

Changing Futures

Essex Health and Wellbeing Board

18 May 2022



Essex County Council

Changing Futures – the national programme

Changing Futures is a three year (2021 – 2024) national programme which aims to improve outcomes for adults experiencing multiple disadvantage.

Multiple disadvantage (as defined for the purpose of Changing Futures) includes combinations of homelessness, substance misuse, mental health issues, domestic abuse and contact with the criminal justice system.

Changing Futures is overseen by the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (formerly Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government), 15 areas across England including Essex, are participating in the programme.

Funding: £46 million funding from the Shared Outcomes Fund, and an additional £18 million from the National Lottery Community Fund.

www.gov.uk/government/collections/changing-futures



Changing Futures

Aims of the national programme:

Individual

Stabilise and improve the life situation of adults who face multiple disadvantage

Service

Transform local services to provide a person-centred approach and reduce crisis demand

System

- Test a different approach to funding, accountability and engagement between local commissioners and services, and between central government and local areas

Changing Futures within Essex

Essex has successfully secured £2.8m to deliver Changing Futures over the three years.

Within Essex, the Changing Futures programme will work with adults experiencing multiple disadvantage, specifically focusing on:

Those in contact with the criminal justice system (as victim or perpetrator), coupled with two of the following:

- Substance misuse;
- Homelessness;
- Mental ill health

In addition to the above, they may also have other complex needs, for example, learning disabilities, financial issues, physical health needs, or other accommodation issues.

Changing Futures in Essex

Our vision:

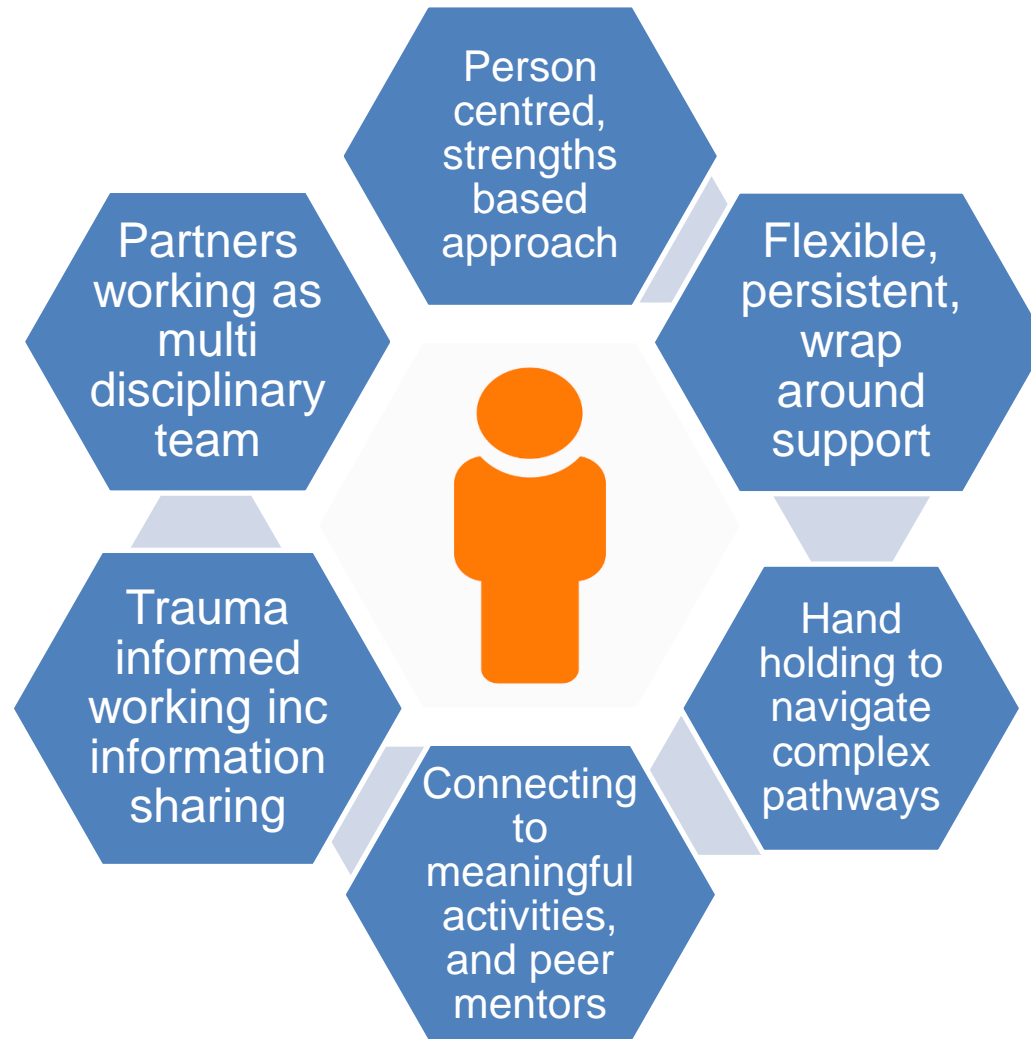
Every person in Essex experiencing multiple disadvantage is able to access the support they need to make positive and lasting changes, and which enables them to live healthier and more fulfilling lives.

Changing Futures – Strategy 2021 – 2025

Changing Futures in Essex – What does this mean?

- A major expansion and enhancement of our approach to supporting individuals with multiple disadvantage, ie
- **Phoenix Futures** – already work with clients with multiple disadvantage through delivery of the Full Circle service, eg:
 - **Offenders with Complex and Additional Needs;**
 - **The Horizon Project;**
 - **Vulnerable Adults Project**

Changing Futures – Our approach



Changing Futures in Essex

What have we done so far:

- Increased staff capacity within Phoenix Futures and Futures in Mind: providing dedicated support, increasing the number of individuals with multiple disadvantage within Essex who can be supported, and develop activities for individuals to engage in.
- Establishment of team of Mental Health and Wellbeing practitioners: providing dedicated support to adults with low to moderate mental ill health issues, and prevent further onset and or escalation of mental health and social care needs.
- Capacity development with local partnerships: Grant funding awarded to partners from across the districts to deliver projects as part of Changing Futures within their local areas.

Changing Futures in Essex

Some key milestone for delivery:

Expansion of partners working as part of a multi disciplinary team, (including sharing of information where appropriate)

Development of waiting list offer and activities, and which connects individuals to their community; increase peer mentor support (Futures in Mind)

Building capacity within districts to address gaps in support, and increase opportunities/activities for individuals with multiple disadvantage

Utilising service user/lived experience feedback to improve services and pathways for support

Rolling out trauma informed training; embedding trauma informed practice across services

Evaluation and learning