



MALDON DIVISION MONTHLY UPDATE – COUNCILLOR JANE FLEMING

SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACE APPLICATIONS

If your child is in year 6, you can apply for a secondary school (year 7) place between Tuesday 12 September 2023 and Tuesday 31 October 2023.

Find out [how to apply for a secondary school place](#).

SUPPORTED LOCAL BUS SERVICES CONSULTATION

Essex County Council has launched a consultation on its Supported Local Bus services and would like to obtain people's views to help us shape our bus network across the County. **Please note this consultation does not include the commercial bus network.**

[Take part and see the full list of services affected in the consultation](#). The consultation closes on **05 October 2023**.

If people are unable to complete the consultation online, we can send a hard copy on request. Email passenger.transport@essex.gov.uk or telephone 0345 743 0430 or 0345 603 7631 to request a copy.

If you have any further questions, please email passenger.transport@essex.gov.uk.

BROADBAND DISCOUNTED SOCIAL TARIFFS

Broadband providers are offering [discounted social tariffs](#) which can save eligible households up to £202 a year on their bills. These tariffs offer low fixed prices and no exit fees.

To find out how we can help you get online, [join us at the Harvey Centre](#) in Harlow on Monday 11 September. The event is open to all Essex residents.

ACTIVE ESSEX

This month Active Essex want to emphasise the importance of making small journeys count. Active Travel is a great example of how you can adjust your routine to get more active.

Wednesday 20 September marks National Fitness Day so why not take the opportunity to start your journey and make those first important steps. Discover [ways to get active near you](#).

PUBLIC HEALTH ACCELERATOR GRANTS

ECC have launched a website for our [£7.5 million Public Health Accelerator Bids programme](#). The grant scheme will support projects to improve residents' health and tackle health inequalities in Essex.

Funding is available to voluntary organisations, charities, schools, councils and more. Expressions of interest for major grants over £15,000 are open.

LOVE YOUR LIBRARY DAY

We're dedicating our next Love Your Library Day to our offer for young people!

Come along to your local library on Saturday 7 October to find out about our free resources, entertainment, events, groups, and, of course, books!

[Find out more about Love Your Library Day.](#)

ECC CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE

ECC are delighted to share the news that Ofsted has rated our children's social care services as 'Outstanding' once again. We received the highest possible rating in every area assessed, following the inspection in June.

Inspectors highlighted the exceptional standards in place across the county and the innovative, high-quality support available to children and families. Read the [latest Ofsted report](#) now.

HATFIELD PEVEREL LIBRARY

ECC are temporarily closing Hatfield Peverel Library from this Saturday, 9 September, following the new DfE guidance on RAAC. We will look to reopen it as soon as possible.

Updates will be posted on the Library Service social media channels and signs will be placed at the front of the building.

[Find out more about Hatfield Peverel Library's temporary closure.](#)

ESSEX SHARED LIVES SCHEME

[Meet Ben](#), Pearl and Nigel, a household who are part of our Essex Shared Lives scheme. With the support of his Shared Lives hosts, Ben who has a learning disability, is enjoying a more independent and active life.

Nigel enjoys being a Shared Lives host and seeing “the little achievements that no one thought Ben could accomplish”. Learn more about [Essex Shared Lives](#).

HELP FOR YOUNG PEOPLE WITH SEND

Have you accessed a great service, group or activity for young people with SEND? We want to increase the number of opportunities on the Local Offer website. [Share your feedback on a SEND-related service](#) to help other families benefit from the service.

If you offer a SEND-inclusive service or activity, [join the free directory](#) today.

ESSEX YEAR OF NUMBERS

As part of the [Essex Year of Numbers](#), we're encouraging families to borrow a Read and Count with Me book bag and discover a country park full of nature.

The book bags contain handpicked picture books and activities to share with young learners, with the aim to encourage literacy, numeracy, and a love of nature from an early age. [Collect a free book bag](#) from Essex Country Parks and Essex libraries.

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

Malcolm has volunteered at St Helena's Hospice for the last six years working in the maintenance team. He encourages anyone that can spare a few hours a week to support the work of a local organisation, “you will be delighted by how good it can make you feel”.

With a variety of [volunteering opportunities in Essex](#) there is something to suit everyone's availability, skills and experience.

ESSEX BIG WEEKEND

The Essex Big Weekend celebrates all that is great about the county and helps local people to discover the great places to visit and things to do on their doorstep.

[Sign up for the Essex Big Weekend 2023](#) to be in with a chance of winning free tickets for attractions, accommodation and eateries across Essex. The ballot closes on Monday 25 September, you must live in Essex to apply.

ESSEX HIGHWAYS

Essex Highways is making the most of the warmer, drier weather and quieter roads to carry out road surfacing, repairs and maintenance.

Visit the [Essex Highways website](#) to see if works are happening near you. To avoid delays, use the interactive map to plan any journeys around road closures.

SME SUPPORT

Small businesses across Essex can now access free and impartial support from the BEST Growth Hub. After temporarily closing earlier this year, the hub is once again offering tailored support until March 2024. Find out more about the [BEST Growth Hub](#).

ACL 'HAVE A GO WEEK'

The [ACL Festival of Learning: Have a Go Week](#) runs from Wednesday 6 September to Thursday 14 September at ACL centres across Essex. Workshops include hairdressing, science, wellbeing and much more.

Essex residents can speak to ACL teams about support with their next steps in life and work. [Book your ACL taster session](#) now.

ESSEX APPRENTICESHIP LEVY TRANSFER SERVICE

Have you ever thought of recruiting an apprentice? With the Essex Apprenticeship Levy Transfer Service, small businesses can receive access to unused levy. This can help to cover training costs for apprentices. Find out more about the [Essex Apprenticeship Levy Transfer Service](#).

ESSEX CARE SEARCH

Essex Care Search is a great way to search for care homes in the Essex area. Search for homes based on location, type of care and facilities provided.

The site has information about care homes including vacancies, photos and contact details. [Visit the Essex Care Search](#) now to start your search.