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# **COUNCIL** ***BULLETIN***

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***Issued Week Ending Friday, 26 March 2021***

***Epping Forest District Council***  
[www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk](http://www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk)

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Compiled, designed and produced by  
Member Services

Contact: Kim Partridge  
Telephone: 01992 564443

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## PART A - FORWARD DIARY

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### Key to abbreviations:

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<b>CC</b>	Council Chamber	<b>Cab Off</b>	Cabinet Office
<b>CR1</b>	Committee Room 1	<b>CONF</b>	Conference Room (1st floor)
<b>CR2</b>	Committee Room 2	<b>CH OFF</b>	Chairman of Council's Office
<b>MR</b>	Members' Room	<b>TR RM</b>	Training Room
<b>TBD</b>	To be decided	<b>HEM</b>	Hemnall Street Offices.
<b>TBN</b>	To be noted	<b>HH</b>	Homefield House
<b>TBC</b>	To be confirmed	<b>VM</b>	Virtual Meeting
<b>DPCC</b>	Debden Park Community Centre	<b>NWA</b>	North Weald Airfield

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Other venues are shown in full.

Currently meetings are subject to change, postponement or cancellation.

Many meetings will be held virtually but Democratic Services will advise arrangements for individual meetings.

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**Week One: 29 March 2021 – 4 April 2021**

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Monday 29 March	7.00pm	Stronger Place Select Committee	
Tuesday 30 March	7.00pm	Stronger Communities Select Committee	
Wednesday 31 March	7.00pm	Area Planning Sub-Committee East	
Thursday 1 April	6.00pm 7.00pm	Executive Briefing Local Plan Cabinet Committee	
Friday 2 April			
Saturday 3 April			
Sunday 4 April			

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**Week Two: 5 April 2021 – 11 April 2021**

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Monday 5 April			
Tuesday 6 April	10.00am	Licensing Sub-Committee	
Wednesday 7 April	7.00pm	Area Planning Sub-Committee West	
Thursday 8 April			
Friday 9 April			
Saturday 10 April			
Sunday 11 April			

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**Week Three: 12 April 2021 – 18 April 2021**

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Monday 12 April	7.00pm	Joint Consultative Committee	
Tuesday 13 April	7.00pm	Stronger Council Select Committee	
Wednesday 14 April			
Thursday 15 April	7.00pm	Overview and Scrutiny Committee	
Friday 16 April			
Saturday 17 April			
Sunday 18 April			

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**Week Four: 19 April 2021 – 25 April 2021**

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Monday 19 April	7.00pm	DDMC Briefing (26 Apr)	
Tuesday 20 April	7.00pm	Cabinet	
Wednesday 21 April	7.00pm	Area Plans Sub-Committee South	
Thursday 22 April	7.00pm	Stronger Communities Select Committee	
Friday 23 April			
Saturday 24 April			
Sunday 25 April			

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## PART B - ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

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### New Process for raising IT issues

1. Members should raise IT issues by contacting Member Contact via email at [MemberContact@eppingforestdc.gov.uk](mailto:MemberContact@eppingforestdc.gov.uk). Minimum information required; a full detailed explanation of the symptoms, preference for contact details, an appropriate time for IT to contact, and any screenshots of the issues experienced (if appropriate).
2. Member Contact will raise the incident on behalf of the member with the ICT service desk by telephoning the ICT service desk on internal extension 4888 or external 01992564888.
3. The Service Desk member will create an incident on behalf of the Member, with the full details. Please note that there may be occasions when further information is required in order for the service desk to progress the ticket, In this instance the service desk will advise and support Member Contact and postpone the progress of the ticket until the appropriate information is provided.
4. IT will then accept ownership of the issue and create a ticket. During the lifecycle of the ticket there may be occasions where further information and collaboration is needed with the members directly, ICT will contact the member directly at the stipulated time on the appropriate number provided in the ticket. Updates on the Tickets will be emailed directly to the member reporting the issue.
5. In the event that IT have attempted to reach the member on 2 separate occasions and are unable to make contact the ticket will be resolved and escalated to [MemberContact@eppingforestdc.gov.uk](mailto:MemberContact@eppingforestdc.gov.uk). Member Contact or the Member will then have 10 days to reach out to the service desk in order to re-open the ticket and resolve the issue.
6. Members are still able to raise tickets directly via the service desk by telephoning the ICT service desk on internal extension 4888 or external 01992564888.
7. Any IT issues being reported to Democratic Services will be emailed to [MemberContact@eppingforestdc.gov.uk](mailto:MemberContact@eppingforestdc.gov.uk)

