

MALDON DIVISION MONTHLY UPDATE – COUNCILLOR JANE FLEMING

LET'S TALK TRASH FESTIVAL

This July, Essex will host the Let's Talk Trash Festival. The anti-litter festival has been commissioned by the Plume Academy and funded through Essex County Council's [Climate Action Challenge Fund](#).

The festival will engage young people aged 11-13 through various exciting and participatory experiences to raise awareness of the detrimental impacts of littering and waste on climate change. It will also aim to encourage behaviour change throughout the school, within families and the community. The festival will teach many practical strategies on how we can all reduce litter and waste by reducing, reusing and recycling.

It is hoped that the event will be hosted annually to encourage youth engagement across the county. The event will take place on 18 July, 10am-2pm at Braxted Park. For further information about the festival, please contact Alex Rayner at alex.braxtedpark.com.

FORD RIDELONDON-ESSEX IS NEARLY HERE

Ford RideLondon-Essex, one of the world's greatest cycling festivals is back in Essex on Sunday 28 May. To ensure the safe and smooth running of the 2023 Ford RideLondon-Essex, road closures will be necessary in London and Essex on Sunday 28 May. Plan ahead with the [latest access plans and road closure information](#).

ESSEX GREEN SKILLS SUMMIT

Join us on Friday 9 June from 9am at Essex County Cricket Ground to find out how we can work together to deliver skills for a net-zero future.

During the event, delegates will have the chance to hear from a range of employers and skills providers across the green sector. There will be an opportunity to take part in table discussions about the future of green skills and employment in Essex. Attendees will also be able to network with experts in the green skills world.

Can't join us in person? We'll be live streaming for the morning to give you the chance to hear our keynote speakers wherever you are!

View the full agenda and register for your free space on the [Essex Opportunities Portal](#).

NEW PROGRAMME FOR YOUNG ECO ENTREPRENEURS

We are delighted to announce that The Green Entrepreneurs' Programme is now open for applications. This exciting scheme will support 30 entrepreneurs aged between 18 and 30 with an idea for making Essex a greener county for all.

Participants will have the chance to:

- take part in exciting and inspirational workshops
- receive expert mentoring from local business owners
- pitch to a panel of local green entrepreneurs to receive up to £5,000 worth of funding

Whether you have a new green idea or established eco business [find out more and apply before 1 June](#) for your chance to take part in the programme.

FREE RESOURCE AVAILABLE TO KICKSTART YOUR CAREER

The Essex Careers Magazine can support you to navigate your first job or make a decision about qualifications or a big career change. [Read the Essex Careers magazine](#) for impartial advice, employer case studies and tips and tricks for succeeding in your career

HELP TO TACKLE STRESS AND ANXIETY

Stress and poor mental health are a big challenge that many people like you are facing. It's important to reach out and find out how you can gain valuable tools to help in your daily life and help you support others.

ACL Essex offers a huge range of [free mental health and wellbeing courses](#) including:

- building self confidence
- goal setting for wellbeing
- managing anxiety
- managing sleep for wellbeing
- positive thinking for stress reduction
- self-care for carers

MULTIPLY IN ESSEX

As the annual exam period for SATS, GCSE and A Levels approach, children as young as 11 are busy revising. With many adults struggling when it comes to maths, some parents and carers might not know how they can help their child prepare.

Multiply in Essex offers free courses to help parents and carers improve their maths skills and feel more confident in supporting their children prepare for exams.

Use our [exam tips](#) and [find a course to help improve your maths skills.](#)

BECOME A PARENT AMBASSADOR

ACL Essex are looking for volunteers to become parent ambassadors for local schools, you'll receive free training.

If you're interested in being part of a caring and compassionate community, you can [apply to become a Parent Ambassador](#) today.

ESSEX LIBRARIES SUMMER CHALLENGE

Come and take part in our brand new challenge for pre-schoolers this summer!

Ready... Steady... Go To School! is a fun challenge full of activities which will help your child to practise skills that they'll need to help them feel confident when they start school in September.

They'll complete activities in seven different development areas, collect stamps in their special booklet, and then receive a certificate when they finish!

Come and take part in any Essex library from May to July. [Find out more about the challenge.](#)

LOVE YOUR LIBRARY DAY

Love Your Library is back! Returning on Saturday 27 May, with a theme of Local and Community History.

We'd love for you to come and join us and find out more about the history of your local area. Or share a fact or two. Let's all learn together!

Did you know some libraries have historical maps of the area? You'll have to pop in and see them for yourself, as these are for in-library use only!

For all the latest on Love Your Library Day, make sure you're following @EssexLibraries on Instagram and Twitter, and search 'Essex Library Service' to find us on Facebook

BOOK OF THE MONTH

Our Book of the Month this May is the gripping standalone thriller High Pressure by Sam Blake, the No. 1 bestselling author of Little Bones and The Dark Room!

Join student Brioni and terrorism expert Anna as they search for Brioni's missing sister Marissa, who's caught up in the dangerous terror attacks in London.

[Download the e-audio and listen on BorrowBox now.](#)

GET COMPOSTING

Now the weather's warming up, it's the perfect time to take your book into the garden!

