

Developing Essex Children & Young People Strategic Partnership towards a Children's Trust

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Children's Trust

- The Children Act 2004 provides the legal underpinning for the transformation of children's services, as set out in the Every Child Matters: Change for Children programme. Section 10 of the Act provides the statutory basis for Children's Trusts.
- The Children and Young People's Plan is a legal requirement as laid out in the Children Act 2004. The plan is a single, overarching plan for services affecting children and young people.
- The Local Authority is responsible for leading the Children's Trust arrangements and developing and implementing the Children & Young People's Plan.
- The Comprehensive Area Assessment will be informed by the work of the Children's Trust and the annual review of the Children and Young People's Plan will constitute the required annual self assessment of Children's Services.

National Drivers

- Enquiries / Reports e.g. Laming, Carter, Lord Darzi
- Legislation – Children Act 2004, Mental Health Act 2007
- National performance frameworks;
 - National Indicators
 - NSF for children, young people and maternity services –vital signs
 - National strategies/guidance
 - ECM
 - Children’s Plan
 - LAA
 - Narrowing the gap
 - 21st Century Schools
 - Healthier Lives, Brighter Futures – Child Health Strategy
 - High Quality Care For All
 - Audit Commission – Are we there yet?
 - World Class Commissioning & Commissioning Support Programme

Single or Joint Commissioning & Delivery

What are the activities that sit in a Children's Trust:

- Commissioning activities & processes and/or direct services that would be more efficiently and effectively commissioned jointly and/or delivered jointly
- Where partners have a shared responsibility to meet needs

Features of a Children's Trust

A formal partnership between agencies and organisations who all agree:

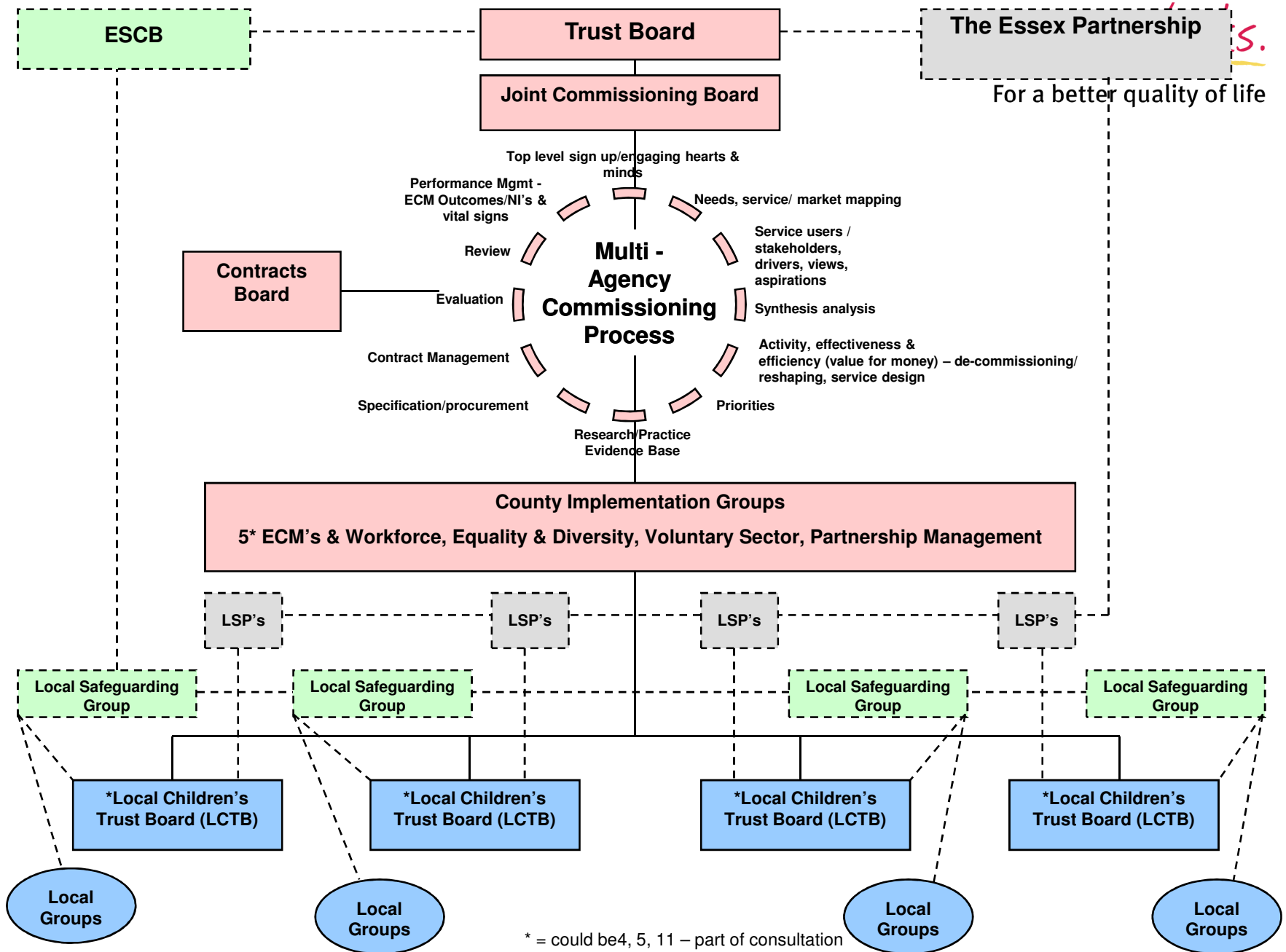
- A shared vision
- Joint strategic needs analysis & priorities
- Resource envelope
- Performance framework
- Targeting of resources
- Alignment/pooling of resources centrally/locally to drive value for money
- secure activity effective interventions
- To act as a thematic partnership within the Essex Partnership and be children's lead for the LAA & 12 Local Sustainable Community Plans.
- To harness the broader coalition required to tackle issues such as child poverty and influence infrastructure planning related to housing, economic regeneration and transport locally and nationally.

