

Appendix B

Report on Work on Outside Bodies 2023-24

Outside Body	Representatives	No of Meetings attended 23-24	Purpose of the Group	Work in 2023/24	Issues Arising
North Essex Parking Partnership	Cllr Goss	3	Provide oversight of parking policy, operations and finance. To decide budget, parking schemes and fees and charges for on-street parking in North Essex	Decided budget, updates in policy, implementation recovery plan, decided parking schemes, and fees and charges across North Essex.	Spotlight had been on finances since dipping into deficit since the pandemic in the prior financial year. Recovery plan in place has shown significant improvement in financial position of the Partnership.

<p>National Landscapes (previously AONB) Combined Joint Advisory Committee</p>	<p>Cllr Luxford Vaugan, Cllr Laws</p> <p>Officer: Lucy Massey, who provided this report</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>To protect and regenerate the designated area</p>	<p>Distributed £100,000 in grants for AONB purpose from funds provided by section 106 agreements, donations and DEFRA.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distributed over £450,000 of Farming in Protected Landscapes grants (subject to final panel approvals). • Rebranded both AONBs as National Landscapes. • Published two outstanding AONB newspapers with a combined print run of 40,000. • Ran a Dedham Vale and Stour Valley Forum that attracted over 60 delegates (in person and online). • Continued delivery of £657,000 of National Grid Landscape Enhancement Initiative Projects across both National Landscapes. • Responded to 2 national level planning consultations. • Made two 'National Landscape' awards for individuals that made an outstanding contribution to the areas. • Engaged in 5 Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project development processes. 	<p>There are roughly 3-4 meetings to attend per annum; I took on the position of CCC representative in Feb 2024 therefore I have attended 1 meeting to date. My role is to ensure the funding that CCC contribute to the National Landscape Team is being invested into work that the Council are agreeable with and communicate information that may be of value from the Council to the Committee and visa versa. For example, at the</p>
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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nature Network projects delivered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1km new anti-predator fencing to protect waders. • Over 5,000 giant hogweed plants removed. • Himalayan balsam cleared in patches along 4km of river. • 2km of new footdrain habitats created for waders. • 4 wader scrapes created. • 3km of new hedgerows planted. • 3.5 hectares of Ancient semi-natural woodland restored. • 0.5 hectares of reedbed created. • 1.5 hectares of lowland meadow restored. • Appointed & hosted an externally funded 'New to Nature' Nature Network Assistant role. • Hosted an externally funded Seasonal Ranger. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hosted an online webinar on hedgehogs. • Delivered a Heritage National Lottery Heritage Funded project to increase participation & understanding of National Landscapes. 	<p>upcoming meeting I will present details of the Local Plan Review and request input on this. Please note the team work across both the Dedham Vale National Landscape and Stour Valley and Suffolk & Essex Coast & Heaths National Landscape.</p>
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Colchester and Ipswich Museums Joint Committee	Cllr Burrows	2	Oversight of the Joint Museums Service	The Joint Museums Committee oversees the management of the museums in Colchester + Ipswich.	None
Mercury Theatre	Cllr Barton	Six official meetings but several meet ups to discuss on going issues	To provide challenging highly professional productions; to encourage and support new talent ; to provide a welcoming accessible space which is inclusive to all.	Since the Arts Council investment the theatre has gone from strength to strength. Stagetext relocated from London providing sub titles for audiences meaning the theatre is even more accessible . The Council has benefitted from this service at our Full Council meetings. We have secured extra funding to build a much needed extension and work on designs etc is quite advanced. We have installed LED lighting and digital equipment so the	I am concerned about the impact of Charter Hall offering a similar programme to the Mercury. The main concern is Elf and the impact it may have on the Mercury pantomime. As you know the money raised from the

				<p>theatre can live stream. We continue to support and mentor new playwrights and enable their plays to be showcased. The theatre has been awarded theatre of sanctuary status and a safe space for anyone who feels marginalised or persecuted. It has been a privilege to work with such a competent forward thinking team</p>	<p>pantomime (the highest earning show of the year) enables the Mercury to invest in young creatives and offer experiences to many residents whether it be through classes , new shows, outreach work . It is a concern for the Board</p>
<p>We Are Colchester (Town Deal) Board</p>	<p>Cllr King</p>	<p>4 (out of 4 meetings)</p>	<p>The purpose of the Board is to deliver a successful Town Deal strategy, vision, and Town Investment Plan to government, for Colchester. And 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</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>Good progress has been made, and welcomed, with some adjustments to scope and schedule in response to challenging market and delivery conditions. Board membership has been reviewed. A number of</p>

			Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC).		projects have been successfully completed and others are underway.
East of England Local Government Association	Cllr King	9	To advocate for and support member councils, to promote our interests and that of our region, and our residents. to foster co-operation and best practice.	Support of EELGA and their advocacy, meeting with fellow leaders, participating in their policy and others discussions.	None
Tendring Colchester Borders Garden Community Joint Committee	Cllr King	7	To oversee the planning for and progress towards the delivery of the Tendring Colchester Borders garden community.	Working with Joint Committee colleagues to ensure continued progress towards the garden community. To support our officers. In their work, through consultation, and review with partners, towards the Planning Inspector's Examination of our joint Development Plan.	None