



Date: 20 July 2020
Press release: 006
Release date: Immediate

Project receives over £200,000 in funding from National Lottery Heritage Fund

A PROJECT which aims to tell the stories of underrepresented communities in Essex has received £207,000 in funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

The *Snapping the Stiletto* project will collect the oral histories and heritage objects about the lives of working-class, BAME and LGBTQ+ women from the last 100 years.

As part of the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Equal Pay Act 1970, the *Snapping the Stiletto* project will also include community craft and youth engagement projects, guided heritage walks, women's history festivals and pop-up events to collect people's stories later in the summer.

The *Snapping the Stiletto* project will work with the Maldon Museum in the Park, Museum of Power, Saffron Walden Museum and Southend Museums – which is where the oral histories and heritage objects are to be displayed – as well as the University of Essex, Essex Children's University, SHARE Museums East, Colchester Stitch & Bitch, Colchester Pride and the Essex Cultural Diversity Project.

Councillor Susan Barker, Essex County Council Cabinet Member for Customer, Communities, Culture and Corporate, said: "To receive this funding for the *Snapping the Stiletto* project is wonderful. It is very important that we recognise the contributions that the working-class, BAME and LGBTQ+ women have made to our county over the past 100 years.

"As we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Equal Pay Act 1970, we want to ensure that these narratives are recorded and preserved for the future. We also want our local museums to be representative of our county's residents' experiences and local communities."

Indi Sandhu, Creative Director from the Essex Cultural Diversity Project, stated: "Through engagement and participation, the *Snapping the Stiletto* project will engage with a range of diverse people from BAME communities to LGBTQ+, including women and young people, through a range of activities such as workshops, seminars, conferences, pop up events and a festival.

"The funding from the National Lottery Heritage Funding is very much needed to support the thriving heritage sector in Essex."

-Ends-

For more information please contact:

Emma Williams, Marketing and Communications Lead, Emma.Williams@essex.gov.uk or telephone: 07780 493 400

Explore Essex: Explore Essex brings together a unique group of parks and heritage venues which are owned by Essex County Council. Its mission is to deliver a broad range of exciting facilities and events for the people of Essex. www.explore-essex.com