

Asylum seekers and Separated Migrant Children

- Our council, our partners, our volunteers and our great people have risen to the challenge of supporting those fleeing persecution from overseas
- We have supported thousands of Ukrainians to settle, as well as dozens of Afghan Families, Sudanese families, and many others
- Recently we helped 19 Afghan families who had been living in hotels, to move into permanent homes across the UK, and will support dozens more in the coming weeks
- We have also helped hundreds of Separated Migrant Children, who now account for a third of our children in care and care leavers
- We are working hard to give these young people the best start possible in their new home

The roll-out of care technology

- Care Technology is supporting over 6,000 residents to live independently in their homes
- Not only does it achieve fantastic for outcomes for our county's vulnerable, it has also helped us to reinvest almost £5m into front line services while achieving 93% satisfaction
- Thanks to this service we have picked up more than a thousand people who had fallen at home, saving £1.5m a month for the NHS

Helping young people in care

- We launched five books, produced with the help of young people with experience of our services, addressing issues they identified during their journey
- One child told Cllr Egan that she read the book about coming into care to her little brother every night as they settled into their foster home

Supporting our foster carers

- It is important that those who want to foster a child are able to, and we have recognised the vital support our foster carers give by increasing how much we pay them by 9%

Changing Futures

- This Public Health programme brought in £2.86million and has supported 150 people with complex needs.
- It has been a huge success: we are seeing less than 6% of people return to the programme within 12 months of being discharged

Levelling Up

- We have committed £10m of new money to economic growth and skills, with £11m more for Levelling Up specifically, and we are making a real difference
- 60,000 new library members signed up in one year alone
- literacy areas are now in every library
- 24,000 children took part in the Summer Reading Challenge
- 600 free bikes have been provided to residents in Tendring
- The innovative initiative Multiply is offering 14,000 people access to maths or finance training

- We connected 12,000 more homes and businesses to superfast broadband
- We provided 500,000 free meals during the school holidays
- We created 2 new community supermarkets with many more to come

The Year of Reading and Year of Numbers

- The Year of Reading has now concluded (though of course it's legacy will continue). We achieved a great deal:
 - 160,000 library cards to primary school pupils
 - author visits from famous faces including Dermot O'Leary and Michael Rosen
 - a free app full of reading material, advice and guidance
 - filmed story time sessions featuring local people
 - brought together pupils and older people to become pen pals
 - created a book full of new reading material to celebrate the legacy of the campaign
 - presented our success to the King and Queen
- We have now launched the Year of Numbers, with £1.5million of funding with the aim of continuing to inspire a life-long love of learning.

This summer is the 'Essex Summer of Volunteering' and is designed:

- To build awareness of volunteering opportunities in Essex
- To communicate the richness of variety in volunteering and encouraging more people to volunteer

Arts and Cultural Fund

- Providing £1 million over five years to help support the cultural and creative sector
- Our support for arts and culture creates opportunities, skills and employment for residents

Digigo has a 5* rating from 20,000 users

- DigiGo is an electric public transport service offering on-demand travel in Essex
- We ran a trial last year which has been a huge success and we have since extended it to more destinations, with much more to come

Reducing food waste and increasing food recycling

- 25% of general rubbish is food waste, if we reduce this we can reduce emissions and help residents save around £60 per month
- We launched 'Love Essex, Love Food' providing inspirations on reducing food waste and invested £750k in direct interventions to nearly 400,000 households

Levelling up our Environment

- We have planted 240,000 trees, and we are working to plant a million by 2030
- All our new school buildings are net zero in operation
- We measure our progress at reducing emissions with an international benchmark called the [CDP](#) ('Carbon Disclosure Project') and have been

awarded an A-rating for action on climate change. We are the only county council to achieve this

- We've helped thousands of residents buy solar panels cheaper through [Solar Together](#)
- We are establishing a network of community energy groups, helping them to develop new local renewable energy, the first 4 groups have secured nearly £1m
- We received £40m to help fuel-poor homes to access up to £10,000 for energy efficiency - cutting bills and carbon
- We created the model for local authorities to lead transition to a circular economy and trained 35 other councils and delivered **Circular Economy Training** to 1,300 people from disadvantaged backgrounds, helping them gain jobs in the green sectors

Renewing our relationship with Strategic Business in Essex, towards a stronger economy

- We have created Essex Business Roundtables, engaging major employers in discussions around the future of the very fabric of Essex
- We are targeting key sectors to grow industry in the county, with a shared vision for the future of skills across employers and partners
- We want to create great jobs, in great sectors, with great employers, and ensure everyone has the opportunity to access them, this is at the very heart of our devolution ambitions

Building the future of Essex

- We have been at the forefront of the two new freeports: East and Thames
- We are getting close to completing major infrastructure projects which will reshape Essex, including the county's first new train station for generations, as well as road infrastructure to keep the county moving, sustainable transport solutions that encourage more people to get out of their cars, and building great sustainable housing in communities