
COUNCIL

BULLETIN

Issue Number 08/2019
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Compiled, designed and produced by
Customer Services Directorate - Governance

Contact: Kim Partridge
Telephone: 01992 564443

Epping Forest District Council
www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk



PART A - FORWARD DIARY

Key to abbreviations:

CC	Council Chamber	Cab Off	Cabinet Office
CR1	Committee Room 1	CONF	Conference Room (1st floor)
CR2	Committee Room 2	CH OFF	Chairman of Council's Office
MR	Members' Room	TR RM	Training Room
TBD	To be decided	HEM	Hemnall Street Offices.
TBN	To be noted	HH	Homefield House
TBC	To be confirmed	ESC	Epping Sports Centre

Other venues are shown in full.

Week One: 4 March 2019 – 10 March 2019

Monday 4 March	7.00pm	Joint Meeting of Development Management Chairmen & Vice-Chairmen		CC
Tuesday 5 March	7.00pm	Licensing Sub-Committee - Cancelled Youth Council		CC
Wednesday 6 March	6.30pm 7.30pm	Briefing – Area Plans Sub-Committee East Area Planning Sub-Committee East		CR1 CC
Thursday 7 March	7.00pm	Cabinet		CC
Friday 8 March				
Saturday 9 March				
Sunday 10 March				

Week Two: 11 March 2019 – 17 March 2019

Monday 11 March	7.30pm	Local Councils' Liaison Committee		CC
Tuesday 12 March	7.00pm	Communities Select Committee – Cancelled Joint Meeting of Overview & Scrutiny Chairmen & Vice-Chairmen		CR1
Wednesday 13 March	6.30pm 7.30pm	Briefing – Area Plans Sub-Committee West Area Planning Sub-Committee West		CR1 CC
Thursday 14 March				
Friday 15 March				
Saturday 16 March				
Sunday 17 March				

Week Three: 18 March 2019 – 24 March 2019

Monday 18 March	10.00am 7.30pm	Licensing Sub-Committee Extraordinary Council		CC CC
Tuesday 19 March	7.30pm	Neighbourhoods Select Committee		CC
Wednesday 20 March	5.00pm 6.30pm 7.30pm	Epping Forest Local Highways Panel Briefing – Area Plans Sub-Committee South Area Planning Sub-Committee South		CR2 CR1 CC
Thursday 21 March	7.00pm	Finance and Performance Management Cabinet Committee		CC
Friday 22 March				
Saturday 23 March				
Sunday 24 March				

Week Four: 25 March 2019 – 31 March 2019

Monday 25 March	7.30pm	Audit and Governance		CC
Tuesday 26 March	7.00pm	Governance Select Committee		CC
Wednesday 27 March	7.00pm	Overview & Scrutiny Select Committee Framework Task & Finish Panel		CC
Thursday 28 March				
Friday 29 March	7.30pm	Constitution Working Group		CC
Saturday 30 March				
Sunday 31 March				

PART B - GENERAL INFORMATION

1. MEMBER TRAINING 2019/20

I am currently planning the 2019/20 Member Training Program. As ever, it is important that we get the right balance between the essential training and training that will help support you to better serve your constituents.

Would Members kindly take a moment to consider any sessions that they feel would be beneficial. I have listed some suggestions below but please feel free to let me have any other ideas you may have.

- Equal Opportunities and Diversity
- Chiring Meetings - Introduction
- Chiring Meetings – Advanced
- Influencing Skills
- An Introduction to Mediation
- Recruitment and Selection Interviewing
- Business Writing
- Personal Organisation
- Coping Techniques
- Speed Reading on Electronic Devices
- Memory Skills and Mindmapping
- Communication and Interpersonal Skills
- Lone Working and Personal Safety
- Public Speaking – Introduction
- Public Speaking – Advanced
- Facilitation Skills
- Consultation Techniques
- Questioning Skills for Effective Scrutiny

Please email your suggestions to kpartridge@eppingforestdc.gov.uk

(Further information: Kim Partridge ext 4443)

2. PROSECUTION FOR UNAUTHORISED WORKS TO LISTED BUILDING SPICE MASALA RESTAURANT 171 HIGH STREET ONGAR ESSEX

Mr Syed Hussain the leaseholder of Spice Masala Restaurant 171 High Street Ongar, Mr Bradley Walker and Mr John Terry Whitbread the persons employed by Mr Hussain to carry out work to the property were each prosecuted for the offence of carrying out works to the Grade II listed building, Spice Masala Indian Restaurant without authorisation from the local planning authority, Epping Forest District Council, contrary to section 7 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. This is a strict liability offence subject only to the defence which states:

In proceedings for an offence under this section it shall be a defence to prove the following matters—

- a) that works to the building were urgently necessary in the interests of safety or health or for the preservation of the building;*
- b) that it was not practicable to secure safety or health or, as the case may be, the preservation of the building by works of repair or works for affording temporary support or shelter;*
- c) that the works carried out were limited to the minimum measures immediately necessary; and*
- d) that notice in writing justifying in detail the carrying out of the works was given to the local planning authority as soon as reasonably practicable.*

All three gentlemen entered 'not guilty' pleas to these offences and the matter was listed for trial on 21 February 2019 in Colchester Magistrates Court

THE FACTS

Mr Hussain is the leaseholder of Spice Masala restaurant on a 12-year lease of the building. Mr Walker is a builder. Mr Whitbread is also a builder who works for Mr Walker.

On 10 January 2018 the Council received a complaint that works were being undertaken to the listed building and Council officers attended the restaurant the same day. It was closed and no one was present but extensive works were being undertaken to the front and both sides of the building which affected its character as a listed building. No authorisation had been obtained for these works. The officers posted a note through the letter box asking the owner to contact the Council's conservation officer and stating that no further works should be carried out.

On 11 January 2018 a call from Mr Hussain. It was explained to him that unauthorised works to a listed building were a criminal offence and that no further works should be carried out.

The officers visited the property again on 12 January by appointment and discovered that, since their visit on 10th January, more works affecting the character of the listed building had been carried out, including in particular the removal of a 19th century window which specifically contributed to the architectural and historic value of the building. Mr Walker and Mr Whitbread were present on site and it was evident that the window, the most recent works, had been carried out by these builders. Mr Hussain was also on site and directing the works carried out by the builders.

In his defence Mr Hussain told the Court that when he had received the note from the Council to stop work at the premises he had informed Mr Walker and Mr Whitbread accordingly. Both Messrs Walker and Whitbread denied that Mr Hussain had told them to stop work. They also stated that Mr Hussain had told them he had permission for the work to be carried out. All the defendants agreed that they knew permission was required and that it had not been obtained. They produced no evidence to show that the work was one to which the exemption against strict liability applied.

The Council's Senior Conservation Officer informed the court that some of the work carried out would have been approved had a proper application been made prior to

the work being commenced. However, the removal of the 19th century window would not have been given approval.

