

ESSEX RURAL STRATEGY 2020-2024 CONSULTATION REMAINS OPEN



Online Public Consultation

The public consultation survey is still live to access it please [click here](#)

The survey contains questions on a broad range of issues relevant to life in rural Essex today, as well as a specific section for businesses, and questions for parish and town councils. We appreciate the current unprecedented times of COVID-19 are far out weighing other matters for some. However this consultation is part of future proofing our Rural Essex. It takes approx. 10 minutes to complete please take the time out of your day and help shape a large part of Essex in fact 72%!



The poster features the Essex Rural Partnership logo at the top. Below it, the text reads: "Have Your Say on the Future of Rural Essex", "Help shape the refreshed Essex Rural Strategy", and "What matters to you the people who live and work in our rural communities?". It states "Public Consultation Remains Open" and provides a URL: <https://consultations.essex.gov.uk/rci/essex-rural-strategy-2020-consultation/>. A QR code is also present. The poster lists four key points for the refreshed strategy: 1. Set out a shared vision for the future of rural Essex; 2. Highlight priorities for action over the next four years; 3. Represent the needs of rural Essex to all levels of Government; 4. Encourage greater collaboration between organisations working in rural Essex. It also mentions providing an evidence base for new initiatives for funding bids. At the bottom, it states the strategy is prepared by the Essex Rural Partnership, which brings together a wide range of organisations to co-ordinate action on the major challenges facing the county's rural areas. Logos for Essex Rural Partnership and RCCE are visible at the bottom of the poster.

NFU RESPONDS TO ANNOUNCEMENT OF TRADE AND AGRICULTURE COMMISSION



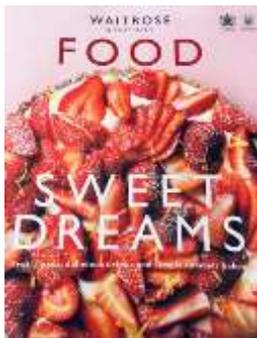
NFU President Minette Batters has called the government announcement of a Trade and Agriculture Commission a "hugely important development". The Commission will help inform agricultural trade policy.

She said: "I am very pleased that the government is taking concrete action to address the challenges of safeguarding our high food and farming standards by agreeing to set up a Trade and Agriculture Commission, something we first

called for over 18 months ago. This is a hugely important development.

To read the full article please [click here](#)

WAITROSE TAKES STANCE AGAINST SACRIFICING BRITISH FARMING STANDARDS



In Waitrose's Weekend magazine, Mr Bailey who joined Waitrose as partner and executive director in May pointed out that a million people have signed a National Farmers Union (NFU) petition, calling for laws to prevent future trade deals leading to food imports that would be illegal to produce in the UK.

"We will never sell any Waitrose product that does not meet our own high standards," he said.

He said that "any regression from the standards we have pioneered for the last 30 years would be an unacceptable backwards step".

He added: "It would be simply wrong to maintain high standards at home yet import food from overseas that has been produced to lower standards.

"We would be closing our eyes to a problem that exists in another part of the world and to animals who are out of our sight and our minds."

[Many observers] believe that in an effort to win a trade deal for the UK, we could see the standards British farmers have worked so hard to reach and uphold, sacrificed," wrote Mr Bailey

RURAL CRIME TWITTER UPDATE – Thieves hot list



Essex Police Rural Engagement Team
@EP_RURAL

We have recovered some agricultural equipment that was being dismantled near Saffron Walden. We are trying to confirm where it has come from and would appreciate the help of Twitter. @NFUtweets @NFUEastAnglia. PB



Suffolk Rural & Wildlife Po... · 1d

These are high on the thieves wish list at the moment. I know it's a pain but I recommend these are removed overnight. If you can park machinery in secure buildings, please do as they're targeting screens too. #ruralcrime #233



CLA East and 2 others

TWITTER: To follow Essex Police and help combat rural crime use @EP_RURAL

TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE



A group of rural council leaders has launched a new network to promote the voice of the countryside in the climate change debate. In a letter published on the 24th June by the new Countryside Climate Network, a cross-party group of 21 councils from every region in England, warn that “rural communities are at the frontline of feeling the effects of climate change” and that “the countryside offers far more than a place to plant millions of trees to offset carbon emissions.”

The group aims “to ensure that the voice of rural knowledge and experience on climate action is listened to in Westminster” and its new Chair, Cllr. Steve Count, the leader of Cambridgeshire County Council warns that rural areas face “unfair barriers to decarbonise” including lower budgets and funding rules which favour urban concentrations but may have less overall carbon reduction. The group wants the Government’s delayed £100bn infrastructure fund “to support the ambitions of rural areas and the opportunities our countryside and green infrastructure can provide”.

