

### Digital inclusion projects



**Digital Exclusion Risk Indicator Tool (DERI)** to identify vulnerable communities and gaps in service provision.



**Brentwood Community Digital Hubs** set up with Local Community Funding to address identified gap in digital support provision.



**Digital Triaging Tool** to enable community organisations to identify causes of digital exclusion and signpost to tailored local support.



**Digital switchover campaign** using out-of-home channels to disseminate information to vulnerable residents and protect them from harm.



**Donated over 200 devices** to residents in need, schools and community centres.



**LEGO in Libraries sessions** funded to teach digital coding and digital literacy to children aged 6-10 in free sessions.



**Award winning social broadband tariff campaign** to help vulnerable residents afford connectivity during the cost-of-living crisis.

In Essex, **20% of households are digitally excluded**. This statistic is increasing as technology becomes more complicated, as costs rise, and as services are increasingly digitised. Digital Essex aims to **overcome the three barriers** to digital inclusion: Access, Affordability and Adoption of skills. The team has worked across the county with district partners and unitary authorities to help **vulnerable communities** to get online.

### Key achievements

<b>£1.9m</b>	<b>200+</b>	<b>30+</b>	<b>100+</b>	<b>50+</b>
Funding allocated to Digital Essex over 3 years to tackle digital exclusion and improve connectivity	Lego in Libraries sessions delivered to promote digital literacy through interactive play	Community services supported to deliver digital inclusion initiatives across the county	Local provisions of digital inclusion support mapped and accessible to Essex residents	Businesses engaged to promote device donation and upskilling of local workforce

Digital Essex strategically engages with online and offline audiences across the county. We tackle national issues and address local issues, and welcome opportunities to engage members with digital inclusion provisions within their wards.



### National recognition and advocacy

**1** of 10 nationwide Good Things Foundation Network Ambassadors



recognised as leaders in the DI space by Aberdeen City Council and Cluttons



trialling a system where residents can apply for devices through their local CVS



### How digital inclusion supports Levelling Up



Being online is a prerequisite for accessing **job and upskilling opportunities** for individuals.



Promotes a circular economy through **recycling, repurposing and repairing** of older technology.



Improves access and understanding of care technology, enhancing **healthcare outcomes**.



Facilitates remote learning and vocational training for **improved employability**.



Offers access to **affordable broadband and devices**, helping families to stay connected.

For further information on the work of Digital Essex, please contact **digital@essex.gov.uk**