



Essex Climate Action Commission
Powering positive change

Progress Updates on action plans against recommendations within *‘Net Zero: Making Essex Carbon Neutral’*

Feb 2022



Essex County Council

Updates

- Land Use and Green Infrastructure
- Energy and Waste
- Built Environment
- Transport
- Community Engagement
- Green Growth





Land Use and Green Infrastructure



Essex County Council



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Land Use & Green Infrastructure Update

John Meehan

Head of Climate Adaptation & Mitigation



Essex County Council



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- 1. Climate Focus Area Update**
- 2. Local Nature Partnership**
- 3. Essex Forest Initiative Update**
- 4. Green Infrastructure Funding Applications**



Essex County Council



RECOMMENDATION 5 OF THE LAND USE AND GI GROUP CLIMATE FOCUS AREA

- **Create a Climate Focus Area to accelerate action and provide exemplars**
 - **Adopting Sustainable Land Stewardship practices: 100% by 2030**
 - **Natural Green Infrastructure: 30% by 2030**

Targeting a designated area within the county allows for:

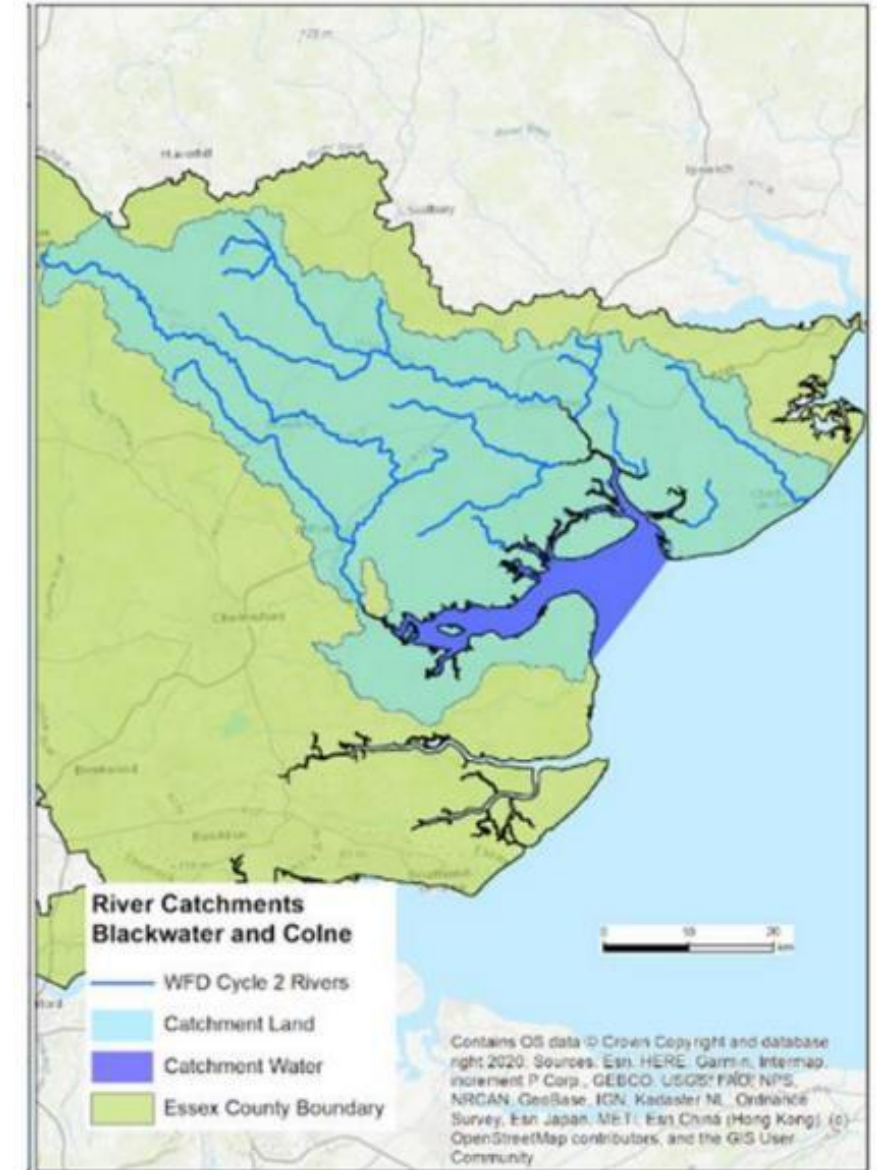
- more focused, ambitious and intensive action within shorter time frames
- learning and acquired new knowledge of positive impacts can quickly be disseminated across the county.





CFA Characteristics

- **Blackwater and Colne catchments**
Area: 930 km² (27% of the area of Essex)
- Rich in geodiversity, archaeology and history
- Diverse Landscapes
- Lies in the centre of the county





CFA Objectives

- To achieve net zero carbon as quickly as possible
- Be a Pathfinder and Pilot area
- Be a multi-sectoral project,
- Focus on local foods and shortening of the food chain from farm to plate
- Be a Demonstrator area for economic benefits of new and enhanced green landscape
- Act as an investment “Attractor”
- Recover biodiversity and natural ecosystems





Route Map of how we will deliver the recommendations:



There will be **7 projects** to establish the Climate Focus Area and deliver all aspects of the LUGI recommendations, including creating 30% Biodiversity and 100% Sustainable Land Stewardship





Creating the CFA: a stepped programme

STEP 1 Define the Geographical scope for first implementation phase

STEP 2 Discuss the vision statements for the CFA

STEP 3 Recommendations are grouped into thematic clusters and potential groups

STEP 4 Establish stakeholder action groups for each thematic area

STEP 5 Assess the status, threats and opportunities for the natural and human capital assets of the CFA

