



Governance Board Meeting

Summary of Discussion and Resolutions

Date:	20 th January 2026
Time:	1:30pm – 4pm
Venue:	Essex & Herts Air Ambulance Trust, Hangar 12, North Weald Airfield, North Weald, Essex, CM16 6HR
Chairperson:	
Attendees:	
Cllr Lee Scott	SERP Chair - ECC
R Hirst (RH)	PFCC (online via Teams)
Suzanne Harris (SH PFCC)	PFCC office performance and Scrutiny.
Stuart Hooper (SH)	ACC Essex Police
Adam Pipe (AP)	Head of Roads Policing Essex Police
Ben Hughes (BH)	Head of Commissioning for Public Health & Wellness - ECC
Andrea MacAlister (AM)	Head of Prevention EF&RS
Nicola Foster (NJF)	Strategic Group Chairperson
William Cubbin (WC)	SERP - Partnership Manager
Ian Henderson (IH)	EH Road Safety Engineering
Ben Myer	E&HAAT
Dave Bond	EF&RS
Dawn Whelan	East of England Ambulance Service
Navtej Tung	Thurrock Council
Jo Heynes	EH – Head of Network and Safety
Lawrence Seager	National Highways – Safety Programme Manager
Haroona Chughtai	ECC – Director of Highways
Alan Lindsay (Guest, part)	ECC Transportation planning and Infrastructure
Vicky Lewis (Guest, part)	Speed Strategy Transport Planner
Katie Silvester (Guest, part)	Speed Strategy Transport Planner
Matt Hughes (not part of meeting)	Essex Police (Assistant to Stuart Hooper)
Victoria Storey (VS)	Minute taker

Absence and Apologies:	M Woodford (SRF), N Asomavilla (SRF), T Hicks (NH), D Proud (Ops Director EH), N Allsopp (Highways England), M Targett (NHS), Cllr M Terry (Southend City Council), S Hammill (SERP Comms Manager), K Gearing (Southend City Council), Cllr V Holloway (Thurrock), C Evans (Highways England), S Thulborn (Highways England), A Clothier (National Highways), C Churchouse (SERP Comms Manager), L Fautley (East of England Ambulance)	
Item No	Discussion and Resolution	Action Owner
1	<p>Introduction and apologies by SERP Chair:</p> <p>Cllr Scott greeted everyone, and introductions were made. Apologies and absences recorded above.</p> <p>Cllr Scott announced that he will be stepping down as SERP Chair as the SERP is no longer part of his portfolio. The new cabinet member is Cllr Mark Platt with deputies Cllr Lauren Shaw and Cllr Daniel Land.</p> <p>SH thanked Cllr LS for his leadership and candour. SH raised that not having decisions made will bring inertia and proposed Roger Hirst as immediate chair. DB seconded SH's proposal.</p> <p>The Board was informed of the wording/process of the MoU and that nomination forms could be sent out quickly to facilitate a vote at the next meeting.</p> <p>Further discussion ensued.</p> <p>Roger Hirst said that he had spoken to Mark Platt and that Mark was happy for RH to replace Cllr Scott.</p> <p>HC confirmed that she could not vote at this meeting as needed to establish the position of her Cabinet Member. Cllr Lee Scott confirmed that he is happy to continue in post until new arrangements can be made in accordance with the MoU.</p> <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr LS, Cllr M Platt and RH to meet next week. • Cllr Lee Scott to remain as chair until the new ECC SERP Board member is established and a vote can be held in accordance with the MoU. 	Cllr LS/ RH/Cllr MP Cllr LS

<p>2</p>	<p>Presentation of the draft ECC Safe Speed Strategy for feedback.</p> <p>AM asked for further information on the community led pilot areas. AL said the pilot will involve willing communities that have support. It was noted that care and caution would be required in selection.</p> <p>SH asked whether the safe speed strategy will cover Greater Essex. AL said that setting speed limits, enforcement and engineering need to be brought together. The document is a good starting point to be picked up, whether there are 3, 4 or 5 unitary councils. Southend and Thurrock have been involved and are supportive but more work to gain high level support and inclusion. The ideal would be to have a document for Greater Essex.</p> <p>AP said that high risk areas should be a priority and that developers should be asked to contribute.</p> <p>DW raised that the strategy would benefit from consultation with disabled road users.</p> <p>BH asked whether evaluation has been built in to understand whether changed limits change behaviour and whether roll out will be evidence based.</p> <p>Communications can inform as well as communicate. Speed strategy has a draft of key messages which are being drafted by ECC and SERP communications teams and will be aligned across all SERP partner comms teams.</p> <p>HC offered support/time to advise on messages, target and timeline as required. The strategy and the messaging will be stronger done together.</p>	<p>Alan Lindsay</p>
<p>3</p>	<p>Devolution and Local Government Review update</p> <p>LGR consultation finished last week we will hear by early March about the number of unitary councils that will be in place. Shadow authority elections May 2027.</p> <p>Devolution</p> <p>The paper is in the House of Lords today; any amendments will be advised soon. Anything agreed upon will be put in place in May 2027.</p> <p>Police reform bill out next week.</p>	

