



Essex Climate Action Commission
Powering positive change

Special Interest Group Updates to ECAC

July 4th, 2022



Essex County Council

Updates

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





Land Use and Green Infrastructure



Update to follow





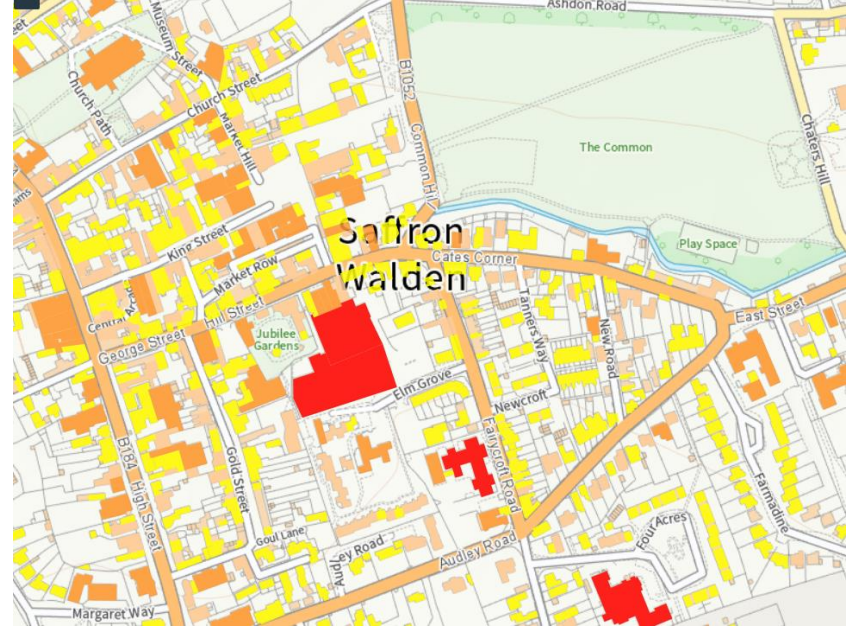
Energy and Waste





Renewable energy

- Solar Together Essex – first 2022 installs delivered in June, over 1100 offers accepted, expect c.660 installations
- Renewable energy resource assessment and informing local development plans and neighbourhood plans
- Working with Parishes and Industrial Estates on feasibility studies for community financed and community owned smart local solar and storage systems





Community energy

- Pathways Project – mentoring support to existing groups extended
- Community Climate Action Challenge fund grants awarded to Saffron Walden, Tollesbury and Danbury to develop their projects
- Planning next phase of seedcorn support and Comms activity through Essex is Green
- Working with Community Energy South and UKPN on CommuniPower bid to Ofgem Strategic Innovation Fund bid – Littlebury in Uttlesford first pilot



Community
Energy
Colchester



TOLLESBURY
CLIMATE
PARTNERSHIP
OUR VILLAGE OUR FUTURE

SUSTAINABLE DANBURY

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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 – will be targeting E, F and G households
- Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund - £2.6m
- Detailed analysis of housing stock and pathways to net zero
- Retrofit Academy – training up a workforce & support local suppliers
- Strategy and action plan
 - Support to Low-income households – joining up across partners
 - Working with Retrofit Works on an Essex self-funded retrofit offer
 - Continued support to develop skills and supply chain