The Magistrates found all three defendants guilty. They stated that Mr Hussain had wilfully flouted planning legislation and he was the sole cause of the work being carried out which was for the betterment of his business. He was fined £1,000 and ordered to pay a contribution towards the prosecution costs of £1,500 and a Victim Surcharge of £100.

They told Messrs Walker and Whitbread that working under instruction was not a defence and they had been negligent and working for gain. The Magistrates stated that it would have been easy to check whether consent for the work had been granted by looking at the Council's website. Messrs Walker and Whitbread were fined a total of £800 and ordered to pay a contribution towards the Council's prosecution costs of £1,300 and Victim Surcharge of £80

(Further information: Graeme Oakley ext 4012)

3. SOUTH-EAST LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP

Adam Bryan, the Managing Director of the South-East Local Enterprise Partnership (SELEP) will be attending the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to be held on 16 April 2019, together with representatives of the Essex Business Board, a local board of SELEP.

If members have any specific questions that they would like to raise with representatives of SELEP and the Essex Business Board at the meeting, please send written notification of such matters to democraticservices@eppingforestdc.gov.uk by 22 March 2019.

In accordance with usual practice, notice of all questions and matters to be raised by members will be provided to Mr. Bryan in advance of the meeting.

(Further information: Steve Tautz ext 4180)

4. JOINT MEETING OF THE O&S CHAIRMEN & VICE-CHAIRMEN - CHANGE OF DATE

Please be advised that the Joint Meeting of the O&S Chairmen & Vice-Chairmen has been moved from 5 March to 12 March at 7.00pm.

(Further information: Vivienne Messenger ext 4265)

5. YOUTH COUNCIL DRUG REPORT (Pages 13 - 40)

Please see attached.

6. TRANSPORT MEETINGS SPRING 2019 (Pages 41 - 44)

Please see attached.

7. CHAIRMAN'S DIARY (Pages 45 - 46)

Please see attached.

LICENSING ACT 2003

None this week

PLANNING

1. Appeals Lodged

None this week

2. Forthcoming Planning Inquiries/Hearings -

25th – 28th February 2019 - EPF/2499/17 – 13 -15A Alderton Hill Loughton Essex IG10 3JD - Demolition of houses at 13, 15 and 15a, Alderton Hill, and the erection of linked blocks of elderly persons apartments, with integrated care facilities (Use Class C2) with supporting amenity facilities, landscaping, 64 car spaces in undercroft parking at the rear and south side of the block, and associated ground works
** This venue for the first day of this appeal, will be at Epping Hall, Epping Town Council, St John's Road. Epping ** The follow days will be at EFDC **

12th March 2019 – 11 Crossfields Loughton Essex IG10 3 PY Erection of new dwelling and detached garage, following demolition of existing garage – Jonathan Doe ext. 4103

14th March 2019 – 12a Alderton Close Loughton Essex IG10 3HQ - Residential redevelopment to provide 4 x 3 bed houses – Ian Ansell ext. 4481

3. Enforcement Appeals

None this week

4. Appeal Decisions

None this week

5. Tree Preservation Orders

TPO/EPF/05/09 – Sheerwood, The Street, Sheering – Effective from 15th February 2019.

TPO/EPF/05/19 – Land at Greensted Road, Ongar, Essex, CM5 – Effective from 22nd February 2019.

6. S106 Agreements

None this week

7. Changes to Planning Systems

None this week

PROPOSED PLANNING ENFORCEMENT ACTION

None this week

It is important to note, that when enforcement action has been authorised, this includes any subsequent action under Part VII of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, including a prosecution or an injunction.

Principal Planning Enforcement Officer	Jerry Godden	01992 564498
Senior Enforcement Officer	Clare Munday	01992 564114
Planning Enforcement Officers	Sharon Hart	01992 564113
	Jim Gordon	01992 564530
	Zara Seelig	01992 564379
	Mick Mooney	01992 564713
Compliance Officer	Shannon Murphy	01992 564217

PART C - PORTFOLIO HOLDER DECISIONS

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

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



Epping Forest Youth Council

Drugs Project Report 2019



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Introduction

The project was agreed following a consultation with 80 secondary school pupils at the 2017 youth conference and the Youth Councillors debated the topic at an Epping Forest Youth Council meeting. They agreed that some young people were taking drugs and that drugs were easily accessible locally, online and in schools. There was concern about the misuse of nitrous oxide (NO₂)¹ and the effect it had on the community and environment. Nitrous oxide gas canisters are easily purchased online and although illegal for under 18s to purchase, no proof of age checks are required for online shopping.



The drugs project included a pupil survey, drug awareness poster campaign and a clean-up day.

¹ Nitrous oxide is also referred to as NO₂, balloons, laughing gas and as a 'legal high'.

Background

To set the scene, the threat posed by the misuse of psychoactive substances² has forced the government to launch a ban on these substances under the Psychoactive Substances Act 2016. As a result, deaths associated with these drugs have fallen. As we look at our local findings, there is a new trend emerging in the consumption of nitrous oxide specifically.



The Home Office has found it to be the second most popular recreational drug among 16 to 24-year olds in England and Wales. Nitrous oxide is not a controlled drug, and it has legitimate uses in the food industry, medicine and dentistry. Under the Intoxicating Substances

Supply Act 1985 it is illegal to sell to under 18s when the seller believes the substance may be inhaled for the purposes of intoxication. While it is not illegal for an adult to inhale the gas, many authorities across Britain are concerned about its use.

What we accomplished

Epping Forest Youth Councillors consulted with 3177 school pupils that they represent and they also received concerned reports from the adult Councillors and their constituents about drug taking amongst young people. The impact on the community and environment caused by the drug taking and discarded NO₂ canisters, were identified as major concerns facing people who live in the Epping Forest district. In response to this the Youth Council set up 3 sub-projects to address the issue.

3177
SCHOOL PUPILS
CONSULTED

² New psychoactive substances – often incorrectly called legal highs – contain one or more chemical substances which produce similar effects to illegal drugs (like cocaine, cannabis and ecstasy). <https://www.talktofrank.com/drug/new-psychoactive-substances>

Clean up of nitrous oxide canisters day

The Youth Councillors organised an environmental clean-up day in conjunction with the Waste Management Team at Epping Forest District Council and the City of London Forest Wardens. Three hotspot areas were identified as being frequented regularly by people taking drugs; Holy Innocents Church car park in Epping Forest, Traps Hill car park in Loughton and Corn Mill Lane car park in Waltham Abbey.

In three hours the Youth Councillors collected over 550 NO₂ canisters and other waste associated with cannabis and alcohol. The worst area was the secluded corner in the Traps Hill car park, where a bulk of their findings were located. They produced a short documentary film with the Public Relations team explaining their concerns about the substance misuse amongst the young people and young adults. The film was sent to secondary schools in the district to raise awareness of the growing issue.



