

ECC Report June 2024

Replacement Essex Minerals Local Plan review 2025 to 2040



Find out what happens now the consultation has closed.

Responses to the original Replacement Essex Minerals Local Plan review 2025 to 2040 consultation are being processed and uploaded to our online consultation portal.

We are currently working through a backlog of responses. Your representation will still be acknowledged, published, and considered.

To read all comments on the consultation, visit the consultation portal to access all processed comments on this consultation to date. Please note, there will likely be a delay in publication of responses submitted via letter and email.

Read published comments on the Draft Plan:
https://consultations.essex.gov.uk/planning/d3512469/consultation/published_select_respondent

Read published comments on the Candidate Sites:
https://consultations.essex.gov.uk/planning/42a7d44e/consultation/published_select_respondent

Information will be published in line with:

- Freedom of Information Act
- The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)
- Essex County Council Privacy Notice

Once all responses are uploaded, we will assess all the comments received and make amendments to the Plan and Site Assessments accordingly. We will also present a draft list of Preferred Sites alongside reports justifying the draft list and how your comments were taken into account.

The above will then undergo a further public consultation under Regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended).

It is not possible to provide a precise date for this consultation as this will depend on the extent of the issues received and the nature of the amendments required. Without prejudice, it is currently anticipated that the Regulation 19 consultation may take place in late 2024 or early 2025.

Tell us about your priorities in tackling crime and anti-social behaviour



We want you to tell us your priorities and concerns when it comes to crime and anti-social behaviour.

The yearly [Community Safety Survey](#) helps police and local authorities see what matters most to residents.

It was launched by Safer Essex on behalf of the county's 14 Community Safety Partnerships.

1,304 residents responded to the first survey in 2023. 83% said burglary was a top concern, followed by 81% choosing theft of or from a vehicle and 77% saying fraud or scams.

As a result, Safer Essex will work with the police's new [Multi-Agency Approach to Fraud](#) group.

61% of people said they could identify signs of radicalisation in someone they know. Only 47% said they were confident in knowing where to seek help.

50% of respondents said they could spot signs of modern slavery. However, 49% felt unconfident about knowing where to report their concerns.

Safer Essex will therefore launch awareness campaigns on how to spot signs and protect others.

We urge residents to [take part in this year's Community Safety Survey](#). It runs until 30 June 2024.

We want to hear from as many residents as possible. This will help develop solutions by local authorities in different parts of Essex.

Essex shopkeeper prosecuted for selling vapes to a child



An Essex shopkeeper has been prosecuted after selling vape products to a child.

Suleyman Kasakol, Director of Zagros Market Ltd, was charged following a test purchase operation by Essex Trading Standards.

Kasakol, of Gant Court, Waltham Abbey, pleaded guilty to selling a vape to an underage person at Chelmsford Magistrates Court on Thursday 9 May.

Zagros Market Ltd was fined £2,000, with a victim surcharge of £800. Kasakol was fined £500 with a victim surcharge £200. Costs of £2,800 must also be paid.

In August 2023, Essex Trading Standards Officers carried out an underage test purchasing exercise at Zagros Market Ltd, in Highbridge Street, Waltham Abbey.

This followed complaints about age restricted products being sold to children.

During the exercise, a 16-year-old test purchase volunteer was sold a nicotine containing e-cigarette.

This is not the first time the shop has illegally sold age restricted goods. The business also received a warning and advice after selling a nicotine containing vape to an underage test purchaser in July 2023.

Councillor Mark Durham, Essex County Council Cabinet Member responsible for Essex Trading Standards, said:

“While vapes can be used to support adults who wish to quit tobacco cigarettes, they should not be used by those who do not smoke and are not intended for use by children as they are not free of risk.

Sellers of age restricted goods including vapes need to ensure that they are vigilant and always ask to see proof of age before making a sale to a young person. They must have robust processes in place, including staff training, to guard against any illegal underage sales.

This case sends a strong message that businesses that break the law will be targeted by Trading Standards and persistent offenders will be prosecuted”.

If you are concerned that a shop might be selling age restricted products to children, you can report this to Trading Standards. Call the Citizens Advice Consumer Service on 0808 223 1133 or visit [the website](#).

Have your say on new strategy aiming to make cycling an easier and more attractive option in Essex



Essex Cycling Strategy consultation launched on the eve of the return of the RideLondon Classique and RideLondon-Essex event.

Residents, businesses and visitors are being encouraged to have their say on a new Essex Cycling Strategy as the county prepares for the return of RideLondon this weekend.

Essex County Council has launched a six-week consultation on the draft strategy, which aims to encourage Safer, Greener and Healthier travel by making cycling an easier and more attractive option, particularly for short journeys.

The launch of the consultation comes on the eve of the RideLondon Classique and RideLondon-Essex events, which start tomorrow.

The new strategy sets a simple vision – to see more people, of all abilities, ages and background, cycling in Essex more safely and more frequently.

It highlights six key cycling outcomes the council wants to achieve, as well as setting out activities and actions the council plans to take over the coming years.

Councillor Tom Cunningham, Essex County Council's Cabinet Member for Highways, Infrastructure and Sustainable Transport, said: "Cycling is a fantastic way to enjoy our great county and make it a Safer, Greener and Healthier place for everyone.

"Not only can it be a cheap and convenient form of transport, but it can also help us tackle many of the big issues we face, improving people's health and the environment, supporting economic growth, and helping tackle congestion.

"The new Essex Cycling Strategy is an important next step in helping us to support more people in the county to cycle more often, establishing it as a more attractive travel option.

