

Neighbourhood planning:

information, help and support

August 2012



Essex County Council

Foreword

From April 2012 onwards, local communities have been given new legal powers under the Localism Act 2011 to take part in neighbourhood planning for their areas. For the first time, local people can have a major say in helping to shape the development and growth of their local area.

Neighbourhood planning is a new way for communities to decide the future of the places where they live and work. They are able to:

- Prepare their own 'neighbourhood plan' – this helps decide where new homes, shops, businesses, open space, and other land-uses will be located; and what any buildings should look like design-wise
- Prepare a 'neighbourhood development order' – this enables the local community to grant planning permission for the new development it wishes to see happen
- Bring forward their own development projects under the 'community right to build' – for example, if the local community wanted to build family homes for sale, affordable housing for rent, sheltered housing for older local residents, and low-cost starter homes for young local families struggling to get on the housing ladder.

I welcome these new opportunities which have recently been given to local communities right across Essex to help shape their future. There has already been interest from parish councils and neighbourhood forums in preparing their own neighbourhood planning documents.

In Essex we operate under a two-tier system of local government. In the first instance, you should always approach your local district or borough council for their help and guidance about how to go about neighbourhood planning in your area. However, don't forget that the County Council delivers a wide range of important public services and can provide very useful policy guidance and advice for those carrying out neighbourhood planning projects.

So we have prepared this short reference guide setting out what the County Council has to offer. It explains the main County Council services that might have to be considered when carrying out neighbourhood planning, and provides links to the policy guidance and contact people that can help you.

Finally, I wish you every success in your neighbourhood planning projects and moreover that you find the reference guide a very helpful resource to use in your project work.



County Councillor John Jowers
Cabinet Member for Communities and Planning

Neighbourhood planning: information, help, and support available from Essex County Council

Introduction

How to use this guide

This guide is set out by different themes so that community groups preparing neighbourhood plans can more easily identify what information, help, and support can be obtained from Essex County Council for specific subjects. By clicking on a link in the contents list below, you will be directed straight to the appropriate section within this document.

This document provides the following information on each subject;

- The role of Essex County Council
- A link to further information on the Essex County Council website
- An explanation of how the Council could assist in the production of a neighbourhood plan
- The key documents produced by Essex County Council that should be considered when a neighbourhood plan is being prepared

Using Essex County Council documents to produce a neighbourhood plan

Essex County Council produces a wide range of guidance documents that should be very useful when preparing a neighbourhood plan. These are already in use to assist in the production of local development plans, and have sometimes been adopted as policy by the Council as supplementary planning guidance.

Documents produced by Essex County Council may play an important role in helping to decide whether a neighbourhood plan should be approved or not, and should therefore be given careful consideration when a neighbourhood plan is being prepared.

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Essex County Council

Background information about Essex County Council

Essex County Council delivers a range of strategic services that should be considered when neighbourhood plans are being prepared. The [Essex County Council website](#) provides background information on the County Council's spending, priorities, decision making procedures, services, political structure and geography.

Contact details

Essex County Council is located at the following address:

County Hall,
Market Road,
Chelmsford,
Essex, CM1 1QH.

Tel: 01245 430430

County Hall is open to the public at the following times:

Monday – Thursday: 8.30am – 5.30pm

Friday: 8.30am – 5.00pm

Excluding bank holidays.

(The opening times for other Essex County Council Offices may vary)

Essex County Council Services

- Activities, Arts and Heritage
www.essex.gov.uk/Activities
- Births, Ceremonies and Deaths
www.essex.gov.uk/Births-Ceremonies-Deaths
- Business and Partners
[www.essex.gov.uk/Business Partners](http://www.essex.gov.uk/BusinessPartners)
- Education and Schools
www.essex.gov.uk/Education-Schools
- Environment and Planning
[www.essex.gov.uk/Environment and Planning](http://www.essex.gov.uk/EnvironmentandPlanning)
- Health and Social Care
[www.essex.gov.uk/Health and Social Care](http://www.essex.gov.uk/HealthandSocialCare)
- Libraries and Archives
[www.essex.gov.uk/Libraries and Archives](http://www.essex.gov.uk/LibrariesandArchives)
- Travel and Highways
[www.essexhighways.org/Travel and Highways](http://www.essexhighways.org/TravelandHighways)

Essex Place Services

'Essex Place Services' is a new consultancy service based within County Hall in Chelmsford, which now undertakes a number of roles that were previously provided by Essex County Council.

