

HIGHWAYS HIGHLIGHTS

HELPFUL
TIPS AND
INFORMATION
FOR LOCAL
COUNCILLORS

ROAD SURFACING PASSES MILESTONES

So far this year, Essex Highways crews have resurfaced over 110 miles of road, the equivalent of travelling from Harlow to Harwich, via Epping, Brentwood, Basildon, Thundersley, Chelmsford, Maldon, Braintree and Colchester!

Our engineers use different techniques appropriate to the state and location of each road, varying from faster coverage using Surface Dressing ('binder and chips') which re-waterproofs the road and improves its skid resistance, through intensive microsurfacing finished by hand, to full 'inlay' resurfacing where heavy machines grind off the existing road surface and the crew then lay new asphalt.

Councillor Lee Scott, Cabinet Member for Highways Maintenance and Sustainable Transport, said: "This is good news for road users in Essex. Despite COVID-19 restrictions and tighter budgets, we've still managed to deliver so much of our road surfacing programme, with positive effects for years to come. Our engineers carefully inspect and record the condition of all our roads, and plan surfacing with the right technique according to how worn, how busy and how fast the road is.

"For example, if we use Surface Dressing at the right time we can efficiently future-proof long stretches of rural roads for years, preventing potholes forming. If we just stuck to fixing potholes, we would have thousands more and the repair costs would be prohibitive. In order to complete full resurfacing, we often work at night. We understand that night works can cause disturbance to sleeping residents, however, they are essential to allow longer working sessions to avoid peak traffic, helping the work to be completed quicker with minimal day-time delays."



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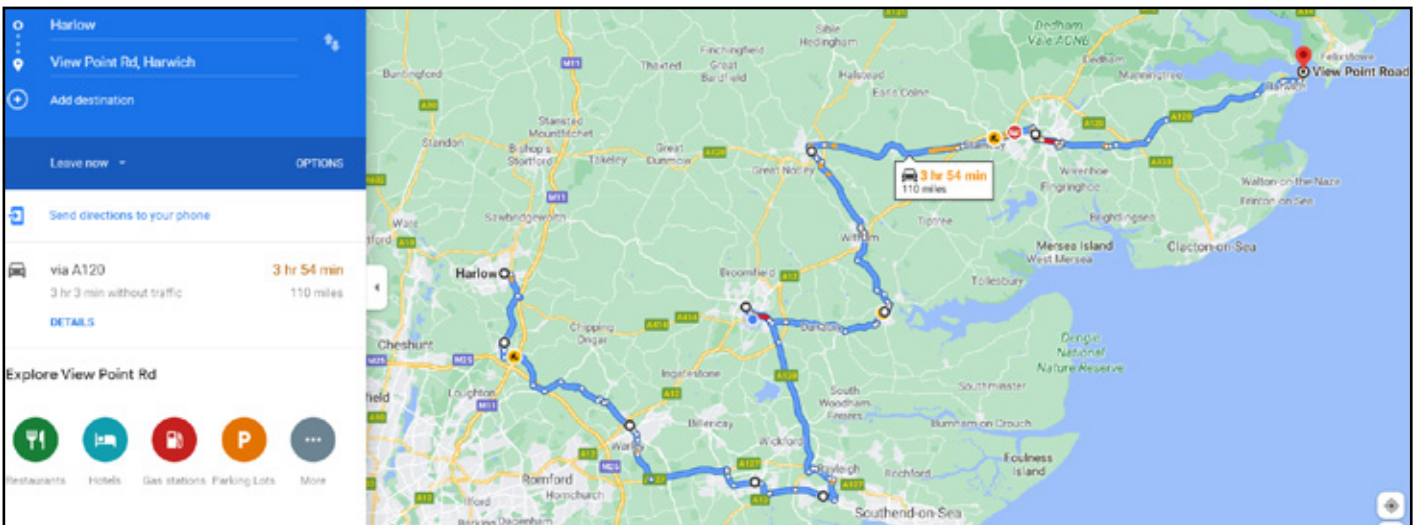
COMMENT - CLLR LEE SCOTT CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE AND SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT

Over the last few weeks, with only minor delays due to weather, work has taken place all over Essex and in many cases been completed. It is a mammoth task and my gratitude goes to the whole highways team for their efforts.

I have already visited many Divisions and will continue visits in September. I am trying to reply to all emails and enquiries as quickly as possible and will continue to do so. We are continuing to roll out our LED streetlight programme and on the whole this is being well received. Our consultations on Active Travel are now being reviewed and as you will all know, I have made a promise to take residents views into account. We are looking at a number of new ideas and over coming weeks and months will be bringing them forward. I would like to wish everyone a good Summer in these strange times we are living through.

