

The EssexWorks Corporate Plan 2012-2017



Baseline Paper
March 2012





Enabling every individual to achieve their ambitions by supporting a world-class education and skills offer in the county

There are strong relationships between improving education, employment and income, and improvements in health and personal wellbeing. A highly-skilled workforce provides a foundation upon which our future economic growth and prosperity can be built. At the personal level, a good, rounded education and the ability to learn throughout life can help ensure an individual has the tools to achieve their potential.

Where have we come from?

Areas of focus for 2012/13

Helping Essex residents achieve their full potential through learning

The proportion of children achieving a good level of development in the Early Years Foundation Stage, and so providing a sound basis for beginning education, has improved steadily over recent years, but remains below our Statistical Neighbours and national results.

Positive progress has been made at Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 4 level with performance mirroring similar authorities. We have also been closing the gap between Essex and other authorities for young people achieving level 3 qualifications at age 19. However, although the gap for young people with Special Educational Needs and the rest closes between KS2 and KS4 it is still behind Statistical Neighbours and the national picture.

School attendance is closely linked with school attainment levels. Essex performs strongly in overall and persistent absence in both primary and secondary schools, and has been improving over recent years.

In 2012/13 and beyond, Essex will look to increase the rate of improvement in Early Years Foundation Stage in order to reduce the gap between our results and those of our Statistical Neighbours. The move to a single term entry is expected to have a positive impact.

We will be looking to maintain progress at all educational levels and in particular seeking to close the gap between young people with Special Educational Needs and the rest - particularly at Key Stage 2.

We will also be working to a new and more challenging threshold for absence to ensure our high performance in this area continues and aim to continue improvements in level 3 qualifications by age 19 to reduce the gap between Essex and the England average.

Providing opportunities for Essex people to learn throughout their lives

The proportion of the whole Essex population with Level 2, 3 and 4 qualifications or higher is important because there are relationships between improving education and employment.

Overall, Essex is performing below national averages and the gap is widening. This may be impacted by the workforce age in Essex. There are also large variations within Essex with Uttlesford having 39.5% of population with level 4+ qualifications; and Basildon and Tendring having 16.7% and 16.4% respectively.

Ensuring that people have access to high quality libraries is a key element to supporting individuals to learn throughout their lives. The number of physical visits to libraries is declining nationally and locally alongside the national membership of libraries, and we expect this trend to continue as society adapts to using other forms of learning alongside libraries, such as the Internet.

Promoting a culture of aspiration for all

Participation in apprenticeships across Essex has risen over the last 3 years and this trend is continuing with a 32% increase for the early part of 2011/12, when compared to the same period last year.

As part of this, The Essex Apprenticeship Scheme, developed by Essex County Council in response to declining apprenticeship opportunities both nationally and locally, has helped 1,381 people into apprenticeships in phase 1 and so far 369 for phase 2- helping to raise the employability skills of young people.

Whilst the percentage of young people continuing in Post 16 learning has grown over the last three years, the number of Year 11 pupils reporting an intention to continue in post 16 learning has fallen, indicating that continued growth may be challenging.

Essex is committed to working with others to support a move towards national averages in the proportion of communities across Essex with Level 2, 3 and 4 qualifications. Long term investment in skills can help counteract rising unemployment levels.

We are also committed to maintaining our top quartile performance compared to other Counties in library visits, to ensure that whilst society's tastes may be changing, the service we provide continues to be high quality and to meet the needs of Essex residents.

In the future we also intend to understand further the drivers behind residents' views of support available to access education and life-long learning, to ensure that, as technology and society changes, Essex continues to provide opportunities for all.

In 2012/13 The Essex Apprentice Scheme will continue to support young people to gain skills and we have set an ambition of 70% successful completion for all young people supported.

In addition to raising aspirations, we want to raise the participation of 16-19 year old in post 16 learning, to provide them with the skills for adult life and employment. Currently higher participation rates can be seen in 16 & 17 year olds, compared with 18 & 19 year olds.

In terms of young people in care, for whom Essex is their corporate parent, we wish to maintain our current good performance levels for care leavers who are in education, employment or training at age 19. Current performance is positive and results are better than the national and comparator averages. We expect the overall care population to reduce by around 5% each year. This will mean that in future, children and young people in care will be those with more complex needs. Therefore maintaining our current performance will in fact represent improvement in real terms.



Securing the highways, infrastructure and environment to enable businesses to grow

Private enterprise creates jobs, generates wealth, and improves lives. In a time of austerity it is more important than ever that Essex is a place where business can flourish, providing employment opportunities for local residents and, by creating wealth, helping to fund the public services we use.

Where have we come from?

Supporting business to generate wealth, jobs and opportunity

The impact of the recession which arrived in 2008 is still putting pressure on the Essex economy. There are now almost 58,000 enterprises in Essex. It has become harder to start up a new enterprise in recent years. The birth of enterprises has steadily declined since 2007. It has also become harder for enterprises to survive, with rising numbers of enterprises ceasing to exist since 2006.

Working population earnings are lower than resident population earnings which is likely to be as a result of people commuting to work in London (where average earnings are higher). When compared to other counties Essex has similar earnings to Kent, but lower than Surrey, Hertfordshire and Cambridgeshire.

Ensuring physical and technological infrastructure is in place to enable business to flourish

Road maintenance is a key factor in journey time reliability, which can have a significant impact on the local economy. The condition of Essex's Principal and Non-Principal roads is in the top quartile across the Country showing an improvement in 2010/11 compared to the previous year.

The number of business premises in Essex, as defined by the national non domestic rate fell by just over 400 between 2008/9 and 2009/10 but then rose by just over 280 by 2010/11. Ensuring that adequate numbers of business premises are available for new start ups is important to support economic growth and Essex will therefore continue to monitor these.

Areas of focus for 2012/13

There are a number of business strands to which ECC contributes in supporting this measure - including areas such as enterprise, infrastructure, broadband and apprenticeships. The sum of these wide ranging services, projects and programmes are all designed to stimulate and encourage economic growth and prosperity in Essex.

Investment in the A, B and C classified roads will continue as a priority with the aim of maintaining current quality levels, which see us in the top quartile for road conditions when compared to others.

In the future we will be measuring the traffic flows at peak times across Essex in order to ensure that we best to prioritise resources for managing the road network and ensuring journey times are reliable, supporting Essex's businesses and residents.

Essex's broadband ambition, to be achieved via working in partnership with a wide range of public and private sector partners, is for 100% of homes and businesses to have an available basic level of broadband (2 Mbps) by 2015 and 75% of homes and businesses to have available superfast broadband (24 Mbps) by 2017.

Creating an environment in which economic opportunity is made available to all

Provision for childcare is a key contribution to successful entry in the labour market and sustained employment. Essex County Council works pro-actively with partners to make financial support offered through the childcare element of the Working Tax Credit widely communicated to families. However the tax year 2009-10 shows a significant drop-off in take-up among eligible Essex working families, possibly as a result of a downturn in the economy.

As a Council we also have a duty to assess whether there is sufficient childcare to meet the needs of working parents in Essex. Across Essex there appears to be sufficient childcare places, and we are operating between 70-80 % capacity.

In June 2011 73.5% of working age residents in Essex were economically active and in employment. This compares favourably with surrounding counties, and nationally. Despite the comparatively high employment rate in Essex, unemployment has increased considerably in the last few years, but continues to remain below the national level and in line with the East of England.

Essex remains committed to ensuring that those families eligible to receive the childcare element of working tax credit, access their entitlement to support their employment and children's development.

Looking forwards, we also expect to see a reduction in the number of young people not in employment, education or training (NEET) next year as a result of the new Information Advice and Guidance service and the implementation of a new early identification NEET toolkit within Essex. The focus of the employability and skills team is to reduce 1000 NEET cases into employment, education or training.

We will continue to monitor the economic environment closely and to work with key partners in the public and private sector, across Essex, to target support where it is most needed.



Improving public health and wellbeing

Quality of life matters. We want Essex citizens to enjoy healthy lives and to live them to the fullest extent possible. But quality of life can present itself in many ways – an individual exerting choice and control over their social care; a rural resident connected to a well-maintained urban centre; a happy and healthy citizen able to enjoy their county.

Where have we come from?

Helping Essex residents to live full and independent lives

86% of all eligible service users currently receive personal budgets (which enable them greater choice and control over the services they receive), 52% of those receiving reablement experience a reduction in their care needs as a result, and since April 2009 nearly 16,000 older people have taken up Essex's telecare offer (covering a variety of assistive technology services).

Essex is committed to supporting vulnerable people to live in their own homes wherever possible. Over the last three years Essex has increased the percentage of adults in touch with secondary mental health services who are living in settled accommodation; we are performing better than both our statistical neighbours and the England average.

Access to reliable public transport is also a key factor for independence. Overall numbers of people using public transport in Essex are declining. However, the percentage of non-frequent bus services that run on time from has improved 75% in 2008/09 to 85% in 2010/11. These non-frequent services tend to be those of most importance to communities less well-served by public transport links, and therefore most important in terms of ensuring residents' ability to live independent lives.

Areas of focus for 2012/13

Research indicates that personal budgets in the form of a cash payment provide the greatest choice and control. Essex therefore aims to increase cash payment users by 10% each year, a key enabler of which will be the introduction of payment cards.

Essex also aims to maintain current levels of positive outcome from reablement and at the same time increase the number of people receiving these services.

Following major successful campaigns encouraging the take up of telecare services, we will continue to promote telecare continually developing our understanding about which services give the greatest benefits, and to which market segments, so that we can ensure the best outcomes for those receiving these services.

Over the next year Essex aims to maintain performance on the percentage of adults in touch with secondary mental health services who are living in settled accommodation and will seek to increase the number of adults with learning disabilities living in their own home or with their family.

We will continue to work with bus and road infrastructure and commercial bus operators and, although we recognise that the current economic climate is likely to result in bus operations seeking ways of reducing costs, our ambition is to minimise any reduction in public transport services and for positive trends in punctuality on non-frequent bus services to continue.

Encouraging healthy and active lifestyles and tackling the wider causes of ill health

We are responsible for improving the health of all the population we serve. This requires a focus on the needs of both deprived and excluded groups, but also more universal outcomes to improve the health of the population as a whole. While the health of the population in many areas across Essex is generally good, there are pockets of differences (for example 20 years difference in life expectancy between the most and least deprived areas in Essex).

Nearly 25% of adults in Essex are estimated to be overweight or obese (similar to the national picture) - obesity in children in Essex is currently better than the national picture.

Smoking is the primary cause of preventable morbidity and premature death. Smoking in Essex is below the national position and whilst we have seen an increase in hospital admissions due to alcohol related circumstances, Essex continues to track better than the national average.

Protecting and enhancing the environment in Essex

Essex's work includes providing high quality country parks and footpaths for public use, encouraging Essex residents to reduce household waste levels and increase the amount of waste re-used, recycled or composted (ensuring good facilities are provided to enable this to happen) and ensuring that its own buildings responsibly reduce CO2 emissions.

Our Country Parks all hold Green Flag status and maintain customer satisfaction ratings above 95%. Public feedback also indicates that just under 80% of our footpaths are easy to use.

Significant improvements have already been achieved in levels of recycling and composting, up by around 10% in 2011/12, compared to 2008/09. Households in Essex are currently recycling and composting over 50% of waste with an ambition to reach a figure of 60% by 2020. At the same time, levels of household waste produced have been falling for some time.

From April 2013 responsibility for improving public health and delivery of this complex agenda will sit with Local Authorities. In Essex over the next year we will be working to ensure a smooth transfer of functions and resources. For the next year statutory responsibility for delivery will remain with the five Essex PCTs. Throughout the next year it is planned that the public health capacity in the PCTs will increasingly align with the ECC structures so that by April 2013 it is hoped a model close to the agreed end state will be in place.

However, notwithstanding this work to reconfigure the formal structure in which we work, in both the short and longer term, we will continue to work together to introduce a range of interventions that improve the health of the wider population as well as focused early interventions that will provide better opportunities for health improvement in socially deprived and excluded groups.

We are committed to maintaining our high standards of customer satisfaction with country parks, and indeed to further developing these venues, for example via the Hadleigh Farm Legacy Project.

We will also continue our work with partners and individuals across Essex to actively restore or re-establish habitats for rare wildlife, to enhance biodiversity, protecting the quality of the environment now, and for the future.

We remain fully committed to encouraging waste prevention and greater levels of recycling and composting by changing the way waste is managed, minimising landfill and driving new initiatives. We also remain fully committed to our long-standing ambition to reach a figure of 60% of waste being recycled or composted by 2020.



Protecting and safeguarding vulnerable people

Society has a duty of care to its most vulnerable. Essex County Council works with individuals, charities, and the private and public sectors to ensure those in the greatest need of our protection are safeguarded. We have a moral duty to ensure that these residents can enjoy a better quality of life, that they are kept safe and that we support those who help create a safe environment for vulnerable citizens

Where have we come from?

Areas of focus for 2012/13

Enabling vulnerable people to enjoy a better quality of life

Supporting the vulnerable people in our county is one of the most important things that we do.

Our new Corporate Plan calls us to focus specifically on enabling vulnerable people to enjoy a better quality of life, and we will be ensuring that resources are focussed in this area over the life of the Plan.

A key element of quality of life is the ability to be in paid employment. Essex's strategy is to promote employment opportunities for disabled people. Given the current economic and employment situation, maintaining current levels of employment will be stretching, but maintaining our performance in this area is a target that has been agreed for 2012/13.

Protecting Essex residents from harm and injury

There has been considerable investment and sustained effort to drive up standards in children's social care since the initial inspection findings of unsatisfactory in 2009. The Ofsted inspection in 2011 confirmed significant progress and an overall assessment of satisfactory. Whilst the Ofsted inspection framework will change, we will use evidence of self assessment, peer review and unannounced Ofsted inspection findings to support evidence of continued improvement in children's social care.

We will continue to ensure effective processes are in place to safeguard vulnerable children and adults. Arrangements are in place to monitor the effectiveness of these.

We will also strengthen the ability of people using our services to tell us which areas they think are high or low quality so that we can focus attention where it is most needed. From next year we will be asking social care recipients questions covering all aspects that relate to their quality of life so that this information can inform our future improvements.

Falls are the largest cause of emergency hospital admissions for older people, and significantly impact on long term outcomes, e.g. being a major precipitant of people moving from own home to long-term nursing or residential care. Essex will use a new measure that reflects the success of services in preventing falls to give an indication of how the NHS, public health and social care are working together to tackle issues locally.

Supporting parents, carers and families to create safe and stable homes

Children need a safe and stable environment in which to grow. Our priority will always be to avoid children coming into care and look for safe and appropriate alternatives. In Essex, and nationally, there has been an increase in the number of children in care or with a child protection plan in recent years.

A stable family environment is associated with better outcomes for children and young people. We have made good progress in securing stable placements for children in care, with an increase in foster care family placements and a reduction in residential care. 75% of Essex children in care are now in foster care placements, above the national average (and the position last year) and this is a level we are looking to sustain.

Carer's assessments are a means of understanding the support carers need in their caring role, and ensuring they receive the support to balance their caring roles and maintain their desired quality of life. Performance in 2010/11 placed Essex in the top quartile within our comparator group.

As a result of our work with families most in need of our support we will work to identify needs early on and support families to avoid children requiring a child protection plan or local authority care. We expect this to result in an overall reduction in the numbers of children in care, or subject to a protection plan.

