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

Reference: ECC17621622 11 24
Response: 03 December 2024

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

Please provide the following information:

**Question 1 -** The last three years data on the number of reports of pot holes and number of repairs on Cowdray Avenue junction with Mason Road, Colchester.

Copies of the last three years inspection reports that cover the Cowdray Avenue/Mason Road junction, Colchester. I understand that inspections on this road are carried out monthly.

Please see the attached site history report for the entire length of Cowdray Avenue, which includes defects identified during inspections and their associated risk assessment details, customer service enquiries as well as the maintenance history.

As shown on the site history report monthly driven safety inspections are carried out, these are in accordance with **Highway Maintenance Policy and General Principles** and our **Maintenance & Inspections Strategies** which are publicly available online [www.essexhighways.org/roads-strategies#maintenance](http://www.essexhighways.org/roads-strategies#maintenance).

Please see page 9 of the **Maintenance & Inspections: Carriageways, Footways and Cycleways** document that is publicly available online [www.essexhighways.org/roads-strategies#maintenance](http://www.essexhighways.org/roads-strategies#maintenance).

Our current **Highway Maintenance Policy and General Principles** and our **Maintenance & Inspections Strategies** are publicly available online [www.essexhighways.org/roads-strategies.aspx#maintenance](http://www.essexhighways.org/roads-strategies.aspx#maintenance).

Details of how inspectors risk assess and prioritise highway issues can also be found on our public web site at [www.essexhighways.org/how-we-prioritise-highway-issues](http://www.essexhighways.org/how-we-prioritise-highway-issues).

You will notice that some information has been withheld (redacted) this is due to an exception in the Environmental Information Regulations.

The exception applicable to the information is:

**EIR Regulation 12(3) & Regulation 13** - Personal data of third parties is exempt if disclosure would breach the principles of the Data Protection Act 2018. We believe that providing you with the information would breach the following Data Protection principles:

* Data shall be fairly, lawfully and transparently processed
* Data shall be collected for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes and not further processed in a manner that is incompatible with those purposes

We are applying this exemption because

1. we do not have the consent of the person who is the subject of the information to disclose it to you,
2. disclosure does not meet any of the Article 6 or 9 conditions that would make it “necessary”, and
3. disclosure of the information to you would not be connected to the purpose for which we have collected and are holding the information.

We further believe that the release of the requested information would cause unwarranted interference to the rights and freedoms and legitimate interests of the data subject(s). Such a disclosure would in our view constitute a breach of Article 8 in the Human Rights Act (the right to privacy and family life).

**Your Right to Know**

Democracy and Transparency

Essex County Council

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