### Use of Council email address

This is a polite reminder that when undertaking Council business, **you must only use your Council email address** due to GDPR legislation.

If you are experiencing issues with accessing your Council email account, please following the new process to raise IT issues so our ICT Team can assist.

### Member Contact

Please be aware that all Member queries should be logged using [https://eppingforestdc-self.achieveservice.com/service/Member\\_Contact](https://eppingforestdc-self.achieveservice.com/service/Member_Contact) as this will ensure that your query or question is properly logged and chased up if you have not received a response within 5 days.

### Modern.Gov App Tutorial

A video tutorial is available from Civica on YouTube for using the Modern.Gov iOS app. The video is approximately 12 minutes long and can be accessed via the following link:

Modern.Gov new iOS App Tutorial =  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F23xhEdH5vc>

### **Committee Management System**

The members' extranet facility for the Modern.Gov system is available at:

<https://eppingforestextranet.moderngov.co.uk/extranet>

Members may wish to save this link on their computer or mobile devices. Queries concerning login and password details for the extranet should be addressed to the Democratic Services Manager.

### **Constitution**

The Council's Constitution is available at:

<https://rds.eppingforestdc.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CId=638&Info=1>

Queries concerning the Constitution should be addressed to the Democratic Services Manager

### **ECC Highways Portal**

Up to date details of all Highways work is available at:

<https://www.essexhighways.org/Transport-and-Roads.aspx>

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## **PART C - GENERAL INFORMATION**

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### **1. LOCAL PLAN CABINET COMMITTEE - MEETING CANCELLED**

Please be advised that the Chairman, Cllr N Bedford, has given his permission to cancel the next meeting of the Local Plan Cabinet Committee on 1 April 2021 owing to the lack of business.

(Further information: Vivienne Messenger ext 4243)

### **2. CHANGES TO REGULATORY SERVICES**

Two Teams within the Regulatory Service have had a name change to explain more clearly their roles (these are shown below).

Old Team Name	New Team Name	New Team Manager Title
Business and Corporate	Environmental Health Commercial and Air Quality	Brian Stalabrass Team Manager Environmental Health: Commercial and Air Quality Team
Residential	Environmental Health Private Sector Housing and Grants	Sandra Wilson Team Manager Environmental Health: Private Sector Housing and Grants Team

### **3. MEMBERS DID YOU KNOW.....**

If you are having trouble accessing agendas on your iPads or home computers you can find them by:

Accessing them on the EFDC website through Safari for iPads and your web browser for home computers: [www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk](http://www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk)

Choose **'Your Council'**

Under More Information choose **'Committees and panels'**

This will bring up a list of the current committees. Choose the relevant committee, click on the link, choose the **'Agenda reports pack'**.

This will not bring up any private documents, those that are normally printed on pink.

(Further information: Democratic Services ext 4243)

**4. WEBCAST TOP 10 22MAR (Pages 15 - 16)**

Please see attached.

**5. EFDC - BUSINESS MATTERS MARCH 2021 (Pages 17 - 30)**

The council has set up a new monthly business e-newsletter (attached) which will communicate all news and opportunities relating to support for local businesses. If you would like to receive these newsletters in the future please can you sign up via this link: <http://eepurl.com/qib9nD>

We would welcome that you share this link with any other local businesses who you know and feel would benefit from receiving this information.