STEP 6 Set out strategies for creating and regenerating natural and human capital assets

STEP 7 Evaluate, monitor performance and effectiveness





Partnership with the CFA Authorities

How it relates to District and Borough work:

- Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategies – the CFA will reinforce and deliver this work
- Rural and Urban focus – the CFA mentions both arenas and seeks 30% Natural Green Infrastructure in both
- Net Zero Target – the overall aim of the Essex Climate Action Commission is to achieve Net Zero
- New investment/Financial work – the CFA financial work can feed into the CBC work and vice versa





Essex Local Nature Partnership

- Independent –
 - Membership of Broad range of partner sector organisations.
- Chair appointed (Interim)
- First Board meeting March 2022
- Draft Terms of Reference (To Be Agreed)

LNP Purpose

To coordinate a positive change in the natural environment across Greater Essex.

To take a strategic view of the challenges and opportunities from climate change, ecological, health and wellbeing emergencies and green growth agenda.

To improve, create and manage our natural environment through the delivery of multifunctional green infrastructure, biodiversity net gain and Local Nature Recovery strategy to deliver environmental, social and economic benefits.

To ensure that the outputs of the DEFRA 25 Year Plan, Agricultural Act and Environment Act deliver the best outcomes for nature in Essex).

Partnership, collaboration and effective use of resources





Local Nature Partnership Update

Access to green space, support for wildlife and an extra push towards net zero in Essex: these are some of the opportunities presented by the creation of the new Local Nature Partnership for Essex (LNP), launched in February by Essex County Council (ECC).

The Essex LNP will form part of a national network of LNPs and will be responsible for encouraging, supporting and facilitating nature recovery across the county.

As well as helping the county on its journey to net zero, by helping increase natural greenspace and improving access to it across town and country, it will enhance the health and wellbeing opportunities of all Essex residents.

The 14-strong board will see representatives from agriculture, development, local government, conservation organisations, community groups, health organisations and youth groups, with the county council providing administrative support.





Local Nature Partnership Update

The LNP will be chaired by experienced conservation leader Dr Simon Lyster. Essex born, Dr Lyster has worked in wildlife conservation most of his life. Author of the textbook International Wildlife Law, Simon was head of conservation policy at WWF for nearly a decade and was then Director General of the Wildlife Trusts for a further eight years.

“I am very excited about the LNP”, said Dr Lyster. “With public support for nature higher than ever, new environmental incentives for farmers coming in, and new duties on local authorities and businesses to conserve and enhance nature, the opportunities for nature recovery in Essex are better than they have ever been.”

“Essex already has some great nature sites” he continued, “but they need to be bigger, more widespread and more joined up so wildlife can thrive throughout the county, and people can have better access to nature wherever they live. This is what the LNP will seek to achieve.”

Cllr Peter Schwier, ECC’s Climate Czar added his support: “I really welcome Simon’s expertise, passion and drive to move this forward to benefit all and everyone in Essex – especially the countryside’s wildlife and fauna, which will have a stronger voice.

“This partnership is a great opportunity to protect and enhance the environment in Essex and I look forward to working with Simon and the partnership in the coming months.”



Essex Forest Initiative Update

Year 2 - Feb 2022

- Year 2 target: 50,000 trees
- Current year 2 total: 66,578 trees
- Borough and Districts involved this year: 5
- Parishes involved this year: 8
- Individual land owners involved this year: 10
- Schools involved this year: 3
- Volunteer hours so far this year: 1164 hours





Funding applications

Trees Call for Action Fund:

A £590k bid (£160k ECC budget) in partnership with Norfolk and Suffolk CCs to consider tree planting and establishment via natural regeneration on a regional scale. The main outputs of the project include:

- Mapping and planning
- Stakeholder engagement and training
- Communications

Investment Readiness Fund

ECC's proposal, in partnership with Downforce Technologies and Finance Earth aims to unlock private and public investment in natural capital assets and ecosystem services at four sites (total 1.56kha) in the Essex Climate Focus Area (CFA). The main outputs of the project include:

- Baselineing, past performance and projections of natural capital and ecosystem services of each site
- valuations of ecosystem services
- Four investment cases





Energy and Waste





Rooftop solar schemes

Commitments

- Installing solar panels on every available roof on both domestic and industrial and commercial by 2050, 25% of rooftops by 2030
- 100% of fuel poor households retrofitted and supplied with affordable renewable energy by 2030

Solar rooftop can save households up to c. £300 a year and on commercial properties, matched with demand, can have a payback period of around 5-7 years.

What have we been doing?

To increase installation of rooftop solar in the absence of subsidy, separate schemes are being developed / currently in delivery to support different types of buildings:

1. Council buildings (direct ownership): 506kW by March 2022 on 17 ECC buildings
2. Public sector and commercial: plan to work with anchors
3. Social housing and housing associations: applied for £2.2 m from Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund which includes solar – this bid was successful; we are now mobilizing this project
4. Domestic: Solar Together c900 households have solar installs via this bulk purchase scheme over 2019 – 2021.





Renewable Energy - Planning and Communities

Commitments

- Essex produces enough renewable energy within the county to meet its own needs by 2040 and Builds 1.43 GW of large scale solar on available land without unduly compromising agricultural land by 2030
- All large-scale renewable developments should have an element of community ownership from 2021
- All new build houses and I&C units to have solar panels installed immediately
- Build a network of community energy neighbourhoods across every district in Essex, to generate, store, share and use energy local by 2035

What have we been doing?

