

5 tips to save money & reduce food waste

Discover the new Grape and Grain Trail




Could someone else use your item?

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www.recycleforsex.com



A variety of wedding options starting from £165




YOUR DAY, YOUR WAY, OUR BEAUTIFUL VENUE

BRAINTREE TOWN HALL

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Contact our wedding co-ordinator to discuss your requirements on

T: 01376 557776
E: thc@braintree.gov.uk
f Braintree Town Hall




GEORGE YARD
SHOPPING CENTRE

CHRISTMAS EVENTS 2017

Sat 18th Nov Christmas Lights on at 5.00pm
Santa's Grotto; Blackwater Alpacas
Santa Characters and other street entertainment

Sat 25th Nov Reindeer Day – with Leisure FM “live”

Sat 2nd Dec Celebrate Christmas!

Sat 9th Dec Living Nativity with Gemma's Farm

Sat 16th Dec Community Carols 2.00pm with Vocal Reflections
Bocking Brass and Crosswinds Band

Sun 17th Dec Santa Stroll & Reindeer Run

Sat 23rd Dec The day before the Day Before
Santa's Grotto & Free Face-painting
Swing Express & Santa Characters

Sun 24th Dec Last Day for Santa 2017



More details on www.georgeyard.co.uk
01376 550373 | admin@georgeyard.co.uk

f t



essexadoptionandfostering.co.uk

f @essexadoptandfoster

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Foster carers change lives

Foster carers help build better, brighter
futures for hundreds of children across
Essex every year.

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you know foster?

0800 801 530



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KEEP IN TOUCH

Braintree District Council
Causeway House, Braintree,
Essex, CM7 9HB

Text your postcode and house
number (or house name) to
07797 803 203 for service/
announcement updates

www.braintree.gov.uk

@BraintreeDC

braintreedistrictcouncil



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Visit www.braintree.gov.uk/webcast

**IF YOU REQUIRE THIS DOCUMENT IN ANOTHER
FORMAT, PLEASE CALL 01376 552525**

NEW ROAD FOR AFFORDABLE HOMES SITE COMMEMORATES RAIL HISTORY



Nathan Cole of Icen Homes, Councillor Lynette Bowers-Flint and Helen Gregory of Colne Housing

BRAINTREE'S RAILWAY HISTORY HAS BEEN IMMORTALISED IN A NEW ROAD NAME, FOLLOWING A COMPETITION.

Colne, the Essex-based housing association, invited local residents to suggest a name for the new access road to the former Crossman House site off Station Approach, where 21

modern affordable homes are under construction, due for completion this autumn. The winning entry – 'Great Eastern Close' – was submitted by Wayne Claydon, from Newnham Close, who was a familiar face as Braintree station's ticket office supervisor before he retired in 2015. He had worked at the station for 34 years.

He said: "The land in question and surrounding area was acquired by Great Eastern Railway for the extension of the line from Braintree to Bishops Stortford that opened in October 1869. I feel very honoured and excited that my entry was chosen as my two oldest brothers, Bing and Gary, drove steam trains many years ago from Braintree to Witham."

DID YOU KNOW?

Braintree District Council has worked with Housing Associations to deliver **48** affordable homes in 2016/2017 with **130** more planned for 2017/2018.

HELPING YOU KEEP WARM AND WELL

*Our Sustainability Team offers
a range of services including:*

FREE HANDYMAN SERVICE -

This is a service for vulnerable and/or elderly owner occupiers or private tenants to install energy saving measures, including draught proofing, foil backing to radiators, loft clearance ready for insulation, hot water tank jackets and fitting of grab rails.

T: **01376 552525**

HOME INSULATION -

We're working in partnership with Aran Services, a local insulation company who can access grant funding for loft, cavity wall, room in the roof and attic room insulation. Funding is dependent on criteria and availability. To arrange a FREE no obligation survey, contact Aran Services on **0800 5877795** or email **info@aranservices.co.uk**

BRAINTREE'S ESSEX ENERGY SWITCH -

The Scheme aims to help residents get a better deal on their gas and/or electricity bills and is delivered by the Council and iChoosr. Auctions are held every February, May and October where energy companies offer their cheapest tariffs. Residents who do not have internet access can ask a friend or relative to assist using their own email address. Alternatively the Council can make a registration on your behalf. T: **01376 552525** or visit **www.braintree.gov.uk/essexenergyswitch**



Got a property to rent?

...we can help

For more information on our
Landlord Select Scheme

www.braintree.gov.uk/landlord
landlord-hotline@braintree.gov.uk
Tel: 01376 552525

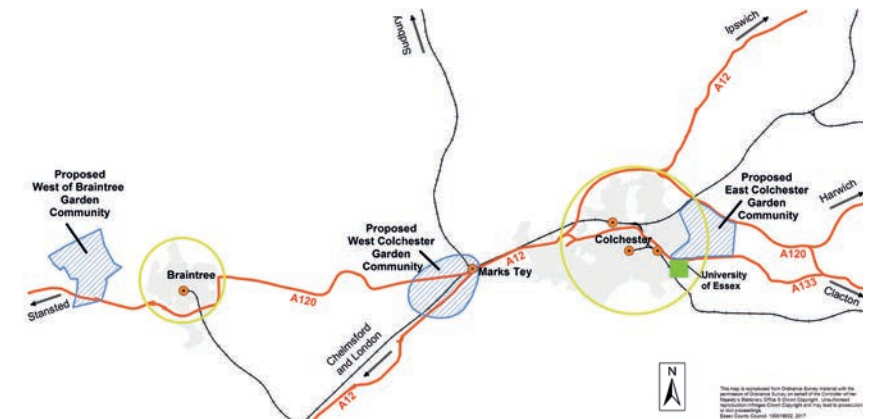
Garden Communities - an exciting opportunity

North Essex
Garden Communities

You may have heard about our ambitious plans for two 'Garden Communities' in the Braintree District over the coming years, as well as a third east of Colchester.