4	<p>Essex Road Safety Delivery under Local Government Devolution</p> <p>It was hoped that the White paper would have been published in time to be considered with this item. The purpose of the item is to agree the SERP's recommended and agreed preferences for the future of the SERP and road safety delivery in Essex so that all partner members can promote the same messaging within their organisation and in discussions. It would be ideal for pan-Essex operation as per other non-statutory organisations -examples listed by BH.</p> <p>A SERP Board and Strategic Group 'away day' would be beneficial to discuss SERP's direction. The White paper is required to inform discussions.</p> <p>It was agreed that SERP should cover Greater Essex and that the external account holding the surplus should continue to be protected and ring fenced for road safety.</p> <p>HC suggested that there was a workshop on LGR and Devo in March 2026. BM has offered E&HAAT as a location.</p> <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Date in March to be sought for Board and Strategic Away Day. 	NJF
5	<p>Review of SERP Board actions and decisions from 23rd October 2025 and approval to publish and review of Strategic meeting actions and decisions from 11th December 2025.</p> <p>Annotated notes issued. Item for questions or corrections.</p> <p>Decision: Board minutes approved for publication.</p>	NJF
6	<p>Data Update</p> <p>WC presented the slides sent with the agenda.</p> <p>Drug driving and Public Health links - there is a cross over between drug driving, reoffending, domestic abuse (DA) and violence against women and girls (VAWG). BH offered services to work alongside police to refer clients to Open Road and other drug rehabilitation organisations.</p> <p>AP setting up a tasking team to review how drug drivers might be supported through public health individual intervention. HC suggested a Venn diagram showing overlap of policies/areas (public health, police</p>	

	<p>etc.) and funding pots. HC asked AP to bring the final report to the board.</p> <p>Public Health recorded 87 drug related deaths in Essex in 2025 (PMN: BH, does that include drug drivers?). Public health funding the testing of sewage for drugs from which Essex Police may use data for enforcement.</p> <p>The Road Safety Strategy has some promising options in its consultation which could shorten timescales for dealing with drug drivers and reduce costs. AP keen to explore expediting blood tests for third time drug drive offenders (third time due to costs!) so licence can be removed.</p> <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AP to present Drug report to Board. 	<p>AP</p> <p>BH</p> <p>AP</p>
<p>7 & 8</p>	<p>Finance Model and risks update</p> <p>WC presented the slides sent with agenda and confirmed that a plan for safety camera renewal will be developed with each local authority when the Agilysis report into camera effectiveness in Essex is complete and we have data.</p> <p>HC suggested we think about information helpful to a mayor for them to make SERP a priority. We need robust data and evidence to show the benefit of SERP.</p> <p>Item 8 on the agenda was incorporated into this item.</p> <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information/promotion pack for mayor to be developed. Will be fed into from many work streams, away day etc. Remain on action list as work progresses. 	<p>WC</p>
<p>9</p>	<p>SERP MoU and Vision Zero Strategy</p> <p>At its meeting in April 2025 the Board agreed to extend the MoU until 31st March 2027 to allow the Board to understand changes as a result of LGR. A new MoU cannot be drafted until we know the proposed partner organisations, and they have authority to act.</p> <p>It was also agreed to extend the Vision Zero Strategy although the Board has been considering each layer of protection at the last 5 Board meetings. WC is revising this Strategy to incorporate Board members' comments over the last year, new data, research and evaluation, new strands of work with other partners, the Government's</p>	