Large scale solar will mainly be market-led. However, there are a number of local authority levers we are using to support renewables and solar:

- Planning permission & guidance within Local Plans: solar guidance for inclusion in Essex Design Guide
- Development of a **network of Community Energy groups**, with four new groups already set up and another three in the pipeline.
- Feasibility has been completed for the first community owned roof top scheme on Colchester Hospital





Heat and Energy Efficiency

Commitments

- Use bioenergy for all rural homes that are hard to decarbonise through electrification by 2030
- All waste heat from industrial and commercial use should be captured and reused (where local demands exists) by 2035
- Retrofit across the whole housing stock by 2040, introduce an incentive to accelerate the shift to low carbon heating solutions

What have we been doing?

- Retrofit for low income and fuel poor households - £6m of funding secured for rollout via Sustainable Warmth (further £17m applied for), GHG Local Authority Delivery Scheme working with Districts
- Community-led heat decarbonisation (off gas grid) – a “whole village” approach being explored
- Waste heat mapping and heat network opportunities being explored
- We have submitted a bid to the Governments heat pump readiness programme for a collective heat pump purchasing scheme in Essex





Convening, Innovation and Future technologies

Commitments

- Create facilities to produce green hydrogen to fuel heavy good vehicles on Essex roads by 2040
- Create hydrogen storage facilitate to store excess renewable energy (off-shore wind and solar) by 2030
- Make Essex a centre of innovation for emerging renewable technologies (eg small scale nuclear & manufacturing of renewables products such as solar tiles)

What have we been doing?

Future technologies are providing us a number of opportunities to convene key players and support innovation clusters. Working with partners to develop projects under:

- Net Zero Innovation Network
- Development of renewable energy zones
- Zero-Carbon Transport Hubs / Energy Centres
- Funding secured for a Net Zero Development Vehicle feasibility study





Waste Strategy and System Design

Commitments

- Develop a strategic vision for waste with the circular economy at its core
- Adopt life cycle analysis to ensure climate change impacts are considered in waste system design
- Develop the Essex Waste Partnership to engage with all
- Achieve zero waste to landfill by 2030

What have we been doing?

Enhanced public sector joint working to develop integrated waste system architecture which delivers beneficial change

- Development of a new Joint Waste Strategy for Essex for consultation, and future options modelling is underway
- Development of environmental impact assessment tool to assist future decision making
- Market engagement activity underway with waste disposal sector
- Local Authority network has been established to facilitate the embedding of the Circular Economy into decision-making





Reducing Waste

Commitments

- Reduce waste by 10% by 2030
- Establish a network of community-based reuse and repair hubs by 2024
- Provide support to businesses and residents to enable them to make the right choices

What have we been doing?

Upstream intervention to avoid waste at source, coupled with practical solutions for repair and reuse are necessary

- Optimisation review underway to identify and develop reuse sites at ECC recycling centres
- Circular Economy directory published to share good practice solutions
- Shift pilot projects to test waste reduction approaches are in development and launch phase
 - Food Waste Reduction
 - Love Your Period pilot – tackling sanitary waste
 - Love Essex Champions pilot – to develop local volunteering opportunities to embed actions into communities
 - School pilot activity booklet – waste reduction education in schools
 - Essex Library of Things pilot – loaning service
- Net Zero Innovation Network exploring cross-sector opportunities for greater upstream intervention





Maximising Recycling

Commitments

- Recycle at least 70% of local authority collected waste by 2030
- Ensure all Essex homes and businesses have kerbside recycling services* by 2025
- Ensure all biodegradable waste is put to beneficial use by 2025

*these will collect a comprehensive range of core material streams to ensure almost all waste can be segregated for recycling

What have we been doing?

Accessible services and user awareness are essential if high performance diversion is to be achieved

- Kerbside recycling services are being aligned with emerging Environment Bill requirements
- Recycling centres to be refocused on users to maximise disposal diversion as part of a relaunch in 2022
- Bio-waste treatment procurement to secure required treatment capacity being prepared for 2022 launch





Built Environment





New Build

New carbon zero Schools: Sweyne Park School, Clacton County High School and Colne Community School, are the first schools in Essex to benefit from new buildings with a net zero carbon design. Numerous other school expansions and three new primary schools in the pipeline all being designed and built for net-zero carbon in operation.



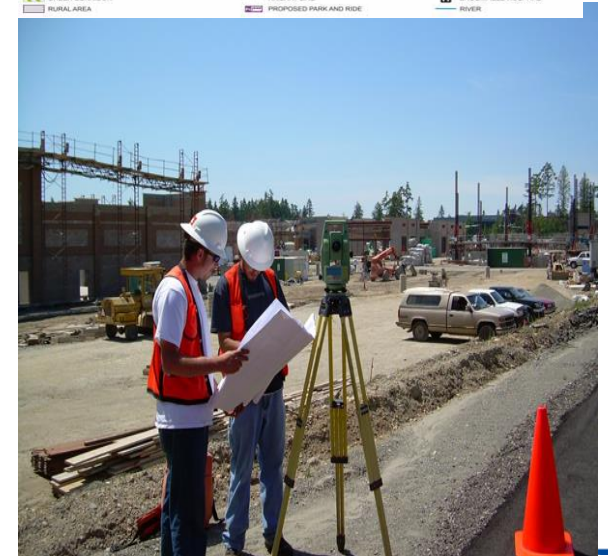
Net zero viability study & toolkit: Study is due to be completed in March 2022. This work will evaluate their impacts in terms of a series of economic, social and environmental criteria on different development typologies. This is on target for completion April 2022.



Member Training: Districts have Members online training module provided by the Building Research Establishment (BRE) was delivered.



