

## Other performance news

- Awards and accreditations**

The highlights are summarised here and are also shown on [www.colchester.gov.uk](http://www.colchester.gov.uk) in the [achievements](#) section

<b>Achieved April to September 2017 (half-year update):</b>	
<a href="#">Essex Mums.com - Best Museum</a>	Colchester Castle received the 'Best Museum' award in the Essex Mums online awards. Overcoming tough competition from around the county, the win highlighted the Castle's range of educational and interactive displays for all ages, plus star exhibits such as the Colchester Vase and Fenwick Treasure. The news release is shown <a href="#">here</a> .
<a href="#">All Party Parliament Group for District Councils Inquiry: Collaboration and Devolution</a>	Colchester Borough Council's successful collaboration with other agencies and organisations has been praised in a <a href="#">report</a> by the All-Party Parliamentary Group for District Councils (APPG). 70 district councils submitted evidence, with Colchester Borough Council selected to take part as witnesses to the inquiry panel. The cross-party group of parliamentarians heard how Colchester Borough Council's work with Essex County Council and the voluntary sector had transformed the way some services are delivered, by significantly increasing the opportunities for residents and customers to interact online with the Council and via the Community Hub in the Central Library. The Inquiry also touched on the work of the Safer Colchester Partnership.  The news release is shown <a href="#">here</a> .
<a href="#">LEXCEL</a>	Legal Services were re-accredited against this Law Society standard. Lexcel is the Law Society's legal practice quality mark for excellence in legal practice management and excellence in client care.
<a href="#">Green Flag Awards</a>	Castle Park and High Woods Country Park have again both been awarded Green Flag Awards, recognising them as two of the best parks in the UK. Green Flags set a benchmark of standards for management and maintenance of publicly accessible urban and countryside parks, and promotes the community value of green spaces. The Castle Park also holds <a href="#">Green Heritage Site status</a> .  The news release is shown <a href="#">here</a> .
<a href="#">2017 TripAdvisor Certificate of Excellence</a>	This accolade from the public was given to <a href="#">Colchester Castle</a> , <a href="#">Castle Park</a> , <a href="#">Hollytrees Museum</a> , <a href="#">the Natural History Museum</a> and <a href="#">High Woods Country Park</a> .  The news release is shown here - <a href="#">Five Colchester attractions awarded TripAdvisor Certificate of Excellence</a>

<a href="#">GeoPlace</a> – national Exemplar Gold award	<p>Gold Performance Award for Address Data - for consistently maintaining the highest level of data quality. The Exemplar Awards recognise excellence in local authority business-critical data creation of Address data, known as a Local Land and Property Gazetteer (LLPG) and Street data, known as a Local Street Gazetteer (LSG).</p> <p>Only 12 authorities in the east of England achieved this Gold standard.</p>
<a href="#">Planning Awards</a> , Planning Magazine	The Creative Centre was a finalist in the category promoting Economic Growth. It was one of just five projects to make it onto this country-wide shortlist.
<a href="#">MJ awards</a>	The Council was shortlisted as one of the six finalists for the 'Commercialism in the Property Estate' category. This was for the Council's 'Ultrafast and Ultraready' innovative economic growth projects – these aim to enhance the lives and opportunities for residents, encourage greater inward investment, and seek to generate sustainable revenue streams for the local authority; enabling further investment and fostering a long-term vision for development and prosperity projects.
<a href="#">Essex Digital Awards</a>	<p>Leisure World, Colchester Events, and The Museum Service were all nominated as finalists in this year's Essex Digital Awards for their new websites.</p> <p>Colchester Leisure World earned the <a href="#">Bronze award</a> in the 'Website: sports and entertainment' category. The news release is shown here - <a href="#">Leisure World's website wins Digital Award</a>.</p>
<a href="#">Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors – east of England awards</a>	<p>CBC's Creative Business Centre at 37 Queen Street for arts and technology-related businesses won the 'regeneration' category at the RICS East of England awards. The Centre houses dozens of small firms in the creative centre – formerly used as a police station and a nightclub. The news release is shown here - <a href="#">Major award success for 37 Queen Street</a></p> <p>Update - we are now in the national final on 2 November 2017.</p>
<a href="#">2017 UK Blog Awards</a>	<p>The innovative Colchester and Ipswich Museums' Training Museum blog was nominated for the nationwide 2017 UK Blog Awards in the Arts and Culture category.</p> <p>The Training Museum blog allows Trainees to share their experiences on the programme, writing regular updates about what they have been doing and promoting the variety of roles in museums.</p>