You can view the short documentary film at:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=kv-VIGvEUMc



Drug awareness poster campaign

The Youth Councillors attended drug awareness training by various professionals; they learnt about the increasing use of NO_2 amongst young people, the effects it had on the wider community, the impact on crime and the dangers to health (which sometimes even result in death). The canisters are often discarded and not disposed of correctly, thus impacting on the levels of litter the district council collects. According to the Environment Agency, NO_2 does not have a local environmental impact but on a global scale it contributes to global warming and is the third most important greenhouse gas in the UK. Although relatively small amounts are released, it has a high "global warming potential" (310 times that of carbon dioxide). Nitrous oxide also damages the ozone layer, thus reducing the protection offered from harmful UV sun rays.

The anaesthetic and analgesic properties of nitrous oxide have been used in medicine and dentistry since the late nineteenth century, when it was also used as a recreational drug. Now, it is used in the dairy industry as a mixing and foaming agent, in motor sports to speed engines and by deep sea divers to avoid nitrogen narcosis.

The Youth Councillors agreed that although drug education was being taught to those in Year 9 through the Epping Forest District Council's Communities team programme 'Reality





The design of the bus poster was created by Youth Councillor Annabelle Yaman called 'Don't Open the Gate to Gateway Drugs' and was stuck to the back of Arriva buses.

Roadshow', very little drug awareness education was being delivered to other year groups. Therefore, they agreed on getting the message across visually via a poster campaign entitled 'Don't Open the Gate to Gateway Drugs' to raise awareness of the dangers of taking gateway drugs. NO₂ was included in this broad category.

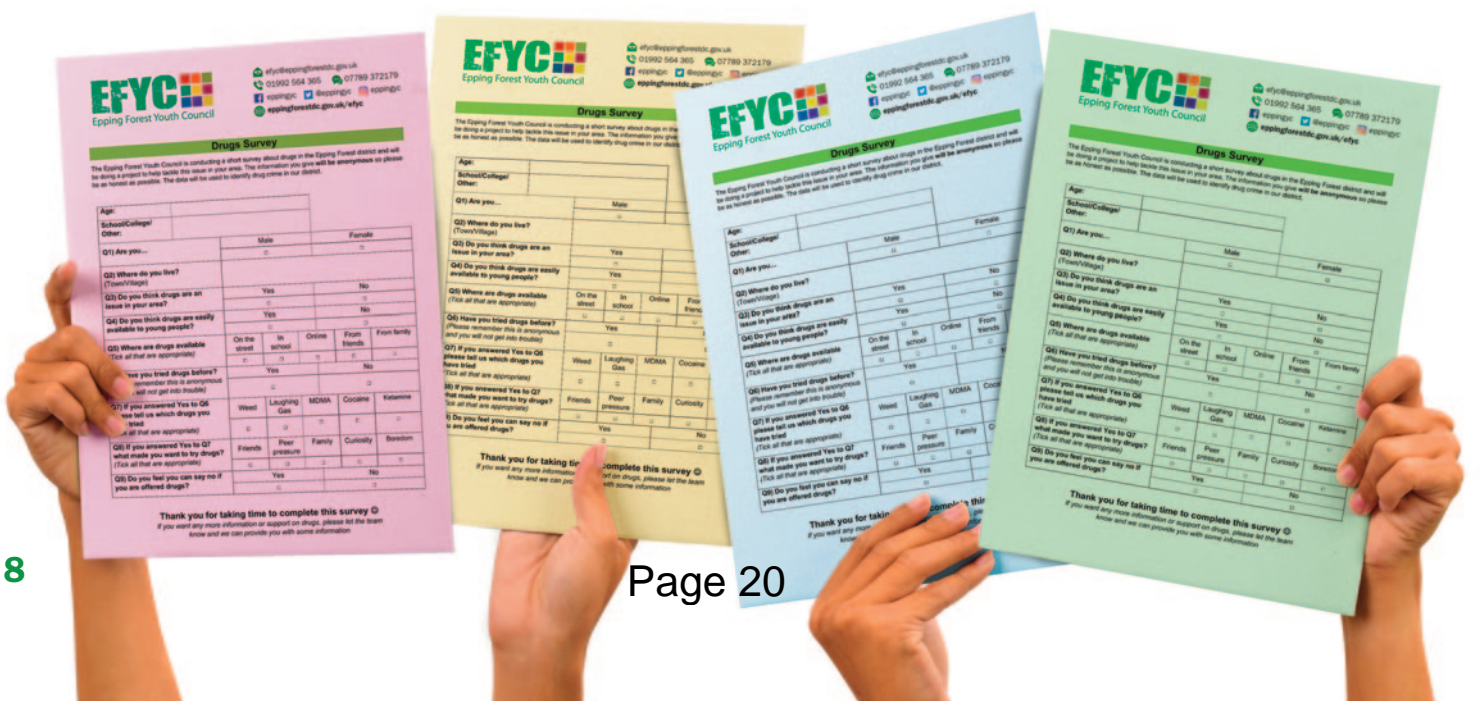
To maximise promotion of the poster campaign it was agreed to display an advert on the rear of five Arriva buses travelling across the county, passing through Buckhurst Hill, Loughton, Debden, Epping Forest, St. Margaret's, Upshire and Waltham Abbey for 3 months from August until October.



Youth Councillor Stanimir Bakalov said: "The amount of canisters we found whilst out and about is worrying and it shows 'laughing gas' is a real issue for young people today. "Through our drug awareness project we hope to highlight the risks and make young people aware of the damage they are doing."

Anonymous survey

A major part of the project was conducting an anonymous drugs survey. The target audience was pupils attending the nine Epping Forest district secondary schools and Epping Forest College students. 3177 pupils completed the survey and the full findings will be available upon request and to youth and community service providers.



Epping Forest Drugs Survey – how we collected the data

The Epping Forest Youth Councillors identified nine questions they wanted answers to (see appendix A).

Q1. Gender

Q2. Location, where did they live in the district?

Q3. Did they perceive drugs as an issue in their area?

Q4. Did they think drugs were easily available to young people?

Q5. Where were drugs available from?

Q6. Had they tried drugs?

Q7. Which drugs had they tried?

Q8. What made them want to try drugs?

Q9. Finally if they were offered drugs how confident were they to say no?

The data collected did not require any personal details other than gender, age and hometown. Surveys were anonymous to protect the identity of individuals and to encourage the pupils to participate. Data was not collected by Ward but by school; the nine secondary schools in the district cover eight wards. A total of the findings appears under 'All Wards'.

