

SPRING 2022

# BASILDON

## OUR BOROUGH



BasildonCouncil



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## CONTACT US

Basildon - Our Borough is produced by the Communications Team at Basildon Council. It is published four times a year and delivered free to almost 80,000 homes across the borough.

Do you have a story about the community or information about an event which you would like to be considered for inclusion in a future edition of the magazine?

Or, for advertising enquires email - [jude.mason@basildon.gov.uk](mailto:jude.mason@basildon.gov.uk)

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All information stated in this magazine is correct at time of printing.



## USEFUL INFORMATION



### SAMARITANS

Telephone: 116123  
(free from any phone)

### COMPASS 24/7 DOMESTIC ABUSE HELPLINE

Telephone: 0330 333 7444

### STREETLINK

If you find someone sleeping rough, report to Streetlink:  
[www.streetlink.org.uk](http://www.streetlink.org.uk)  
Telephone: 0300 500 0914  
(24 hour)

### NHS MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS LINE

Call 111, select option 2  
24 hours a day, 365 days a year

### ONLINE SUPPORT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Kooth - online mental wellbeing support. Free and anonymous, 365 days a year. [www.kooth.com](http://www.kooth.com)

### NHS 111

Call 111 or go to [111.nhs.uk](http://111.nhs.uk)  
They can help if you have an urgent medical problem and you are not sure what to do

# WELCOME

Welcome to the Spring edition of our Basildon - Our Borough magazine and where we take the opportunity to highlight all the great things going on across our borough.

After spending another few months living with Covid-19 restrictions, the longer days give us the perfect excuse to get out and explore more of the countryside around us. If you do enjoy our parks, we have a number of volunteering opportunities where you can help make a difference to our communities. These include: community litter picks, tree planting, and landscaping. We are all looking forward to celebrating the Platinum Jubilee over the long bank holiday weekend this June. Please let us know what you are planning, by making sure to tag our Basildon Council social media accounts in your activities. If you would like to nominate a community representative to light one of our five beacons, please email [platinumjubilee@basildon.gov.uk](mailto:platinumjubilee@basildon.gov.uk)

I am pleased that despite our financial challenges, we have been able to freeze our part of council tax this year. Overall bills will rise; this is because 71 per cent of what you pay goes to Essex County Council. They deliver crucial services in the borough, including social services, highway works and public health. The rest of the bill is made up of the Office of the Police and Fire Commissioner and the Police.

I do hope you enjoy this issue of our magazine, the next one will be produced in the Summer.

**Councillor Andrew Baggott**  
Leader of Basildon Council



## PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS

Basildon Council regularly undertakes engagement with residents on a wide range of matters.

Responding to consultations enables you to have a say on how we work and what we plan to do. Consultation surveys are made available on the council website and provide an easy and accessible way to let us know your views. However, we recognise that taking part online is not suitable for everyone.

To ensure our consultations are accessible to all we make sure all surveys can also be completed with assistance from the Customer Contact Centre. If you wish to take part in a consultation but are unable to complete a survey online, simply call **01268 533 333** and a customer service representative will talk you through the survey, accurately record your responses, and submit the survey on your behalf.

To fill in our future consultations, please visit:  
[www.basildon.gov.uk/publicconsultations](http://www.basildon.gov.uk/publicconsultations)

## COMMITTEE DATES

(all meetings start at 7pm unless stated otherwise)

### Planning

9 March  
23 March

### Leisure & Environment

8 March

### Audit & Risk

31 March

### Communities & Wellbeing

2 March

### Strategic Planning and Infrastructure

10 March

### Licensing

3 March

### Enforcement and Public Order

15 March



### Resources & Commercial

16 March

### Policy Executive

17 March

### Scrutiny

22 March

### Housing and Estate Renewal

1 March

### Full Council (AGM)

24 March 7:30pm  
26 May 7.30pm

### Elections

5 May (all day)



## BACKSIDE TO TRACKSIDE PROGRAMME BECOMES AWARD WINNING!

**Our Backside to Trackside programme supported over 200 residents get active in 2021, and its success was recognised by winning two active awards.**

Backside to Trackside is a free nine-week programme run by the council and supported by Everyone Active and Active Basildon, to help residents develop the skills to walk, run or jog five kilometres around the athletics track at Basildon Sporting Village.

The programme would normally run once a year, but it's popularity meant we ran a successful Autumn edition in 2021 on top of our Summer programme, to be able to support as many residents as possible.

In addition to helping hundreds of residents, the programme won the Active Wellbeing Award at both the Basildon and Essex Activity Awards!

Chairman of the Leisure and Environment Committee Councillor Craig Rimmer said: "Backside to Trackside is such a great programme for our borough. It brings people from all corners of the borough together and creates one big community of residents, all supporting each other to achieve their fitness goals.

"Having cheered on our residents at the Fun Run events to conclude the two programmes in 2021, I've seen first-hand how much fun all the participants have, and also the real sense of achievement felt when they complete it and get their medal. I look forward to cheering the next cohort on in 2022."



## BASILDON COUNCIL HAVING ELECTORAL REVIEW

**The local government boundary commission is conducting a periodic review looking at how Basildon Council is made up in terms of the total number of councillors and representation across borough wards.**

The first part of the review is to look at how many councillors should represent the borough. Recommendations to the commission will be made by the council using a national formula and is based on future population predictions. The commission will then decide whether that number delivers effective representation and effective decision making. Following this, the boundary commission will look at the boundaries and makeup of the various wards in the borough.

There will be two opportunities for residents to get involved. Consultations will run from the 10 May to 18 July 2022, then subsequently on the draft proposals 4 October to 12 December 2022. The final proposals will be published on the 28 February 2023 and if required there will be further consultation. The proposals then need to be approved by parliament. Should they be approved the new arrangements will be implemented at elections in May 2024.

<https://boundarycommissionforengland.independent.gov.uk/>



## GET INVOLVED IN ORGANISING BIG JUBILEE LUNCHESES

To nominate someone from your community to light one of the five beacons, get involved in jubilee lunches, apply for a road closure, or to let us know what your plans are for Platinum Jubilee weekend, please email: [platinumjubilee@basildon.gov.uk](mailto:platinumjubilee@basildon.gov.uk)

## BOROUGH CELEBRATIONS ORGANISED FOR QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE

**A range of celebratory activities have been agreed as part of Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee this year.**

Activities include the lighting of beacons, Big Jubilee Lunches and the planting of tree circles as part of the Queen's Green Canopy in borough parks across the five towns.

Chairman of the Communities and Wellbeing Committee Councillor Terri Sargent said: "Her Majesty ascended to the throne on 6 February 1952 and no other monarch has reigned for 70 years so this is truly a once in a generation event and we plan to mark the occasion accordingly with a host of community focused events in our public parks."

