

Updates on progress  
against the  
recommendations within  
*'Net Zero: Making Essex  
Carbon Neutral'*



# Updates

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





# Land Use and Green Infrastructure

# Land Use & Green Infrastructure Update

Includes:  
Essex Water Strategy  
Climate Focus Area Stakeholder  
engagement  
Local Nature Partnership Update

John Meehan  
Head of Climate Adaptation  
& Mitigation



# Essex Water Strategy

## Water Resources East

**Lucy Shepherd**

Essex Water Strategy Manager

Essex Climate Action Commission  
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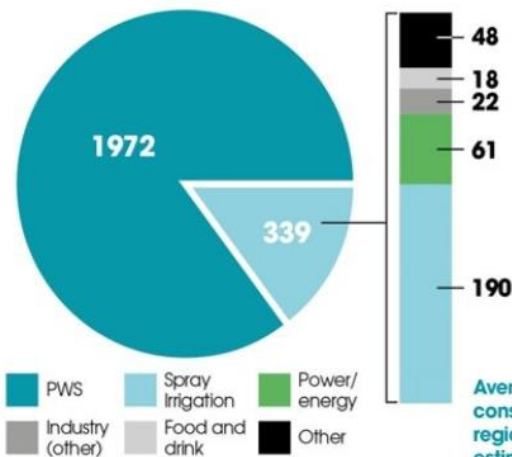


Find out more at [wre.org.uk](https://wre.org.uk)

# Regional picture



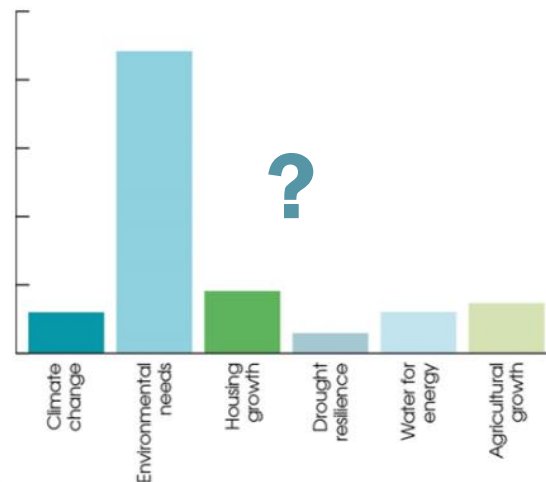
## How water is used in Eastern England today



Average daily water consumption in our region is currently estimated at

**2,311**  
million litres

## Potential additional water needs in 2050



# Regional picture

## 1 million litres

- 1,000,000 litres;
- 50,000 five-gallon jugs;
- Enough water for 15,000 showers; and
- Enough water to fill a 25m swimming pool.



What does 2,311 million litres **daily** look like?

**10% of  
Abberton**



**20% of  
Hanningfield**





## A MULTI-SECTOR, REGIONAL SCALE PLANNING PROBLEM

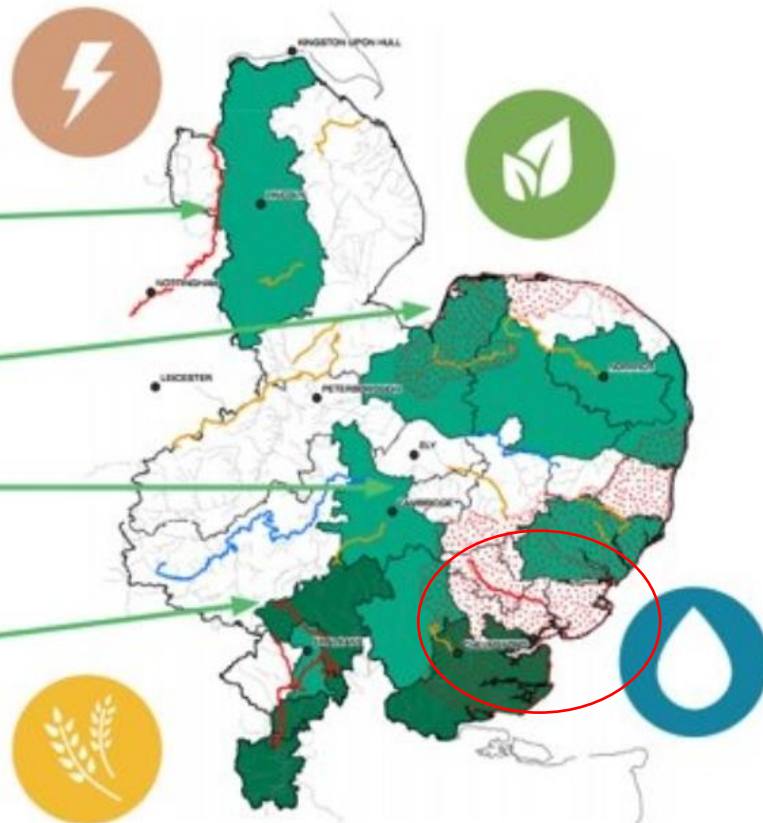
By the 2060's, the gap between the supply and demand for water will be at least 750MI/d. In the more severe scenarios that have been modelled, it is bigger. These estimates assume that levels of household demand are sustainable.

In scenarios with uncontrolled household demand there is widespread, catastrophic, failure of the WRE water resource and water supply systems.