As the number of carer's assessments has declined in 2011/12, maintain the level of carers assessments achieved in 2010/11 will be a stretching target; however it is one that we are committed to achieving to ensure that carers are supported in their role. We are also committed to closing the gap between ourselves and others for carers receiving direct payments.



Giving people a greater say and a greater role in building safer and stronger communities

We all like to feel in control of our lives and where we live. Formal and informal connections that bring people together help create a sense of community spirit, belonging, and can increase feelings of personal and social worth. By being part of a wider society – whether through faith groups, sports clubs, charity work or other bodies - we can feel like we are giving something back to the communities and groups that we care about.

Where have we come from?

Areas of focus for 2012/13

Making Essex a safer county in which to live and work

Essex remains a safe place to live, with just 60 crimes per 1,000 residents - below that of both Statistical Neighbours and the England average for 2011/12 (YTD).

However, whilst crime is generally low people are sensitive to crime. The feeling of safety within Essex has dropped in the most recent survey results.

We continue to make positive progress in reducing the number of people killed and seriously injured with a 44% reduction seen in recent years.

In 2012/13 Essex will look to further reduce its crime figures while improving the feeling of safety amongst residents. Through the Essex Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy, Essex and its partners will work together to tackle domestic abuse, serious acquisitive crime, and anti-social behaviour. These issues can have serious effects on victims, causing lasting damage to their relationships, emotional wellbeing and health. They can also have a profound effect on children, communities, victims' families, demands upon local public services and the local economy.

Essex will also look to further reduce the number of people killed or injured on Essex roads (contributing to 2020 targets) and will continue to work with partners through the Essex Casualty Reduction Board to promote a safe and secure travelling environment.

Encouraging Essex residents to influence decisions and shape their communities

Residents wishing to be involved in local decision making dropped in 2011/12 for both those residents wanting to be more involved in decision making and those interested in improving their local community. However the number of residents involved in volunteering has increased.

Essex will aim to further engage with residents to encourage both involvement in decision making and opportunities for improvement within local communities. Volunteering will be actively encouraged through a number of ECC lead schemes.

Helping communities play a greater role in challenging local services

Following consultation in 2011 locality boards have been introduced in Essex as a mechanism for engaging communities more in decisions affecting them within their district or borough. Currently 4 boards exist with more likely to evolve over time. Alongside this the Healthwatch organisation is being introduced allowing residents to feedback on their health and social care needs, while providing advice and advocacy services. It is due to replace the Local Involvement Networks in April 2013.

Appendix

Baseline Position for Corporate Plan 2012-17 Measures



Priority 1: Enabling every individual to achieve their ambitions by supporting a world-class education and skills offer in the county

There are strong relationships between improving education, employment and income, and improvements in health and personal wellbeing. A highly-skilled workforce provides a foundation upon which our future economic growth and prosperity can be built. At the personal level, a good, rounded education and the ability to learn throughout life can help ensure an individual has the tools to achieve their potential.

Outcome 1: Helping Essex residents achieve their full potential through learning

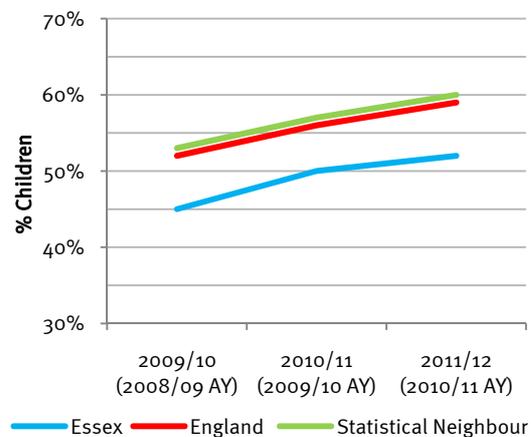
Success Measure: Increasing the percentage of children and young people who achieve well in early years education (age 5), at key stage 2 (age 11), at GCSE (age 16) and beyond (up to age 19)

1.1.1 Proportion of children achieving a good level of development in the Early Years Foundation Stage

Aim: To reduce gap with statistical neighbours and national position

The proportion of children achieving a good level of development in the Early Years Foundation Stage shows Essex has improved by 5% between 2009 and 2010, and a further 2% in 2011. However, this is some way behind the statistical neighbour and national position. Prior to September 2011, 140 (out of 430) Essex schools operated a multiple term of entry (either 2 or 3 intakes across the year). Many other Local Authorities in England already operate single term entry and data for these schools suggests a positive link between single term entry and improved attainment levels. We expect that Essex's adoption of a single term of entry for all schools this year will have a further positive impact on achievement levels and help to close the gap between statistical neighbours and national position. From 2012 a new assessment scheme will be in place and this will set a revised baseline.

Children achieving a good level of development in the Early Years Foundation Stage



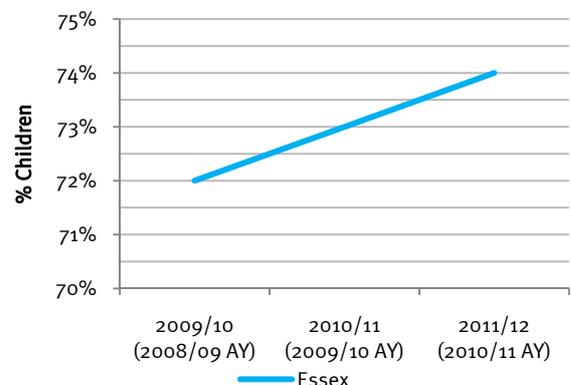
Essex Year-to-Date position: 52% (2010/11 Academic Year)
Population Measure – A higher figure represents good performance

1.1.2 Proportion of children (including children with SEN, Children in Care and those eligible for free school meals) achieving expected levels in KS2 in English and Maths

Aim: To maintain overall progress in line with Statistical Neighbour and National position and close the gap for SEN children

Essex performance in English and Maths at Key Stage 2 is identical to that of Statistical Neighbours and the national picture (74% for the 2010/11 Academic Year). However, Essex pupils with Special Educational Needs perform below the National and Statistical Neighbour average at Key Stage 2.

Children achieving expected levels in KS2 in English and Maths



Essex Year-to-Date position: 74% (2010/11 Academic Year)
Population Measure – A higher figure represents good performance

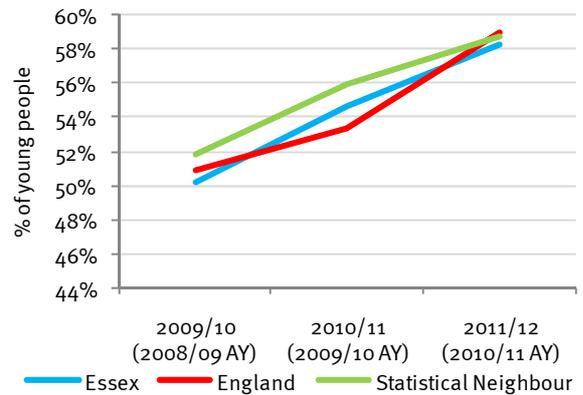
1.1.3

Proportion of young people (including children with SEN, Children in Care and those eligible for free school meals) achieving 5+ A*-C at GCSE or equivalent (including English and Maths)

Aim:
To close the gap between Essex and the National position

Essex performance at Key Stage 4 is just below the Statistical Neighbour and National position. The gap for those pupils with Special Educational Needs and the rest at Key Stage 2 begins to close by Key Stage 4, although is still below the Statistical Neighbour and National position.

Year 11 pupils achieving 5+ A* to C at GCSE or equivalent



Essex Year-to-Date position: 58.2% (2010/11 Academic Year)
Population Measure - A higher figure represents good performance.

1.1.4

Proportion of children and young people (including Children in Care) with 15% or more school absences – Primary

1.1.5

Proportion of children and young people (including Children in Care) with 15% or more school absences - Secondary

School attendance is closely linked with school attainment levels. Historically, Essex has made good progress with overall and persistent absence in primary and secondary schools, in line with Statistical Neighbours and better than the national position. A new threshold of 15% absence is in place for 2010/11 academic year and this is therefore being treated as a baseline year. The previous threshold was 20% of sessions missed due to absence.

Essex Latest Position (1.1.4): 4.5% (Autumn and Spring terms 2010/11 Academic Year)
Essex Latest Position (1.1.5): 19.4% (Autumn and Spring terms 2010/11 Academic Year)
Population Measure - A lower figure represents good performance.

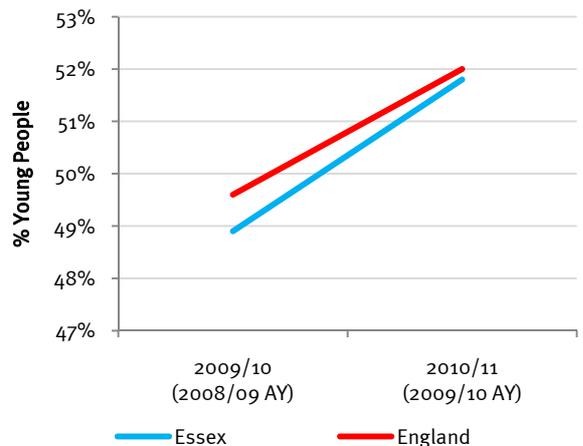
1.1.6

Proportion of young people achieving level 3 qualifications by age 19

Target:
For 53.8% of young people to have achieved a level 3 qualification by age 19 in 2011/12 Academic Year

This is measured because of the important role Local Authorities have with regard to economic development and the key part which skills and qualifications play in supporting the economy. Young people are counted as being qualified to level 3 or above if they have achieved either at least 2 A-levels grades A-E, 4 A/S levels graded A-E, or any equivalent (or higher) qualification in the Qualifications and Credit Framework. Between April 2009 and March 2011 the percentage of young people in Essex with a Level 3 qualification increased from 48.9% to 51.8% - reducing the gap between Essex and the England average. By 2012/13 (2011/12 Academic Year) Essex is seeking to increase this figure to 53.8%.

Young people achieving level 3 qualifications by age 19



Essex Latest Position: 51.8% (2009/10 Academic Year)
Population Measure – A higher figure represents good performance

Outcome 2: Providing opportunities for Essex people to learn throughout their lives

Success Measure: Promoting adult learning through the provision of adult community learning courses

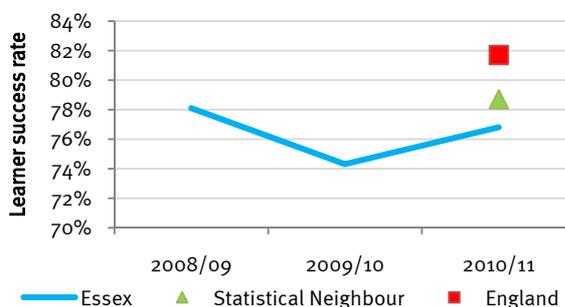
1.2.1 Learner success rates in adult community learning accredited courses

Aim:

To achieve 79% in line with national averages for ACL providers

The national average is based on all education providers (so includes Further Education colleges). The Statistical Neighbour average is based on Adult Community Learning averages. The target of 79% is in line with national averages for Adult Community Learning providers.

Success rates in adult community learning



Service Measure (AHCW) – A high figure represents good performance

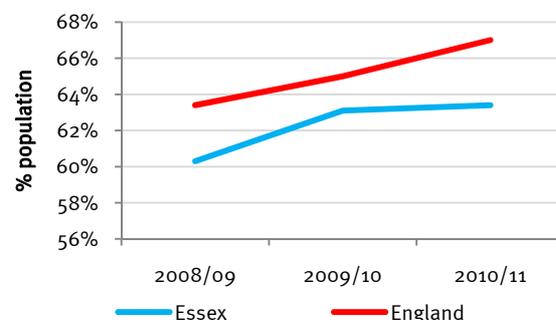
1.2.2 Proportion of the population with level 2, 3 and level 4 qualifications or higher

Target:

To increase the proportion of the population with level 2, 3 and 4 qualifications, moving towards the national averages

These measures are important because good skills are a vital aspect of a competitive economy. The gap between Essex and the rest has continued with an increasing gap seen in the last year. This may be explained by a slightly older workforce and the fact that Essex is a net exporter of 16-24 year olds. There is large variation within Essex with Uttlesford having 39.5% of population with level 4+ qualifications; and Basildon and Tendring having 16.7% and 16.4% respectively.

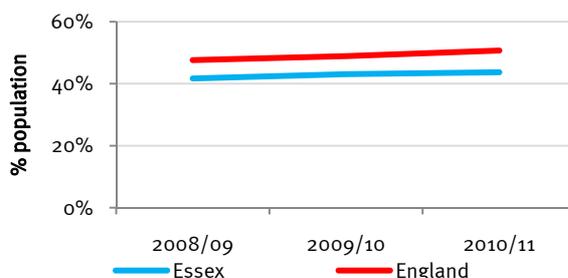
Proportion of population with Level 2 qualifications (or higher)



Essex Year-to-Date Position: 63.4% (2010/11)

Population Measure – A high figure represents good performance

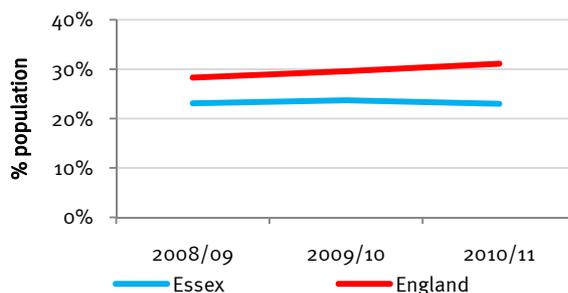
Proportion of population with Level 3 qualifications (or higher)



Essex Year-to-Date Position: 43.7% (2010/11)

Population Measure – A high figure represents good performance

Proportion of population with Level 4 qualifications (or higher)



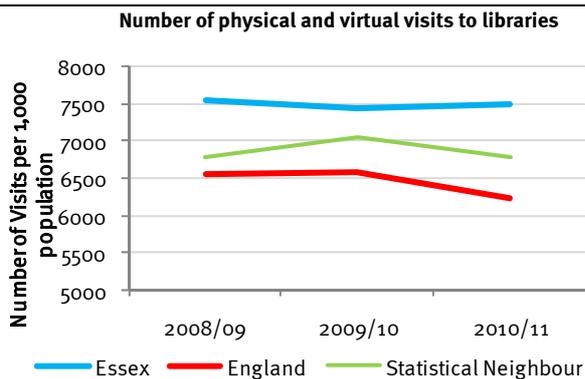
Essex Latest Position: 23.0% (2010/11)

Population Measure – A higher figure represents good performance

1.2.3 Number of physical and virtual visits to Essex libraries

Target:
To maintain top quartile performance compared to other Counties.

Nationally the number of physical visits to libraries is declining alongside the number of virtual visits and national memberships. Between 2008/09 and 2010/11 our comparator group saw a decline of 3.59% while Essex managed to maintain the overall number of visits to libraries. Rolling year information for Essex suggests that we are now starting to see a decline, as per the national picture, and therefore will aim to ensure Essex continues to compare favourably with other local authorities and maintain top quartile performance.



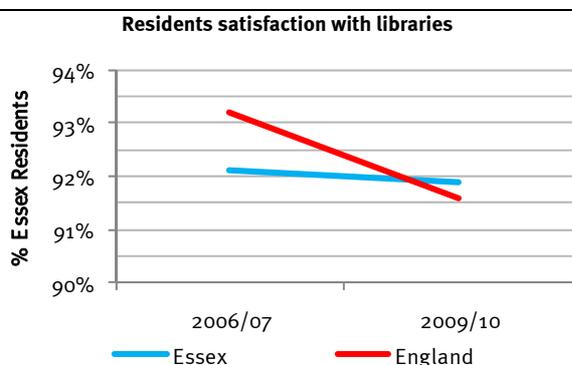
Rolling Year Position: 6,827 per 1,000 population (February 2011 to January 2012)

Service Measure – A high figure represents good performance

1.2.4 Percentage of Essex residents satisfied with Essex libraries

Target:
To continue to move satisfaction levels nearer to the England (Counties) average.

