 (2019)	No update	Top 10	N/A	
Total number of websites	91	88	87	Green 	
Number of websites that have had full accessibility audit	N/A	2	24	Red	Work on this project have temporarily been put on hold. Expected to resume April 2022
Percentage of users rating their online experience as 5/5 (Satisfied)	N/A	34.2%	N/A	N/A	Quarter 3 saw 5/5 ratings increase to 34%. This is based on responses received between 1 -12 October only (322 in total). Tracking tools have temporarily been removed while compliance checks are undertaken
Deliver social value through procurement and practice to increase availability of entry level jobs	N/A	981	210	Green 	ECC are significantly overperforming against this indicator, as the Live at Home tender was able to generate a considerable level of committed jobs at the entry level. We will be reviewing this indicator for 2022/23 to reflect the scale of the ambition. The procurement team are working on a tool between Essex County Council and partners to share and track a common set of

Measures	Baseline	Value at Q3	Target/Range	RAG	Comment
					Social Value measures This is planned to go live later in 2022.

## Annex B: Overview of Levelling up tracking measures

Outlined below is an overview of the proposed measures that will be used to track the progress of Levelling Up in Essex.

For context, links with the national levelling up framework and the framework developed by “This is Purpose” have been provided here.

Measure description	Frequency	Everyone’s Essex performance framework level	National Levelling up white paper	This is purpose framework	Is there an appropriate benchmark?
<b>IMD – neighbourhoods and residents</b>	4 yearly. Data used is the ‘most up to date’ available.	Contextual	No	No	Yes – Long term trends available. Next publication Autumn 2023.
IMD – proxy Income support claims Jobseekers and universal credit claims	Quarterly Six month lag	Not currently reported	No	No	Yes
<b>Percentage of adults with learning disabilities in employment</b>	Quarterly	Strategic – locally used definitions	Disability employment gap (all disabled residents, not just social care supported)	No	Yes – national definitions benchmarked. Long term trends available
<b>Percentage of adults known to secondary mental health services who are in employment</b>	Quarterly	Strategic – locally used definitions	Disability employment gap (all disabled residents, not just social care supported)	No	Yes – national definitions benchmarked. Long term trends available
<b>Gap between FSM/ non-FSM children with respect to attainment:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early Years Foundation Stage (age 5)</li> <li>• The expected standard in Reading, Writing &amp; Maths (age 11)</li> <li>• Achieving 9-4 in English &amp; Maths (age 16)</li> </ul>	Annual. Collected as part of the DfE attainment reporting suite	Contextual	Overall attainment included, but not for target groups	Focus is on disadvantage, which includes FSM children.	Yes – long term trends available (subject to gaps for covid)

Measure description	Frequency	Everyone's Essex performance framework level	National Levelling up white paper	This is purpose framework	Is there an appropriate benchmark?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Level 3 qualifications by age 19;</li> </ul>	Annual. Collected as part of the DfE attainment reporting suite	<p>Not currently reported, but available for reporting.</p> <p>Rate of level 3 qualifications is a contextual measure (all working age)</p>	Rate of level 3 qualifications and 'further education skills' are included	No	Yes
<p><b>Gap between FSM/ non-FSM children with respect to:</b></p> <p>Pupils aged 15, from state funded schools, entering higher education by age 19.</p>	Annual. Collected as part of the DfE attainment reporting suite	Not currently reported, but available from DfE	No	Includes state school children going to university, not FSM young people specifically, but also looks at those attending 'most selective institutions'	Yes
<p><b>Percentage of children and young people with SEND achieving desired attainment at</b></p> <p>EYFS (aged 5)</p> <p>KS2 (aged 11)</p> <p>KS4. (aged 16)</p>	Annual. Collected as part of the DfE attainment reporting suite	Contextual	No	No	Yes – long term trends available (subject to gaps for covid)
<b>Number of 16-18 year olds who are NEET/unknown (Dec/Jan/Feb average)</b>	Annual – 6 month lag	Strategic	No	Yes	Yes – long term trends available
<b>Number of young adults (16-24) on universal credit, and who are not in employment, with claims exceeding 6 months in duration.</b>	Quarterly . One month lag	Claimant and unemployment rate are contextual measures. No specific target / measure for age or long term unemployment. Breakdowns available.	Employment rate as a whole, not specifically this cohort	No	Yes – long term trends available

