

District Councillor's Report to Parish Councils September 2025

Cllr. Diana Garrod - Bumpstead Ward

Scheduled Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders & Roadworks

Multi-way traffic signal at New England, Sturmer Road. Commencing 1st May to 24th October 2025 for Utility Asset Works. Anglian Water. Project: SEW-12079 - Stambourne Pump Away Scheme. Installing underground storm water storage pipes. E: onealliancecustomers@anglianwater.co.uk T: 03457 145 145.

Intended closure of Haverhill Road, Helions Bumpstead, due to commence on 21st September 2025 for 2 days. The closure is required while Anglian Water undertakes new connection.

<https://one.network/?tm=144432123>

Intended closure of Blois Road, Steeple Bumpstead 28th to 30th October 2025. The closure is required while ECC undertakes pavement patching to defects. Permit ref: EP201EH2363061-05

Essex Police – Drone Patrols

Essex Police are now deploying drone technology to support Neighbourhood policing team patrols and investigations. They say that this approach helps monitor behaviour in real time and gather evidence in a more targeted and efficient way. With the drones, officers can cover large areas quickly, especially in locations which are difficult to access on foot and by using aerial footage, the service can identify hotspots, track patterns of behaviour, and respond more effectively to local concerns.

Local Plan Review to 2041 – Update

BDC councillors have been advised that an Extraordinary Meeting of Full Council has been arranged for Monday 24th November for the Local Plan and there will be no other business considered at this meeting. Currently BDC needs to find sites for around 8,300 dwellings to the year 2041. The Local Plan Sub-Committee will be looking to allocate 2 or 3 of the larger sites (classed as 500+ dwellings) which will be assessed at the meetings scheduled 21/09, 01/10 and 06/10. Some of the 26 smaller sites which were dismissed will need to be looked at again due to government decisions around infrastructure.

Local Government Reorganisation – Greater Essex microsite launched

A new microsite dedicated to Greater Essex Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) has been launched. The content includes explanations of upcoming changes to local government, why this matters for Essex, and a section answering frequently asked questions.

By 2028, the number and shape of councils operating across the region may look very different. The UK Government is encouraging councils to simplify how they work, aiming to grow the economy and ensure communities are closer to decision-making.

Visit: www.essexlgrhub.org

Free Business Briefings

Braintree District Council, in collaboration with the Federation of Small Businesses, is launching a series of business briefings designed to help businesses stay competitive, build connections and gain valuable insights into key topics.

From mastering sales and leadership to exploring AI, cybersecurity, legal essentials and social media trends — each session will deliver expert insights, practical tools and valuable networking opportunities. Each briefing is free and will feature an expert-led presentation followed by a Q&A session and an hour of informal networking. Attendees will also enjoy complementary pastries, refreshments, and free parking.

The first session, *Mastering Sales*, will take place at the I-Construct Innovation Hub in Springwood, Braintree on Tuesday, 30 September. Monthly briefings on various topics will continue through to February next year; each tailored to the needs of small and medium-sized businesses.

Businesses can visit www.braintree.gov.uk/businessbriefings to reserve a spot.

Essex County Council Bus Service Consultation and Local Transport Plan Consultation

Essex County Council is seeking the views of residents on a number of bus services it currently supports. The proposed changes seek to retain only service 319.

59 /590 /319 /320 /321	Haverhill	Saffron Walden/ Newport	Monday to Saturday	Uttlesford	Stephensons of Essex	Retain only service 319
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Visit: <https://consultations.essex.gov.uk/iptu/localbus2025> to complete the consultation. It is open now until 27 October 2025.

I have received multiple communications from residents about this consultation and have put questions to ECC Cllr. Peter Schwier.

I have informed the Clerk at Haverhill Town Council as it appears that they were not notified of the proposed consultation by ECC and changes to the service from Haverhill. They are now aware.

Currently DigiGo does not offer a service to the Bumpstead Ward. Parish Councils may wish to consider writing to them with a request that they provide a service. I would encourage parish councillors and clerks to visit the site to see how DigiGo operates. Visit: <https://www.travelessex.co.uk/about-demand-responsive-transport/ddrt>

Essex County Council also has their Local Transport Plan for Essex consultation at present. This is open until 24th September 2025.

View: <https://consultations.essex.gov.uk/essex-highways/better-connected-essex/>

Government Alert Scheduled Sunday 7th September 2025 at 3pm

The Government will be running a national test of the UK's Emergency Alerts system on Sunday 7 September at 3pm. Millions of mobile phones across the UK will vibrate and play a loud siren sound for around 10 seconds, along with a text message. The alert will be sent to all 4G and 5G phones and will clearly state it's a test. No action is required. The UK Government's Emergency Alerts system is designed to warn people if there's a life-threatening emergency nearby, so they can take action to stay safe.

More information is available on the GOV website: <https://www.gov.uk/alerts>

For anyone who is experiencing domestic abuse and concerned about a hidden phone being discovered during the alert, there's information available online about how they can opt out: [Opting out of emergency alerts - GOV.UK](#)

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