Warmest Wishes, Lee.

ROAD SURFACING PASSES MILESTONES



We carry out surface dressing when a road surface is in reasonably good condition, but would last longer with some quick, overall improvement. The treatment can last up to ten years.

Our surface dressing programme is coming to an end with 84 miles worth of work on 59 road sections completed, using 1,300 tonnes of bitumen “binder” and 12,000 tonnes of stone chippings.

Micro-surfacing gives more durable results, but is more intensive and more expensive, putting a thin layer of new surface on the road. It takes longer to cover a given area than Surface Dressing but is used where roads are less busy (such as residential roads). So far, we’ve carried out over seven miles of micro-surfacing.

Full ‘inlay’ resurfacing is where the existing surface of a road is removed, and a completely new depth of surface is laid as a replacement. We use this treatment where the road is badly worn and takes heavy traffic. Crews have completed 14 miles using 30,000 tonnes of asphalt and we aim to resurface 31 miles before winter, a total of 65,000 tonnes of material. However, this type of surfacing is typically 4-5 times the price of surface dressing.

Surfacing programmes also include Joint Sealing and Fine Milling to restore concrete road surfaces, which is just starting now and Recycling from September.


More information about our Road Surfacing programme and to view upcoming works here



INNOVATION IN ACTION >

RECYCLED BOLLARDS

In the latest in our line of innovative trials, we're now testing plastic lights that are part of certain road signs.

Made of recycled (damaged) road bollards & other re-cycled plastics, the LED lights are supplied by **TMP Solutions**. Trees are planted in Madagascar to try to stem disastrous loss of native forests there, for all orders placed. We will assess their advantages to see if they are something we could use more widely in future years. [Find out more...](#) 



PROGRESS REPORT >

NEW JUNCTION 7A ON THE M11 AT HARLOW

This last period has seen the **M11 Junction 7A works in Harlow reach a major milestone with the installation of bridge beams to create the new overbridge which will ultimately support the new junction when it opens.**

The largest highways infrastructure project in the county for a number of years, the scheme, funded through ECC and HE, incorporates not just the new junction itself but also the creation of a new link road and widening of Gilden Way.

Welcoming the latest milestone, Cllr Lesley Wagland OBE, Cabinet Member for Economic Renewal, Infrastructure and Planning said: "I am delighted to see such excellent progress being made on this project. Working in collaboration with Highways England, this ambitious scheme will deliver huge improvements to Harlow's road network, which will benefit residents, businesses and visitors alike.

"It is one of many transport improvements that Essex County Council is currently working on across our

county, as we make sure that the ways we connect residents and businesses fully support the growth of our economy and provide for our housing needs now and in the future".

Paul Crick, Director for Performance Investment and Delivery at Essex County Council added: "Despite the challenges presented by Covid-19, J7A remains on schedule, with work progressing on each section of the scheme.

"The new junction is a key example of where investment into strategic infrastructure can support wider objectives, such as in this case relieving traffic elsewhere in Harlow, reducing traffic in nearby villages, supporting business and housing growth, and facilitating the potential relocation of the local hospital."

The Junction 7A scheme is due to be completed in 2022. **For more information and to see progress videos, maps, plans and other documents, click here.**



SAFER
GREENER
HEALTHIER

Transforming travel in Essex

**E-SCOOTER
TRIALS ARE
SPINNING
BEHAVIOUR
CHANGE
IN ESSEX
RESIDENTS**



Our very own ECC Head of Sustainable Transport, Tracey Vickers, took part in a recent Spin e-scooter safety training event.

This was the second of three events taking place in Chelmsford, Colchester and Basildon over the summer months. Chelmsford recently reached a milestone - 75k rides since launch earlier in the year with both Basildon and Colchester heading rapidly towards the 100k mark.

Spin recently published their Travel Behaviour Survey which revealed that 82% of respondents opted to ride an e-scooter instead of driving alone at least once. Behaviour change in action!



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Transforming travel in Essex

**LOVE
WALKING?
DISCOVER
ESSEX
ON GO
JAUNTLY...**

Walking app 'Go Jauntly' has recently launched 45 self-guided walks in and around the county to promote leisure walks and sustainable tourism in Essex.