The specialist services offered by Place Services include arboriculture, archaeology, conservation, design review panels, digital mapping, ecology services, historic buildings, historic environment record, landscape design, landscape services, planning, public consultation, stakeholder engagement, sustainability appraisal services, and urban design.

Place Services can be employed by clients to help negotiate the detailed heritage and sustainability requirements of planning policy, and contribute to the sustainable management of ecological and heritage assets in the natural and built environment. Place Services can gather and interpret data to underpin strategies for future growth and regeneration, and design new public realm, urban design and landscape schemes.

Help available by theme/subject:

Built environment

Design:

Essex Place Services offers professionally qualified urban designers and landscape architects to deliver a variety of projects from master plans and development briefs to design guidance, public realm strategies, and development management advice for planning applications.

Place Services can also help to manage community consultation and stakeholder engagement on behalf of clients, and also offers bespoke training and development opportunities for planning officers or local councillors.

For further information on the support and advice that is available from Essex Place Services, and Essex County Council, to help your neighbourhood group consider built environment issues in your area, contact Cathryn Thaiss on 01245 434093, cathryn.thaiss@essex.gov.uk

Further information and guidance documents are also available from the [ECC website](#).

Design advice and support is available from the Essex Design Initiative website. This website is currently under re-development, therefore further information can be obtained from Jenny Ruder on 01245 437162, jenny.ruder@essex.gov.uk

Design documents produced by Essex County Council:

The Essex Design Guide

[The Essex Design Guide](#) aims to encourage best practice in the design and layout of residential development.

Urban Place Supplement

Design guidance for compact urban developments that can be used by landowners and developers to help shape the delivery of sustainable communities in Essex.

Common land and village greens

Registration of common land and village greens

Details of all areas designated as common land or village greens are held by Essex County Council. We maintain the registers of common land and village greens, which are statutory documents. Each unit of common land or village green is given a unique registry number, which enables us to identify it within the register, www.essex.gov.uk/common-land-and-village-greens

Essex County Council can provide information on the specific location and designation of common land or village greens. To make an appointment to view the register, please call Contact Essex on 08457 430430. Further information on the services offered by Essex County Council and the Common Land and Village Green registers can be obtained directly by contacting Lloyd Simpson at the Environmental Law and Property Team in Essex Legal Services on 01245 506716, lloyd.simpson@essex.gov.uk

Development management guidance for developers

Documents for developers:

Essex County Council produces a range of **guidance for developers** on infrastructure contributions, public rights of way, transport assessments, use of street materials, and technical approval of third party structures.

For further information on transport related developer contributions, please contact Keith Blackburn on 01245 433245, keith.blackburn@essex.gov.uk

For further information on education related developer contributions, please contact Blaise Gammie on 01245 436725, blaise.gammie@essex.gov.uk

The following documents produced by Essex County Council should be considered when preparing neighbourhood plans to inform proposals relating to housing and commercial development, educational facilities, public rights of way, the use of street materials, car parking, and transport.

Transport and Highways development management documents

Essex County Council produces guidance to provide advice to developers on infrastructure contributions, public rights of way, transport assessments, use of street materials, and technical approval of third party structures.

www.essex.gov.uk/Transport-planning/Information-for-developers

The Developer Guide to Infrastructure Contributions

If a new housing development or commercial site is proposed and there are insufficient community facilities in the local area to serve it, Essex County Council may request that the developer reduces the impact of their proposal on local services by providing land and/or funding to build new facilities.

Essex County Council's approach to securing developer contributions is set out in our Developers' Guide to Infrastructure Contributions.

www.essex.gov.uk/The Developer Guide to Infrastructure Contributions

This document will be superseded in local authority areas that have completed a Community Infrastructure Levy Charging Schedule. You will need to check with your local Essex district or borough council to find out if a Schedule has been introduced in your area.