Beacons will be lit across five of the borough's parks, Wat Tyler Country Park, Pitsea, Sun Corner, Billericay, Pound Lane, Laindon, Wickford Memorial Park, Wickford and Basildon's Gloucester Park.

The beacons will be lit alongside others in ceremonies up and down the country at 9.45pm and will be preceded by speeches, prayer and music on Thursday 2 June.

The extended bank holiday weekend will be from Thursday 2 to Sunday 5 June 2022.

The council will work with community groups in the five towns to organise free Big Jubilee Lunches in parks. This would involve decorating an area of the park for people to bring picnics and providing entertainment.



Tree circles will also be planted in each of the five towns at South Green Open Space, Nevendon Road Recreation Ground, Victoria Park, Gloucester Park and Northlands Park. The tree circles will be planted with Prunus Kanzan (double pink cherry) so that in future years there will be a circle of blossom in the Spring.

Following the planting of the trees commemorative plaques will be placed at the circles during the celebratory weekend in June this year.

To find out more about what is going on nationally visit [www.royal.uk/platinumjubilee](http://www.royal.uk/platinumjubilee)

When the celebrations start make sure to tag the Basildon Council social media accounts on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram in your goings on, so we can spread the joy of our borough's celebrations.

## CELEBRATING APPRENTICES PAST AND PRESENT

**Basildon Council launched six new roles and shared stories from former and current apprentices to mark National Apprenticeship Week in February.**

The council's apprenticeship scheme is widely supported, giving young people an opportunity to earn a real wage while they learn, launching their career in local government.

Apprentices at the council study a Level 2 Business Administration NVQ while completing service-based work placements across the council. Many apprentices have gone onto permanent roles and successful careers with the council.

Cllr Andrew Baggott, Leader of Basildon Council said "Further full-time education is no longer the only option for a successful future. Apprenticeships are fabulous, giving young people more opportunities to forge their own path based on what inspires them.

"Apprentices are able to earn while they learn and gain valuable experience in a workplace environment, giving them support with what they need to kickstart their career"

Apprenticeships are available in a range of roles and sectors – not just with Basildon Council. To find out more and apply for an apprenticeship visit [www.apprenticeships.gov.uk](http://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk)



**Ellie Hendry**  
Planning Higher Apprentice



**Owen Stringer**  
Planning Higher Apprentice

## LOCAL INNOVATOR GROUND CONTROL IS RECOGNISED WITH THE QUEEN'S AWARD FOR ENTERPRISE

**An innovative Billericay-based construction and maintenance contractor has been recognised with the Queen's Award for Enterprise. Ground Control is one of the only companies in the UK to have won the prestigious Queen's Award for Enterprise, twice in five years.**

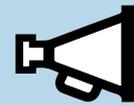
The company has been recognised for their use of technology including in communities in Basildon and across the UK.

Jason Knights, Managing Director at Ground Control, said: "This award is recognition of our efforts and investment in making external spaces functional, safe, and enjoyable for all. We are committed to continuing to invest technology and enabling everyone we work with to fulfil their potential." The company works in partnership with the Essex Wildlife Trust and local authorities on woodland creation projects, such as Little Cowbridge Wood in Billericay. In 2019, they planted 22,893 native hardwood trees to create nine hectares of protected woodland in Billericay, Essex.

Chairman of the Regeneration and Economic Development Committee Councillor Anthony Hedley said: "Ground Control is at the cutting edge of its industry and it says a lot for the borough that an award-winning company like this has chosen our borough as its headquarters. Congratulations to everyone at Ground Control for this latest accolade." Find out more at [www.ground-control.co.uk](http://www.ground-control.co.uk)



## PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER COULD BE INTRODUCED LATER THIS MONTH



# NEWS

**A Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) covering the borough could be introduced after overwhelming support from residents in a recent public consultation.**

A PSPO is a legal order to tackle anti-social behaviour (ASB) that would cover specific restricted areas within the borough such as parks and town centres, and the breaching of it is a criminal offence which could be subject to a fine on prosecution (up to £1,000).

The activities that a potential PSPO would give authorised officers of the council powers to enforce relate to alcohol and substance use, urination and defecation, pony and traps, motor vehicles, and car cruising. At least 85% of residents supported introducing a PSPO to tackle each individual activity, with the large majority being in strong support for each.

The decision on whether to implement a borough-wide PSPO will be made by councillors at the upcoming Full Council meeting on Friday 24 March.

Leader of Basildon Council and Chairman of the Public Order and Enforcement Committee Councillor Andrew Baggott said: "A PSPO covering the borough would give us more powers to tackle the behaviour that we don't want to see in Basildon.

"Our enforcement teams and park wardens already do brilliant work across the borough, and the introduction of a PSPO would allow us to utilise and strengthen these resources to do even more to make our borough a nicer place to live."

For all the information on what a PSPO for the borough would mean and to view the draft Order, visit: [www.basildon.gov.uk/PSPOconsultation](http://www.basildon.gov.uk/PSPOconsultation)



## BASILDON BOROUGH VOLUNTEER AWARDS HONOUR BOROUGH'S HEROES



**The 2022 Basildon Borough Volunteer Awards took place in March with special individuals from across the borough getting the recognition they deserve.**

There were nine categories to choose from for this year's awards, including Young Volunteer of the Year, Community Star, and Volunteer Group of the Year.

The awards ceremony took place at Fords Social Club, hosted by the Mayor of Basildon, Councillor David Dadds.

Councillor David Dadds said: "Volunteers are such a vital cog in the mechanics of our borough. They give up their time to do such selfless work across Basildon.

"I'm delighted that we were able to put these awards on this year and shine a light on some of the amazing individuals who really deserve a light being shone on them.

"It was an honour to be able to meet the nominees and winners personally and thank them for their efforts to make our borough a better place."



# SMALL CHANGES BIG IMPACT

**Separating food and garden waste can make a big impact on climate change. Climate change is an issue that continues to grab headlines across the globe but it is locally where we can all make a difference and there are so many ways we can do it.**

This Autumn, Basildon Council will be implementing change to its waste and recycling services. Following a public consultation in 2021 in which more than 7,000 borough residents responded, councillors agreed proposals to separate food and garden waste.

Here's how the service will work:

**Each household will receive a weekly food waste collected via electric vehicles. Households will be provided with a 23-litre and a 5-litre kitchen caddy for indoor use, and 50 kitchen caddy liners annually to each property free of charge.**

**Households will receive a fortnightly, free of charge garden waste collection, collected via your current green wheelie bins (or garden waste sacks).**

Chairman of the Leisure and Environment Committee Councillor Craig Rimmer said: "We have been set clear targets by The Circular Economy Package, which commit the UK to achieve a recycling rate of 65% by 2035, an ambition we have adopted in Basildon."



