

## **Report by Cllr Derrick Louis, Essex County Council Member for Witham Southern**

### **1. Hoe Mill Bridge**

Work took place this week to install permanent bollards.



### **2. Serious accident on the corner of Maldon Road and Jenkins Lane**

I have submitted a Local Highways Panel request to look into any further action that can be taken to reduce Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs) at this site.

Having also raised the issue of the missing 30MPH sign, I had confirmation this week that this will be replaced.

### **3. New Member-Led Pothole Initiative**

Hatfield Peverel Parish Council made a submission for potholes to be repaired at the following locations:

- Maldon Road
- Junction of The Street and Maldon Road

These have now been forwarded to Highways.

### **4. Member Locality Fund**

Essex County Council has made £10,000 available to each County Councillor for the benefit of their Division.

### **What the money can be spent on:**

Money must be spent in a way which benefits the division. There are three main ways of spending it:

- making a grant to a registered charity, a parish council or a properly constituted community or voluntary association for the purposes of a specific service or project in the Division;
- buying goods or services; or
- commissioning services from ECC.

### **What the money cannot be spent on:**

- an organisation in which the Councillor is involved, unless the Leader agrees otherwise and makes a formal decision to that effect;
- an organisation which is political or undertakes any political campaigning activity or on a councillor's constituency business;
- anything which has a significant ongoing maintenance or support liability which ECC would be required or expected to bear – unless there is a separate agreement to bear the cost with funding identified;
- anything which benefits a particular individual, business or 'for profit' organisation;
- any organisation which does not operate on an inclusive basis – services must be available to the community without discrimination (recognising that some services are only useful to certain groups);
- any organisation which has previously misused public money;
- anything which is unlawful

### **I have received the following proposals:**

#### **Hatfield Peverel Parish Council**

- 2 community defibrillators -£2800
- Pond refurbishment – £1200

#### **Hatfield Peverel Scout Group**

- Contribution to Scout Hut refurbishment works - £3000

I am happy to receive other proposals – please send these to me at:  
[cllr.Derrick.Louis@essex.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.Derrick.Louis@essex.gov.uk) by the end of October.

### **5. Registration Opens for New Essex Residents' Panel**

Essex residents, aged 18 and over, are invited to join a new residents' panel to share their views and opinions on a variety of local issues.

The panel, which will be run by Essex County Council, will ask residents about a wide range of issues which could include surveys on education, travel, the environment, mental and physical health, local services and amenities.

Panel members are unpaid but there may be prize draws as an incentive and thank you for taking part. Most of the panel's research will be conducted online and there will be a maximum of one survey per month to complete. Panel members will not be obliged to take part in any of the surveys although they will be encouraged to complete as many as possible.

To become a panel member or for more information visit [www.essex.gov.uk/get-involved/join-our-residents-panel](http://www.essex.gov.uk/get-involved/join-our-residents-panel)

## **6. Better Health Greater Essex campaign launched**

A new campaign was on Tuesday 22 September, aiming to support Essex residents to get moving and get healthy, to prevent serious illness from a second wave of coronavirus.

The Better Health Greater Essex campaign, run by Active Essex and Essex County Council (ECC), offers a wealth of ideas and resources at [www.activeessex.org/better-health/](http://www.activeessex.org/better-health/) to inspire people to kick start and maintain a healthier lifestyle.

It builds on the national Better Health campaign by providing local and targeted help to those most at risk from coronavirus and other health conditions in Essex, Southend and Thurrock.

The launch coincides with the inaugural Great British Week of Sport which runs from 19 to 27 September and Healthy Eating Week next week (28 September to 4 October).

Better Health Greater Essex offers:

- simple activities to do [outside](#)
- over 200 Keep Essex Active workout and gentle exercise [videos](#) to follow
- ideas on how to get active from the comfort of your own [home](#)
- tips on taking care of your [wellbeing](#)
- weight management support with [ACE](#) (Essex) [Everyone Health](#) (Southend) and [Thurrock Healthy Lifestyle Service](#) (See notes for further details).

## **7. Green Homes Grants**

Homeowners and landlords in England can apply for a voucher towards the cost of installing energy efficient and low-carbon heating improvements to homes, which could help save up to £600 a year on energy bills.

The government will provide a voucher that covers up to two thirds of the cost of qualifying improvements to your home. The maximum value of the voucher is £5,000. You may be able to receive a higher level of subsidy if you are a homeowner

and either you or a member of your household receives one of the qualifying means-tested benefits, covering 100% of the cost of the improvements. The maximum value of these vouchers is £10,000. Landlords cannot apply for the low-income part of the scheme.

Local Authorities will also be making support available for low income households in their local area through the Green Homes Grant: Local Authority Delivery. More information on participating Local Authorities will be made available on GOV.UK in due course.

<https://www.simpleenergyadvice.org.uk/pages/green-homes-grant>

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**If any Cllr requires help or advice, please don't hesitate to contact me on 07967 830277 or [cllr.Derrick.Louis@essex.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.Derrick.Louis@essex.gov.uk)**