Planning Officer Training: BRE to deliver planning officer training on 14th March. The training of planning and building control officers will be a **high priority in 2022**.





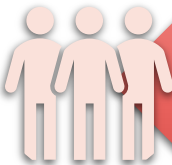
New Build



New Carbon Zero Homes: Essex Housing have secured funding to deliver their first net-zero carbon housing scheme. Brentwood Council have granted planning permission for 62 net zero homes on a site they own. Chelmsford Council working with Homes England and Countryside properties are bringing forward a scheme for 70 homes built to the future homes standard.



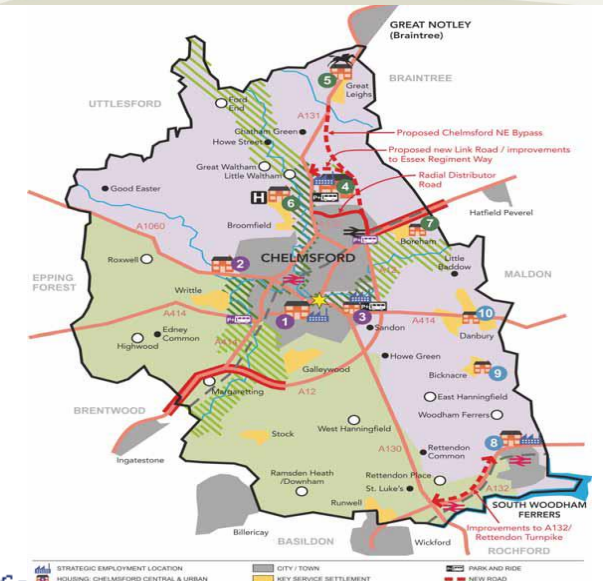
Climate Charter for Developers: Essex Developers Group working with the Essex Planning Officers Association (EPOA) Chief Planner have endorsed the Climate Charter which will be published in March. The next step is to prepare the Action Plan that sets out the next step and actions.



Climate Action Team (CAT): The small team to support planning officers with climate change matters in planning applications and development of Local Plan policy posts are currently being advertised and people should be post by May 2022.



Essex Design Guide (EDG) Update: Phase 1 – creating a dedicated climate change section and pulling out existing climate change related guidance is now available on the EDG website. Work is now underway on Phase 2 of this project due to be completed in the spring.





New Build



Walkable Neighbourhoods: Place Services have been commissioned to establish concepts and review of current guidance. Commission two evidence base studies to support the delivery of local plan policies and masterplanning and well in scheme practical implementation of model.



Business Innovation Hub for Construction The BREEAM Excellent-rated building next to the Braintree Enterprise Centre has opened. This will support individuals to start up a business in construction and construction-related sectors, nurture early-stage SMEs and facilitate the commercialisation of new ideas, technologies and research into construction markets.





Retrofit



Retrofit Homes: Work on a Strategy and Action Plan for housing retrofit is underway.



Retrofit Homes: £800k funding bid delivered retrofitting measures for 80 low income / fuel poor households to improve to EPC “C” . This is phase 1a of the Govt’s Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery scheme. The £5.2m funding for phase 2 has now started. The precise number of existing homes to be supported is not yet known.



Retrofit Homes: £17.2m of Government funding secured through the “Sustainable Warmth” which is aimed at the Housing Association Sector. This work will start in March 2022.



Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund: We were successful in our SHDF fund bid in Partnership with Eastlight Community Homes and Sanctuary Housing Association to secure £2.4m of funding to deliver our first retrofit programme for social housing stock in Essex. The project is now mobilising.



Community Renewal fund: We were successful in our Community Renewal fund bid in Partnership with the Retrofit Academy to develop a "retrofit pipeline for economic renewal" in Harlow and Tendring **Businesses:** Outcomes will focus on supporting SME businesses to gain TrustMark accreditation, enabling local residents to gain the skills to support retrofit, to become Coordinators, Assessors or Advisors





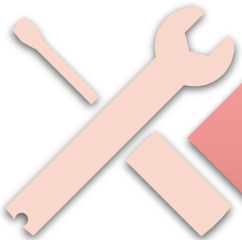
Retrofit



Retrofit Schools: Funding secured to support work on building fabric, through installation of double glazing on schools and core sites to a value of c. £3m. This will significantly reduce their heating costs and carbon emissions, as well as generating a better learning environment.



Retrofit Schools: £1.5m of solar has been installed, generating £200k of annual savings. These installs have been backed up by Decarbonisation Surveys – which next year, with the new Sustainable Schools Team will engage with the individual schools to develop their path to net zero and source funding opportunities.



Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme: £3m of funding has also been secured to enable extensive decarbonisation at the Essex Records Office, Goodman House, and Witham Adult Community Learning Centre. This involves removal of the old carbon intensive gas boiler systems and replacing with ASHP installations. At ERO and Witham, this has been offset by large solar panel arrays. All of our solar systems will be remotely accessible – so we can see live generation information.



Retrofit



Retrofit Estate: We have engaged with UKPN and our electrical supplier Npower to programme the roll out of smart meters across our estate. This enables us to closely monitor our energy usage, track consumption profiles, and spot areas for improvement. This is 90% complete across the whole portfolio.



Retrofit Estate: We have installed 3 programmes of LED across 25 libraries, and 26 childrens centres, ACLs and care homes. This £600k investment is set to significantly reduce the electrical load of these sites – saving over £100k per year, and reducing some sites lighting usage by 70%.



Retrofit Estate: We have also invested £500k in solar on our core sites, with Libraries and Resource Centres benefitting from savings totalling £65k a year – and reducing their reliance on grid supplied energy.