**6. EXTERNAL SCRUTINY - LOCAL MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE**

Sarah Garner will be attending the next meeting of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee on 15-Apr-21 to give a short presentation on Local Mental Health Services for Young People. As Members will remember, this arose out of the external Scrutiny of Local Mental Health Services for Adults undertaken earlier in the municipal year. To that end, could I ask Members to let me know of any issues that they would like to raise in advance of the meeting (by email please) so that I can brief Ms Garner. The issue of “how apparent mental health concerns amongst local students could be referred to service providers by primary and secondary schools in the Epping Forest District, and how quickly such referrals could expect to be assessed” is already on the list.

Members should also note that Ms Garner is the Assistant Director for the Southend, Essex & Thurrock Children & Young Peoples Emotional Wellbeing & Mental Health Collaborative and that the current contract is Essex-wide. Therefore, Ms Garner will be able to update Members on what is available in West Essex, but not specifically Epping Forest, although the District does form part of the West Essex region.

(Further Information: Gary Woodhall Ext 4470)

**7. CHAIRMAN'S DIARY**

None this week



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## LICENSING ACT 2003

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Please be advised that the Licensing Unit has received the following application for a full variation to a premises licence under the Licensing Act 2003:

**Applicant name:** Nick Thompson of Connaught Hill, Loughton, Essex, IG10 4DU

**Address of Premises:** J26 Diner, Skillet Hill Farm, Honey Lane, Waltham Abbey, Essex, EN9 3QU

**Brief details of the natures of the application:**

The proposed variation looks to:

- Remove a condition imposed on the current premises licence under Annex 2, which restricts the number of customers to 40 at any one time.
- Increase the limit of people to 150 to sit both inside and out.

**Consultation Period**

From: 18<sup>th</sup> March 2021

To: 15<sup>th</sup> April 2021

**Officer in charge:** Hannah Gould

Please ensure that any comments/objections are received by the Licensing team on or before the consultation end date.

Manager  
Licensing Team

Kim Tuckey 01992 564034  
[licensing@eppingforestdc.gov.uk](mailto:licensing@eppingforestdc.gov.uk)

Please be advised that the Licensing Unit has received the following applications for New Premises Licence made under the Licensing Act 2003 for the premises below:

Applicant name: Lisa Kashin

Address of Premises: The Mole Trap PH, Tawney Common, Epping, Essex, CM16 7PU

Brief details of the natures of the application:

Full Variation of existing premises licence,

The Sale by Retail of Alcohol Monday to Saturday 11.00 – 23.00,  
Sunday 11.00 – 22.00

To remove 2 conditions under the Operating Schedule of  
The Protection of Children from Harm;

- a) Children under the age of 14 are not allowed on the premises, and
- b) Children between the age of 14-18 may enter the premises when having a meal and accompanied by an adult.

To be replaced with Any person under 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult

An addition to the plans to allow an outside bar area being added to the beer garden

Opening Times Monday to Saturday 11.00 – 23.30, Sunday 11.00 – 22.30

Consultation Period From: 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2021 – 19<sup>th</sup> April 2021

Officer in charge: Debbie Houghton

Please ensure that any comments/objections are received by the Licensing team on or before the consultation end date.

Manager  
Licensing Officer

Kim Tuckey 01992 564034  
Debbie Houghton 01992 564336

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# PLANNING

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## 1. Appeals Lodged

EPF/2796/20 – Priory Farm Norwood End Fyfield CM5 0RJ - Erection of new house –  
Written reps – Erection of a New House

## 2. Forthcoming Planning Inquiries/Hearings -

25<sup>th</sup> March 2021 – The Old Waterworks Green Lane Nazeing EN10 6RS – Planning and  
Enforcement appeal - Without planning permission the conversion of a former stable and the  
erection of an extension to stable to facilitate unauthorised change of use of the land from  
agricultural to residential – Virtual Hearing