A joint project between Braintree, Colchester and Tendring Councils working alongside Essex County Council, the plans have stemmed from a need to look at a new approach to delivering homes moving away from traditional developer led developments tagged onto existing towns and villages.

A unique approach to housing, the new communities will be developed by the councils themselves, allowing them to control the design, types of housing and speed of build.



It also means that some of the frustrations of traditional development can be removed, and the councils can ensure business space, schools, health and leisure facilities and all of the infrastructure that a thriving community needs are in place.

Importantly, the councils have also committed to building to Garden Community principles meaning a focus on creating sustainable self-contained communities based around green spaces and healthy living.

For more information about North Essex Garden Communities
visit **www.ne-gc.co.uk**

WHAT IS A LOCAL PLAN?

A Local Plan is the basis for the future development of homes, employment and business sites while protecting the countryside.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

Planning applications, whatever their size and proposed use, are assessed for approval against the policies contained in the Local Plan.

This means by creating a sound Local Plan we have more power to stop inappropriate development in the future.



Subscribe for planning updates and alerts
at **www.braintree.gov.uk/tellmemore**

LOCAL PLAN

WHERE ARE WE IN THE PROCESS?

In June and July 2017 we went out to public consultation again so a big thank you for all your responses. They are available to view here **www.braintree.gov.uk/consultLP**

We will soon submit the plan and all the comments received to the Planning Inspectorate with independent examination hearings expected in the new year.

Next step for the Braintree District Local Plan...





Put your unwanted items to **GOOD REUSE**



Here are some easy and free ideas of what you can do with your unwanted items:



REDUCE REUSE REPAIR REPURPOSE
ILOVEFREEGLE.ORG

- **PASS IT ON** - to friends or family or place on the free and easy local Freegle and Freecycle sites
- **DONATE IT** - to charity shops or one of the many reuse organisations around the county
- **SELL IT** - there are many selling sites such as Ebay and Gumtree or why not sell at a boot sale?
- **RECYCLE IT** - recycle your textiles and books

Find out more:
www.recycleforessex.com



binning **RECYCLING MYTHS**

MYTH 1: "I PAY MY COUNCIL TAX, WHY SHOULD I HAVE TO SORT OUT MY RUBBISH/ RECYCLING, IT'S A WASTE OF TIME AND MORE WORK FOR ME!"

FACT! It's easy to recycle. We have all developed the habit of putting rubbish in the bin, recycling is just developing a good habit instead of a bad one. You will be surprised to know the average cost per property for waste collection services is less than £2 per week. Remember, it's the same rubbish just in separate sacks and bins.

MYTH 2: "I DON'T RECYCLE BECAUSE IT ENDS UP IN LANDFILL ANYWAY"

FACT! This could not be further from the truth! Your recycling is taken to a Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) to be sorted into different materials streams, i.e. plastic bottles, tubs, pots and food trays; paper/card; tins, cans and aerosols. Then the different materials are transported to various re-processors where they are used to make new products.

MYTH 3: "WASHING MY RECYCLING USES UP MORE ENERGY, WHAT A WASTE!"

FACT! We advise recycling is rinsed out, a quick rinse will do. Rinsing removes food residue which prevents other recyclables such as paper becoming dirty. To make a new product from recycled materials takes less energy than using new raw materials. More energy is required to extract, refine, transport and process new raw materials, as opposed to making it from existing materials, meaning there are extra energy savings.

MYTH 4: "I DON'T RECYCLE MY FOOD WASTE AS IT SMELLS"

FACT! The smell of food waste can be minimised through a few simple steps:

- Contain food waste as soon as possible, either in your kitchen caddy or your kerbside food waste bin and keep the lid closed.
- Put food waste in a compostable caddy liner or tightly wrap in a sheet of newspaper.
- Keep your food bin out of direct sunlight in hot weather.



You can find out about recycling and waste at
www.recycleforessex.com

recycle for your community



LOVE FOOD HATE WASTE



5 LITTLE WINS to save money and reduce food waste

Every year in the UK we throw away £12.5 billion worth of good food, costing the average family almost £60 a month. Easy ways to avoid wasting food are to:

1 GET FAMILIAR WITH YOUR FRIDGE AND FRIENDLY WITH YOUR FREEZER

What the 'best before' and 'use by' labels really mean is key to making the most of your fridge and freezer. Checking the 'use by' dates on items in your fridge, can begin saving you money. Move recently bought items into the freezer if you don't think you'll have time to use them soon. After shopping, transfer as much as you can straight into the freezer.



2 STORE CUPBOARD SAVVY

Keep your store cupboard and freezer well-stocked with canned, dried and frozen goods, rice, pulses, pastas and sauces that you know you love to eat. With these you can rustle up a decent meal or a delicious dinner from leftovers.

3 GETTING YOUR PORTIONS RIGHT

Day after day we serve up bread, rice, potatoes and pasta, and what we can't eat ends up straight in the bin. Are you getting your portions right? Use the LFHW portion calculator as a way to measure the right amount e.g. a mug full of rice will serve four adults.

