**Essex Celebrates International Women’s Day with Funding Success for ‘Snapping the Stiletto’ project**

Essex County Council is delighted to announce that the ‘Snapping the Stiletto’ project has received a generous grant from The National Lottery Heritage Fund of over £200,000 to coincide with International Women’s Day, which aims to celebrate the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women.

The Essex ‘Snapping the Stiletto’ project aims to showcase the lives and stories of working-class women and Essex’s LBGTQ+ and diverse communities from the last hundred years, to highlight unsung heroes and celebrate those who helped to campaign for equal rights.

The project will work with communities across Essex to collect accounts and build a narrative to look at how women’s lives have changed from the Representation of the People Act 1918 to the Equal Pay Act 1970 to culminate in an exhibition, events and activities.

‘Snapping the Stiletto’ will work with the Museum of Power, Maldon Museum in the Park, Saffron Walden Museum and Southend Museums’ Service as well as a broad range of community partners.

Cllr Susan Barker, Essex County Council Cabinet Member for Customer, Corporate, Culture and Communities said: “I’m delighted that with support from The National Lottery Heritage Fund we will be able to explore Essex women’s stories as part of our county’s rich contemporary history and ensure these are celebrated and enrich our museums current collections. I very much look forward to seeing how the project unfolds over the next 18 months.”

**Ends**

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