Libraries satisfaction levels are taken from Public Library User Survey and measure the proportion of respondents who view their library as good or very good. Data covers 2006/07 and 2009/10. Fewer Councils participated in the 2009/10 survey. The target reflects the challenges of maintaining user satisfaction within a tough fiscal environment.



Essex Latest Position: 91.9% (2009/10)

Service Measure (ESH) – A high figure represents good performance

1.2.5 Learner success rates in libraries, learndirect and UK online course provision

1.2.6 Learner satisfaction with courses provided within our libraries

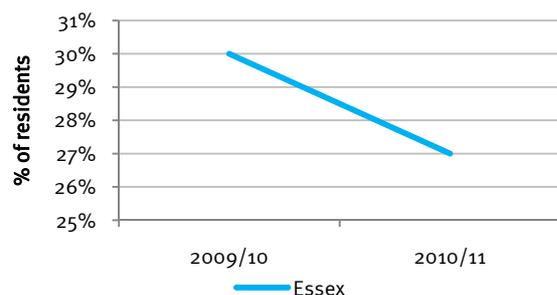
Since the creation of the EssexWorks Corporate Plan 2012-2017, we have been informed by UK online that there will not be funding for UK online provision after March 2012. These measures will therefore no longer form part of the Corporate Plan moving forward and will be removed.

1.2.7 Percentage of Essex residents who feel they have enough information, guidance and support to access education and life-long learning

Aim:
To increase the level achieved in 2010/11

This measure is a local measure taken from our Tracker survey, so no benchmarking data is available. Education and lifelong learning helps to ensure that our population has the skills required in a competitive economic environment, as well as contributing to people’s overall quality of life. 2010/11 Tracker Survey results saw 27% of respondents stating that they felt they have enough information, 23% stating they did not feel they have enough information and 50% stating that they have not sought this information.

Essex residents who feel they have enough information, guidance and support to access education and life-long learning



Essex Latest Position: 27% (2010/11)

Service Measure (AHCW) – Good performance is a high figure

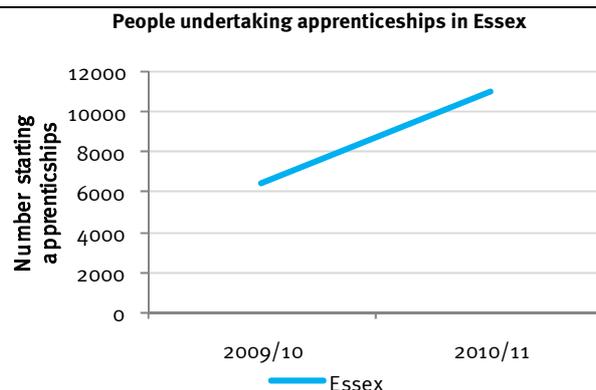
Outcome 3: Promoting a culture of aspiration for all

Success Measure: Increasing the number of people undertaking apprenticeships in Essex

1.3.1 Number of people undertaking apprenticeships in Essex

Aim:
To significantly increase apprenticeship opportunities across Essex

The number of Essex residents starting an Apprenticeship has risen from 6,410 in 2009/10 to 10,930 in 2010/11. This trend is expected to continue in 2011/12, with 3,510 Apprenticeship starts between August-October 2010/11 compared to 2,660 for the same three months in 2010/11. In addition, completion rates for Apprenticeships have increased from 70% in 2008/09 to 77% in 2010/11.



Essex Year-to-Date position: 3,510 (August – October 2011) – a 32% (850) increase on the same period as last year.

Population Measure – A higher figure represents good performance

1.3.2 Number of people successfully completing the Essex Apprentice Scheme

Target:
70% completion rate for Essex Apprenticeship Scheme

We have long-established programmes supporting local residents to learn skills to enable them to develop their careers. The Essex Apprenticeship Scheme was developed in response to a previous decline and a need to stimulate youth employment opportunities and to support economic growth. Since 2009, Phase 1 of the scheme has helped 1,381 people into apprenticeships (as at January 2012) - raising the employability skills of young people in Essex. Phase 2 then aimed to help an additional 250 apprentices into the energy sector. To date we have supported a total of 369 young people onto the phase 2 scheme with a further 85 planned.

The completion rate target for the scheme is 70%. As at January 2012, 500 apprentices had completed their programme, but the scheme is not yet fully complete.

Essex Year-to-Date position : Phase 1: 500 completions (January 2012)

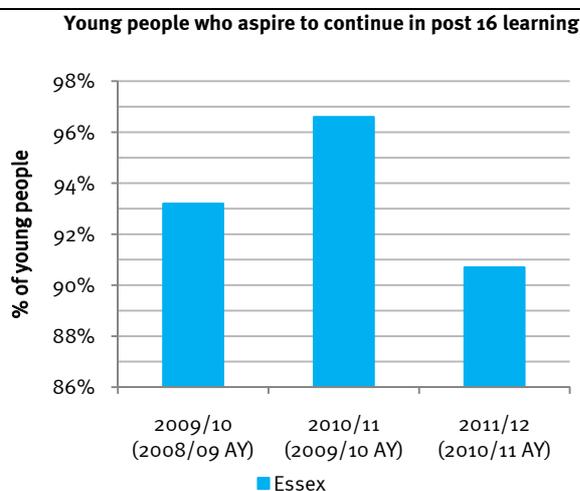
Service Measure (SCF) – A higher figure represents good performance

Success Measure: Increasing the percentage of young people in Essex who participate in post 16 learning, and aspire to life-long learning and self-improvement

1.3.3 Percentage of young people who aspire to continue in post 16 learning

Aim:
Raise the aspirations of young people to continue in learning after the age of 16

As a Local Authority we will support young people to participate in education or training opportunities to increase their skills and qualifications and prepare them for higher education, employment and adult life. The Intended Destinations survey identifies where a young person intends to go after completing compulsory education in Year 11. This will include young people who aspire to go to college, stay in the same school, go to another school or take up an apprenticeship or training. This information enables schools to identify young people who have made choices and help them achieve their aspirations. It also helps identify young people who have chosen not to continue in some form of education, training, or are undecided and help them in making informed decisions.



Essex Latest Position: 90.7% (2010/11 Acad. Year)

Population Measure – A higher figure represents good performance

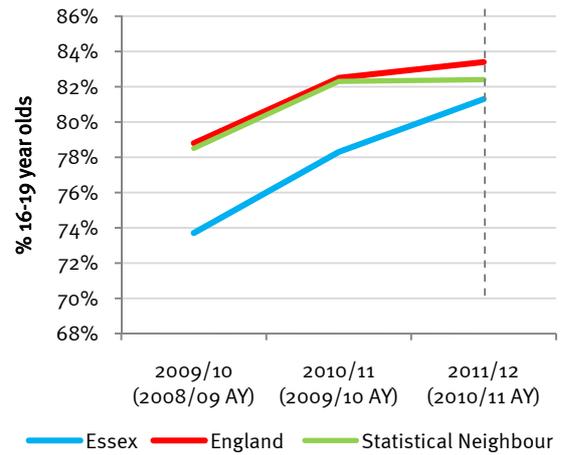
1.3.4 Percentage of 16-19 year olds who continue in post 16 learning

Aim:
For all year 11 leavers in 2013 to remain in education, employment or training.

By 2015 for all young people, up to the age of 18, to remain in education, employment or training.

In addition to raising aspirations, we want to raise the actual participation of 16-19 year olds in post 16 learning, to provide them with the skills for adult life and employment. Currently higher participation rates can be seen in 16 and 17 year olds, compared with 18 and 19 year olds. Nationally, the participation age in education or training will be raised to age 17 in 2013 and 18 in 2015, which will increase the participation of young people in post 16 learning.

Percentage of 16-19 year olds who continue in post 16 learning



(2011/12 data relates to 16-19 year olds. Previous years relate to 16-18 year olds only)

Essex Latest Position: 81.3% (2010/11 Acad. Year)

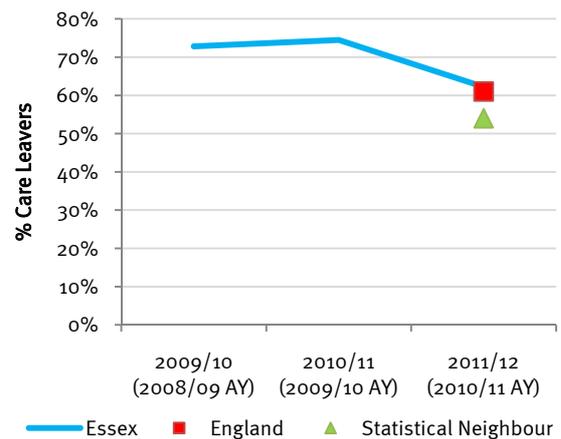
Population Measure – A higher figure represents good performance

1.3.5 Percentage of care leavers who are in education, employment or training at age 19

Target:
To maintain performance in line with our Statistical Neighbour position

Children in care are more at risk of not achieving positive outcomes, including future employment and training opportunities. Essex has been performing above the national and comparator average in this area. However, as the care population reduces in future we will be working with those children and young people who have more complex needs. This may impact on progress against this outcome and therefore we are aiming to maintain performance in line with the Statistical Neighbour position of 54%.

Care leavers who are in education, employment or training at age 19



Essex Latest Position: 62.6% (2010/11 Acad. Year)

Service Measure (SCF) – A higher figure represents good performance



Priority 2: Securing the highways, infrastructure and environment to enable businesses to grow

Private enterprise creates jobs, generates wealth, and improves lives. In a time of austerity it is more important than ever that Essex is a place where business can flourish, providing employment opportunities for local residents and, by creating wealth, helping to fund the public services we use.

Outcome 1: Supporting business to generate wealth, jobs and opportunity

Success Measure: Supporting the Essex business community to grow, attract investment and succeed in new markets

Success Measure: Increasing the number of jobs, and particularly high-value jobs, in the Essex economy

2.1.1 Total number of active enterprises

2.1.2 Number of enterprise start-ups

2.1.3 Number of jobs in Essex

2.1.4 Average workplace earnings

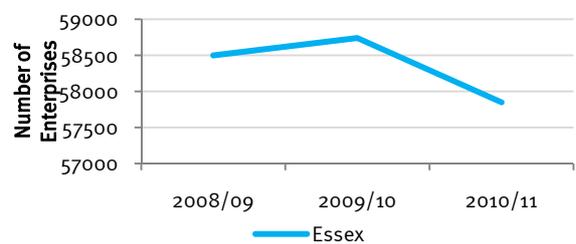
There are now just under 58,000 enterprises in Essex with a steady decline in enterprise start ups since 2007 and rising of enterprises closing with over 7,000 ceasing to exist in 2010. We also saw a drop in jobs in Essex in 2010/11.

Average workplace earnings for the working population are lower than resident population earnings. This is likely to be as a result of people commuting to work in London (where average earnings are higher). Earnings fell or remained stable in 2010 but increased again in 2011.

There are a number of business strands to which ECC contributes in supporting this measure - including areas such as enterprise, infrastructure, broadband and apprenticeships. The sum of these wide ranging services, projects and programmes are all designed to stimulate and encourage economic growth and prosperity in Essex. The ability of ECC to achieve this in isolation is limited due to the numerous and wide-ranging external influences that come into play, not least of which is the wider economic climate.

The authority cannot therefore set targets but can use the information to assess the combined impact of all these factors, effectively directing available resources to where they will provide greatest benefit.

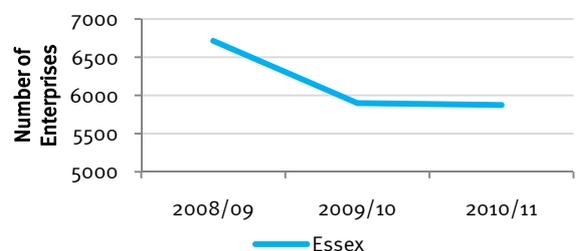
Total number of active enterprises



Essex Latest Position: 57,850 (2010/11)

Population Measure – A higher figure represents good performance

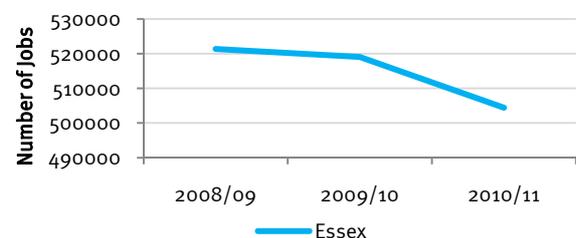
Number of enterprise start ups



Essex Latest Position: 5,875 (2010/11)

Population Measure – A higher figure represents good performance

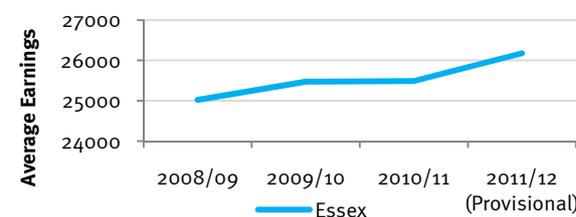
Number of jobs in Essex



Essex Latest Position: 504,423 (2010/11)

Population Measure – A higher figure represents good performance

Average work place earnings



Essex Latest Position: £26,176 (Provisional 2011/12)

Population Measure – A higher figure represents good performance

Outcome 2: Ensuring the physical and technological infrastructure is in place to enable business to flourish

Success Measure: Improving the infrastructure that supports Essex business to trade and to grow

2.2.1 Journeys on specified routes are undertaken within the target time range

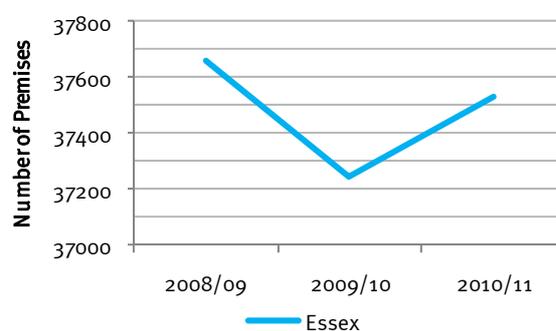
Journey time reliability can have a significant impact on the economy, directly impacting on the costs to businesses as a result of unreliable or excessive journey times. We will be measuring the traffic flows at peak times on the radial routes across Essex using Automatic Number Plate Recognition technology. Monitoring over time will identify how Essex is managing the road network and the demand for travel. Essex is currently establishing a baseline position from which to monitor progress.

Service Measure (ESH)

2.2.2 Number of business premises as defined by the national non domestic rates

This measure provides further contextual information around the infrastructure that supports Essex businesses to trade and grow. It considers the number of business premises as identified by the local billing authority, excluding business premises which are empty.

Business premises as defined by the national non domestic rates



Essex Latest Position: 37,500 (2010/11)

Population Measure – A higher figure represents good performance

2.2.3 Percentage of homes and businesses with a basic level of broadband (2Mbps)

2.2.4 Percentage of homes and businesses with superfast broadband (24Mbps)

Aim: 100% of homes and businesses: basic level (2Mbps) by 2015 and 75% of homes and businesses: superfast (24Mbps) by 2017

The ambition is: 100% of homes and businesses with an available basic level of broadband (2Mbps) by 2015 and 75% of homes and businesses with available superfast broadband (24Mbps) by 2017

The authority's aim is to make superfast and much improved broadband accessible to all and that Essex's citizens and businesses make more effective use of the internet.

