

Epping Forest Children's Partnership

Membership: Epping Forest District Council – Community Services Lead Officers
Head Teacher /LDG Representatives - Primary & Secondary
Extended Schools Officers
Epping Forest College
Essex County Council – Integrated Services
West Essex Primary Care Trust – Provider & Commissioner
Essex Police – District – based Inspector
Voluntary Action Epping Forest
Essex County Council – Children's Community Development

Terms of Reference

Purpose of the partnership

Under the umbrella of 'One Epping Forest' -the Local Strategic Partnership, Epping Forest Children's Partnership will act as a strategic partnership with the main purpose of identifying and addressing the varied needs of Epping Forest's children, young people and their families.

It will support integrated services across Essex and represent Epping Forest's children, young people and families at West Essex Children's Trust Board, to ensure that the unique and often hidden issues of deprivation and disadvantage are acknowledged and addressed through respective commissioned funding for Essex.

As part of the 'Every Child Matters' agenda and in line with the Children and Young People's Plan, the partnership will aim to improve the lives of children and young people in the Epping Forest District through prioritising need and directing interventions and activities accordingly.

Responsibilities

1. To identify and prioritise the service needs of children, young people and families in Epping Forest District through seeking their views and using local knowledge and expertise
2. To ensure that the key priorities of need are addressed within an agreed timescale through implementing the appropriate intervention and/or services
3. To establish Task and Finish groups that involve the key partners to lead on the development and delivery of local interventions and activities to meet identified need
4. To report to Epping Forest Local Strategic Partnership Steering Group and Board and ensure that district partners are informed of local priorities and issues in regard to children, young people and families
5. To represent the needs of Epping Forest's children, young people and families at the West Essex Children's Trust Board (WECTB) and ensure that opportunities to secure funding to address key priorities are maximised

6. To monitor and evaluate local delivery of work commissioned through WECTB and report any weaknesses and shortfalls in the provision
7. To ensure that an integrated approach is applied to issues of Safeguarding; Child Protection and Child Development to enable services to be provided in the best possible way for the child or young person
8. To ensure representation of the partnership on the Local Safeguarding Children Group
9. To support Local Delivery Groups in their commissioning of services to address issues relating to Every Child Matters and the Extended Services Agenda
10. To identify gaps in provision of mainstream services and seek to bridge these gaps through innovative working across the partnership
11. To consider outcomes of core programmes of work across the partnership and support and develop new ideas for methods of working where required
12. To identify models of best practice in children's services and activities within Epping Forest and share these with colleagues across West Essex
13. Take a strategic overview of other Theme Groups and statutory groups within the district to ensure that strategic planning of services and infrastructure takes proper account of health objectives.
14. Take a strategic overview of other theme groups and statutory groups within the district to ensure that strategic planning of services and infrastructure takes proper account of objectives of the Sustainable Communities Theme Group.