13<sup>th</sup> April 2021 - EPF/2905/19 and EPF/0379/20 Epping Forest College Sites  
Redevelopment of the site to provide x 139 no. residential units in 3 buildings ranging from  
3-5 storeys, car parking spaces, communal landscaped amenity areas, secure cycling  
parking & other associated development and  
Redevelopment of the site to provide 285 residential dwellings (Use Class C3) in a series of  
blocks ranging from 2 to 5 storeys in height, a new Wellness Centre (Use Class D1),  
creation of a new public park, car parking, communal landscaped amenity areas, secure  
cycle parking and other associated - – Virtual Inquiry -

EPF/0695/19 - Langley and Mile Nurseries Crooked Mile, Waltham Abbey EN9 2ER -  
Outline planning application for a residential development comprising up to x 52 no.  
dwellings (including 40% affordable housing) with vehicular access from Crooked Mile,  
associated open space, children's play area and ancillary works- date to be arranged

EPF/1649/17 – White Rose Curtis Mill Lane Stapleford Abbots RM3 1HS – Re  
determination appeal by new Inspector- date to be arranged

## 3. Enforcement Appeals

None this week

## 4. Appeal Decisions

EPF/0542/20 – Flats 1-14 and Unit 1 and 2, Aubrey House (formerly rear of 165 High Road)  
High Road Loughton IG10 4LF - Revisions to Building 2 rear building (Approved under  
EPF/2600/14) to include penthouse as allowed under appeal APP/J1535/W/19/3226911 and  
internal and external alterations – Allowed, variation by deletion of Condition 8.

## 5. Tree Preservation Orders

None this week

## 6. S106 Agreements

None this week

## 7. Changes to Planning Systems

None this week

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## **PORTFOLIO HOLDER DECISIONS**

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The notification of decisions taken by individual Portfolio Holders is no longer included in the Council Bulletin.

All members of the Council receive automatic email notification of the publication of each individual Portfolio Holder decision and the call-in period for each decision commences immediately. Members wishing to call-in a decision should complete the attached call-in form and return it to Democratic Services before the expiry of five working days following the publication date of the decision. Members should refer to the Constitution (Article 6 - Overview and Scrutiny) for the rules of call-in.

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## Webcast views

Over the last 28 days to 22 March 2021

All Epping Forest District Council webcasts are available to watch on the microsite for 2 years after the live date. Go to the [Watch a meeting](#) page on the website for links to all our public webcast meetings.

### Top 10 webcast views

There were 2,206 views of all our webcasts over the last 28 days to 22 March 2021.

The table below shows the Top 10 webcasts of public meetings, and does not include internal meetings or training sessions.

Webcast title	Live date	All views	Live views	Archive views	Times shared
Council	25/02/2021 19:00	361	46	315	0
Cabinet	11/03/2021 19:00	208	48	160	0
Area Planning Sub-Committee East	03/03/2021 19:00	169	78	91	0
Area Planning Sub-Committee South	24/02/2021 19:00	142	52	90	1
Cabinet	11/02/2021 19:00	76	0	76	0
District Development Management Committee	17/03/2021 19:00	72	12	60	0
Council	08/02/2021 19:00	52	0	52	0
Area Planning Sub-Committee West	10/03/2021 19:00	51	9	42	0
Local Councils' Liaison Committee	15/03/2021 19:00	45	20	25	0
Council Housebuilding Cabinet Committee	16/03/2021 19:00	39	7	32	0

### What is a view?

A view is the number of times a webcast has been played and must be for a minimum of 1 minute.

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## Welcome



Welcome to this first edition of Epping Forest District Council's local business e-newsletter. This monthly update will provide businesses with the latest information on support and opportunities available through your local authority.

This e-newsletter is brought to you by the Council's Economic Development Team and we hope you find this information useful.

We look forward to working closely with all businesses across the district to support recovery and economic growth.