There is a wide variation in broadband provision across the county ranging from superfast broadband localities down to a number of "not spots" where there is no connectivity at all. By improving broadband connectivity across the County businesses will no longer be subject to disadvantage as a result of rural or remote locations, allowing improved opportunities for business growth and inward investment.

ECC will act as a key facilitator for the achievement of this measure through both money and influence but delivery on the ground will be the responsibility of the yet to be appointed IT service provider. Delivery of this measure is greatly dependent on the involvement and co-operation of a wide range of partners and stakeholders.

Population Measure

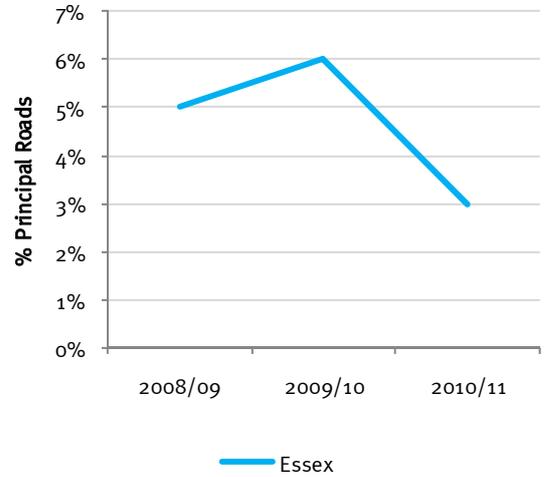
2.2.5 Local authority principal road network where structural maintenance should be considered

2.2.6 Local authority non principal classified road network where structural maintenance should be considered

Target (2.2.5): 4% principal road network (provisional 2012/13)
 A well maintained road network keeps the Essex economy moving, and enables businesses to flourish. To facilitate this, investment in the A, B and C classified roads continues to be a priority. Our intention is to prioritise funding to classified roads to be able to maintain them at their current level.

Target (2.2.6): 7% non principal classified road network (provisional 2012/13)
 Benchmarking data from 2010-11 places Essex in the top quartile for road conditions, compared to other County Council's in England. We have always addressed the network with a 'best value' approach and we now anticipate further efficiency savings via the new Highways Partnership with Ringway Jacobs Ltd known as Essex Highways which should facilitate increased operational works for the less funding.

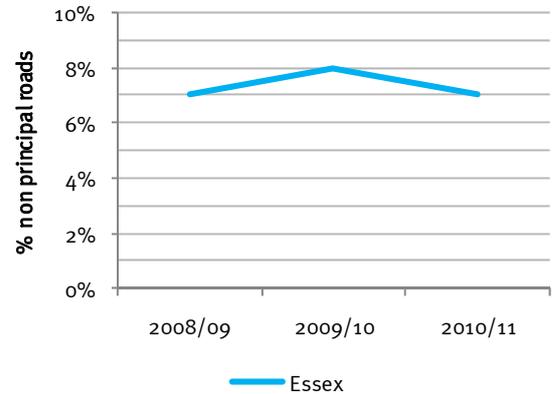
Principal road network where structural maintenance should be considered



Essex Year-to-Date position: 3% (2010/11)

Population Measure – A lower figure represents good performance

Non principal classified road network where structural maintenance should be considered



Essex Year-to-Date position: 7% (2010/11)

Population Measure – A lower figure represents good performance

Outcome 3: Creating an environment in which economic opportunity is made available to all

Success Measure: Reducing the number of young people who are not in education, employment or training

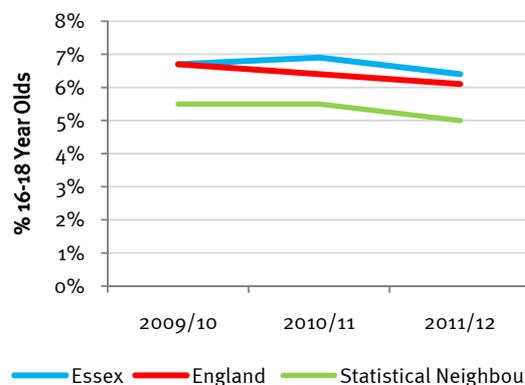
2.3.1 Percentage of 16-19 year olds who are not in education, employment or training

Target:
2012/13 – a reduction to 6% of 16-19 year olds being NEET

We expect to see a continued reduction in the number of NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training) young people as a result our actions. This includes continued focus by the Employability and Skills Unit to engage with the NEET cohort in order to meet/exceed a set target of supporting 1000 NEET individuals into Education, Employment or Training (EET) alongside robust tracking of both EET & NEET cohorts.

In addition, the introduction in April 2012 of the National All Age Guidance Service, and consequent responsibility on schools from Sept 2012 for the delivery of impartial Information Advice and Guidance (IAG), supported by the implementation of the new Essex identification NEET toolkit, are intended to have an impact on this area.

16-19 year olds who are not in education, employment or training



Essex Latest Position: 6.4% (2011/12 – based on Nov 2011 to Jan 2012 Ave)

Population Measure – A low figure represents good performance

Success Measure: Increasing availability of childcare to make it easier for parents to choose to go back to work

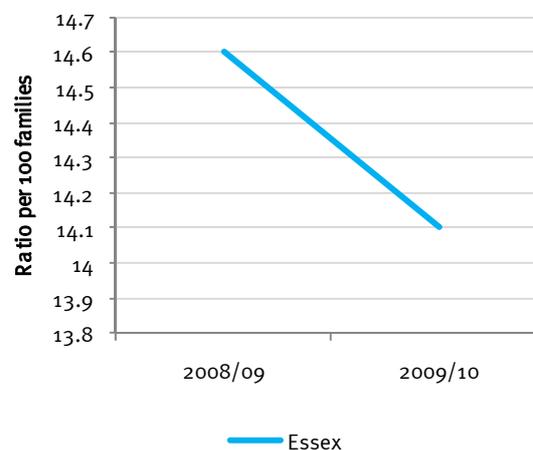
2.3.2 Take up of formal childcare by low income working families

Aim:
To ensure that those families eligible to receive the childcare element of working tax credit, access their entitlement to support their employment and children's development

Provision for childcare is a key contribution to successful entry in the labour market and sustained employment. This measure is a ratio of the proportion of low income Tax Credit recipients in work (more than 16 hrs per week) who are benefiting from the childcare element (spending their money on registered childcare).

There was a steady increase in the take-up of this childcare credit by eligible families in Essex between 2005 and 2009, in line with national trends, as a result of a concerted drive to encourage more mothers into employment as the most effective means of increasing family income and reducing levels of poverty. Essex County Council works pro-actively with partners to make financial support offered through the childcare element of the WTC widely communicated to families. However the tax year 2009-10 shows a significant drop-off in take-up among eligible Essex working families, possibly as a result of a downturn in the economy. From April 2011 the amount of childcare costs that can be claimed back by families has been reduced, and the eligibility criteria changed. It may be appropriate to re-baseline this from April 2011.

Low income Tax Credit recipients in work who are benefiting from the childcare element of Working Tax Credit



Essex Latest Position: 14.1 per 100 (2009/10)

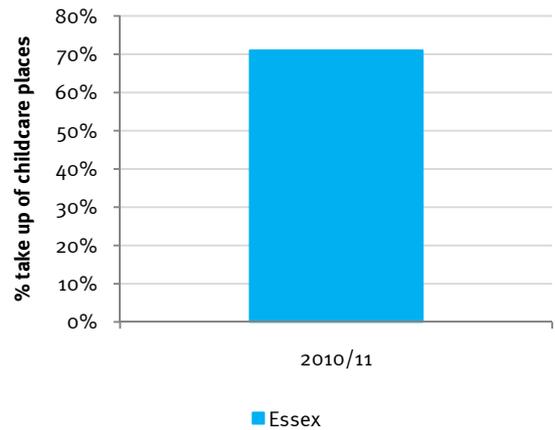
Population Measure – A high figure represents good performance

2.3.3 Availability and take up of childcare places in Essex

Aim:
Sufficient provision at a local level to meet local needs

As a Council we have a duty to assess whether there is sufficient childcare to meet the needs of working parents in Essex. We monitor take up and sufficiency on a termly basis at a local level to identify any gaps and manage the market. This data includes full day care and pre-school provision for the under 5s. It does not include maintained schools, childminders, or out of school provision. Across Essex there appears to be sufficient childcare places, however, there are significant differences at a lower geographical level which we monitor carefully. Increases in unemployment and the costs of childcare may also impact on the take-up. Across Essex we are operating between 70-80% capacity.

Take up of childcare places in Essex



Essex Latest Position: 75% (June 2011)

Population Measure – A high figure represents good performance

Success Measure: Reducing worklessness amongst key sections of the community

2.3.4 Number of Job Seekers Allowance claimants

Target:
To maintain trend with East of England

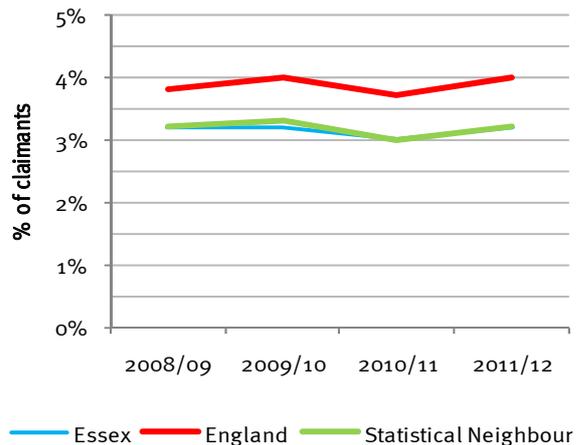
In June 2011, 674,000 people in Essex were classed as economically active and in employment – 73.5% of the resident working age. This continues to compare favourably with some surrounding counties, and nationally – the England average staying at the 2009 low of 70.2%.

Despite the comparatively high employment rate in Essex, unemployment has increased considerably in the last few years (in line with the national picture). JSA claimant data shows that unemployment rose in 2009 and stabilised in 2010 and the early part of 2011.

Unemployment rate varies across the County with hot spots in Basildon, Tendring and Harlow, whilst the number of male claimants is much higher than female claimants.

In January 2012 Essex unemployment (JSA claimants) represented 3.2% of 16-64 year olds (28,256). This is an increase on the same period last year (3.0%) but has remained below the national level (currently 4.0%) and continued to track in line with East of England (currently 3.2%).

16-64 year olds claiming Job Seekers Allowance



Essex Latest Position: 3.2% (January 2012) which represents a decline in performance levels since same period previous year (3.0%)

Population Measure – A low figure represents good performance



Priority 3: Improving public health and wellbeing

Quality of life matters. We want Essex citizens to enjoy healthy lives and to live them to the fullest extent possible. But quality of life can present itself in many ways – an individual exerting choice and control over their social care; a rural resident connected to a well-maintained urban centre; a happy and healthy citizen able to enjoy their county.

Outcome 1: Helping Essex residents to live full and independent lives

Success Measure: Ensuring that people received the support they need to regain or maintain their independence

3.1.1 Percentage of social care users receiving personal budgets

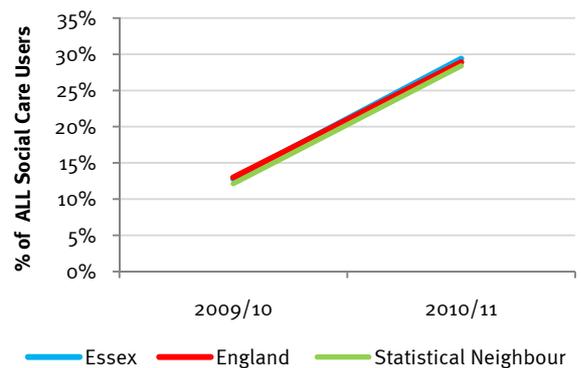
Target:

To increase cash payment users by 10% each year

Personal budgets are a mechanism to provide services in a way that allows service users to have greater choice and control over the services they receive. Ministers have set a target for councils having all eligible service users on personal budgets by March 2013. However, an agreed national definition of "eligible" has not yet been clarified. Currently 86% of service users that are eligible for a personal budget in Essex are receiving one (39% of ALL service users).

Personal budgets can either be in the form of a cash payment or a service managed by the council on behalf of the person. Research indicates that people receiving cash payments enjoy the greatest choice and control. The ambition is to therefore increase cash payment users by 10% each year, a key enabler of which will be the introduction of payment cards. Currently 2,612 people (26% of eligible service users) receive cash payments.

Social care users receiving personal budgets



Essex Latest Position: 39% (January 2012)

Service Measure (AHCW) – A high figure represents good performance

3.1.2 Percentage of people achieving a positive outcome from reablement

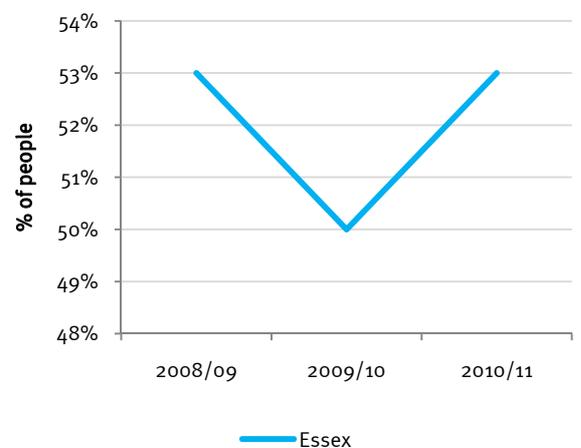
Target:

To at least maintain current levels of performance but increase the volumes of people passing through reablement so more people benefit from this service.

This measure looks at the estimated percentage of people who have no care needs or a reduction in care needs after reablement, demonstrating that residents are receiving the support they need to regain or maintain their independence. The overall aim will be to at least maintain current levels in terms of percentages but increase the volumes of people passing through reablement so more people benefit from this service.

The current service is provided by Essex Cares, but will be retendered in July.

People with no care needs or reduced care needs after reablement



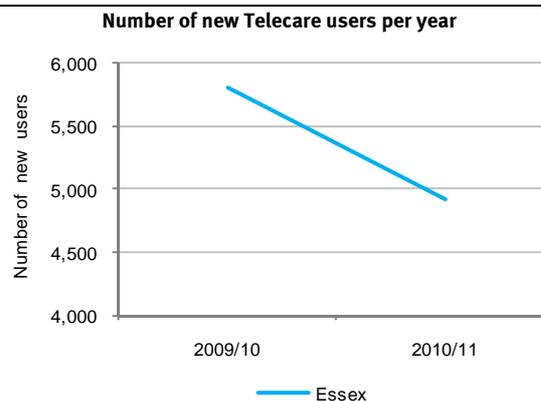
Essex Latest Position: 52% (December 2011)

Service Measure (AHCW) – A high figure represents good performance

3.1.3 Number of older people supported through assistive technology

Specifically this measure looks at the uptake of telecare in older people in Essex, helping to maintain their independence. The high levels of provision achieved in 2009/10 was the result of a pledge offering free telecare to all those aged over 85. The measure of telecare uptake is an input measure, and there is a balance to be achieved between the costs of providing telecare and the resulting benefits. Currently the benefits of reduced demand for care packages appear to be outweighing costs of provision and with a considerable amount of older people receiving telecare over the last 4-5 years, demand may begin to taper off.

At this time it would be unwise to set targets based on increasing telecare uptake until more is understood about the target groups that most benefit from this service and the current levels of market saturation.



