Using data to build cross sector relationships and shared vision

Our partnership with Mid-Essex Integrated Care Systems Alliance

14 October 2026

CENTRE FOR THRIVING PLACES

About us

Centre for Thriving Places is a place-based not-for-profit consultancy offering strategic support, research, training and tools that help put the wellbeing of people, place and planet centre stage.

We provide expert guidance, insight, practical tools and support to help you measure and grow the things that really matter to everyone’s lives.



CENTRE FOR THRIVING PLACES

Background to this work

An introduction from Adrian Coggins

CENTRE FOR THRIVING PLACES

Mid Essex Alliance

Developing a common approach to shared outcomes & agreeing how we PRACTICALLY work together



Why aim for a common framework?

- Provocation: partnership working in place-based approach is expected…but do we really have the methodology needed to do it well?
- Partnership working/sharing each other's practice is part of it but not enough to achieve popn level outcomes, or in many cases individual outcomes:
- E.g. LTC/low functional capacity, needs optimal primary care management + improved quality housing + support from friends, family, community
- Single interventions on their own, even if shared awareness of them, is likely cause of previous failures
- Move from single interventions to OVERALL HOLISTIC SUPPORT ACROSS ALL DETERMINANTS OF OUTCOME NEEDED
- Wrong to assume just lots of activity will achieve the outcome, need to ensure all the determinants of that outcome are being worked on
- Important to know that what you do is supported by others working to same outcome (on which your success may well be dependent)

Part of the challenge – turning data from an amorphous soup into best collective action

Essex County Council
PUBLIC HEALTH

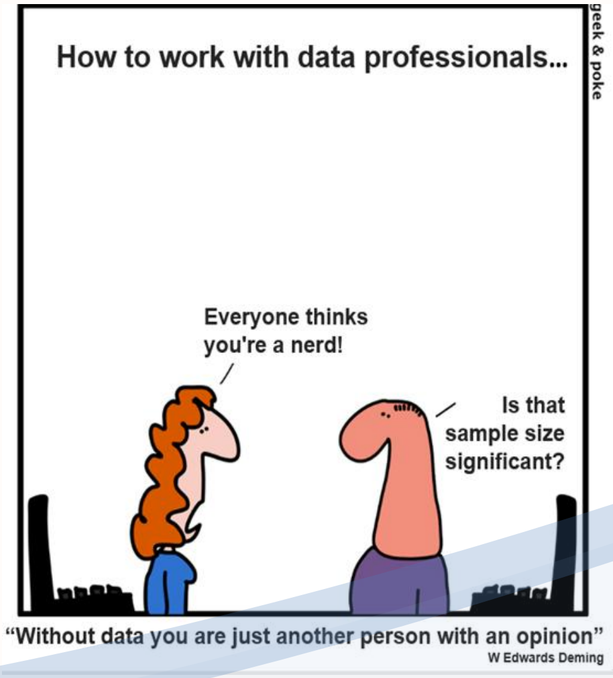
Data (loads!)



Doing the right stuff

Doing the right stuff =
the right activity
For right outcomes
for right people
in right places
In right sequence
at right time

Integrity/rigour for process is essential to success
Need **GUARDIANS** of good process in partnership working



Some features we're aiming for

- We want the outcomes to:
  - Be driven by evidence of need
  - Be things that are SYSTEM problems – no one org can land it
  - Cover agreed common cohorts of people all ages
  - Be in a single joined up framework with shared outcomes and accountability across the system
  - Speak to local government, NHS, vol sector, communities, people of Essex (this list in no particular order)
  - Address the wider determinants of health
- We need a single framework which brings all the above this together.

Our working together guiding principles

1. Behave as a collective & leave logos and egos at the door

strengthen relationships based on shared OUTCOMES/recognising interdependency, more than individual org. aims/ethos (make org boundaries as irrelevant as we can)

2. Use the evidence base/guidance we've got on
   - What the determinants of outcome are & who can make what best contribution
   - Places/people with greatest need (most deprived)
   - Recognise success is dependent upon working together across determinants of outcomes

   Challenge opinion if no evidence - go for best moderated consensus

3. Grapple with difficult choices -we must choose specific places &people who relatively are target areas/groups and those relatively who are not

