

Appendix B

Report on Work on Outside Bodies 2022-23

Outside Body	Representatives	No of Meetings attended 2022/23	Purpose of the Group	Work in 2022/23	Issues Arising
We Are Colchester (Town Deal) Board	Cllr King	Two (out of four)	The objective of the Board is to deliver a successful Town Deal strategy, vision, and Town Investment Plan to government, for Colchester. The purpose of the Board is to act as the governance body responsible for making decisions and monitoring progress of all Town Deal programme and project initiatives, in partnership with the Department for	The Board considered, brought challenge to, and ultimately supported the transition of Town Deal projects from Planning to Delivery (Development and Deployment) phase. The Board also acted as a consultee for other emerging opportunities including Levelling Up Fund, UK Shared Prosperity Fund and City Centre Master Plan.	No issues - due consideration is being given to the future role of the Board to effectively support Town Deal project Delivery (Development and Deployment) phase.

			Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC).		
Essex Travellers Unit	Cllr J. Young	One	To consider issues relating to Travellers	Changes in legislation and activity related to travellers is considered.	The Group meets infrequently
Local Highway Panel	Cllr Scott-Boutell	Two	Discuss and mutually consider Highways expenditure within local borough, city or district boundaries.	As described in purpose	4 meetings a year via teams--I missed one because internet was down. Also challenging because of reading reports and subtitles simultaneously and listening to what's being said. Not truly accessible
Local Highway Panel	Cllr J. Young	Two	Spend the local highway budget.	To consider allocating funding to schemes of highway work	Sadly despite me highlighting that I have childcare responsibilities on Tuesday no allowance has been made and attendance is difficult for me

Dedham Vale AONB & Stour Valley Joint Advisory Committee and Partnership	Cllr Chapman	Two Partnership meetings/Three Joint Advisory Committee meeting (both as Chair) plus numerous other events as Chair	To enhance and conserve the statutorily protected landscape and undertake projects to that end to support its environmental, access and economic wellbeing.	Environmental - projects to benefit a variety of species and habitats. Economic - to support the visitor economy by providing, for example, self guiding trails and securing funding to improve environmental work.	Further and fuller details are available.
Dedham Vale AONB and Stour Valley Joint Advisory Committee	Cllr Nissen	Four plus site visits	JAC members steer the work of the Dedham Vale and Stour Valley Project Management Team on matters affecting and impacting the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.	Reviewing AONB management plan; seeking uplift in funding from DEFRA; adding staff resource; Farming in Protected Landscapes project; note and approve expenditure; attending site visits; working with Environment Agency on water levels and control structures; scrutinising National Grid East Anglian Green project; sharing best practice.	Cllr Nigel Chapman (CCC, Rural North) has been a strong Chair of the Board and maintained a strong momentum, alongside a positive work programme.
North Essex Economic Board	Cllr Adam Fox and Matt Sterling	Four	Collaborate with neighbouring authorities to boost our economies and create jobs	Awarded business support grants to agencies to provide training and advice to businesses on a wide range of topics including start-up, Cost control and decarbonising. Started work to develop a new Economic Strategy for North Essex.	None

Mercury Theatre	Cllr Barton	Six	<p>To provide a vibrant creative programme for Colchester where people can experience quality work and enjoy a diverse programme . There are also many opportunities to take part in the numerous community activities. The Mercury has a reputation as the powerhouse of the East . A statement with which I totally agree.</p>	<p>Several priorities but to start with a few positives.. £14.2 m refurbishment completed.. now a fully accessible venue. Audiences are starting to return to normal thanks to an excellent media campaign. Mercury continues to serve our community .. 36000 young people and adults took part in our engagement programme. We continue as much as possible to offer the venue, resources and staff time where possible. Record breaking audiences for the panto . We have maintained our community and educational partnerships and continue to deliver for Colchester .BUT the theatre faces challenges. Utility bills have increased by £100000 with no extra energy support from the Government. Costs of raw materials have risen by as much as 20%. The year has been spent managing these issues. I am very confident that we have a strong senior management team and a diverse fully committed Board who can manage these challenges.</p>	None
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Essex Police and Fire Panel	Cllr Lilley		To oversee the work done by the Police Fire Commissioner	<p>he year started with new members as usual. There were a number of issues brought up by members concerning the Police response times to 999 calls. A number of members said that this was a concern in their areas, so not just a local issue but County wide. The Commissioner said he would bring this to the attention of the Chief Constable but really it was an operational issue which the Panel doesn't deal with. However it was noted and the Commissioner did come back to members with a report. He arranged a site visit to the call centre for those who could attend , but i couldn't as i had a prior engagement. He also arranged a visit to the Fire Service Headquarters but having no car i couldn't get to. The panel received reports from the Fire Service and members were happy with response times and to the ongoing training session's they give out. The Commission had set out his proposals for the year and where he would invest money</p>	None
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				and staff to. He planned to increase Staff in the Reaction Centre so hopefully this will lead to a better response times. Members debated this over a couple of meetings and were happy to endorse his plans for the year. These were the main topics and I'll end my report there.	
Colchester Arts Centre	Cllr Burrows	Three	Cultural and leisure	Organise, deliver focus group of residents from across Colchester who use wheelchairs at live gigs at Colchester Arts Centre; review outcomes and decide on next steps	None
Campaign to Protect Rural Essex	Cllr Nissen	None	CPRE seeks to protect the countryside from excessive development, in addition to campaigning on rural issues including sustainable farming and affordable rural homes.	See issues arising - I have not been invited to any meetings, the same as my predecessor.	Following Cllr Chillingworth's recommendations at the end of municipal year 2021-2022 regarding no invitations to him, I proactively contacted CPRE to request engagement and invitation. They advised that these meetings are not the right

					forum for councillors to attend. They were happy to offer a seminar, however it is clear they do not wish CCC to have a representative on board. I recommend Cabinet and Officers review the appointment in light of CPRE's position.
Essex Flood Partnership Board	Cllr Nissen	2 (I was not invited to July 2022 meeting as officers weren't notified of change of CCC representative)	EFMB brings together all key stakeholders to contribute to a strategic overview of matters surrounding flooding in Essex. This ensures a consistent and co-ordinated approach to flood risk management. The board meets quarterly and continues to contribute to key decisions on projects,	Some of the key work done in 2022-2023 includes: providing challenge and steer to Anglian Water; engaging with the Environment Agency; approval of the Water Strategy; planning for the Climate Emergency within statutory authority planning processes; working on sustainable urban drainage; reservoir construction; strengthening partner organisation involvement and widening consultation; building flood resilience into communities	An excellent forum bringing companies and agencies together. Given the wide and deep scope of the work within its remit, increasing the frequency of meetings (currently quarterly) should be considered.

			strategies funding and communications.		
Bradwell Local Community Liaison Council	Cllr Nissen	2 formal meetings and 2 extraordinary meetings.	The Bradwell LCLC is made up of representatives of local councils, non-governmental organisations and other interested stakeholders, and staff representatives. The meetings provide opportunities for stakeholders in the local community to: receive reports and provide information ask questions and hold the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA), regulators and operators to account; review, comment on and influence strategies, plans, decisions and achievements represent local views at national level through direct meetings with the	Scrutiny of security arrangements; scrutiny of adverse weather planning; updates on socio-economic application bids. Following Cllr Davidson's recommendation for 2021-2022, I met with BANNG! to garner their views and feed them back to the LCLC, Magnox and Environment Agency.	As well as the official 6-monthly meetings, members attended a number of stand-alone meetings and site visit.

			NDA, Magnox Ltd, Nuclear Waste Services and attendance at annual conferences, and participation in consultations.		
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