To read the full article please [click here](#)

To access the letter published by the Countryside Climate Network please [click here](#)

BUILDING A SAFE AND SECURE ESSEX



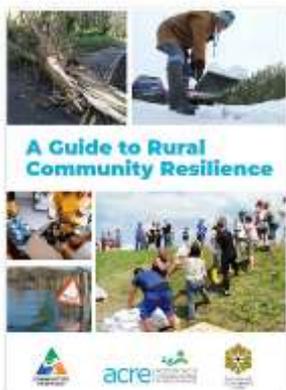
Tackling gangs and County Lines, breaking the cycle of domestic abuse and preventing crimes from happening in the first place are just some of the commitments being made by Essex’s Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Roger Hirst.

Roger has published an extension to his Police and Crime Plan which will set the vision for policing and community safety until May 2021. Roger also talks about the easing of some of the lockdown restrictions and how the Coronavirus has impacted us all.

Please click this [link](#) to view Roger Hirst’s recent update
A transcript of the message is also available on the PFCC website
www.essex.pfcc.police.uk



GUIDE TO RURAL COMMUNITY RESILIENCE



Action with Communities in Rural England (ACRE), in partnership with Communities Prepared, has published a new guide to help rural communities become more resilient in the face of emergencies. It provides practical tips for rural residents to prepare for, and help each other, at times of crisis. Financial backing for the guide has been provided by The Prince’s Countryside Fund and The National Lottery Community Fund. [Click here](#) for more information.

RURAL COMMUNITIES OWNED FACILITIES COULD HELP BOOST COVID WELLBEING



RURAL locations lacking facilities such as pubs, restaurants and shops – including those unable to re-open safely after 4th July – could see a negative shift in residents’ general wellbeing, according to a report from national charity the Plunkett Foundation and the Co-op. The new ‘Ripple Effect’ report identifies that remote and rural areas able to maintain their

social spaces, by taking them under community-ownership, experience improved interaction between residents, increased positivity and better engagement across a community.

The charity’s data also suggests that, as well as having a positive effect on wellbeing, these business models could be amongst the most resilient. 67 per cent of community pubs supported by the Plunkett Foundation continued to trade in some capacity throughout May and June, in spite of the pandemic, compared to just 28 per cent from the wider pub industry. To read the full article please [click here](#)

PLUNKETT FOUNDATION AND HOPKINS HOMES



Help for Community Businesses in rural Essex, Cambridgeshire, Norfolk and Suffolk.

East Anglian housebuilder, Hopkins Homes, has teamed up with the Plunkett Foundation to support community businesses across the region as they recover from the coronavirus pandemic.

The scheme will provide free support and expertise from the charity’s network of advisors under their Hopkins Plunkett Communities Scheme. Community businesses across rural Essex will be eligible to apply for the support from June 15th 2020. Community businesses are enterprises that are owned and run democratically by members of the community and others, on behalf of the community.

For more information please [click here](#).

BACK TO BUSINESS



Essex County Council – Helping Essex get Back to Business Businesses in Essex can access 12 hours of direct support and advice via an Essex County Council business support service aimed at helping Essex get ‘Back to Business’. Working with business advice agency Let’s Do Business Group, Essex businesses can access fully funded support to help them survive or recover from the impact of COVID-19, improve, change or expand, or to help them consider their options for the future and develop a longer-term business strategy.

For more information please [click here](#)

RURAL HOUSING WEEK 2020: 6TH – 10TH JULY



The National Housing Federation has decided to continue with Rural Housing Week, but on a virtual platform for this year. They are asking rural communities to share photos, videos, blogs and case studies. [Click here](#) for more information.

Free Webinar on Rural Housing Issues 8th July 2020 3pm For Details & to Register click [here](#)

ADVICE – STOP LOAN SHARKS

Community Funding (Tea and chat sessions) (live informal trainer-led discussion sessions)



Is your organisation or community interested in applying for Stop loan sharks Community Funding?

Join a live chat session/bring a cup of tea (optional).

Find out more about how to apply, tips and ideas and learn from organisations elsewhere.

SELECT YOUR SESSION (PLACES ARE LIMITED)

TO BOOK A PLACE PLEASE FOLLOW THE LINK TO EVENTBRITE

10AM TUESDAY 14TH JULY

[HTTPS://WWW.EVENTBRITE.CO.UK/E/COMMUNITY-FUNDING-TEA-AND-A-CHAT-SESSION-TICKETS-11158271382](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/community-funding-tea-and-a-chat-session-tickets-11158271382)

10AM Thursday 16TH JULY

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/community-funding-tea-and-a-chat-session-tickets-11159109890>

LINK TO SESSION WILL BE SENT TO YOU THE DAY BEFORE!

Follow the link below to find out more about the community funding.

<https://www.stoploansharks.co.uk/cash-seized-from-loan-sharks-to-fund-community-projects/>



MEETING DATES

Essex Rural Partnership Future Meeting Dates:

Launch of the Refreshed Essex Rural Strategy 2020-24 - TBC

Date: Wednesday 14th October 2020

Time: TBC (PM)

Venue: Chelmsford City Racecourse, Great Leighs, Essex

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.

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