Essex Latest Position: 4,876 (January 2012) which is an increase from 3,946 at the same time last year

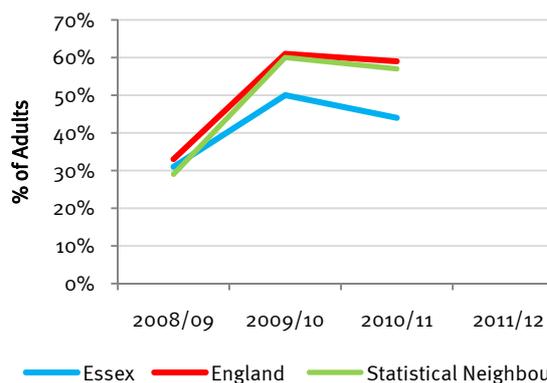
Service Measure (AHCW) – A high figure represents good performance

3.1.4 Proportion of adults with learning disabilities who live in their own home or with their family

Target:
To increase the number of adults with learning disabilities living in their own home or with their family.

The measure is based on the council's strategy to support vulnerable people in their own homes wherever possible, aiming to increase the number of adults with learning disabilities who live in their own home or with their family. The definition for this measure has changed with the introduction of the new Outcomes Framework for Adult Social Care and as a result previous benchmarking information cannot be used to establish a realistic target moving forward. A true baseline will be established for 2011/12 which can then be used to monitor progress going forward. Current expenditure on residential care for adults with learning disabilities is higher than comparator authorities and the council would want to redirect some of this investment into more supported living opportunities.

Adults with learning disabilities living in their own home or with their family



Essex Latest Position: 69% (January 2012)

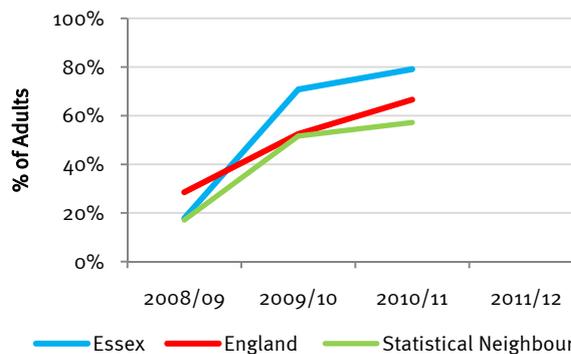
Population Measure – A high figure represents good performance

3.1.5 Proportion of adults in contact with secondary mental health services who live independently, with or without support

Aim:
To maintain the current level of performance

This indicator measures the percentage of those adults in touch with secondary mental health services whose complex needs are being managed using the Care Programme Approach that are living in settled accommodation. The measure is based on the council's strategy to support vulnerable people in their own homes wherever possible. Mental Health services in Essex are provided by South Essex Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust and North Essex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust. Over the last three years Essex has increased the percentage of adults in touch with secondary mental health services, whose complex needs are being managed, from 17.8% to 79.1%, performing better than both our statistical neighbours and the England average. Over the next year Essex aims to maintain this performance.

Adults in contact with secondary mental health services living in settled accommodation



Essex Latest Position: 79.1% (2010/11)

Population Measure – A high figure represents good performance

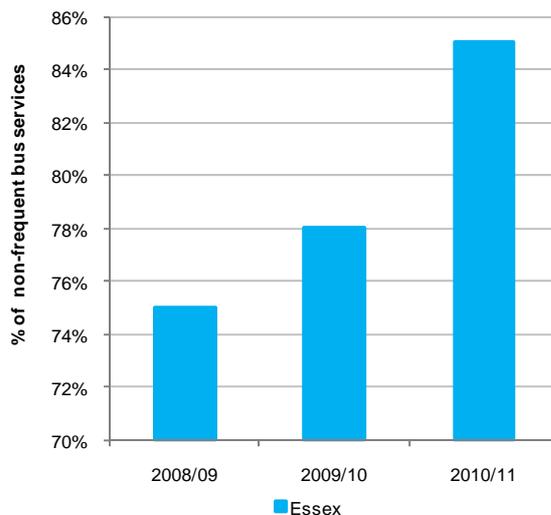
3.1.6 Percentage of non-frequent bus services that run on time

Target:

To continue to improve the punctuality of non-frequent bus services

A high standard of punctuality is essential for bus passengers because it means greater certainty about their door to door journey. Punctuality is also good for the local economy, improving accessibility to shops, services, workplaces and businesses. ECC has no legislative control of commercial bus operations. However, close partnership working with bus operators has had a positive impact on bus punctuality. The effectiveness of Punctuality Improvement Partnerships (PIPs) with bus operators has contributed to the trend of improvement seen over recent years from 75% in 2008/09 to 85% in 2010/11. With ECC continuing to contribute to improvements in bus and road infrastructure and commercial bus operators managing their resources effectively through realistic timetable planning, the ambition will be for this trend to continue.

Non-frequent bus services that run on time



Essex Latest Position: 88% (September 2011 Survey) which represents an improvement on same period previous year (81%)
Service Measure (ESH) – A high figure represents good performance

3.1.7 Number of people using public transport

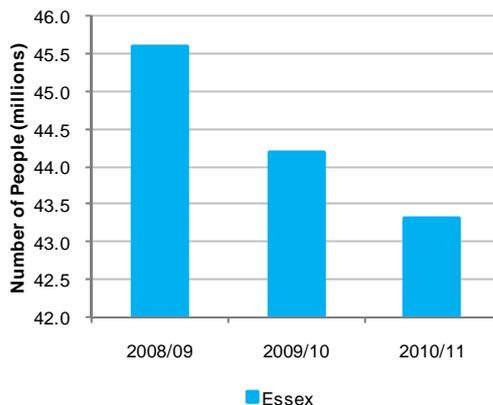
Target:

Minimise the impact of the decline in bus passenger numbers

Essex County Council works very closely with bus companies to represent the best interests of the travelling public and funds 15% of all bus network journeys. However, these measures are largely subject to the policies and operational decisions of commercial bus companies.

Whilst the ambition for this measure is for improvement, the reality is that in the current economic climate bus operators will be increasingly looking for ways of reducing costs including reducing those more unprofitable bus routes within the County. Therefore there is likely to be a continued decline in the number of bus passenger journeys undertaken in the authority each year. The authority's aim is to continue to try and minimise the impact of this decline, but in the knowledge that current budgetary pressures provide limited opportunity to subsidise commercial bus routes which are taken out of service.

People using public transport



Essex Latest Position: 32,468,184 (April - December 2011) which represents a decline on same period previous year (32,473,647)
Service Measure (ESH) – A high figure represents good performance

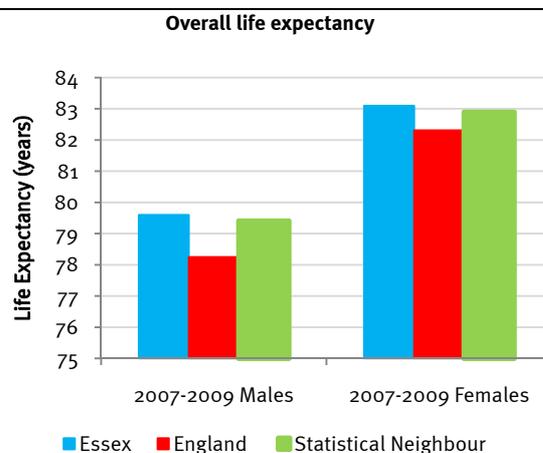
Outcome 2: Encouraging healthy and active lifestyles and tackling the wider causes of ill health

Success Measure: Reducing smoking, obesity, alcohol and drug misuse and avoidable illness, death and disability

3.2.1 Overall life expectancy

Aim: increase the overall life expectancy in Essex by the average increases seen over the last five years for both men and women

This is an extremely important summary measure of mortality and morbidity, showing the overall trends in a major population health measure and sets the context in which Local Authorities can assess the other indicators and identify the drivers of healthy life expectancy. At the local level, improvements in these indicators will be driven by local health and wellbeing partnerships with shared responsibility across the NHS, public health and care services. Overall life expectancy is higher for females than males, with the life expectancy in Essex better than that of Statistical Neighbours and England. However differences within Essex exist with gaps of 20 years between the best and worst areas in Essex.



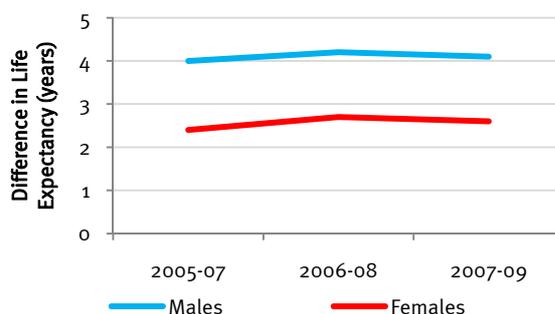
Population Measure – A high figure represents good performance

3.2.2 Differences in life expectancy across Essex for a). Men, and b) Women

Aim: Reducing the gap for males to 3.9 years and Females to 2.4 years overall.

This indicator enables a national and local look at inequalities and is also an extremely useful summary measure of mortality and morbidity in itself. It shows the overall trends in two major population health measures as well as highlighting area-based inequalities. This will set the context within which local areas can identify the drivers of life expectancy and health expectancy, especially in areas where these are low. This measure looks to reduce the life expectancy gap between the most deprived 20% of the Essex population and the remaining 80%.

Life expectancy gap between the most deprived 20% of the Essex population and the remaining 80%.



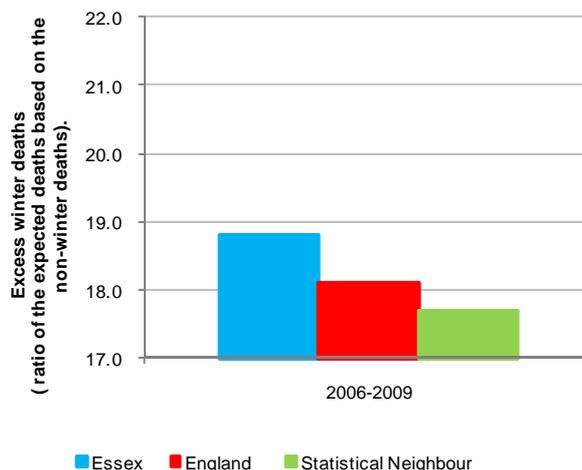
Population Measure – A low figure represents good performance

3.2.3 Winter mortality rates

Aim: To reduce to the England average

Excess winter deaths are a major cause of mortality and ill health, particularly amongst older people and those on low incomes. Cold weather exacerbates minor and pre-existing medical conditions, and mental health is negatively affected by fuel poverty and cold housing. Excess winter deaths were identified as a public health challenge in "Healthy Lives, Healthy People", the Marmot Review and the Chief Medical Officer annual report 2009. The Excess Winter Deaths Index is a key measure for the Cold Weather Plan for England and between 2006 and 2009 Essex had 18.8 excess winter deaths (expressed as a ratio of the expected deaths based on the non-winter deaths), higher than both the England average and our statistical neighbours.

Excess Winter Mortality



Essex Latest Position: 18.8 (2006-2009)

Population Measure – A low figure represents good performance

3.2.4 Percentage of reception year pupils measured as obese

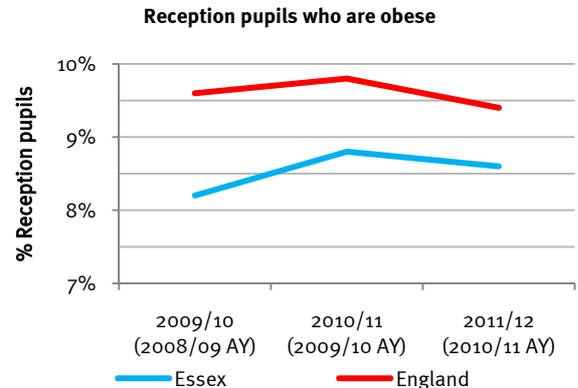
3.2.5 Percentage of year 6 pupils (aged 10 and 11) measured as obese

Aim:
To maintain position below national average and prevent an increase in childhood obesity

Childhood obesity is a predictor for adult obesity. Obese individuals die an average of 11 years earlier than people with a healthy weight. Obesity significantly increases the risk of developing diseases such as heart disease, type 2 diabetes, high blood pressure and osteoarthritis. Being bullied may also be a consequence of obesity in children.

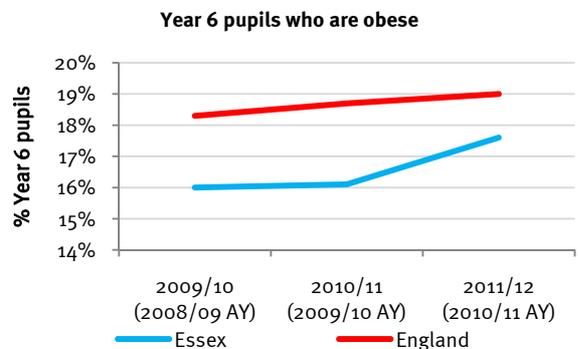
24.9% (2009/10 AY) of Essex adults are estimated to be either overweight or obese, whilst nearly 30% of all children leaving primary school in 2009 were also obese. These percentages are similar to England as a whole, and if the national rate of increase is maintained in the county, by 2050, 90% of adults and 2/3 of children will be either obese or overweight.

More recent data for Essex shows that 8.6% of 4-5yr olds (reception year) were measured as obese in 2010/11 AY, whilst 17.6% of 10-11 yr olds were measured as obese.



Essex Latest Position: 8.6% (2010/11 Acad. Year)

Population Measure – A low figure represents good performance



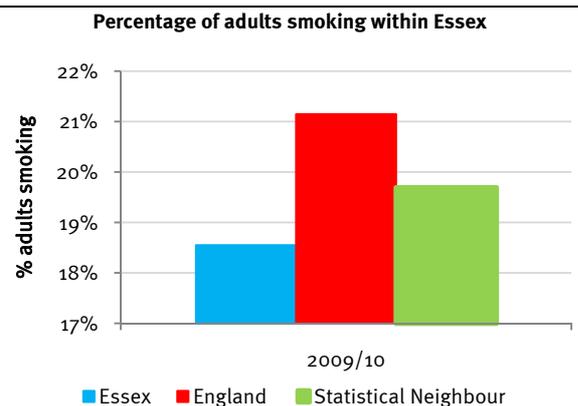
Essex Latest Position: 17.6% (2010/11 Acad. Year)

Population Measure – A low figure represents good performance

3.2.6 Prevalence of smoking among people living in Essex

Aim:
To reduce smoking prevalence by 0.4% to 18.7% in 2012/13

This measure looks at the percentage of adults smoking within Essex. Smoking is the primary cause of preventable morbidity and premature death, accounting for 81,400 deaths in England in 2009, some 18% of all deaths of adults aged 35 and over. The Tobacco Control Plan includes a national ambition to reduce adult (aged 18 or over) smoking prevalence in England to 18.5% or less by the end of 2015. Smoking in Essex is currently below the National and Statistical Neighbour comparisons.



Essex Latest Position: 18.5% (2009/10)

Population Measure – A low figure represents good performance

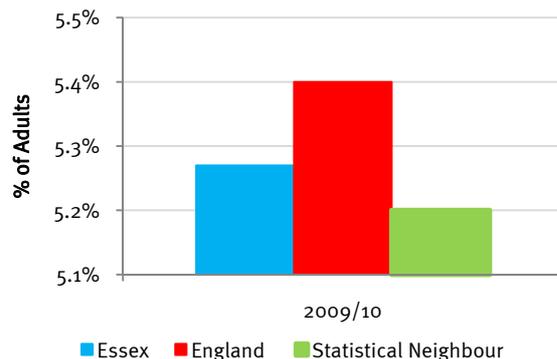
3.2.7 Prevalence of diabetes among people living in Essex

Aim:
An increase in the prevalence of diabetes by 0.2% (in line with previous prevalence increase across Essex).

