



Essex County Council

## Place Services and Economic Growth Policy and Scrutiny Committee

<b>10:30</b>	<b>Thursday, 21 September 2023</b>	<b>Committee Room 1 County Hall, Chelmsford, CM1 1QH</b>
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**For information about the meeting please ask for:**

Justin Long, Senior Democratic Services Officer

**Telephone:** 03330 139825

**Email:** democratic.services@essex.gov.uk

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		<b>Pages</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Membership, Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest</b>	<b>5 - 5</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Minutes of the previous meeting</b> To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on 22 June 2023.	<b>6 - 12</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Questions from the Public</b> A period of up to 15 minutes will be allowed for members of the public to ask questions or make representations on any item on the agenda for this meeting. No statement or question shall be longer than three minutes and speakers will be timed.  If you would like to ask a question at this meeting, please email <a href="#">Democratic Services</a> by 12 noon the day before the meeting (Wednesday 20 September 2023).	
<b>4</b>	<b>Work Programme and Communications Review</b> To receive an update ( <b>PSEG/20/23</b> ) on the current Committee Work Programme.	<b>13 - 18</b>

- |           |   |                |
|-----------|---|----------------|
| <b>5</b>  | <b>Planning a Growing Economy</b><br>To receive a report and presentation ( <b>PSEG/21/23</b> ) from Cllr Tom Cunningham, Cabinet Member for Planning a Growing Economy.                          | <b>19 - 29</b> |
| <b>6</b>  | <b>Withdrawn Call-in: FP/175/06/23 Changes to the composition of the Local Highway Panels</b><br>To note the report ( <b>PSEG/22/23</b> ) and consider any issues arising.                        | <b>30 - 31</b> |
| <b>7</b>  | <b>Petition received on Garden Waste</b><br>To note the report ( <b>PSEG/23/23</b> ) and consider any issues arising.   | <b>32 - 33</b> |
| <b>8</b>  | <b>Bus Network Consultation</b><br>To consider the Committee's response to the Bus Network Consultation ( <b>PSEG/24/23</b> ).  | <b>34 - 34</b> |
| <b>9</b>  | <b>Date of Next Meeting</b><br>To note that the next meeting of the Committee is scheduled to take place on Thursday 19 October 2023, in Committee Room 1, County Hall.                           |                |
| <b>10</b> | <b>Urgent Business</b><br>To consider any matter which in the opinion of the Chairman should be considered in public by reason of special circumstances (to be specified) as a matter of urgency. |                |

### **Exempt Items**

(During consideration of these items the meeting is not likely to be open to the press and public)

The following items of business have not been published on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information falling within Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. Members are asked to consider whether or not the press and public should be excluded during the consideration of these items. If so it will be necessary for the meeting to pass a formal resolution:

**That the press and public are excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the remaining items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information falling within Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, the specific paragraph(s) of Schedule 12A engaged being set out in the report or appendix relating to that item of business.**

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**Urgent Exempt Business**

To consider in private any other matter which in the opinion of the Chairman should be considered by reason of special circumstances (to be specified) as a matter of urgency.

## Agenda Item 1

**Committee:** Place Services and Economic Growth Policy and Scrutiny Committee

**Enquiries to:** Justin Long, Senior Democratic Services Officer

### **Membership, Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest**

#### **Recommendations:**

To note

1. Membership as shown below
2. Apologies and substitutions
3. Declarations of interest to be made by Members in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct

#### **Membership**

(Quorum: 5)

Cllr Alan Goggin  
Cllr Jane Fleming  
Cllr Dave Blackwell  
Cllr Simon Crow  
Cllr Paul Gadd  
Cllr Paul Honeywood  
Cllr Jaymey McIvor  
Cllr James Newport  
Cllr Lee Scordis  
Cllr Andrew Sheldon  
Cllr Chris Siddall  
Cllr Mick Skeels  
Cllr Marshall Vance  
Cllr Andy Wiles

Chairman  
Vice-Chairman  
Vice-Chairman

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**Minutes of the meeting of the Place Services and Economic Growth Policy and Scrutiny Committee, that was held in Committee Room 1, County Hall, Chelmsford on Thursday, 22 June 2023****Present:****Members:**

Councillor A Goggin	Chairman
Councillor S Barker	Substitute
Councillor D Blackwell	
Councillor S Crow	
Councillor J Fleming	
Councillor P Gadd	
Councillor J Newport	
Councillor M Platt	Substitute
Councillor M Skeels	
Councillor M Vance	

**Officers:**

Samantha Kennedy	Director Environment & Climate Action
Helen Morris	Head of Integrated Passenger Transport Unit (IPTU)
Justin Long	Senior Democratic Services Officer (clerk to the meeting)
Emma Hunter	Democratic Services Officer

Cllr Lee Scott, Cabinet Member for Highways Maintenance and Sustainable Transport.  
Cllr Peter Schwier, Climate Tsar  
Cllr Anthony McQuiggan (in attendance)  
Cllr Mike Steptoe (joining remotely to substitute for Cllr Siddall)

**Welcome and Introduction**

Cllr A Goggin, the Chairman of the Place Services and Economic Growth Policy and Scrutiny Committee, welcomed those in attendance and noted that Cllr J McIvor had joined the Committee.

