



**Department for Levelling Up,
Housing & Communities**

Rt Hon Michael Gove MP

*Secretary of State for Levelling up, Housing &
Communities*
Minister for Intergovernmental Relations
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

To all Essex MPs

26 October 2023

Essex Day: Feast of St Cedd

Dear Colleagues,

The Government attaches great importance to the history and traditions of our country as threads that help bind our diverse communities together. The promotion of historic counties, as part of these celebrations, can have a significant role in encouraging community pride and can deliver benefits for both tourism and economic growth.

As you know, the Government has for the last few years been encouraging counties to celebrate their recognised county days and we are continuing this custom in 2023. Today is Essex Day and I am sure you will agree that recognising this important day elevates community spirit and revitalises community pride.

I look forward to hearing about the celebrations for Essex Day, including – I am sure – the flying of the iconic Three Saxon Seaxes flag, which means so much to our constituents.

In turn, the Government continues to champion our historic counties and we are proudly flying the Essex flag outside my department's own headquarters on Marsham Street.

I hope that you and all your constituents have been able to participate in these celebrations of an important day for everyone who has ever had the privilege to live or work in this great county.

RT HON MICHAEL GOVE MP

Secretary of State for Levelling up, Housing and Communities
Minister for Intergovernmental Relations