

ESSEX RESIDENTS URGED TO HAVE THEIR SAY ON FIRE AND RESCUE PLAN FOR THE COUNTY



People who live or work in Essex are being asked for their views on the proposed priorities in the county's first ever Fire and Rescue Plan. Roger Hirst, the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for Essex, is developing a Fire and Rescue Plan that sets out his vision and priorities for the delivery of fire and rescue services in Essex. The plan will run from 2019 to 2024 and will be the basis on which Mr Hirst holds Essex County Fire and Rescue Service to account for its performance. The document mirrors the Police and Crime Plan which sets the priorities for policing in Essex. Over the summer, Mr Hirst has been working with fire and rescue service employees, Essex partners, representatives from local authorities and other

blue light organisations, such as the ambulance service and the police, to develop the themes and priorities the draft plan includes.

He now wants to know what the public thinks and is urging people to complete a survey which will launch on Tuesday November 20.

The survey will be open for eight weeks, until January 15.

To find out more please [click here](#) To have your say please [click here](#)



LIBRARY AMBASSADORS WANTED



Do you know a creative, friendly, persuasive young person aged 13-18 who would like to do some volunteering? Essex Libraries are currently recruiting Library Ambassadors for this academic year, 2018/19, to help promote library services to their friends and peers, through school or other social activities. Peer promotion is a great way to reach young people who wouldn't think to look at our website or social media channels.

The Library Ambassadors will receive five emails, spread across the academic year, about specific library services to promote. For further information and to apply please [click here](#)

PHISHING SCAM WARNING AFTER MOTORIST RECEIVES FAKE SPEEDING FINE



Essex Police are warning people to be vigilant about a phishing scam where drivers could end up paying speeding fines to criminals. A report had been received from a concerned member of the public who received an email warning them that they had been caught speeding on the M11 between Chelmsford and Harlow. The email said the motorist had been caught travelling

at 113mph on August 11. When the victim clicked on a link, they were taken to an official looking web page where they are asked to pay the fine. Fortunately, they became suspicious and reported it.

For advice on how to avoid being caught out please [click here](#)

TREES FROM THE WOODLAND TRUST TO HELP TACKLE TREE DISEASE



The Woodland Trust is urging landowners to join the fight to protect the landscape from the increasing effects of ash dieback and other tree pests and diseases by applying for one of its 'Tree Disease Packs'.

150 of these packs have been made available on a fully subsidised basis for landowners within the Eastern Claylands. Covering large parts of **Essex** and Suffolk, the Woodland Trust is working at landscape scale across the Eastern Claylands to protect, plant and restore trees and woodlands, which face a variety of pressures including climate change and tree disease.

More than half the trees in this area are found outside of woodlands in hedgerows along roadsides and on farmland, and ash is the second most common species. Ash dieback has now been recorded in over 1,000 locations, and has been confirmed in every county across England. The Woodland Trust is expecting that up to 95% of Ash trees in the Eastern Claylands are under threat from this disease. Combined with the effects of acute oak decline this might equate to a hugely worrying total of 2 million trees disappearing from the landscape of Essex and Suffolk over the next 10 to 15 years.

The Woodland Trust's 'Tree Disease Pack' contains 45 one to two year old trees, chosen from species carefully selected to best replace trees which will be lost to disease and preserve and strengthen the landscape against future threats.



A third of these will be oak, a third field maple and the remainder will be made up with a choice from a number of species including crab apple, hornbeam, birch and cherry. Edwin van Ek, Woodland Trust Treescape Development Lead for the Eastern Claylands said: "Ash dieback is the most commonly known threat currently. Our tree packs give landowners the opportunity to pre-empt any losses which could occur in the countryside. Of course, they will also provide a whole host of other benefits such as shade, shelter and creating homes for wildlife."

Applicants will receive 1.2m protective tubes and 1.5m stakes along with the trees themselves. These packs are currently fully subsidised by the Woodland Trust for landowners in the Eastern Claylands and therefore available at no cost on a first come, first served basis due to their limited availability.

The pickup points and dates are:

12th and 13th December 2018	14th December 2018	15th December 2018
Broughton Hall Farm Stowmarket Road Stonham Aspal Stowmarket Suffolk IP14 6AD	Hill Farm (House) Old Mill Road Langham Colchester Essex CO4 5NX	Writtle Forest Ltd Redindyke Farm Ivy Barn Lane Margaretting Ingatstone Essex CM4 0PU

To apply for a tree pack, please contact Woodland Trust - Edwin Van Ek
Email: easternclaylands@woodlandtrust.org.uk Mobile: 07500 999192

