

# Herts 2021 Bulletin

## June 2009

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

**\*New\*** Herts Forward website now live: [www.hertslink.org/hertfordshireforward](http://www.hertslink.org/hertfordshireforward)

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### 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 [hertfordshire.forward@hertscc.gov.uk](mailto:hertfordshire.forward@hertscc.gov.uk). The pdf version is [here](#) and the full SCS [here](#). The current strategy will be updated in early 2010 – more news on this in next month’s bulletin.

### Local Area Agreement 1

The performance data is currently nearing the end of its latest update (March 2009). The data is indicating Hertfordshire is in line to receive an estimated **£15-18m reward** pending performance remaining constant. This estimate has not changed since the last one was made in September 2008. There are a number of targets which have now been completed, although some targets still have a number of months to run before completion. In order to take delivery of the Performance Reward Grant (PRG), the data for LAA1 will need to be verified and audited in the autumn 2009 with the aim of a PRG claim form being submitted to CLG by December 2009. It is planned that Hertfordshire will get its first payment by April 2010. For more information contact [victor.wan@hertscc.gov.uk](mailto:victor.wan@hertscc.gov.uk)

### Local Area Agreement 2

Performance data has been collected for LAA2 targets and was circulated at the 20 May Core Group meeting as part of the ‘scorecard’ agenda item ([see below](#)).

## HF Core Group

The Core Group met on 20<sup>th</sup> May – the minutes arising are available online ([here](#)), as are the agenda, all the papers tabled and slides for the presentations given ([here](#)). Key items:

### *Scorecard*

Hertfordshire Forward has developed a "scorecard" which brings together the key information needed to manage its business (including the LAA and community strategy). May's scorecard can be found [here](#). It consists of well over 100 measures covering a broad spectrum of partnership activity. The six strategic countywide partnerships are responsible for the day-to-day monitoring and performance management of these measures, and the most crucial ones will be escalated to the Core Group. The scorecard will be made available for all partners to see on a quarterly basis and provides a good snapshot of how things 'are' in the county. For more contact [ben.wood@hertscc.gov.uk](mailto:ben.wood@hertscc.gov.uk)

### *Intelligent Hertfordshire*

We are already beginning to think about a refresh of Hertfordshire Forward's Sustainable Community Strategy. Much has moved on since that was agreed (late 2007) – most notably the economic climate – and we will need to revisit our priorities in due course. To inform that process, Hertfordshire Forward will commission the production of a new evidence base for the county in Spring 2010. Many partners across the county already produce information about our people and places (such as the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, Local Economy Assessment, Policing Strategic Assessments) but we need collective ownership and understanding of this evidence. The Partnership Performance and Development Group, on behalf of the Core Group, will be working to ensure our information and evidence is produced in a timely and rational manner, and is driven by the needs of the LAA and community strategy. For more contact [ben.wood@hertscc.gov.uk](mailto:ben.wood@hertscc.gov.uk)

### *Performance Reward Grant (PRG)*

Item 6 considered a proposal for a coordinated package of PRG funded measures to help support Hertfordshire's Citizens Advice Bureaux respond to the sudden and unprecedented increase in the numbers of people experiencing complex debt issues arising from potential or actual redundancy and to help them back on the road to financial stability and on to future employment. As the paper outlines in greater detail (click [here](#)), the proposal seeks funding for a two year coordinated, countywide package of support measures - to employ five full time specialist debt advisors and a programme coordinator as a direct response to the complexity of the debt cases involved. It is designed to enable an additional 3,000 people to gain access to specialist support. The cost is estimated at up to £250,000 for two years.

**Outcome:** The CAB proposal was agreed in principle. Andrew Burt and Jan Hayes-Griffin (Hertfordshire County Council) will clarify projected costs and general details and draw up an agreement with Stevenage CABX and circulate to Hertfordshire Forward Core Group for information. The contract will be overseen by Hertfordshire Works Recession Group (lead Hertsmere).

Item 7 at the meeting addressed the countywide PRG ([here](#)). John Wood explained the background behind the PRG process to date which has culminated in two main proposals:

1. *Through recession to recovery* (more [here](#))
2. *Family support and intervention*

John Wood (Chair of the Interim Delivery Group) took the Core Group through the [paper on PRG](#), including [Appendix B](#) which outlines the expenditure expectations for proposal 1. Authority was sought from the Core Group for:

- proposal 1 to be led by the Hertfordshire Works partnership
- authority for proposal 2 to be further developed by a small project group for electronic sign-off by the Core Group

**Outcome:** Proposal 1

Approved. Led by Hertfordshire Works, delivery monitored by Partnership Development and Performance Group and with the Core Group receiving regular progress reports.