"We know this won't happen overnight, but the strategy will assist us in securing funding to improve and maintain cycling infrastructure in Essex and help guide future investment in cycling.

"We have developed the strategy based on the best ideas, practice and evidence from around the world, and now we would like your feedback to help us improve it further and ensure the strategy best meets the needs of our local communities."

The public consultation will run for six weeks, closing on Sunday 7 July 2024.

To find out more about the draft Essex Cycling Strategy and have your say by completing the consultation survey, please visit:
www.letstalkessexsustainabletravel.co.uk/essex-cycling-strategy

You can also request a printed copy of the survey or the draft Essex Cycling Strategy document by emailing: SGH.routes@essex.gov.uk

New Essex County Council Cabinet announced



Changes have been made to our Cabinet. This is the team of councillors which look after particular services and have specific responsibilities.

After three years, Councillor Beverley Egan leaves the Children's Services and Early Years portfolio. In that time, she has overseen an Outstanding Ofsted report for children's social care services.

She now chairs our newly created [Caring Communities Commission](#).

Her portfolio has been incorporated into two other Cabinet Members' roles. These are:

- the updated Cabinet Member for Health, Social Care and ICS Integration portfolio will incorporate Children's Services
- the Cabinet Member for Education Excellence, Lifelong Learning and Employability portfolio will incorporate Early Years

Councillor Derrick Louis has been appointed Cabinet Member for the new Transformation portfolio. His responsibilities will include leading on Whole Council Transformation and the council's Property Strategy. He will also continue in his role as lead member for armed forces liaison and engagement.

The new Essex County Council Cabinet is:

- **Councillor Kevin Bentley** - Leader
- **Councillor Louise McKinlay** - Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Levelling Up, Communities and Business Engagement
- **Councillor John Spence** - Cabinet Member for Health, Adult Social Care, and Integration
- **Councillor Tony Ball** - Cabinet Member for Education Excellence, Lifelong Learning and Employability
- **Councillor Lee Scott** - Cabinet Member for Planning a Growing Economy
- **Councillor Chris Whitbread** - The Chancellor of Essex

- **Councillor Tom Cunningham** - Cabinet Member for Highways, Infrastructure and Sustainable Transport
- **Councillor Peter Schwier** - Climate Czar and Cabinet Member for Environment, Waste Reduction and Recycling
- **Councillor Derrick Louis** - Cabinet Member for Transformation
- **Councillor Mark Durham** - Cabinet Member for The Arts, Heritage and Culture

There are also a number of Deputy Cabinet Members. These are:

- **Councillors Lesley Wagland, Councillor Beverley Egan, and Jaymey McIvor** – Deputies to the Leader of the Council
- **Councillor Laureen Shaw** - Deputy Cabinet Member under Highways, Infrastructure and Sustainable Transport
- **Councillor Mark Platt** - Deputy to the Deputy Leader and Deputy Cabinet Member for Levelling Up, Communities and Business Engagement.

Also, Deputy Cabinet Member for Highways, Infrastructure and Sustainable Transport.

- **Councillor Andrew Sheldon** - Deputy Cabinet Member for Education Excellence, Lifelong Learning and Employability
- **Councillors Jane Fleming, Holly Whitbread and Lynette Bowers-Flint** - Deputy Cabinet Members for Health, Social Care and ICS Integration
- **Councillor Bob Massey** - Deputy Cabinet Member for Climate, Environment, Waste Reduction, and recycling
- **Councillor Mike Hardware** - Deputy Cabinet Member for The Arts, Heritage, and Culture

Caring Communities Commission created



We have launched a new commission aiming to address increasing pressures on social care services.

Councillor Beverley Egan will Chair the newly created Caring Communities Commission. It will explore local and community-based solutions to social care pressures on public services.

The commission will launch in the summer of 2024. It will focus on early intervention and prevention. This will include:

- **identifying and amplifying assets within Essex communities to support vulnerable residents**
- =====
- **building capacity within communities for improved resilience, better services and lower costs**
- =====
- **looking at all forms of provision to better support the changing needs of residents**

Councillor Egan leaves the Children's Services and Early Years portfolio. In that time, she has overseen an Outstanding Ofsted report for children's social care services.

Councillor Kevin Bentley, Leader of the Council, said:

"Ten years ago, we set up an innovative social care commission under the chairmanship of Sir Thomas Hughes-Hallet and vice chairmanship of Councillor John Spence. It asked the big question: 'How will

we care for our residents in the future?’ Its final report said there is no option but to take action, with more control over our care.

Since then, the population of 70 to 74-year-olds has increased by 44%. There has also been a 40% increase in the number of children entering care and we continue to see the impact of Covid in communities. Data on demographics and demands show us that we need to build on the existing work that we have successfully implemented in Essex such as the rollout of caring technologies to support people to live independently, age well and live at home or with their families.

I am therefore delighted to announce the formation of our Caring Communities Commission. Instead of looking at how to pay the ever-growing cost of social care, this commission will find radical, community-based solutions to meet care needs in a cost-effective way. It will be informed by the expertise and experiences of frontline staff, care users and their families”.

Councillor Egan said:

“My career has been spent in the voluntary and public sector and most recently as the Cabinet Member for Children’s Services and Early Years. I am particularly keen to engage with the people who use our services and have lived experience as I have seen the power that our children in care have had in re-shaping our services. I will connect the work of the Commission to the ambitions that Essex County Council has for all our residents and to re-shape the care that we offer them, and I look forward to listening to a diverse range of views as we move forward”.