**Power and public water supply vulnerabilities combine on the Trent**

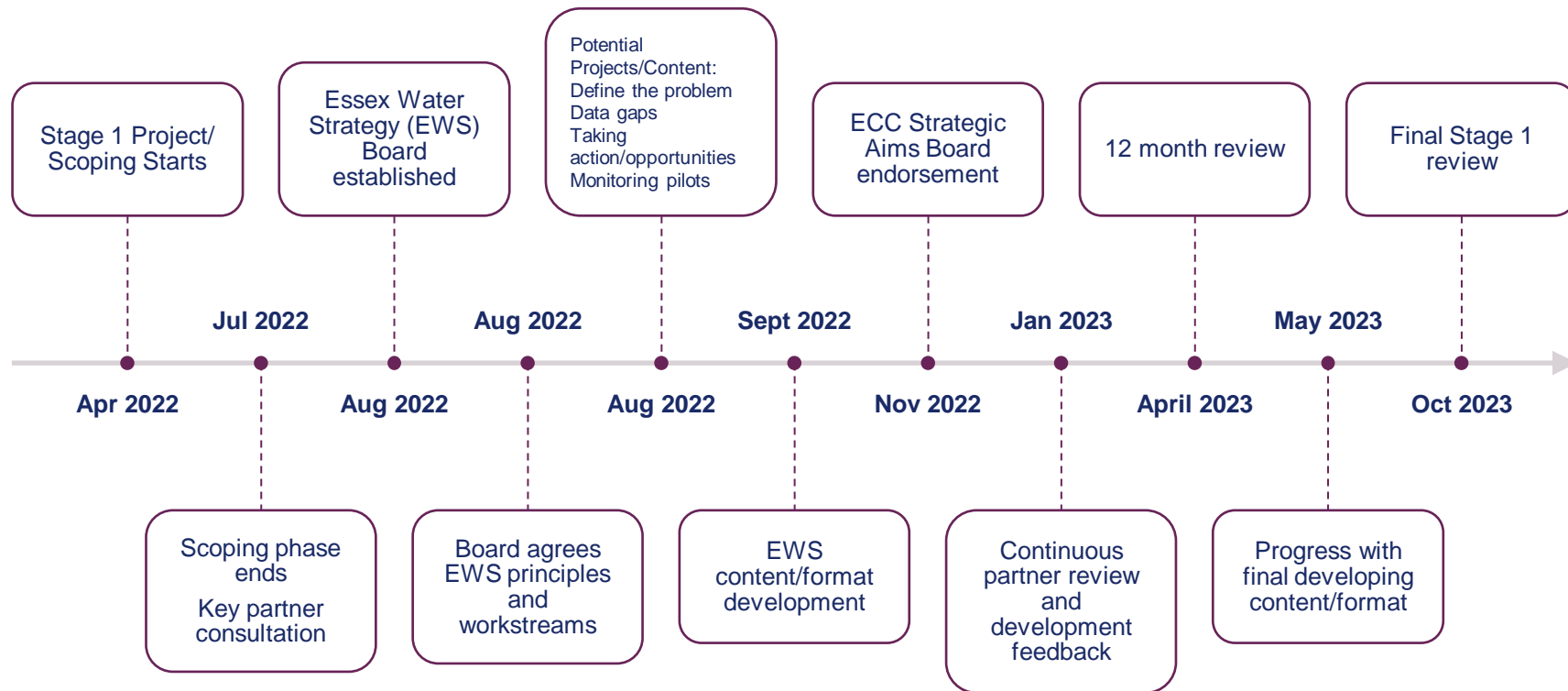
**Public water supply, agriculture and environmental vulnerabilities combine in North Norfolk, Suffolk and Essex**

**Public water supply and environmental vulnerabilities combine in Cambridgeshire, the Vale of St Albans and the southern Chilterns**



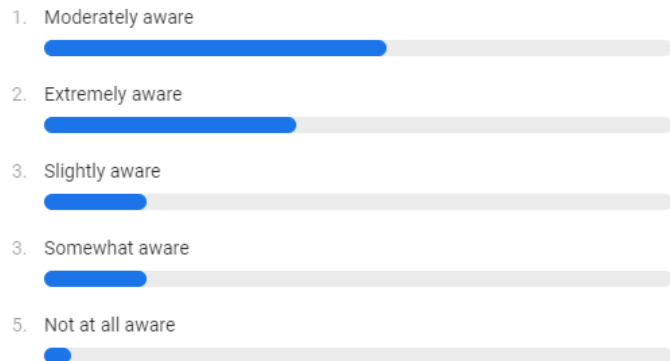


# Indicative timeline

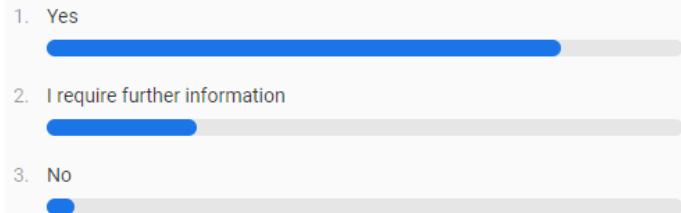


# Essex Flood Board Feedback (18 participants)

How aware do you feel about the future water resources problem in Essex?



Will you pledge to support development of the Essex Water Strategy through collaboration, resources or potential funding?



Who do you feel should be a target audience of the final Essex Water Strategy report?  
(multiple answers invited)



## Out of Scope

- Regional Measures
- Strategic Resources Options
- National Policies and Regs

## Up for Discussion

- Strategic Options Delivery?
- Local Flood Risk Management Strategy
- Demand Management?
- Leakage?
- Comms/Marketing?

## In Scope

**Water resources problem clearly articulated for Essex**

### Data Analysis

- Data Gaps
- Problem hotspots
- Project opportunities

### Catchment Solutions

- Essex Climate Action Commission
  - CFA targets
  - GI and Land Use targets
- Natural Flood Management
- Local Nature Partnership
- Other - pilot project delivery