Measure description	Frequency	Everyone's Essex performance framework level	National Levelling up white paper	This is purpose framework	Is there an appropriate benchmark?
<p><b>Percentage of adults, from working families with children, who believe they:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• are managing well financially;</li> <li>• are in work that offers opportunities for career progression;</li> <li>• are paid appropriately given their responsibilities and achievements</li> <li>• are not at risk of losing their job in the next 12 months;</li> <li>• have opportunities to use their knowledge and skills in their current job; and</li> <li>• are doing work that is meaningful.</li> </ul>	<p>Annual Three month lag</p>	<p>In development (Contextual)</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Adults who expect to struggle financially in the next 6 months (Financial lives survey)</p>	<p>Availability of geographical breakdowns for Financial lives survey TBC.</p> <p>Other measures not benchmarked.</p>

<b>Report title: Briefing – s106 and s278 planning contributions</b>	
<b>Report to:</b> Corporate Policy and Scrutiny Committee	
<b>Report author:</b> Graham Hughes, Senior Democratic Services Officer	
<b>Date:</b> 28 April 2022	<b>For:</b> Consideration and identifying any follow-up scrutiny actions
<b>Enquiries to:</b> Graham Hughes, Senior Democratic Services Officer at graham.hughes@essex.gov.uk.	
<b>County Divisions affected:</b> Not applicable	

## 1. Introduction

This is a report of a private briefing convened to understand more about the s106 and s278 processes for developer contributions to local infrastructure.

## 2. Action required

**The Committee is asked to consider:**

- (i) **This report; and**
- (ii) **Identify any follow-up scrutiny actions**

## 3. Background

- 3.1 During various discussions in recent months, members had raised issues around developer contributions and had requested a briefing to further understand the legal framework and process. This was an issue identified of wider interest than just to this Committee and so it was agreed that the invite to attend any briefing on the matter also be extended to members of the other three scrutiny committees.
- 3.2 Consequently, an introductory briefing with L Wagland (Cabinet Member - Economic Renewal, Infrastructure and Planning), Matthew Bradley - Strategic Development Manager (North), and Alethea Evans - Strategic Development Lead was held on 31 March 2022 which was attended by most of the Committee together with some members from other committees (attendees listed in Appendix 1).

## 4. Report of the briefing session held

### Session content

- 4.1 Members were briefed on the responsibilities of Essex Planning Services, the

## Briefing – s106 and s278 planning contributions

role of Local Plans in connection with developer contributions, planning obligations under s106 and s278 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended).

- 4.2 It was explained that Essex Planning Services was responsible for (i) Infrastructure Planning and ensuring development in Essex mitigated the impact on community infrastructure and (ii) Strategic Development and System Leadership and co-ordinating across Essex to establish better ways of working.
- 4.3 The important role of Local Plans was highlighted:
- Determines the location of the new development.
  - Can engage developers and infrastructure providers.
  - Can enable the infrastructure needs of an area to be shared between developers and priced into land cost.
  - Local infrastructure is not always priced into initial costings for developments and sometimes developers are not aware of the need to mitigate the impacts of a proposed development. Each area's Local Plan has role to help do that.
- 4.4 Planning obligations under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) were outlined:
- Commonly known as s106 agreements.
  - A mechanism which makes a development proposal acceptable in planning terms, that would not otherwise be acceptable.
  - Focussed on site specific mitigation of the impact of development and make a development acceptable in planning terms.
  - Directly related to the development.
  - Fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind to the development.
- 4.5 The provisions of Section 278 Agreements (Highways Act 1980) were also outlined:
- Allows developers to enter into a legal agreement with the County Council (in its capacity as the Highway Authority) to make permanent alterations or improvements to a public highway, as part of a planning approval.
  - This may be the creation of a new access but often highway mitigation is required across a wider area and may include new or upgraded junctions,

## Briefing – s106 and s278 planning contributions

new roads, cycleways, crossings, bus stops or works to the Public Rights of Way network.

- These works are secured by the Local Planning Authority in the first instance by a planning obligation, (Section 106 Agreement) or a planning condition(s) attached to a grant of planning consent.
- The mechanism then for delivery of the highway works secured through the planning process is a legal agreement under Section 278 of the Highways Act 1980.
- The Highway Authority are a statutory consultee to planning applications that impact on highway e.g. by the formation of an access or alteration of an existing access or where development will result in a material increase in or the change in the character of traffic entering or leaving the highway.
- With s278 Agreements all the risk in delivery of the works rests with the developer and not the County Council.