Nationally, the revised Waste Strategy for England and the Environment Bill are also aiming to radically change how waste is reduced, reused and recycled.

This will affect the way in which local authorities collect and treat waste. The Environment Act states that food and garden waste must be collected separately from homes and businesses from 2023. Because of this there are fewer places which will be able to accept mixed food and garden waste in the future.

# FOOD WASTE FACTS

When food waste is thrown away via your black sacks, it ends up in landfill, where it emits harmful greenhouse gases to the atmosphere and contributes to global warming. Recycling food waste produces fertiliser, compost, renewable energy and reduces harm to the environment.

Wasted household food alone is responsible for 21 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e and even if you only count the edible food wasted, it comes to a total of 14 million tonnes.

If we eradicated those 14 million tonnes, it would be the equivalent of taking one in five cars off the road.



FOOD WASTE ONLY

*"We are working hard to become a carbon net-zero authority by 2030 with a borough target of achieving carbon net-zero status by 2050."*

**Councillor Craig Rimmer**  
Chairman of the Leisure and Environment Committee





Are you thinking about getting solar panels, but not sure where to start?

Register for free and without obligation before **15 March**  
[essex.gov.uk/basildonsolartogether](https://essex.gov.uk/basildonsolartogether)



Save more as a group



Clear information



High-quality installation



Extended guarantees

**Solar Together Essex**



# TOP TIPS

## to reduce your waste



We're all becoming more aware of the impact we have on the environment. With just a few simple changes, everyone can make a positive difference.

### Cut the rubbish!

This is where you can have the biggest impact at home. There are lots of easy ways to try reducing waste:

- **Composting leftover food** (like fruit and vegetable peelings) creates free soil improver to grow plants and veggies at home. You can also use your weekly food waste recycling collection.



- **Make the switch to cloth nappies.** They are a great alternative to disposable nappies and can offer great cost, health and environmental benefits. Plus, a £30 refund is available on the purchase of cloth nappies, including new or pre-loved items, on the Love Essex website.



- **Freegle it!** From furniture, children's toys, bicycles and mattresses, you can find your unwanted item a new home without leaving the comfort of your own home. Visit [www.ilovefreegle.org](http://www.ilovefreegle.org)



- **Reduce your food waste!** This doesn't just help the planet - your purse will benefit too. Families can save around £60 a month by doing a bit of extra preparation and meal planning. Check out [www.lovefoodhatewaste.com](http://www.lovefoodhatewaste.com) for tips.



For more great ideas on how to reduce your waste at home, sign up to the Love Essex monthly newsletter or follow us



@loveessexuk  
[www.loveessex.org](http://www.loveessex.org)



## SMALL BUSINESSES IN DEMAND

**Basildon has long been the place for small businesses and start-ups to find success.** With more than 7,000 small businesses currently operating across the borough, there's every kind of product and service you can imagine. We spoke to two local entrepreneurs who have turned their passion into a successful small business.

### SUE CHAPMAN, OWNER OF TYLER'S PATCH

**In our last edition we met Sue Chapman from Tyler's Patch. Here she tells us more about her passion.**

"Hello, my name's Sue and I run Tyler's Patch, a small and very friendly business supplying everything needed to make a patchwork quilt from my studio in Barleylands Craft Village. The shop is named Tyler's Patch as it was originally based in Wat Tyler Country Park and relocated here 13 years ago.

I provide a large collection of the best quality cotton, ideal for patchwork and dressmaking and take commission requests for Memory Quilts and Cushions. I also offer help to the donor to make their own quilt and host classes for patchwork, quilting and bobbin lace-making for all abilities and clubs."



"I love people popping in for advice, helping them solve a problem or choose fabrics for their next project. It is very rewarding when someone who has been traumatised by the needlework classes they attended at school and petrified of a sewing machine, (I was one of them) walks away with a beautiful quilt."

**[www.tylerspatch.co.uk](http://www.tylerspatch.co.uk)**

**Phone number: 07842 244147**

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# The Dog House



Professional Pet Grooming

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## CHARLOTTE HITCHMAN, OWNER OF THE DOG HOUSE

“Since I was at school, I knew I wanted to follow in my parents’ footsteps and be a small business owner. My passion for animals led me to dog grooming and I set up my own business just before my 18th birthday. With hard work and the support of the local community who have recommended and helped to grow my business, seven years later we now have over 200 dogs who come into the salon for a range of treatments.

We have a range of dog breeds who come into our salon regularly who all need different things. From a greyhound having its teeth cleaned, a puppy in for its first bath and nail trim, a labrador for a de-shed, a cockapoo for a full groom to poodles in a range of wonderful styles. We offer it all.

2021 was a very exciting year as I took on my first member of staff, Demi, which proved to be a great step forward.

I would encourage anyone wanting to start their own business to go for it. It is not always easy but having a passion and knowledge for whatever your business offers is a great start.”

**Facebook & Instagram: @thedoghousebillericay**

**Phone number: 07946 756474**



# BIG BUSINESS RIGHT AT HOME IN BASILDON



## BASILDON TECHNOLOGY LEADS GLOBAL INNOVATION

**Leonardo is a global high-tech company which offers a wide range of aerospace, defence and security solutions. It has over 45,000 employees internationally, of which 1,000 are based at Christopher Martin Road in Basildon.**

You may have already seen Leonardo technology in action if you watched recent BBC Nature series such as Springwatch, Winterwatch and Planet Earth. Thermal imaging cameras produced in Basildon have led to fascinating steps forward in our understanding of the nocturnal behaviours of wild animals around the globe. Closer to home Leonardo thermal imaging cameras help the pilots of British Army Chinook helicopters complete missions in pitch dark conditions. Their customers and end users remain the top priority and inspiration for the employees who continue to innovate cutting edge communications and surveillance systems.



## NEW HOLLAND GETS NEW FARMERS 'UP TO SPEED'

Basildon-based New Holland Agriculture has been working in partnership since 2020 with The Prince's Countryside Fund charity – established by HRH The Prince of Wales to support the 'Up to Speed' competition. This gives three young/new entrant farmers the chance to win the use of a New Holland tractor, telehandler, and Boomer compact tractor for one year.

The competition is open to any British farmer and gives them the opportunity to show how the loan of a New Holland machine will help their business develop and become 'Up to Speed'.

The 2021 winners included James Miller who is fully utilising the Boomer compact tractor to help kickstart his farm contracting business.



## SAFETY FIRST ON SET

**Tucked away in a quiet corner of Burnt Mills Industrial Estate is The Underwater Studio - a globally-renowned name in the film, music and television industries.**

The studio is the only purpose built, permanently filled and heated underwater film studio in Europe with a removable roof. Pop and Hollywood royalty regularly travel to this specialist facility to film underwater sequences for music videos, television series and blockbuster films.

