**Freedom of Information Act / Environmental Information Regulations Request**

Reference: ECC13711208 11 22  
Response: 01/12/2022

I can confirm that Essex County Council does hold some of this information, and where we are able to release this, our response is listed below.

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information relating to highway drainage maintenance.

**Question 1 -** Please can you provide the number of highway drainage assets under your responsibility? If available, can you split the information by type (e.g. gullies, chambers, ditches etc.)?

1. Could you also provide information about the number of gullies cleaned per year for the last 3 available years?
2. If available, please could you provide the number of blocked drainage assets for the last 3 years?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Assets | Quantity |
| Carriageway | 254,079 |
| Footway | 2,623 |
| Catchpit | 55,199 |
| kerb inlet | 21,341 |
| combined drainage kerb systems | 215 |
| TOTAL | 333,457 |

Ditches are generally in the ownership of adjacent landowners and a not recorded on our drainage asset register.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Year | Defects Raised |
| 2019/20 | 12193 |
| 2020/21 | 21205 |
| 2021/22 | 14955 |

**Question 2 -** Please can you provide your highway drainage budget for the last 3 years

1. Does this budget only cover gully cleaning, or does it also include other services such as relining, emergency jetting, CCTV surveys?
2. If not, please include budgets and actual expenditure for these additional services over the last 3 years

**Question 3 -** Can you please provide your actual expenditure on drainage over the last 3 years, if available

Please see table below that sets out the revenue expenditure on drainage from 2019/20 to 2021/22 and the budgeted amounts as well. These figures **exclude** additional spend on capital repairs to drainage defects. Due to the ways we record this work alongside other repairs it is not possible to report the element that solely relates to drainage.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 2019/20 £000 | | 2020/21 £000 | 2021/22 £000 | |
| Latest Budget | 2,565 | 2,188 | | | 2,529 |
| Actual Expenditure | 2,148 | 2,628 | | | 2,400 |

**Question 4 -** Are highway drainage services provided in-house by the council? If so, how many employees do you use for this?

1. If outsourced, are they outsourced directly to a drainage contractor or are they managed as part of a wider highway maintenance contract?

Services are not provided in-house. They are managed as part of the highways contract with Ringway Jacobs

**Question 5 -** In the case of a highway maintenance contract, please could you provide the following information:

1. Number and description of lots
2. The current provider(s)
3. The start date and duration
4. Current contract value total
5. Previous contract value
6. N/A
7. Ringway Jacobs
8. 1st April 2012, for 15 years
9. up to £3Bn over life on contract
10. Information not held

**Question 6 -** If available, would you be able to provide number of flooding incidents on highways in your area historically and any classification on severity

Please see table below which shows the number of standing water defects raised.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Year | Standing Water defect raised |
| 2019/20 | 360 |
| 2020/21 | 393 |
| 2021/22 | 162 |

**Your Right to Know**

Democracy and Transparency

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