	<p>Road Safety Strategy and it will also need to consider devolution and the Home Office white paper 'From Local to national: a new model for policing'.</p> <p>SH outlined his vision for the SERP's strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It should align with national strategy • Reflect three levels of enabling: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What SERP core team is able to deliver ○ What a SERP partner can deliver (ie engineering) ○ an issue that falls outside of SERP and partners remit ie law changes etc. <p>A proposed outline had been shared with the agenda but the strategy will take some time to deliver and will be a working document for some time until the Board is satisfied that most current 'unknowns' are 'known'.</p> <p>The Away day could cover Vision Zero and the Safe System to align understanding and language and what is needed for success. The safe System is a culture and about leadership and <i>how</i> we work as much as about <i>what</i> we do.</p>	
10	<p>Items for consideration for 2026/27 Delivery Plan</p> <p>NJF presented the slide attached to the agenda. This showed the intention to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen Young drivers' and riders' interventions. It is important that we engage with as many young people as we can whilst they are in full time education. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ If we double the theatre/workshops in years 7,9 & 11 we can reach 90% of the cohort at a cost of £1.20 per pupil -total £77k. ○ We will promote and deliver roadster with 4 x 1-hour sessions. Offer to deliver all four sessions in the schools to see if this has an impact on the uptake of this intervention. ○ We also intend to increase the delivery of MySmallChange. ○ Review and expand offering to youth offending and home education students. ○ Commission young rider report ○ Consider prioritisation of 25-30 yr olds for training • Strengthen Business work. One third of KSI in Essex are business drivers. We are currently working with the DfT - driving for better business. They already have collateral in place. We need to utilise these types of interventions more as they are well developed and often have research and evaluation in place. • VZ Days need to be bigger, themed to align to NPCC and DfT calendars and involve appropriate partners/organisations. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communications -use DfT nationally developed and proven campaigns to follow the calendars and deliver consistent messaging aligning with our Vision Zero work. • Drink/Drug driving meeting in February 2026 with Fire, EP, Public Health and comms. BH suggests that intervention will be at zero cost to SERP. <p>SH stated he will not support £77k for 3 educational interventions to an additional 45% of the cohort of secondary school pupils. SH agreed to send a representative to the Delivery plan meetings. BH expressed the importance (and statutory duty) of prevention activities.</p>	
11	<p>Review of SERP Strategic Actions 36-38 Post Collision Response and care.</p> <p>UKRO event at University of Essex Colchester campus for competing fire teams. This could be an opportunity to showcase the SERP. Event commencing 7th September with finals open to the public on 11th and 12th September. National and international fire conference that week so may be able to get ministers etc. get Liz Box as a speaker amongst others. Making a UKRO Road Safety showcase to be added to the Delivery Plan.</p> <p>BM asked whether there was any feedback from D13 trained staff giving enhanced First aid. EP confirmed no evaluation so far, trainers have just completed the training. In time this should reduce teams sent to incidents and save resources. AP to provide feedback in time.</p> <p>60 KSIs on Essex roads in 2025, E&HAAT only saw 22 of those. Where is the gap? BM would like to understand what is going with the data.</p> <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BM/AP/DW to look at data to help understand why EHAAT only called to 22 out of 60 fatalities. 	<p>AP</p> <p>BM/AP/DW</p>
12	<p>Government's Road Safety Strategy 2026 and consultations</p> <p>Due to overrun on previous items, the slides sent out with the agenda were not presented or discussed. The chair asked members to read and respond to the Government consultations and to discuss the application of the strategy to SERP at the proposed away day.</p>	

	<p>Board members can respond to NJF (or their organisation representative) for items raised as a result if the Road Safety Strategy to be considered for the Delivery Plan or the Strategy. If the Board wishes to respond to the Government Consultations as SERP then we will need to discuss and consolidate a SERP response.</p> <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New SERP chair/Board to determine whether a SERP response is required and facilitate response. 	Chair
13	<p>AOB, Future Agenda Items and Close</p> <p>SH had circulated an Essex Police bid for employment of data scientist and suggested this could be done for a temporary period (2 years). This paper and an additional paper detailing the differences between data analysis and data science, the SERP's support for science but requirement for analysis as a prerequisite, how posts can be moved within the MoU, the need for stability of the SERP core team to deliver across the partners and partnership and a suggested alternative approach had been discussed at the Strategic Group.</p> <p>HC asked to see the alternative information and expressed concern at the dilution of the SERP core team.</p> <p>Cllr Scott has asked that this be discussed with the future ECC Board member and the future chair.</p> <p>There is precedent for the process of moving SERP posts listed within the MoU so that employing organisations can agree prior to the issue being ratified by the Board.</p> <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Additional alternative/information paper to be circulated with the minutes • Cllr Scott requested that this be discussed with the future ECC Board member. <p>SH had also circulated a bid for £200,000 for Essex police to act as a media agent for the SERP for the next 2 years. This has not been through the governance process.</p> <p>RH had left the meeting but requested SH(PFCC) to pass on his thanks to Cllr LS for his chairmanship of the Board and all he has done. Cllr LS thanked the Board and officers for all they do.</p>	<p>NJF</p> <p>Cllr LS</p>