



TOLLESBURY
PARISH
COUNCIL



JOINT STATEMENT BY TOLLESBURY PARISH COUNCIL AND TOLLESBURY CLIMATE PARTNERSHIP ON THE DECISION BY ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL TO WITHDRAW SUPPORT FOR THE ESSEX CLIMATE ACTION COMMISSION

[Tollesbury Parish Council](#) and the [Tollesbury Climate Partnership \(TCP\)](#) express their disappointment about [Essex County Council's](#) (ECC's) decision to withdraw administrative and staffing support from the [Essex Climate Action Commission \(ECAC\)](#).

As a coastal community vulnerable to rising sea levels and coastal erosion, Tollesbury relies on strong county-level leadership to navigate environmental challenges. Pausing central support for the cross-party leadership body risks slowing regional progress on sustainability, green infrastructure, and community resilience.

The ECAC has been an asset for local climate strategies. In Tollesbury, shared environmental goals have supported practical projects, including the community-funded [decarbonisation of Tollesbury School](#), local tree planting, and water quality testing in Tollesbury Creek.

A cohesive, county-wide [Net Zero framework](#) is vital to help rural and coastal parishes address ongoing climate challenges. Without it, communities face greater difficulties in:

- Securing external green investments.
- Co-ordinating sustainable building and community energy initiatives.
- Protecting localised environments from flood and heat risks.

Tollesbury Parish Council and Tollesbury Climate Partnership remain fully committed to reducing our local carbon footprint and protecting our coastal environment. We welcome the announcement from [ECAC Chairman Professor Jules Pretty](#) that the Commission intends to continue its work independently.

We pledge our ongoing collaboration with the Commission and neighbouring Essex parishes to deliver practical environmental actions, and we will continue to support the published Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS).

We urge ECC to be proactive in continuing to work across Essex on environmental issues such as water and air quality, local nature recovery, and flood resilience; and we encourage Essex County Council to review their decision and restore its support for long-term community resilience across the county.

1 SEPTEMBER 2026