



Have you seen a Bullfinch, Cuckoo or Turtle Dove?

The **Essex Birdwatching Society** has highlighted these three species whose numbers have declined both nationally and in Essex over recent years. To assess current population levels in Essex a new survey has been launched. Beginning at the start of April 2010 all records of Bullfinch, Cuckoo and Turtle Dove would be warmly received. Details required for each species are:

- Species name
- Date of observation
- Location including a six-figure grid reference if possible
- Number seen or heard
- Any other comments

Submission of records

Please submit your bird records by filling in the Microsoft Excel recording form, which can be found on the **Essex Birdwatching Society** website. www.essexbirdwatchesoc.co.uk/

Please send your records to **Alan Shearman**

Email: alan.shearman@rspb.org.uk

Post: RSPB Visitor Centre, Wat Tyler Country Park, Pitsea Hall Lane, Basildon SS16 4UH

Bullfinch

The Bullfinch is, fundamentally, a bird of scrub and deciduous woodland, but it occurs, if inconspicuously, across farmland, parks and gardens where dense bushes and trees are to be found. The BTO's common bird's census has shown a marked decline since the 1970's. Anecdotal evidence suggests that the bullfinch may still be declining across Essex.



Darren Chaplin

Cuckoo

The Cuckoo has been in decline since the 1980's and has recently been moved from the green to amber list. Recent data suggests it now meets red-list criteria.



Russ Sherriff

Turtle Dove

The Turtle Dove has declined severely nationally since the 1970's and a marked decline has been noted in Essex since the 1980's.



Chris Lawrence