## Contact us

## Talk to us

### We need your views!

If you have any comments on this first edition or any suggestions about future content, please let us know by emailing us on [businessmatters@eppingforestdc.gov.uk](mailto:businessmatters@eppingforestdc.gov.uk)

## Share

**Please share** this e-newsletter with colleagues and friends who might find it of interest. If this edition of our e-newsletter has been forwarded to you, and you would like to receive your own regular copy, simply subscribe by following the link here: <http://eepurl.com/gib9nD>

## Financial Support for your business



Since the beginning of the Pandemic to the end of February this year, Epping Forest District Council has paid out over £42 million in support grants to local businesses. As the restrictions continue there are still the opportunities to access financial support and grants.

Those currently open for applications are:

**Local Restrictions Support Grant (for closed businesses)** applies to businesses that were required to close under the national restrictions between 5 November and 2 December 2020; and to all subsequent tier and national restrictions where businesses were required to close by law. <https://www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk/business/business-support-grants/local-restrictions-support-grant-closed/>

**Local Restrictions Support Grant (for open businesses)** applies between 17 October and 4 November 2020, when Essex was subject to Tier 2 restrictions; and to all subsequent tier restriction periods (but not periods of national restrictions) <https://www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk/business/business-support-grants/local-restrictions-support-grant-open/>

**Additional Restrictions Grant** for businesses which – while not legally forced to close – are severely impacted by Covid-19 restrictions.

<https://www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk/business/business-support-grants/additional-restrictions-grant/>

**Essex Business Adaptation Fund (EBAF)** to assist businesses adapt their premises and/or operations to continue to trade and generate income whilst under restriction. <https://www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk/business/business-support-grants/essex-business-adaptation-fund-ebaf/>

Officers are working hard to administer applications and get grant payments to businesses. More information about the grants available, criteria for discretionary grants and online application forms can be found here:

<https://www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk/coronavirus/support-for-businesses/>

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## New role for our High Streets



We are all aware of the impact that Covid-19 has had on the nation's high streets and the longer-term changes this has brought. Our high streets need to evolve to remain relevant and vibrant which has led the Council to commission a report on each of the district's high streets to assess their strengths and weaknesses and put together action plans for each one.

The aim is to provide a road map of support and action to help high streets through the pandemic and beyond to help them make the changes necessary to flourish as key centres for our communities. The first two reports, on

Waltham Abbey and Ongar, have already generated plans that are now being put into action. To find out how we see the future of our high streets, access the reports here: <https://www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk/business/town-centre-regeneration-studies/>

The Council is also recruiting a Town Centres Manager/ Project Officer to provide dedicated support to town centre businesses and roll out the action plans.

