

# HIGHWAYS HIGHLIGHTS

INFORMATION FOR LOCAL COUNCILLORS | JANUARY 2023

## MEMBER-LED POTHOLE SCHEME UPDATE

Back in the summer we were pleased to welcome back our 'Member led' pothole repair initiative. The programme offered County Members the opportunity to liaise with their local Parishes and Districts, as well as using their own local knowledge, to nominate important pothole locations to Essex Highways for repair.

This scheme enables Members to complete additional repairs locally which may not normally be considered for immediate repair under existing maintenance policies. This time round, we asked Councillors to identify a total of

36 potholes, requested in two batches of 18, as the work has been phased into two visits and planned in such a way to maximise our resources.

We have organised works by district to be carried out and work began in earnest on 13 June and will continue until both phases have been completed.

Overall, we have received a total of 1400 submissions and as of 5 January this year 811 of those have been completed with the rest awaiting inspections or have had work issues to be completed imminently.

# COMMENT

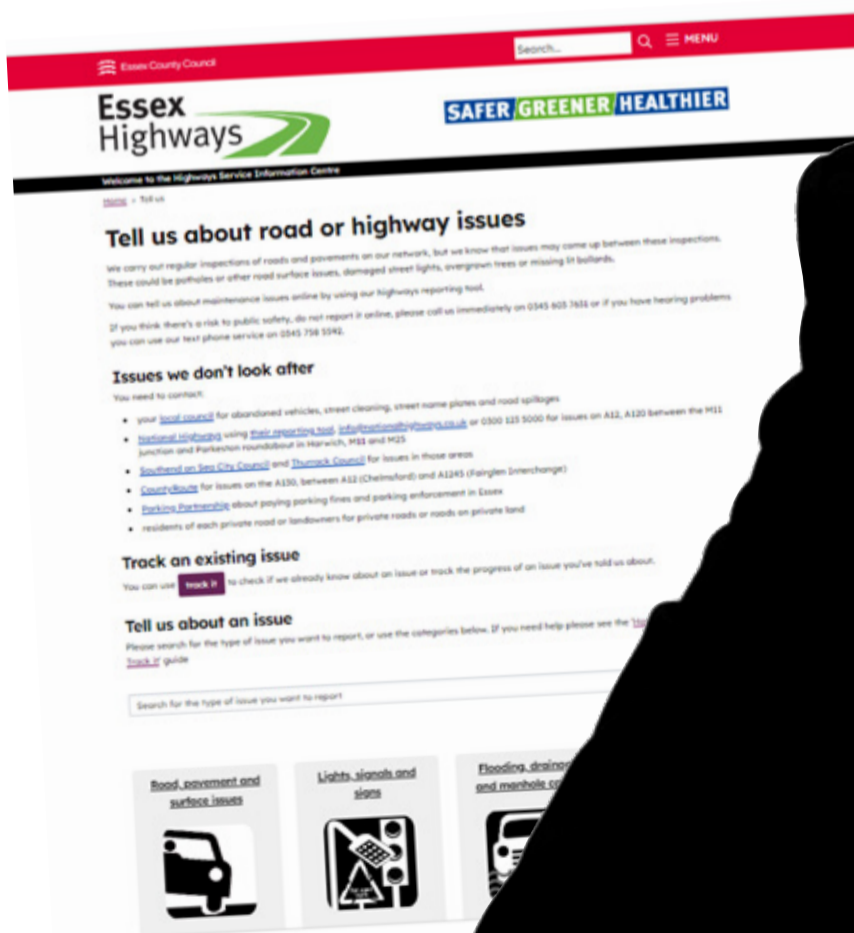
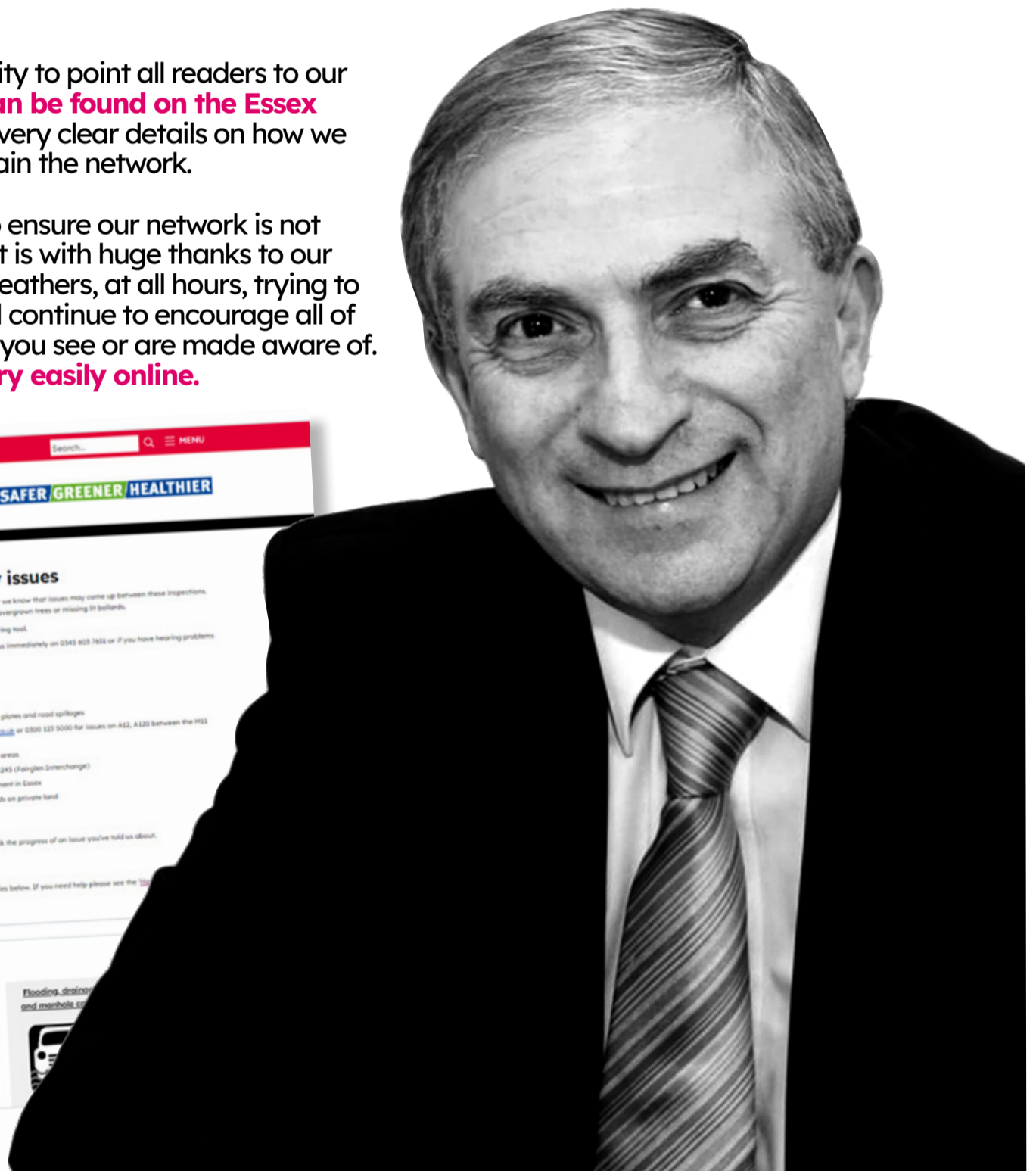
## COUNCILLOR LEE SCOTT

### CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE AND SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT

There has been a lot in the local press, in meetings, and in general conversation with colleagues in recent months, about how effectively we are managing the Essex Highway network.

I wanted to take the opportunity to point all readers to our **Maintenance Policy, which can be found on the Essex Highways website**. This gives very clear details on how we inspect, risk assess, and maintain the network.

We will always do all we can to ensure our network is not only safe, but keeps moving. It is with huge thanks to our operatives who are out in all weathers, at all hours, trying to ensure that happens, and I will continue to encourage all of you to report any defects that you see or are made aware of. **You can report any issues very easily online.**





## HAVE YOUR SAY ON PROPOSED CHELMER VALLEY PARK AND RIDE EXPANSION

**A public consultation is set to launch on the proposed expansion of Chelmer Valley Park and Ride as part of the Army and Navy Sustainable Transport Package.**

Although Park and Ride passenger numbers have dropped following the COVID-19 pandemic, usage is expected to recover over time and there is significant growth planned to the north of Chelmsford.

Park and Ride remains a critical part of Essex County Council's strategy to manage the number of cars travelling into Chelmsford city centre, helping reduce congestion and carbon emissions.

The Army and Navy Sustainable Transport Package is an unmissable opportunity to re-design the Army

and Navy junction - a crucial gateway to Chelmsford - while also providing better options for people to travel and encouraging safer, greener, and healthier ways of getting around the city.