The data will appear as:

All EFD Schools

Braeside School
Chigwell School & West Hatch High School
Epping St Johns School
Debden Park High & Davenant Foundation
Epping Forest College
Roding Valley High School
The Ongar Academy
King Harold Business & Enterprise Academy

All Wards

Buckhurst Hill West Ward
Chigwell Village Ward
Epping Lindsey & Thornwood Common
Loughton Alderton Ward
Loughton Broadway Ward
Loughton St Mary's Ward
Shelley Ward
Waltham Abbey North East Ward

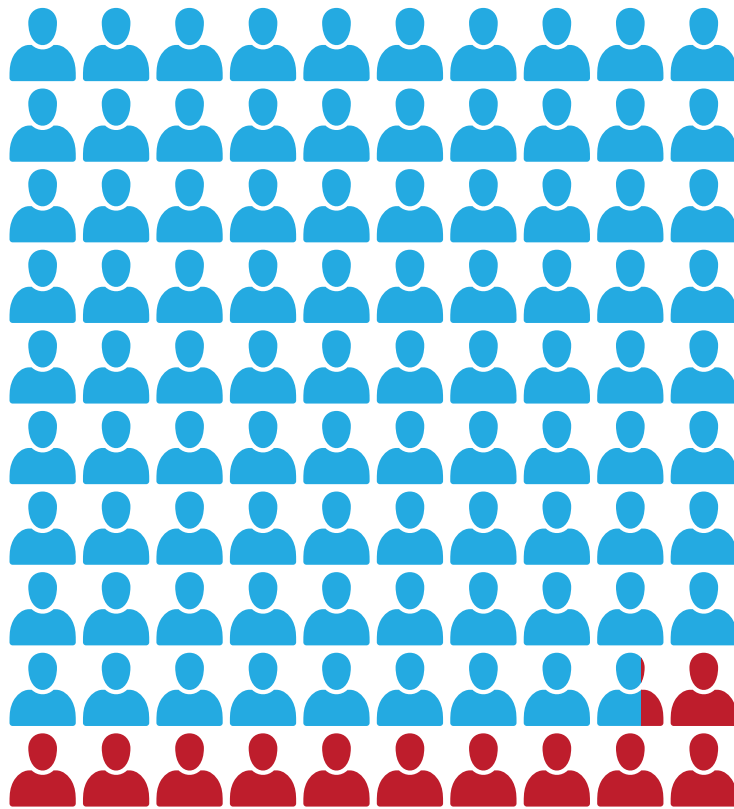
It is envisaged to provide schools with individual data relevant to their school but it will not be available to all schools.

The findings

Nationally, drug related deaths in the UK rose to their highest point in 2017. Reassuringly most young people in the Epping Forest District are not taking drugs. Of the 3177 participants surveyed, 2818 had not tried drugs and 359 had said they had tried drugs.

88.7%

have not tried drugs



11.3%

 said they had tried drugs

The 11.3% that have taken drugs in Epping Forest is far below the national average of 24% of pupils taken drugs. (Source 'NHS smoking, drinking and drug use among young people - England 2016')

The survey questions

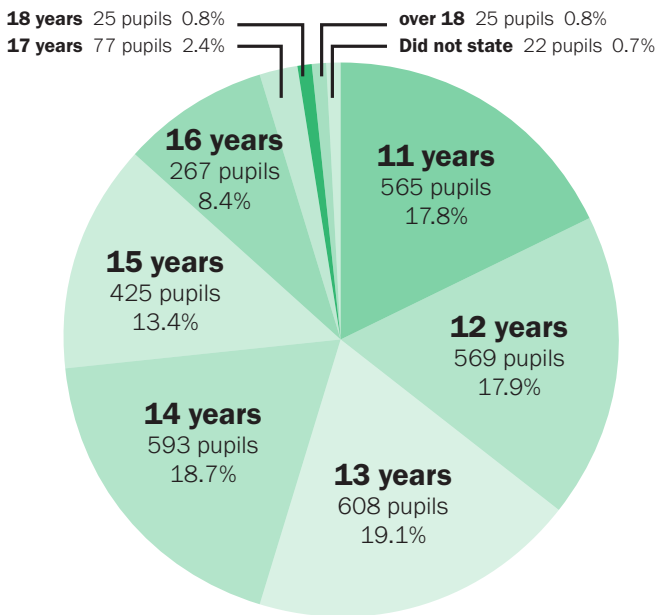
Question 1: We asked pupils... their gender

Of those surveyed 54.9% (1744) were girls and 45% (1431) were boys. 0.1% (2) did not state their gender.