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



Retrofit Funding - details



RETROFIT PROGRAMMES		Description	Budget	Impact
<u>Warm Homes Essex</u>	2019 - 2022	ECC led project with Citizens Advice Essex providing energy and financial wellbeing advice to fuel poor residents	£859k (100% grant funded, free to resident support) FUNDING ENDS JUNE 2021	2,500 households supported Additional resident income of £4 million
<u>Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery (GHG LAD) Phase 1a</u>	Oct 2020 - Sep 21	ECC led project with consortium of 7 Essex LA. Retrofitting low income, EPC E, F and G properties with £10k average grant	£813,000 (100% grant funded, free to resident support) COMPLETED & CLOSED	82 homes successfully retrofitted
GHG LAD Phase 1b	Feb 21- Mar 22	Tendring DC and Castle Point BC won individual bids on park home sites	£975k & £2.3m (100% grant funded, free to resident support) ONGOING	100 and 250 park homes respectively
GHG LAD Phase 2	Apr 21 – Mar 22	Greater South East Energy Hub led project to retrofit low income, EPC D, E, F or G properties	£5.2m allocated (100% grant funded, free to resident support) ONGOING	Capacity for circa 520 homes retrofitted – <i>in delivery</i>
Sustainable Warmth	Jan 22 – Mar 23	As above, extension of the funding with an extra focus and increased funding for off gas properties	£17.2m awarded (100% grant funded, free to resident support) ONGOING	Capacity for circa 1690 homes retrofitted – <i>none yet delivered, future programme</i>
Community Renewal Fund	Oct 21 – Mar 23	Retrofit supply chain research, support and training in Tendring and Harlow working with Retrofit Academy – sector leader in retrofit skills development	£700k allocated to ECC and Retrofit Academy to deliver training and research. FUNDING ENDS 2023	50 retrofit assessors, 50 retrofit coordinators, 30 retrofit advisors, 2 Retrofit Academy approved training centres
Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (SHDF) Wave 1	Feb 22-May 23	ECC awaiting outcome of bid submitted with Sanctuary Housing and Eastlight Community Homes to retrofit low EPC social homes in Essex	£2.6m applied for the Essex region (free to resident support, net nil cost to ECC) GRANT TBC	769 homes retrofitted, average household bill saving £118/year – <i>in delivery</i>





Energy and Waste



Waste Management: Current Areas of Activity

Current actions are focussed on:

1. Ensuring the evidence base and framework is in place to support decisions that drive down GHG emissions
2. Motivations are understood so we can effectively engage and influence behaviours



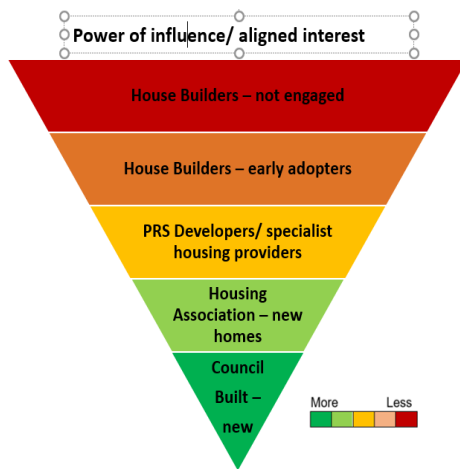
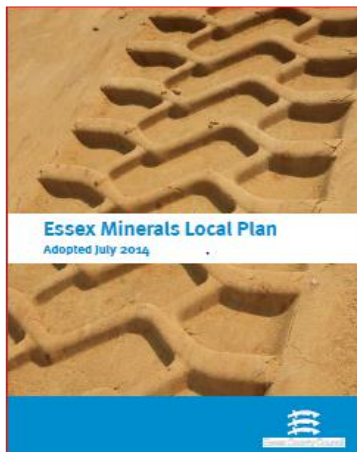
- Essex **waste flow model** and future **waste management options** assessment nearing completion
- Procurement to secure long-term **recycling options for food waste** and garden waste launched
- New waste disposal procurement to **reduce landfill** due to be launched
- Research underway into **motivations and barriers**, to develop more effective engagement approaches and services





Built Environment



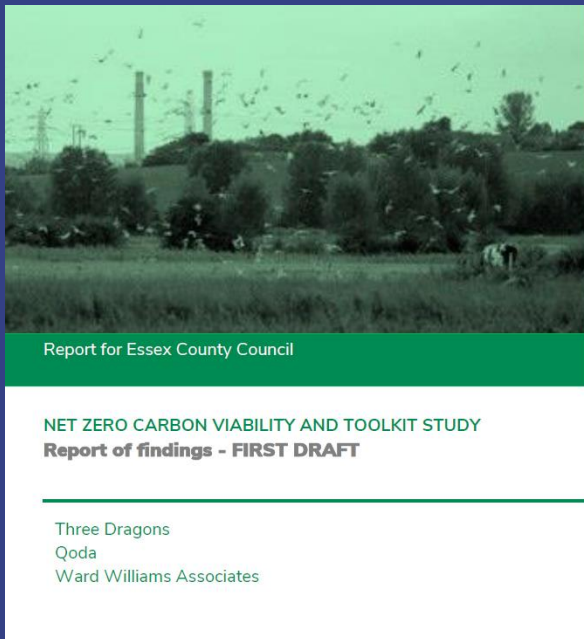


Built Environment

New build - workstream

Graham Thomas - Head of Planning and Sustainable Development





New Build Workstream Update



- **Climate Action Developers Charter has been published** - launched 7th June 2022
- **Climate Action Developers Charter Action Plan:** Work is underway to develop a set out actions which 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

