

Updated 20 November 2023

Details of e-mails received from County Councillor Peter Schwier, since the October PC meeting

Regular e-mails have been received from County Councillor Peter Schwier since the last meeting. Please find below a list of each e-mail with brief details. If you have an interest in any particular e-mail listed please let me know and I will forward the full document to you.

1. **Love Essex Fund** – Applications invited for microgrants of up to £500 to support waste reduction projects that promote reuse and repair. Received 18 October.
2. **Covid Booster vaccinations** now available to Essex residents in high-risk groups and frontline staff. Eligible people are encouraged to [book their Covid-19 booster](#) as well as their flu vaccinations as respiratory viruses rise in autumn. Received 18 October.
3. **'Essex Local Offer website'** – Families are encouraged to go to the website to find out about many new opportunities that have been added to the list of SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) inclusive clubs, activities and groups for children. Received 18 October.
4. **Flooding of the Highway Network** – Yellow weather warning in force for heavy rain and flooding. If residents do come across flooding it can be reported through the ['tell us'](#) tool on the Essex Highways website. Information will be put up on the Essex Highways social media channels, so make sure you are following these for the latest information. If it is an emergency - such as a fallen tree - and potential risk to life, please call 0345 603 7631. Received 21 October.
5. **Gritters on standby as winter approaches** - The gritters are ready and the salt barns are full as Essex Highways launches its winter service this week. The 49 gritters, plus two mini gritters in the service, cover approximately 2,000 miles of roads across Essex. This is about 40% of the network. Last winter, around 20,500 tonnes of salt were used on Essex's roads, with the gritters out on the network approximately 70 times. Received 23 October.
6. **Grant to protect your home from flooding** - ECC encourage residents who have been flooded to apply for their grant to protect their homes from flooding: [Get a grant to protect your home from flooding \(essex.gov.uk\)](#) Received 26 October.
7. **Apply now for September 2024 primary school places** - Parents and carers of children born between 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020 need to apply by 15 January 2024 to secure a place. Applications can be made online at www.essex.gov.uk/admissions. Received 6 November.
8. **Belchamp Otten flooding at Borley Road** – Following a complaint from a resident, arrangements have been made for Highways to inspect the site as a matter of urgency. You can track the progress of the enquiry through the ECC website using reference 2862811 : <https://www.essexhighways.org/track-it> Received 6 November.

9. Consultation on ECC's budget plans for 2024-25 – Views are sought on how ECC's budget can best be spent. Deadline 3 December. Comment online at <https://consultations.essex.gov.uk/rci/ecc-budget-consultation-2024-25/>. Received 9 November.

10. ECC praised by climate change expert – Tony Juniper, the Chair of Natural England has praised leaders in Essex for their proactive approach to improving nature. His comments were made during the county council's recent climate summit. Received 13 November.