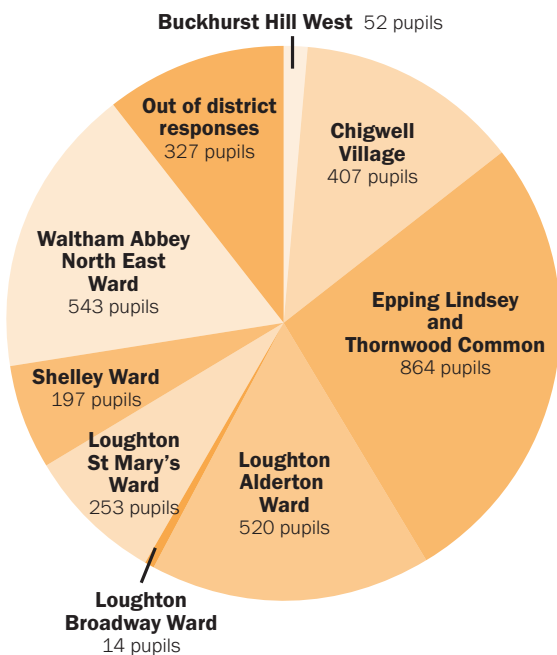


54.9% girls
45% boys

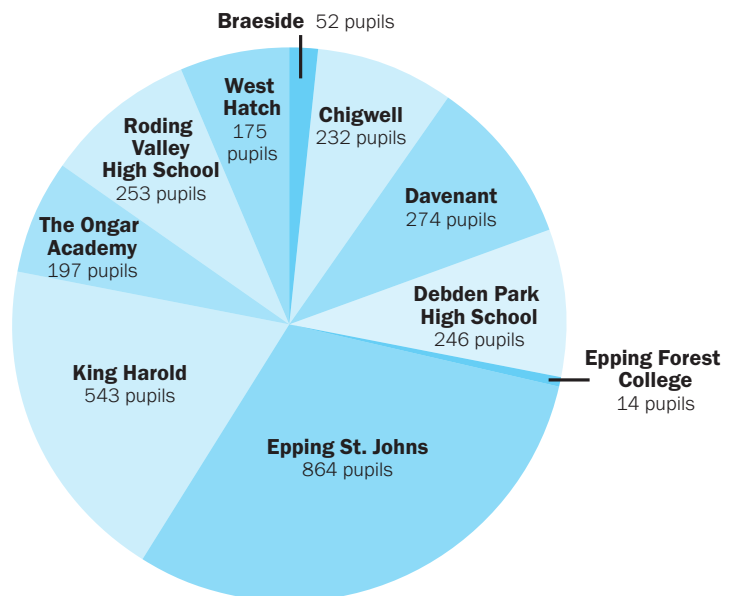
Breakdown by age



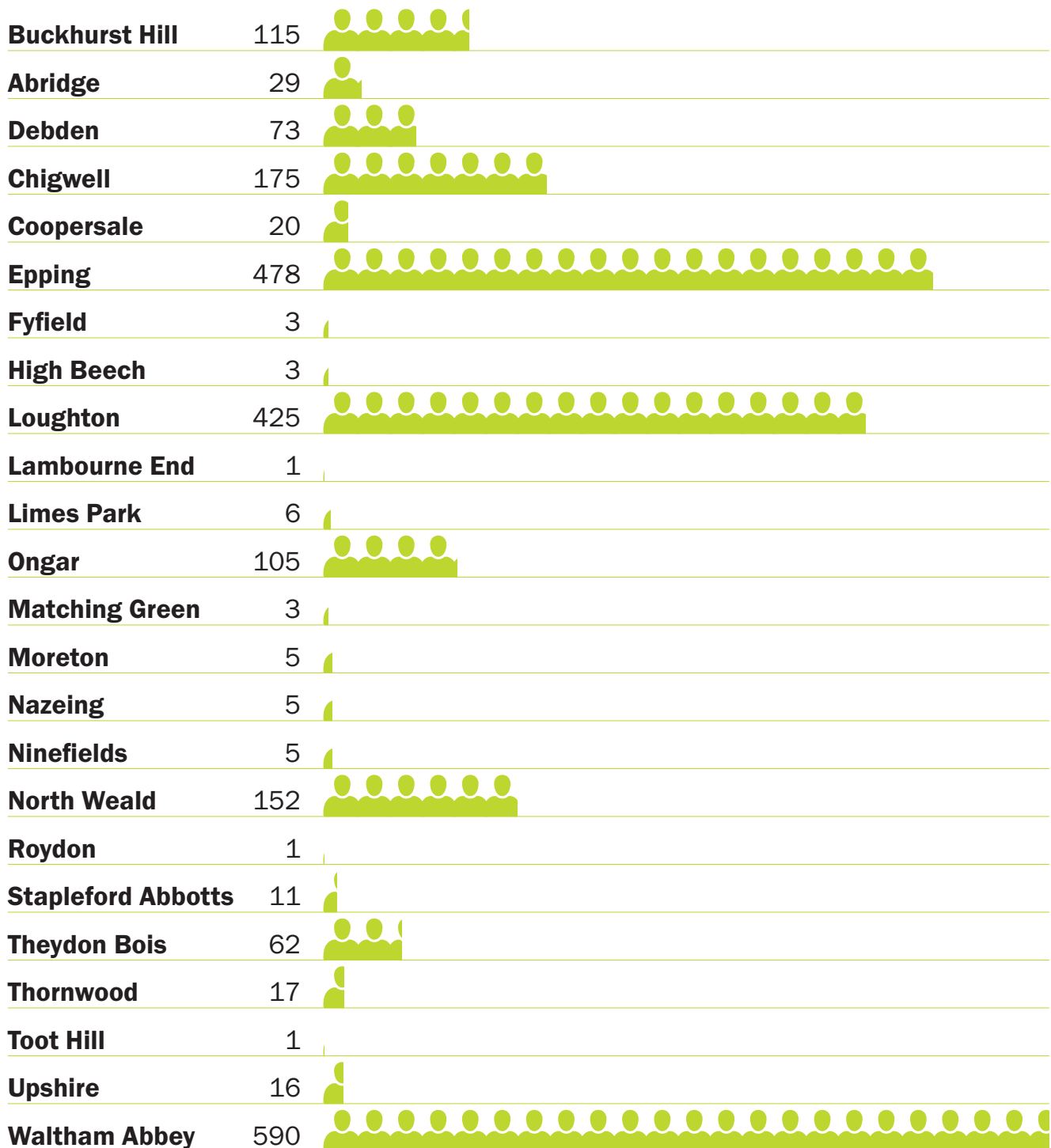
Ward by ward breakdown



Breakdown by school



Question 2: We asked pupils... where do you live?



A total of 3233 surveys were received but 56 were rejected as the forms were spoilt, the remaining **3177** forms consisted of 2301 pupils living in the district and 876 pupils living outside the district but attending schools in the district.

Question 3: We asked pupils... are drugs an issue in your area?

Youth Councillors felt it important to ask if young people perceived drug taking as an issue in their area. 'Their area' meant either where they live and/or in their school/ college.

Of the 3177 surveyed (including out of district responses), 48% (1524) said YES and 52% (1652) said NO. One person did not answer.



Ward by ward breakdown	YES	NO
Buckhurst Hill West:	19 (36.5%)	33 (63.5%)
Chigwell Village:	176 (43.2%)	231 (56.8%)
Epping Lindsey & Thornwood Common:	373 (43.2%)	491 (56.8%)
Loughton Alderton Ward:	218 (42%)	302 (58%)
Loughton Broadway Ward:	4 (28.6%)	10 (71.4%)
Loughton St Mary's Ward:	124 (49%)	129 (51%)
Shelley Ward:	55 (27.9%)	142 (72.1%)
Waltham Abbey North East Ward:	364 (67.0%)	179 (33%)

Question 4: We asked pupils... do you think drugs are easily accessible?

The Youth Councillors thought it would be insightful for service providers to know if young people perceived drugs to be easily available to them and their peer group. Of those surveyed a staggering 69% of pupils responded saying that drugs were easily available.



In each ward over 50% of respondents comment that drugs are not hard to access. The only exception to this rule is in the Shelley Ward.

Breakdown by school	YES	NO
Braeside	44 (15.4%)	8 (84.6%)
Chigwell	181 (78%)	51 (22%)
Davenant	203 (74.1%)	71 (25.9%)
Debden Park High	172 (69.9%)	74 (30.1%)
Epping Forest College	12 (86%)	2 (14%)
Epping St Johns	560 (64.8%)	304 (35.2%)
King Harold Academy	407 (75%)	136 (25%)
The Ongar Academy	81 (41.1%)	116 (58.9%)
Roding Valley High	170 (67%)	83 (33%)
West Hatch	140 (80%)	35 (20%)
Ward by ward breakdown		
Buckhurst Hill West	44 (84.6%)	8 (14.4%)
Chigwell Village	321 (78.9%)	86 (12.1%)
Epping Lindsey & Thornwood Common	560 (64.8%)	304 (35.2%)
Loughton Alderton Ward	375 (72.1%)	145 (18.9%)
Loughton Broadway Ward	12 (85.7%)	2 (14.3%)
Loughton St Mary's Ward	170 (67%)	83 (33%)
Shelley Ward	81 (41.1%)	116 (58.9%)
Waltham Abbey North East Ward	407 (75%)	136 (25%)

Youth Councillors looked at social media, such as Snapchat, to reveal that laughing gas canisters are easily available; emojis display the balloon graphics so anyone, any age can find them and purchase them on line. You can meet the seller on the street or have the items posted. No age restrictions are present.

NO₂ is commonly sold as a food product, notably as a coffee creamer. The gas aerates the cream and is available online through numerous sellers such as Amazon. Amazon clearly has a disclaimer that products should not be purchased by under 18s but no other checks are made. Wholesalers import them and sell them for as little as 30p.



Question 5: We asked pupils... where were drugs available from?

