

## **Implementation of Speed Table – Highland Avenue and Sawyers Hall Lane (Brentwood North) in the Borough of Brentwood**

### **STATEMENT OF REASONS:**

In February 2023 the Government announced the fourth Active Travel Fund (ATF4). It invited highways authorities to make bids for funding. The objectives of the ATF4 were to build on previous ATF initiatives and help local authorities implement measures to create an environment that is safer for both walking and cycling. This was to initially enable cycling to replace journeys made by public transport, in order to help avoid overcrowding on the public transport network and to help maintain social distancing during Covid. In the long term it was also expected to help deliver significant health, environmental and congestion benefits by providing better infrastructure to create streets which can accommodate increased levels of cycling and walking.

Essex County Council (ECC) submitted a bid and was awarded £5,270,000 in May 2023. This was in order for ECC to deliver further ATF schemes across Essex to maintain the growth in walking and cycling seen across the areas during the period of the pandemic. This scheme on Sawyers Hall Lane is a continuation of the works undertaken in Summer 2022 which widened the existing footway, introduced pencil bollards and improved crossing points around the school areas. The aim of the new scheme proposal is to complete the widening of the footway in the vicinity of the junction at Highland Avenue; improve crossing points on the approaches to the school and introduce a raised table at the junction of Sawyers Hall Lane.

It is hoped that the completion of the widening of the footway and improved crossing points will encourage students to walk, cycle or scoot to school instead of arriving by vehicular means. The raised table is to provide a physical and visual environmental change for those approaching the schools via vehicular means and encouraging vehicle users to ensure their speeds remain low.

For further information about the Active Travel Fund and the proposed measures across the Borough of Brentwood, please visit our website:

- [www.essex.gov.uk/safer-greener-healthier](http://www.essex.gov.uk/safer-greener-healthier)
- <https://www.essexhighways.org/safer-greener-healthier-brentwood>