Filming has continued during the pandemic under very strict guidelines. From filming TV dramas to Japanese music videos, the work continues. During filming downtime the facilities have even been used for sea survival training.

Recent credits for The Underwater Studio include sequences from:

- **'The Rescue'** (2021), National Geographic Documentary Film about the rescue of a group of teenagers from a cave in Thailand in 2018.
- **'Bad Mode'** (2021), music video for Japanese pop superstar Utada Hikaru, who has sold more than 50 million records worldwide.
- **'The Bay - Series 3'** (2021), major ITV drama series set in Morecambe Bay, Lancashire.

[www.theunderwaterstudio.com](http://www.theunderwaterstudio.com)

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[www.zacmacaulay.com](http://www.zacmacaulay.com)



## EAST SQUARE TAKING SHAPE

The redevelopment of East Square, Basildon, is heading towards completion, bringing a new night-time economy to the town centre, a brand new 10-screen cinema, six new restaurants and new public realm areas.

### ORLETO LOUNGE

The Orleto Lounge is now open! The first of six new restaurants coming as part of the East Square scheme, Orleto Lounge is run by the popular café/bar chain Loungers – operating more than 170 establishments across England and Wales. Each Lounge is a neighbourhood café/bar combining elements of a restaurant, British pub and coffee shop culture. Orleto Lounge is no exception.

The East Square site is a family-friendly retro-inspired cosy retreat, in the eclectic style much loved by Lounge aficionados. There's a fine selection of games and books, colouring pencils and pads, a full menu just for Little Loungers and high chairs and baby-changing facilities are available for the tiny ones.

Sophia Stancer, Loungers, said: "The new Lounge in Basildon is open and we are looking forward to connecting with locals via fundraising projects for local causes and generally being a hub for community groups for their meet-ups.

"A community noticeboard is available for those wanting to publicise events and a book swap area will be kept well stocked. The team will also be holding regular fundraising events as part of their commitment to making a difference in the community."

Visit Orleto Lounge in Basildon's East Square or go online - [www.thelounges.co.uk/orleto](http://www.thelounges.co.uk/orleto)



### SNEAK PEEK!

Back in November, residents were given their first glimpse at the interior of a new 10-screen cinema as the site was formally handed over from construction contractor McLaren to Empire Cinemas.

Once complete, the cinema's largest screen will hold 500 cinemagoers, with nine other screens showing the latest films, plus luxury seating and lounge areas. These new images, provided by Empire Cinemas, provide a first look at the designs for some of the interior spaces of the cinema.

Cllr Anthony Hedley, Chairman of the Regeneration and Economic Development Committee said: "It's exciting to get a glimpse of what the new spaces will look like. There's a real luxury feel to these spaces. McLaren has done a great job creating an iconic building for Basildon town centre and it's great to see the East Square scheme coming together."



**EMPIRE**  
CINEMAS

*"The Orleto lounge is a brilliant setting for local communities to come together and this is the start of a bright future for Basildon Town Centre."*

**Councillor Anthony Hedley**  
Chairman of the Regeneration and  
Economic Development Committee



## £10 MILLION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME FOR ESTATES

**A multi-million pound investment in our borough's estates is set to get underway this year following the work of our Pride Teams - which has already been making a difference.**

Proposals to invest millions into creating clean and safe neighbourhoods were agreed by the council's Housing and Estate Renewal Committee last year when the 'Safe and Sound' programme was approved.

It was agreed that Felmores, Lee Chapel North and Five Links would be in the first wave of the programme.

From November last year through to January this year, the council's teams were on the Five Links estate de-weeding, deep cleaning, clearing shrubbery from walkways and alleys and removing graffiti and dumping. More than 126 courtyards were revamped as part of the programme. More than 35 tonnes of waste including debris and dumping has been cleared from the estate and the teams have cleared 22 blocked paved areas, 14 alleyways and a play area with more planned.

The council's contractors also spent some time on the Chalvedon estate carrying out tree surgery to clear sight lines and make the estate safer.



*"Everyone deserves to live in a place that is clean and tidy that makes them feel safe and proud of their home."*

**Councillor Andrew Schrader**  
Chairman of the Housing & Estate Renewal Committee

Committee Chairman Councillor Andrew Schrader said: “For too long this has not been the case in some of the borough’s neighbourhoods, so when we came into administration we made a commitment to listen to our residents and address their concerns.

Throughout, we will remain committed to listening to residents and their priorities will guide everything we do.”

**It is anticipated that this programme will require an investment of £10 million a year over the next four years.**





# SEPARATE FOOD & GARDEN WASTE COLLECTIONS COMING SOON

Food waste makes up over a third of what goes to landfill in Basildon – this has a massive impact on the borough's recycling rate and carbon footprint.

**We are introducing a separate collection of all food waste to help reduce this impact.**

**Food and garden waste will be collected separately from Autumn 2022. You will receive new containers to separate your food waste for collection.**

Find out more about how you can be prepared for the changes here [www.basildon.gov.uk/foodandgarden](http://www.basildon.gov.uk/foodandgarden) or follow our social media channels.



SMALL CHANGES  
**BIG IMPACT**

Basildon Council

# BASILDON BUDGET 2022



**The Covid-19 pandemic has continued to have a significant financial impact on the council and the services we provide our residents. But thanks to sound, effective management of our resources we have been able to agree a balanced budget for 2022/23 and deliver a freeze on the Basildon Council portion of your Council Tax for the year.**

It is important to remember that 71 per cent of the Council Tax we pay goes straight to Essex County Council, and a further 15 per cent goes to the police and fire services.

Despite the Council Tax freeze, we are continuing with and adding to an ambitious programme of investment and projects to improve the lives and environment of the people of the borough.

Highlights of our investment plans include funding for community wardens to disrupt drug-dealing in your estates and communities; a freeze on car parking charges on Billericay and Wickford High Streets; funding to complete the renovation of the Laindon Community Centre; and funding to complete plans for a new swimming pool in Pitsea. Real investment in the areas you have told us you want to see, as we continue to put you at the heart of everything we do.

**Cllr Andrew Baggott**  
Leader of Basildon Council

## HOW COUNCIL TAX IS MADE UP



**71%** Essex County Council

**11%** Essex Police, Fire and  
Crime Commissioner

**14%** Basildon Borough Council

**4%** Essex Police, Fire and  
Crime Authority

# COUNCIL TAX FROZEN

**0% increase**

on the Basildon Borough Council  
portion of your Council Tax bill  
for 2022/23

"The nearly 13,000 trees planted by a combination of council staff, local businesses, and volunteers will have a lasting positive impact on Basildon that will only grow as the years go by."