## Help to Trade Successfully Online

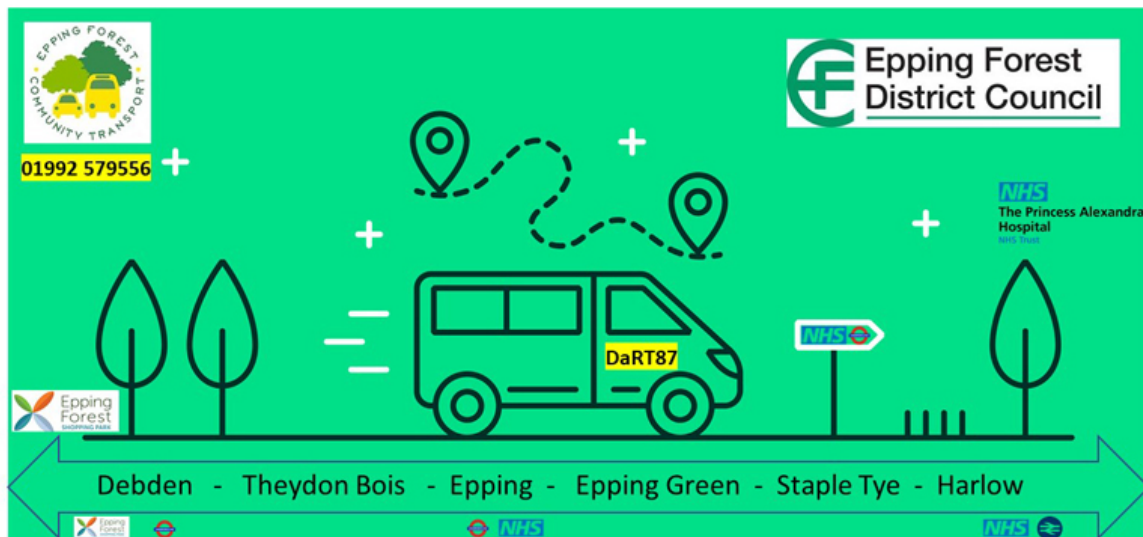


The council is investing to help local businesses and customers connect online by a new “click and collect” website provided by Click It Local <https://www.clickitlocal.co.uk/epping-forest/>. This will enable local people to shop virtually by putting items from multiple local shops into one basket and have them delivered to their door. The scheme was launched in the second week of March and already local retailers are signing up and preparing their online offer. To further help local businesses capitalise on online trading, including how to integrate social media and respond to local need, the council in April will be following up the Click It Local launch by funding business support and training packages from Maybe\*, <https://www.maybetech.com/> the market leader in the area of retail growth for local traders.

If you are a local trader and would like to find out more about serving customers online or business building through social media, please contact Duncan Haslam via email link: [dhaslam@eppingforestdc.gov.uk](mailto:dhaslam@eppingforestdc.gov.uk)

## Sustainable Transport Initiatives

### New DaRT87 ‘Demand Responsive Transport’ Service



Full details at [www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk/DaRT87](http://www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk/DaRT87) (or via Parking & Travel section)

Key workers/commuters. Off peak, similar to 87 (Arriva). Pre-booked journeys only. Cashless and Covid-secure operation. App trial.

### Demand Responsive Transport trial

The council has just approved an extension of the innovative DaRT87 Demand Responsive Transport trial for a full year and it is now increasingly open to all key workers, commuters, school/college users, leisure travellers, shoppers and

high street workers as lockdown eases. DaRT87 replaces the Arriva 87 which ceased after Christmas due to Essex County Council funding problems and low usage.

We hope that this more flexible and nimble service will prove a viable replacement for struggling bus routes and even to create future services linking towns and more rural areas based on demand.

Our trial is being run by Epping Forest Community Transport using 16 seat minibuses rather than full size buses and everything is run in line with Covid-secure guidelines. All fares are cashless and a new app is available to book journeys and to track the vehicles' progress to your pickup point using GPS. In general, journeys need to be pre-booked in advance, which suits fixed shift patterns. Areas covered are Debden, Epping (including both tube stations), Epping Green and Harlow's Princess Alexandra Hospital via Staple Tye and the bus station. Subject to demand, other areas of Loughton, Theydon Bois and SW Harlow can be requested.

For more information, visit [www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk/DaRT87](http://www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk/DaRT87)

### **Public Electric Vehicle Charging Points**

Although Epping Forest District has the second highest number of electric vehicles on the road in Essex, there are too few public charging options and most current users charge at home (if they have off street parking) or at their workplace. The Council is also looking to expand the number of public electric vehicle charging points across the district to provide both 'rapid' charging for visitors, shoppers and businesses and 'fast' (overnight) roadside charging for residents. We will have more on this in future e-newsletters.

If you want to know more about our plans for EV charging **or the DaRT87**, contact us at [transport@eppingforestdc.gov.uk](mailto:transport@eppingforestdc.gov.uk) .

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## Epping Forest Digital



At a time of unprecedented demand on our digital broadband infrastructure, the council is continuing its efforts to ensure that businesses in the district are well placed to get the best from digital opportunities such as online trading. We are working hard to ensure all business areas in the District have access to superfast and ultrafast broadband.