TASKFORCE WARNS OF RISK TO CHILDREN FROM 'COUNTY LINES' GANGS



Police, teachers and parents should be aware that all children, including those from well-off families, are at risk of grooming by criminal gangs running illegal drugs from **cities to rural areas**, according to a multi-agency taskforce investigating “county lines” networks. The report into [child exploitation and modern slavery](#) by inspectors from four agencies – including police and probation services – said some children drawn into working for criminal gangs were being overlooked, including “affluent children attending public school”, seen as less likely to be identified as drug runners by the police. “The scale and nature of child exploitation in England in the 21st century are shocking. The impact is devastating for the children, their families and their communities. Professionals and parents should not assume that the most vulnerable children are the only vulnerable children,” the report stated. “County lines activity is dynamic and perpetrators will change their method of exploitation quickly, such as by targeting new groups of children to exploit in order to avoid detection.” The report examined how agencies in Greenwich, Southend-on-Sea and Dorset were tackling county lines, in which criminals recruit children to transport and sell illegal drugs and weapons into market towns or coastal communities. To read the full article please [click here](#)

PROJECT TO HELP PEOPLE KEEP WARM THIS WINTER GEARS UP FOR COLD WEATHER



An annual project to help keep Tendring people warm during the winter months has expanded for the coming cold season. Winter Warmth, run by Community Voluntary Services Tendring (CVST) and supported by a number of other organisations, has received £100,000 from the NHS this year to expand the work that it does in the district. This winter’s initiative, called ‘May The Warmth Be With You’, will as always provide packs to vulnerable people such as the elderly, infirm or young families, containing warm clothing, a hot water bottle and electric heaters. But in addition this year grants are available to community organisations to help them run seasonal projects supporting the overall aims of ‘May The Warmth Be With You’, taken from the funding provided by North Essex Alliance ‘Can Do Health and Care’. This could be schemes to tackle isolation, trips and falls, or similar. As well as warmth, food is part of the scheme, with lunch packs being provided to schools. There will also be referrals to the CVST lunch club, held on Thursdays at 99 Carnarvon Road, Clacton, from 11.30am-1pm. Local businesses have supported the project with items for the packs and food, such as Wilkos and the East of England Co-op. Sharon Alexander, Chief Officer of CVST, said: “This is a real example of Can Do in the local community and it’s a scheme we know our local population really value. To find out more please [click here](#)

FARMERS URGE PUBLIC TO BUY LOCAL THIS CHRISTMAS



Farmers are urging the British public to keep their Christmas shopping local to show support for rural and farming businesses. The festive season is a time when British produce such as roast potatoes, pigs in blankets and traditional turkey are treasured. And while Christmas dinner is the cornerstone of Christmas Day, British agriculture has a far wider part to play this time of year with the provision of British trees, plants and beers, to name but a few.

Today, British farmers' produce totals about 62% of the domestic food supply, and unions and farmers stress that by backing British farming, the country can become a more food secure nation. The Farmers’ Union of Wales (FUW) is one organisation urging shoppers to help local, rural businesses this Christmas.

FUW President, Glyn Roberts said: "Speak to your local butcher about meat for the Christmas period and see what your local farm shop has to offer - I promise you will find many of the ingredients you need for your Christmas dinner right on your doorstep.

"A pound spent locally will go much further than a pound spent in a chain store and it keeps our rural economies going. By supporting our local businesses we don't help a CEO buy a third holiday home but we help a local mum and dad put food on the table, a family pay their mortgage, a little girl get those dance lessons and a little boy get his favourite team shirt." (Source FarmingUK online 20th November)

EVENTS

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN NETWORKING EVENT



Christmas Coffee Morning: Friday 14th December from 10.30am - 12.30pm

Venue: Barnston Village Hall, CM6 1LR

Cost: FREE to any RCCE member or £50 per person for non-members.

Parishes that are considering undertaking a Neighbourhood Plan or those already in progress with a Plan are welcome to come along. David Coleman from DAC Planning will be available to discuss technical planning issues. Join us for coffee and mince pies and have a chat with RCCE staff and representatives to share ideas and experience. To book a place, please contact michelle.gardiner@essexrcc.org.uk

IS HARE COURSING HAPPENING IN YOUR AREA?

HARE COURSING IS ILLEGAL

Please call 999 if you are witnessing criminal activity right now

If you have any information about hare coursing in your area, please let us know by:

- Reporting online (www.essex.police.uk/doitonline)
- Calling 101
- To remain anonymous call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111

 **ESSEX POLICE**
www.essex.police.uk

#OperationGalileo



This newsletter is produced and sent by Rural Community Council of Essex on behalf of the Essex Rural Partnership. If you do not wish to receive this newsletter in future please e-mail info@essexruralpartnership.org.uk with 'unsubscribe' as the email subject.

Compiled and edited by Lizzie Rose, Rural Community Council of Essex. Rural Community Council of Essex Registered Charity No. 1097009. Company registered in England and Wales No. 4609624