Education Contribution Guidelines Supplement

This document provides supplementary information on contributions towards education, to support the information within the Developers Guide to Infrastructure Contributions. This guide outlines our expectations when new development will increase the demand for school places or early years and childcare facilities. www.essex.gov.uk/Education Contribution Guidelines Supplement

This document will also be superseded in local authority areas that have completed a Community Infrastructure Levy Charging Schedule (see the advice above).

Development and Public Rights of Way

An advice note is available for developers and development management officers about new development which may affect public rights of way.

www.essex.gov.uk/Development and Public Rights of Way

Street Materials Guide

In relation to pavements, pedestrian areas, and highways this document provides helpful advice and examples of good practice to guide new development on the best use of street materials. www.essex.gov.uk/Street Materials Guide

Essex Parking Policy

The Essex Parking Policy sets out the County Council's policy regarding on-street parking which is used by police enforcement and local authority enforcement. www.essex.gov.uk/Essex Parking Policy

Parking Standards, Design and Good Practice

This document provides guidance on parking standards for local areas, to provide a consistent basis for discussion between developers applying for planning permission and the appropriate local planning authority.

www.essex.gov.uk/Parking Standards, Design and Good Practice

Development Management Policies (Transport)

Essex County Council produces transport development control policies to deal with development pressures across the County.

www.essex.gov.uk/Development Management Policies

Education facilities

Delivering education facilities in Essex:

The Education and Schools section of the Essex County Council website provides information on the types of schools in Essex, and the roles of the local authority and county council.

Essex County Council provides advice on the provision of school places across Essex. The Council is responsible for ensuring there are sufficient school places available, and that these are appropriate for the needs of the local population. This information is outlined in 'The Commissioning School Places in Essex 2011-2016 Plan' identified below.

Essex County Council provides information on the current and future provision of school places in your local area. This could help neighbourhood planning groups to consider appropriate levels of development in an area based on the ability to provide educational services and facilities. For further information on schools provision in Essex, please contact phone 01245 436710, or email admin.strategy@essex.gov.uk

Education documents produced by Essex County Council:

The Commissioning School Places in Essex 2011-2016 Plan

Formerly known as the Essex Schools Organisation Plan, this sets out the requirement for places in primary and secondary schools until 2016, and identifies the areas where providers will need to match supply with demand. It provides the context for the future organisation of school places in Essex and sets out the principles that need to be given serious consideration when commissioning school places.

[www.essex.gov.uk/Education Schools](http://www.essex.gov.uk/Education_Schools)

Education Contribution Guidelines Supplement:

This document provides supplementary information on contributions towards education, to support the information within the Developers Guide to Infrastructure Contributions. This guide outlines our expectations when new school places or early years and childcare facilities are required.

[www.essex.gov.uk/Education Schools](http://www.essex.gov.uk/Education_Schools)

This document will be superseded in local authority areas that have completed a Community Infrastructure Levy Charging Schedule (see the further guidance set out above).

Environmental management

Environmental Issues:

Essex County Council's environmental services deal with issues related to tree preservation orders, village greens and common land, hedgerows, gypsy and traveller issues, conservation areas, and flooding.

[www.essex.gov.uk/Environmental Issues](http://www.essex.gov.uk/Environmental_Issues)

Wildlife and biodiversity:

Ecologists in Essex Place Services provide expert planning guidance for development management and planning policy, and offer expert guidance on protected species and sites. Biological monitoring of statutory and non-statutory sites for clients is undertaken alongside the coordination of Higher Level Stewardship (HLS) applications. Place Services leads one of six national Defra Biodiversity off-setting pilots, an exciting and innovative concept that improves outcomes for the natural environment while streamlining the planning process.

Essex contains several valuable and rare habitats, from coastal salt marshes and mudflats to ancient woodlands, trees and wetlands. Essex County Council has a duty to ensure that these environments are managed and maintained, where it owns them or carries out activities that may affect them.

The following link provides information on The Essex Biodiversity Project, Local Wildlife Sites, Biological Records in Essex, and Special Roadside Verges.
[www.essex.gov.uk/Wildlife and Biodiversity](http://www.essex.gov.uk/Wildlife%20and%20Biodiversity)

Flood management

Flood Events in Essex:

Essex County Council is the 'lead local flood authority' and is responsible for dealing with flooding from surface water, groundwater and ordinary watercourses. Essex County Council is also helping to produce Surface Water Management Plans with Basildon, Castle Point, and Rochford.