Epping Forest DC has, over the last few years attracted more than £20m of external investment in the broadband infrastructure of the district. Through the ongoing project to deliver gigabit capable ultrafast 'fibre-to-the-premise' broadband, this investment is seeing around 6,000, mostly rural, premises connected to world-class internet speeds. Alongside the ongoing Superfast Essex programme this will bring superfast and ultrafast coverage in the district to over 99%.

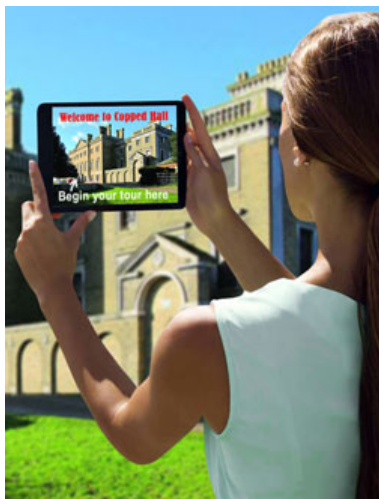
Through the Essex + Herts Digital Innovation Zone (DIZ) <https://diz.org.uk/> the council is also starting to see the benefits of a further £1.7m project, funded by Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, that will make 'fibre on demand' available to around 11,000 of the district's residential and business premises. <https://diz.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/DIZ-Press-Release-Sept-20-LFFN.pdf>

The DIZ is keen to engage with local businesses. For more information on how to engage with the DIZ and its work programme, contact

[mwarr@eppingforestdc.gov.uk](mailto:mwarr@eppingforestdc.gov.uk)

DIZ Twitter link: <https://twitter.com/DizMatters>

## Staycations Boost to the Hospitality Sector and the Visitor Economy



Continuing uncertainty over foreign travel and caution around emerging from shielding is set to make staying local the safer option for those looking for breaks this year. That is good news for our hard-pressed visitor sector that is vital to our local high streets and hospitality businesses. Throughout the pandemic last year, our tourism website [www.visiteppingforest.org](http://www.visiteppingforest.org) attracted a record 200,000 visitors looking for places to exercise and news on our local attractions. The Council will continue to support its visitor industry, worth over £242 million in 2019, whilst integrating a range of initiatives. This will include the new high streets and online trading plans plus exciting new developments around green tourism including cycle paths and electric vehicles.

For more information contact Quentin Buller via email link: [qbuller@eppingforestdc.gov.uk](mailto:qbuller@eppingforestdc.gov.uk)

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## More space for businesses

### North Weald – new employment land

Work continues to develop North Weald as a major employment site for the district to attract new jobs and investment. An initial consultation on the master planning exercise was undertaken at the end of last year and these comments are now being fed into the design process. As well as offering potential new space to businesses and





entrepreneurs this 10ha site will attract inward investment and create opportunities for work in supply chains for local businesses.



### **Civic Offices – new workspaces**

To maximise this space for business growth in the area and to maintain footfall on the high street the district council has refurbished the second floor of the civic offices in Epping for new tenants from the private sector. The high-quality space is currently being marketed with a view to possibly attract businesses based in London to relocate their jobs and investment into the district. See link:

<https://www.rightmove.co.uk/commercial-property-to-let/property-100964216.html>

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## **New supplier opportunities around district investment**



Qualis, a wholly owned Epping Forest District Council development company, is delivering significant investment in key sites in the district, particularly in Epping Forest. The council has also recently agreed a procurement policy to try wherever possible to offer opportunities to local businesses to tender for work associated with council business. Further information on Qualis developments is available at:

<https://www.qualisgroup.com/about-us/>

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## **Key sites for business support services please visit:**

## **UK Government- Business Support**

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus/business-support>

Please visit this page for all the latest government announcements around business support, and guidance for adapting to COVID in the workplace.

