

Tendring Locality Board

Terms of Reference

PURPOSE

No single organisation will improve outcomes for Essex's citizens by acting alone so working with other agencies across professional and geographical boundaries is essential. Locality Boards help shape how we work together locally to transform public services and empower communities.

The Locality Board brings together elected representatives from the County, District and Parish Councils creating a democratically accountable 'hub' for partnership activity. The Board enables an open debate to shape the future of the area by prioritising outcomes, addressing issues of duplication and unnecessary bureaucracy; realising efficiencies; adopting preventative approaches and enabling innovative cross-boundary working, whilst not overriding the sovereignty of either the District or County Council.

ROLE OF THE LOCALITY BOARD

The Locality Board:-

- provides a **high level political steer** to shape the future of the locality;
- delivers a **co-ordinated public service approach** across a number of key County and District services and projects;
- enables joined up **delivery** of key services with a wide range of partners.

It is essentially about shaping and co-ordinating the delivery of services by the two Councils (with input from the Parishes) at a political level to address the key issues facing the District.

The role of the Board can be summarised as follows:-

- **Ensures value for money public service outcomes**, through ensuring that the Locality Board oversees and advises on specific areas of public sector activity / spend according to a shared understanding of the priority outcomes for the Locality Board area;
- **Enables closer collaboration between the various tiers of local government with a focus joining up delivery and resources and doing things more efficiently**, through providing the challenge to ensure that the Locality Board actively identifies and promotes opportunities for public service reforms;
- **Exerts local influence over commissioning decisions affecting the Locality Board area**, through ensuring strong links between local governance, community engagement and commissioning arrangements; and
- **Promotes localism and ensures that decisions are taken at the most appropriate level**, through discussion and negotiation across the three tiers, monitoring and reviewing, using local insight and holding others to account where necessary.

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There are a number of areas of work where delivery is achieved through working with partners. The diagram shown at Appendix A demonstrates areas of focus which, while not exclusive, are considered particularly relevant to the role of the Board.

BACKGROUND & TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Tendring Locality Board is one of six locality boards in Essex. It offers the space and freedom to provide strategic public service co-ordination and, in particular, to influence and provide constructive challenge to matters of importance to the District. As a Board that is non-budget holding and non-decision making, it is not hampered by structures or reporting mechanisms and provides an opportunity for the County and District elected members to openly and robustly discuss issues impacting the Tendring District. It will continue to operate for as long as both local authorities value coming together in this way.

At its inception, the then leader of Tendring District Council requested that the role of Chair of the Locality Board is a County Councillor and the Vice-Chair position being the Leader of Tendring District Council.

Membership of the Board is all ECC Members for Tendring, TDC Cabinet Members, the Cabinet Member from ECC allocated to Tendring and also the Chairman of the Tendring District Association of Local Councils (TDALC). The Board first met on 6th September 2011 with meetings held in private. The Board was established as a trial initially for six months. Following a review undertaken in Spring 2012 the Board agreed that it would continue to meet based on a strong consensus that it had proven effective in making progress against its key priority issues, which have been agreed as:

- improving educational attainment;
- better infrastructure and roads;
- improving health outcomes;
- a sustainable coastal economy; and
- to help individuals and communities to help themselves.

To date, the Locality Board has covered a wide range of subjects supporting the broad aims set out above. Subjects that have been covered include:-

- Community Budgets;
- EssexFamily;
- Aspiration of Young People;
- Education;
- Highways Panel; and
- Economic Growth Strategy (Local Enterprise Areas).

At the meeting on 7th June 2012 it was confirmed that:-

- The Locality Board would have no budget and would not make decisions, primarily as this could act as a barrier in its role of challenge and influence;
- It would work with Parish Councils and key stakeholders;
- It would regularly review its focus;

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- Membership would remain the same;
- Minutes would be published on the TDC website; and
- Chairman would attend TDC Community Leadership and Partnership O&S Committee.

The TDC Community Leadership and Partnership O&S Committee received a presentation from the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Board in February 2013 and concluded that the Board was an effective vehicle for collaboration between ECC and TDC.

At the Locality Board meeting held on 9th September 2013, it was agreed that a representative from Tendring District Association of Local Councils be included in the membership of the Board.

The Locality Board has demonstrated it has an important role as the strategic link across partnerships and initiatives. It has provided a focus that has supported a number of key aspects of the Council's ambitions in Tendring. This includes a joint approach between TDC and ECC to champion the road infrastructure requirements to Government, shaping the thinking on an enterprise area, placing Tendring at the forefront of the development of the Whole Essex Community Budget Pilot and providing a strategic focus to improving skills and educational attainment.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

The following sets out the terms of reference for the Locality Board. It is not a formal committee of either Council and therefore is not subject to the governance requirements of a formal committee. The Secretariat for the Locality Board will be provided by TDC.

- Membership of the Board will comprise of ECC divisional Members for the Tendring district and TDC Cabinet Members;
- The Chair of Tendring District Association of Local Councils
- The Chair of the Board will be the ECC Cabinet Member allocated to lead the County Council's relationship with Tendring;
- The Board has no decision making powers and no budget
- The Board will retain oversight of partnership activity including, but not limited to, the partnerships listed in Appendix A.
- The Board will continue to operate for as long as ECC and TDC agree that it provides added value;
- The Locality Board will convene at regular intervals, at least six times per year.
- The key focus of the Locality Board will be reviewed regularly and developed to ensure that it maintains an agile approach to address issues of interest to Essex County Council, Tendring District Council and the Town & Parishes of Tendring.
- Meetings will be held in public and minutes will be published on the TDC website;
- Locality Board Agendas will include 20 minutes for public questions on items covered by the Agenda
- Before each public Locality Board there will be an option for a private meeting between Board Members to discuss any matters that it is not possible to discuss in public;
- The Chair and Vice-Chair will appear before TDC Community Leadership and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee annually.



Tendring
District Council



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- Essex County Council and Tendring District Council will each provide a lead senior manager point of contact to work with the Chair and Vice-Chair to agree agendas and coordinate contributions from other officers, Members and partner organisations.

Appendix A

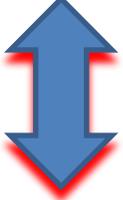
Tendring Locality Board

Key Objectives

- Improving Educational Attainment
- Improving Health Outcomes
- Better Infrastructure and Roads
- A Sustainable Coastal Economy
- Help Individuals and Communities to be more Sustainable



Tendring Education
Improvement



Health and Wellbeing



Highways Panel



Coastal Renaissance
Partnership



Family
Solutions/Essex
Family