[www.essex.gov.uk/local environment/flooding](http://www.essex.gov.uk/local%20environment/flooding)

For advice on developing neighbourhood plans in areas that suffer flooding from surface water, groundwater, and ordinary watercourses the Flood Prevention Team can be contacted on 01245 430469, flood.prevention@essex.gov.uk

The Environment Agency should be contacted in relation to dealing with coastal flooding and flooding from main rivers.

Flood management documents produced by Essex County Council

Essex County Council Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment

Essex County Council has prepared a Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment (PFRA), as required of all upper-tier local authorities in England by the Flood Risk Regulations (2009). The PFRA is a county-wide analysis which considers past flooding and possible future flooding from the surface water runoff, groundwater, ordinary watercourses, canals, and small impounded reservoirs. It considers the consequences that these forms of flood risk might have on people, properties, and the environment, including cultural heritage and ecology. This assessment does not consider flooding from the sea, main rivers, and reservoirs.

[www.essex.gov.uk/Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment](http://www.essex.gov.uk/Preliminary%20Flood%20Risk%20Assessment)

Essex and Suffolk Shoreline Management Plan:

[The Shoreline Management Plan](#) considers the management of flooding from the sea.

Local Strategy for Flood Risk Management

As lead flood authority, Essex County Council produces a **Local Strategy for Flood Risk Management**. This will focus on surface water, groundwater and ordinary watercourses and will also consider coastal and fluvial flooding.

Gypsy and traveller services

Gypsy and traveller services:

Essex County Council's Gypsy and Traveller Services manage the county's eleven permanent gypsy/traveller sites, providing permanent authorised accommodation for the community. Essex County Council also provides a code for Gypsy and Traveller communities across Essex.

[www.essex.gov.uk/Gypsy Traveller Services](http://www.essex.gov.uk/Gypsy_Traveller_Services)

Essex County Council can provide advice on the management of existing gypsy and traveller sites, and the development of proposals to create new sites, or make amendments to existing, gypsy and traveller sites within neighbourhood plans. Gypsy and Traveller Services can be contacted on 0845 6037624, natural.environment@essex.gov.uk

Historic environment

Historic environment:

Essex Place Services takes the lead in safeguarding the historic environment by conserving and enhancing it wherever possible, and ensuring a full record is made before unavoidable disturbance or destruction. The team's aim is to conserve, manage, study, record and promote the historic environment, they do this by informing spatial planning and land management decisions, facilitating sustainable change, and enhancing a shared knowledge of this finite and non-renewable resource.

Place Services maintains the **Essex Historic Environment Record**, a computerised database of all known historic buildings and archaeological sites in the County. It also maintains the Heritage at Risk Register, which provides information about buildings, scheduled monuments, and other sites at risk of current and future neglect or decay.

Place Services can help to inform the production of neighbourhood plans by identifying the location and grading of local heritage assets. The Historic Environment team can provide specialist advice on a range of heritage related subjects, particularly regarding the impact of specific planning proposals on listed buildings, within conservation areas, and at archaeological sites.

Minerals and waste planning

Minerals and waste planning:

The Minerals and Waste Planning Team is responsible for all minerals and waste-related development and planning issues. The County Council makes decisions on all planning applications for minerals and waste sites, and for policy development of the Minerals and Waste Development Plan Documents.

[www.essex.gov.uk/Minerals Waste Planning Team](http://www.essex.gov.uk/Minerals%20Waste%20Planning%20Team)

Essex County Council can provide strategic advice on the location and specific details of future proposed minerals and waste sites, and provide advice to neighbourhood plans in proximity to such sites. The waste and minerals team can be contacted on 01245 435555. mineralsandwastepolicy@essex.gov.uk

Minerals and Waste Planning documents produced by Essex County Council

Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Essex:

The Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Essex was approved by Essex County Council's Full Council on 15th July 2008, and outlines the approach to waste management in Essex and Southend up to 2032.