4 LOVELY LEFTOVERS

Being crafty with your food is a way to save money – and it really boils down to thinking before you throw. With a bit of preparation, your leftovers can create more tasty meals, and they don't have to be second best.



5 PLANNING YOUR MEALS

Planning is one of the most effective ways you can save on your food bills. Check your fridge, freezer and cupboard and ask yourself what you really need. Then, before you go shopping, think about what you're going to need for the week, write a list and stick to it!

FOR USEFUL TIPS on storing food, tantalising recipes and advice on portioning and meal planning:



CRIME NOT TO CARE

47% of people don't know they're responsible by law if their waste is fly-tipped by a third party. This year's Love Essex county-wide campaign aims to educate people about how to dispose of their rubbish correctly to ensure they don't unwittingly end up with a criminal record and an unlimited fine.

Your rubbish, your responsibility



Are you doing the right thing with your waste? Find out or you could end up with a criminal record and face an unlimited fine.

www.recycleforessex.com/crimenottocare

www.recycleforessex.com/crimenottocare

GARDEN WASTE collections are SPRING TO AUTUMN

Collections **STOP** during the winter months

PLEASE CHECK YOUR COLLECTION CALENDAR FOR DATES



Did you know you can check your bin collection dates online?

www.braintree.gov.uk/collectioncalendar
#doitonline



DISCOVER the BRAINTREE DISTRICT...

Sometimes when you have lived in the district for a long time you can forget just how beautiful our towns and villages are. Together with readers of the Braintree and Witham Times we've been highlighting all the district's hidden gems on our Twitter, Facebook and Instagram channels. So far we have highlighted more than 100 places to go and things to do – Get involved by taking a snap of your favourite place and using the **#BDHiddenGems** hashtag.



- 1 Manze's, Braintree High St 2 Reloved Home, High St, Halstead 3 Bosworth's Tea Room and Finchingfield Antique Centre, The Green, Finchingfield 4 Marks Hall Gardens and Arboretum, Coggeshall 5 River Walk, Witham 6 Holts of Witham, Newland St, Witham 7 The Little Book Café, Hedingham Rd, Halstead 8 Halstead Public Gardens, Trinity St, Halstead 9 Shake Express, High St, Braintree

A NOD TO OUR PAST *but looking to the future*

Earlier in the year we held a public exhibition to show the initial concepts for the redevelopment opportunities in Braintree. By early 2018 we aim to have submitted a planning application and if that is successful we aim to have the work finished during 2020.

The Manor Street scheme, as it stands, will see a brand new healthcare facility which will finally give patients of Mount Chambers a building which is fit for purpose. Mount Chambers – one of Braintree's largest GP surgeries with 13,900 patients - has been campaigning for new, modern facilities for more than ten years. It has outgrown its current building hidden behind Coggeshall Road and is not able to provide 21st century health care and it has, on occasion, had to use converted broom cupboards to treat patients.

The large new GP surgery and pharmacy will provide a welcome level of activity to the town but we also wanted to deliver a substantial economic boost by bringing more footfall into the town centre.

A hotel chain saw potential in having a town centre location and expressed an interest in being part of the scheme and that will allow us to feed into our wider tourism strategy for the whole district.

Visitors will be able to come into the town to visit friends, family and nearby attractions such as the Braintree District Museum, the Warner Archive, Freeport and the Chelmsford City Racecourse. It will also prove useful for all those getting married at the Town Hall in Fairfield Road. There are also plans for a public garden to the back of the Town Hall perfect for photos for happy couples marrying in the historic building.

Residential homes are also likely to be part of the development. More and more towns are seeing the benefits of bringing residential homes into town centre locations helping to revitalise high streets by increasing footfall and spending. The scheme will also see a new high-quality bus interchange and a new modern car park.