This area will raise awareness of trends in diabetes among public health professionals and Local Authorities and measures the prevalence of diabetes within the population. Diabetic complications (including cardiovascular, kidney, foot and eye diseases) result in considerable morbidity and have a detrimental impact on quality of life. Type 2 diabetes (approximately 90% of diagnosed cases) is partially preventable – it can be prevented or delayed by lifestyle changes (exercise, weight loss, healthy eating). Earlier detection of type 2 diabetes followed by effective treatment reduces the risk of developing diabetic complications.

This area is a new measure in the Public Health Outcomes Framework. Data is available at a GP practice level but not yet by Local Authority boundary and as such no 2011/12 baseline information is available.

Persons aged 17+, registered with GP practices, with type 2 Diabetes



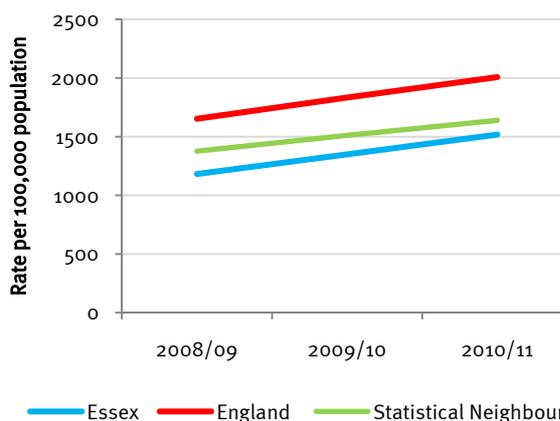
Essex Latest Position: 5.51% (2010/11)
Population Measure

3.2.8 Rate of alcohol related hospital admissions (per 100,000 population)

Target:
To keep rate of increase within 10%

Alcohol misuse is the third-greatest overall contributor to ill health, after smoking and raised blood pressure. Alcohol consumption is a contributing factor to hospital admissions and deaths from a diverse range of conditions. Nationally, over 1 million hospital admissions related to alcohol in 2009/10. The Government has said that everyone has a role to play in reducing the harmful use of alcohol – this indicator is one of the key contributions by the Government (and the Department of Health) to promote measurable, evidence based prevention activities at a local level, together with a national ambition to reduce alcohol-related hospital admission. There has been an increase in hospital admissions due to alcohol related circumstances over the last few years although Essex still tracks below the national position.

Alcohol related hospital admissions



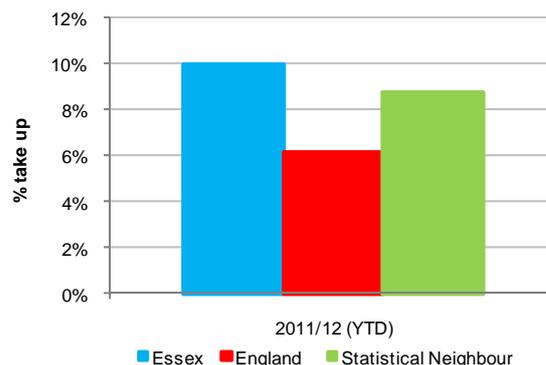
Essex Latest Position: 1518 (2010/11)
Population Measure – A low figure represents good performance

3.2.9 Take up of health screening programmes

Target:
2012/13: North cluster to offer 60,860 health checks with uptake of 45,645 (75%). South cluster, to offer 37,469 with uptake of 28,101 (75%).

This measure looks at the take up rate of offered NHS health checks. Data collected for this area will provide information on the number of NHS Health Checks that are conducted, providing an indication of how well the programme is taken up and how accessible it is. An increased uptake is important to identify early signs of poor health leading to opportunities for early interventions.

Take up of offered NHS health checks



Essex Latest Position: 10% (April - September 2011)
Population Measure – A high figure represents good performance

3.2.10 Percentage of drug users in effective treatment and percentage of those who leave treatment in a planned way

Target:

To be in upper quartile for planned exits of problem drug users; non-problem drug users and all adult drug users.

Individuals achieving this outcome demonstrate a significant improvement in health and well being in terms of increased longevity, reduced blood-borne virus transmission, improved parenting skills and improved physical and psychological health. It aligns with the ambition of both public health and the Government's drug strategy of increasing the number of individuals recovering from addiction. It also aligns well with the reducing re-offending rate. Targets are set nationally by the National Treatment Agency for Substance Misuse. The target for all drug users in treatment for 11/12 is 2,684 with 17% leaving in a planned way (456 people). In 2011/12, 2529 drug users are forecast to receive treatment by the end of the year, with 24% leaving in a planned way (607 people).

Essex Latest Position: 24% leaving treatment (April - December 2011)
Service Measure (AHCW) – A high figure represents good performance

Success Measure: Supporting people to live active lives

3.2.11 Percentage of adults who exercise

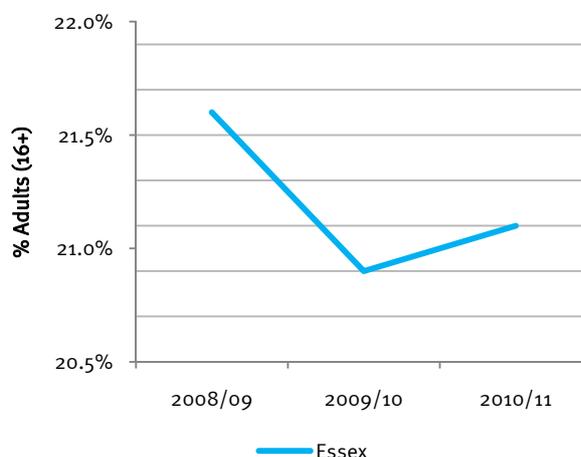
Aim:

To increase access to sport and physical activity opportunities for Essex residents

This data is published annually by Sport England as part of a national survey. It is one of a number of measures that will be used by Active Essex to analyse progress in supporting Essex residents to live active lives. Active Essex is one of 49 national County Sport Partnerships, core funded by Sport England (currently to 2015). It is committed to providing locally determined solutions to collectively increase participation and widen access to sport and physical activity for the whole community.

The Partnership is currently developing a Strategic Plan for Sport & Physical Activity in Essex 2012-17, which will be consulted on in April 2012. Future reporting will include data on specific programmes commissioned or delivered by Active Essex stakeholders to increase physical activity participation where involvement of new participants can be directly measured. Use will also be made of appropriate proxy data to capture existing activity. There is an aspirational objective of 1% per annum increase in participation, as measured by the national Active People Survey but, in line with Sport England national strategy this will not be a formally measured trajectory. Instead it will be used to provide contextual information and comparison to others. However, our ambition is clear; we want to see an increase in the number of people who are physically active.

Adults who exercise



Essex Latest Position: 21.1% (2010/11)
Population Measure – A high figure represents good performance

Target:

To increase the numbers of Essex residents who participate in active recreation at the Hadleigh Farm venue (following the use of the venue for the London 2012 Olympics)

The Hadleigh Farm Legacy Project's aim is to develop a high quality outdoor recreation facility for a range of sports and recreation activities across Hadleigh Country Park and part of the Salvation Army's Hadleigh Farm. In summary, as well as providing a mountain bike course for the London 2012 Olympics, the project will result in a long-term visitor destination offer for Essex which will capitalise on, and improve, pre-existing visitor facilities at Hadleigh Farm.

The community and sports engagement plans (to be put in place following the use of the venue in the 2012 Olympics) will encourage more visitors to the improved facilities at Hadleigh, to take part in sport and active recreation, helping to counteract social exclusion, obesity and to improve health & well being. It is anticipated that Hadleigh Farm will become a regionally significant centre that promotes active recreation and healthy lifestyles.

A key aim is to increase participation in active recreation (exercise) undertaken at the venue amongst residents of Essex (and beyond). Currently 120,000 visits are made to the Hadleigh Country Park (annually - first year of recording). We will demonstrate success by increasing this figure. Future reporting will also analyse the type of activities that visitors take part in. We will use entry into events and membership of local clubs and groups as further evidence of increased sport/active recreation participation.

The Olympic Mountain event takes place on 11th and 12th August 2012. A planning application for works to ensure that the Olympic site is adapted for public use will be submitted by May 2012 and we anticipate that work on that legacy transformation (conversion of the venue for use by the public) will begin in early 2013. Following a baseline period, specific targets for visitor numbers and activities undertaken will be developed.

Service Measure (SS)

Outcome 3: Protecting and enhancing the environment in Essex

Success Measure: Improving residents' experience of Essex's urban and rural environments

3.3.1 User satisfaction with country parks

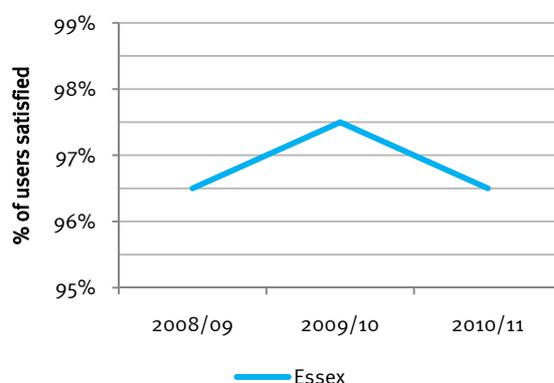
Target:

To maintain high levels of satisfaction at least 95%

This area gauges people's satisfaction with the Essex County Council managed country parks, which contributes to protecting and enhancing the environment in Essex. ECC manages 7 country parks in Essex for the benefit of the residents of the county, providing access to a range of open spaces, woodland trails and historic parklands. The country parks also include a range of environments for rare and important plants and animals. We ensure that the country parks protect and encourage these environments. When asked what is important about making somewhere a good place to live, Essex residents rated "parks and open spaces" in the top 5, above public transport, shopping facilities and congestion.

In 2011-12, we again achieved Green Flag status for all 7 country parks. This is the quality standard which recognises the quality of presentation, customer service, opportunities for community involvement and sustainability of these Green spaces. Country Parks aim to maintain a high level of user satisfaction at 95% or higher. This is in line with other country parks. With a margin of error of around 1.3% (related to the number of responses we receive to the surveys) this is an ambitious target.

User satisfaction with Essex country parks



Essex Latest Position: 96% (Quarterly Survey to December 2011) which represents maintained levels of performance compared to the same period previous year

Service Measure (ESH) – A high figure represents good performance

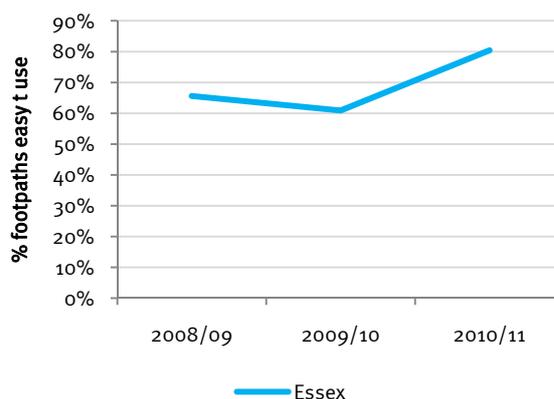
3.3.2 Percentage of footpaths and rights of way that are easy to use

Target:

To maintain between 67% and 75% of footpaths and rights of way easy to use

There are over six thousand kilometres of public rights of way in Essex, comprising footpaths, bridleways and byways. Essex County Council has a statutory duty to maintain and protect the network of public rights of way. The survey on the ground measures the ease of use and accessibility of the network. Local rights of way provide opportunities for all forms of open air recreation and enjoyment as well as improving local connections to schools, shops and employment.

Footpaths and rights of way that are easy to use



Essex Latest Position: 76.3% (2011 5% sample survey)

Population Measure – A high figure represents good performance

3.3.3 Number of hectares of Essex rare wildlife habitats restored or re-established

Target:

To restore / re-establish 112 hectares

Biodiversity is a key component of sustainable development, underpinning economic development and prosperity, and has an important role to play in developing locally distinctive and sustainable communities. In partnership with more than 40 organisations and individuals committed to preserving and enhancing biodiversity in Essex, this newly developed measure will monitor the progress being made in protecting and restoring important Essex habitats.

Direction of travel will be to continue to restore and re-establish Essex rare wildlife habitats over the lifetime of the Corporate Plan. This measure will sit within the newly established Place Services Consultancy which will be transformed into a fully formed arms length delivery vehicle by April 2013, with future targets being considered as part of this process. The 2012/13 target is to restore / re-establish 112 Hectares.

Essex Latest Position: 60.85 (April - December 2011)

Population Measure – A high figure represents good performance

3.3.4 Reduction in tonnes of CO₂ emitted within the authority's buildings and specified operations

Target:

5% reduction of CO₂ emissions in the first year

Essex County Council is committed to ensuring a better quality of life by conserving and promoting a clean and attractive environment. It is recognised that our operations and statutory duties have an impact on the environment and as an organisation we are committed to mitigating these impacts where possible, both within the organisation, with our partners and through the wider community.

ECC has committed through its contract with MITIE to: 15% reduction of consumption in 3 years and a corresponding 30% reduction in CO₂ emissions.

MITIE will ensure that any contract procured would be PPA ready which will enable the purchase of pure green energy Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) and by purchasing energy through this route will support the carbon reduction of 30%. MITIE are currently working with ECC to define the terms of and Energy Performance Contract (EPC) for the top 14 energy consuming sites within the ECC portfolio. This has a direct correlation with the pledges MITIE has made on consumption reduction and gives the ability to control 'down' the input costs and output usage of the ECC energy consumption/cost profile. MITIE in conjunction with ECC will implement a programme of energy conservation measures and will guarantee a consumption reduction percentage based on the agreed baseline. MITIE will also provide upfront capital for integration into the Energy Performance Contract (EPC). Longer term ECC are reviewing using an ESCo as part of the energy demand management.

Essex Latest Position: 103,392 (2010/11)

Service Measure (ESH) – A high figure represents good performance

3.3.5 Percentage of household waste sent for re-use, recycling or composting

3.3.6 The level of household waste generated across Essex

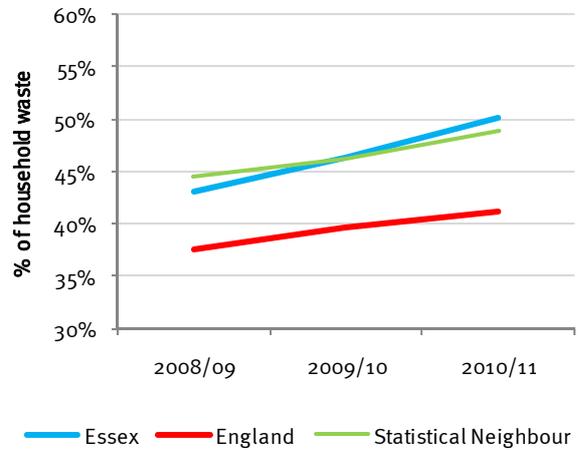
Target:
54% of household waste sent for re-use, recycling or composting in 2012/13

Target:
504kg of household waste per household generated in 2012/13

Recycling reduces landfill, saves energy and resources and protects our habitats for the future. In the UK, recycling is estimated to save more than 18 million tonnes of Co2 a year – which is equivalent to removing 5 million cars from our roads. Landfill is also an expensive means of waste disposal, with landfill tax charged on every tonne disposed of in this way.