Integrating with Other Strategic Partnerships & Forums/Consortia

- The ESCB
- Safer Essex
- 14-19 Partnerships
- Schools Partnerships
- GP's
- Essex Partnership
- LSP's

The Role of Children's Trusts

- Continuous & meaningful engagement with the public & workforce to understand needs & preferences.
- Action orientated planning and decision making structure, strategies and plans
- Gripping available resources
- Driving value for money
- Bending resources to meet priorities
- Market management
- Delivering needs led services through a range of partnerships
- Horizon scanning – Leading from the front

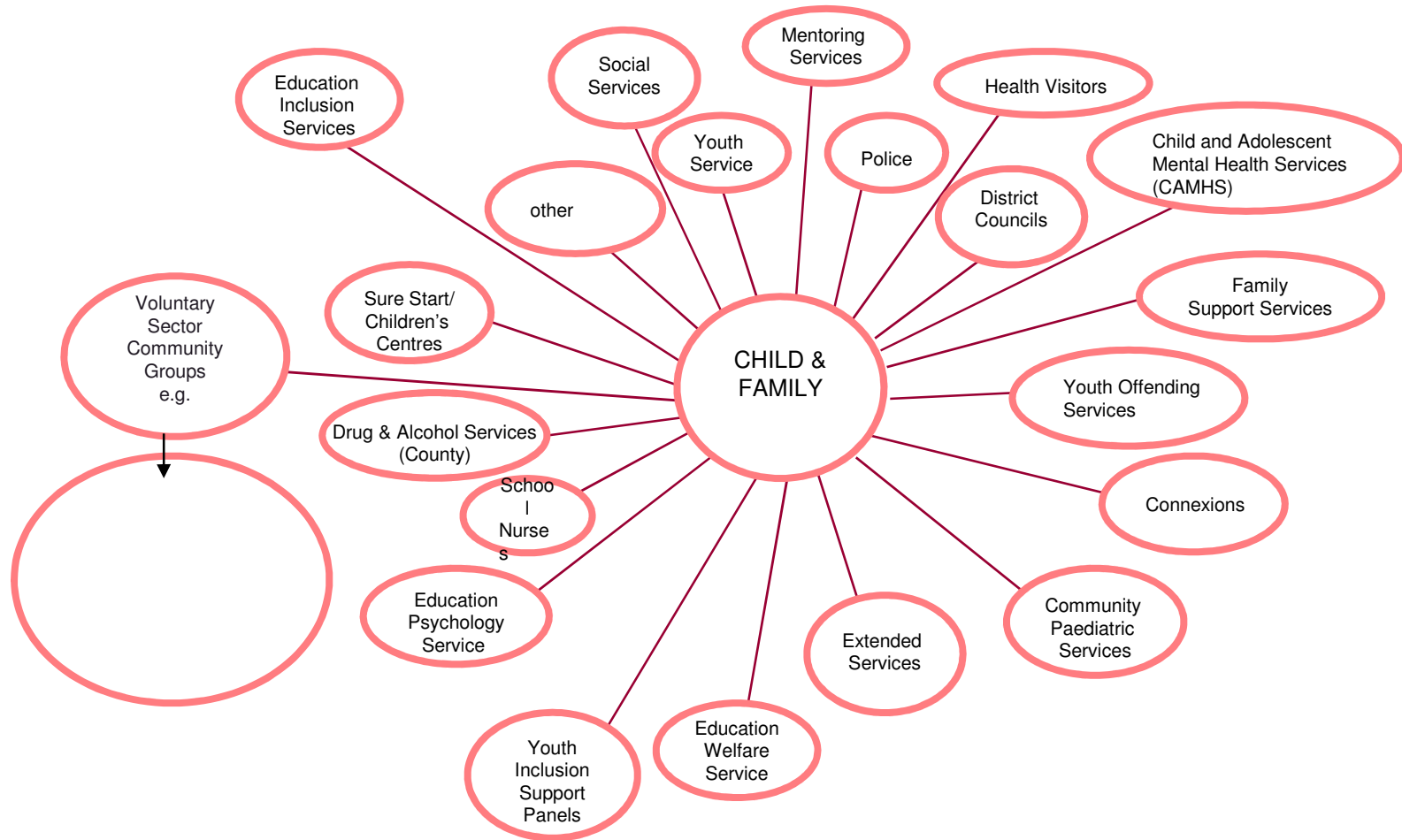


* = could be 4, 5, 11 – part of consultation

Opportunities to Drive Value for Money

- **Commissioning activities and processes joined up through the Children's Trust :-**
 - Needs analysis
 - Resource envelope
 - Performance framework
 - Market management
 - Procurement & Contracting
 - Contract monitoring/review/evaluation
 - Integrated processes – CAF/LP/multi-agency resource panels
 - Workforce
 - Communications
 - Administration

Integrated Processes -Multi Agency Allocation Group (MAAG) - Services Accessed



Benefits of Approach

- Joint ownership
- A partnership that is recognised as one that delivers desired outcomes & impact
- Transparent planning and decision making structure that everyone can understand and work within, with clear lines of accountability.
- Credible and deliverable strategies and plans
- Aligned commissioning cycles
- Effective use of resources that will:-
 - Prevent duplication of activity/effort