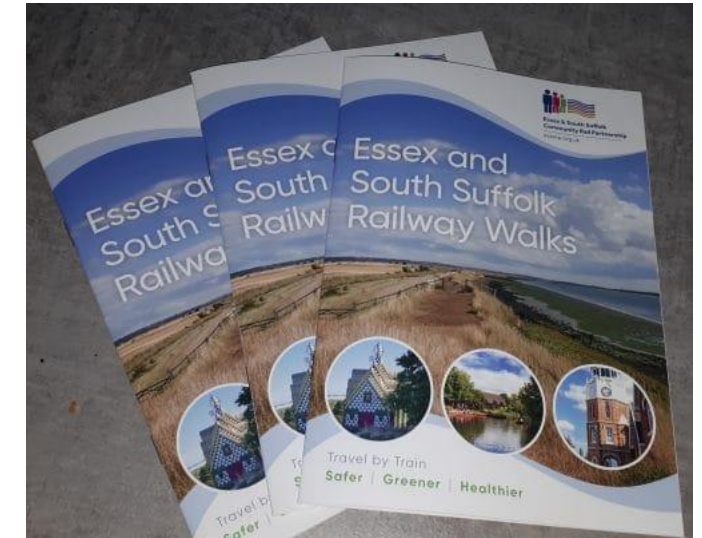


Transport



Active travel update

- Successful active travel consultation - ~2500 responses
- 5 transformation walking and cycling schemes approved
- Final designs being produced now, with delivery expected from Spring 2021 onwards
- ATF 3 bid submitted to progress local walking and cycling, and Essex Pedal Power - decision due Nov / December
- Volume 2 of the Essex & South Suffolk Railway walks – vol 1 ‘sold’ out
- Launched Walking Strategy - warmly received by central government.



Would our proposals persuade you to cycle more?	YES / NO
Braintree	27%
Brentwood	45%
Chelmsford	29%
Colchester	66%
Wickford	50%



Cycling update

- Free Adult Cycle Training*
- Ride London
- Essex Pedal Power
- LTN 1/20 – formal acceptance
- Cycle map upgrade
- Cycle path maintenance programme
- Asset register*
- Station access review
- Braintree District council Cycling Strategy

* Co-funded by ECAC



School streets update

- Winstree Road started – next phase in Easter
- School street model developed for 10 within ATF programme - working with Sustrans and Living Streets on delivery
- Developing a School Streets toolkit with Jacobs
- Taken over PT's School Zones project – next step consultation
- Home run app



Evs and ev strategy

EV & EVCP Strategic lead recruited (*) – 3 key priorities:

- Writing strategy
- Submitting OZEV bid for ~70 on-street residential chargepoints, across the districts
- Electrifying the ECC car pool fleet – pilot with social care (*)

Gridserve has submitted a Planning Application for another electric forecourt on the A127 in Wickford

Future priorities:

- Destination charging (P&R)
- Freight – electrification
- Other vehicles / fuels...

* Co-funded by ECAC



First / last mile update

- Ecargobike trial in Colchester
 - Averaging 1046 miles p/m
 - 2387kg of CO2 and 93kg of NOx saved so far
 - Champions: bakery, juice bar, bike mechanics, town council and hospital, Spin escooters, Parks staff
- Working with NZIN to identify business partners e.g. Amazon, parcel distribution companies
- ECC High Street Summit
- Ecargo bike conference



Behaviour change update

- Two successful behaviour change campaigns
- Partnerships with walking and cycling gamification apps
- Working with schools, children and parents on education
- Exploring launch of new Net Zero hero programme
- New Behaviour Change role approved*



Escooter and ebike update

6 escooter trials launched

- 500K+ trips
- 82% used escooter instead of car
- High use for first / last mile
- DfT extending trial to Nov 22 – all but Clacton expected to continue

‘Try before you buy’ ebike scheme to be explored next year



Passenger Transport Update

- ECC have created a Bus Service Improvement Plan to rebuild the Essex bus network:
 - Recover from the impact of COVID-19
 - Develop an attractive, sustainable, and affordable bus network, offering an alternative to car use
 - Reverse the long-term decline in passenger numbers, in absolute terms and as a modal share of all journeys.
 - Improve public health and addressing climate change by reducing pollutants
- Developing an Enhanced Partnership
- Park & Ride expansion as part of the Army & Navy Sustainable Transport Corridor package
- E-DRT pilots starting in the spring.
- 6 event trains



Car use reduction update

All major projects feature active travel front and centre
e.g. A&N, A133 Link Rd

Relaunched Smarter Travel for Essex Network (STEN)

- ECC free support to promote active and sustainable work travel
- Best practice organisations can apply for National Travel Plan Accreditation

Jacobs commissioned to investigate user charging model suitability for Essex

Car-free day for Chelmsford in 2022 – expand county-wide in 2023.

Transport Select Committee inquiry into road pricing



Policy update...