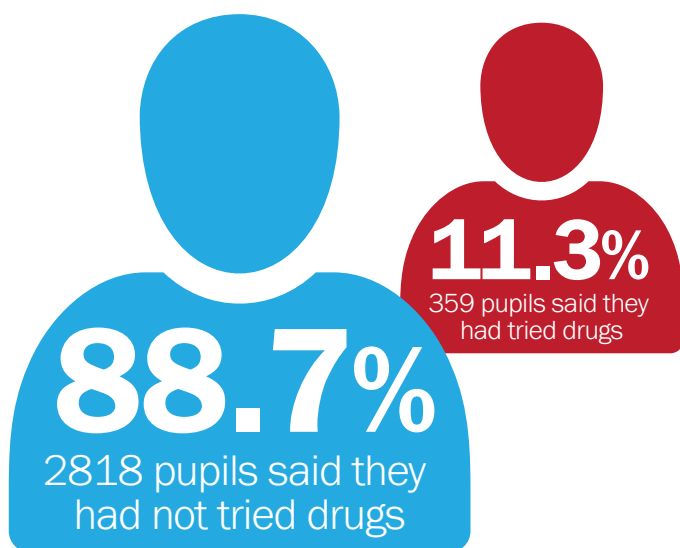
1251 pupils (39%) said that drugs are available online. Social media is increasingly popular with sites such as Instagram being used as a new method to purchase drugs. It can be very appealing as emojis are used to market the drugs available at locations wherever you are.



Pupils said drugs were available...	Number of pupils	Percentage of total surveyed
On the street	2583	81.30%
From friends	1167	36.73%
From family	295	9.29%
On-line	1251	39.38%
In school	671	21.12%
Did not answer	12	0.38%



Question 6: We asked pupils... have you tried drugs?



Across the survey 11% of pupils interviewed said they had tried drugs before.

Question 7: We asked pupils... which drugs have you tried?

Legal highs were the most commonly used drug with 296 pupils (9.3%) followed by cannabis with 253 pupils (8%) saying they had tried these drugs. Some of these individuals may have been taking multiple drugs.



Pupils said they had tried...

	Number of pupils	Percentage of total surveyed
Legal Highs (NO ₂ only)	256	8.06%
Legal Highs (other psychoactive substances)	40	1.26%
Cannabis	253	8%
Cocaine	79	2.5%
Ketamine	68	2.1%
MDMA (ecstasy)	77	2.4%

Question 8: We asked pupils... what made you want to try drugs?

Of the 359 people taking drugs, the reason for trying them are ...

Pupils said they had tried drugs because...	Number of pupils	Percentage of total surveyed
Boredom	137	38.2%
Curiosity	221	61.6%
Friends	143	39.8%
Family	43	12%
Peer Pressure	91	25.3%

Question 9: We asked pupils... If they were offered drugs, how confident were they to say no?

Positively, 92% of pupils said they could say no to drugs across all wards.

92%
COULD SAY
NO 
TO DRUGS

The National Picture

In 2016, 24% of pupils surveyed for the NHS (in the 'Smoking, drinking and drug use among young people – England 2016' report) said that they had taken drugs, compared to 15% in 2014. This rise is partially explained by the addition of laughing gas (nitrous oxide, NO₂) and other psychoactive substances, previously known as 'legal highs', to national surveys of drug use.

Other key trends found by the NHS included smoking, drinking and drug use among young people. It stated that cannabis remains the most common drug used by pupils nationally.

The main reasons given by pupils for taking drugs were:



52% of pupils obtained drugs in a street, park or outdoor area.

14% of pupils said they were at school.

14% were at someone else's home.

The likelihood of having ever taken drugs increased with age:

There is an 11% chance that 11 years will take drugs.

This rises to 37% for 15 year olds.

Younger pupils are more likely to have taken drugs alone.

15% of 11-13 years olds.

4% of 15-year olds.

Of those pupils nationally, who reported taking drugs over the past year

66% reported having taken only one kind of drug.

34% of pupils admitted taking two or more types of drugs.

18% of this group were taking at least one Class A drug.

What the Epping Forest Youth Council would like to see happen next

- **We must not become complacent.** Many of our findings are very encouraging, in particular that local drug use is significantly below the national average, and we should take pride in the fact that excellent work is already being done in the Epping Forest district to tackle this issue – but we must always remember that every young person taking drugs is one too many.
- **Service providers and funders need to continue their work to tackle the causes of drug use.** One important finding from our survey was that boredom is a much greater factor in causing drug use than peer pressure, challenging the traditional narrative that the way to stop drug use is to encourage young people to ‘just say no’. Although this strategy is still important, our findings show that a very encouraging 92% of respondents can say no to drugs. We would therefore encourage youth service providers to look at ways of providing worthwhile activities and education programmes for young people so they do not turn to drugs. (See Appendix B. Epping Forest Youth Activities Map).
- **We would like to see the work and funding continue to raise awareness of the danger that drugs pose to young people.** As EFYC’s drug awareness project ends, we believe that we have been successful in raising awareness of the danger of drugs, particularly in promoting the idea of ‘gateway drugs’ and discouraging the use of so-called ‘legal highs’. We encourage our reader to avoid using the term ‘legal highs’ as many drugs which used to be categorised as ‘legal highs’ are now, in fact, illegal; we also believe that this term almost seems to legitimise the use of highly dangerous drugs.
- Looking ahead to **Epping Forest Youth Council’s future project**, to build resilience to increase personal safety, assertiveness and awareness (be it of gangs, crimes, knives or drugs), **we implore further investigation between the relationship between gang crime and drug use and how tackling each problem can help solve the other.** As most street gangs are also in some way involved in the drug trade, it is crucial that the authorities continue to fund this valuable work particularly in relation to ‘county lines’ drug trading and child exploitation.



“ We cannot stop our children being exposed to drugs. The reality is they are out there. As our children get older there are so many influences they are exposed to, such as from TV, social media and from their friends. By increasing awareness of the risks and problems of substance use we hope that sharing of knowledge can contribute to better decisions, and as a result, better outcomes for young people. The councillors of the Epping Forest District Council are very supportive of the efforts of the Youth Council to raise awareness of the problem and the devastating consequences for individuals and society through their drugs study.”



Cllr Sam Kane
Community and Partnership
Services Portfolio Holder,
Epping Forest District Council

Next Steps: Lobbying Central Government

Given the widespread damage being done by NO₂ and its worrying rise in popularity, EFYC urges Council Members and other stakeholders to join with us in lobbying the Government and MPs to restrict the sale of NO₂ to under 18s. We believe that proof of age should be required by online retailers, in recognition of the fact that NO₂ can have a much more destructive effect than substances like alcohol for which restrictions are already in place.

- a) The Government could restrict the sale of these goods to under 18s through enforcing penalty charges and taxation on companies.
- b) The Government could investigate whether food companies should be forced to source an alternative product without the NO₂ content. A more moderate approach would be to incentivise this through taxation, following the example of the 'sugar tax'.
- c) The Government could make companies aware how their product is being misused. Aspects of this awareness campaign could certainly be done on a local level: for example, food standards inspectors working for the Council could ask local restaurants to consider using an alternative to NO₂ 'cream chargers'.
- d) The Government could impose conditions to make companies produce more environmental packaging and should ban the use of canisters to contain NO₂ as these are both an eyesore and environmentally destructive.