## **Best Growth Hub**

<https://southeastbusiness.org.uk/essex-southend-thurrock/>

Best Growth Hub provides a local team of Business Support Navigators that can help you identify and access relevant programmes, initiatives, or funding schemes currently on offer across Essex. The Business Support Navigators also provide 12 weeks of free advice for businesses seeking to scale up.

## **Let's Do Business Start Up**

<https://www.letsdobusinessgroup.co.uk/>

The Let's Do Business (South East) Group Limited is a Social Enterprise helping businesses to start-up and grow throughout the South East of England. It offers services such as finance and support for businesses starting out, training courses, as well as exhibitions providing an opportunity for small businesses to showcase products.

## **FSB**

The Federation of Small Businesses (FSB) is the UK's largest business support organisation, promoting and protecting the interests of the self-employed and small businesses.

Established in 1974 to help members succeed in business, FSB is a non-profit making and non-party political organisation that is led by members for its members. Members get an exclusive package of business services including advice, financial products and support. These cover a wide range of benefits such as tax, legal and HR, networking, business banking, insurance services, funding, cyber protection and much more.

FSB is also the UK's leading business campaigner, focused on delivering change which supports smaller businesses to grow and succeed. Our lobbying arm starts with the work of our team in Westminster which focuses on UK and English policy issues.

The Covid-19 crisis has been a real challenge for small businesses and the self-employed. For many it has been a time of uncertainty, worry and devastation. FSB have lobbied Government on behalf of small businesses, and it has proved effective. Many of the support schemes that have been rolled out are a result of this work.

FSB is a national gateway for the UK Government's Kickstart scheme and is encouraging small businesses to get involved and help support young people.

**For more information about FSB visit: <https://www.fsb.org.uk/>**

### **Epping Forest Chamber of Commerce**

<https://www.eppingforestchamber.co.uk/>

The Epping Forest Chamber of Commerce is a representative body run for local businesses and by local businesses.

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## **Key highlights for businesses from the budget**

### **Furlough**

The Furlough scheme is extended till the end of September. The scheme will remain unchanged until July when employers will have to contribute 10% in August and 20% in September.

### **SEISS (Self-Employment Income Support Scheme)**

SEISS fourth grant payment at 80% for Feb to April.

SEISS fifth grant payment in May is also available for self-employed who made their first tax return on time this March. However, whilst those showing a turnover fall of 30% or more will get the 80%, those whose turnover has fallen by less than 30% will get payment at 30%.

### **Business Rates Holiday**

The current business rate holiday for non-essential businesses is extended for three months to June. This will be followed for six months by a discounted rate

of two-thirds (up to max £2m) for businesses required to close.

### **Restart Grants**

There will be new restart grants available from April when the current cash grants end. These will be worth up to £6k for those premises that can reopen earliest and up to £18k for those forced to open later (Hospitality and leisure etc). They will be administered by local authorities with eligibility discretionary, but payments likely linked to rateable value.

### **Business Grants**

A new business recovery loan scheme will offer loans from £25k to £10m to all businesses until the end of the year.

### **Hospitality VAT**

The current cut to 5% will be extended until 30th September when it will increase to 12.5% until April 2022.

### **What wasn't there**

Help for company directors who can't furlough and self employed who make less than 50% of their income this way.



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**Our mailing address is:**

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## EPPING FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

### Notification of Call-In of Portfolio Holder Decision under Paragraphs 45-52 of Article 6 (Overview & Scrutiny) of the Constitution

*This form must be signed and completed and the original returned to the Proper Officer in person no later than the fifth working day following the publication of the decision to be called-in*

<b>Decision to be called-in:</b>
<b>Decision reference:</b>
<b>Portfolio:</b>
<b>Description of decision:</b>
<b>Reason for call-in</b>

**Members requesting call-in**  
(3 members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee or 5 other members)

Members Name:	Signed:
<b>Lead member:</b>	
Office Use Only: Date Received:	

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