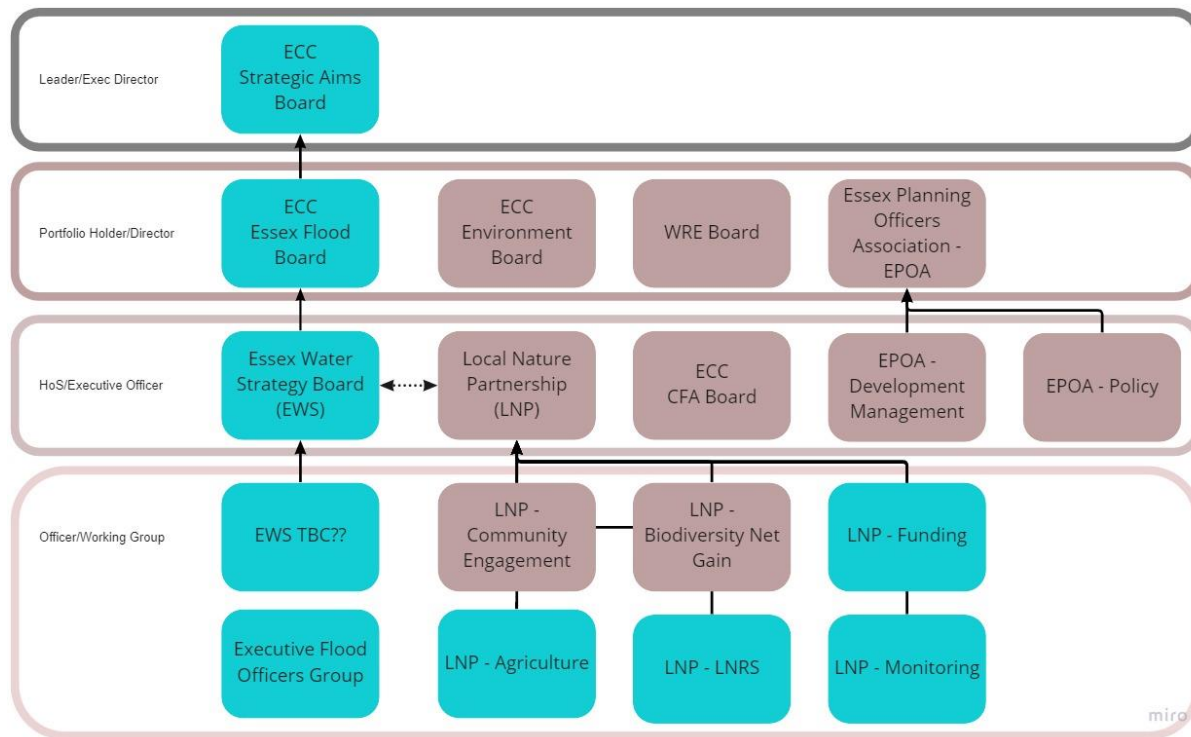
### Funding

#### Essex Strategic Planning

- Local Plans
- Integrated Water Studies

# Planned Engagement/Conversations ctd.

Essex Water Strategy - Key Stakeholder/Governance Groups



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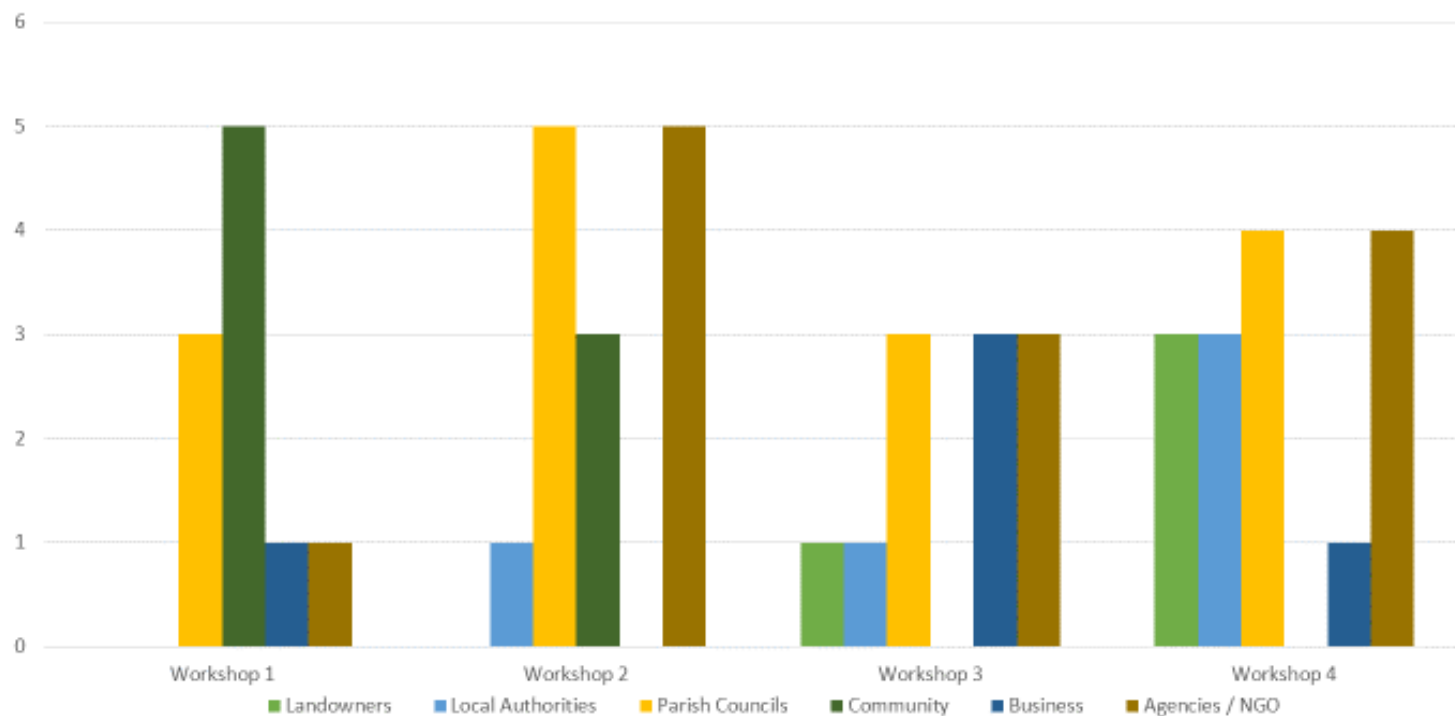