Methodology

- A total of 3233 surveys were received, 56 were rejected as the forms were spoilt.
- Surveys were available on line and hard copies were distributed to all secondary schools in the Epping Forest District.
- Surveys were anonymous to protect pupils identity.
- There is a variation in the responses we have per ward since some schools provided more responses than others. Few people responded from the Loughton Broadway ward and therefore this will be reflected in exaggerated percentage results.

Thanks

Epping Forest Youth Councillors would like to thank the pupils and schools for taking part in the survey. To the District Council's Waste Management team, Public Relations team, Economic Development, Essex Police, the City of London Wardens, Arriva Buses and to the Members of the District Council.

Further information

You can contact the Youth Council by email, telephone or text.

Email	efyc@eppingforestdc.gov.uk
Office telephone	01992 564 365
Mobile	0778 937 2179
Web Page	www.eppingforestdc/efyc



www.facebook.com/eppingyc



[@eppingyc](https://twitter.com/eppingyc)

Further Reading

- www.talktofrank.com/drug/nitrous-oxide
- www.cnwl.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/SERVARC_0815_A5-WEB.pdf
- assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/368576/RestrictingSupplyNitrousOxide.pdf
- www.healthline.com/health/nitrous-oxide-side-effects
- assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/544030/6_1845_HO_NPS_Resources_Booklet_June16_v10.pdf
- yourroom.health.nsw.gov.au/a-z-of-drugs/Pages/nitrous-oxide.aspx
- yourroom.health.nsw.gov.au/publicationdocuments/180312%20Nitrous%20Oxide%20Fact%20Sheet%20FINAL.pdf

References

‘NHS Smoking, Drinking and drug use among young people – England 2016’
Published 02 November 2017.
www.digital.nhs.uk

SAY NO TO GATEWAY DRUGS

DON'T OPEN THE GATE

SAY NO TO N₂O

NITROUS OXIDE

A.K.A LAUGHING GAS / BALLOONS

It is now illegal to supply or import nitrous oxide for human consumption 

Using nitrous oxide starves your brain of oxygen which can lead to brain damage or even death 

Affects breathing and causes damage to your lungs 

Should not be in contact with skin or eyes   

Causes brain damage in rats 

Can cause a heart attack or stroke 

Appendix A



efdc@eppingforestdc.gov.uk
 01992 564 365 07789 372179
 eppingyc @eppingyc eppingyc
 eppingforestdc.gov.uk/efyc

Drugs Survey

The Epping Forest Youth Council is conducting a short survey about drugs in the Epping Forest district and will be doing a project to help tackle this issue in your area. The information you give **will be anonymous** so please be as honest as possible. The data will be used to identify drug crime in our district.

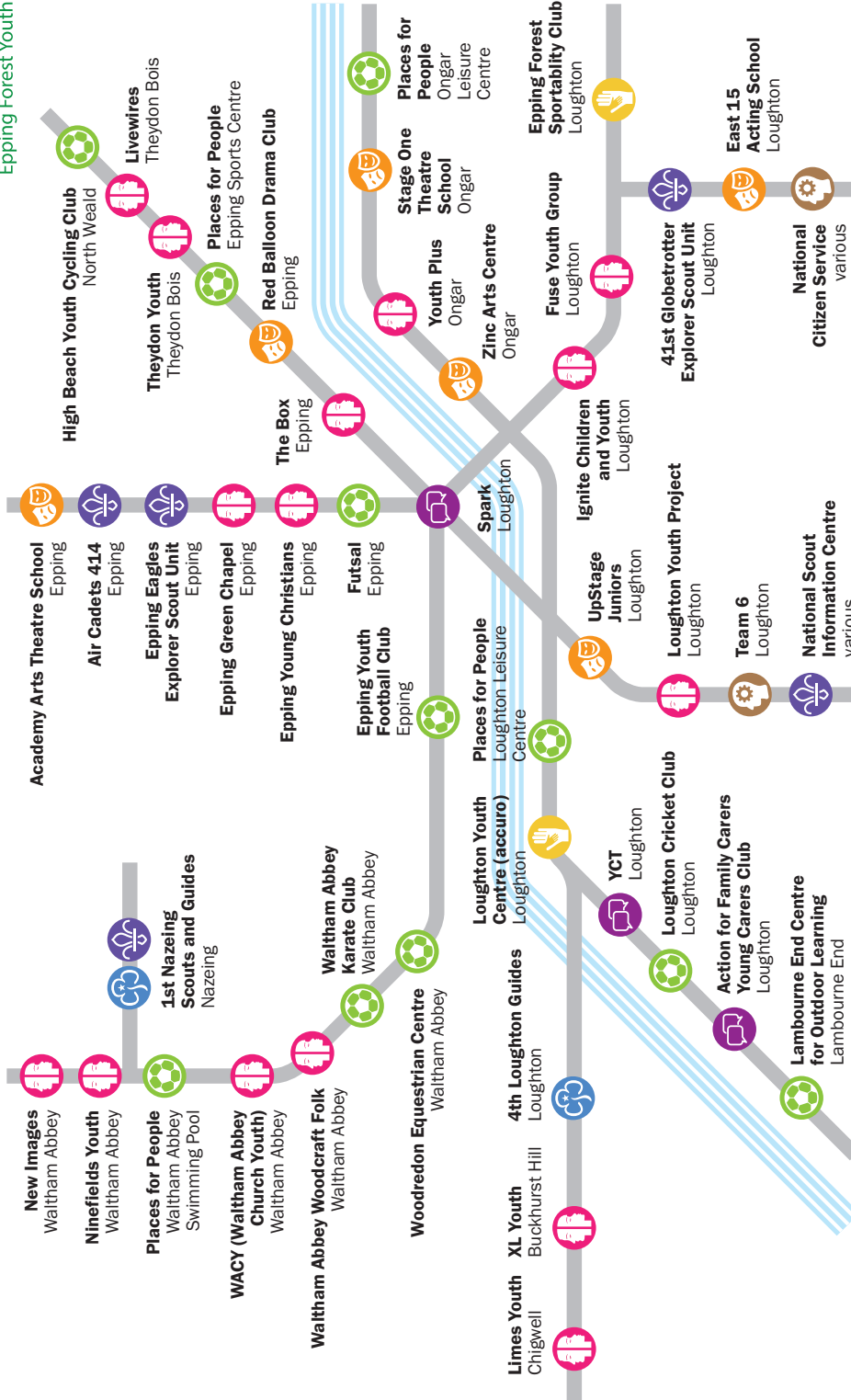
Age:					
School/College/Other:					
Q1) Are you...	Male		Female		
	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		
Q2) Where do you live? (Town/Village)					
Q3) Do you think drugs are an issue in your area?	Yes		No		
	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		
Q4) Do you think drugs are easily available to young people?	Yes		No		
	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		
Q5) Where are drugs available (Tick all that are appropriate)	On the street	In school	Online	From friends	From family
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Q6) Have you tried drugs before? (Please remember this is anonymous and you will not get into trouble)	Yes		No		
	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		
Q7) If you answered Yes to Q6 please tell us which drugs you have tried (Tick all that are appropriate)	Weed	Laughing Gas	MDMA	Cocaine	Ketamine
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Q8) If you answered Yes to Q7 what made you want to try drugs? (Tick all that are appropriate)	Friends	Peer pressure	Family	Curiosity	Boredom
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Q9) Do you feel you can say no if you are offered drugs?	Yes		No		
	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		

