

### **Local Highways Panel (LHP) refresh**

LHPs have suffered from over-demand, delayed delivery, and inappropriate requests, which have hindered their original goals. Consequently, a review of their purpose and operation has been launched with an outcome that refreshes the approach. The main change is that the 12 divisional LHPs will address lower cost schemes that have an immediate impact, and will refer larger long term schemes to a “Chairmans panel”. This will be enhanced by a commitment to undertake scheme validations within 4 weeks of submission. This validation process will prioritise schemes according to addressing known safety issues, improvements to safety, sustainable transport goals, local support, environmental improvements, affordability, and deliverability. It means that the limited LHP funds will be focussed on these priorities! Schemes currently in the funding queue will be re-assessed (validated and prioritised) according to these criteria.

Where PCs are able to fund schemes, they will still need to progress through the validation process first, but I hope that this will be quicker and enable PCs to fund such schemes in a shorter timeframe.

I am a member of the funding sub-group which recommend schemes for funding over the next year. We met on 3<sup>rd</sup> April and produced a number of recommendations which include some from my division. These need to be ratified at the full Chelmsford LHP meeting 10<sup>th</sup> April.

### **Member Led Highway Defect Repairs**

I stated previously that there will be a new scheme starting April 2024, but this will be expanded and include pavements and other defects. It is being funded by an £8M grant from Central Govt which has to be spread over 75 ECC divisions. Effectively, I get to direct the extra Chelmsford team for 4 weeks over the year. Having been selected as a Cllr to initiate the scheme, I have been collecting defects from my PCs and residents and have submitted the following for the first batch. As this is a new scheme, I do not know if all of these can be done in the first batch! For future batches, I need location (What3words and Highways Track-It ref) and photo.

#### **Carriageway Defects**

- 1 Writtle – junction of Lodge Road and St John’s Road
- 2 Writtle outside funeral directors, opposite Rose and Crown
- 3 Writtle St Johns Road
- 4 Writtle - Ongar Road (119) between Longmeads Close and Redwood Drive
- 5 Writtle – outside fish and chips shop – drain surround
- 6 Great Waltham Great Waltham Junction Bury Lane/Mashbury Road/Barrack Lane
- 7 Main Road, Broomfield - drain and island
- 8 Highwood The Street
- 9 Roxwell Vicarage Road and The Street

- 10 Howe Street Mill Cottage, which is next door to Mill House
- 11 Little Waltham On Cranham Road Opposite Domsey Lane turning
- 12 Great Waltham road to Brook Mead
- 13 Pleshey Road The entire length of Pleshey Road, from the junction near Dropshots to Walthambury Farm,

### **Pavements**

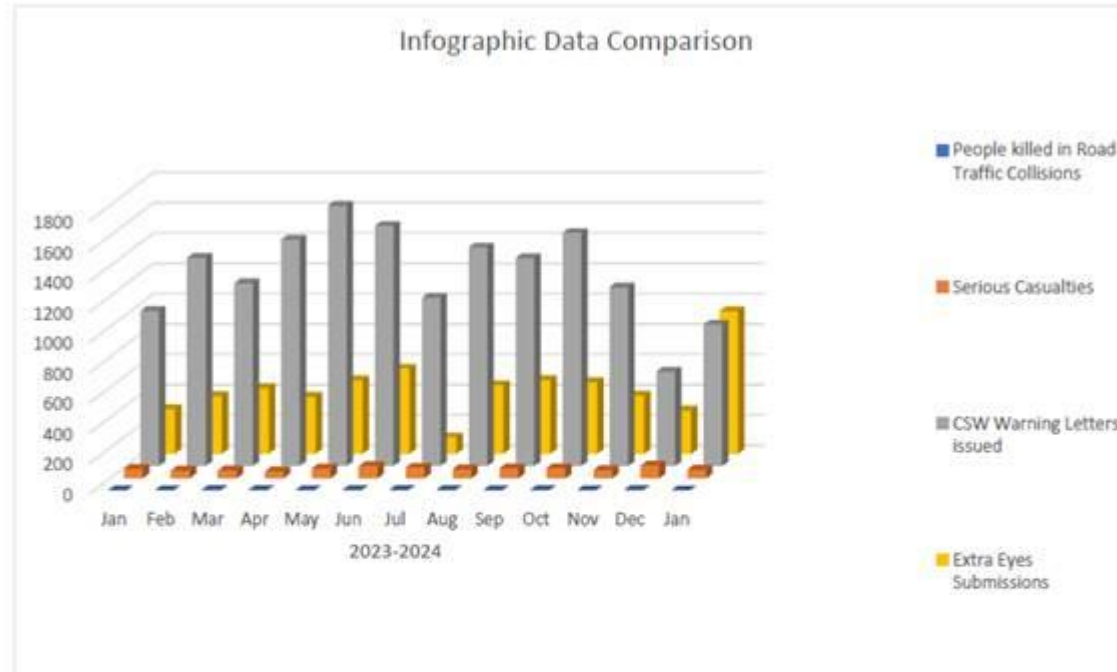
- 1 Broomfield Berwick Avenue in front of drive of 14 Berwick Avenue CM1 4AS
- 2 Great Waltham South Street
- 3 Great Waltham Chelmsford Road – on West side
- 4 Broomfield Erick Avenue, Chelmsford
- 5 Broomfield Erick Avenue, Chelmsford