New Local Transport Plan underway

- Underpins EVERYTHING we do, and vital for future DfT funding
- Existing LTP is 10 years old and needs a narrative refocus, particularly around decarbonisation

Addition transport policies / guidance on new developments including parking strategy, 15 minute walkable neighbourhood design guide and net zero transport assessment guidance

Transport East Transport Strategy

- Public consultation launched in November
- 4 priorities: decarbonisation, supporting our growing towns and cities, energising rural and coastal communities, and improving connectivity to our ports and airports.
- Avoid-Shift-Improve pathway
- Includes carbon trajectories and targets





Transport update: 1/2

Active Travel

- ATF3 decision delayed – DfT have offered additional guidance on LCWIP Route 4 in Colchester
- ATF2 progressing towards final designs, and June for start of implementation. ~£300K additional funding confirmed from SELEP

Walking

- “3K a day Step Challenge” complete: **16 million steps / 12,298 km / 3075kg Co2e saved**
- 3 organisations and 3 schools achieved national accreditation through Modeshift STARS
- National Walk To School Week (WTSW) is back for 2022, taking place in mid-May

Cycling

- Free Adult Cycle Training: 82 trained so far*
- M11 7a in Harlow: 2km walking and cycling from London Rd to the town centre near completion
- Essex Pedal Power: 200 more bikes (Jaywick and Clacton), building up to a further 900 over the summer and expansion into Colchester progressing with first tranche of bikes expected in Summer 2022
- Vivacity Cameras due mid-March
- Ride London route announced and activation event planning underway including “BikeFest”
- ECC cycle grant awarded ~£60K to Cycling UK, Friends of Lake Meadows, Lathcoats Farm Shop and Trailnet CIC for training, parking, helmets, led rides etc.

School Streets

- Winstree Road ph 3 designed being reviewed by engineers due to concerns about deliverability
- Consultation for School Zones delayed due to governance complexity
- Sustrans Schools engagement phase 1 across ATF locations underway



Transport update: 2/2

EVs / alternative fuels

- Scooter scheme provides 700K rides, equivalent to **1M miles or 61.6 tonnes of CO2 saved**
- Tender for delivery partner for on-street residential charges issued*
- ECC car fleet user survey: data being analysed - pilots being designed – tax implications*

Passenger transport

- Enhanced Partnership Plan at March Cabinet
- Queens Platinum Jubilee: tree planting scheme at Community Rail stations
- New Operator and timetable for Chelmsford Park and Ride

Car reduction

- Army & Navy Strategic Business Case approved by DfT, and preferred junction decision to be made at March Cabinet
- Land purchase of A127 /A130 junction progressing – key to reducing congestion and pollution

First / Last mile

- Ecargo bike conference confirmed for May- with sponsorship confirmed

Other

- Working with Transport East to develop a carbon policy toolkit to assess the carbon impacts of different interventions.





Community Engagement



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Campaigns

- **Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery Scheme** – Phase 1 £800,000/80 homes. Phase 2 - £5.2m.
- **D-DRT** – Six demand responsive electric buses launching soon.
- **Climate Action Challenge Fund** – about to award first funds
- **First ECC team to take on Uni of Essex Journalism placement students**

Stop wasting money on your energy bills

You could be eligible for up to **£10,000** of energy efficiency home improvements with the Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery Scheme.

Find out more

0808 196 8255

www.essex.gov.uk/energy-funding

DELIVERED BY

WARMWORKS

Essex County Council

The advertisement features a photograph of a woman and two children looking at a tablet together. The background is a gradient of blue and red.





Events

- **The EALC Climate Crisis Conference**
- **Darlinghurst Primary School talks.**
- **Visit to White Dragon Activity Centre**
- **Queen Mary University – For a Greener Future, Careers in Sustainability**



Tom and Seb have been speaking to schools across the county

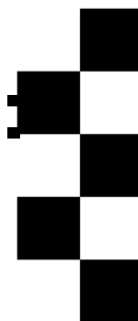
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Research

- **About to launch town and parish survey to understand current level of climate action and measure the impact of the webinar series**

- **University of Essex collaborative research: improving communications and community engagement**



University
of Essex



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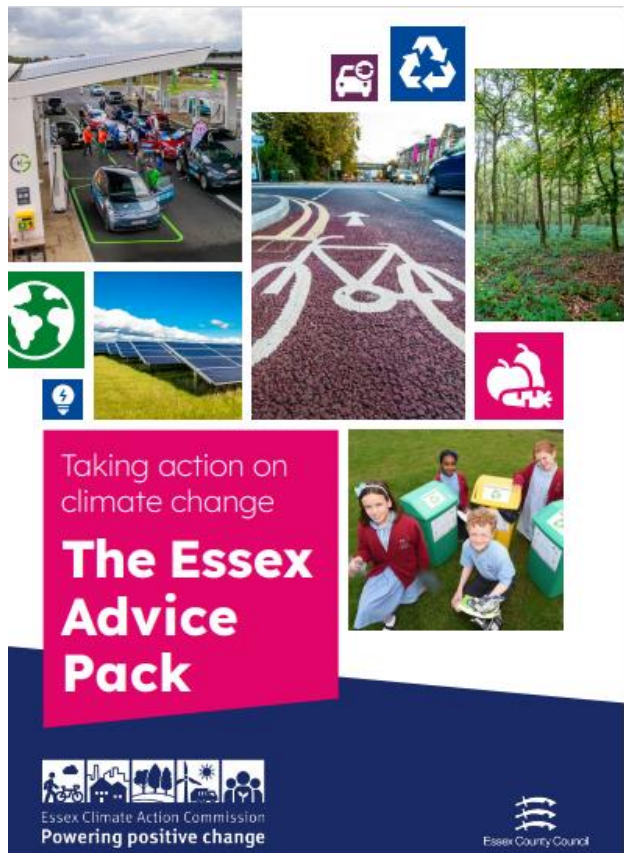
Training

- Carbon Literacy training
- [EALC webinars](#)
- Potential training/webinars for businesses in conjunction with IoD – still in discussions, survey due to go live with members
- Community engagement and public participation training as part of Involve's Local Climate Engagement Project Group





Toolkits



- Residents
- Schools
- Businesses

Transport

It's time to start thinking about how we get from A to B.