The aim of Essex County Council is to encourage waste prevention and greater levels of recycling and composting by changing the way waste is managed, minimising landfill and driving new initiatives. Significant improvement has already been achieved over the last four years with recycling up by around 10% in 2011/12 compared to 2008/09. Households in Essex are currently recycling and composting over 50% of waste with an ambition to reach a figure of 60% by 2020.

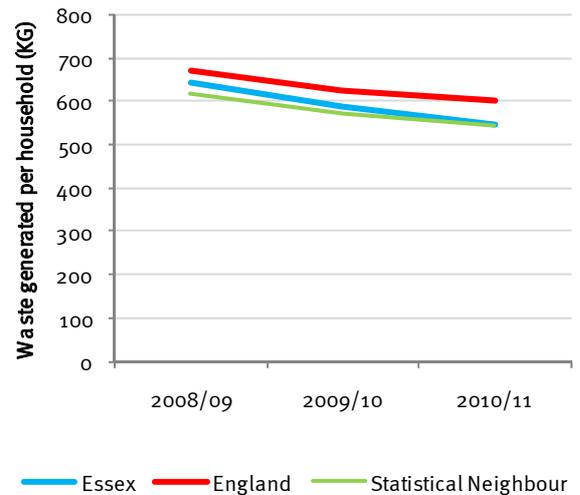
Percentage of household waste sent for re-use, recycling or composting



Essex Latest Position: 53.53% (November 2011) which represents an improvement on same period previous year (51.80%)

Population Measure– A high figure represents good performance

Levels of Household waste



Essex Latest Position: 350.54 Kg (November 2011) which represents an improvement on the same period previous year (368.77Kg)

Population Measure– A low figure represents good performance



Priority 4: Protecting and safeguarding vulnerable people

Society has a duty of care to its most vulnerable. Essex County Council works with individuals, charities, and the private and public sectors to ensure those in the greatest need of our protection are safeguarded. We have a moral duty to ensure that these residents can enjoy a better quality of life, that they are kept safe and that we support those who help create a safe environment for vulnerable citizens

Outcome 1: Enabling vulnerable people to enjoy a better quality of life

Success Measure: Ensuring the physical, mental and emotional wellbeing of people receiving social care services

4.1.1 Social Care quality of life score - based on survey responses

This is a new measure in the Adult Social Care Framework. Baseline data for 2011/12 will not be available until Autumn 2012. The measure comes from the adult social care survey and is a composite score from questions covering all aspects that relate to the quality of life for social care recipients.

Essex Latest Position: Baseline position available Autumn 2012
Population Measure

Success Measure: promoting employment opportunities for adults with learning disabilities

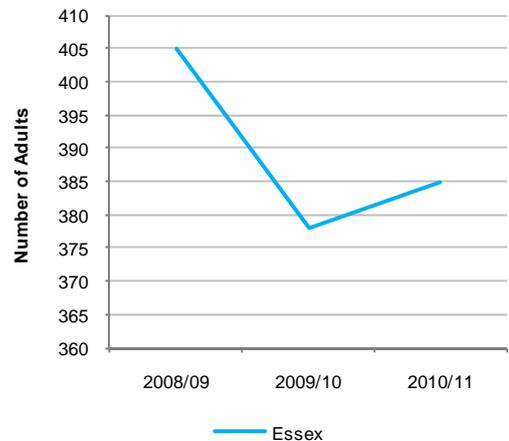
4.1.2 Number of adults with learning disabilities in paid employment (per 100,000 of 18-64 yr olds)

Aim: To maintain the current level of employment amongst adults with learning disabilities

This measure is based on the council's strategy to promote employment opportunities for disabled people. Given the current economic and employment situation, maintaining current levels of employment will be stretching, but a target that has been agreed for 2012/13.

The definition for this measure has changed with the introduction of the new Outcomes Framework for Adult Social Care. As a result previous benchmarking information cannot be used to establish a realistic target. Using the local measure of actual numbers of people supported in employment rather than the calculation used for the previous national indicator provides the best baseline.

Number of adults with learning disabilities in paid employment



Essex Latest Position: 396 (January 2012) which represents an improvement on the same period previous year (379)
Population Measure – A high figure represents good performance

Outcome 2: Protecting Essex residents from harm and injury

Success Measure: Reducing the number of older people who are admitted to hospital following falls

4.2.1 Acute admissions to hospital as a result of falls or fall injuries for people aged over 65

Falls are the largest cause of emergency hospital admissions for older people, and significantly impact on long term outcomes, e.g. being a major precipitant of people moving from own home to long-term nursing or residential care. A measure that reflects the success of services in preventing falls will give an indication of how the NHS, public health and social care are working together to tackle issues locally. This is a new measure in the Public Health Outcomes Framework and as such baseline data is not yet available from which targets will be set.

Essex Latest Position: 115.5 per 10,000 population (September 2011)
Population Measure

Success Measure: Ensuring adults who use our services feel safe

4.2.2 The proportion of people who use services who feel safe

4.2.3 The proportion of people who use services who say that those services have made them feel safe and secure

Safeguarding vulnerable adults and protecting them from avoidable harm is a key priority for the council. The two measures are taken from the new outcomes framework for adult social care and provide a measure of how safe people who use services feel, and the contribution that the council has made to helping people feel safe and secure. The information will come from the adult social care survey and base line data should be available in the Autumn 2012.

Service Measure (AHCW)

Success Measure: Effective processes in place to safeguard vulnerable children

4.2.4 Effective processes in place to safeguard vulnerable children

Aim: It is important that children who are potentially at risk of harm or injury are seen in a timely manner by a suitably skilled and qualified social worker. We will monitor how quickly we assess the needs of children who may be at risk and ensure decisions about intervention are made in a timely manner, working with partner agencies to enable appropriate referrals to be made.

Continued evidence of improvement in processes to safeguard vulnerable children. We will provide an organisational structure, systems and culture that supports social workers, their interventions with children young people and families and their professional judgment, by providing them with manageable caseloads, regular high quality supervision and training, A new case file audit process is in place which robustly scrutinises social work practice both of the social worker and the social work manager, this provides professional reflective and authoritative feedback on selected cases.

Our children's safeguarding service is accountable to the Essex Safeguarding Children's Board, which continues to monitor our effectiveness in safeguarding vulnerable children

Service Measure (SCF)

Success Measure: Ensuring our work to safeguard children is externally recognised as 'improving'

4.2.5 OFSTED judgements

Aim: There has been considerable investment and sustained effort to drive up standards in children's social care since the initial inspection findings of unsatisfactory in 2009. The Ofsted inspection in 2011 confirmed significant progress and an overall assessment of satisfactory. Whilst the Ofsted inspection framework will change, we will use evidence of self assessment, peer review and unannounced Ofsted inspection findings to support evidence of continued improvement in children's social care.

Continued evidence of improvement in children's social care.

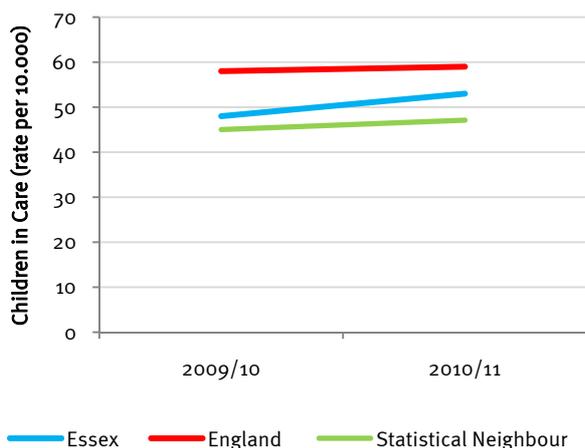
Essex Latest Position: Satisfactory (2011/12)
Service Measure (SCF)

Outcome 3: Supporting parents, carers and families to create safe and stable homes

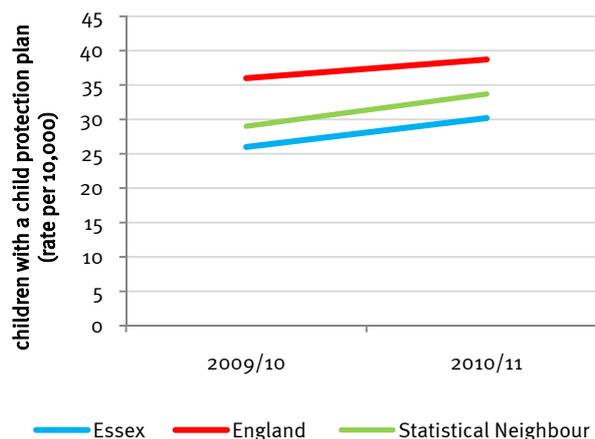
Success Measure: Increasing the percentage of children in care who enjoy stable placements or are placed permanently with adoptive families

Children need a safe and stable environment in which to grow. Our priority will always be to avoid children coming into care and look for safe and appropriate alternatives. In Essex, and nationally, there has been an increase in the number of children in care or with a child protection plan in recent years. As a result of our work with families most in need of our support we will work to identify needs early on and support families to avoid children requiring a child protection plan or local authority care. This will result in an overall reduction in the numbers of children in care, or subject to a protection plan.

Number of Children in care (rate per 10,000)



Children with a child protection plan (rate per 10,000)



4.3.1

Percentage of Children in Care who have a). Been in the same placement for 2 or more years b). Have had fewer than 3 placements in 12 months

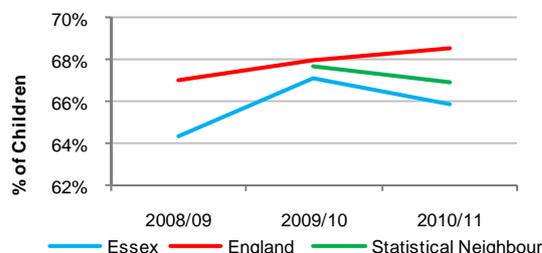
Target: a) 5% reduction on the 2011/12 outturn

Target: b) Maximum of 15% of children in care with 3 or more placements

a). A stable family environment is associated with better outcomes for children and young people. These measures look at the length of time a child in care is in the same placement and the number of moves within 1 year. We have made good progress in securing stable placements for children in care, with an increase in foster care family placements and a reduction in residential care. As stated above, we do however expect the children in care population to reduce as a result of our early intervention and preventative work with families, and this will mean that the children remaining in care are likely to have more complex needs which will impact on the ability to provide stable placements.

b). Essex placement stability has exceeded the statistical neighbour and national position over the last 3 years. We work hard to ensure a suitable family placement meets the needs of the children and young people in our care.

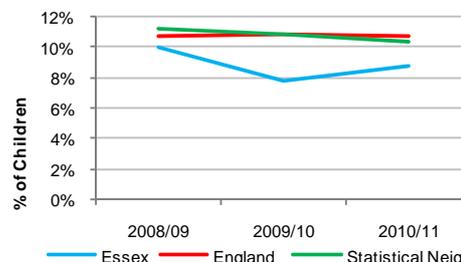
Children in the same placement for 2 or more years



Essex Latest Position: 72.1% (April to January 2012) which represents a improvement in performance levels since same period previous year (67.7%)

Service Measure (SCF) – A high figure represents good performance

% of Children who have had fewer than 3 placements in 12 months



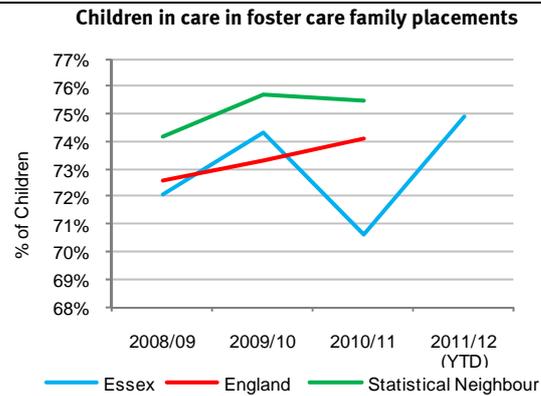
Essex Latest Position: 6.9% (April to January 2012) which represents a improvement in performance levels since same period previous year (6.4%)

Service Measure (SCF) – A low figure represents good performance

4.3.2 Percentage of children in care who are in foster care family placements

Target: 75% of children in care in foster care placements

This is an area of significant improvement in 2011/12 with a focus on increasing the availability of foster carers and a reduction in residential care placements. 75% of Essex children in care are now in foster care placements, above the national average and this is a level we are looking to sustain.



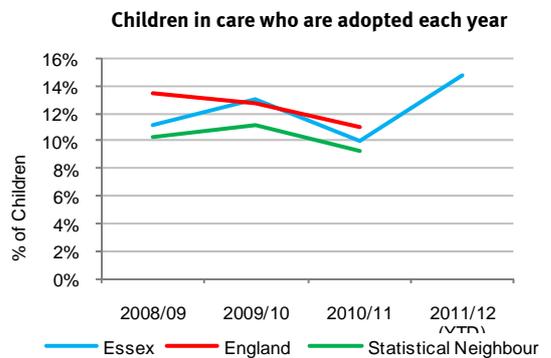
Essex Latest Position: 75% (January 2012) which represents an improvement in performance levels since same period previous year (70.9%)

Service Measure (SCF) – A high figure represents good performance

4.3.3 Percentage of children in care who are adopted each year

Target: 12% care population adopted

Essex has a good adoption service, successful in placing older children with adoptive parents. We aim to have a higher proportion of children adopted than the national average of 11%.



Essex Latest Position: 14.80% (April to January 2012) which represents an improvement in performance levels since same period previous year (9.6%)

Service Measure (SCF) – A high figure represents good performance

Success Measure: Ensuring that carers receive the support they need to enjoy a good quality of life

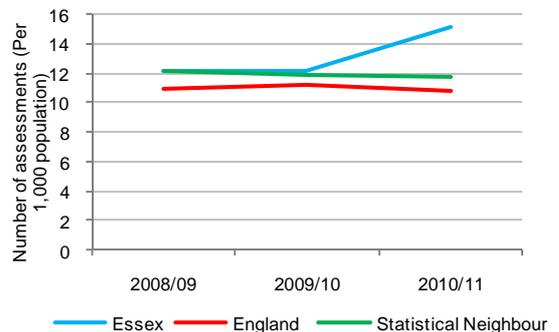
4.3.4 Number of carers assessments provided to adults who regularly care for others (per 1,000 of the population ages 18yrs+)

Target: To maintain top quartile performance within our comparator group

Carers' assessments are a means of understanding the support carers need in their caring role, and ensuring they receive the support to balance their caring roles and maintain their desired quality of life. Performance in 2010/11 placed Essex in the top quartile within our comparator group.

The level of carers' assessments is impacted by the overall number of assessments completed, as carers are often identified within the assessment process. As the number of assessments has declined in 2011/12, maintaining the level of carers assessments achieved in 2010/11 will be a stretching target.

