



**REPORT of
DIRECTOR OF STRATEGY, PERFORMANCE AND GOVERNANCE**

to
**COUNCIL (EXTRAORDINARY)
30 JUNE 2021**

MID-ESSEX ALLIANCE – MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval of the Mid Essex Alliance Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

2. RECOMMENDATION

That the Council agrees to be a signatory to the Mid-Essex Alliance Memorandum of Understanding.

3. SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

- 3.1 In the changing landscape of the NHS, with the dissolution of Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) from April 2022 and the formation of Integrated Care Systems (ICSs), there is a mounting need to have localism for mid Essex within the 1.2m population of Mid and South Essex ICS. The Mid Essex Alliance will co-ordinate a place-based approach to health priorities to ensure the localism needed. The Group is operational in its approach and is primarily based on co-ordination of activities, and bringing together approaches around joint activity to deliver shared objectives of the member organisations. This would effectively be a mechanism through which some of the key outcomes of Maldon District Council (MDC), as agreed by Members, through our Corporate plan could be delivered.
- 3.2 Health and wellbeing and community safety are key elements of the Maldon District Council Corporate Plan 2021 - 23, including:
- working with our communities and partners to improve the physical health and well-being of our residents.
 - working with our communities and partners to improve the mental health and well-being of our residents.
 - ensuring the safety and wellbeing of our vulnerable children, adults and families.
 - working with our communities, schools and partners, to improve our children and young peoples' health and well-being, giving them the best start in life.
 - building on the strengths of our communities and what they can do to support themselves and help each other to thrive.
- 3.3 The need for a systems management approach to health and wellbeing is long-established and is a principle that underpins the partnership approach to these

issues. The Covid pandemic has demonstrated need for cooperation and coordination of the whole Essex system to maximise health benefits, and the need to involve partners across the whole system. The Mid-Essex Alliance enhances our ability as a District Council to deliver the priorities set out above, through working with partners.

- 3.4 The Key Aims of the Mid Essex Alliance are set out in section 4 of the MOU (presented in **APPENDIX 1**), and they include:
- Work towards a shared vision for creating opportunities with people to live well in mid Essex utilising Asset Based Community Development principles.
 - Establish, and operate within, the collaborative governance apparatus designed to support open and transparent decision making across the Mid Essex Alliance.
 - Embed Social Value in all that we do.
 - Act as Anchor Organisations to support the Live Well ethos, both for our own staff and by Making Every Contact Count. Demonstrating how we are leading our workforce in terms of health, wellbeing, training and support.
- 3.5 Partners in the Alliance are being asked to sign off the MOU, and whilst this is not a legally binding document it does set out the proposals and commitment to work together. It also highlights that this is not a decision-making body, and that each member own governance would be unaffected.

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 Membership of Mid-Essex Alliance will enhance the systems management approach for the District and support work which will achieve delivery of our corporate outcomes and will be further strengthened by all partners signing the Memorandum of Understanding.

5. IMPACT ON STRATEGIC THEMES

- 5.1 Mid- Essex Alliance and its delivery plans will have a contribution to all of the Strategic Themes of Community and the organisational focus of Performance and Value and assist in the delivery of the Corporate Plan outcomes through improved systems management enabling a more responsive and joined up approach to the issues facing the District.

6. IMPLICATIONS

- (i) **Impact on Customers** – Mid Essex Alliance will enable provide senior level coordination between statutory, private and voluntary organisations within the area to co-ordinate resources and approaches to deliver better services for residents. This will mean more joined up ways of working and support MDC in our delivery of corporate outcomes.
- (ii) **Impact on Equalities** – The Council is committed to providing equal opportunities with no discrimination. There are no identifiable impacts currently based upon the work to date.

(iii) **Impact on Risk:**

- Operational risk – None.
- Organisational risks – None.
- Partnerships – Mid Essex Alliance is a systems management approach to place-based delivery, co-ordinating partner resources to deliver the needs of Maldon residents and to enhance delivery of the Corporate Plan.

(iv) **Impact on Resources (financial)** – None.

(iv) **Impact on Resources (human)** – None.

(v) **Impact on the Environment** – None.

(vi) **Impact on Strengthening Communities** - The importance of strengthening communities is fully recognised in the Mid Essex Alliance and the approach is underpinned by and Asset Based Community Development Approach.

Background Papers: None.

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