Built Environment - New Build Update

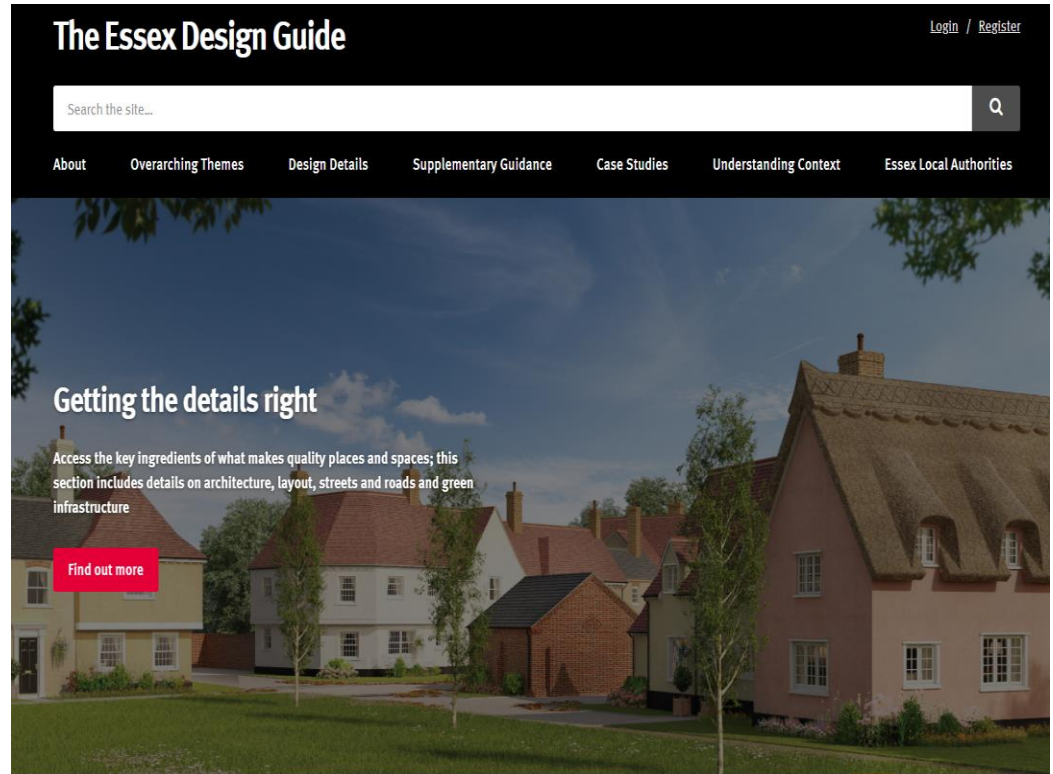
Good progress has been made with the Climate change guidance covered in the **Essex Design Guide**.

Climate Change Compendium –
completed

Guidance on Solar Gain – Completed

Guidance on Historical Buildings – near
completion

Walkable Neighbourhoods' Part A –
near completion.





Transport



SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT UPDATE JULY 2022

22K riders started Ride London, £1m in funding



Julia, a volunteer at Wrabness, received an OBE for Services to Community Rail



Ecaro bike conference – ECC announce plans to start a 'try before you buy' scheme



New Tier scooters fully deployed – 1 million rides imminent



15 trees planted for the Queen's Jubilee

**SAFER
GREENER
HEALTHIER**



Community Engagement





Events

- **Environmental Careers Insight Day**
– 20 May
- **Climate Awareness Train for International Biodiversity Day**
– 22 May.
- **World Refill Day**
– 16 June
- **Manningtree Earth Festival** – 25 June



