



MALDON DIVISION

MAY UPDATE

COUNCILLOR JANE FLEMING

WANT TO GET INVOLVED IN CELEBRATING RIDELONDON ESSEX?

Ford RideLondon-Essex is inspiring people to come together to get active and cycle more. A special fund supports parish and town councils, schools and community groups to celebrate and inspire their communities to become involved and cycle more.

Grants are available up to the value of £500 to support celebrations, activities, or other community events. [View examples of how the grant can be used on the Active Essex website.](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS



This year, Essex County Council's Environment and Climate Action team will participate in a range of events. If you would like to learn more about what we can all do to reduce our carbon footprint, join us at one of the following events.

If you're a business, join us at [The Big Green Business Expo](#) on Thursday, 20 April, where core businesses will teach you how to make your company more sustainable.

The Essex Business Partnership is also hosting their [annual Business Show on Tuesday, 23 May](#). The event will be full of exciting speakers, business-related exhibition stands, and it will provide you with the opportunity to network with other local businesses.

We'll also be at the [Essex Green Weekend](#) in Othona Bradwell. The event will take place between Friday, 28 April and Monday, 1 May. You can enjoy a weekend out in fresh air, whilst also learning more about what climate actions you can take at home to reduce your carbon footprint.

ECC AWARDED FUNDING TO SUPPORT WITH TRANSITION TO NET ZERO



Essex County Council has been awarded more than £150,000 to help take action on climate change and support with its commitment of transforming the county to net zero by 2050.

In November 2022, the Council submitted two bids in to Innovate UK's [Net Zero Living programme fund](#), both of which were successful.

['EssNet'](#) which Essex County Council leads, in partnership with UK Power Networks, the University of Suffolk, the University of Essex, Power Circle Projects Ltd and UK Community Works. Essex is a delivery partner for 'Shift to Net Zero' alongside Energy Pro Ltd, Surrey County Council, Kent County Council and Brighton and Hove City Council.

Innovate UK received 91 applications from partnerships across the country of which 31 were successful. A total of £2.07m was allocated for Phase 1 feasibility projects across April, May and June 2023. Due to the successful funding, the Council will also be able to apply for a phase 2 competition to earn further funding. If successful, this will see up to £5m available over two years to implement solutions developed during Phase 1.

The funding will support Essex County Council in driving forward its [ambitious £200 million Climate Action Plan](#), which outlines how the Council will reach its target of achieving net zero emissions by 2050.

FREE WEBINAR ON ACCESSING PUBLIC SECTOR CONTRACTS

**DEMYSTIFYING
PUBLIC SECTOR
PROCUREMENTS
FOR SMEs**

 **FRIDAY 9TH
JUNE, 2023**  **11:00AM-
1:00PM**

Join us for a **FREE 2-hour webinar** exploring how small to medium sized businesses in Essex can find and successfully bid for public sector contracts.


Backing
Essex
Business

The graphic features a background image of hands reviewing documents on a table, overlaid with green circular accents and text. The text is in a mix of green and black, with the main title in large, bold letters. Logos for the organizing bodies are at the bottom right.

Join us from 11am to 1pm on 9 June for an online workshop to explore how local SMEs can find and successfully bid for public sector contracts.

The webinar Demystifying Public Sector Procurements for SMEs will be delivered by David Adlington Consulting on behalf of Backing Essex Business and Essex County Council. Topics will include:

- Public sector responsibility and accountabilities
- Where to find opportunities
- Who can bid and how to get noticed
- Effective tendering tips

[Register here](#) for your free place.

NEW GUIDANCE LAUNCHED TO HELP SMES BID FOR PUBLIC SECTOR CONTRACTS

We have published new guidance to help SMEs understand how to engage with public sector tenders. These practical guidelines will support SMEs to expand their reach into the public sector and access new and exciting supply chain opportunities.

Visit our [new page](#) to access the guidance alongside other tips, insights, current bid opportunities and further support for vendors.

SME PUBLIC SECTOR PROCUREMENT GUIDANCE: UNDERSTANDING HOW TO ENGAGE WITH PUBLIC SECTOR TENDERS

Key Points

Our new guidance sets out the basics for businesses who are bidding for a public sector contract for the first time. It includes:

- Where to find opportunities – online platforms where public sector tenders are freely advertised, including where to find our own procurement needs
- Where to start – initial steps to get your business ready for bidding opportunities
- Dos and don'ts when tendering – valuable tips to give you the best chance
- Common asks – key information that will usually be requested
- Contract management at ECC – expectations from the successful bidder once they become our supplier
- Benefitting the wider community – general guidelines on social value, carbon and climate action
- Further help and advice – additional resources about bidding for public contracts

YOUR CHANCE TO WIN UP TO £250 TO IMPROVE YOUR GARDEN



Many areas in Essex are at risk of flooding when it rains heavily. Surface water flooding happens when rain from major storms overwhelms local drainage systems and cannot soak into the ground, lying or flowing over the ground instead. This can be prevented through appropriate front garden design.