**Councillor Craig Rimmer**

Chairman of the Leisure and Environment Committee

## OUR BIGGEST TREE PLANTING PROJECT THIS CENTURY

The council's biggest tree planting project this century has taken place in and around Gloucester Park.

A massive 12,700 trees have been planted in a three-week project, with the help of hundreds of volunteers from the community, local businesses and council staff.

Our parks team were there bright and early to welcome volunteers each morning at the team's Sporting Village car park base, giving daily group demonstrations, handing out all the necessary equipment, and more importantly... providing a space for free tea, coffee, and biscuits throughout the day.

**Sustainability** - The trees have all been planted sustainably, by using composted mulch at the base of each tree to help it settle, and improving drainage and making it more moisture retentive.

### FORD AT DUNTON

Ford has been operating locally at their Dunton base for over 50 years. Lee, and Marlena are part of the company's Manufacturing Engineering Team who got involved in the planting as their team's volunteering project.

"I've never planted trees before but it's felt really worthwhile, I think the whole team are enjoying being part of it." - Lee

"It's taken me over a year to organise a project like this, but everybody's really excited to be here and be involved in such a big project." - Marlena



### BROWN AND CARROLL

Brown and Carroll is a specialist joinery firm who house over 150 employees at their Basildon base. The firm donated a portion of the trees planted, and also got involved in the planting too.

"Many years ago, we made a serious commitment to plant six trees for every single cubic metre of timber we use. So, we're delighted to be donating the trees required for the Big Basildon tree planting project," said Paul Carroll, Managing Director.

## GET TO KNOW TONY FROM THE WICKFORD WOMBLES

The Wickford Wombles were set up back in 2019 with a mission to make a real difference to the streets of Wickford. The group of likeminded community focused residents go on weekly litter picks, and share their efforts in their Facebook group with nearly 900 members. Tony is a regular womble:

**Most interesting item you've found?** A pillowcase stuffed with jewellery (naturally it was handed over to Basildon Police!).

**When did you become a Womble?** I've been wombling since March 2019, when a friend suggested we join forces, and I agreed as I didn't like seeing our beautiful Essex ruined by a few individuals.

If you would like to find out more, please visit Wickford Wombles' social media channels.





# REDISCOVER OUR BOROUGH'S PLAY AREAS

**We want to create a network of the highest quality play facilities for residents to enjoy across the borough.**

We know how important play areas are, providing lots of fun and memories for children and their families. And best of all, they're totally free places to enjoy.

By summer 2022 we will have opened 11 exciting new play areas to take the kids to for bundles of free fun.

A key aspect of all of our play areas moving forwards is inclusivity – making sure that our sites have varied equipment that is suitable for children of all ages and abilities, so everyone is catered for and no child is discriminated against when it comes to play.

## LANGDON HILLS RECREATIONAL GROUND

A brilliant new play area has come to Langdon Hills Recreational Ground.

Inspired by the rare Green Winged Orchids found within the park, the wildflower themed facility features over 60 exciting and different play features.

The only problem is... the kids won't want to leave.

**The other play areas that have opened in 2022 so far are:**

Walsingham Way, Ovington Gardens, Wesley Garden, Paget Drive, Calster Drive, East Thorpe Moat Open Space, Priors Close, Sporhams



## WAT TYLER PARK

One of our key play locations in the borough is about to get a whole lot better.

A brand-new play area will open at Wat Tyler Country Park in June, featuring an intriguing combination of adventurous play equipment, as well as opportunities to relax in the picnic areas, wildflower seating areas and wildlife areas.

There are also lots of elements suitable for wheelchair users and children of all ages and abilities. We can't wait!

Parent Michelle Rivett said, "We are so pleased to hear about the new park coming to Wat Tyler in the summer. My 7yr old son Bradley has cerebral palsy & autism and we often find it difficult to find places to suit his wheelchair & sensory needs. Looking at the plans I can see there will be a great selection for all children's abilities, which is so important for our community so that all children can feel accepted & included. Thank you."

## SWAN MEAD

The first new play area to open this year was in Swan Mead Park, which has had a complete facilities upgrade after the previous play area had to be removed due to fire damage.

It features over 30 pieces of varied equipment, including a castle fortress, a rope playground, and a very popular zip wire!

Why not go and check it out for yourself?

*"Our new play areas are inclusive for all ages and abilities and are ready for lots of fun and memories to be made at them."*

**Councillor Craig Rimmer**

Chairman of the Leisure and Environment Committee



# REDISCOVERING BASILDON

**From a population of 157 to an economic powerhouse of the 21st century!**

It's hard to believe that Basildon had humble beginnings as a small rural village with a population of just 157 in 1869. Fast forward little over 150 years and the town has grown into an economic powerhouse playing host to a number of international firms like Case New Holland, Leonardo and Costa Coffee.

It was in 1948 that the Rt. Hon. Lewis Silkin said: "Basildon will become a city which people from all over the world will want to visit. It will be a place where all classes of community can meet freely together on equal terms and enjoy common cultural recreational facilities."

He spoke those words as the Minister of Town and Country Planning in Clement Attlee's post war Labour Government at a packed public meeting in Laindon School in September 1948. Just four months later on 4 January 1949 Basildon was officially designated a 'new town'. The first new residents arrived in 1951 and the rest, as they say, is history.

Basildon borough is now one of the most densely populated areas in the county, with a population of around 180,000.

It is also a town synonymous with the arts and became the first town in Essex to receive an Arts Council England Creative People and Places grant. However, it was in the 1980s that it first came to the fore as a hotbed of musical talent. Both Alison Moyet and Depeche Mode hail from Basildon. Fans of Depeche Mode still visit the town to retrace their footsteps.



Along with its cultural credentials Basildon can now also boast a sporting legacy. The Basildon Sporting Village, which was opened in 2011, was used as a training base by the Japanese swimming team during the London 2012 Olympic Games.

Since then, it has also become the home to South Essex Gymnastics Club where six-time Olympic medallist Max Whitlock trains. He won the most recent of his three gold medals at the Tokyo Olympics.

*"Over the years Basildon has set itself apart as a place of cultural and economic significance and is still constantly evolving."*

**Councillor Andrew Baggott**  
Leader of Basildon Council

## ST MARTIN'S BELLTOWER

One of Basildon town's most recognisable landmarks is the St Martin's belltower, a 30-metre-high glass structure (pictured) between the Basildon Centre and St Martin's Church.

It was opened on Friday 12 March 1999 by Her Majesty the Queen. All the bells were cast at the Whitechapel Bell foundry in East London over 500 years ago.