Ordnance Survey Map from 1875 showing the Fair Field



Aerial photo of the site showing the area which will be redeveloped



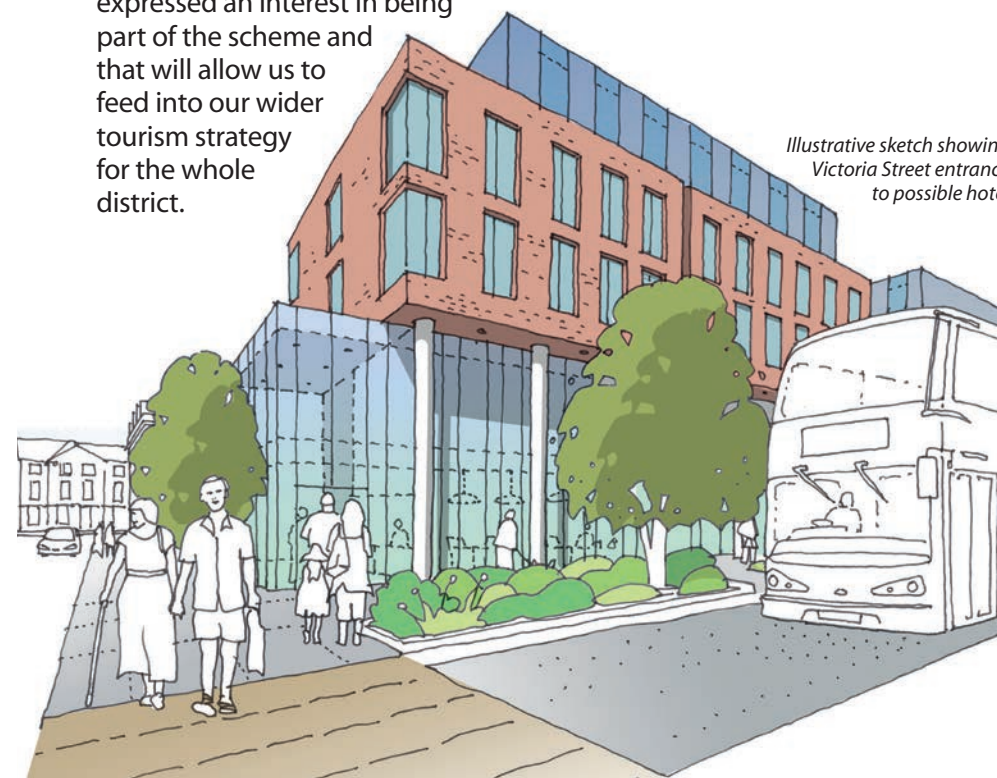
Aerial View showing potential layout



Illustrative Sketch showing potential entrance to GP Surgery and new Town Hall Garden

Following June's well-attended exhibition, our team will hold a further exhibition end of October to showcase a more detailed design and seek feedback before a planning application is submitted.

If you have any comments or questions please contact the team on economicd@braintree.gov.uk



Illustrative sketch showing Victoria Street entrance to possible hotel

WHAT'S ON?

OCTOBER

EVENT:

COGGESHALL FOOD AND DRINK FESTIVAL
West Street Vineyard
SAT 30TH SEPTEMBER – SUN 1ST OCTOBER
FREE ENTRY

FRIENDS TALK:

WHERE GOLDEN HAPPINESS BEGINS WITH CLAIRE WILLETT
Braintree District Museum
FRIDAY 6 OCTOBER
7.30pm
Tickets: £2
(voluntary donation)

WORKSHOP:

GARDEN DESIGN WORKSHOP
Cressing Temple
SATURDAY 7 OCTOBER
10.30am-3.30pm
Tickets: £45

EVENT:

FOOD, HOME CRAFTS & LIFESTYLE FAIR
Cressing Temple
SATURDAY 14 & SUNDAY 15 OCTOBER
10.00am – 4.00pm
Tickets £5/£4
Accompanied children Under 16: Free

EVENT:

HARRY POTTER DAY 2
Braintree District Museum
TUESDAY 24 OCTOBER
10.00am – 4.00pm
Meet the Owls! 11am -2pm

EVENT:

HALLOWEEN FACE PAINTING
George Yard
SATURDAY 28 OCTOBER
10.00am

EVENT:

GHOST HUNT
Cressing Temple
SATURDAY 28 OCTOBER
Tickets: £25

EVENT:

WEDDING FAIR
Braintree Town Hall
SUNDAY 29 OCTOBER
10.00am – 4.00pm
FREE

OCTOBER HALF TERM

Braintree Museum
TUESDAY 24 OCTOBER – FRIDAY 27 OCTOBER
11.00am – 1.00pm
Full details of workshops and how to book are on our website and check our social media pages nearer the time.

NOVEMBER

FRIENDS TALK:

THE ELECTIONS IN ESSEX IN 1734 WITH ROGER COOKE
Braintree District Museum
FRIDAY 3 NOVEMBER
7.30pm
Tickets: £2
(voluntary donation)

EVENT:

LATE CHRYSANTHEMUM & VEGETABLE SHOW
Halstead Queens Hall
SUNDAY 5 NOVEMBER
2.00pm – 4.00pm

EVENT:

TEA DANCES
Braintree Town Hall
THURSDAY 9 NOVEMBER
1.30pm – 3.30pm
Tickets: £5.00

NEW EXHIBITION:

POP POLITICS & PUNK
Braintree District Museum
11 NOVEMBER – 20 JANUARY 2018

SPECIAL EVENT:

STIR IT UP! MINCEMEAT MAKING WORKSHOP
Braintree District Museum
FRIDAY 17 NOVEMBER
7.30pm – 9.30pm
Tickets: £10

EVENT:

A VINTAGE CHRISTMAS
Braintree Museum and Warner Textile Archive
SATURDAY 18 NOVEMBER
10.00am – 4.00pm

EVENT:

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON
Braintree Town Centre
SATURDAY 18 NOVEMBER



EVENT:

CHRISTMAS GIFT FAIR
Warner Textile Archive
SUNDAY 19 NOVEMBER
10.00am – 4.00pm
For all Christmas workshops please check warnertextilearchive.co.uk

EVENT:

CHRISTMAS FAYRE
Halstead High Street
SATURDAY 25 NOVEMBER
12noon – 4.00pm

EVENT:

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH-ON
Halstead Public Gardens
SATURDAY 25 NOVEMBER
From 4.30pm

SHOWTIME:

CHRISTMAS WITH BRIAN SHAW
Braintree District Museum
TUESDAY 28 NOVEMBER
1.30pm – 4.00pm
Tickets: £10

DECEMBER

SPECIAL EVENT:

ANNUAL TORCHLIGHT PROCESSION AND TOWN CAROL SERVICE
Halstead High Street
WEDNESDAY 6 DECEMBER
Starting at 7.30pm
Free entry



OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2017

SPECIAL EVENT:

CHRISTMAS WREATH MAKING
Braintree District Museum
THURSDAY 7 DECEMBER
7.30pm
Tickets: £20

EVENT:

TEA DANCES
Braintree Town Hall
THURSDAY 14 DECEMBER
1.30pm – 3.30pm
Tickets: £5

SHOWTIME:

THE BLUES BROS
Witham Public Hall, Collingwood Road
FRIDAY 15 DECEMBER
8.00pm
Tickets: £20