### **Woolmers Mead Drainage.**

#### **Drainage issue on Grange Road**

I don't have an update since the last meeting, but have chased for one. If I get one before the PC meeting, I will forward.

## Infographic Comparison Data:



|                            | Jan  | Feb  | Mar  | Apr  | May  | Jun  | Jul  | Aug  | Sep  | Oct  | Nov  | Dec | Jan |
|----------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-----|-----|
| People killed in RTC's     | 2    | 2    | 5    | 4    | 3    | 4    | 5    | 4    | 3    | 4    | 2    | 4   | 0   |
| Serious Casualties         | 63   | 51   | 52   | 45   | 65   | 81   | 70   | 60   | 66   | 67   | 54   | 83  | 57  |
| CSW Warning Letters Issued | 1023 | 1374 | 1205 | 1493 | 1717 | 1584 | 1109 | 1442 | 1371 | 1538 | 1179 | 623 | 933 |
| Extra Eyes Submissions     | 295  | 381  | 433  | 376  | 485  | 563  | 109  | 453  | 487  | 472  | 384  | 286 | 941 |

### **Road collision data for Essex: Casualty Reduction Initiatives:**

The ECC Highways Casualty Reduction Team react to reports of serious injuries and fatalities on the roads.

In my division, there have been 2 investigations:

- A131 Braintree Rd Rabout - Gt Leighs / Goodmans Ln
- B1008 Braintree Rd / The Street - Little Waltham

#### **B1008 Blasford Hill/The Street, Little Waltham**

##### Intervention works:

Vegetation clearance to restore visibility splays at junction.

Review and enhance existing 'Junction ahead' warning signs on B1008.

Review and refresh/enhance road markings on B1008.

##### Principle:

There have been 3 injury collisions recorded at this junction in the review period; each collision involved a car turning right out from The Street across the path of a Chelmsford-bound vehicle. These three collisions resulted in 1x serious injury and 4x slight injury casualties.

Visibility for road users turning right from the side road is somewhat impeded by vegetation/encroachment

I also raised the issue of turning right towards Great Waltham when the vegetation isn't cut back and received a commitment to get involved if I had any issues with keeping the grass to a reasonable height so vehicles can see the oncoming traffic.

#### **A131 Deres Bridge roundabout, Great Leighs**

##### Intervention works:

Review and refresh/enhance existing road markings on northbound approach/transit and around the roundabout circulatory, including lane arrows (ahead) on both exit lanes to A131 northbound.

Review lane destination signs on northbound approach to roundabout.

##### Principle:

There have been 3x serious injury collisions in the review period, all involving motorcyclists travelling north across the roundabout to the A131 dual carriageway. Two of these incidents involved 'side swipe' or poor lane discipline/lane-change conflict with other vehicles negotiating the roundabout.

#### **£100,000 announced for community safety projects in Essex**

Essex County Council has announced £100,000 funding to improve public safety across the county.

From 10am on 25 March local groups will be able to apply for a grant from the council's new Community Safety Initiatives Fund. The fund aims to improve the safety of residents and address violence and vulnerability.

Grants will be awarded to local groups for projects or initiatives within their own communities. The benefit of

allocating the fund this way is that these groups have the community links and local knowledge. This means the funding will be used in the best way to benefit communities. Grants from £500 up to £2,000 will be available.

The fund will be open to:

- voluntary and community organisations
- registered charities
- charitable incorporated organisations (CIO)
- not-for-profit companies limited by guarantee
- community interest companies (CIC)
- town, parish, or community councils

Groups will need to demonstrate that their projects will improve or promote public safety in their local community. The full criteria is available on application but projects will be considered that:

- prevent crime or reduce anti-social behaviour. For example, improving home or personal safety or tackling crime in rural areas
- physically improve anti-social behaviour hotspots
- help improve safety in the night-time economy
- prevent people becoming involved with criminal behaviour or anti-social behaviour
- support local communities and encourage volunteering
- support community events for over 250 people

**Cllr Mike Steel**

**Member for Broomfield & Writtle**

**Tel: 01245 360918**

**Email: [cllr.mike.steel@essex.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.mike.steel@essex.gov.uk)**

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