**Outcome:** Proposal 2

A small group are to meet to further develop the proposal: John Wood (as Chair of the Partnership Development and Performance Group), John Harris (Theme Lead for Children & Young People), Jane Halpin (Healthier Communities & Older People), Chris Miller (Hertfordshire Constabulary), Jan Hayes-Griffin (to ensure links with Proposal 1) and Keith Shephard (SPU, HCC). The proposal will be sent to Hertfordshire Forward Core Group members for electronic sign-off by the end of July.

### [Children & Young People](#)

The Hertfordshire Children's Trust Partnership Executive formally endorsed the VCS Engage Action Plan at its meeting on 20 May. The Plan - [read it here](#) - acknowledges the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) has a key role to play in improving the outcomes for children, young people and their families. The Plan builds on the important role played by the VCS in delivering services to children and young people and in helping to achieve the five Every Child Matters outcomes across Hertfordshire. It aims to:

- develop the understanding of HCTP structures and target VCS representation accordingly
- strengthen communication arrangements between the HCTP and the VCS
- support involvement in frontline delivery
- develop VCS representation at district level

The Plan forms an important part of approaches to support a Thriving Third Sector (NI 7) in the county. For more please contact [tim.weetman@hertsc.gov.uk](mailto:tim.weetman@hertsc.gov.uk)

### [Safer & Stronger Communities](#)

**Migration Impact Fund** - Results from the recent bidding round will be announced by Government Office for the East of England on 8 June. HF bid for additional resources was made on the basis of the direct impact on many public services by migrant workers. Further details are available from [andrew.burt@hertsc.gov.uk](mailto:andrew.burt@hertsc.gov.uk).

**Generations Together Fund** - An application for a national demonstrator project Active Age that will run in the three most deprived areas of the county will be submitted 8 June.

**Hertfordshire Equality Council** - interviews for the post of Project Manager to work to establish the new county wide organisation took place on 28 May. Details of an appointment are expected shortly. For more contact [kate.belinis@cdaforherts.org.uk](mailto:kate.belinis@cdaforherts.org.uk)

**Volunteer Centres Herts Open Meeting** - 17th June 2009 2pm at Beales Hotel, Hatfield. The event will have keynote speaker Jamie Thomas, CEO of the Red Foundation who has worked tirelessly to change the image of volunteering. More details about Jamie and the Foundation can be found [here](#). The meeting includes the launch of a Volunteering [www.hertslink.org/hertfordshireforward](http://www.hertslink.org/hertfordshireforward)

Strategy for Herts and the presentation of the Valuing Volunteer Management Award. The award will be given to an organisation nominated by its volunteers for good practice. The High Sheriff, Janie Wentworth Stanley will present the award. See [here](#) for more details.

**Community Action on Climate Change** - 28 July 2009 9.30-1:00pm at Robertson House, Stevenage. This conference sponsored by EERA and is especially relevant to community organisations and their partners. The event focuses on the activities and experience of organisations in the community to respond to the opportunities and constraints climate change presents. The conference will present a range of ideas that highlight how one priority can be of benefit to the other, providing stronger links with place and sense of belonging, health and wellbeing, stronger social capital and creation of a vision with shared purpose. It can also provide a platform to improve the local economy. Conference details can be found [here](#). For more contact [selina.westcott@hertsc.gov.uk](mailto:selina.westcott@hertsc.gov.uk).

### [Jobs, Prosperity & Skills](#)

The new economic partnership for the county 'Hertfordshire Works - working for prosperity' met for the first time on the 30 March 2009. The Partnership's agreed priorities are to:

- Develop a vision and draft new economic development strategy for Herts by November 2009, that has the support and agreement of all partners
- Adopt a clear performance management framework for the Board by September 2009
- Establish a countywide business forum by June 2009
- Develop an inward investment and business retention strategy by January 2010
- Deliver on the LAA Jobs, Prosperity and Skills targets and the 2009-10 Economic Participation programme
- Effectively coordinate Hertfordshire's response to the recession

The next Board meeting on the 6 July will take the form of a special workshop to discuss a draft vision for the new Hertfordshire Economic Development Strategy and the subsequent meeting on the 1 September will consider progress with the Strategy. The draft Economic Strategy will be launched at the Hertfordshire Forward Conference on the 6 November.

John Pryor gave a presentation on the state of the economy and the new economic partnership at the last HF Core Group - view the presentation [here](#).