EVENT:

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS SHOP DROP OFF
Braintree District Museum
THURSDAY 21 DECEMBER & FRIDAY 22 DECEMBER
11.00am – 1.00pm

EVENT:

CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES
Braintree George Yard Shopping Centre
SATURDAY 23 DECEMBER
Swing Express: 11.00am-1.00pm
Sheridan/Santa Puppets: 10.00am-3.00pm
Santa's Grotto: 10.00am-3.00pm
FREE face painting: 10.00am-2.00pm



BRAINTREE GEORGE YARD CHRISTMAS EVENTS

SAT 16TH DEC

Bocking Brass: 10.30am – 12.30pm
Crosswinds Band: 1.00pm – 1.45pm
Community Carols: 2.00pm

REGULAR EVENTS AT OUR LOCAL LIBRARIES:

TUESDAY AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP
Witham Library
Every first Tuesday of the month
2.30pm – 3.30pm

ESSEX KNITTERS AND STITCHERS
Witham Library
Every first Wednesday of the month
10.00am – 12noon

WELCOME NEW BABY AND YOU
Witham Library
Every Thursday
11.00am – 12noon

HALSTEAD BOOKWORMS
Halstead Library
Every first Friday of the month
2.00pm – 3.00pm

CHILDREN'S CRAFT SESSION – FREE
Kelvedon Library
Every first Saturday of the month
10.00am – 12noon

SATURDAY BOOK CLUB
Braintree Library
Every third Saturday of the month
2.00pm – 3.15pm

BRAINTREE VOLUNTEER BUREAU
Braintree Library
Every second Tuesday of the month
10.00am – 1.00pm

COMMUNITY TEA TIME
Hatfield Peverel Library
Every first Wednesday of the month
9.00am – 1.00 pm

STAY AND PLAY
Witham Library
Every Monday
1.30pm – 2.30pm

SENSORY STORYTIME
Halstead Library
Every first Thursday of the month
2.15pm – 2.45pm

LITTLE SWANS STORYTIME AND CRAFT CLUB
Sible Hedingham Library
Every Saturday
10.30am – 11.30am

MY GROWN UP AND ME BOOK GROUP
Earls Colne Library
Every last Tuesday of the month
1.30pm – 2.15pm



Subscribe for the latest events happening in the area at www.braintree.gov.uk/tellmemore

Find out what events and activities are taking place around the district:

Our events calendar
www.braintree.gov.uk/events
Health and Wellbeing
www.livewellcampaign.co.uk
Braintree District Museum
www.braintreemuseum.co.uk
Warner Textile Archive
www.warnertextilearchive.co.uk
Leisure centres
www.fusion-lifestyle.com
Essex Libraries
www.libraries.essex.gov.uk/events
Witham Town Council
www.witham.gov.uk
Halstead Town Council
www.halsteadtowncouncil.co.uk



GET ACTIVE at JOHN RAY PARK!

Our parks are a beautiful area of the district to visit - and now John Ray Park in Braintree has been further enhanced with the opening of a new fitness trail and newly improved paths.

Funded by developers' section 106 monies, the new fitness trail provides opportunities for free fun and physical activity workouts with the paths providing a place for all to walk, run and cycle.

Visit www.livewellcampaign.co.uk for more activities

Among the new equipment are overhead rings, balancing beams, sloping stride jumps and pull up stations for people to use as a way of staying active and keeping fit.

John Ray Park provides an activity for everyone and we are pleased to be investing in fitness equipment and open spaces to give families the opportunity to enjoy fitness and have fun.



GRAPE & GRAIN TRAIL

The Grape and Grain Trail takes you from beautiful rural countryside to the Saltmarsh Coast featuring our area's finest award winning vineyards, distilleries and breweries.

The trail highlights 7 breweries, 5 vineyards and 1 distillery, showcasing handcrafted ales, high quality beers, elegant wines and distinctive spirits. Each venue has something unique to offer, from tours & tastings to onsite restaurants and cafés where you can enjoy a meal while you sample the produce.



Jane Mohan, Owner of West Street Vineyard said:

"The Grape and Grain Trail is an opportunity for us to showcase our award winning wines and restaurant. We've already had visitors who discovered us from the Trail map; it really works well from a marketing perspective."

Nelson Ridley, Director of Bishop Nick Limited said:

"As a small business it can often be difficult to promote yourself to the wider public. So we were delighted that Braintree District Council decided to launch the Grape and Grain trail and asked us to be part of it. This is a great initiative that showcases the number of quality breweries, vineyards and distilleries that we have in our local area."



Visit www.grapeandgraintrail.co.uk to download a copy of the map or call 01376 552525



COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

We can provide a car or wheelchair accessible vehicle to enable you to get to your appointment or anywhere in the district. Fares are affordable, drivers friendly and helpful.



Call **01376 557883** or email community.transport@braintree.gov.uk for more information.

You can also visit us on www.braintree.gov.uk/communitytransport



Brian Shaw, Strategic Lead Education and Skills at Active Essex said about the Daily Mile:

"It is greatly increasing the amount of physical activity in the everyday life of the school, doing it in an easy, inclusive and fun way which is bringing benefits for the health and wellbeing of our young people."

Over the last year we've been working with 10 primary schools across the district to get children to eat more healthily and get more active, as part of a 3-year project to halt the rise in obesity in primary school children.