Carers assessments provided to adults who regularly care for others



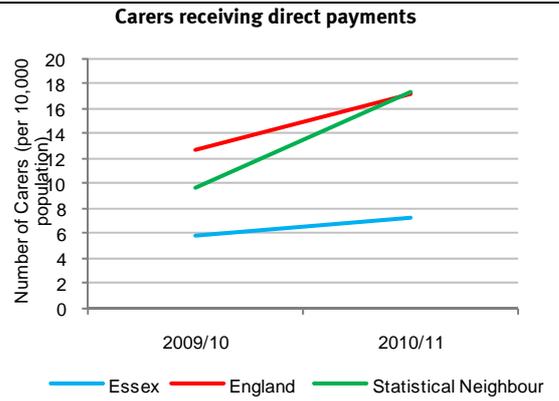
Essex Latest Position: 8.9 (January 2012)

Service Measure (AHCW) – A high figure represents good performance

4.3.5 Number of carers receiving direct payments (per 10,000 of the population aged 18 yrs+)

Target:
Reduce gap with comparators

Carers direct payments can be used to support carers to fulfil their caring role. Carers have used direct payments to purchase innovative forms of support that have enabled them to maintain their quality of life. The overall aim for Essex moving forward will be to reduce the gap with our comparators.



Essex Latest Position: 4.8 per 1,000 population (January 2012)
Service Measure (AHCW) – A high figure represents good performance

4.3.6 Satisfaction of carers receiving support from Essex County Council

This is a new measure in the Adult Social Care Framework. Baseline data will not be available until Autumn 2013 from which targets will be set. The measure comes from the carers’ survey which occurs every two years, with the first carers survey scheduled for 2012/13.

Service Measure (AHCW)



Priority 5: Giving people a greater say and a greater role in building safer and stronger communities

We all like to feel in control of our lives and where we live. Formal and informal connections that bring people together help create a sense of community spirit, belonging, and can increase feelings of personal and social worth. By being part of a wider society – whether through faith groups, sports clubs, charity work or other bodies - we can feel like we are giving something back to the communities and groups that we care about.

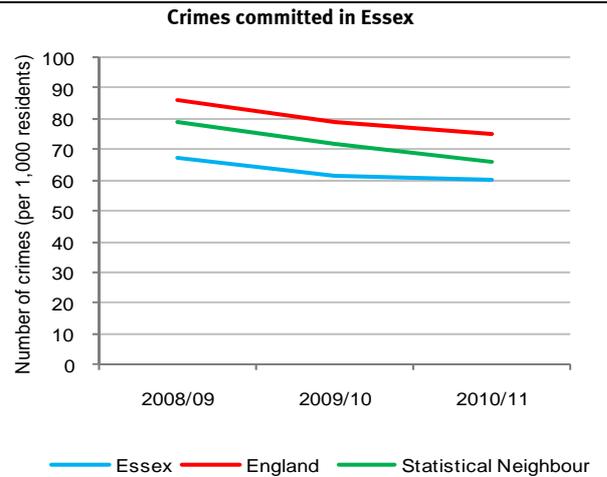
Outcome 1: Making Essex a safer county in which to live and work

Success Measure: Reducing the level of crime and ensuring residents who feel safe in their communities

5.1.1 Number of crimes committed in Essex per 1,000 residents

Aim:
To continue to see a reduction in crime figures and maintain performance against others

Evidence suggests crime and personal safety are key issues for Essex residents – our own polling shows a crime-free environment is the most important factor in making an area a good place to live for over 60% of Essex residents. With 60 crimes per 1,000 residents for the year to March 2011, Essex remains a safe place to live. Data released relating to the year to September 2011 suggests this figure remains stable. The Safer Essex Crime and Disorder Strategy is currently in development and will outline how partners across Essex will deliver services that reflect the needs of our local communities, over the next five years. This strategy will be underpinned by an annual plan setting out the partnership's collective activity to deliver against the priorities detailed in the strategy. Future reporting will include analysis of performance against this annual plan.



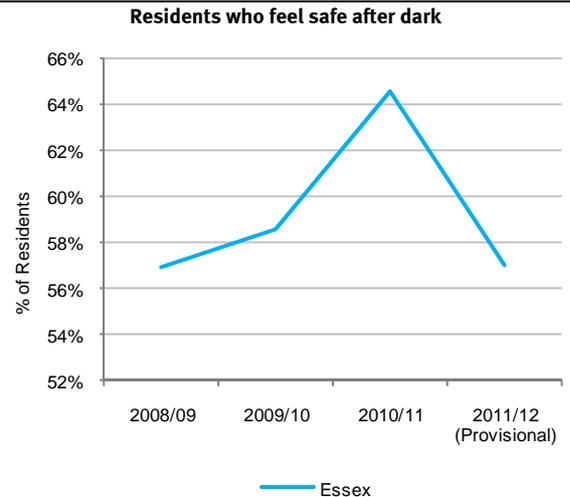
Essex Latest Position: 60 per 1,000 population (Apr – Sep 2011)
Population Measure – A low figure represents good performance

5.1.2 Percentage of residents who feel safe after dark

Aim:
To improve the feeling of safety in communities

Demonstrating resident's overall fear of crime in their local community, this measure helps to assess residents feeling of safety. Alongside a reduction in crimes reported, the overall feeling of safety after dark increased from 57% to 66% between 2008/09 and 2010/11. However in 2011/12 this reduced to 57% with a similar drop seen in the feeling of safety during the day (from 93% to 85%).

Essex County Council are committed to working with Essex Police to increase residents feeling of safety and key priorities will be encapsulated in the Safer Essex Crime and Disorder Strategy, which is currently in development.



Essex Latest Position: 57% (2011/12 Provisional)
Population Measure – A high figure represents good performance

Success Measure: Combating rogue and dangerous traders

5.1.3

Percentage of businesses causing consumers significant detriment which are brought to compliance within 12 months

Essex County Council Trading Standards has an important part to play in protecting the public and honest businesses from rogue and dangerous traders. The service provides advice and guidance, but also persuades and when appropriate, prosecutes in order to protect the public and business community. This newly developed measure will identify the progress being made in returning rogue traders back to compliance within a 12 month period.

Essex Latest Position: Baseline to be established in 2012/13
Service Measure (ESH)

Success Measure: Making Essex roads safer

5.1.4

Number of people injured (excluding killed or seriously injured) in road traffic collisions

5.1.5

Number of people killed or seriously injured on Essex's roads

5.1.4 Target: 4% reduction on the 2011 outturn.

5.1.5 Target: 612 people killed or seriously injured in 2012/13. 563 by 2020.

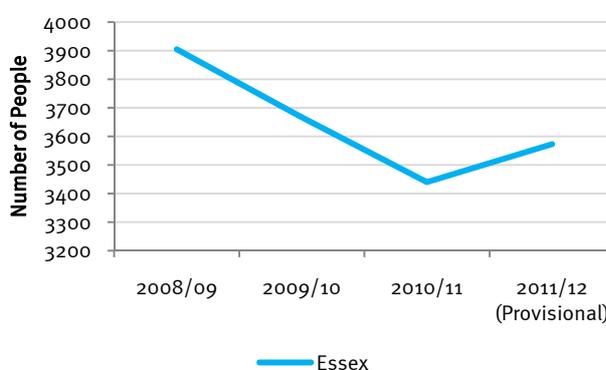
Road deaths and serious injuries affect whole communities. A road network on which all users can travel safely is essential to meeting the authority's key priority of making Essex a safer county in which to live and work. Significant improvement has already been achieved in recent years with a 44% reduction in both KSI and slight injuries from the 1994-98 average to 2010. When benchmarking against 42 Police Force Areas (PFA's) in England & Wales, Essex has shown good improvement from 39th to 27th safest over the same time period (measured by Killed or Seriously Injured casualties per area population). Through the Essex Casualty Reduction Board (ECRB), Essex is continuing to work together with partners to promote a safe and secure travelling environment.

The longer term ambition for Essex will be to meet or exceed the 2020 casualty reduction targets as agreed by the Essex Casualty Reduction Board.

These targets for 2020 are currently:
A 60% reduction from the 2005/09 average baseline resulting in a reduction from 4371 (2005/09 baseline) to 1748 people injured in road traffic collisions.

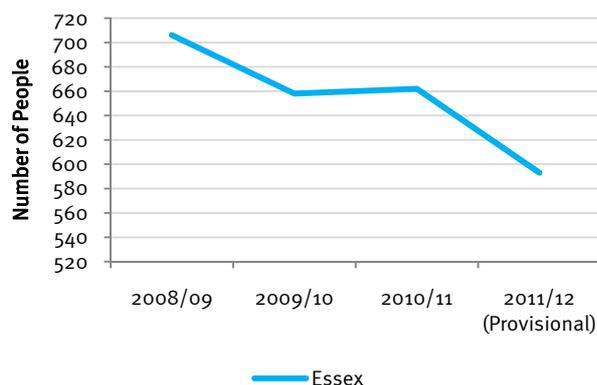
A 30% reduction from the 2005/09 average baseline resulting in a reduction from 840 (2005/09 baseline) to 563 people killed or seriously injured in road traffic collisions.

People injured in road traffic collisions



Essex Latest Position: - 3573 (2011 projected result)
Population Measure – A low figure represents good performance

People killed or seriously injured on Essex's roads



Essex Latest Position: - 593 (2011 projected result)
Population Measure – A low figure represents good performance

Outcome 2: Encouraging Essex residents to influence decisions and shape their communities

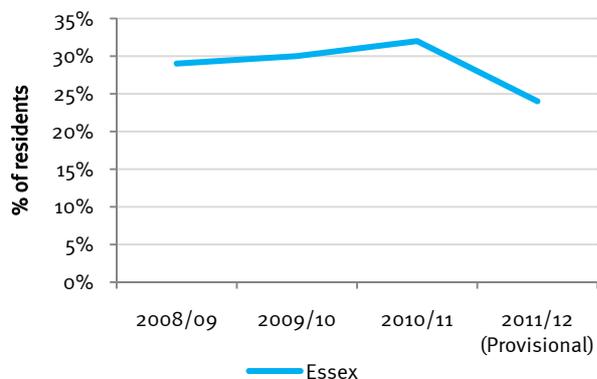
Success Measure: Encouraging residents to get more involved in their communities

5.2.1 Percentage of residents who would like to be more involved in decision making

Aim: To further engage the residents of Essex to encourage involvement

This measure helps to assess the current community engagement and involvement levels in local decision making – an important part of the Big Society agenda where Government committed to shifting responsibility from state to society. Following an increase from 29% to 32% between 2008/9 to 2009/10, provisional data for 2011/12 would indicate a decline to 25%. Through community projects, Essex County Council will look to further engage residents to encourage Essex residents to influence decisions and shape their communities and help communities play a greater role in challenging local services.

Residents who would like to be more involved in decision making



Essex Latest Position: 24% (2011/12 provisional)

Population Measure – A high figure represents good performance

5.2.2 Percentage of residents who are interested in getting involved to improve their local community

Aim: To further engage the residents of Essex to encourage involvement

As per the above measure, this measure helps Essex County Council assess current levels of interest in community engagement and involvement. This data is being collected for the first time in 2011/12, and provisional data indicates a result of 45%. Through a number of community projects Essex County Council will look to increase this figure by further engaging with the residents of Essex to encourage involvement in activities to improve their local communities.

Essex Latest Position: 45% (2011/12 provisional)

Population Measure – A high figure represents good performance

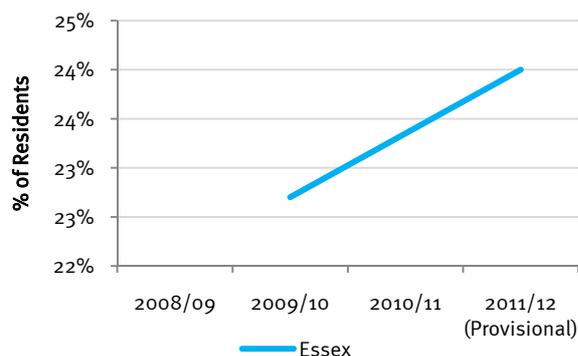
5.2.3 Percentage of residents engaged in volunteering

Aim: To support and develop volunteering opportunities across the County, which encourage residents to get more involved in their communities

Essex County Council has been committed to supporting volunteering in Essex for some years and aims to support and develop volunteering in the county. Corporately we promote employee volunteering by giving every member of staff the opportunity to take two days paid leave to volunteer in their community and January 2012 saw the formal launch of 'Good For Essex', a new website aimed at promoting volunteering opportunities and community action.

Moving forward, we will continue to promote and support volunteering as part of our projects and initiatives whenever possible. Our own Olympic volunteering programme - Essex Ambassadors - will see Essex volunteers directly contribute to the success of the Games across the County (with over 300 volunteers already recruited). Our Adults, Health and Community Wellbeing Directorate will be investing in sustainable, community-led projects to promote activities that enable vulnerable people to remain independent in their homes and communities and our Schools Children and Families Directorate will continue to promote voluntary involvement in the work of our schools, not least as School Governors.

Residents engaged in volunteering



Essex Latest Position: 24% (2011/12 Provisional)

Population Measure – A high figure represents good performance

Outcome 3: Helping Communities play a greater role in challenging local services

Success Measure: Promoting closer working between local authorities across Essex

5.3.1

Successful development of Locality Boards across Essex (amount of financial resources and level of decision making powers devolved to locality boards)

Aim:
To support and promote closer working between local authorities across Essex via the establishment of Locality Boards

Locality Boards were introduced following consultation in 2011, and provide a mechanism for engaging communities more in decisions that affect them, in enabling closer collaboration between the two tiers of local government and in supporting local communities' ability to influence commissioning decisions. This is particularly pertinent given the development of Community Budgets and the desirability of local input into new structures such as Health and Wellbeing boards.

Locality Boards are currently very new and a significant amount of time in the initial phase will be required to build relationships and to enable each board to determine its own role and aims. There is a strong desire to allow these solutions to be locally determined, meaning that there is no single set route to their success.

Taken together, this means that boards are working on collaborative, rather than formal, decision making at this stage and any devolution of financial resources and decision-making powers to boards is likely to evolve over time rather than be an area where specific targets can be set.

Essex Latest Position:

4 Districts/Boroughs in which two-tier locality boards have already been established and met.

Amount of financial resources delegated: (baseline £o - announced in the budget that individual highways budgets would be delegated to individual members, with the intent that these are channelled via locality boards)

Level of decision making powers devolved (formal powers: baseline o).

Service Measure

Success Measure: Delivering key programmes to give citizens greater power to scrutinise and challenge public services

5.3.2

Successful development of HealthWatch

Aim:
To provide Essex residents with greater opportunity to scrutinise and challenge the commissioning and delivery of health and social care services

Healthwatch is a new organisation the role of which is to gather information and feedback on the health and social care needs of all people in Essex. Healthwatch will also provide advice and advocacy services, and is due to replace Local Involvement Networks (LINKs) by April 2013. It will use engagement and research activities to obtain high quality information, and will use this to influence commissioners, to improve health and social care services for people in Essex.

Essex has been selected as one of 75 national Pathfinder areas for Healthwatch. Feedback from the Local Government Association and other local authorities indicates that The Essex Healthwatch Pathfinder leads the way nationwide. Other local authorities are already planning to follow in the footsteps of Essex, and the county is being touted by the LGA as a nationwide exemplar for the establishment of a local Healthwatch organisation.

A successful Healthwatch organisation will give Essex residents a mechanism by which to scrutinize and challenge public services, and will help to improve wellbeing and health services as well as outcomes for adults and children, and social care services.

The key milestones toward the establishment of Healthwatch are subject to negotiation and will also be influenced by the outcome of Parliament's deliberations on the Health and Social Care Bill, however we currently anticipate the key milestones toward full establishment to be as follows: Pathfinder Executive appointed January 2012 (achieved); inaugural meeting 29 February 2012 (achieved); move to shadow operating status mid October 2012; legal vehicle for Local Healthwatch ready by end of December 2012; members confirmed by end of March 2013; Local Healthwatch formally launched on 1 April 2013.

Service Measure