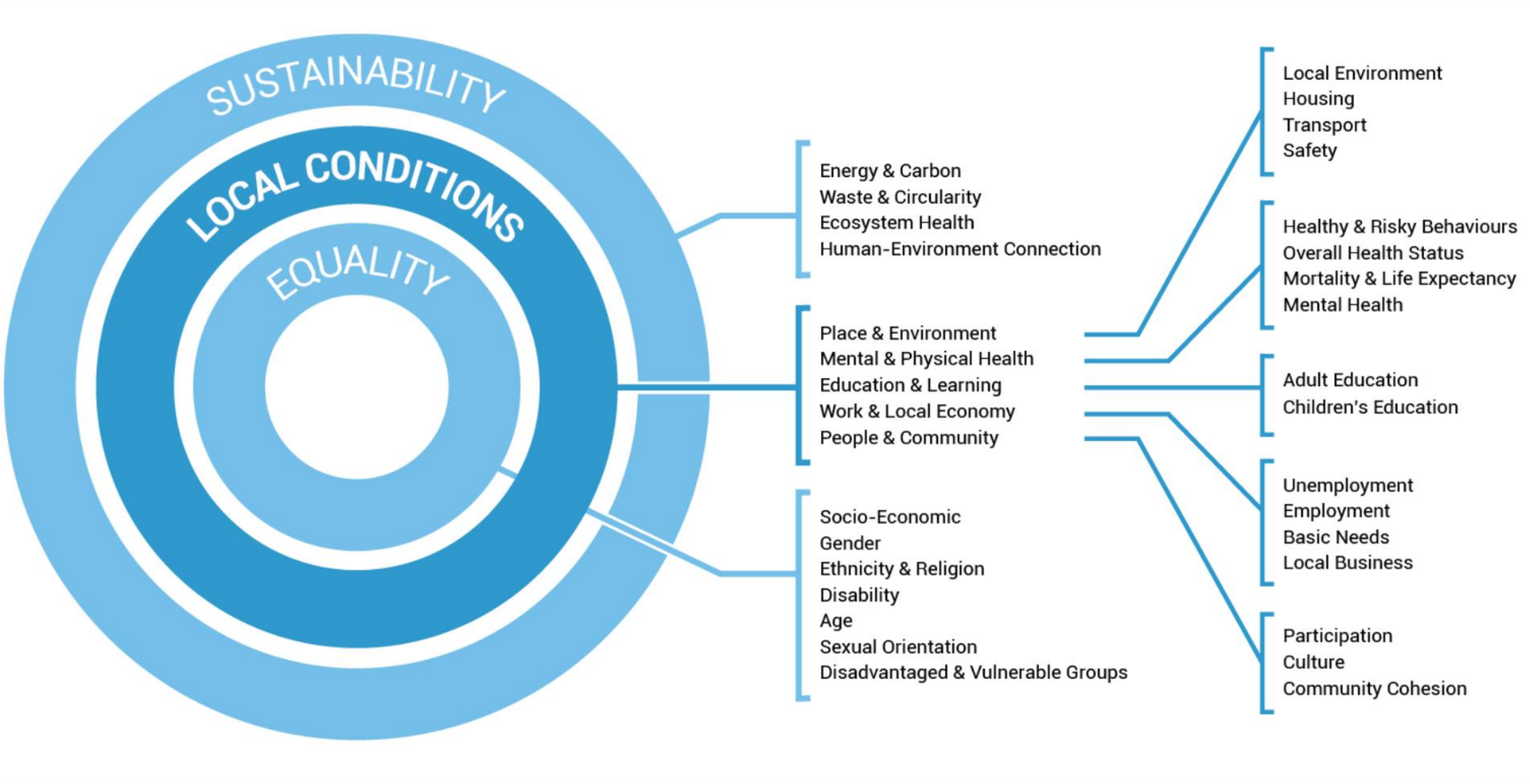
(NB – not being a target group doesn't mean no support but it does mean secondary focus of our work. Testing a framework for worst off can be a pilot for wider application across wider popn)

4. Improvise & co-create as needed - less detailed practical guidance on doing this/fewer useful precedents than you'd think!