The Livewell Child project, piloted by Essex County Council and Braintree District Council involves the delivery of a series of interventions and support to schools including the

Daily Mile. Silver End school is one of the schools and in March pupils were treated to a fun and active afternoon at the launch of their new initiative with the help of Essex County Fire and Rescue (ECFRS). They developed team building exercises with the children and demonstrated that a mile of exercise can be completed in many different ways.

PLAN FOR GROWTH

The Braintree District has one significant competitive advantage – its location.

Lying between Chelmsford and Colchester, close to Cambridge and not far from Stansted Airport, Southend Airport and the Haven Ports, our district is in a superb location to attract and grow businesses and provide good jobs for our residents.

Here we take a look at the infrastructure developments which will encourage more businesses to set up home here...



SUPERFAST BROADBAND

Essex County Council has signed the contracts for Phase 3 of the Superfast Essex programme to bring Superfast Broadband to more homes and businesses in the district. Search your address www.superfastessex.org/maps

A120

Essex County Council has pledged to create "an A120 that works for everyone" following its consultation on route options for an upgrade to the current single carriageway between Braintree and the A12. Visit: a120essex.co.uk

SUPPORT FOR BUSINESSES

B.E.S.T. (Business in Essex, Southend and Thurrock) Growth Hub has an extensive range of business support and workshops on offer. The workshop programme is free for Essex based businesses. Visit: www.bestgrowthhub.org.uk

NEW SKILLS, NEW OPPORTUNITIES

A NEW STEM INNOVATION CENTRE AT COLCHESTER INSTITUTE'S BRAINTREE CAMPUS, HELPING YOUNG PEOPLE DEVELOP THE SKILLS THEY NEED FOR FUTURE JOBS, IS NOW OPEN IN CHURCH LANE, BOCKING.



The centre will provide specialist training facilities for young people and adults to develop and refine their skills. This will ensure that they are work-ready upon completion of their qualifications and can easily transition from college into the work environment.

Programmes include digital IT, construction, engineering, manufacturing and mathematics. STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) skills are in high demand in the Braintree District as these represent 27% of the district's workforce. With an estimated 44,000 new recruits likely to be needed in construction-related roles across Essex by 2021 and 14,000 new houses to be built in Braintree by 2033, there are an estimated 20,000 new jobs to be created across the District.

With this in mind the centre was developed with a key focus on working in partnership with local employers, aiming to tackle growing skills shortages and enhance apprenticeship opportunities for all ages.

Visit www.colchester.ac.uk or call 01206 712777 for information on courses available.



Over **£53,000** has been donated to 74 local community groups to help boost projects and initiatives in its first year.

COUNCILLORS' COMMUNITY GRANTS SCHEME

The grant scheme, which launched in August 2016 has already helped over 74 local community groups providing funding for everything from car park improvements to new bowl carpets.

Each ward councillor has a maximum of £1,500 to give to local organisations or can pool their budgets together to joint fund projects.

Councillor Graham Butland, Leader of Braintree District Council, said: *"I'm delighted this has been introduced so councillors can provide support to projects or activities that benefit the communities they represent. This way every ward in the district gets a fair share of community grants to help local projects and improve the wellbeing of communities across the district."*

HATFIELD PEVEREL PARISH COUNCIL

received a grant of £538 to provide new goal posts at the Nounsley Playing Field.

Councillor Bebb, who provided funding to the parish council, said: *"I'm delighted to be able to make a difference to young people in the area through this grant. One parent said that this new facility has made her son more keen than ever before to go over to the play area to play football with his friends, socialise and get plenty of exercise – and this is exactly what the scheme is about – supporting and benefiting our communities."*



WITHAM BOWLS CLUB

recently received £252 to purchase six bowl pushers to help those less mobile enjoy playing bowls.

Gordon Barrett from Witham Bowls Club said: *"Gathering up the bowls at the end of the game can be difficult for some of our members who can't bend down very well. Getting the grant meant that we could buy 6 new bowls pushers making it easier for everyone to take part. With 40 ladies and 75 gents who enjoy the facilities of our Club the new bowls pushers are being put to good use."*

COGGESHALL IN BLOOM

also received a grant of £200 towards the costs of planting up containers and gardens earlier this year. This helped enhance the appearance of the town with colourful flowering troughs in various locations.



NORTH ESSEX TABLE TENNIS SCHOOL

who are based at Earls Colne Recreation Club were awarded a total of £500 which contributed towards the costs of improved lighting and new tables.



If your organisation is interested in applying please contact your ward councillor to discuss your project proposal. Visit our website for contact details: www.braintree.gov.uk/councillors

Partnership Working in COMMUNITY SAFETY



Meet our Braintree District Community Safety Partnership! They work closely together to make our community safer, reduce crime and anti-social behaviour and make residents feel safe in the District.

They meet regularly to discuss issues in the area with representatives from Essex Police, Braintree District Council, Essex Fire & Rescue Service, Greenfields Community Housing, Essex Community Rehabilitation Company, Essex County Council and others.

ONE OF THE COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP MEMBERS IS THE ESSEX CRC

Essex Community Rehabilitation Company provides a range of probation services to low and medium risk offenders. They have produced some fantastic results in supporting service users to change their way of life away from offending and back into employment.



JIM MCCLAUGHLIN TELLS US A LIFE CHANGING STORY OF ONE OF HIS SERVICE USERS...

"A service user with over 50 convictions began a 12 month Community Order. He showed a marked improvement in his behaviour, securing full time employment, a steady relationship and somewhere to live. He had to travel to Chelmsford by public transport to attend appointments which proved a barrier. Through the partnership I managed to arrange appointments at Causeway House which enabled me to see him, so reducing his travel time and increasing his compliance. He successfully completed his order and has not offended since."