[www.essex.gov.uk/Recycling Waste Strategy](http://www.essex.gov.uk/Recycling%20Waste%20Strategy)

Waste Development Document:

Essex County Council is currently preparing its Waste Development Document. This document outlines how Essex and Southend propose to meet future waste management requirements up to 2031, and continue to move waste management up the waste hierarchy and away from landfill.

[www.essex.gov.uk/WDD Issues Options](http://www.essex.gov.uk/WDD%20Issues%20Options)

Minerals Development Document:

Essex County Council is currently preparing its Mineral Development Document. This document proposes sites for future mineral extraction, aggregate recycling facilities, and a potential new rail depot for mineral transshipment.

[www.essex.gov.uk/MDD Issues Options](http://www.essex.gov.uk/MDD%20Issues%20Options)

Parish and Town Council support

Information and support for Parish and Town Councils:

To support parish and town councils across Essex with their work, Essex County Council manages the 'Making the Links Initiative'. This provides Town and Parish Councils with access to information and support in working with their communities to identify and prioritise issues of importance and deliver the results required.

[www.essex.gov.uk/Business-Partners/Partners/Information Parish Town](http://www.essex.gov.uk/Business-Partners/Partners/Information%20Parish%20Town)

Further information on the advice and support that can be offered to neighbourhood planning groups can be obtained from Angela Balcombe, 01245 437308, angela.balcombe@essex.gov.uk

Property

Property database:

Essex County Council manages the property terrier, a comprehensive database of the land currently or previously owned by Essex County Council, and its current leases. This information could be useful in the development of proposals for a neighbourhood plan. Initial enquiries should be made through the Council's retained property advisors Lambert Smith Hampton, 01245 215521, essexenquiries@lsh.co.uk

Spatial planning advice

Spatial Planning and Regeneration:

The County Council's Spatial Planning and Regeneration Team provide strategic planning advice on issues that are likely to have an impact across the whole of Essex and its sub-regions. The team support the development of local planning policy, and provide advice on medium-term and long-term development issues and major projects. [www.essex.gov.uk/Spatial Planning](http://www.essex.gov.uk/Spatial%20Planning)

The Spatial Planning and Regeneration Team can provide advice on strategic planning issues that may affect the development of neighbourhood plans. For further information please contact Zhanine Oates, 01245 437388 zhanine.oates@essex.gov.uk

Strategic environmental assessment and sustainability appraisal

Sustainability Appraisal:

Neighbourhood plans are likely to need an assessment of their environmental, social and economic impacts. This is required by European legislation and UK guidance and should be presented in an assessment called a 'Sustainability Appraisal' (SA). Certain kinds of major development may also need a Strategic Environmental Assessment or Habitats Regulation Assessment to be completed.

The Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SA/SEA) Team is an independent team within Essex Place Services. It has extensive experience in the fields of Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment. The team is uniquely placed to offer an SA/SEA service to organisations and groups within the County, with the benefit of local knowledge, contacts and experience.

The team can offer extensive knowledge in providing a bespoke, independent and cost effective service to,

- provide training to enable you to undertake your own Sustainability Appraisal;
- provide a 'Critical Friend' service to review your Sustainability Appraisal in light of the legal requirements;
- provide a full Sustainability Appraisal Service where we can undertake your Sustainability Appraisal for you.

For further information please contact Emma Woods, 01245 437566, emma.woods@essex.gov.uk

Transport and highways management – Trees and verges

Trees and verges:

Essex County Council is responsible for the maintenance of trees on road verges in Braintree, Castle Point, Chelmsford, Maldon, Rochford, Tendring (except for the towns of Clacton, Frinton and Walton), and Uttlesford. Essex County Council can provide advice to neighbourhood planning groups on any proposed alterations to trees and verges within these areas. The Natural Environment Team can be contacted on 0845 6037624, natural.environment@essex.gov.uk. In areas not managed by Essex County Council, the appropriate local authority should be contacted direct.

www.essex.gov.uk/Trees-and-verges

Transport and highways management – Public rights of way

Public Rights of Way:

There are over six thousand kilometres of public rights of way in Essex, comprising footpaths, bridleways and byways. Essex County Council has a statutory duty to maintain and protect the network of public rights of way. Details of how we have committed to fulfilling this duty can be found in the following link:

www.essex.gov.uk/Travel-Highways/Public Rights Way

The 'Definitive Map' and 'Definitive Statement' record the location of public rights of way across Essex. Essex County Council maintains and updates the Definitive Map and Definitive Statement, to provide conclusive evidence of the existence of a Public Right of Way.