Get healthier plants in the garden by improving your soil with [home composting](#). The more garden and food waste that can be composted at home, the better for your garden and the planet.

To celebrate both composting and gardening, Love Essex are offering residents the chance to win a HotBin Mini 100 litre compost bin! There are also two runner up prizes of one-year gift memberships to the RHS.

[Take their short quiz to enter the prize draw!](#)

WIN A COMPOST BIN

In Essex, food and garden waste makes up 25% of the general waste we throw away. The more garden and food waste that can be composted at home, the better for your garden and the planet.

To celebrate both composting and gardening, Love Essex is offering residents the chance to win a HotBin Mini 100 litre compost bin! There are also two runner-up prizes of one-year gift memberships to the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS). Just take [their quick composting bin quiz](#) to be entered into the prize draw.

Not only is food waste costing us money, but it also harms the environment and feeds climate change.

Join us in the fight against food waste by taking the [Essex Food Waste Pledge](#).

EV CHARGING POINTS INSTALLED ACROSS THE COUNTY

The Government has confirmed that Essex County Council (ECC) will be awarded £236,000 as part of the electric vehicle (EV) residential charge point scheme. Approximately 60 charging points will be installed across 30 locations across Essex from summer 2023 onwards, supporting ECC's ambition for Essex to become safer, greener and healthier. Charging point locations to be installed in Maldon as part of this scheme, will be in Tenterfield Road, Victoria Road, Fambridge Road and London Road.

The Office for Zero Emission Vehicles (OZEV) has awarded the grant funding, which will be administered by the Energy Saving Trust. ECC will be publishing its EV strategy later this year.

NEW CLIMATE ACTION APP

On 22 May, [International Day for Biological Diversity](#), Essex will see the launch of a pioneering app to help us all to calculate our carbon footprint.

The app will also suggest small changes which we can make to reduce it through our daily lifestyles. Essex County Council has worked with Greenreedem to develop the county's first ever climate action app.

The app comes a year after the Council launched its three Climate Action Advice Packs for [residents](#), [businesses](#) and [schools](#), which provide a wealth of practical top tips and advice on actions which we can all take to reduce our carbon footprint.

From eating more plant-based foods to recycling and swapping our cars for more sustainable forms of travel, such as walking and cycling, there are hundreds of ways in which we can all take action which will all add up to make an accumulative impact in transforming Essex to become a net zero county.

As well as helping to reduce our carbon footprint, many of these daily actions, such as reducing energy consumption in our homes and at work, can also help us to save money.

The app will provide fun activities and focus on a variation of themes each month around climate action including food, waste, transport and energy. It will also motivate positive actions by providing points and rewards. This is an exciting new milestone for our county and we look forward to seeing the app next month!

[Sign up](#) for the virtual launch event, which will take place on Monday 22 May 2023 from 4pm to 5pm. Join us for an exciting event where a range of fantastic speakers will tell you all you need to know about the app.

NATIONAL WALKING MONTH

May is National Walking Month and with the evenings beginning to stretch out and the weather becoming (hopefully) drier, it's the perfect time to get out and walk.

Whether for leisure or as a way of getting to the shops or work, walking is one of the easiest ways to improve physical and mental health. Did you know for example that a 20-minute daily walk can reduce the risk of a number of preventable health conditions, including certain cancers, depression, heart disease and Type 2 diabetes?

And by swapping a short drive for a walk, you can also help reduce air pollution and congestion – and save yourself some money and keep active in the process! Throughout the month, the Safer, Greener, Healthier team will be promoting [Living Streets' #Try20 campaign](#), asking people to fit 20 minutes of walking into their day. And the [GoJauntly walking App](#) which is free to download, contains over 100 Essex walks to help you do just that.

May also sees the return of the [Walk to School Week](#) (15th-19th) when hundreds of pupils in Essex will be taking part in the Walk with Wildlife Challenge.

So are you ready to walk this May?

ESSEX BUSINESS PARTNERSHIPS BUSINESS SHOW

Essex County Council and Haines Watts are sponsors of the Essex Business Partnerships 2023 Business Show. The event will take place Tuesday 23 May between 9am and 5pm at the Greenwoods Hotel in Stock. Our team will also participate on the day.

Created to support local businesses, the show will include several scheduled networking opportunities, a range of stands hosted by organisations offering useful services to help your business grow and thrive.

A vital part of the Business Show will be keynote speakers who will be presenting on topics designed to provide useful information for local businesses, throughout the day

Essex Business Partnerships will be facilitating an expert panel from a cross sector of business and charitable organisations who will be discussing the merits of businesses partnering with a charity and how it can help improve productivity and profitability.

Thanks to the generosity of the sponsors, this event is free to attendees. To find out more and to book your place click here: - [Essex Business Partnerships Annual Business Show – Essex Business Partnerships](#)

JOIN THE ESSEX RESIDENT'S PANEL

We all like to discuss local issues, [join the Essex Residents' Panel](#) to get your opinions heard.

It's quick and easy to join to have your say. There are up to six online surveys a year where you can share your feedback to help shape decisions that affect you. Join now.

Cllr Jane Fleming

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