By delivering a comprehensive package of measures which encourage increased walking, cycling, bus and Park and Ride travel, alongside an improved Army and Navy junction, we can provide a long-term and sustainable solution, improving journeys for everyone.

To find out more about the proposals for Chelmer Valley Park and Ride and complete the consultation survey, please visit [www.essex.gov.uk/armyandnavy](http://www.essex.gov.uk/armyandnavy).

The consultation will go live on Monday 30 January 2023 closes on Sunday 12 March 2023.

# SUCCESSFUL COUNCIL BID BRINGS £1M ACTIVE TRAVEL CAPABILITY FUNDING TO ESSEX

**Families, commuters and school children in Essex will be encouraged to take up active travel habits this year as a result of government funding recently awarded to Essex County Council.**

The £1 million Capability Funding will be used to engage with residents and businesses so that they can feed into plans to develop walking and cycling networks over the next 10 years. In addition, several more immediate active travel projects across the county will be supported including the introduction of some electric bikes to the Pedal Power project as well as awarding more community cycling grants to support learn-to-ride sessions, free bikes for targeted groups, cycling festivals and taster sessions.

Cllr Lee Scott, Cabinet Member for Highways Maintenance and Sustainable Transport at Essex County Council, said: “The continued Government commitment to encouraging more of our residents to walk and cycle is welcome. At the start of a new year many people are looking to improve their health as well as cut costs and reduce their carbon footprint.

“Leaving the car at home and choosing to walk or cycle, especially for shorter journeys, is an easy way to get fit, save



money and do your bit for the planet. To encourage more people to walk or cycle, we need to deliver high-quality schemes that make it feel easy, safe and fun.

“This new funding will mean that we can improve our technical skills and better engage with the views of Essex people, ultimately helping us deliver improvements that have widespread local support.”

[Click here for more information on active and sustainable travel in Essex.](#)

**‘CHOOSING TO WALK OR CYCLE, ESPECIALLY FOR SHORTER JOURNEYS, IS AN EASY WAY TO GET FIT, SAVE MONEY AND DO YOUR BIT FOR THE PLANET’**

# ESSEX HIGHWAYS VOLUNTEERS BRANCH OUT FOR FARLEIGH HOSPICE



**On the weekend of 7-8 January, some of our colleagues volunteered to brave some very wet weather to pick up Christmas Trees from residents all over Essex who register with and pay Farleigh Hospice a donation for the service.**

With the support of Ringway Jacobs, who rented some vans to collect the trees with, our staff collected the trees, which are then shredded into chipping, which are used mainly for biofuel but also for soft play areas and park pathways. Overall, £42,000 was raised for Farleigh Hospice.

One of our regular volunteers said: “I’ve been doing the Christmas tree collections for a few years now and always enjoy the two days that we spend helping Farleigh. The Farleigh team Organising the event is so friendly and welcoming, it’s becoming quite a family of regular supporters. It’s hard work collecting all the trees; directing the driver, jumping out to get the tree and climbing in and

out of the van to make sure the local is secure, then straight on to navigating to the next spot. We start early and get as much collected as we can for them, often handling over 60 trees in a day.

“Our operatives driving the vans are skilled and professional as we end up picking up trees in some pretty tight spots, but it just doesn’t phase them, they’re also pretty strong which helps when we come across the 8ft ones!

“When we are back to the yard to unload the trees for chipping there is always a cuppa and a bacon roll or burger to hand and we get a chance to hear some of the lovely stories that brought people together to help Farleigh continue their good work.”

Councillor Lee Scott, said: “Well done to everybody who took part in this initiative, it’s a very worthwhile cause and I appreciate them giving up their weekends to participate and help make Essex a safer, greener and healthier place to live.”

## NAME THE GRITTERS UPDATE



Our name the Gritter competition ended just before Christmas, and we received some great names for our 15 new gritters.

Once all gritters have been named you can track them while they're out and about on our website

We have picked some of our favourites, but we still need your help. As you may have seen on our twitter feed, we have begun to post a series of polls so that you can chose your favourite gritter names.

If you haven't yet voted, head over to @essexhighways on twitter and have your say.



### SAFER / GREENER / HEALTHIER

Transforming travel in Essex

## TRAVEL HEALTHIER

The sustainable transport team has launched a Travel Healthier online campaign to encourage residents to consider cycling or walking for shorter journeys instead of jumping into the car. Both cycling and walking can be easier to fit into the daily routine than most other forms of exercise as they double up as transport to and from school, shops, work.