## A CONVERSATION WITH... Community Engagement Officers at Basildon Council

**Daniel, Jane, Ramneet and Sophie make up the Community Engagement Team at Basildon Council. Their role centres around helping the most vulnerable in our communities get access to the support they need. We met with the team to find out more about their work and how you can get in touch.**

### **Tell us a bit about your role.**

We help vulnerable customers get access to the services and support they need. That might be financial and debt support, help developing skills and getting into work, mental health support, or simply helping customers apply for and claim the right benefits. And if we can't help them directly, we put them in touch with the people who can.

We work with local partners like the Probation Service and the NHS to identify individuals who could benefit from extra support. We previously found our customers through internal referrals, but we know that there are many more people out there who we may be able to help.

### **What kind of support do you provide?**

Our main aim is to help people get back into work, but it's not just about employment. Sometimes people can get stuck in a rut, and it's hard to see a way out. It can take time to sort through these issues, so we spend time building a relationship with each customer, putting them at ease and supporting them until they are back on their feet.

We join the dots between the customer and support available to them. That might mean helping with a benefits application or talking to other agencies on their behalf. We can alleviate some of the pressure customers may be feeling so they can take control of their lives again.

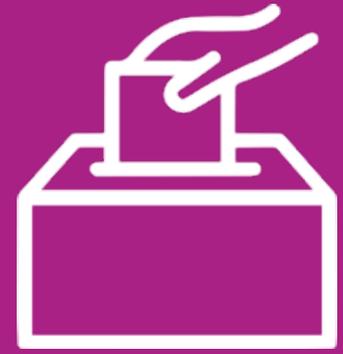


## HOW CAN PEOPLE GET IN TOUCH?

If you are struggling, don't bury your head in the sand. Whether it's a quick question or you require more detailed support – we are here to help. You can book an appointment through the online form at [www.basildon.gov.uk/communityengagement](http://www.basildon.gov.uk/communityengagement) or call **01268 533 333**

The Community Engagement Team is a partnership between Basildon Council and The Department of Work and Pensions. If you or someone you know is struggling and in need of support, book an appointment with the team.

# GET READY FOR MAY ELECTIONS



## On Thursday 5 May, there are elections taking place in the borough to elect 14 Basildon Borough Councillors in wards across the borough.

These wards are Billericay East, Billericay West, Burstead, Crouch, Fryerns, Laindon Park, Langdon Hills, Lee Chapel North, Nethermayne, Pitsea North West, Pitsea South East, Wickford Castledon, Wickford North and Wickford Park.

There are no elections scheduled to take place in the St. Martin's and Vange Wards.

Elections will take place to elect councillors to Bowers Gifford Parish Council, North Benfleet Parish Council and at the new Wickford Town Council.

## POSTAL VOTES

We understand more people may want to apply for a postal vote this year. Get your postal vote application in as soon as possible. To apply to vote by post you need to download, print and fill in a postal vote application form. For more information visit: [www.basildon.gov.uk/elections](http://www.basildon.gov.uk/elections)

## ARE YOU REGISTERED TO VOTE?

To have your say you need to be registered to vote on the electoral register. You can now register to vote online at: [www.gov.uk/register-to-vote](http://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote)

## IMPORTANT DATES

The deadline to register to vote for the May 2022 elections is Thursday 14 April 2022.

The deadline to apply for a postal vote is 5pm Tuesday 19 April 2022.

The deadline to apply for a proxy vote (whereby somebody can vote on your behalf) is 5pm Tuesday 26 April 2022.

The deadline for receipt of emergency proxy is 5pm Thursday 5 May 2022.

If you would prefer to apply to register to vote using a paper form, you can download the form from the registration site or you can request one from the council's electoral services team on **01268 533 333** & send it back to us by Thursday 14 April 2022.



# WHAT'S ON...



## DINOSAUR WEEKEND AT BARLEYLANDS

Visit Barleylands Dinosaur Weekend – 25 and 26 June 2022. Experience two very special animatronic characters, who you can meet throughout the day or at their special shows. There will also be fossil digging, dinosaur-themed crafts and a dinosaur egg trail with prizes running across the farm!

The event will run from 10am to 5pm on both days.

[www.barleylands.co.uk/events/](http://www.barleylands.co.uk/events/)



## PERSONAL SAFETY AWARENESS SESSIONS (AGES 16 AND OVER)

The free sessions will provide you with key principles to improve your knowledge, build your resilience and improve your confidence. Every Saturday until 2 April 2022 at The Happy Hub, Eastgate Centre, Basildon, SS14 1AE.

All sessions taking place from 2pm-4pm.

To find out more, please visit:

[www.basildon.gov.uk/saferbasildon](http://www.basildon.gov.uk/saferbasildon)



## TOWNGATE THEATRE

Towngate Theatre is back in (Show) Business, and ready to entertain you with a huge variety of fantastic shows! With dramas, musicals, comedies, family favourites, ballets, operas and so much more – there's really something for everyone! A night at the theatre is right on your doorstep!

To view the full line-up of productions and purchase tickets for any upcoming show, please visit: [towngatetheatre.co.uk](http://towngatetheatre.co.uk)



## LANGDON NATURE TOTS

Nature Tots is a weekly parent and toddler group where young children can explore, play and learn through nature. Every Monday until 28 March 2022, 10am-12pm.

Langdon Visitor Centre, Lower Dunton Road, Basildon, SS16 6EJ

To find out more, please visit: [www.essexwt.org.uk/events/2022-02-21-langdon-nature-tots](http://www.essexwt.org.uk/events/2022-02-21-langdon-nature-tots)

© Eleanor Church Lark Rise Photography



## WAT TYLER COUNTRY PARK EASTER EGG TRAIL

The popular Wat Tyler Easter Egg Trail returns! Follow the trail, solve the puzzles and win an egg! Under 5's 'Name the Bunny' trail and 5+ 'Not Just Chickens' trail combined.

£6 per egg. Pre-book to avoid disappointment. Contact the Wat Tyler Centre on **01268 205267**.

Monday 4 April - Friday 8 April 2022. To find out more information, please visit Wat Tyler's Facebook page



### EVERYONE ACTIVE AT BASILDON SPORTING VILLAGE

Events are back at our leisure centres including Tri-Aquathon and Triathlon in April/May at Basildon Sporting Village.

Basildon Sporting Village will be hosting four Ultra White Collar Boxing events this year.

Visit [www.facebook.com/eaBasildonSV](https://www.facebook.com/eaBasildonSV) or [www.everyoneactive.com](http://www.everyoneactive.com) for latest events information.



### WALK 4 WELLNESS: GLOUCESTER PARK

Join the wonderful walk leaders for a stroll and friendly chat, getting in some fresh air and the opportunity to meet new people.