### [Healthier Communities & Older People](#)

A pioneering set of community agents have been set a mission to help the over 50s (see [here](#)). Their mission is to provide advice and information face-to-face about a range of opportunities and services which could improve the health and well-being of older people in Hertfordshire. Community Agents are part of a scheme to be funded by Hertfordshire County Council. Their targets are anyone aged over 50 who could benefit from information, advice or opportunities to improve their quality of life. This can include mainstream services from leisure to libraries, home safety checks from the police and fire service, starting a hobby, volunteering or help getting back to work. Once the agents have met people in their homes, they can make referrals to a wide variety of opportunities and services which will keep older people healthy and active, give them greater independence and more involvement in local communities. Key to the success of the mission is the First Contact Checklist ([here](#)), which allows older people, staff and volunteers to access information easily in one place on a range of services and opportunities. Contact [karyn.jones@herts-pcts.nhs.uk](mailto:karyn.jones@herts-pcts.nhs.uk) for more.

## [Hertfordshire Forward Annual Conference](#)

The 2009 Annual Conference (6 November 2009 at the Fielder Centre) will focus on the economy. A paper outlining the suggested programme went to the Core Group and can be found [here](#). Contact [david.hughes@hertscc.gov.uk](mailto:david.hughes@hertscc.gov.uk) for more.

## [Last month](#)

- 07 May** Interim Delivery Group meeting - report for HF Core Group on PRG ([here](#))
- 20 May** HF Core Group meeting (Fielder Centre, Hatfield) (papers [here](#))
- 21 May** Better Places to Live meeting

## [Future dates](#)

- 17 June** Volunteer Centres Herts Open Meeting - 2pm at Beales Hotel, Hatfield.
- 22 June** LSP Network (Broxbourne)
- 26 June** HCOP Executive meeting, Charter House, Welwyn Garden City
- 6 July** Hertfordshire Works Board meeting
- 7 July** Transport, Access & Sustainable Development meeting
- 28 July** Community Action on Climate Change, 9.30am, Hertfordshire Development Centre, Robertson House, Stevenage.
- 6 Nov** Hertfordshire Forward Annual Conference
- 2009** Core Group meetings: 30 September and 9 December

## Contacts

### **Hertfordshire Forward Core Group & Delivery Group (Strategic Partnerships Unit, HCC)**

Keith Shephard, Head of Strategic Partnerships Unit  
[keith.shephard@hertsc.gov.uk](mailto:keith.shephard@hertsc.gov.uk)

Ben Wood, Team Leader - Community Strategy & Delivery  
[ben.wood@hertsc.gov.uk](mailto:ben.wood@hertsc.gov.uk)

Stewart Martin, Policy Officer  
[stewart.martin@hertsc.gov.uk](mailto:stewart.martin@hertsc.gov.uk)

### **HF LSP Network**

Rosie Sanderson, Head of Community Planning and Corporate Projects  
[rs.projects@broxbourne.gov.uk](mailto:rs.projects@broxbourne.gov.uk)

### **Theme Leads**

#### **Better Places to Live (BPL)**

[anne.freimanis@eastherts.gov.uk](mailto:anne.freimanis@eastherts.gov.uk) or [fiona.protheroe@hertsc.gov.uk](mailto:fiona.protheroe@hertsc.gov.uk)

#### **Children & Young People**

[ian.knowles@hertsc.gov.uk](mailto:ian.knowles@hertsc.gov.uk) or [rebecca.price@hertsc.gov.uk](mailto:rebecca.price@hertsc.gov.uk)

#### **Hertfordshire Works (Economic Partnership)**

[john.pryor@hertsc.gov.uk](mailto:john.pryor@hertsc.gov.uk)

#### **Healthier Communities & Older People (HCOP)**

[raymond.jankowski@herts-pcts.nhs.uk](mailto:raymond.jankowski@herts-pcts.nhs.uk), or [mark.lobban@hertsc.gov.uk](mailto:mark.lobban@hertsc.gov.uk)  
Programme manager: [karyn.jones@herts-pcts.nhs.uk](mailto:karyn.jones@herts-pcts.nhs.uk)

#### **Safer & Stronger Communities (SSC)**

[nick.parry@stevenage.gov.uk](mailto:nick.parry@stevenage.gov.uk), or [emma.tucker@stevenage.gov.uk](mailto:emma.tucker@stevenage.gov.uk)  
Safer Communities: [philip.winter@hertsc.gov.uk](mailto:philip.winter@hertsc.gov.uk) or [gary.ray@hertsc.gov.uk](mailto:gary.ray@hertsc.gov.uk)  
Stronger Communities: [andrew.burt@hertsc.gov.uk](mailto:andrew.burt@hertsc.gov.uk)

#### **Transport, Access & Sustainable Development (TASD)**

[john.wood@hertsc.gov.uk](mailto:john.wood@hertsc.gov.uk) or [victor.wan@hertsc.gov.uk](mailto:victor.wan@hertsc.gov.uk)

### **Herts Forward Website**

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

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