**1. Membership, Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest**

The report on Membership, Apologies and Declarations was received, and it was noted that:

1. The membership of the Place Services and Economic Growth Policy and Scrutiny Committee was as shown in the report.
2. Apologies had been received from Cllr A Wiles with Cllr S Barker substituting for him, Cllr P Honeywood with Cllr M Platt substituting for him, and Cllr C Siddall with C M Steptoe substituting for him (remotely).

## **2. Appointment of Vice-Chairmen**

Nominations were invited for vice-chairmen to serve for the 2023/24 municipal year.

- Councillor Goggin nominated Councillor Blackwell to be a Vice Chairman of the Committee, which was seconded by Councillor Vance.

- Councillor Goggin nominated Councillor Fleming for the second Vice Chairman post, and this was seconded by Councillor Blackwell.

There being no further nominations and by general consent, it was agreed that Councillors Blackwell and Fleming were each elected as vice-chairman of the Committee for the 2023/24 municipal year.

## **3. Minutes and Matters Arising**

The Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 18 May 2023 were approved as a correct record and were signed by the Chairman.

The following points were noted on the Matters Arising report:

- In connection to the Booking System Trial at Recycling Centres, it was confirmed that further information would be sought on baseline data for all sites and what had been the impact of the 13% reduction in waste tonnage during the earlier Rayleigh trial
- It was noted that an item on the performance of LHPs was on the Committee's Work Programme, and it was agreed some members. eed that this would be scheduled as a priority given the concerns about LHPs raised by

## **4. Questions from the Public**

There were no questions from the public.

## **5. Work Programme and Communications Review**

The updated Work Programme was noted.

It was confirmed that the results of the Booking System Trial at Recycling Centres were scheduled to be considered by the Committee *before* a decision is taken by Cabinet, and this item was expected in late 2023.

## 6. Climate Action Update

Cllr Peter Schwier introduced the report (PSEG/18/23) and a presentation which can be found [here](#).

Members were invited to ask questions and provide comment. Key points raised during this discussion included:

- Information would be provided on any work with utility services on issues such as the rollout of hydrogen-ready pipes, and information would be sought on any lobbying efforts on e-scooter safety.
- It was reported that from November 2023 (under the Environment Act 2021) all planning permissions granted in England (with some exemptions) will have to deliver at least a 10% biodiversity net gain.
- Whilst ECC would like to see the net gain figure at 20%, it was noted the existing legislation nevertheless provided numerous funding opportunities including when redeveloping land such as closed landfill sites and ECC had two pilot projects already underway.
- It was confirmed that the delivery of the Green Homes Grant was managed by the Greater South East Net Zero Hub, and ECC had lobbied to ensure that the timescales to spend grant funding were realistic. Final spend figures on the Green Grant Scheme would be shared with the Committee.
- It was confirmed that the Climate Advice Packs (for Residents, Businesses and Schools respectively) were 'live' documents and updated regularly at the following link: [What Can I Do? | Essex Climate Commission](#)
- It was confirmed that the Net Zero Review (led by former Energy Minister Chris Skidmore MP) could be accessed at the following link: [Net Zero Review: UK could do more to reap economic benefits of green growth - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)
- It was confirmed that the 'Carbon App', which had been developed by external contractors (Greenredeem), was live and could be downloaded by following the link in the presentation circulated or by searching on the App Store or Google Play.
- The community outreach work undertaken on Climate Action was praised by members and they wished for this to be continued and where possible extended.
- The process for 'Section 19' flood investigation reports was outlined, and it was confirmed that these reports informed the flood capital programme and wider climate action activity.
- A summary of communications activity (aimed at residents) would be circulated to the Committee.
- ECC was planning for its extended responsibility in regard to SuDS (sustainable drainage systems), as legislated by the Flood and Water Management Act 2010, and significant opportunities existed including to tackle flooding in new developments.
- It was confirmed that officers had worked very closely with district and borough partners to update the Essex Design Guide on issues such as net-zero standards, biodiversity and climate resilience and to ensure policies are put into practice.
- Information would be circulated on fuel poverty grants and the current criteria.



- An advice pack was being developed on food waste (or food assets) targeted at school children.
- It was reported that lobbying to government was continuing on issues such as national planning policy to ensure that central policies were supporting local efforts to achieve net-zero.
- Net-zero viability work had been completed to help district and borough councils to achieve environment standards beyond current building regulations, and this would be circulated to the Committee.
- Re-wilding options were being pursued, and on tree-planting a new Tree Management Strategy had been adopted which emphasised the principle of 'right tree, right place and at the right time of the year'.
- Baseline data (and progress) on reducing emissions for the ECC estate and wider county would be shared with the Committee.
- An email summary of grants would be circulated including on the ECO4 Flex scheme.
- Efforts to engage young people were continuing including working with schools and the Young Essex Assembly. It was reported that a game-based app had been being developed with a company in the Ukraine prior to the 2022 Russian invasion.
- Performance statistics on the Essex Pedal Power project and the Travel Essex journey planner would be shared with the Committee.
- It was agreed that queries on the emerging Cycling Strategy and the potential for a countywide LCWIP would be taken forward with the relevant officers.

## **7. Bus Consultation**

Cllr Lee Scott, Cabinet Members for Sustainable Transport and Highways Maintenance introduced the report (PSEG/19/23) on the upcoming bus consultation.