# CFA Stakeholder Workshops

Progress update

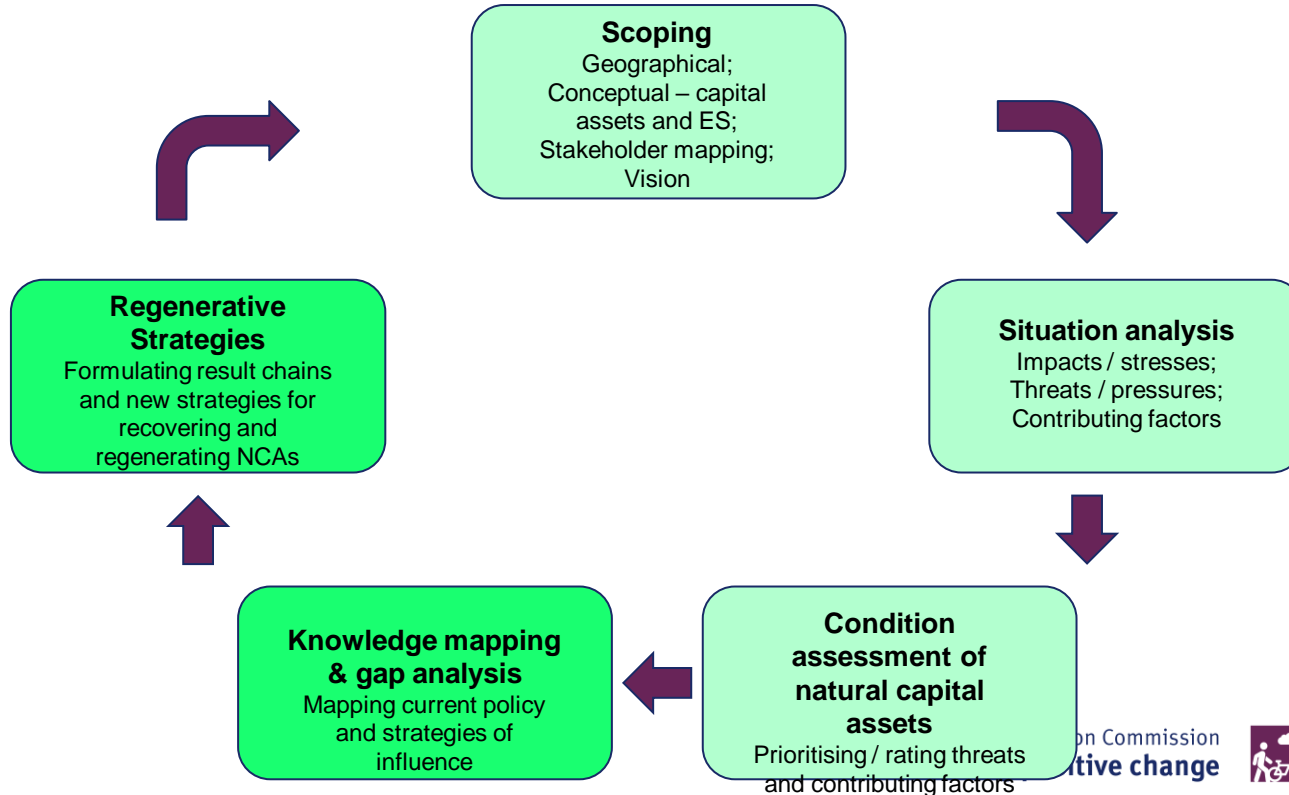


# Stakeholder Representation by Sector

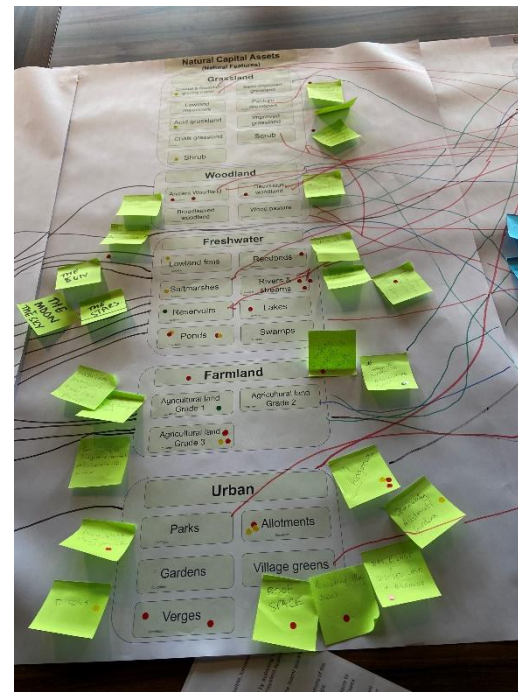




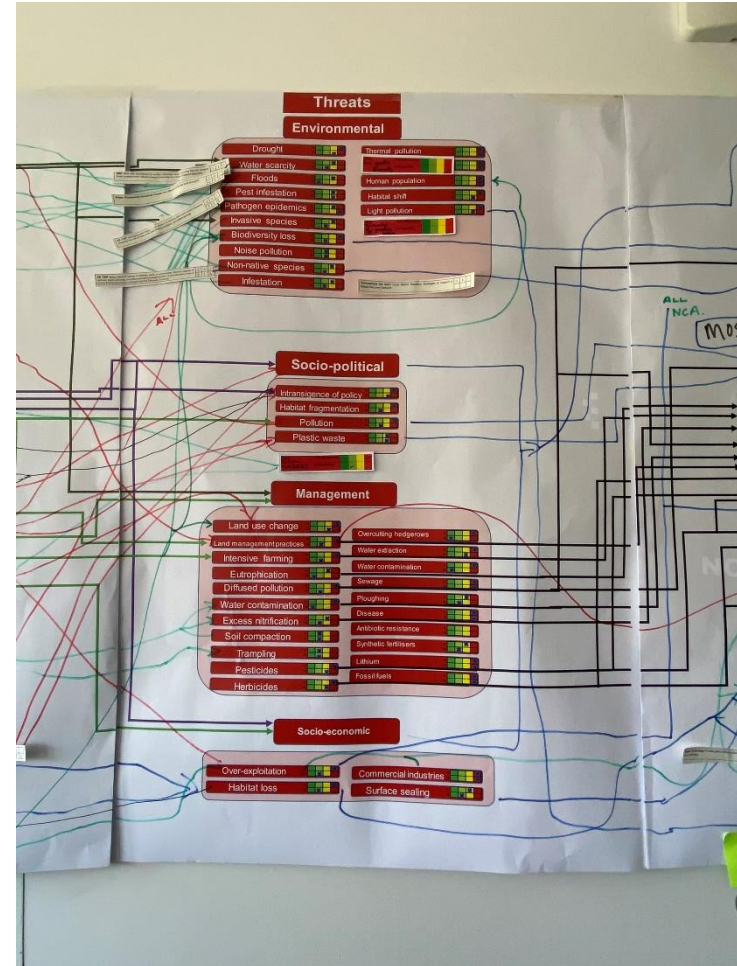
# Workshop planning cycle



# Stakeholders in Action – Workshop 1A

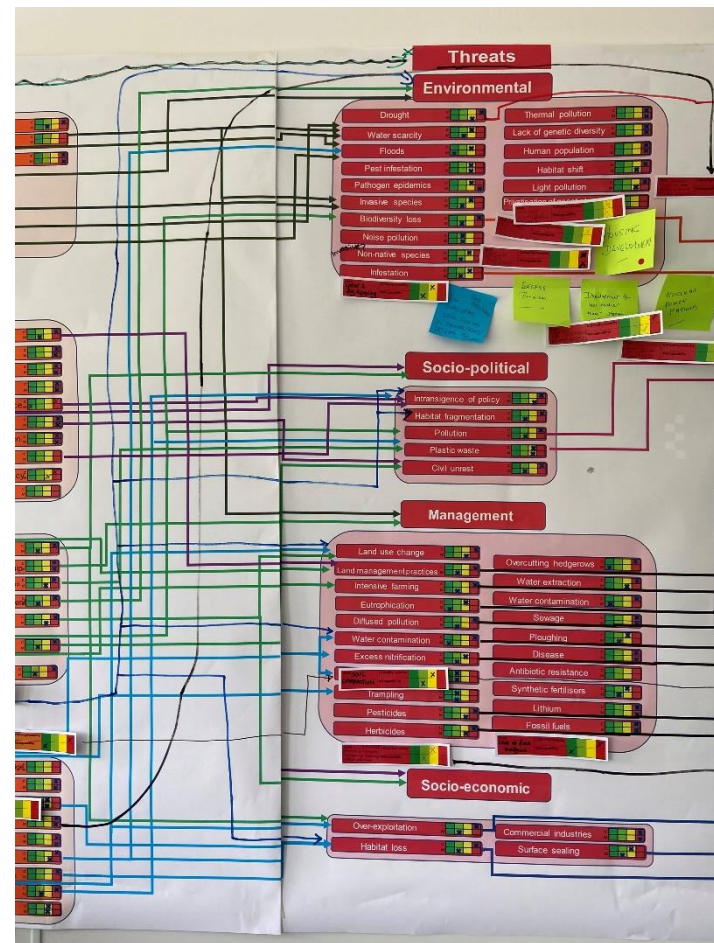


# Stakeholder Workshop







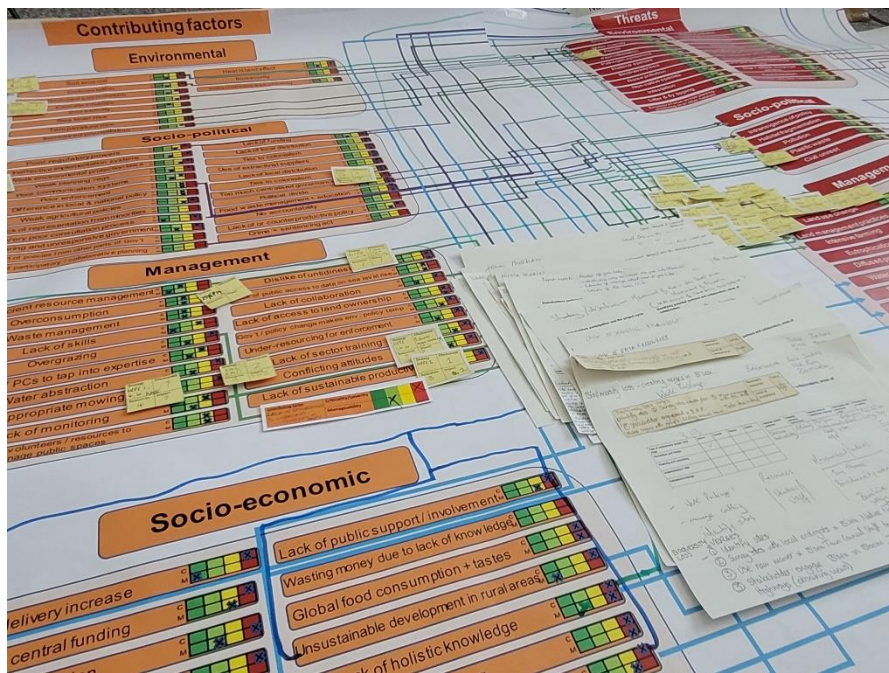


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# Stakeholder Workshop 2B



Some of the WPs include:

- Creating wild verges to tackle biodiversity loss
- Lack of data & resources – review of need and engage w/ relevant institutions
- Lack of holistic knowledge (recurring theme)
- Soil erosion – reviewing land management practices to reduce soil erosion in CFA
- Review of green links – finding out opportunities to create new green links





# Workshops 1 & 2 key points

- Stakeholders comfortable with the level of complexity
- Process is flexible and adaptable
- Prototype helped speed up the process
- 18 work packages produced
- Stakeholders keen to get on with things. They want to be enabled – need the right toolkits, funding and networks
- Good level of buy in from local communities and generation of bottom up projects
- ECC getting positive reputation from this process but is generally perceived by parish and district councils as not listening to them
- A simple synthesis of the outcomes is going to be challenging



# Benefits and future considerations

- Benefits of Networking
- Inspired and sharing within their networks
- Local Level Marisco
- Community Climate Action Fund
- Involvement of Agencies
- Awards / Accreditation
- Need to Manage Expectations
- Monitoring of their actions
- Final Product –what will this be?
- Shared Resources



# Local Nature Partnership Update



# Background

- **Essex Green Infrastructure Strategy**
  - Produced in partnership with over 40 different partners
  - Supported by the previous member for Environment and Climate Change Management
  - Adopted March 2020 via a CMA
  - Recommended a Green Essex Network (or LNP)
- **Essex Climate Action Commission**
  - Develop a Funding and Partnership Development Programme
- **Recommendations of the Environment Act**
  - Local Nature Recovery Strategy
  - Biodiversity Net Gain



# Purpose

- Delivery mechanism of Local Nature Recovery Strategy
- Develop a biodiversity net gain strategy
- Engage stakeholders to meet the challenges set by the Essex Climate Action Commission
- Act as a route for attracting alternative sources of funding
- Engage and coordinate a wide range of stakeholders to help achieve our strategic priorities.
- Promote outputs of the DEFRA 25-Year Environment Plan and emerging Environment Bill



