

**Help Essex Buy Local – Call for Food and Drink Producers and Retailers**

Essex-based food and drink producers and retailers are now registering and adding their details to the interactive map which you can find [here](#). If you are involved with producing, growing or selling local food or drink items, please register your business [here](#). For more information please email Beverly.davies@essexrcc.org.uk

Digital Consultation Toolkit - Free events for RCCE members : 4th December and 8th December

RCCE is hosting two events to demonstrate a [digital consultation toolkit](#), on Friday 4th December at 10.30am and Tuesday 8th December at 6.00pm. The demos will last 30 to 45minutes followed by questions and discussion with DevComms. To book a place, contact michelle.gardiner@essexrcc.org.uk and details for the Zoom session will then be emailed to you.

Digital Food and Drink Guide from DEFRA

DEFRA has launched a new digital guide covering the key actions food and drink businesses may need to take from 1 January 2021. The [guide](#) is available to download, alongside a range of other digital assets. DEFRA are keen to have feedback, so please send any suggestions for additional information that would be helpful in this document to Beverly.davies@essexrcc.org.uk

Rural recovery and revitalisation: *The economic and fiscal case for investing in rural affordable housing'* This [research](#) was jointly commissioned by rural advocates English Rural Housing Association, CPRE, the countryside charity and the Rural Services Network. The findings highlight the social value and economic levelling up potential of increased public investment in delivering more affordable rural homes.

Broadband: Essex County Council's Superfast Broadband News

Are you worried about working from home due to poor broadband speeds? Ensure you and your employees have the best speeds available and check Superfast Essex's [interactive map](#) to find the broadband status for your address.

Jingling without the Mingling: Drive-in Carol Service Sunday 13th December 2.30-3.30pm

Essex Farmers' Drive-in Carol Service will be held on Sunday 13th December at Chelmsford City Racecourse. This free event has space for up to 350 cars and the organisers require names, addresses and a contact number for everyone in each vehicle. You'll need to complete an [order form](#) for each person.

Please Note: Our office still remains closed until further notice, and our staff are working from home and can be contacted by email. General enquiries can be sent to enquiries@essexrcc.org.uk. Our phone is being monitored and will be answered during normal office hours.

And finally, a note to our members ...

The last year has thrown us all sorts of challenges, and we are immensely proud of, and grateful for, the support of our members and supporters. We would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy and safe New Year.

From the staff and trustees of RCCE