Members were invited to ask questions and provide comment. Key points raised during this discussion included:

- The Cabinet Member outlined that it was a genuine consultation and he wanted to hear what residents, businesses and members had to say.
- It was reported that there would be a range of engagement methods including working with parish councils, bus user groups, social media, notices on buses (for low use services) and at bus stations.
- It was confirmed that hard copies would be available 'on request', but not distributed before as previous consultations had received a low response rate from physical paper consultations.
- It was confirmed that the subsidy requirement was for no more than £5 per passenger journey and therefore increasing patronage and/or reducing cost was key to the viability of services.
- Officers confirmed there was no plans to change the £5 criteria and there was not a direct link between inflation and this subsidy figure.
- Members were encouraged to use buses, encourage their residents to use buses and to publicise both the consultation and the actual services.

- The success of the DigiGO project was outlined and noted that this formed a part of the current consultation.
- An update was given on the Bus Shelter project where it was noted that districts had signed the collaboration agreement, and this would be followed by legal due diligence and then a tender process. It was anticipated that the new policy should commence by the New Year (2024).
- It was confirmed that the bus consultation would start in July and run for 12 weeks, with the final analysis and decisions expected in January 2024. It was agreed that Members would be notified when the consultation had gone live.
- Members raised concerns about the possible loss of rural bus services in areas such as the Maldon District.
- In response to questions, it was confirmed that bus use was critical to delivering ECC's net zero ambition; however, buses were only a positive contributor when they are used.
- Members stressed that it was crucial for the consultation to explain ECC's role particularly that the Council does not run services and that many commercial operations would be completely outside the scope of the consultation.
- Officers agreed to look at options to include regional maps of bus services in the consultation.
- Officers agreed to explore options to use Greater Anglia premises (e.g platforms and stations) to promote the consultation.
- It was agreed the Committee would respond to the consultation and members should send points to the Chairman or to the Senior Democratic Services Officer. The item would be considered at the September meeting of the Committee.

## **8. Date of Next Meeting**

The Committee noted that the next scheduled meeting would take place on Thursday 20 July, 10:30am at County Hall.

The Chairman took the opportunity to thank the Democratic Services Officer for her invaluable support and diligence.

## **9. Urgent Business**

No items were raised.

**Chairman**

**PSEG – Matters Arising (September 2023)**

<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Status</b>
June 2023	Minutes and Matters Arising	<p>Booking System Trial at Recycling Centres - further information would be sought on baseline data for all sites and what had been the impact of the 13% reduction in waste tonnage during the earlier Rayleigh trial.</p> <p>LHPs – agreed that item would be scheduled as a priority given the concerns raised by members.</p>	<p>Outstanding (at time of publication).</p> <p>Item on Work Programme for December 2023.</p> <p>Item on Work Programme for October 2023 (also to consider call-in issue)</p>
	Climate Action Update	Additional Information sought on various matters including the Green Homes Grant, communications activity, fuel poverty grants, and baseline data (and progress) on reducing emissions.	E-mail circulated to members 13/07/23.
	Bus Consultation	Agreed that Committee would respond to the consultation and members should send points to the Chairman or to the Senior Democratic Services Officer.	<p>Consultation closes 5<sup>th</sup> October 2023</p> <p>See Item 8 on the agenda.</p>

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<b>Report title: Work Programme and Communications Review</b>	
<b>Report to:</b> Place Services and Economic Growth Policy and Scrutiny Committee	
<b>Report author:</b> Justin Long, Senior Democratic Services Officer	
<b>Date:</b> 21 September 2023	<b>For:</b> Discussion
<b>Enquiries to:</b> Justin Long, Senior Democratic Services Officer at justin.long@essex.gov.uk.	
<b>County Divisions affected:</b> Not applicable	

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 This is a standard agenda item giving members of the Committee an opportunity to consider upcoming scrutiny activity and request items to be added to the work programme.

## 2. Action required

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to consider the work programme in the Appendix and suggest any additional items.
- 2.2 The Scrutiny Board has asked committees to give consideration as to which work programme items may benefit from communications activity in order to promote the work of the scrutiny function both internally and externally. Members are asked to consider this when reviewing the Appendix.

## 3. Background

### 3.1 Developing a work programme

Work has continued on identifying priorities and future agenda items. This has included discussions with Committee Members, Cabinet Members and Officers as well as the other Policy and Scrutiny Committees via the Scrutiny Board.

This work has reflected the adoption of the *Everyone's Essex – Our Plan for Levelling Up the County: 2021-2025* organisation strategy.

The current work programme is attached in the **Appendix**.

## 4. Everyone's Essex

The Committee should take account of the *Everyone's Essex – Our Plan for Levelling Up the County: 2021-2025* strategy when considering the work

programme and future items.

Particular attention should be paid to the strategic ambitions (and associated commitments and performance measures) most relevant to the work of the Committee: 'Strong, Inclusive and Sustainable Economy', and 'High Quality Environment'.

**5. Update and Next Steps**

See Appendix.