The 60 free new routes were created in partnership with Essex County Council, Visit Essex, Essex Highways, The Colchester Orbital & Walk Colchester, as well as the borough and district councils of Basildon, Braintree, Castle Point, Chelmsford, Colchester, Maldon, Rochford, Southend-on-Sea, Tendring and Uttlesford.

They feature a diverse range of trails, from coast to countryside, railways to riversides, showcasing the landscapes, green space, heritage and architecture that Essex has to offer.

From self-led active travel walks to leisure routes that make walking a way of life, check out the vast range of the beautiful trails in this partnership.



NEW DYNAMIC NATURE WALKS FEATURE ON IOS AND ANDROID: FIND THE GREENEST ROUTES FOR YOU, WHEREVER YOU ARE. [CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE.](#)

go jauntly ABOUT BEST WALKS WALKS NEARBY NATURE NOTES PARTNERSHIPS BLOG DOWNLOAD

Discover Essex on Go Jauntly

Essex County Council have teamed up with our walking crew at Go Jauntly to showcase the landscapes, green space, coastal paths, heritage and architecture that Essex has to offer.

There are over 60 free new routes to explore created in partnership with the borough and district councils of Basildon, Braintree, Castle Point, Chelmsford, Colchester, Maldon, Rochford, Southend-on-Sea, Tendring and Uttlesford.

From self-led active travel walks to leisure routes that make walking a way of life, check out the vast range of the beautiful trails in this partnership.

You can read about the different projects and their routes below, explore all of the walks [here](#), or jump in-app now to get going!



The Essex Coast
Head out on the coastal path to dive into the range of habitats that are supported along Essex's west coastline. Brush up on your local history while doing a spot of bird watching, from the North Sea to the Thames Estuary. Discover this hidden gem less than an hour's drive from London.
[Read more](#)



Safer Greener Healthier Walking Routes
Boost your mental and physical health by ditching the car and exploring the county on foot. Covering local nature reserves, parks and the coast, these long scenic routes and accessible short walks really provide the everyday wow factor. Many are accessible via public transport.
[Read more](#)



Railway Walks
Beat the commute with one of these walks. You can start and end your jaunt at one of Essex's railway stations. Created in partnership with Essex & South Suffolk Community Rail Partnership.
[Read more](#)



Colchester Orbital
Take on the 14 mile challenge or dip into the different sections of this lush circular route around Colchester.
[Read more](#)

ROUTINE REPAIRS DURING JUNE 2021

In June we continued to clear out drains on local roads. Road drains are cleaned on an annual cycle, district by district. We also cleared 202 drains on the A127 in addition to the figures listed below.

DISTRICT	COUNTY ROUTES	LOCAL ROADS	PAVEMENT DEFECTS FIXED	DRAINS CLEARED	STREETLIGHTS FIXED
BASILDON	68	45	78	1404	1093
BRAINTREE	56	29	52	1198	477
BRENTWOOD	10	12	13	0	287
CASTLE POINT	7	59	57	0	237
CHELMSFORD	28	27	11	0	503
COLCHESTER	8	32	18	231	411
EPPING FOREST	39	26	35	1834	532
HARLOW	13	32	22	0	544
MALDON	33	22	16	1584	109
ROCHFORD	14	11	2	1152	220
TENDRING	19	24	26	1489	291
UTTLESFORD	27	15	12	0	243
TOTALS	322	276	342	8892	5149

TRY OUT TWITTER FOR TRAVEL, TRANSPORT HIGHWAYS AND ROAD SAFETY UPDATES



Twitter user? You should be – there are several twitter accounts very helpful to people living and working and therefore travelling in our great county. Why not follow one or all of them?:

[@essexhighways](https://twitter.com/essexhighways) for general Essex highways news, progress and information

[@Essex_Travel](https://twitter.com/Essex_Travel) for live Essex traffic updates from Monday to Saturday

[@SGH_Essex](https://twitter.com/SGH_Essex) for safer, greener, healthier travel developments and ideas in Essex

[@SERPCycling](https://twitter.com/SERPCycling) for bicycle safety training and [@SaferEssexRoads](https://twitter.com/SaferEssexRoads) for general Essex road safety matters.

For travel updates on the strategic roads in Essex like the A12, A120 and M11, follow [@highwaysEAST](https://twitter.com/highwaysEAST), and [@EPRoadsPolicing](https://twitter.com/EPRoadsPolicing) is good for roads enforcement news.

Last but not least, [@Essex_pt](https://twitter.com/Essex_pt) (Essex Passenger Transport) issues useful bus and other transport updates.