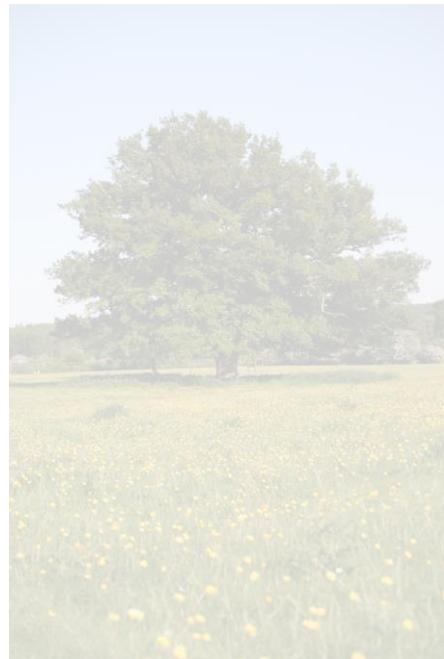
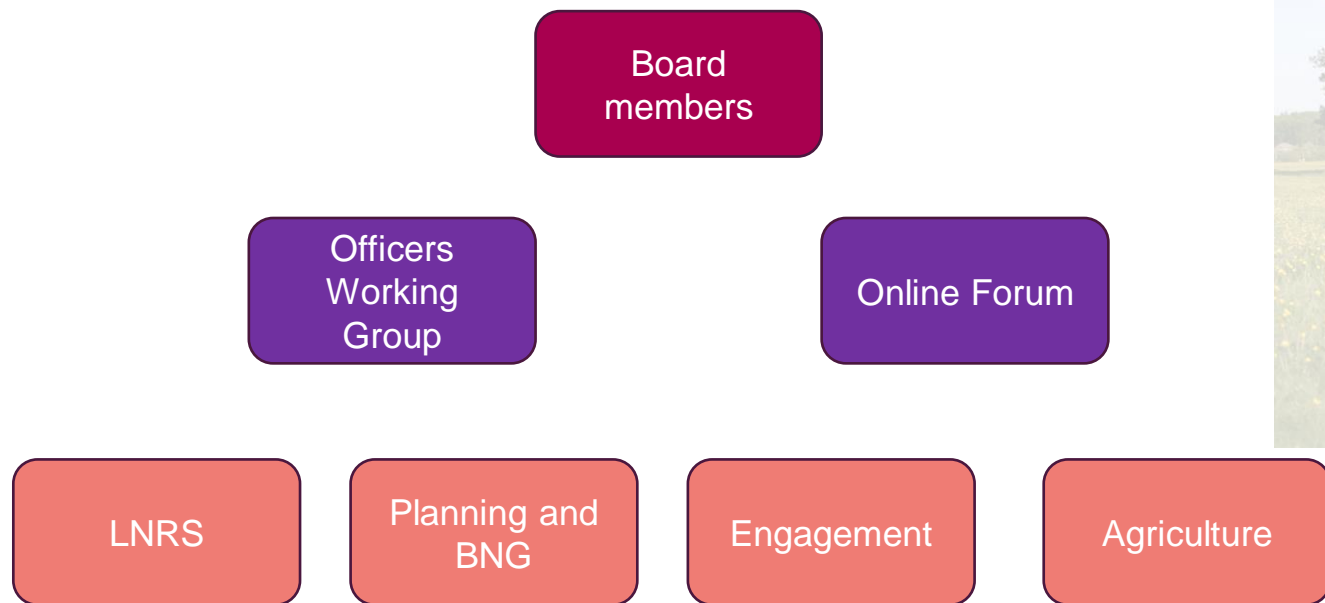
# Accepted proposal

- Establish an independent Essex LNP
- Identify an interim chairperson
- Engage with 80+ stakeholders
- Appoint a board with a wide range of backgrounds
- Provide an initial Terms of Reference
- Recommend themes for working groups
- Provide secretariat and coordinator support until 2023





# Structure



# Board Membership

Sector	Organisation	Individual Rep Name
Chair		Simon Lyster
Local Authorities	Essex Planning Officers Association	Emma Goodings
	ECC	Sam Kennedy
	Unitary	Sharon Bayliss
Developers	Essex Developers Forum	Richard Davidson
NGO / Conservation	Essex Wildlife Trust	Andrew Impey
NGO / Land Management	Whirledge and Nott	Michael Hughes
Government Agency	Environment Agency	Claire Beecroft
	Natural England	Jane Houghton
Communities	RCCE	Nick Shuttleworth
Business	Essex Chamber of Commerce	Denise Rossiter
Health	TBC	
Youth	Young Essex Assembly	Thomas Williams
Diversity	Essex Cultural Diversity Project	Indi Sandhu



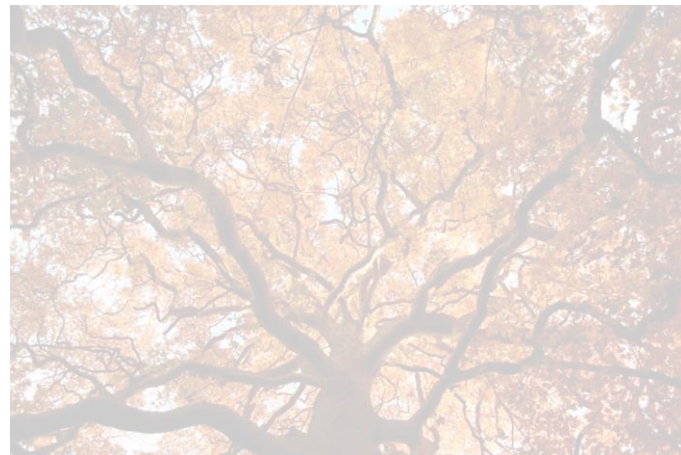
# 2030 Targets

- 25% Natural GI cover
- 50% sustainable farming
- 1 in 4 residents engaged in nature recover
- Access to high quality green space for all



# Progress Report

- First meeting - 15 March 2022
  - Board introductions
  - Targets discussed
  - Ways of working discussed
- Second meeting - 28 April
  - Final targets agreed
  - Working groups agreed
  - TORs reviewed to be agreed offline
  - Working group chairs agreed
- Local Nature Recovery Coordinator employed to support the LNP and lead on the LNRS





# Energy and Waste



# Solar

- Solar Together Essex - highest take up ever!
- Exploring options for solar farms on ECC owned land
- SENE Parish Power has kicked off – solar and storage at community level



Solar Together  
Essex







# Community energy

- Pathways Project
  - Mentoring and Seedcorn support
  - 4 new Community Benefit Societies
  - Pathways now adopted by BEIS and national roll out being funded
- Community Energy Rail – working with C2C on “Community Use Stations” in deprived communities
- CommuniPower – working with UKPN & Community Energy South



**SAFFRON WALDEN**  
COMMUNITY ENERGY



Community  
Energy  
Colchester



**TOLLESBURY**  
**CLIMATE**  
**PARTNERSHIP**  
OUR VILLAGE OUR FUTURE

**SUSTAINABLE DANBURY**

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# Community energy – one year on



“I don’t think anyone within TCP would have imagined how far we’ve come over the last year. We have no doubt that the speed and ambition of our achievements would not have occurred without the mentoring support CES provided with funding from ECC.