**6. Appendix – Current work programme and an outline of the remit of the Committee.**

**Place Services and Economic Growth Policy and Scrutiny Committee (PSEG) Work Programme – September 2023**

<b>Provisional Dates (2023)</b>	<b>Topic Title</b>	<b>Lead Contact / Cabinet Member</b>	<b>Purpose and Target Outcomes</b>	<b>Cross-Committee Work Identified (where applicable)</b>
21 September	Bus Consultation	Councillor Scott, Cabinet Member for Highways Maintenance and Sustainable Transport	To consider a response to the consultation	
21 September	Economic Growth	Cllr Cunningham, Cabinet Member for Planning a Growing Economy	To receive an update on activity to attract high-quality jobs to Essex and retain graduates along with wider portfolio priorities	Link to CPSC
21 September	Garden Waste Petition	Councillor Schwier, Climate Czar, Environment, Waste Reduction and Recycling	To receive a report on a petition regarding garden waste	
19 October	Community Safety	Cllr Louise McKinlay, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Community, Equality, Partnerships and Performance	To receive an update on the Safety Advisory Group and work with partners on violence against women and girls, particularly Project Minerva	Link to PAF

19 October	Cycling Strategy / Countywide LCWIP	Councillor Scott, Cabinet Member for Highways Maintenance and Sustainable Transport	To consider the emerging strategies	
19 October	LHP Membership and Performance	Councillor Scott, Cabinet Member for Highways Maintenance and Sustainable Transport	To review the membership issue following the (withdrawn) call-in in July 2023	
23 November	LTP4 including Space and Movement/Road Hierarchy	Councillor Scott, Cabinet Member for Highways Maintenance and Sustainable Transport	To consider the LTP (Local Transport Plan) 4 and related issues	
TBC	Waste Strategy	Councillor Schwier, Climate Czar, Environment, Waste Reduction and Recycling	To consider the emerging strategy	
20 December	Recycling Booking System Trial	Councillor Schwier, Climate Czar, Environment, Waste Reduction and Recycling	To evaluate the trial and make recommendations to the Cabinet Member	



TBC	Member-led Pothole Scheme Review	Councillor Scott, Cabinet Member for Highways Maintenance and Sustainable Transport	To review the performance of the Member-led Pothole Scheme	
TBC	EV and Charging Point Strategy	Councillor Scott, Cabinet Member for Highways Maintenance and Sustainable Transport	To review progress on the new EV and Charging Point Strategy (6 months after adoption) and review work on employee fleet transition to EVs	

#### **Topics being pursued jointly or via the Scrutiny Board**

- s106 (funding for sustainable transport projects) – CPSC-led (remote) briefing with date TBC

## **Committee Remit**

PSEG is responsible for scrutiny of the following areas of Council activity:

- The economy of Essex
- Economic development and regeneration
- Employment related Skills and apprenticeships
- Strategic Highways and transportation
- Heritage, Culture and the Arts
- Tourism
- Country Parks and other green assets Library services
- Broadband and public communications infrastructure
- Planning
- Environmental services
- Community Safety (not Domestic Violence or Youth Offending Team)
- Emergency Planning
- Waste and recycling
- Energy and emissions reduction
- Trading standards
- Housing
- Gypsies and travellers.

<b>Report title: Planning a Growing Economy</b>	
<b>Report to:</b> Place Services and Economic Growth Policy and Scrutiny Committee	
<b>Report author:</b> Steve Evison, Director Sustainable Growth	
<b>Date:</b> 21 September 2023	<b>For:</b> Discussion and identifying any follow-up scrutiny actions
<b>Enquiries to:</b> <a href="#">Steve Evison, Director Sustainable Growth</a> and <a href="#">Tristan Smith, Head of Sector Development, Business and Innovation</a>	
<b>County Divisions affected:</b> All	

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 From 1 July 2023, Cllr Tom Cunningham has held the position of Cabinet Member for Planning a Growing Economy (having previously been Deputy Cabinet Member for Economic Renewal, Infrastructure and Planning).
- 1.2 The remit of PSEG covers many areas under this portfolio. These include: the economy of Essex; economic development and regeneration; employment related skills and apprenticeships; planning; and housing.
- 1.3 In April 2023, the Committee requested an update on what ECC is currently doing to support economic growth and specifically work to help create and attract high-quality jobs to Essex and retain graduates.
- 1.4 Under the revised Cabinet-Scrutiny Protocol, as presented to Council in May 2023, it is recommended that following Annual Council every year there will be a process whereby Cabinet Members and Policy and Scrutiny Committees (PSCs) meet to discuss their priorities and programmes for the coming year.
- 1.5 Noting the above, the Cabinet Member is therefore requested to provide an update to scrutiny on work to create and attract high-quality jobs (paragraph 1.3) and a more general update on his portfolio priorities for the coming year (paragraph 1.4).

## 2. Action required

The Committee is asked to consider the presentation and identify any follow-up scrutiny activity.

## 3. Links to Everyone's Essex

Action in this area supports several elements in the Strategy including the 5 commitments specifically focused on the Economy:

*Good jobs - We will work hard to address the impacts of the Covid pandemic on unemployment by supporting business recovery and building a stronger economy for the future, enabling people to build the skills they need to be part of it, and working alongside Essex businesses to help reduce barriers to employment for disadvantaged groups.*

*Infrastructure - We will deliver and maintain high quality infrastructure to improve opportunities for people living in Essex as well as supporting a growing economy and the delivery of new homes and communities by investing in the region of £1 billion by the end of this council.*

*Future growth and investment - We will help grow existing businesses and the economic sectors of the future in Essex, including the arts, and secure high levels of new investment by working with partners to promote the county, by creating the conditions for growth and by maximising the impact of public sector spend within the county.*

*Green growth - We will develop Essex as a centre for innovation, supporting new technologies and business models to enable our economy to transition to net zero and secure green jobs for the future by ensuring we have the right local skills and drawing in investment opportunities.*

*Levelling up the economy - We will work to level up the economy by addressing the drivers of socioeconomic inequality (including income, education, employment, health and housing), based on the foundation of good jobs and a higher skilled and healthier workforce.*

#### **4. Next Steps**

This is an opportunity for the Committee to scrutinise the Council's activity in this area and understand the priorities of the new Cabinet Member.