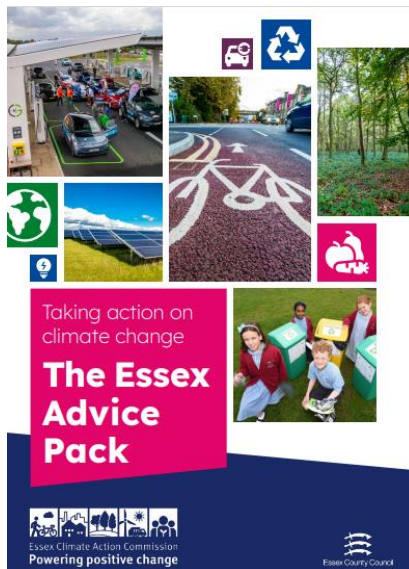
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Sharing Our Advice Packs

- School, Business and Residents' advice pack launched and available on website.
- www.essexclimate.org.uk/what-can-i-do





Chelmsford Cathedral & Groundworks East receive their cheques - Climate Action Challenge Fund



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Training

Both underway:

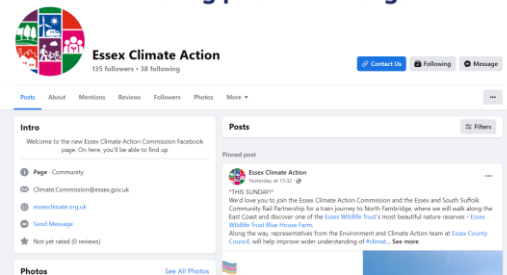
- **Carbon Literacy training underway – for Elected Members and Leadership & Management.**
- **Local Climate Engagement training continues.**



- **Website** – 1.5k viewers since last meeting.
- **Twitter** – please share and retweet our tweets to boost this!
- **Facebook** – please engage and share our posts to boost this!
- **Apps** – Being planned and developed.
- **Essex is Green** – Monthly average of 450-500,000 reached



Website



Facebook page





Other activities

- **ECC/ECAC shortlisted for LGC Future Places Award** – Having successfully been through the judging day, we are now waiting for the final decision at the awards ceremony on 22 July. Our application focuses on the Climate Focus Area, as a future place that will inspire and initiate change.
- **Essex Business Visits** – Cllr Peter Schwier continues to visit businesses across Essex doing their bit to reduce their carbon footprint. See his visit to TCP Eco, an innovative company leading the way in sustainable lighting design alongside other environmental services, here: [Cllr Peter Schwier Visits TCP Eco in Maldon, Essex - YouTube](#)



Green Economy



Green economy

ECAC three main projects:

SHUJAZ FOR ESSEX:

- Bringing young people closer to sustainable work through online media and peer to peer learning platform and support
- Linking aware businesses to young people seeking work – IKEA, Unilever and other major employers
- Links to the Essex Renewal Commission

GREAT START SCHEME:

Supporting business awareness and engagement
Utilising the existing contracts, contacts and business linkages
Training for free in exchange for pledges:
 Reduce waste
 Reduce carbon
 Digital badges for those signed up to the initiative

GREEN ENTREPRENEURS PROGRAMME

short programme: 30 individuals
Providing:
 industry insight
Access to professional networks
career sector diversity
transferable skills
£5k of seed funding (£25k in the winners pot) – 5 winners
expertise and reach of the Commissioners to make industry links and matches
coaching

Fit for Retrofit: pilots in Harlow and Tendring

Training being delivered from levels 2 to 5: boosting skills across the County from assessors to co-ordinators

Stock condition report at first draft – looking at the condition of Housing across Essex and producing an interactive dashboard

“Train the trainer” programmes underway with ACL – bringing long term training opportunity, and new training capacity

A retrofit skills gap report is due in August 22

Social Housing workstream: first of its kind in the UK (alongside Devon CC) training social housing providers ensuring good quality retrofit and understanding of the retrofit process.

Pilots are due to end in December 22, but hoping for further rollout working with other Essex authorities utilising UK Shared Prosperity Fund

Sector Development Strategy for Essex:

Strategy published: [Plans and strategies: Sector development strategy - Essex County Council](#)

Delivery Plan now being produced with partners

A just transition to a green economy will be key to the future success of the Essex Economy and ensuring opportunity for our residents

Work on going, paused due to staff shortages but new meeting will go into diaries shortly