Get ready for winter

Look after **YOUR FAMILY**

- Put together an emergency kit with appropriate food, clothing and equipment
- Check out some emergency plans for families and keep up to date with weather and flood warnings

Look after **YOUR BUSINESS**

- Put an emergency box together, including insurance documents, staff contacts & anything you'd need to keep the business running if you had to re-locate
- Sign up for flood alerts and weather warnings. Develop a flood plan

Look after **YOUR COMMUNITY**

- Know what emergencies are most likely to happen in your area
- Check on neighbours, friends and family, and those who may need extra help, especially anyone who lives alone
- In case of a power cut call 105 for up to date information
- If you know someone who would need support in a power cut, suggest they register for UK Power Networks priority service

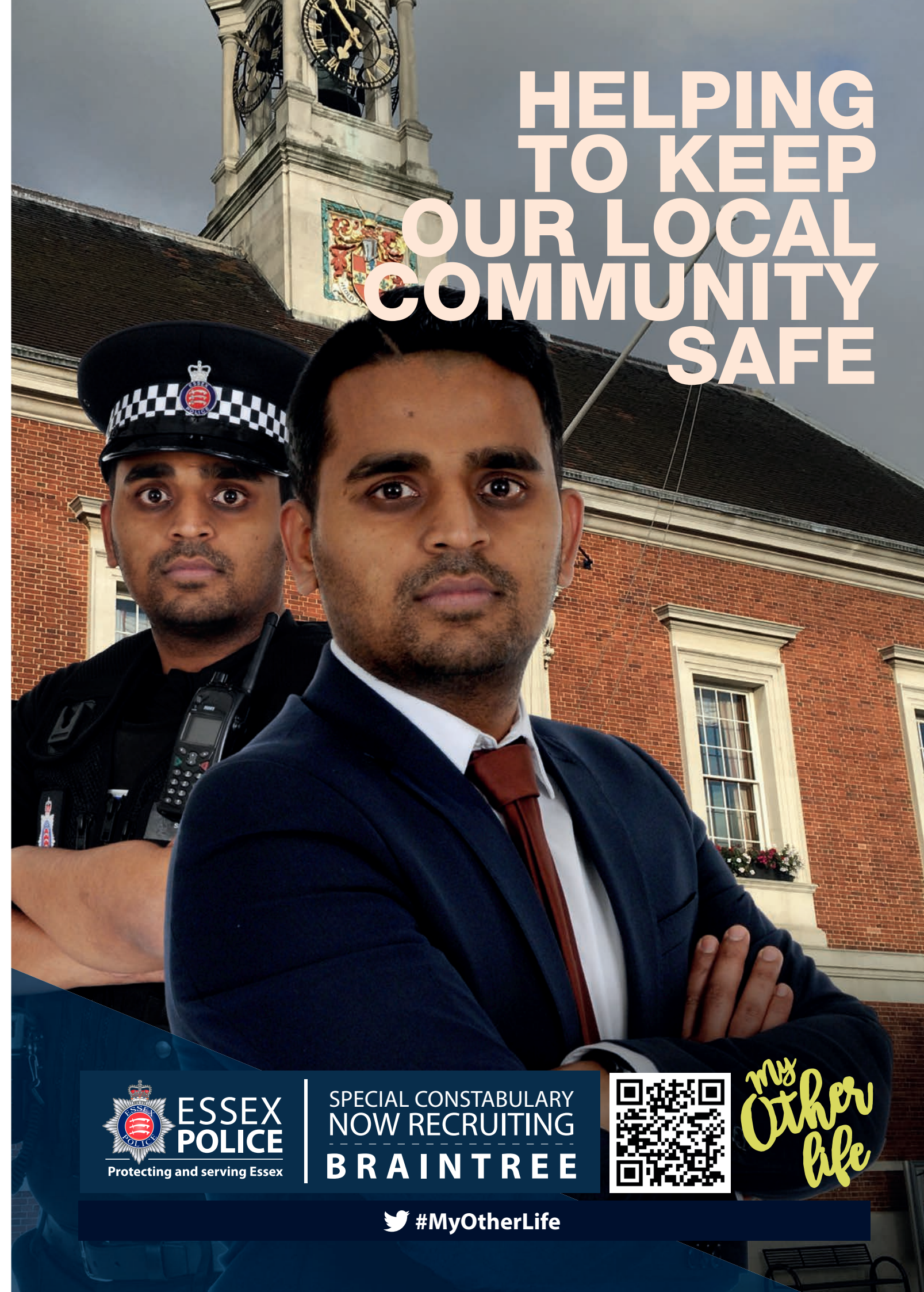
Look after **YOUR HEALTH**

- Make sure you get your flu jab
- Heat your home to at least 18C if you can – take advantage of schemes and discounts to help you pay for heating your home
- Have regular hot drinks and at least one hot meal a day
- Find a flu buddy to assist with any errands

Look after **YOUR TRAVEL**

- Check motoring organisations' advice. Make sure your car is ready for winter weather
- Keep a winter emergency kit in your car – blanket, shovel, ice scraper and de-icer, torch and batteries, snacks, extra screenwash etc

www.braintree.gov.uk/winter



SPECIAL CONSTABULARY
NOW RECRUITING
BRAINTREE



*my
Other
life*

 #MyOtherLife

BRAINTREE DISTRICT COUNCIL

in NUMBERS

We have
467
members of staff and
49
councillors

We cover
an area of
612
square
kilometres
(that's more
than 64,000
homes)