We hope Essex County Council are continuing this mentoring programme and that TCP will still be able to benefit. We believe that mentoring support is a powerful catalyst to our ambitions, projects, and funding applications, and most importantly things happen a lot more quickly with some gentle external impetus”

## Community Engagement

- Inform and educate local community
- Encourage and build membership
- Publicity (events, press, social media etc)
- Influence local organizations

## Home Energy

- Move to low carbon fuels (presently mostly oil)
- Improve home insulation
- Community energy schemes
- Energy usage advice

## Natural Environment

- Tree planting (Queens Canopy)
- Flood prevention
- Wildlife friendly areas
- Water saving initiatives

## Marine Environment

- Mitigation against rising sea levels
- Saltmarsh and seagrass restoration
- Sea water quality improvement
- Marine Stakeholder Group initiatives

## Transport

- Cycle routes
- Electric vehicles, charging points
- Improve bus services (community buses), car sharing

## Food Production

- Use local suppliers more
- Encourage healthy eating
- Promote sustainable food



# Retrofit and Fuel poor households

- Green Homes Grant Local Authority delivery scheme - £5.2m, 520 homes
- Sustainable Warmth / Home Upgrade Grant £17.2m, 1690 homes
- Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund - £2.6m
- Retrofit Academy – training up a workforce & support local suppliers
- Strategy and action plan
  - Retrofit stock analysis
  - Working with Retrofit Works on an Essex model

Poor UK households may have to spend half their income on energy, says charity

Joseph Rowntree Foundation calls on the government to help vulnerable people facing 'heat or eat' decisions





# Energy and Waste





# Waste Services & Strategy

- Partnership established to develop a new ambitious joint waste strategy
- Modelling underway to ensure climate change implications of strategy options are understood
- Public consultation on draft strategy scheduled for winter 2022/23
- Climate impact evaluated as part of new waste procurement award decisions
- Recycling Centre and key waste infrastructure operations in-sourced in April 2022



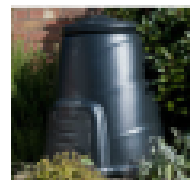


# Influencing Behaviour: Love Essex

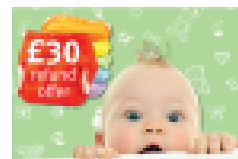
The Love Essex campaign is a partnership programme to encourage the adoption of more sustainable waste habits.



Partnership formed with Freegle to maximise reuse : active Essex users is now over 80,000 with 417,434kg of items 'Freegled' in the last 12 months



1,289 households have been encouraged to take up home composting and purchased a subsidised compost bin, whilst 286 new parents are now using cloth nappies



61 community projects funded to support waste reduction actions



145 volunteers to date engaged in delivering community action

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# Tackling Food Waste

A quarter of black bag waste is food waste - activity to ensure residents are equipped to reduce and recycle this is priority programme



## Love Essex, Love Food

County wide campaign of food waste reduction messages. Targeted activities are also being tested to identify the most successful approaches

## Kitchen App

Food reduction tool launched to support residents in reducing food waste.





# BLUEPRINT to a Circular Economy



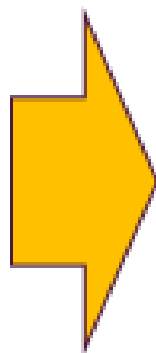
**ENABLE** local authorities to accelerate towards a circular economy.



**EQUIP** social enterprises to support people to secure jobs.



**ENHANCE** community engagement to deliver lasting behaviour change



- Over 750 attendees to roadshow events
- Created circular economy directory to promote 100 sustainable businesses
- Online learning resources and tutor led training for Circular Economy skills
- Delivered a range of CE pilots, engaging with over 90,000 residents and 70 schools.
- Secured support from Ellen MacArthur Foundation and other CE leaders to review and validate BLUEPRINT model approach.





# Built Environment





## Built Environment

### New build - workstream

Graham Thomas - Head of Planning and Sustainable Development



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# New Build Workstream Update



Report for Essex County Council

NET ZERO CARBON VIABILITY AND TOOLKIT STUDY  
Report of findings - FIRST DRAFT

Three Dragons  
Qoda  
Ward Williams Associates

Net Zero Carbon Viability Study: Three Dragons have submitted a draft report. Built Environment colleagues are currently reviewing and providing comments on the draft report.

Climate Action Developers Charter: The Charter has been endorsed by the Essex Developers Group. Final amendments to the charter are currently being made, ready for its publication.

- Climate Action Developer Charter Action Plan: There is work underway to develop a set out actions which is accompany the Essex Developers Charter. These include:
  - ✓ Net Zero Show Homes
  - ✓ Case Studies
  - ✓ Sponsorship of Apprenticeships in Design and Green Construction Skills
  - ✓ Essex Housing Awards 2022



ESSEX DEVELOPERS  
CLIMATE ACTION CHARTER

# New Build Workstream Update

- Climate Action Team: Lead Climate Change Planning Officer recruited early May. Interviews are in place for the two Sustainable Building & Environment Specialist.
- Essex Design Guide Supplement (Solar Gain): Etude have been commissioned to complete this guidance. This is anticipated to be submitted late May 2022.
- Essex Design Guide Supplement (Historical Buildings): Place Services have been commissioned to complete this guidance. This is anticipated to be submitted June 2022.
- Walkable Neighbourhoods Part A: JAS Bhalla Architects have been commissioned to complete this study. The study is anticipated to be submitted on 25/05/2022.
- Climate Change Informative: The draft has been consulted on being refined.
- Land Searches: Chair of EPOA has agreed in principle to pursue this. Further work is needed to establish how this can be taken forward.







# Transport





# Sustainable Transport update May 2022

## Cycling

- 220 Essex Pedal Power bikes distributed, 5,448 trips, 11,914 KM ridden and 6,345 Co2e saved
- RideLondon mini “BikeFest” in start / end locations –and Tour De Tendring
- Vivacity cameras installed
- M11 7a in Harlow promotional cycling event
- 107 adults cycle trained

## Active Travel

- ATF2 progressing but delayed due to national design and engineering resources
- Submitted Social Prescribing bid – decision expected Sept?

## School Streets

- School street engagement progressing via partnerships with Sustrans and Living Streets
- Winstree Road school street delayed: resourcing challenges





# Sustainable Transport update May 2022

## EVs

- New escooters brand, scooter and app –1M rides in July
- Redoing tender for on-street residential charging
- Exploring LEVI fund for widespread roll out
- Electrifying ECC car fleet: new approach to pilots

## Passenger transport

- DigiGo launched
- Refugee Action Colchester Train very successful
- Travel Essex app launched, bus network brand next
- Delivered the first obligations in the Enhanced Partnership through the first EP Management Board

## Other

- Transport Levelling Up bid – Tending Sustainable Journeys to Jobs
- Theatre in Education Air Quality funding awarded





# New poster

Transforming travel in Essex

We want to make **ESSEX** safer, greener and healthier by encouraging people to hop on their bikes or walk rather than jump into their cars, especially for shorter journeys.

**SAFER  
GREENER  
HEALTHIER**

**FOLLOW US  
ON TWITTER**

Whether you're a seasoned cyclist or new to two wheels, join the Love to Ride Essex community!

Cycle to any of our cycle cafes, collect four stamps on your loyalty card and get a **FREE** slice of cake on your fifth visit!

Check out the new **TravelEssex** app. Includes walking and cycling routes, bus, train and DigiGGo options.