25kg
of CO₂



50g of protein
from beef

vs

420g
of CO₂



50g of protein
from chickpeas

Outdoors

Nature – we're part of it and it's part of us. Let's get closer to our precious environment.



Energy and the Home

One of the best things about improving your home's energy efficiency is that it cuts your bills as well as carbon.



Waste

Buying things we genuinely need, buying things that are made to last and repairing and re-using things wherever we can.




Digital


- **Social Media** – ECAC Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and Twitter pages are growing. Essex is Green has 8,363 Facebook followers, 1,372 Instagram followers and 2,130 twitter followers.
- **Website** – Since November there have been 1.1K users from across the world.
- **Newsletter** – Changed platform to E-Shot: 120 internal subscribers and 1,200 external.
- **Apps** – Trylife and Cut Carbon apps in development – gameification, carbon credits for residents, schools, businesses.



Commission website



Avoid paying more than you need to: join the Essex Energy Switch



Energy prices are rising. Any residents hoping to avoid paying more than needed should act now and join the Essex Energy Switch.

The Essex Energy Switch is a group buying scheme that pits energy suppliers against each other. They'll compete at an auction on 12 October to offer the best fixed rate tariff to Essex residents. With the buying power of thousands of customers, residents might find that they can get a better tariff than if you stay with their current supplier.


It's quick, easy and free to sign up: all that is needed is a recent gas and electricity bill. Residents will get a personalised offer after the auction and there's no obligation to switch once they've received it. All electricity that is offered will be sourced from 100% renewable energy sources.

Residents who are interested should [Sign up today](#) and see if the Essex Energy Switch can help you.

Become a Love Essex Champion

Love Essex is looking for enthusiastic individuals to help Essex residents waste less and recycle more. As a [Love Essex Champion](#), you'll have access to a range of fun and impactful challenges:

- creating short films
- supporting your friends and neighbours to make changes



Newsletter



Media

- John Meehan's tree planting
- Business Time in Essex feature
- Growing GHGLADS media coverage
- Peter Schwier's Essex Business Podcast
- ECAC Chair Jules Pretty's 'Louder Than Words' Podcast



Residents urged to claim £10k in bid to cut energy bills

By George Ware | @GeorgeWare7
Reporter



RESIDENTS are being urged to apply for up to £10,000 of insulation improvements to cut their energy bills.



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Future Events: What's Coming Up?

- **The next EALC Webinar on Land Use & Green Infrastructure 29 March**
- **Net Zero Innovation Network Conference 31 March**
- **Climate and Biodiversity Train to North Fambridge 22 May**
- **Green Businesses Expo 21 April**
- **Essex Food and Farming Day 25 April**
- **Festival of Business 27 April**



Green Growth



ECAC Green Growth

Green growth for the future: Year Two Focus

“we will look at ways we can embrace a greener economy where we not only care about business, but we care about our planet too. This will un-lock new opportunities for businesses, but also for residents in the form of more sustainable homes and jobs”



ECAC Green Growth



We need to ensure the recovery is as green as possible and takes us further towards our net zero ambitions not stores up more problems for the future.



Some of the key growth sectors of the future are green - we must ensure those businesses and jobs come to Essex



The size of the prize is vast: the investment in transitions to zero emission vehicles, housing and commercial retrofit for example runs into millions of pounds of spend



The businesses, residents and skills providers need our help to take advantage of the opportunity. We need to create a pipeline of demand for businesses and skills providers.



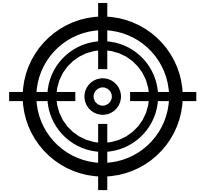


Our Vision

During the next 12 months, we will support a Just Transition to a green economy through the creation of green jobs and opportunities for Essex businesses and social enterprises and we will support Essex residents to access those jobs

- Building on the Climate Action Report, we will focus on supporting green economy opportunities and make the most of the recommendations outlined in the ECAC report
- All recommendations have potential for residents, business and social enterprise in Essex – our focus will be on harnessing that, ensuring that where jobs are created and there are business opportunities that we can keep those local to Essex.
- We will include residents in our plans and ensure that the community is heard in the design and implementation of our projects. We will articulate opportunities to our residents and have them at the heart of everything we do.
- We will promote the county to increase investment through our communications and community engagement, whilst support residents and businesses to take their own climate actions.





Our Objectives

We will Collaborate & Convene

We will:

- Work in cooperation with others to harness a Just Transition to a green economy.
- Use our collective power to convene decision makers to deliver green economy in Essex

We will Participate & Share

We will:

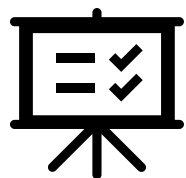
- Actively seek opportunities to promote a green economy and harness innovation
- Share our expertise and disseminate opportunities and best practice

We will Lead & Inspire

We will:

- Increase awareness and buy-in amongst our communities
- Support equality and fairness of access to, and awareness of, green jobs and skills





Our Outcomes

Our plan is not exhaustive - the Commission report has milestones and recommendations that stretch out to 2050. Partners will continue to develop climate action plans in the future. By the end of the second year of the Essex Climate Action Commission's Just Transition to a Green Economy work stream, we will have:

Raised aspirations & informed

- By supporting residents and businesses to think differently about green opportunities
- By promoting green opportunities and the power of green credentials

Facilitated change

- By promoting the work of our partners and commissioners, making Essex a Green Centre of Excellence
- By making Essex a flagship for green economy and innovation

Spent wisely & invest differently

- By using our procurement power well
- By working with the anchor institutions to drive collective action and build on our assets
- By using infrastructure and assets to attract investment and green businesses to Essex