This follows the successful Travel Cheaper campaign which ran for six weeks before Christmas - and will be followed in the spring by a Travel Greener online campaign. [More information here.](#)



**SAFER / GREENER / HEALTHIER**

Transforming travel in Essex

**SAFER, GREENER, HEALTHIER REVIEW OF 2022**

Our aim is to make it as easy, safe and fun as possible for people in Essex to travel more sustainably - walking, cycling, e-scooting or taking the bus or train – especially for shorter journeys. Our vision is to deliver safer, greener and healthier travel for current and future users of the transport network in Essex.

Our ambition is to create a road environment that is SAFER, encouraging more residents to cycle or walk, especially for shorter journeys. We want to work up sustainable transport solutions to ensure

that Essex reduces carbon emissions and delivers long-term GREENER benefits. We also aspire to deliver long-term public health benefits so that our residents become HEALTHIER.

We'll do this by introducing, supporting and funding various projects across Essex which will encourage and make it easier for people to walk, cycle or scoot more, especially for shorter journeys. These include the introduction of new walking and cycle paths as part of the Active Travel Fund and trialling e-scooters.

<p><b>In 2022 we...</b></p>	<p>Made local roads safer by introducing 20mph zones in Colchester, Chelmsford and Braintree</p>	<p>Completed a new two-way cycle track, footway and shared use area within the Vineyard Street car park in Colchester</p>	<p>Have delivered over 5,300 Bikeability training sessions at schools across the county</p>
<p>Have given away 500 bikes as part of the Clacton-Jaywick Pedal Power project</p>	<p>Delivered an interactive air quality education programme for Year 5 pupils to 98 primary schools</p>	<p>Won the Outstanding Contribution to Community Rail Certificate of Excellence (The Essex and South Suffolk Community Rail Partnership)</p>	<p>Installed pencil bollards, street art and 20's Plenty signage in 3 healthy school street zones in Braintree, Brentwood and Colchester</p>
<p>Awarded approx £100k to cycling groups and charities to support cycling in Essex</p>	<p>Won the Best Community Engagement Programme award at ModeShift 2022 for our work with Essex Pedal Power</p>	<p>Continued to trial e-scooters with our commercial partner Tier - with around 800k rides taken in the last 12 months</p>	<p>Launched the first walking challenge with the GoJauntly app. 100k steps were taken during the 6-week challenge</p>

## ROUTINE REPAIRS: NOV/DEC 2022 AND TOTAL 2022

In Nov/Dec, we continued to repair carriageway and footway defects. When looking at these numbers, it is important to remember that repairs are prioritised by severity not by district, so numbers can vary considerably. Streetlights-fixed totals don't include the work being carried out in the LED upgrade programme. **Second table: complete totals for 2022.**

DISTRICT	COUNTY ROUTES	LOCAL ROADS	PAVEMENT DEFECTS FIXED	DRAINS CLEARED	STREETLIGHTS FIXED
BASILDON	113	59	250	96	245
BRAINTREE	81	113	63	1571	303
BRENTWOOD	37	91	27	3742	454
CASTLE POINT	29	61	14	0	351
CHELMSFORD	52	48	83	2851	430
COLCHESTER	77	107	42	0	286
EPPING FOREST	73	41	28	0	278
HARLOW	34	48	6	0	270
MALDON	23	29	54	1634	514
ROCHFORD	28	20	54	0	334
TENDRING	32	61	62	0	345
UTTLESFORD	65	50	24	0	415
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>644</b>	<b>728</b>	<b>707</b>	<b>9894</b>	<b>4225</b>

DISTRICT	POTHoles FIXED COUNTY ROUTES & LOCAL ROADS	PAVEMENT DEFECTS FIXED	DRAINS CLEARED	STREETLIGHTS FIXED
BASILDON	578	1259	12431	3342
BRAINTREE	888	224	1691	2834
BRENTWOOD	449	297	5124	1965
CASTLE POINT	367	260	12250	1966
CHELMSFORD	502	824	18825	2369
COLCHESTER	864	500	7461	3511
EPPING FOREST	641	456	11743	2585
HARLOW	268	167	12607	2907
MALDON	322	249	2503	1334
ROCHFORD	291	319	9396	1606
TENDRING	488	246	21543	3201
UTTLESFORD	606	128	2352	1806
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>6264</b>	<b>4929</b>	<b>117926</b>	<b>29426</b>