

<b>Key Decision Required:</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>In the Forward Plan:</b>	<b>No</b>
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**CABINET**

**6 SEPTEMBER 2013**

**A.1 - REFERENCE REPORT FROM THE COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP AND PARTNERSHIPS COMMITTEE OF 8 JULY 2013**

**ESSEX FAMILY TENDRING PROTOTYPE – REVIEW OF PROGRESS**

**BACKGROUND**

At the meeting held on 8 July 2013, the Community Leadership and Partnerships Committee reviewed the progress of the Essex Family Tendring Prototype.

The Council's Business Manager was pleased to be able to report a good news story to the Committee and delivered a presentation on the review of progress, which specifically addressed:

- What had been achieved so far
- The approach taken
- Key Achievements
- Intervention Timeline 2012/13 (Family A)
- Where was the Tendring Prototype now
- Family Outcomes
- Challenges
- What Next?

The Committee was advised that the EssexFamily Prototype was one of only four pilot projects in the country, being a joint partnership with Tendring District Council, Essex County Council and the former Primary Care Trust and that it had funding of £300,000. The Committee was further advised that the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive had recently addressed a Parliamentary Select Committee on this and that Tendring had delivered something that had been nationally recognised which was good for Tendring, the people here and focused on the way services were being provided.

The Committee was advised of the achievements to date, which included better outcomes for families with complex needs, whilst promoting independence, health and well-being. It was noted that this had also realised cost savings across statutory sector partners and that work was continuing to develop a sustainable exit from support for families.

The Committee heard that the family approach had been a real achievement and that several families had been in real chaos at the start of the scheme. He added that some partners had raised concern over data sharing and had not been willing to share information.

Mr Barber said that challenges would include how the Government responded to the Select Committee's evidence; that some partners had broken away; there was resilience to pooling of budgets and forcing a system change away from established processes by breaking silo working and integration of IT to share information.

Mr Barber informed Members that outcomes were currently being evaluated by the Anglia

Ruskin University and early indications had shown that families were reporting much more family resilience and that this included:

- Improved Mental Health and Well-being
- Increased independence
- Stable and secure accommodation
- Reduction in offending
- Reduction in abusive or harmful behaviours
- Access to employment, education or training
- Access to relevant support services

In conclusion, Mr Barber said that the Council was committed to this work and was working closely with Family Solutions in Tendring and that EssexFamily was being immersed into the Family Solutions Service. He said that he would like to see the appointment of a Council Family Support Worker so that the Council could control the workload and focus on the sustainability of families exiting the prototype.

During questions and in-depth discussion with Members, the Committee was informed that other Councils had been contacting Tendring to learn from its good practice.

On the risk of data sharing Mr Barber said this was being taken very seriously with the rolling out of information sharing being very low key at first and gradually increasing. Members indicated that they were behind the EssexFamily scheme and said that the scheme did great credit to this Council. Mr Barber, when asked, confirmed that Essex County Council was fully on board with the scheme and was supportive.

#### **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS / COMMENTS TO CABINET**

Cabinet is now asked to consider the recommendations and comments of the Committee and determine its response if any:

The Committee **COMMENTS** to **CABINET** that the Committee was very impressed with the work done so far by the Officers, who should be congratulated.

The Committee **RECOMMENDS TO CABINET** that it (the Cabinet) works closer with partner agencies to encourage them into the next move of shared pool budgets.

#### **PORTFOLIO HOLDER'S COMMENTS / RECOMMENDATIONS TO CABINET**

That the Committee's comment is noted and recommendation agreed.