

MALDON DIVISION MONTHLY UPDATE– COUNCILLOR JANE FLEMING

FIRST TRAIN STATION ON GREAT EASTERN MAIN LINE FOR 100 YEARS ON TRACK

Beaulieu Park station is one of the capital projects Essex County Council has committed to supporting as part of its [budget for 2024/25](#).

As the first railway station on the Great Eastern mainline in over 100 years, it will relieve pressure at Chelmsford train station and reduce car journeys into the city. This will in turn reduce congestion and pollution on local roads.

The station will provide travel to London Liverpool Street in 40 minutes and sport three platforms, along with car parking, a public transport interchange, cycle facilities and a new track for passing trains.

It is being funded by a £172 million package. This includes £131.5 million from the government's Housing Infrastructure Fund, £12 million from the South East Local Enterprise Partnership, £22 million from developers Countryside and L&Q and up to £7.5 million from Essex County Council.

Connected transport links like the new Beaulieu Parkway relief road and North East Bypass will play significant roles in facilitating seamless travel around Chelmsford.

The station is also an important addition to the Beaulieu and Channels neighbourhoods north of Chelmsford, which form the first phase of the new Chelmsford Garden Community.

ARMY & NAVY JUNCTION



£81 million Army and Navy Sustainable Transport Package includes walking, cycling, bus and Park and Ride improvements to encourage safer, greener and healthier travel.

Residents have been given a glimpse of final plans to transform a vital gateway in Chelmsford after Essex County Council released a series of computer-generated images.

The proposed Army and Navy Sustainable Transport Package includes a hamburger roundabout (a new roundabout with a road through the centre of it) at the Army and Navy junction in Chelmsford.

It also includes bus priority measures and walking and cycling improvements at the junction itself and on the approaches to and from the roundabout.

Essex County Council has worked closely with partners and the local community to develop its proposals, with the hamburger roundabout residents' preferred option during public consultation.

Having now developed the plans in more detail, the latest visualisations show how the area will look once the scheme is constructed. The images have been published to coincide with planning applications being submitted for the project.

The Army and Navy Sustainable Transport Package will also see a 350-space expansion of Sandon Park and Ride and a 500-space expansion of Chelmer Valley Park and Ride.

In October last year, the Department for Transport confirmed the outline business case for the project had been approved and Essex County Council would be awarded £68.75million of Major Road Network (MRN) funding, subject to planning consent, a full business case and certain conditions being met.

The £81 million project is also being part funded by Essex County Council and Chelmsford City Council.

Based on calculations made for the outline business case, average journey times through the Army and Navy junction once the scheme is in place are modelled to be 44% quicker for cyclists, 40% for buses, 53% for motorised vehicles and 11% quicker for people walking through the junction at ground level.

Three separate planning applications – one for the Army and Navy junction and one each for the Park and Ride expansions – have been submitted for the project, with decisions on the applications anticipated in the Spring based on statutory timeframes.

As part of the planning process, people will have a 21-day period to comment on the applications.

The plans can be accessed via the Essex County Council planning website at:
<https://planning.essex.gov.uk/>.

For more information about the Army and Navy Sustainable Transport Package and to sign up for the project e-newsletter, please visit www.essex.gov.uk/armyandnavy.

POTHOLE REPAIRS DOUBLE ACROSS ESSEX

Significant funding from Essex County Council has resulted in 90% more pothole repairs across the county.

Nearly double the number potholes were repaired across Essex in the last year following significant investment from Essex County Council.

11,949 potholes were transformed from road hazards to smooth surfaces by Essex Highways in 2023 – a 90% increase from 6,280 pothole repairs in 2022.

The increase was made possible by £17.4 million of additional funding for Essex Highways by the council. This included an extra £5.4 million for pothole repairs from the Department for Transport.

The funding meant Essex Highways could hire 11 more crews to carry out significantly more pothole repairs across the county in 2023.

Residents are encouraged to [report potholes to Essex Highways online](#), where all defects are assessed by an inspector. Or, when there is risk to public safety, by calling 0345 603 763.

CAREERS IN ADULT SOCIAL CARE

You can make a positive difference to people's lives with a new career in Adult Social Care. With ongoing support from a friendly and passionate team from the start. You can help others and gain invaluable skills to take your career further.

[Apply for a job in Adult Social Care](#) and a rewarding future awaits.

DISCOVER ACCESSIBLE APPRENTICESHIPS

Apprenticeships embrace inclusivity by offering a pathway to success for individuals from diverse backgrounds. Individuals who have held an Educational Health Care Plan, LDA statement or a statement of need, are eligible for an Accessible Apprenticeship.

For more information about Accessible Apprenticeships email work.placements@essex.gov.uk

SKILLS BOOTCAMP

Anyone over the age of 19-years-old can launch their career with a 12-week skills bootcamp course. Skills bootcamps are free courses that provide you with the opportunity to build valuable sector specific skills.

Once you've completed the course and gained your qualification, you will be offered a job interview with an employer. Courses in February include, digital marketing, project management (construction) and early years. [Find out more about skills bootcamps](#) online.

SOLAR TOGETHER

Solar Together is a group-buying scheme that helps you through the process of purchasing high-quality solar panels. Registering is easy and uses the power of the group to get a competitive quote. So far, the scheme has delivered 2,227 installations and avoided over 1,980 tonnes of carbon emissions annually in the county.

Having your own solar panels can reduce your energy bills and environmental impact. [Register for Solar Together](#) for free and with no obligation to buy.

REGISTER FOR THE CARBON CUTTING APP

Take action on climate change and [register for Carbon Cutting Essex](#). The free platform rewards you with points which can be used to enter prize draws and receive discounts on fantastic sustainability products.

You can also use your points to make a donation to a good cause. Join thousands of users today in pledging to protect the future of our planet.

ADVICE FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES

The Essex Local Offer is an invaluable source of advice and guidance for children and young people with SEND up to the age of 25-years-old. The Essex Local Offer website can help young people with SEND find the right type of training and work. It can also help with finding the right support to learn new skills and become independent. [Find available support for young people with SEND](#) on the Essex Local Offer website.

NEW TRAVEL ESSEX WEBSITE IS LAUNCHED

Developed with our Transport Providers, Essex County Council are pleased to introduce the new [Travel Essex website](#). Users can now plan their journeys and track buses in real time with the live bus map.

REGISTER FOR RIDE LONDON-ESSEX

In May Ford Ride London-Essex returns. The route will again start in Westminster, before taking riders out of the capital and into Essex. It will then pass through some of the county's most picturesque towns, villages and countryside before finishing at the iconic Tower Bridge. [Enter the 2024 Ford Ride London-Essex 100](#) today.

ESSEX MULTIPLY

Have a rocky relationship with numbers? Multiply can help you advance your career, help your child with homework, manage your money or gain confidence in working with numbers. Courses are offered in bite-sized or longer formats, online or in-person. [Find your perfect Multiply match.](#)

BACKING ESSEX BUSINESS

There is free support available to help you launch or grow your business. Whatever your size, sector or location, you can find bespoke and impartial advice. [Backing Essex Business](#) offer 1-2-1 calls, group sessions and events. The [BEST Growth Hub](#) is a one-stop shop, signposting for businesses across Greater Essex.

CHILD MINDER START UP GRANT

If you're considering starting a career in childminding, you may be eligible for a start-up grant. The one-off payment can help with the cost of setting up as a childminder. Find out more about the [childminder start-up grant](#).