Thank you for taking time to complete this survey 😊
If you want any more information or support on drugs, please let the team know and we can provide you with some information

Appendix B



Youth Projects in Epping Forest 2019




























KEY

- Scouts & Guides
- Theatre & Dance
- Sports & Leisure
- Youth Group
- Counselling & Mentoring
- Young people with a disability
- Skills & Personal Development





Epping Forest Youth Council 2016 – 2018

Braeside Independent School	Chigwell School	Davenant Foundation School	
 Samantha Halcrow	 Simran Tiwana	 Abigail Whelan	 <small>EFYC MLAs Project – Winner of the National Crimebeat Award 2018</small>
 Jyoti Nag-Chaudhury	 Onyeka Okeke	 Eleanor Nsofor	
 Archie Flynn	 Barnaby Hodgkinson		
Debden Park High School			Epping St John's School
 Ashwin Gohil	 Jacob McNulty	 Rene Kent	 Stanimir Bakalov
			 James Beavis
			 Oliver Smith
			 Megan Wilson
			 Annabelle Yaman
King Harold Academy	The Ongar Academy	Roding Valley High School	Independent
 Tomas Gray	 Oliver Upson	 Harriette Pickering	 Tallulah Fontenelle
		 Jasmine James	
		 Daniel Mehr	
		 Zak Smith	
		 Florence New	



eppingyc

Epping Forest Youth Council 2018 – 2020



Agenda Item 6

From: Passenger Transport [<mailto:Passenger.Transport@essex.gov.uk>]
Sent: 26 February 2019 15:41
Subject: Transport Meetings Spring 2019

Dear Chief Executive – please send the following information to Local Councillors – thank you

Dear Stakeholder

Transport Meetings June 2019

Essex County Council would like to invite you to the next round of Transport Meetings to be held in June at various locations around the County. If you cannot attend your local meeting, you are most welcome to attend another venue. Please find enclosed a list of dates and venues.

In order to create an agenda that will be of value to those wishing to attend, we welcome your suggestions for agenda items, please advise by 05 April. In the meantime if you have any questions relating to your local bus service please contact the Team directly via email: passenger.transport@essex.gov.uk as it is not an effective use of meeting time to discuss historical matters which are best dealt with immediately.

It is important to get a good representation at these meetings, please ask a representative for your Parish/Town to attend. This is particularly important to ensure you have valuable feedback for your community as ECC note action points from the meeting but do not distribute detailed notes. We shall invite bus operators to the meeting as usual.

Please note: In May last year we contacted Transport Representatives requesting consent to hold contact details on our secure Microsoft Access database, in accordance with GDPR data regulations, (this related to private e-mail addresses). We sent several e-mail chasers and if we did not receive a response, we deleted the information from our database. If this e-mail is received by a Parish Council clerk who is aware that the Transport Representative for the district is not receiving e-mails from us, please request the Representative to contact passenger.transport@essex.gov.uk with contact information.

We look forward to seeing you in June, please ensure you confirm your attendance by email to assist with planning at the venues. An agreed agenda will be sent out before the meetings.

Kind Regards

Integrated Passenger Transport Unit
Essex County Council

Email Passenger.Transport@essex.gov.uk
W: www.essex.gov.uk

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June 2019

Transport Meetings 10.00 – 12.00

District	Date	Venue
Chelmsford/Basildon	Tues 4 June	Norden Room Essex Record office Wharf Road Chelmsford CM2 6YT
Braintree	Wed 5 June	The Coutauld Gallery Braintree Town Hall, Market Square, Braintree CM7 3YG
Castlepoint/Rochford/Rayleigh	Fri 7 June	Rayleigh Town Council The Pavilion King George V Playing Field Bull Lane Rayleigh SS6 8JD
Colchester	Mon 10 June	The Jury Room Colchester Town Hall High Street Colchester CO1 1PJ
Maldon	Wed 12 June	Council Chamber Maldon District Council Offices Council Offices, Princes Road, Maldon CM9 5DL
Epping Forest & Harlow	Thurs 13 June	Epping Town Council Epping Hall, St John's Road, Epping CM16 5JU
Brentwood	Wed 19 June	SAR3 (The Wedding Room) 1-2 Seven Arches Road Brentwood CM14 4JG
Tendring	Fri 21 June	Essex Hall Clacton Town Hall Station Rd Clacton-on-Sea CO15 1SE
Uttlesford	Wed 26 June	The Talberd Room Foakes Hall 47 Stortford Rd Dunmow CM6 1DG

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Agenda Item 7

Date	Event	Venue	Attending
Sunday 3 March	Essex County Council Civic Service	Chelmsford Cathedral	Chairman of Council
Sunday 3 March	Jack Petchey's Glee Club Grand Final	The London Palladium	Chairman of Council
Wednesday 6 March	High Sheriff's Awards	Hylands House, Chelmsford	Chairman of Council
Thursday 7 March	Snapping the Stiletto Auction	Epping Forest Museum	Chairman of Council
Friday 8 March	Grand Aid Celebration	Civic Offices, Epping	Chairman and Vice Chairman of Council
Friday 8 March	Rochford District Council Civic Dinner	The Lawn, Rochford	Chairman of Council
Friday 15 March	Epping Forest Civic Awards	Waltham Abbey Marriott Hotel	Chairman of Council
Friday 22 March	Chair's Charity Civic Dinner	Harlow Rugby Club	Chairman of Council
Tuesday 25 & 26 March	MOTIV8	Epping Forest College	Chairman of Council
Friday 29 March	Southend on Sea Civic lunch	Porters, Southend	Chairman of Council
Saturday 30 March	Essex Army Cadets Presentation	Merville Barracks, Colchester	Chairman of Council
Saturday 30 March	Great Dunmow Town Council Jazz Night	Foakes Hall, Dunmow	Chairman of Council
Monday 8 April	Declaration Ceremony of the new High Sheriff	Country Hall, Chelmsford	Chairman of Council
Wednesday 24 April	Jack Petchey 'Speak Out' Challenge	Roding Valley High School	Chairman of Council
Sunday 28 April	National Scout Service & Parade	Windsor Castle	Chairman of Council

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EPPING FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

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

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

Decision to be called-in:
Decision reference:
Portfolio:
Description of decision:
Reason for call-in

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

Members Name:	Signed:
Lead member:	
Office Use Only: Date Received:	

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