Watch this video on the [Essex Flood and Water Management Facebook page](#) to hear how you can reduce your garden's flood risk and how you can be the winner of £250 worth of Royal Horticultural Society vouchers.

WHERE DOES YOUR FOOD WASTE GO?

In Essex, food waste collected from your food waste recycling caddy is taken to an Anaerobic Digestion plant. Then it is processed to generate energy that is put back into the National Grid to power homes and businesses.

Using your food waste caddy keeps the cost and environmental impact of managing waste low, as food waste recycling is cheaper than general rubbish disposal. Keeping food waste separate can also help reduce smells in your kitchen and prevent pests foraging around your general rubbish.

There's never been a better time to improve your food waste habits! [Find more hints and tips on how to reduce food waste with our 'Love Essex, Love Food' campaign.](#)

KITCHE IT, DON'T DITCH IT!

Over 1,200 people in Essex have downloaded the free Kitche app!

To help save money by reducing food waste, Essex residents have been using Kitche to keep track of their food shop. Essex users of the app have reported that they waste 11.98% of their food, which is less than the national average of 18.7%. Good job, Essex!

To keep up with the latest from Kitche, [follow their social media channels](#). Download Kitche from the App Store or Google Play.

TRADE ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP – IT PAYS TO CHECK



As the season turns to spring, many householders start thinking about home maintenance and garden jobs and look to find a professional and trustworthy trader to carry out those jobs. Memberships of Trade Associations and Consumer Protection schemes are an indication

that your chosen trader is reputable and professional and someone that is safe to do business with and such membership often comes with additional support if things go wrong.

We regularly receive complaints from consumers when they have employed such a trader that when things go wrong and they approach the Trade Association for support the trader does not actually have a membership or the membership has lapsed, thus offering them little redress.

If you are considering employing a trader you believe has such a membership it is important to check to see that the potential trader of choice really is a member of the associations they are claiming to be. It's a really easy check – each association has a website where you can look up the trader. If they aren't there, don't use them.

Our advice when finding a trader is to either use recommendations from family or friends, or find a reputable trader via our [Buy With Confidence Scheme](#).

ERO PRESENTS SPECIAL: THE CHAPMAN AND ANDRÉ MAP OF ESSEX

Saturday 27th May

The undoubted jewel in the crown of Essex maps is by Chapman and André, depicting Essex across 25 sheets at 2 inches to the mile in 1777.

This map has unprecedented detail of the countryside, as well as showing us something of the social hierarchy of the time. The talk will cover many aspects of the map, and will of course have many closeups of parts of Essex; there will also be examples to look at after the talk.

Peter Walker has been collecting and studying maps for the last 20 years, specialising in county maps of Essex. He worked at the ERO to create their printed catalogue of county maps at the ERO (which will be on sale on the day), and has presented many talks on Essex maps.

SOLAR TOGETHER ESSEX



Over 6,600 Essex residents have signed up for [Solar Together Essex](#), a group buying scheme for solar panels and battery storage.

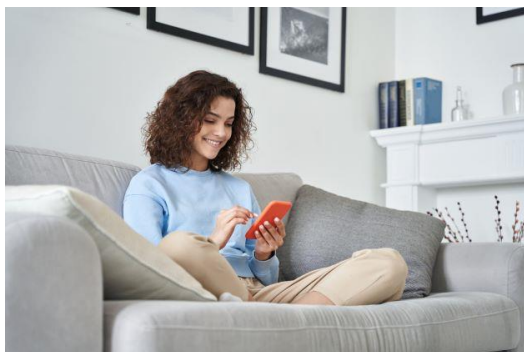
This is the fourth time that Essex County Council has run the scheme and the most successful to date.

By using the buying power of the group, residents can expect a competitive price compared to the open market. This year's applicants will receive an average discount of 32% based on an installation of 12 panels.

Applicants will have until 21 April to make a decision. If they decide to proceed, once the details are passed to the installer, then a date will be set for a technical survey.

Owing to the popularity of this year's scheme, the closing date will be extended until 21 April to allow any new applicants to join the group and benefit from the discounted rates.

NEW SUSTAINABILITY APP TO HELP REDUCE OUR CARBON FOOTPRINT



Essex County Council will soon launch the county's first '[Carbon Cutting Essex](#)' [app](#). The app will help us all to track our carbon footprint while suggesting ways to reduce it and save money.

By motivating and pushing for more positive environmental behaviour and awareness of the impact we all have on the environment, ECC hopes to achieve a greener environment for Essex and lower emissions.

The app also provides a fun and interactive way to help us all understand the impact of our daily actions, which lead to unnecessary emissions, and actions we can take to reduce our carbon footprint.

This app will be free and accessible to all in just a few clicks.