4.6 During subsequent discussion the following key points were clarified, highlighted, acknowledged and/or agreed:

- The largest impact on ECC from new housing development is on the highway network and education capacity.
- ECC has a team to look at planning applications and "combined asks and wider impact". This is often easier to do if there is a Local Plan in place.
- An Infrastructure Delivery Plan can run alongside the Community Infrastructure Levy.
- There was ongoing liaison with Highways and Passenger Transport Teams.
- The Essex Developers' Guide for Infrastructure Contributions related to infrastructure which is the responsibility of the County Council and gave very detailed guidance on contributions. It also draws attention to developers' need to engage with Health and the 'blue light' services.
- Careful balance was needed to maximise developer contributions whilst ensuring the ongoing viability of the proposed development/schemes.
- In terms of private estates, most developers ensured that they exited from ongoing service obligations and looked for other stewardship. Stewardship models for developments could be investigated at an early stage during district planning meetings.
- Generally, s106 monies belong to the planning authority granting the planning permission but where, for example, ECC was a party to a specific agreement then the proportion of the contributions allotted for the ECC part of the scheme then belongs to ECC.

## Briefing – s106 and s278 planning contributions

- Parish Councils cannot be party to a s106 agreement and funding is collected by the local district council on their behalf and distributed.
- Sustainable urban water systems should be in place as part of the planning application to ensure adequate drainage was in place and to make sure flooding did not happen. There should be engagement with the Essex Flood team where necessary as part of the submission process but this is largely outside of the usual s106 discussions and issues would usually be taken up by the district council during the process. Reference was made to a London Borough which had put a requirement into their Local Plan for local developers to contribute to the costs of addressing drainage issues resulting from washing building waste into the drains.
- Officers were intending to issue some planning guidance notes stressing ECC's limited role in connection with contributions for Health services.
- Local members were copied in on ECC responses to consultations under the planning process. Parish Councils also had the opportunity to comment.
- There was an appetite to further encourage the wider use and application of the Community Infrastructure Levy. It was possible also to have it in place with s106 contributions in a hybrid-type arrangement.

### 5. Conclusions and recommendations

Members were very grateful for the comprehensive presentation and briefing given.

It was **agreed** that more information should be provided to the full committee:

- (i) On how members can get involved in developer contributions and mitigating impacts on development;
- (ii) Clarifying the County Council's role and interactions with Health and NHS;
- (iii) Clarifying the data held on specific s106 holdings and the status of planned projects.

### 6. Appendix

Attendees at briefing with L Wagland (Cabinet Member - Economic Renewal, Infrastructure and Planning), Matthew Bradley - Strategic Development Manager (North), and Alethea Evans - Strategic Development Lead which was held virtually on 31 March 2022.

## **Briefing – s106 and s278 planning contributions**

### **Appendix C - Attendees**

County Councillors from Corporate Policy and Scrutiny Committee:

C Pond (Chairman),  
T Cunningham  
J Fleming  
P Gadd  
M Garnett  
I Henderson  
Sam Kane  
M Mackrory (Vice Chairman)  
A McGuiggan  
C Siddall,  
M Steptoe  
M Vance

County Councillors from other scrutiny committees:

S Barker  
L Bowers Flint  
A Goggin  
C Guglielmi  
P Honeywood (part)  
P May  
R Playle  
M Skeels

L Wagland (Cabinet Member - Economic Renewal, Infrastructure and Planning)

Supporting officers:

Matthew Bradley - Strategic Development Manager (North)  
Alethea Evans - Strategic Development Lead  
Graham Hughes (Democratic Services)  
Daniel Maclean (Cabinet adviser)

# Work Programme

Reference Number: CPSC/11/22

<b>Report title:</b> Work Programme	
<b>Report to:</b> Corporate Policy and Scrutiny Committee	
<b>Report author:</b> Graham Hughes, Senior Democratic Services Officer	
<b>Date:</b> 28 April 2022	<b>For:</b> Discussion and identifying any follow-up scrutiny actions
<b>Enquiries to:</b> Graham Hughes, Senior Democratic Services Officer at graham.hughes@essex.gov.uk.	
<b>County Divisions affected:</b> Not applicable	

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 The work programme is a standard agenda item. The work programme for the Committee continues to be developed and the current position is outlined below.

## 2. Action required

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to consider this report and issues under consideration in the Appendix and any further development or amendments.

## 3. Background

### 3.1 Developing a work programme

Issues identified during induction sessions in summer 2021 and subsequent formal meetings continue to be incorporated into the work programme by the Chairman and Vice Chairmen.

- 3.2 This work has reflected the adoption of the *Everyone's Essex – Our Plan for Levelling Up the County: 2021-2025* strategy at Council on 12 October 2021.

## 4. Everyone's Essex

The Committee should take account of the *Everyone's Essex – Our Plan for Levelling Up the County: 2021-2025* strategy when considering the work programme and future items.