We collect about
£8.74 million
in council tax
for our services

For every £1 people pay in
council tax just **11 pence** goes to
Braintree District Council

(Essex County Council receives 73 pence, Essex Police
& Crime Commissioner receives 10 pence, Essex Fire
Authority receives 4 pence and Parish or Town Councils receive 2 pence)



If you are in a Band D property
you pay £169.47 per year
towards Braintree District Council services
which works out at **just over £3 a week**

Braintree District Council has a
budget of
£14.39
million

Our
budget
from Central
Government
is being reduced
from £780,000 in the current year
to zero in 2019/20

We have made
more than
£12 million
in savings
since 2010

Just some of what we do:

We collect around **57,447**
tonnes of waste each year

We recycle **29,355 tonnes**
of rubbish every year

We complete **7.8 million**
waste collections each year

Our **Environmental
Health team** helps around
680 people each year with nuisance
noise and light complaints

We've helped around
145 disabled people each year
make their home more accessible
through our Disability Grant Scheme

Our planning department handles
around **1,500 applications**
each year

We have **4 leisure facilities**
which are **used by 70,000**
residents each month

Through our community transport
scheme we have helped residents
with more than **51,000**
journeys

We clear around **770 flytips**
each year

A total of **3,057 litter**
incidents have been reported
to us throughout the year

Our Councillor Community Grant
Scheme has already supported
84 local projects

We've supported more than
750 jobseekers by hosting
two job fairs

We carry out around **590 food**
inspections a year

How satisfied are you?

Survey



It is important to us that we receive feedback
from you to know how we are doing, whether
you are satisfied with the main services we
provide and if you think we are providing
value for money. The survey should only take
5 minutes to complete and we will publish the
results in Summer 2018.

CLOSING DATE: 31st March 2018

1 How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with
your local area as a place to live?

- ☐ Very satisfied ☐ Very dissatisfied
☐ Fairly satisfied ☐ Neither satisfied
or dissatisfied
☐ Fairly dissatisfied
- Please tell us why:

2 Overall, how satisfied are you with the way
Braintree District Council runs things?

- ☐ Very satisfied ☐ Very dissatisfied
☐ Fairly satisfied ☐ Neither satisfied
or dissatisfied
☐ Fairly dissatisfied
- Please tell us why:

3 How satisfied are you with each of the following
main services provided by Braintree District Council:

3a Keeping our District clear of Litter?

- ☐ Very satisfied ☐ Very dissatisfied
☐ Fairly satisfied ☐ Neither satisfied
or dissatisfied
☐ Fairly dissatisfied

Please tell us why:

3b Recycling & Waste Collections?

- ☐ Very satisfied ☐ Very dissatisfied
☐ Fairly satisfied ☐ Neither satisfied
or dissatisfied
☐ Fairly dissatisfied

Please tell us why:

3c Parks and Open Spaces?

- ☐ Very satisfied ☐ Very dissatisfied
☐ Fairly satisfied ☐ Neither satisfied
or dissatisfied
☐ Fairly dissatisfied

Please tell us why:

3d Sports/Leisure Facilities?

- ☐ Very satisfied ☐ Very dissatisfied
☐ Fairly satisfied ☐ Neither satisfied
or dissatisfied
☐ Fairly dissatisfied ☐ Do not use
Sports/Leisure

Please tell us why:



do it online
www.braintree.gov.uk/css2017-18

4 To what extent do you agree that Braintree District Council provides value for money?

- ☐ Strongly agree ☐ Tend to disagree
☐ Tend to agree ☐ Strongly disagree
☐ Neither agree nor disagree ☐ Don't know

Please tell us why:

.....

.....

.....

5 How informed do you feel about the services available from Braintree District Council?

- ☐ Very informed ☐ Very uninformed
☐ Fairly informed ☐ Neither informed nor uninformed
☐ Fairly uninformed

Please tell us why:

.....

.....

.....

6 Braintree District Council produces email updates on a range of topics you can choose from, e.g. job alerts, refuse & recycling, planning, events and news. Would you like to sign up for this service?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes please supply your email address.
(You can opt out at any time)

7 Braintree District Council has a People's Panel made up of members of the public from across the district. The panel takes part in a range of surveys which are either emailed or posted directly to them. The surveys are an important way to gain views and feedback for services across the council. If you would like to join the People's Panel, please tick YES and ensure you supply your full contact details.

- ☐ Yes

8 Please let us know how we can improve future editions of Contact to help us produce the best magazine for you.

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Name:

House number/ House name:.....

.....

Street:

Town/Village:

Postcode:

Contact number:

Mobile phone number:

Email:

Gender: ☐ Male ☐ Female Age:

Date:

If you have any additional comments, please complete the box below:

DATA PROTECTION

Are you happy for us to share your information across other council departments to help us to improve our quality of service to you? (Personal data will NOT be shared with third party organisations)

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

Braintree District Council is a data processor for the purpose of the Data Protection Act 1998. Your details will be kept by Braintree District Council and processed in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998. The Council will not share the information provided with other organisations.

For further information on how your information is used, please see the Council's Privacy Policy which is available on the Council's website www.braintree.gov.uk and available by contacting the Council's Customer Services Centre on 01376 552525.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. Please return it using the Freepost address below (no stamp necessary):

**Freepost plus RTHE-ABHH-BUUA,
Marketing & Communications Team,
Braintree District Council, Causeway House,
Braintree, Essex, CM7 9BR**