Expected attendees to support the discussion:

- Portfolio Holder  
Councillor Tom Cunningham – Cabinet Member for Planning a Growing Economy
- Officers:  
Steve Evison – Director, Sustainable Growth  
Tristan Smith – Head of Sector Development, Business & Innovation

#### **5. Appendix**

**Presentation - Planning A Growing Economy – Supporting Jobs and Growth**

# Planning A Growing Economy – Supporting Jobs and Growth

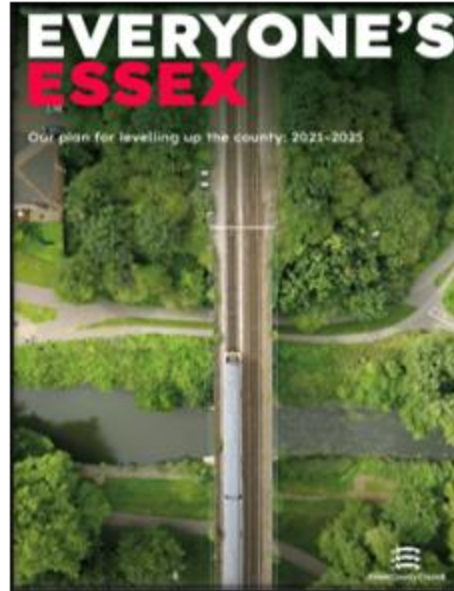
Discussion Papers for Place Services and Economic Growth Policy and Scrutiny Committee  
Cllr Tom Cunningham, Steve Evison, Tristan Smith – 21 September 2023

Agenda: Planning A Growing Economy

ITEM	TOPIC	SPEAKER	DURATION
1.	Introductory Remarks	Cllr Cunningham, Cabinet Member For Planning A Growing Economy	5 Mins
2.	How ECC has been supporting economic growth and how we will future proof the county by attracting high quality jobs to Essex	Steve Evison, Director of Sustainable Growth, Tristan Smith, Head of Sector Development, Business & Innovation	10 Mins
3.	Q&A	All	30 Mins
4.	AOB and Close		

# Everyone's Essex: Strategic Aims for Growing The Economy

New Economic Development Programme was agreed in 2020 & aligned to Everyone's Essex for 2021-2025



How we will deliver our economic priorities is set out in a range of supporting strategies and plans



# Shifting The Dial: Key Strategic Activity In Train



## SUPPORTING GROWTH & PRODUCTIVITY

- Developing 5 key sectors for growth to create new business incubators and accelerators that nurture startups and innovative enterprises, promoting job growth in emerging industries
- Securing Inward Investment into the county and a new pan-Essex partnership model to showcase the county as a hub for high-value job creation, both to businesses within the region and those considering relocation



## ENABLING INFRASTRUCTURE

- Developing purpose built Garden Communities and a Strategic Plan for Essex, to support our growing infrastructure needs
- Increasing developer contributions through S106, Community Infrastructure Levy and a more integrated approach
- Developing new Sustainable Travel and infrastructure schemes to better connect residents to jobs and leisure
- Securing investment in superfast and ultrafast broadband and 5G mobile to future proof business and residents



## GENERATING HIGH VALUE JOBS

- Providing bespoke support for Essex businesses to thrive, innovate, diversify and access grants, loans and investment opportunities, to help businesses expand and hire skilled workers
- Supporting local business growth through access to public sector spend and procurement opportunities to create social value for Essex residents
- Enabling right sized and right quality business accommodation to generate growth on space



## REDUCING DEPRIVATION AND INEQUALITY

- Creating compelling bids to secure external investment for priority place and town centre regeneration
- Supporting residents in priority areas with new employment opportunities and enhanced employability skills - such as Freeport East & Bathside Bay
- Developing bespoke growth and investment plans for North and South Essex



# Progress To Date – Key Outcomes: 2021 to 2023

Everyone’s Essex – Economy Strategic Aims 2021-2025



## Key Outcomes To Date 2021-2023

- 1090 Jobs Created
- 4093 Jobs Safeguarded
- £7m investment secured for Essex businesses
- Over 15,000 Business Engagements