www.essex.gov.uk/Definitive Map

Essex County Council can provide advice and support to neighbourhood planning groups that may wish to propose alterations to public rights of way in their local areas. The Public Rights of Way Team can be contacted on 0845 6037631, pro.w.web@essex.gov.uk

Public Rights of Way documents produced by Essex County Council:

Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan:

The Essex Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP) is a statutory document that sets out Essex County Council's plan for improving access to the countryside through rights of way for the next 10 years.

www.essex.gov.uk/ROWIP

Transport and highways management – Development management

The following documents produced by Essex County Council should be considered as part of the development of neighbourhood plans to inform proposals relating to car parking and transport.

Developer management documents produced by Essex County Council:

Essex Parking Policy:

The Essex Parking Policy sets out the County Council's policy regarding on-street parking for the use of police enforcement and local authority enforcement.
[www.essex.gov.uk/Essex Parking Policy](http://www.essex.gov.uk/Essex_Parking_Policy)

Parking Standards, Design and Good Practice

This document provides guidance on parking standards for local areas, to provide a consistent basis for discussion between developers applying for planning permission and the appropriate local planning authority.
[www.essex.gov.uk/Parking Standards](http://www.essex.gov.uk/Parking_Standards)

Development Management Policies

Essex County Council produces transport development control policies to deal with development pressures across the County.
[www.essex.gov.uk/Development Management Policies](http://www.essex.gov.uk/Development_Management_Policies)

Transport and highways management – County-wide policies and strategies

Highways and Transportation policies and strategies:

The following link provides information on policies and strategies produced by Highways and Transportation Teams in Essex County Council, which includes the Local Transport Plan, Essex Cycling Strategy, Essex Highways Maintenance Strategy, Essex Parking Policy, Essex Walking Strategy, Essex Powered Two Wheeler Strategy, Signing Policy, Speed Management Strategy, and Traffic Management Strategy.
[www.essex.gov.uk/Policies and strategies](http://www.essex.gov.uk/Policies_and_strategies)

The following Highways & Transportation policies and strategies produced by Essex County Council should be considered as part of the development of neighbourhood plans.

Highways and Transportation policies and strategies produced by Essex County Council:

Essex Cycling Strategy:

The Essex Cycling Strategy accompanies the Local Transport Plan, and outlines how areas in Essex can promote cycling as an important part of local transport infrastructure.
[www.essex.gov.uk/Essex Cycling Strategy](http://www.essex.gov.uk/Essex_Cycling_Strategy)

Essex Walking Strategy:

The Essex Walking Strategy provides guidance on creating an environment which encourages walking and putting the needs of the pedestrian first.
[www.essex.gov.uk/Essex Walking Strategy](http://www.essex.gov.uk/Essex_Walking_Strategy)

Essex Powered Two-Wheeler Strategy:

The Essex Powered Two Wheeler Strategy aims to highlight the contribution that powered two wheelers could make towards an integrated transport policy for a local area.
[www.essex.gov.uk/Essex Powered Two Wheeler Strategy](http://www.essex.gov.uk/Essex_Powered_Two_Wheeler_Strategy)

Highways Signing Policy:

Where decisions on signing design and layout are made by a number of groups and organisations, Essex County Council has produced guidance on signing to ensure a level of consistency in approach across Essex.

www.essex.gov.uk/Signing Policy

Essex Speed Management Strategy:

This strategy is designed for use by all those involved in speed management to offer clear and consistent parameters for the setting of speed limits in Essex.

www.essex.gov.uk/Speed Management Strategy

Transport and highways management - Highway maintenance

Highway Maintenance:

Essex County Council has a statutory duty to maintain the public highway to a reasonably safe standard. The Council manages a number of improvement schemes on roads and other public areas for which it is responsible.

www.essex.gov.uk/highway maintenance

For further information on highways maintenance schemes that may impact upon proposals being developed for your neighbourhood plan, please contact Highways on 0845 6037631.

