

Herts 2021 Bulletin

April 2009

These monthly bulletins update partners on the development and work of the Hertfordshire Forward partnerships family – the governance diagram for which is available [here](#).

* New Hertfordshire Forward website goes live at the end of April 2009 *

This month

[4th March Partnership Event](#)

[CAA \(inc Self-assessment\)](#)

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Link to presentations and feedback survey

General approach and self-assessment

New Bulletin for Members

Summary version available online

LAA1 performance

Review & Refresh and perf management

'Interim' measures and future development

26 Jan meeting and next meeting

Latest group and Strategy's development

Presentations and 2009's Conference

Key dates from last month

HF Core Group dates for 2009

Who, what, where...

4th March Partnership Event

On 4th March the six countywide thematic partnerships and the county's ten district Local Strategic Partnerships came together for an event designed to develop their understanding of each other and raise awareness of Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA). The programme for the day can be found [here](#) while the presentations can be found [here](#).

The day's content was largely praised, delegates especially liking the short, sharp presentation style with Natalie Webb's presentation on Dacorum LSP's 'Tomorrow's World, Today's Challenge' especially well received. Suggestions for improving the workshops were especially welcome, the product of which will be on the new HF site. Other comments received include:

"I learnt more about the strategic fit of partnerships within Herts. It has allowed me to better understand who fits where and therefore who I may need to approach for mutual benefit."

"Found it very informative. I would like to work on building communication between the County's thematic groups and our local strategic partnership."

All the feedback will be used in planning any future events. If you have yet to provide feedback and would like to please click [here](#).

CAA (inc self-assessment)

As mentioned in March's Bulletin, partnerships in Hertfordshire are working to produce the county's first area self-assessment by end April 2009. The outline timetable is:

- 6th April – final deadline for all partnerships' drafts (editing/testing by project team) Sign-off process (Interim Delivery Group and Chief Executives' Coordinating Group) with a view to submitting a draft to the Audit Commission at the end of April. That draft will also go to the HF Core Group on 20 May (any resulting changes to be resubmitted to Audit Commission afterwards – it is an iterative process and for partnerships to use to their benefit over time). Contact stewart.martin@hertscc.gov.uk for more.

CAA Member Update

The Audit Commission have produced a new bulletin aimed specifically at councillors. It summarises information about the Commission and its activities and can be found here: <http://www.audit-commission.gov.uk/councillorupdate/issue1/mar09.asp>

Sustainable Community Strategy

A summary version of the strategy has also been produced providing an accessible overview of the 2021 vision and objectives. Hard copies are available on request from joan.green@hertscc.gov.uk while the pdf version is available [here](#).

Local Area Agreement 1

Performance data has recently been updated (to end September 2008). Due to the impact of the recession, performance in two key indicators has deteriorated – please see the Core Group's 4th February papers which can be found [here](#). This will affect the final PRG estimate - now standing between £15 – 18m (meaning District LSPs are expected to receive between £750,000 – 900,000). For more contact victor.wan@hertscc.gov.uk.

Local Area Agreement 2

Thematic partnerships have now produced action plans for all LAA2 targets. The latest LAA2 performance data has been collated and will be made available shortly. Going forward, LAA2 performance data will be made available on a quarterly basis.

Review and refresh: the LAA2 template has now been 'refreshed' as the latest iteration of what Hertfordshire has signed up to deliver. It has gone through all relevant stages before now being sent to DCLG (Hertfordshire's was the second 'refresh' in the country to get to this stage). This template will be posted on the Herts Forward site shortly ([here](#)), but in the meantime the full template can be found [here](#) and the supporting paper that went to P&R Panel can be found [here](#).

Performance Management: using funds secured from Improvement East, PricewaterhouseCoopers consultants will be working in Hertfordshire to help build performance management capacity. Their work will focus upon district LSP contributions and accountability to LAA2 targets. The focus areas will be:

- Dacorum LSP and "business climate" - focusing on NI 172
- St Albans and District LSP and "achieving independent living" - focusing on NI 125
- Hertsmere LSP and "family resilience" - focusing on NI 116

For more please see [Ciara Magee's slides](#) or contact Ben.Wood@hertscc.gov.uk

Hertfordshire Forward Delivery Group (interim)

Pending a review of Governance arrangements (see March Bulletin) an 'Interim Delivery Group' has been set up to carry out urgent tasks including the development of the countywide performance reward grant (PRG) with an external facilitator, shaping the self assessment for CAA (see [above](#)), and shaping the performance scorecard. The outcomes of these tasks will be taken to the HF Core Group for their meeting on 20 May.

Hertfordshire Forward LSP Network

The 26 March meeting included further development of district chapters for the countywide self-assessment, performance management, and Stevenage's use of a partnership toolkit. Contact rs.projects@broxbourne.gov.uk for more.

Developing Stronger more Cohesive Communities

Hertfordshire Volunteering Strategy - A diverse range of organisations came together on March 26th at the All Saints Pastoral Centre, London Colney to discuss the development of a Hertfordshire Volunteering Strategy. Workshop attendees heard from Justin Davis Smith, Chief Executive of Volunteering England who spoke about the national perspective of volunteering. Key themes arising from the event were the need for better volunteer management to improve the volunteering experience, a more inclusive approach to volunteering so that everyone has the opportunity to get involved and the need to share resources and ideas between agencies involved in supporting volunteers. Volunteering and active citizenship are twin drivers in community cohesion, the more people engage in voluntary activities the more likely that they will feel part of their communities.