Every Monday from 1pm - 2pm. Meet at the HAPPY Hub @ 12.50pm and walk around the beautiful Gloucester Park. Suitable for all ages and abilities.

For more information, please visit:

[www.motivated-minds.co.uk](http://www.motivated-minds.co.uk)



### CARRERAS BOWLS CLUB

Want to try bowls and make new friends? Visit Carreras Bowls Club in Whitmore Park.

Free taster sessions start 4 May. All ages and abilities, everyone is welcome.

Equipment provided, but please wear flat shoes/trainers.

Call Ray on **01268 454234** or visit

[www.carreras.bowlsclub.info](http://www.carreras.bowlsclub.info) for more information



### THE PLACE - PULSE CLASSES

Pulse Fitness classes are the perfect way to get active and keep fit. Group exercise will keep you motivated so whether you want to sweat it out, dance along to the rhythm or tone up, there is something for everyone with the variety of classes on offer! All classes cost £5.15 per class (Over 60's concessionary rate £3.95 per class).

To book a Pulse Fitness Class contact reception at The Place, either in person or by phone on **01268 205284 / 207885**



### ACTIVITY CENTRES FOR THE OVER 50'S

Three activity centres with over 3000 members. The George Hurd, Laindon and Pitsea Community Centres provide and promote facilities and services that enhance the quality of life for the over 50's residents of Basildon Borough.

To find out more information and what each Activity Centre provides, please visit: [www.basildon.gov.uk/activitycentres](http://www.basildon.gov.uk/activitycentres) or phone **01268 205 305**

## BILLERICAY WEST



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*Deputy Leader of the Council*  
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**Daniel Lawrence**  
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c/o The Basildon Centre,  
St Martin's Sq, Basildon  
SS14 1DL



**Phil Turner**  
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27 Cranmer Close,  
Billericay  
CM12 0YQ



**David Dadds**  
01277 631811  
*Mayor of Basildon*  
The Farthings,  
10 The Square,  
Stock CM4 9LH



**Andrew Schrader**  
07769 651708  
c/o The Basildon Centre,  
St Martin's Sq, Basildon  
SS14 1DL



**Stuart Sullivan**  
07762 146251  
c/o The Basildon Centre,  
St Martin's Sq, Basildon  
SS14 1DL

## BILLERICAY EAST

## BURSTEAD



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Billericay  
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**Kevin Blake**  
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66 Walthams,  
Pitsea  
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**Richard Moore**  
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47 Laindon Road,  
Billericay  
CM12 9LG



**Terri Sargent**  
01268 288766  
81 Lower Street,  
Noak Bridge,  
Basildon  
SS15 4BD

## LAINDON PARK



**John Scarola**  
01268 533333  
c/o The Basildon Centre,  
St Martin's Sq, Basildon  
SS14 1DL



**Kevin Wingfield**  
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c/o The Basildon Centre,  
St Martin's Sq, Basildon  
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**Jeff Henry**  
07733 221362  
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St Martin's Sq, Basildon  
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**Davida Ademuyiwa**  
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**Maryam Yaqub**  
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St Martin's Sq, Basildon  
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## ST. MARTINS

## LEE CHAPEL NORTH



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**Alex Harrison**  
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**Elaine McDonald**  
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## LANGDON HILLS



**Christopher Allen**  
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**Val Robbins**  
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## NETHERMAYNE



**Hazel Green**  
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c/o The Basildon Centre,  
St Martin's Sq, Basildon  
SS14 1DL



**Pauline Kettle**  
07484 396209  
c/o The Basildon Centre,  
St Martin's Sq, Basildon  
SS14 1DL

All councillors can be contacted via email:  
[firstname.surname@members.basildon.gov.uk](mailto:firstname.surname@members.basildon.gov.uk)

For more information regarding councillors please call 01268 533333

# COUNCILLORS OF BASILDON BOROUGH 2021-2022



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## VANGE



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**Melissa McGeorge**  
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## PITSEA SOUTH EAST



**Gary Canham**  
07736 930946  
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**Luke Mackenzie**  
07483 276109  
Deputy Mayor of Basildon  
c/o The Basildon Centre,  
St Martin's Sq, Basildon  
SS14 1DL



**Craig Rimmer**  
07535 826481  
c/o The Basildon Centre,  
St Martin's Sq, Basildon  
SS14 1DL

Frame colour	Political group	Number of seats
	CONSERVATIVE	25
	LABOUR	10
	INDEPENDENTS	4
	WICKFORD INDEPENDENTS	2
	NON-ALIGNED	1



**Kerry Smith**  
01268 061812  
c/o The Basildon Centre,  
St Martin's Sq, Basildon  
SS14 1DL

# The Advice Store is here to help

- CV writing workshops
- Industry-recognised qualifications
- Local employment opportunities
- Personalised support