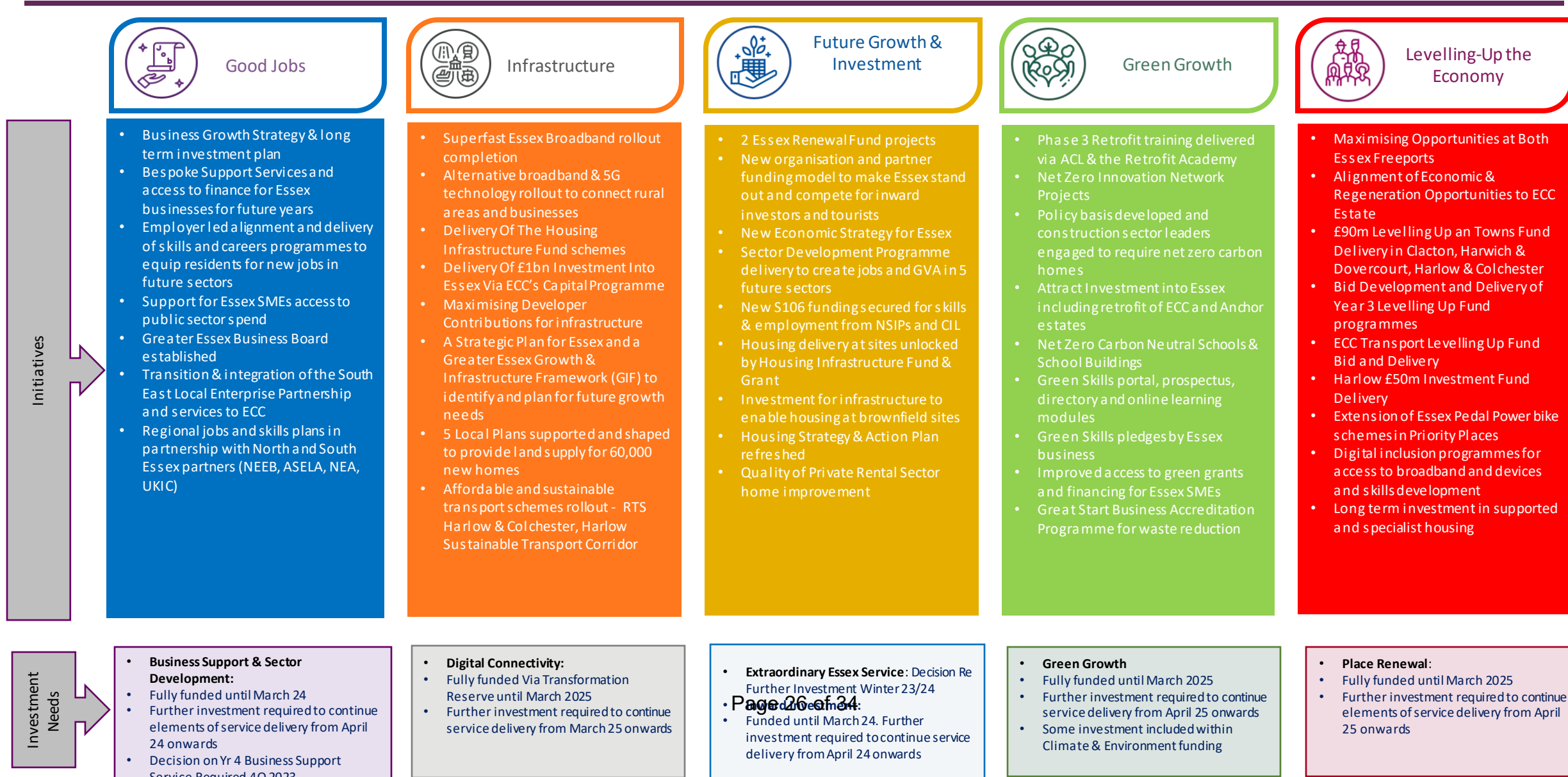
- £39m developer contributions secured for Essex infrastructure in 21/22
- Over £1m additional external funding secured and 20,000 premises connected by Superfast Broadband

- 17,500 Garden Community & 2500 ASELAs homes unlocked
- Up to £100m investment secured for the Essex Renewal Fund
- 5 Sectors for Growth identified

- Over £1.8m external investment secured for the green economy
- Over 300 residents trained in retrofit via ACL & the Retrofit Academy

- Over £144m external investment secured for regeneration programmes for priority places
- Over 2000 new jobs to be created at Freeport East

# Priorities For Future Delivery: 2023 to 2025



# Appendices

# Everyone's Essex: Strategic Aims for Growing The Economy



## Future Growth And Investment

We will help grow the economic sectors of the future in Essex, including the arts, secure high levels of new investment and grow existing businesses by working with partners to promote the County and create the conditions for growth and retain public sector spend within the county.



## Green Growth

We will develop Essex as a centre for innovation, supporting new technologies and business models to support our economy to transition to net zero and secure green jobs for the future by ensuring we have the right local skills and drawing in investment opportunities.



## Infrastructure

We will deliver high quality infrastructure to improve opportunities for people living in Essex as well as supporting a growing economy and the delivery of new homes and communities by investing in excess of £1bn by the end of this Council.



## Good Jobs

We will work hard to address the impacts of the Covid pandemic on unemployment by supporting business recovery and building a stronger economy for the future, enabling people to build the skills they need to be part of it, and working alongside Essex businesses to help reduce barriers to employment for disadvantaged groups.



## Levelling Up The Economy

We will work to level up the economy by addressing the drivers of socio-economic inequality and based on the foundation of good jobs and a higher skilled and healthier workforce.