Highways maintenance documents produced by Essex County Council

Essex Highway Maintenance Strategy:

In order to comply with our duty to maintain the public highway, Essex County Council produces the Essex Highways Maintenance Strategy. This sets out how the highway will be maintained and how complaints and repairs will be dealt with.

www.essex.gov.uk/Maintenance Strategy

Transport and highways management - Passenger transport

Passenger Transport Strategies:

As the strategic authority responsible for the management of passenger transport services, Essex County Council produces a number of strategies to guide management and delivery of key services. The following link outlines the range of passenger transport strategies produced by Essex County Council.

www.essex.gov.uk/Passenger-Transport-Strategies

The following passenger transport strategies produced by Essex County Council should be considered as part of the development of neighbourhood plans.

Passenger transport documents produced by Essex County Council

Essex Schools and Colleges Sustainable Modes of Travel Strategy 2006/2011:

This strategy outlines how areas should promote and support the development of more sustainable modes of travel to school.

www.essex.gov.uk/Sustainable Modes Of Travel Strategy

Essex Road Passenger Transport Strategy 2006/2011

The Essex Road Passenger Transport Strategy is the Council's strategy to improve bus, taxi, statutory and community transport services in Essex between 2006 and 2011. It is a statutory part of the Local Transport Plan.

[www.essex.gov.uk/Essex Road PassengerTransport Strategy](http://www.essex.gov.uk/Essex_Road_PassengerTransport_Strategy)

The Essex Bus Information Strategy 2006-2011

Essex County Council is committed to ensuring that quality passenger transport information is available for the public to enable them to make choices when travelling. This strategy outlines how this can be achieved.

[www.essex.gov.uk/Essex Bus Information Strategy](http://www.essex.gov.uk/Essex_Bus_Information_Strategy)

The Essex Rail Strategy 2006-2011 and beyond

The Rail strategy outlines how Essex County Council will work with its stakeholders to develop a long term strategic rail plan for the county, delivering passenger and freight services. [www.essex.gov.uk/Rail Strategy](http://www.essex.gov.uk/Rail_Strategy)

Taking You Places:

Information on community based transport schemes in operation throughout Essex, including local social car schemes, dial a ride and minibus services.

[www.essex.gov.uk/Public Transport Documents](http://www.essex.gov.uk/Public_Transport_Documents)

Transport and highways management - Strategic transport planning

Strategic Transport Planning:

The Transport Planning Team in Essex County Council aim to provide transport links which enable people to access jobs, education, and essential services and facilities. The Transport Planning Team are responsible for ensuring that the County Council's transport policies and proposals are implemented at the local level, and that Essex County Council's approach is consistent with that of neighbouring authorities and national policy.

[www.essex.gov.uk/Transport Planning](http://www.essex.gov.uk/Transport_Planning)

The consideration of existing and future transport needs within neighbourhood plans should be based on the strategy of Essex County Council as the strategic transport authority, as outlined in the documents below. For further information, please contact Transport Planning Team on 0845 6037631, majorschemes@essex.gov.uk

Strategic transport documents produced by Essex County Council:

Local Transport Plan:

The Essex Local Transport Plan sets out our long term aim for transport in Essex, and outlines how local communities can provide input into how our transport network is managed and improved.

[www.essex.gov.uk/Local Transport Plan](http://www.essex.gov.uk/Local_Transport_Plan)

Essex Traffic Management Strategy:

This document contains Essex County Council's Traffic Management Strategy for Essex roads for the next twenty years.

[www.essex.gov.uk/Traffic Management Strategy](http://www.essex.gov.uk/Traffic_Management_Strategy)

Voluntary and community sector support

Funding and support to the voluntary and community sector

Some funding and support is available from Essex County Council for voluntary and community sector organisations such as neighbourhood planning groups. The following link outlines the sources of funding that may be available, and how to apply for funding and support.

[www.essex.gov.uk/voluntary sector funding](http://www.essex.gov.uk/voluntary-sector-funding)

For general enquiries on available funding through Essex County Council for community and voluntary sector organisations, please contact 01245 435311, mail.publicengagement@essex.gov.uk or voluntarysectorunit@essex.gov.uk

This information is issued by
Essex County Council, Spatial Planning and Regeneration.
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