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COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

30 MARCH 2026

RECOMMENDATIONS MONITORING REPORT

Recommendation(s) Including Date of Meeting and Minute Number	Actions Taken and Outcome	Completed, follow-up work required or added to Work Programme
<u>This Committee's meeting held on 23 September 2025</u> Youth Mental Health RESOLVED that the Committee:- 1) urges the Portfolio for Partnerships to take up the following policy recommendations from the University of Essex's Coastal Communities Centre research into Coastal Disadvantage and Youth Mental Health as part of the strategic approach to Health and Wellbeing locally: - Develop a long-term strategy to increase diagnosis of mental health conditions and reduce the development of poor mental in children and adolescence. - Create local targets to improve mental health for young people in line with the national average, as part of their annual planning exercise. - Invest in delivery of interventions to support the mental health of coastal young adults in the most deprived areas of the England. This should include facilitating access to services with a focus on the most at-risk	Response of the Partnerships Portfolio Holder for Partnerships, in her formal decision dated 28 October 2025:- <i>"In responding to the recommendations within the minutes of the Community Leadership Overview and Scrutiny Meeting on 23 September 2025 I propose to take the following action in respect of the Committee's lettered recommendations:- I will ask officers to:</i> <i>a) write to the Integrated Care Board identifying the link between coastal communities and poor mental health for them to help seek to address this.</i> <i>b) highlight to the Committee what the Council is doing to seek to address poor mental health through its Health and Wellbeing Strategy including the interventions to address poor mental health and its drivers; and</i> <i>c) provide an update to the Committee about the actions that are being taken by the Council to help improve aspiration."</i>	Awaiting update

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groups (e.g. how can services be brought closer to coastal young adults). - Fund longer-term investments in deprived coastal communities to tackle the drivers of poor mental health. This includes improving opportunities for education, employment, housing and social connection with improved public transport essential for all of these. 2) requests Officers to work with the Council's partners to promote measures to encourage greater aspiration for young people, including among their parents, and thereby address the continuing inter-generational low aspirations.	Full details of the decision can be found via the following URL: https://tdcdemocracy.tendringdc.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=13895 An update in respect of item (c) in the response from the Portfolio Holder has been requested.	
<u>This Committee's Meeting held on 15 January 2026</u> Konectbus Attendance at the Committee RESOLVED that the Committee:- 1) urges Cabinet to press Konectbus for solutions to ensure that bus services between such as Harwich, Walton-on-the-Naze and Clacton-on-Sea and Colchester include the Colchester Institute site to facilitate skills development for those with limited ability to otherwise access the Institute from across Tendring, and in addition, to improve access to school sites across the District; and 2) reemphasises the desirability of prioritising gaining developer contributions for new bus routes in the delivery of the revised local plan.	This is programmed to be submitted to Cabinet on 20 March 2026. An update will be given at the meeting of the Committee on 30 March 2026. <u>ECONOMIC GROWTH, REGENERATION & TOURISM</u> <u>PORTFOLIO HOLDER'S COMMENTS</u> <i>"I support the Committee's resolution urging Cabinet to continue pressing Konectbus for solutions to improve public transport connectivity between Harwich, Walton on the Naze, Clacton on Sea and Colchester, specifically to ensure that services include the Colchester Institute site. Reliable access to further education is essential for strengthening Tendring's skills base, especially for residents who have limited ability to travel independently. Improved access to our District's school sites is equally important as we work to support attendance and safeguard young people. Improving these connections aligns directly with our wider economic and social</i>	Ongoing

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objectives, including reducing inequality and improving pathways into higher-value employment.

As part of this, it is increasingly important that bus and rail timetables are properly integrated, ensuring smooth and reliable connections for residents. Effective timetable coordination reduces waiting times, improves overall journey confidence, and enhances access to education, employment and healthcare across the District. In addition, the case for securing two trains per hour from Clacton throughout the day, rising to three trains per hour at peak times, remains a critical factor in supporting both economic growth and social mobility. More frequent and reliable rail services would significantly improve Tendring's connectivity to major employment centres and further education opportunities, making the District more attractive to businesses and investors.

Although we are not a Transport Authority, I would also like to assure the Committee that work continues to raise awareness and look for solutions to the local transport issues we face. We work in partnership with Transport East and we have a strong relationship with the emerging Greater Essex Combined County Authority, taking the opportunity to highlight the importance of key transport investments in Tendring. In addition, the Council is writing to Charlie Poulton of Konectbus personally to support the Committee's recommendations.