# Community Engagement



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# Community Engagement update

23/05/22







# Events

- **Green Business Expo** – 21 April.
- **Thundersley Primary School Earth Day talk** – 22 April.
- **Chambers of Commerce Festival of Business** – 27 April.
- **Climate Awareness Train** – 22 May.



Green Business Expo



Festival of Business



Festival of Business





# Advice Packs

- School, Business and Residents advice pack launched and available on website.
- [www.essexclimate.org.uk/what-can-i-do](http://www.essexclimate.org.uk/what-can-i-do)





# Climate Action Challenge Fund

- **Abberton Rural Training** – £19,900.
- **Chelmsford Cathedral** – £20,000.
- **Colchester Bike Kitchen** – £4,220.
- **First Chesterford Scouts** – £5,000.
- **Great Bentley Primary School** – £19,220.
- **Groundworks East** – £19,506.
- **Hopes Sustainability** – £19,400.
- **Mending Matters Brightlingsea** – £5,000.
- **PACE – Manningtree** – £5,000.
- **Sea Change Sailing Trust** – £12,586.
- **Sustainable Danbury** – £5,000.
- **Trust Links – Rochford** – £20,000.





# Training

Both underway:

- **Carbon Literacy training.**
- **Local Climate Engagement training.**







## Other activities

- [Green business video](#) – showcasing sustainability work of various businesses around Essex.
- **Sustain Essex piece** – centre spread article in Business Time in Essex magazine.

Business Times



### Help for businesses hoping to become more sustainable

THE world is changing. Challenging businesses at all levels and increasing pressure of the science and social world. Business change is no longer optional to work along.



Businesses are being asked to do more than ever before. They are being asked to be more sustainable, to be more responsible, to be more ethical, to be more transparent, to be more accountable, to be more inclusive, to be more resilient, to be more agile, to be more innovative, to be more competitive, to be more successful.

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Sustain  
Essex piece



Green business video

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# Digital

- **Website** – 1.2k viewers since last meeting.
- **Twitter** – 103 followers total.
- **Facebook** – 135 followers total.
- **App** – Being planned and developed.



Website



Facebook page

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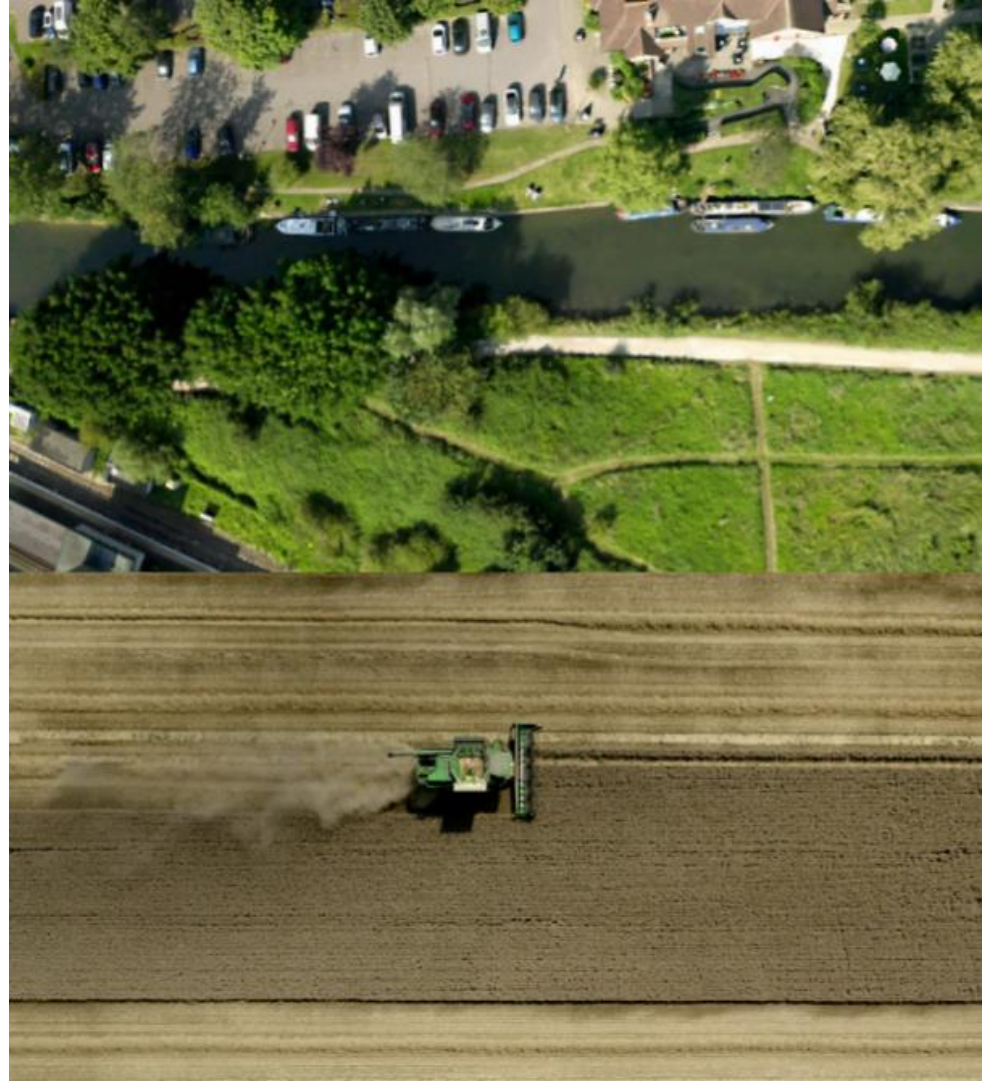
# Green Growth



# Essex Climate Action Commission Green Economy Working group:

A Just Transition to a Green  
Economy

Vision, Objectives, Actions &  
Outcomes for Year 2







## 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
- Maximise potential for residents, business and social enterprise in Essex
- Include residents in our plans and ensure that the community is heard in the design and implementation of our projects
- We will promote the county to increase investment and 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



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# Our Projects

## An Essex network of ventures supporting the green economy

We will create a community to:

- network, connecting people with information, skills and resources they need to take control; embedding them in a digital and real world community



## Working Well for a Green Economy

We will encourage businesses to:

- make small changes to the environment that would help them achieve Working Well Accreditation



Essex Climate Act  
lowering posi

## Green Entrepreneurs Programme

We will support our residents:

- through a bespoke programme of activity aimed at 30 young green entrepreneurs aged 18 to 35 with innovative green business start-up ideas





# 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:

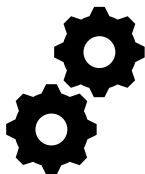
## Raised aspirations & informed

- 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

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