 - Increase efficiencies in activities
 - Create seamless, co-ordinated pathways to service delivery
 - Deliver value for money, investing to achieve greatest community impact & reducing inequalities

Benefits of Approach Cont.

- End lots of differing groups being set up outside the agreed planning and decision making structure, decreasing the burden on partner agencies.
- Provide for Integrated performance management and processes within the Trust structure.
- Integrated and influential with the Essex Partnership, ESCB and LSPs and wider strategies and partnerships.

Opportunities to Drive Value for Money

- **Service delivery models – what will deliver value for money?**
 - Single agency delivery or Joint delivery;
 - Or mixture
 - Virtual teams
 - Or
 - Co-location
 - Or
 - Integrated
 - Or
 - Mixture
 - County, area or locality organised
 - Or mixture

Cont.

- There are pro's and cons in all models of service delivery, a mixed model is likely be the most efficient and effective.
- Options that have come through consultation so far:-
 - **1:** Delegate remaining limited CMLD resources to TASCC teams and develop multi-agency co-located delivery
 - **2:** Delegate resources, particularly those around behaviour and attendance, to partnerships of schools, under robust SLA [but possible legal issues surrounding delegation of statutory functions]
 - **3:** Adopt integrated management model at district/borough, quadrant or quintile levels and redesign TASCC approach into virtual models of multi-agency working, while ensuring schools have greater say over resource deployment