Particular attention should be paid to the strategic ambitions (and associated commitments and performance measures) most relevant to the work of the Committee. Reflecting the corporate focus of the committee, this could be more looking at the How We Will Deliver section and include scrutiny of effectiveness and efficiency, value for money, and the managing and prioritising of resources, so that investment can be made in the priorities set out in the strategy. It could

## **Work Programme**

also include scrutinising the People Plan in the strategy which aims to ensure that the County Council has the capability to meet the demands ahead.

### **5. Update and Next Steps**

See Appendix.

### **6. Appendix**

- Current Work Programme.

**Corporate Policy and Scrutiny - Work Programme – 28 April 2022**

<b>Provisional Date</b>	<b>Topic Title</b>	<b>Lead Contact</b>	<b>Purpose and Target Outcomes</b>	<b>Relevance to Scrutiny Theme *</b>	<b>Cross-Committee Work Identified (where applicable)</b>
28 April 2022	Everyone's Essex Strategy	Director, Policy and the Head of Performance and Business Intelligence	To consider first update to monitor progress.	Scrutiny of the Everyone's Essex Strategy	Chairmen/Vice Chairmen from other scrutiny committees to be invited.
28 April 2022	Data analytics and artificial intelligence	Head of Profession: Analytics & Data Science	Understanding the collection and use of data analytics and artificial intelligence.	To support future scrutiny of Everyone's Essex Strategy	Chairmen and Vice Chairmen of other scrutiny committees to be invited
28 April 2022	s106/s278 planning contribution processes	Cabinet Member, Economic Renewal, Infrastructure and Planning	To consider a report of the private briefing held on 31 March 2022 to understand processes and challenges	Ability to deliver Everyone's Essex Strategy	Members from other scrutiny committees attended the briefing.
26 May 2022	Essex Archive Services – site visit	To be hosted by Deputy Cabinet Member Devolution, Art, Heritage and Culture.	Essex Records Office site visit as preparation for later formal session in the summer on future approach to the delivery of services including digitalisation.	Ability to deliver Everyone's Essex Strategy	Not applicable

23 June 2022	2021-22 Full Year Financial Outturn	Cabinet Member Finance, Resources and Corporate Affairs	To consider the third quarter financial outturn and to understand the challenges on the proposed budget.	Ability to deliver Everyone's Essex Strategy	Not applicable
Spring 2022	Investment portfolio update	Cabinet Member Finance, Resources and Corporate Affairs/ Head of Finance Commercial Insight	Review approach and performance.	Ability to deliver Everyone's Essex Strategy	Not applicable
Spring 2022	Reserves and provisioning	Cabinet Member Finance, Resources and Corporate Affairs/ Director Finance	To review current policy and levels.	Ability to deliver Everyone's Essex Strategy	Not applicable
Spring 2022	Climate change	Cabinet Member Finance, Resources and Corporate Affairs/ Director Finance	Financing the delivery of the Climate Commission report recommendations	Climate change	Not applicable
Quarterly starting 28 July 2022 - TBC	Finance and budget update	Cabinet Member Finance, Resources and Corporate Affairs/ Director Finance	To consider the quarterly financial outturn and to understand the challenges on the proposed budget.	Ability to deliver Everyone's Essex Strategy	Not applicable
28 July 2022 - TBC	Ways of Working and Facilities update	Cabinet Member Finance, Resources and Corporate Affairs/ Executive Director, People and Transformation	How has Tranche 2 worked and what is the latest staff feedback.	Ability to deliver Everyone's Essex Strategy	Extend invite to Chairmen of other scrutiny committees
TBC	Corporate systems update	Cabinet Member Finance, Resources and Corporate Affairs/ Programme Director	Review implementation and issues that have been identified and ambitions for	Ability to deliver Everyone's Essex Strategy	TBC

			technology transformation and facilitating change.		
Summer 2022	Essex Archive Services	Cabinet Member Devolution, Art, Heritage and Culture	Influence future approach on the delivery of services including use of digitalisation.	Ability to deliver Everyone's Essex Strategy	Not applicable
TBC	Corporate Economic Renewal Strategy	Cabinet Member Finance, Resources and Corporate Affairs/ Director Finance	Follow up session - To consider the implementation of the Strategy	Ability to deliver Everyone's Essex Strategy	Jointly with Place Services & Economic Growth Policy and Scrutiny Comm - TBC

**Further issues not scoped or currently being scheduled  
(themes and issues highlighted during induction discussions with Cabinet Members)**

Essex Housing - ECC's strategies and plans, including environmental considerations.

Essex Outdoors - Increasing usage and making it more commercial. Could be led by another scrutiny committee.

Faith covenant - Role of ECC and the wider Equalities agenda

Procurement - Percentage of procurement with Essex businesses, social value contracts, autonomy of service areas