5 Market Pavement, Basildon,  
Essex, SS14 1DD

**theadvicestore@basildon.gov.uk**

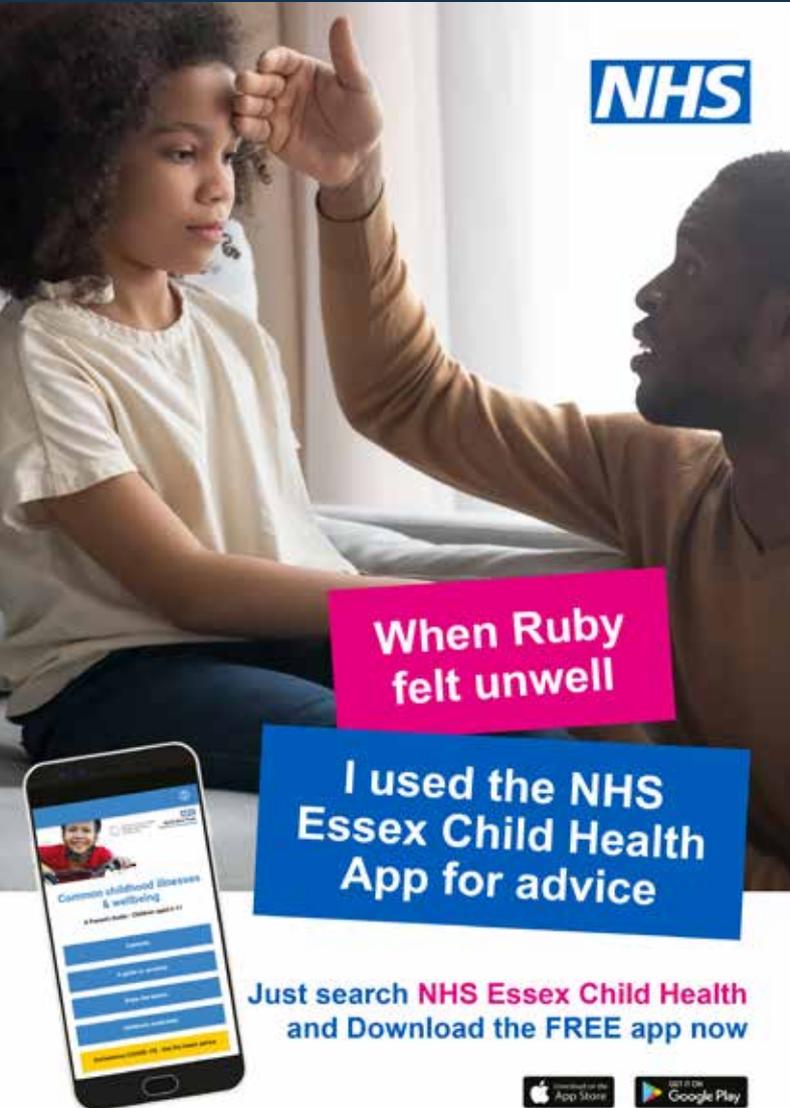
#BASILDONASPIRES



## Don't let Measles, Mumps and Rubella into your child's world

The risk of catching Measles, Mumps and Rubella increases when your child goes to nursery. When you don't get your child their MMR vaccines, they're left exposed to becoming seriously ill.

Protect your child with both MMR vaccines. Contact your GP to book their first or second dose. Find out more at [nhs.uk/MMR](https://nhs.uk/MMR)

**NHS**

**When Ruby felt unwell**

**I used the NHS Essex Child Health App for advice**

Just search **NHS Essex Child Health** and Download the **FREE** app now




## Have you witnessed Anti-social Behaviour in your area?

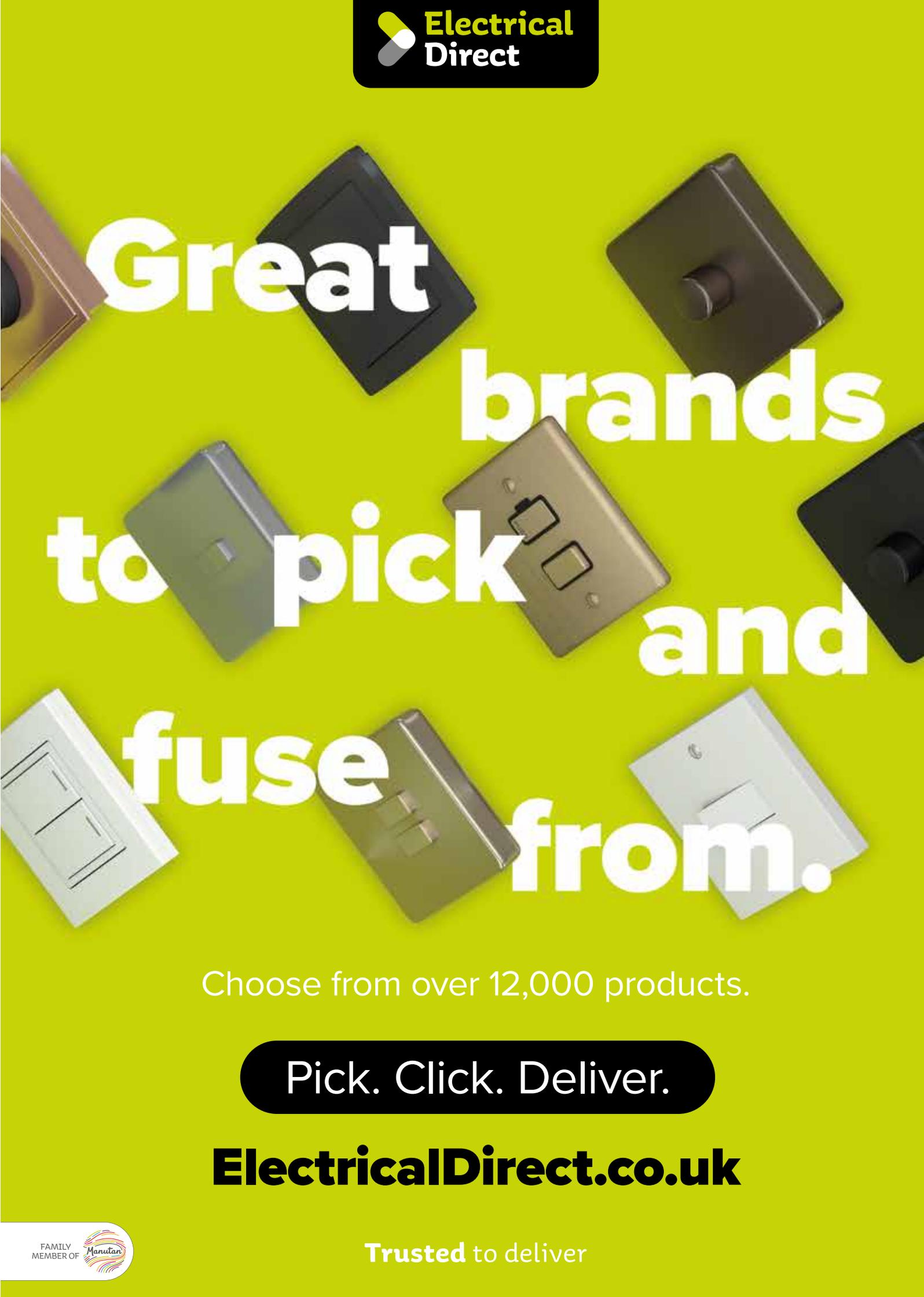
Please get in touch and report this confidentially to the council's Anti-social Behaviour team by either:

- Calling **01268 533333** option 4 then option 2
- Emailing a report to: [asb@basildon.gov.uk](mailto:asb@basildon.gov.uk)
- You can also log a report at: <https://www5.basildon.gov.uk/reportAntiSocialBehaviour>

## Have you witnessed or been a victim of crime?

Report it as quickly as you can by:

- Calling **999** in an emergency or by calling **101** for a non-emergency; or
- Reporting it anonymously via Crimestoppers by calling **0800 555 111** or by doing so online at [crimestoppers-uk.org](https://crimestoppers-uk.org)



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and  
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**Council tax and housing benefits are moving online.**  
No more hunting for paper bills – your information is stored securely on your personal e-Services account.

It's safe, secure and together we are reducing our carbon footprint.

Log in or register for an account today and check your information is up to date.

e-Services – **Check, Change and Apply** all in one place.

No internet? We'll continue to send paper bills

**CHECK CHANGE APPLY**

**HAVEN'T LOGGED  
IN YET?**

Visit [www.basildon.gov.uk/eservices](http://www.basildon.gov.uk/eservices) to login or register today