Our Growth Sectors



**Clean Green
Energy (including low
emission
vehicles tech)**



**Green
Lifesciences
(focusing on
med & care
tech)**



**Digitech
(including Fin,
Insure, Agri,
Marine)**



**Green
Construction
and Retrofit
(including
NSIPs)**



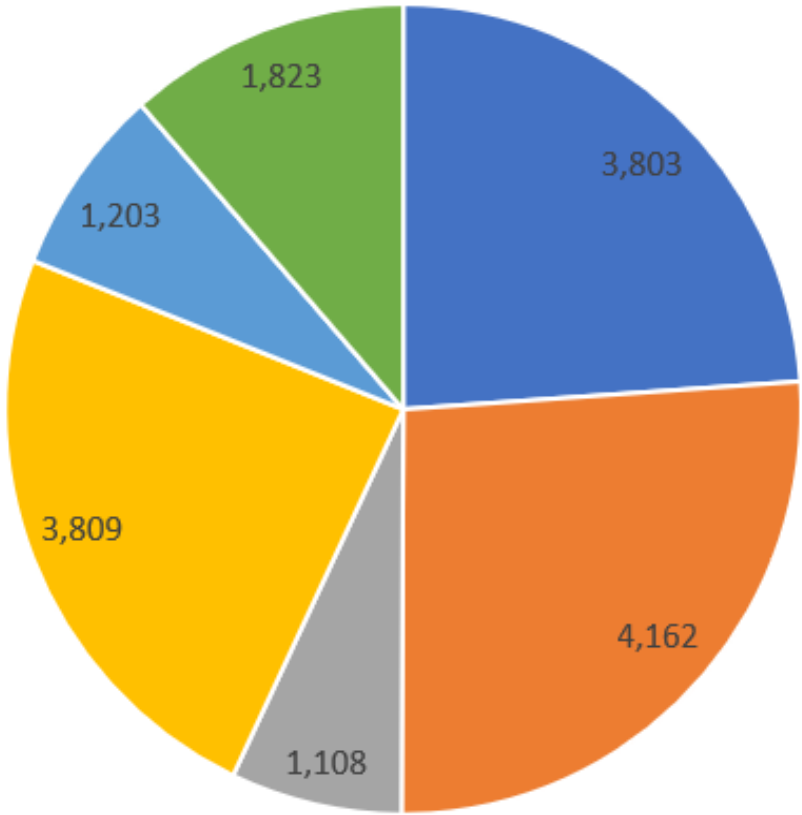
**Advanced
Manufacturing
& Engineering**

How did we arrive at
these sectors?

- Baseline quantitative data and Cambridge Econometrics predictive data
- Qualitative research
 - What is driving demand now and in the future?
 - Ecosystem supporting the sector in Essex
 - Universities - research programmes and teaching
 - Existing business clusters
 - Supporting Government policy & funding opportunities
 - Types of employment now and predicted
 - Challenges/Opportunities

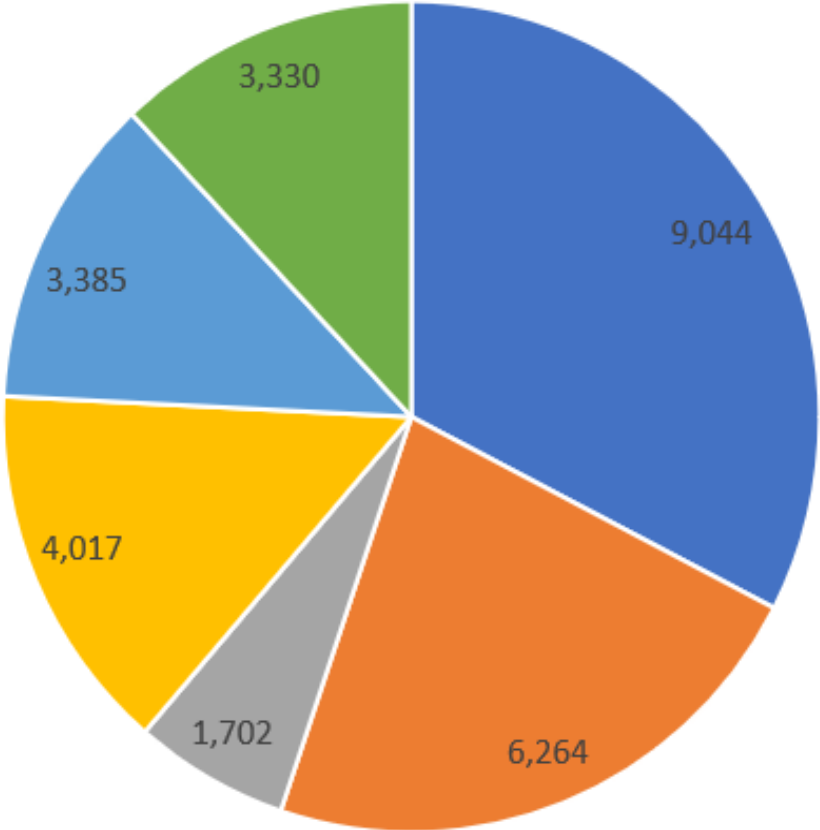
An example: green jobs growth in Essex

Projected Distribution of 2030 Jobs



- Low-carbon electricity
- Low-carbon heat
- Alternative fuels
- Energy Efficiency
- Low-carbon services
- Low emission vehicles & infrastructure

Projected Distribution of 2050 Jobs



- Low-carbon electricity
- Low-carbon heat
- Alternative fuels
- Energy Efficiency
- Low-carbon services
- Low emission vehicles & infrastructure