

Health and Safety

Policy Statement



Essex County Council believes that its people are its most valuable resource and that their health, safety and wellbeing is of paramount importance.

Essex County Council's strategic priorities are, the economy, the environment, children & families, promoting health, care and wellbeing for all ages. We believe that effective health and safety management is integral to delivering on these priorities. We are committed to providing and maintaining a healthy and safe environment for employees, those that access our services and others such as visitors and contractors.

Essex County Council is committed to:

- < promoting a culture of safety, accountability, and active participation at all levels
- < compliance with all applicable legislative and regulatory requirements
- < providing a robust, systematic and sustainable health and safety management system
- < ensuring health and safety roles and responsibilities are understood and communicated throughout the organisation and to stakeholders
- < identifying our health and safety risks and ensuring the provision of sensible and proportionate risk control measures
- < providing comprehensive information, instruction, training and supervision
- < consulting with employees, trade unions, enforcing authorities and other stakeholders on health and safety issues
- < providing a healthy and safe work environment that encourages and supports wellbeing
- < providing appropriate emergency arrangements, equipment and facilities
- < continual improvement in all areas of health and safety management through feedback and learning

All Essex County Council functions, services, managers, employees and partners shall carry out their duties in line with Essex County Council's commitment by achieving legal compliance and, where possible, industry best practice.

We expect all employees, contractors and visitors to take reasonable care for their own health and safety and that of others who may be affected by their actions or omissions. All employees and contractors must use the equipment, tools and systems provided, and co-operate with Essex County Council in ensuring compliance with all legal requirements and standards.

The council's Members, Corporate Leadership Team and Cabinet accept their health and safety responsibilities and are committed to developing a culture that supports the effective management of health and safety at all levels. The Corporate Leadership Team will provide the necessary physical and financial resources, provide active leadership and obtain any necessary expert advice in order to demonstrate our commitment to and support for the health and safety policy.

Essex County Council's health and safety objectives will be developed and monitored and be subjected to periodic audits and annual reviews.

Cllr Kevin Bentley
Leader of the Council



Gavin Jones
Chief Executive



December 2023