What we did together

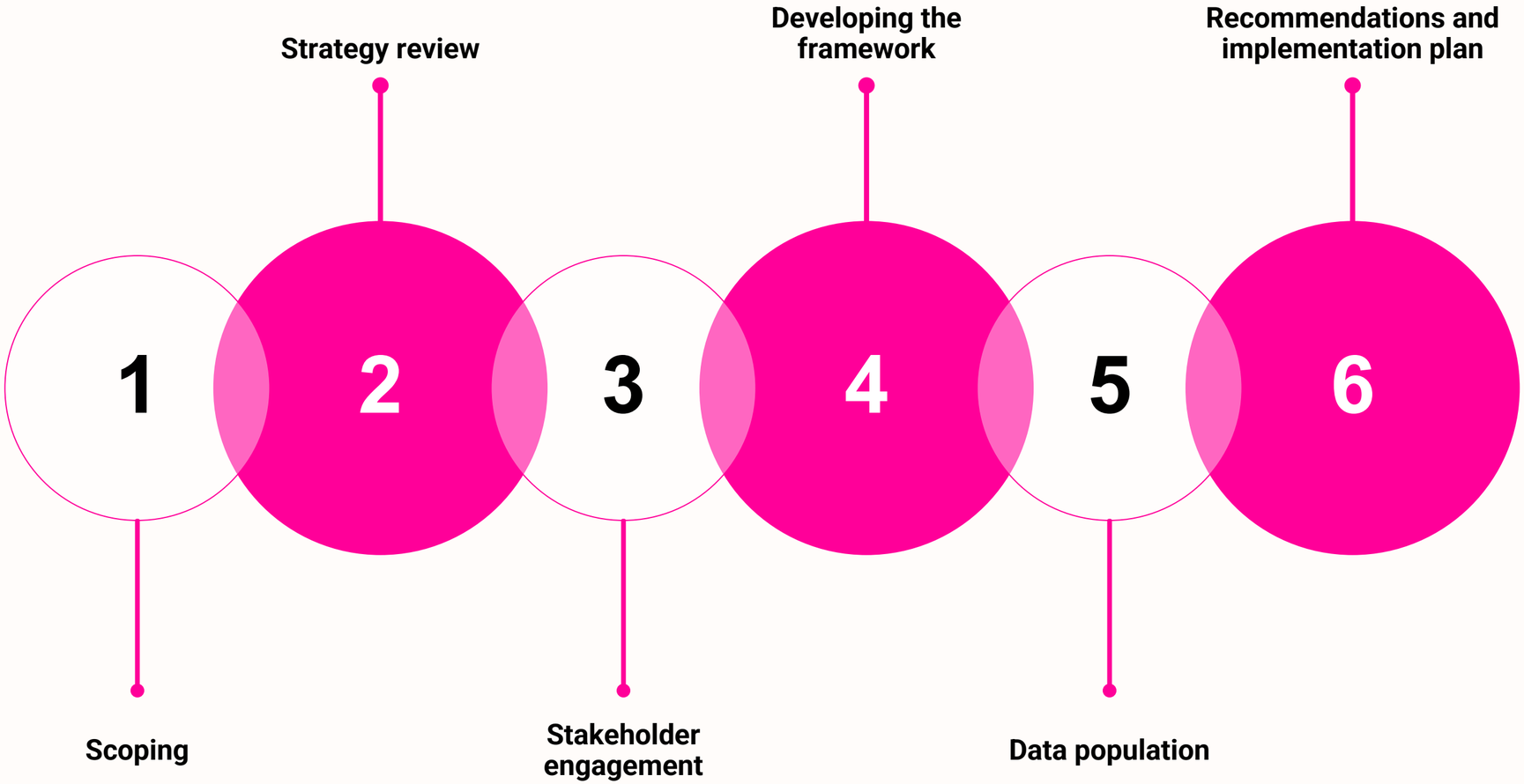
Six months of deep collaboration

CENTRE FOR THRIVING PLACES



CENTRE FOR THRIVING PLACES

Multi-stage process



CENTRE FOR THRIVING PLACES

Indicator research and data preparation

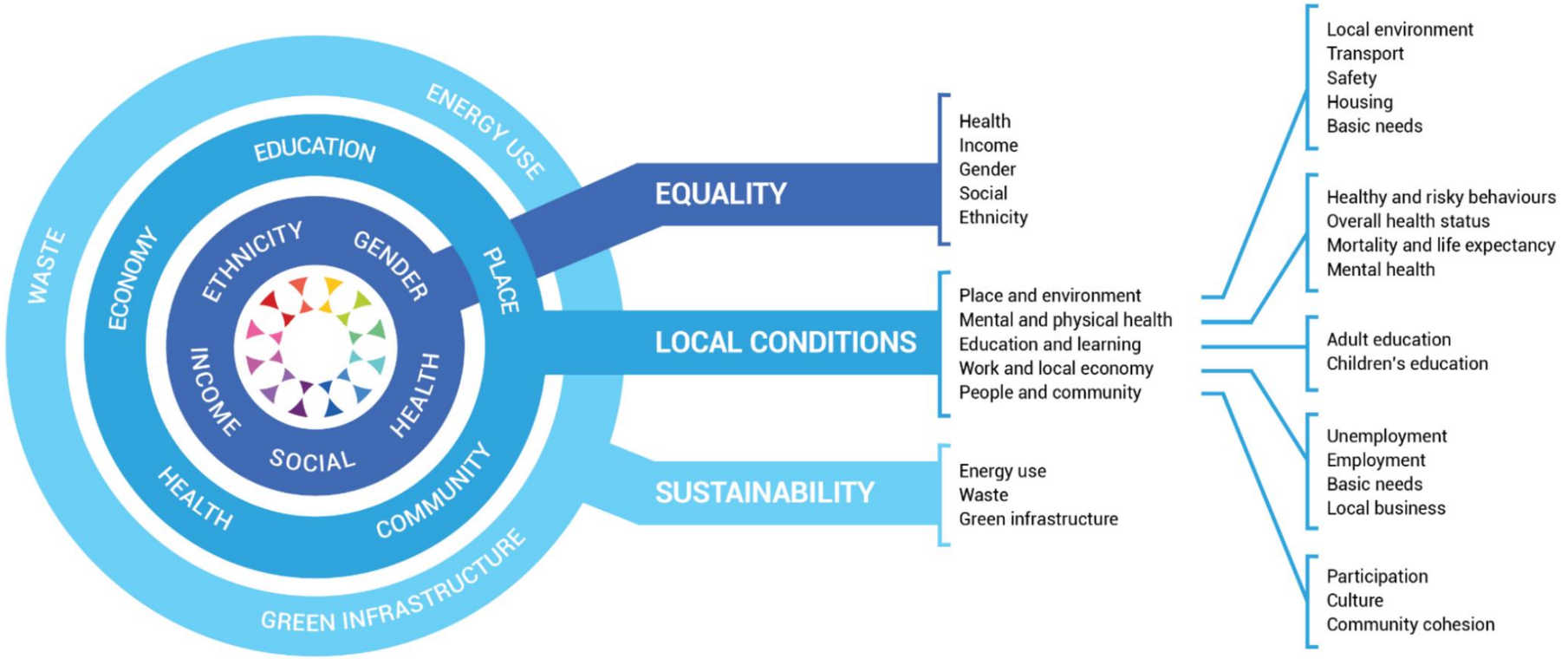
Research
Researched and sourced relevant indicators to help build a comprehensive picture of Greater Essex.

Data
Collected, cleaned and compiled indicator data, helping organise evidence for analysis across local authority areas.

The value of this work
Creating a more structured and consistent evidence base to support place-based understanding, comparisons and collaborative decision-making across Greater Essex.

From individual indicators to a shared picture of place.

CENTRE FOR THRIVING PLACES



CENTRE FOR THRIVING PLACES

Two years of learning

Putting the framework into practice – Alexandra Card

CENTRE FOR THRIVING PLACES

What happened next?

- Demonstration project – Healthy Housing
- Further workshops
- Co-produce interventions
  - Retrofit criteria
  - Enhanced Winter Respiratory Service
- Continued co-working
  - Clinical care
  - Healthy Housing sub-group

One Maldon District Partnership – Thriving Places Grants Programme

- Partnership workshop
- Five key priorities
- Grants programme
- Community of Practice
- Example – Mind and Beacon Hill Rovers FC
- One Maldon District Partnership - Thriving Places Project

Reflections

Frameworks

Existing frameworks as diagnostic tool and a place to map areas of need
As a design tool
Place to create aligned measurement

Beyond the conceptual

Tied to policies, practice and needs
Deep engagement across stakeholders

Alignment in practice

In how we distribute resources(outcomes-based commissioning)
Quality of relationships

CENTRE FOR THRIVING PLACES

rosie@centreforthrivingplaces.org
www.centreforthrivingplaces.org

CENTRE FOR THRIVING PLACES