# Progress So Far - Delivery Highlights: 2021 to 2023

Everyone's Essex – Economy Strategic Aims 2021-2025

Apr  
2021



Aug  
2023

## Key Outcomes To Date 2021-2023

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Backing Essex Business</b> £900k invested in a service to support Essex businesses – 437 jobs created, 859 jobs safeguarded and over £5.7m finance raised</li><li><b>Growing North Essex Business</b> £1.8m Business Support Services &amp; Training Programme Delivered With Northeast Essex Economic Board</li><li><b>Supporting Key Business Cohorts</b> Over 2000 Engagements with Ambitious Women in Essex &amp; their businesses</li><li><b>Engaging Essex Business</b> Over 10,000 Essex Businesses Engaged and Supported by ECC Business Programmes</li><li><b>Recovery Of Essex Business</b> £15.6m Covid Grants &amp; Recovery Loans Delivered – 653 Jobs Created and 3194 Jobs Safeguarded</li><li><b>Securing Funding For Essex Programmes</b> £4.4m Community Renewal Fund Investment Secured For Tendring &amp; Harlow</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Digital Connectivity Strategy for Essex</b> developed and over £600k ECC investment secured</li><li><b>Digital Connectivity</b> Over £2.7m External Broadband funding secured</li><li><b>Harlow Gilston Garden Town</b> Transport Strategy Developed &amp; Sustainable Transport Corridor Commenced</li><li><b>M11 J7A</b> Completed Ahead of Schedule</li><li><b>Superfast Broadband</b> Over 20,000 Premises Connected By Superfast Broadband</li><li><b>Over £40m S106</b> Funds Secured &amp; £6m Community Infrastructure Levy to enable vital infrastructure</li><li><b>New Rapid Transit System</b> for Colchester approved and has begun delivery</li><li><b>New Schools</b> 3 new Carbon Net Zero Schools Commissioned</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>£100m Economic Renewal Fund</b> launched to unlock key land and property projects. Aims to invest over £100m to support 100 new jobs, 1000 new homes and add £200m to the Essex economy</li><li><b>Harlow Gilston Garden Town</b> Outline Planning Permission Secured for 10,000 new homes</li><li><b>Housing Strategy</b> For Essex Developed and Published</li><li><b>Sector Development Strategy</b> Agreed with partners and published highlighting 5 priority sectors for the Essex economy</li><li><b>Tending Colchester Boarded Garden Community</b> Development Plan (DPD) Approved for 7,500 new homes</li><li><b>ASELA</b> New Housing Site Pipeline Developed</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>£1.1m</b> External Investment secured for Retrofit Training Pilots</li><li><b>£940k funding secured for the Local Energy Accelerator Demonstrator Project</b> in collaboration with Community South East, Retrofit Works and Great SE Energy Hub</li><li><b>Net Zero Innovation Network</b> launched to connect Essex organisations to green growth opportunities</li><li><b>Retrofit Academy</b> Training Programme has delivered green skills to over 300 residents</li><li><b>3 Net Zero Carbon S</b> School expansions and roof mounted solar panel at 29 schools</li><li><b>Successful submission</b> to secure research resource from the Connected Places Catapult</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Over £90m</b> secured via Towns Fund and the Levelling Up Fund for regen &amp; public realm projects in priority places</li><li><b>Over £970k</b> secured via bids to the Getting Building Fund to redevelop Harlow Library and relocation of ACL</li><li><b>Freeport East</b> business case approved by DLUHC for a new tax free site to bring forward at least 2000 jobs in Bathside Bay, Harwich and a new green energy hub</li><li><b>£6.1m</b> secured to deliver Essex Pedal Power bike schemes and new cycle infrastructure for Jaywick Sands, Clacton and Colchester</li><li><b>£4.8m</b> secured via bids to the Getting Building Fund to deliver 13 low cost business units and a covered market in Jaywick Sands</li><li><b>£50m Harlow Investment Fund</b> agreed to support town centre regeneration</li><li><b>North Tendring Investment Plan</b> Developed with partners to support new housing and regeneration</li></ul>
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<b>Report title:</b> Withdrawn Call-in: FP/175/06/23 Changes to the composition of the Local Highway Panels (LHPs)	
<b>Report to:</b> Place Services and Economic Growth Policy and Scrutiny Committee	
<b>Report author:</b> Justin Long, Senior Democratic Services Officer	
<b>Date:</b> 21 September 2023	<b>For:</b> Noting and to consider any follow-up scrutiny activity
<b>Enquiries to:</b> Justin Long, Senior Democratic Services Officer at <a href="mailto:justin.long@essex.gov.uk">justin.long@essex.gov.uk</a>	
<b>County Divisions affected:</b> Not applicable	

### 1. Introduction

This report advises the Committee of the withdrawn call-in of FP/175/06/23 (Changes to the composition of the Local Highway Panels) as is required under the Council's call-in procedures.

### 2. Action Required

The Committee is asked to note this report and the action taken.

### 3. Background

3.1 On 5 July 2023 a proposed Cabinet Member Decision - Changes to the composition of the Local Highway Panels (FP/175/06/23) - was called-in by Councillor Barry Aspinell with the support of Councillors Mike Mackrory, James Newport and Mark Cory.