Developer Contributions for New Bus Routes

The Committee's emphasis on prioritising developer contributions for new and enhanced bus routes within the revised Local Plan is both timely and well founded. As Tendring continues to grow, it is vital that sustainable

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	<i>transport is embedded from the outset of development. Securing contributions that support viable bus networks will help ensure that new communities are well connected, reduce car dependency, and promote equitable access to education, employment, and other essential services. I fully support this principle and will work with colleagues across Planning and Regeneration to strengthen our approach in this area.</i> <u><i>Conclusion</i></u> <i>Both recommendations align strongly with the Council's strategic priorities for economic growth, inclusive skills development, and improved mobility across Tendring. I thank the Committee for its constructive input and will ensure these matters are given appropriate consideration as part of Cabinet's ongoing engagement with transport partners and in the development of the revised Local Plan."</i> <u>RECOMMENDATIONS TO CABINET:</u> That the recommendations made by the Community Leadership Overview & Scrutiny Committee be noted and that the response of the Economic Growth, Regeneration & Tourism Portfolio Holder thereto be endorsed.	
Draft Grant Funding Policy RESOLVED that the Committee: 1) reaffirms to Cabinet that the recommendations originally made by the Community Leadership	This is programmed to be submitted to Cabinet on 20 March 2026. An update will be given at the meeting of the Committee on 30 March 2026.	Ongoing

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Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 14 January 2025 in respect of the grants giving policy of the Council and ask that there is reconsideration of those items not yet pursued as set out in the answers to questions asked by Members; and 2) urges Cabinet or the Portfolio Holder as relevant to include in the policy some text to alert the intended shadow authority and the successor unitary authority that will cover Tendring to ensure that there is protection of community groups in the District and their access to funding, and that communication with those groups ahead of reorganisation be pursued to ensure they are best prepared for that change.	<u>PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR PARTNERSHIPS' COMMENTS</u> <i>Please note the comment by Councillor Placey as submitted to the Cabinet meeting on 20 March 2026:</i> <i>"I thank the Committee for its consideration of the item on grants.</i> <i>In terms of the items for consideration following the meeting on 14 January 2025 I refer to the answers provided to the Committee at the meeting on 15 January 2026 and reaffirm the following points to each question raised.</i> (a) the establishment of an Oversight Group of Members for grant schemes across the Council; <i>The Cabinet member provides oversight from a Member perspective, and as the majority of the decisions are executive the Constitution states that Members can call them in, so there is oversight of the decisions. With local government reorganisation taking place the Council has to guard its capacity closely at the moment, in terms of setting up and servicing new groups.</i> (b) some form of gap analysis – even if full analysis is too large a project to be achieved and the opportunities to 'flex' grant giving to maximise the range of organisations receiving financial support in the District across the years. <i>In respect of the potential for a formal gap analysis which would lead to the maximisation of the range of organisations which can access funding, it was determined that although a gap analysis was not</i>	
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necessary, maximisation of funding opportunity was occurring by use of open call processes with broad criteria across a wide geographical spread. The proposed external funding policy which is now being developed further supports the fair and equitable allocation of funding to a wide variety of organisations.

(c) further standardised processes for different grant giving arrangements to help deliver best practice across those separate grant giving arrangements (e.g. around the length of time between opening invitations for applications and the closing date, common and plain language to explain the processes (and be available on the website), details of other grants received, the time between closure of application and determination/notification of outcomes, and the post grant-giving monitoring arrangements).

In terms of the standardisation of processes for grant giving the proposed external funding policy highlights key areas around timely grant processes, using clear language, publicising opportunities and providing support although allows flexibility depending on the grant giving arrangements rather than prescribing specific actions.

(d) Adopt a consistent 'you said, we did' opportunity for organisations applying for grant funding to feed back on their experiences;

In terms of organisations being able to receive feedback it is currently proposed that the new policy refers to obtaining feedback from some of those who have been through the grant process so as to help improve arrangements.

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(e) Look at organising an open day for community/voluntary groups in conjunction with other grant funding organisations (and CVST) to disseminate information on those grant schemes and help to break down barriers to access grant funding for these community/voluntary groups.

In relation to an open day for applicants to understand grant schemes and to help them access funding, an event was held on 12 March 2025 in the Princes Theatre in respect of a major grant funding opportunity for UK Shared Prosperity Funding. Further open days could be considered for other major funding opportunities should they come along.

(g) Note that there are proposals for LGR in Greater Essex and that we are awaiting confirmation from Government to whether these will proceed and over what timetable. On the basis that Government does approve the principle of LGR in Greater Essex the Committee record that it would wish to undertake an enquiry into the implications of LGR on areas within its responsibility (including grant funding) in the work programme for 2025/26 and that this enquiry would look at possible areas where the transition to a new unitary structure could be supported.

In terms of Local Government Reorganisation, the proposed external funding policy will include a section on transition and in particular highlights that officers should ensure grant recipients are made aware of the changes and that funding is spent or committed prior to the new unitary coming into existence. In addition, that if a grant covers the period across the two different authorities that this is considered through the transition process.

