

Statement of Accessibility for the Essex Association of Local Council



This accessibility statement applies to the website of the Essex Association of Local Councils.

This website is run by the Essex Association of Local Councils. We want as many people as possible to be able to use our website. For instance, this means you should be able to:

- Zoom in up to 300% without the text spilling off the screen
- Navigate most of the website using just a keyboard
- Navigate most of the website using speech recognition software
- Listen to most of the website using a screen reader (including the most recent versions of JAWS, NVDA and VoiceOver)

We've also made the website text as simple as possible to understand.

[AbilityNet](#) has advice on making your device easier to use if you have a disability.

How accessible is this website?

We appreciate that some parts of our website may not be fully accessible:

- The text will not reflow in a single column when you change the size of the browser window
- You cannot modify the line height or spacing of text
- Most older PDF documents are not fully accessible to screen reader software
- Some of our online forms are difficult to navigate using just a keyboard
- You cannot skip to the main content when using a screen reader

Feedback and contact information

If you need information on this website in a different format like accessible PDF, large print, easy read, audio recording or braille:

- Please email communicationofficer@ealc.gov.uk
- Or call 01371 879722

We will consider your request and get back to you within 7 working days. We will try to help aid your accessibility of our website where possible.

Reporting accessibility problems

We're always looking to improve the accessibility of this website. If you find any problems not listed on this page or think we're not meeting accessibility requirements, please feel free to get in touch with Mr Eli Haines, Communications Officer at the EALC. He can be reached at communicationofficer@ealc.gov.uk.

Enforcement procedure

The Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) is responsible for enforcing the Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) (No. 2) Accessibility Regulations 2018 (the 'accessibility regulations'). If you're not happy with how we respond to your complaint, [contact the Equality Advisory and Support Service \(EASS\)](#).

Technical information about this website's accessibility

The Essex Association of Local Councils is committed to making its website accessible, in accordance with the Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) (No. 2) Accessibility Regulations 2018.

Compliance status

This website is partially compliant with the [Web Content Accessibility Guidelines version 2.1](#) AA standard, due to the non-compliances listed below.

- Limited contrast errors
- Older PDF documents which are not fully accessible

Non-accessible content

The content listed below is non-accessible for the following reasons.

- Website design preference
- Uneditable content

Non-compliance with the accessibility regulations

Some images do not have a text alternative, so people using a screen reader cannot access the information. This fails WCAG 2.1 success criterion 1.1.1 (non-text content).

We plan to add text alternatives for all images by September 2021. When we publish new content, we'll make sure our use of images meets accessibility standards.

Disproportionate burden

Navigation and accessing information

There's no way to skip the repeated content in the page header (for example, a 'skip to main content' option).

It's not always possible to change the device orientation from horizontal to vertical without making it more difficult to view the content.

Interactive tools and transactions

Some of our interactive forms are difficult to navigate using only a keyboard. For example, because some form controls are missing a 'label' tag.

We've assessed the cost of fixing the issues with navigation and accessing information, and with interactive tools and transactions. We believe that doing so now would be a [disproportionate burden](#) within the meaning of the accessibility regulations. We will make another assessment when the supplier contract is up for renewal, likely to be at some point in the second quarter of 2021.

Content that's not within the scope of the accessibility regulations

PDFs and other documents

Some of our PDFs and Word documents are essential to providing our services. For example, we have PDFs with information on how users can access our services, and forms published as Word documents.

The accessibility regulations [do not require us to fix PDFs or other documents published before 23 September 2018](#) if they're not essential to providing our services.

Any new PDFs or Word documents we publish will meet accessibility standards.

Live video

We do not plan to add captions to live video streams because live video is [exempt from meeting the accessibility regulations](#).

Preparation accessibility statement

This statement was prepared on 17th February 2021.

This website was last tested on 17th February 2021. The test was carried out by <https://wave.webaim.org>.

We used this approach to deciding on a sample of pages to test.