3.2 A copy of the decision can be found on the Council website and can be accessed using the following links:

[Decision Details - Changes to the composition of the Local Highway Panels](#)

[Report - Changes to the composition of the Local Highway Panels](#)

3.3 The reasons given for the call-in were:

*"The decision asks the Cabinet Member to agree more 'local flexibility' as to how Local Highway Panels can best work and who can sit on them. However, this leaves the Chair to decide, without input of the panel, who they wish to sit on it. In the case of most LHP's meetings would always take place within the local council offices and voting members would be the County Council members, local district members and a representative from the Parish Councils, plus officers. Meetings would often be clerked by the district Council staff and administrative work carried out by that same office. If this decision is implemented the Chair will have the power to cut membership to only the*

*county members, with no input from district or parish members. This will disenfranchise local members and we will lose valuable local knowledge of areas.*

*“District Councils may, quite rightly, decide to withdraw their support of the LHP, meaning an alternative venue and secretariat may need to be sought. This would mean that the LHP may not necessarily be in the area in which the Councillors are from, meaning unnecessary travel which also impacts on the climate. The issue of Quorum for meetings is an important one if only the County Members are on the LHP meetings, if one of the County members, for whatever reason cannot attend the meeting will Panels always be cancelled? This has already proved inefficient in the example of the recent Brentwood LHP when one member had to give apologies, the meeting was cancelled as there are now only 4 county members on the panel (although the formal decision has yet to be implemented).*

*“Would it not be more beneficial to have one unified system for these Panels applied throughout Essex so they can all operate as efficiently and effectively as possible, rather than leaving the format to be decided on the seemingly whim of individual Chair persons? ”*

- 3.4 Following informal discussions between call-in members, the Cabinet Member for Highways Maintenance and Sustainable Transport and the Chairman of the Committee, the call-in was withdrawn with the agreement that the Committee considers the matter as part of its regular work programme.
- 3.5 The item has subsequently been added to the Committee’s Work Programme.

#### **4. Next Steps**

The item will be considered at the 19 October 2023 meeting of the Committee as a part of a more general update on LHPs.



<b>Report title: Petition received on Garden Waste</b>	
<b>Report to:</b> Place Services and Economic Growth Policy and Scrutiny Committee	
<b>Report author:</b> Justin Long, Senior Democratic Services Officer	
<b>Date:</b> 21 September 2023	<b>For:</b> Noting and to consider any follow-up scrutiny activity
<b>Enquiries to:</b> Justin Long, Senior Democratic Services Officer at <a href="mailto:justin.long@essex.gov.uk">justin.long@essex.gov.uk</a>	
<b>County Divisions affected:</b> Not applicable	

### 1. Introduction

This report advises members that a petition on the collection of garden waste has been referred to the Chairman of the Committee in line with the Council's Petitions Policy.

### 2. Action Required

The Committee is asked to note this report and the action taken.

### 3. Background

3.1 A petition in connection with the collection of garden waste was recently submitted to the Essex County Council (ECC) website having been signed by 2,661 people.

3.2 The wording of the petition stated:

Petition Overview:

*Reconsider their proposal to impose a standard charge for the collection of green waste within the community.*

*This facility has been embraced and funded by the Council Tax since 2002, and we see no reason why this additional charge should now be imposed.*

*Everybody is facing higher bills, mortgage repayments are increasing, as are rents, food price inflation, energy costs and fuel etc.,*

*We request the local council continues to lobby Central Government to ensure that they maintain the level of support they are obliged to.*

3.3 In line with ECC's Petitions Policy, officers clarified that the petition referred to plans by Braintree District Council and the petition was subsequently referred to that authority.



3.4 In taking this action, it was noted that that individual borough and district councils can decide whether to charge for green waste collections and this is not something within ECC's remit.

3.5 ECC's Petitions Policy further states:

*In addition, any petition of 2,000 signatures or more will be referred to the Chairman of the relevant Scrutiny Committee who will decide how the petition is reported to a meeting of the Scrutiny Committee. If a petition is considered by a Scrutiny Committee the Committee may require a Senior Council Officer or a Cabinet Member to attend a meeting of the relevant Scrutiny Committee for the purpose of considering the matter in public. If the Committee exercises this power then the lead petitioner will also be invited to attend and may address the meeting.*

3.6 Given the point outlined in 3.4, it was agreed that the petition should be formally recorded by the Committee, but no further action was needed at this time. In taking this approach, it is noted that the Committee is currently scrutinising the emerging Waste Strategy for Essex and the issue could be considered as a part of these discussions.

<b>Report title: Bus Network Consultation</b>	
<b>Report to:</b> Place Services and Economic Growth Policy and Scrutiny Committee	
<b>Report author:</b> Justin Long, Senior Democratic Services Officer	
<b>Date:</b> 21 September 2023	<b>For:</b> Discussion
<b>Enquiries to:</b> Justin Long, Senior Democratic Services Officer at <a href="mailto:justin.long@essex.gov.uk">justin.long@essex.gov.uk</a>	
<b>County Divisions affected:</b> Not applicable	

### 1. Introduction

This report invites members to contribute to the Committee's response to current Bus Network Consultation.

### 2. Action Required

Members are asked to consider any points they would like to include in the Committee's response.

### 3. Background

- 3.1 At the Committee's 22 June 2023 meeting, a presentation was given on the Bus Network Consultation. The consultation runs until 5 October 2023 and is a part of ECC's review of its support for 162 local bus services. The consultation can be found at the following link:

[Bus Network Consultation 2023](#)

- 3.2 At the June meeting, it was agreed that the Committee would respond to the consultation and members should send points to the Chairman or to the Senior Democratic Services Officer.

### 4. Next Steps

The Committee's response will be finalised with the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen circulated to the whole Committee and then submitted ahead of the October deadline.