Take Part Local Pathfinder - A last minute bid put together by Hertsmere, Stevenage and HCC to the new Take Part Local Pathfinder programme has been successful and will now become a programme providing £200K over 2 years to engage communities in Cowley Hill, Hertsmere and in Stevenage to develop a broader BME-based approach across Stevenage with the development of 'Empowerment academies'.

Hertfordshire Forward Annual Conference

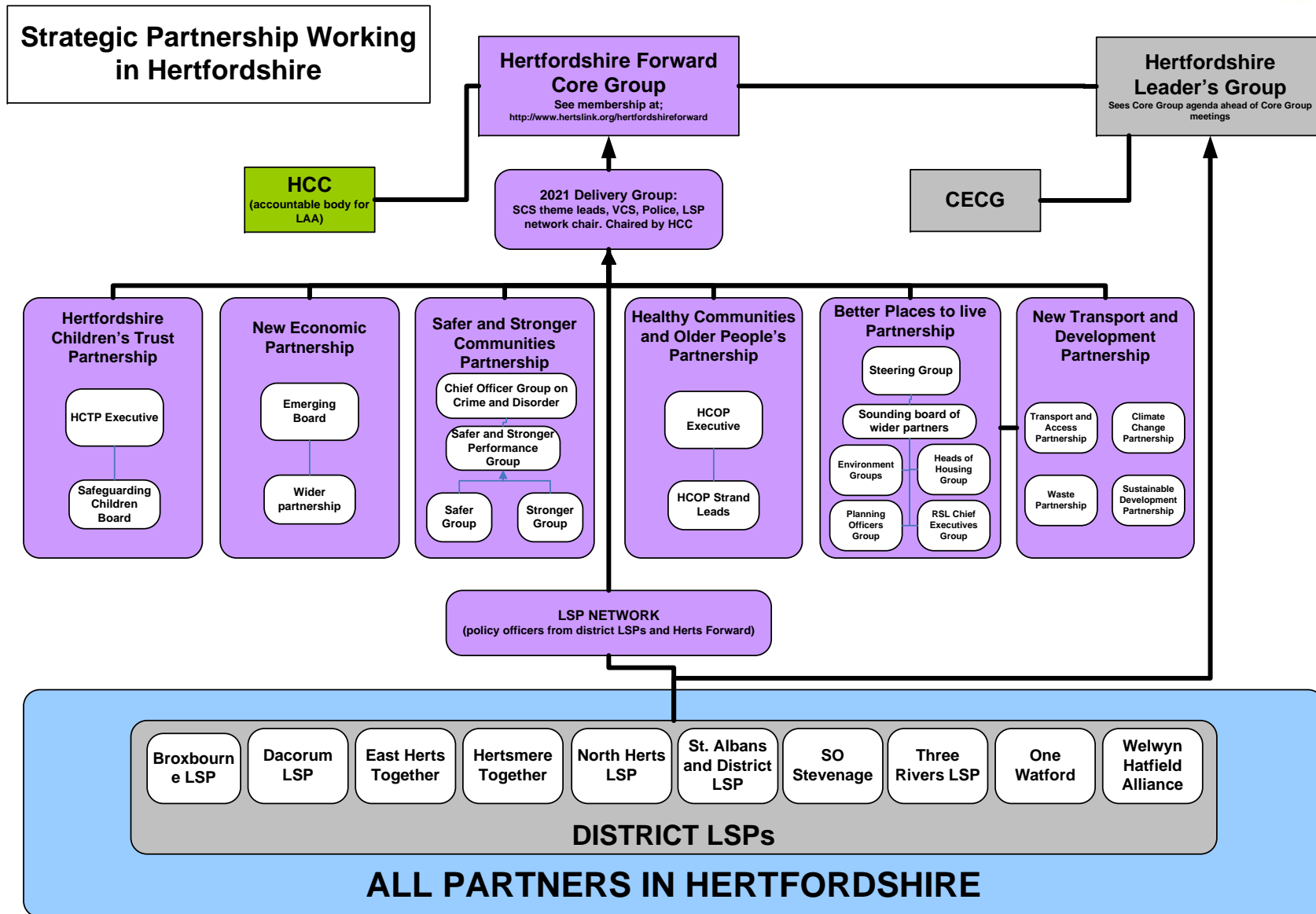
The 2009 Annual Conference (6 November 2009 at the Fielder Centre) will focus on the economy. Contact david.hughes@hertscc.gov.uk for more.

Last month

- 4 March** Partnership Conference, Fielder Centre, Hatfield – exploring district LSP and countywide thematic partnership working, the Place Survey, PwC's performance framework work and the Comprehensive Area Assessment
- 4 March** Interim Delivery Group meeting – the role of the group, the countywide [self-assessment](#) (see above), performance management, Governance Review, LAA1 PRG and feedback to the Core Group.
- 23 March** LSP Network – minutes available on the new HF website by the end of April.
- 3 April** Interim Delivery Group meeting – PRG, CAA Self-assessment and the Governance Review work.

Future dates

- 21 April** Interim Delivery Group meeting
- 20 May** HF Core Group meeting (Fielder Centre, Hatfield)
- 22 June** LSP Network (Broxbourne)
- 2009** Core Group meetings: 30 September and 9 December



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Herts Forward Website

<http://www.hertslink.org/hertfordshireforward>

(Previous bulletins: [click here](#))