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	<i>I look forward to the proposed forthcoming External Funding Policy coming into effect which seeks to improve the process around allocating funding.”</i> <u>RECOMMENDATION TO CABINET:</u> That the recommendations made by the Community Leadership Overview and Scrutiny Committee be welcomed and noted and that they be given consideration for inclusion in the forthcoming external funding policy which is currently being developed.	
Final Report of the Youth Provision of School Aged Children Task and Finish Group RESOLVED that the Committee: 1) to recommend to Cabinet that a platform is provided for children and young people to access information about activity which is taking place in their community; 2) to endorse this recommendation, including the proposal to develop the existing Active Essex, ‘Find Your Active’ database to be promoted through the Community Sports Partnerships section of the developing ‘Active Tending’ website; and 3) to note that funding for that work had been subject to agreement by Cabinet in a separate report (due January 2026), which had provided an update on progress on the implementation of the Sport and Activity Strategy, and sought agreement to a number of budget allocations including the development of the ‘Find Your Active’ webpage.	This is programmed to be submitted to Cabinet on 20 March 2026. An update will be given at the meeting of the Committee on 30 March 2026. <u>LEISURE & PUBLIC REALM PORTFOLIO HOLDER’S COMMENTS</u> <u>(as submitted to the Cabinet meeting on 20 March 2026)</u> <i>“I thank the Task and Finish Group for the work achieved on their enquiry into youth provision of school aged children. I can confirm that the most common response from local people through the Sport and Activity Strategy consultation exercise, was for the Council to provide a digital platform, to easily allow residents to search for what sport and activity provision is available in their local area.</i> <i>With that in mind, at their meeting on 30 January 2026, Cabinet allocated £3,599 from the Sport and Activity budget to support improvements to the existing ‘Find Your</i>	Ongoing

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	<i>Active' platform hosted by Active Essex. Together with all Tendring residents, this digital platform will support our local children and young people to access information about activity which is taking place in their community.</i> <i>I am looking forward to evaluating the success of the upgraded platform, once the new system has been upgraded. I sincerely hope this can be used to signpost our younger residents to some of the great activities that are available to them."</i> <u>RECOMMENDATIONS TO CABINET:</u> That the recommendations made by the Community Leadership Overview & Scrutiny Committee be noted, and that the response of the Leisure & Public Realm Portfolio Holder thereto, be endorsed.	
<u>This Committee's Meeting held on 10 February 2026</u> Chief Executive of NHS Mid and South Essex ICB attendance at Committee Meeting RESOLVED that the Committee: 1) formally records its thanks and appreciation to James Halden for his informative presentation and the answers he gave to the Committee's questions; 2) is gratified to note the positive working relationships that exist between the Portfolio Holder for Partnerships alongside Officers and the Integrated Care Board (ICB); 3) welcomes the new Essex ICB's ongoing work, and is excited at the prospect of health services being	Awaiting the establishment of the new Essex ICB on 1 April 2026. Progress on autism and ADHD assessment waiting times, along with developments in joint working on health scrutiny, will be incorporated into the Committee's Work Programme for 2026/27. A further update is scheduled for the Committee meeting on 23 June 2026.	Ongoing

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brought closer to the community, given the backdrop of continuing turbulence within the NHS; 4) formally invites Tom Abell and James Halden to attend future meetings of the Committee to give an update on the implementation of the new Essex ICB's progress in reducing extensive waiting times across the country for autism and ADHD assessments; 5) requests Officers to investigate opportunities for joined up working on health scrutiny matters with its local authority partners once the configuration of the new Unitary Authority is known; and 6) approves the matters referred to in resolutions (d) and (e) above being included in the Committee's work programme for 2026/27.		
Carnarvon Terrace Regeneration Project Task and Finish Group RESOLVED that the Committee: 1) notes and endorses the establishment of a Carnarvon Terrace Regeneration Project Task and Finish Group, and its appointed membership; and 2) authorises, in view of the restricted timescales involved, the Assistant Director (Corporate Policy & Support), in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee, to directly report to the Cabinet meeting to be held on 20 March 2026 the outcome of the Task and Finish Working Group's enquiry together with its recommendations and/or comments et cetera.	This is programmed to be submitted to Cabinet on 20 March 2026. An update will be given at the meeting of the Committee on 30 March 2026. <u>ECONOMIC GROWTH, REGENERATION & TOURISM PORTFOLIO HOLDER'S COMMENTS</u> <u>(as submitted to the Cabinet meeting on 20 March 2026)</u> <i>"I would like to thank the Task and Finish Group for their questions and engagement on the issue of the procurement of the Carnarvon Terrace scheme. I appreciate their support for the approach we have taken so far, and I fully endorse their view that pre-market engagement with contractors should be a key part of the procurement process on such a scheme. I am content to return to the Task and Finish Group at a future point to update them on progress."</i> <u>RECOMMENDATION TO CABINET:</u>	Ongoing

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	That the comments made by the Carnarvon Terrace Regeneration Project Task & Finish Group be noted and that the response of the Economic Growth, Regeneration & Tourism Portfolio Holder thereto be endorsed.	
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Recommendations monitoring for those recommendations from earlier meetings of the Committee have been previously reported to the Committee and, as such, are not repeated here as there is no further update to be provided on them.