

REPORT BY NEW ESSEX COUNTY COUNCILLOR NATHAN ROBINS AT THE PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING ON 7 JULY 2026

Highways and the Pothole Emergency

One of the first priorities of the new Essex County Council administration was tackling the condition of our roads.

Following the declaration of a **Pothole Emergency**, investment has been made into highway maintenance. This has enabled the number of dedicated repair gangs to be increased so that every district now has its own dedicated crew. Alongside reactive pothole repairs, Essex Highways continues to deliver resurfacing programmes and more permanent repairs where appropriate.

Locally, I continue to report highway defects across the division and regularly follow up outstanding issues with Essex Highways to help ensure repairs are progressed as quickly as possible.

I would encourage parish councils and residents to report defects directly using Essex Highways' online **Report It** service. Reporting issues through the online system creates a unique reference number, ensuring the defect is formally logged and allowing both you and me to track its progress. If you would like me to follow up a report on your behalf, please send me the reference number, and I will be happy to pursue it with the relevant officers.

Local Highway and Community Issues

During the past month I have continued working with residents and parish councils on a range of matters, including:

- Potholes and carriageway defects.
- Drainage and flooding concerns.
- Overgrown vegetation affecting highway safety.
- Public Rights of Way enquiries.
- Road safety concerns.
- Requests for resurfacing and other highway improvements.
- Liaison with Essex Highways and other County Council officers to progress local issues.

I remain committed to working with parish councils to resolve local concerns and welcome any county council matters you wish to raise.

Local Government Reorganisation

The Government continues to progress proposals for Local Government Reorganisation across Essex.

Essex County Council has now resolved to pursue a legal challenge in relation to the Government's proposals, and legal proceedings have commenced. The Council's position is that the challenge seeks to ensure any reorganisation is carried out lawfully, with proper consideration given to the interests of Essex residents, local communities and the delivery of public services and financial responsibility

I will continue to keep parish councils informed as further developments arise.

Essex County Council's 100-Day Plan

Essex County Council has recently published its **100-Day Plan – "Reforming Essex"**, setting out the administration's priorities for its first 100 days in office.

The plan focuses on delivering practical improvements for residents, including investing an additional **£7.5 million** in highway repairs following the declaration of a Pothole Emergency, reducing unnecessary spending, improving services for children and families, supporting economic growth, opposing the Government's Local Government Reorganisation proposals, increasing support for veterans, promoting Essex as a place to live, work and invest, and introducing a **Pride in Place Clean Up Fund** to help parish and district councils improve streets, parks and public spaces.

The 100-Day Plan provides a clear overview of the administration's priorities and the actions being taken to deliver on the commitments made to residents.

Parish councils and residents who would like to read the full document can find it on Essex County Council's website under "**100 Days to kick start change and reform for Essex**".

[Read the 100-Day Plan](#)

Delivering Value for Residents

Essex County Council is continuing to review spending to ensure taxpayers' money is focused on delivering efficient frontline services and providing value for residents across the county.