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

Reference: ECC18504328 05 25  
Response: 05 June 2025

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act relating to a road your authority is responsible for maintaining.

Specifically, my query relates to Lower Sheering Road, Sawbridgeworth.

Please can you send me:

**Question 1 -** A copy of your current road maintenance policy relating to that road. Please send me the full policy, but this should include details of the intended frequency of road safety inspections, how these inspections should be conducted and the maximum time between identification of a defect and repairs being carried out.

**Question 2 -** A copy of the road repair history for that road over the past year. Again, please send me the full road repair history, but this should include:

• dates of all safety inspections between 14th November 2024 and 14th January 2025

• details of how safety inspections were undertaken (walked or driven, speed of inspection vehicle etc)

• details of all carriageway defects identified, with description, date and time

• details of how the authority handled these defects, what repairs were undertaken and the time between the identification of each defect and a repair being carried out.

I can confirm that Essex County Council does not hold information relating to Lower Sheering Road, Sawbridgeworth as there is no road of this name. Sawbridgeworth is also a town and civil parish in the county of Hertfordshire. However, as your recent claim relates to Sheering Lower Road, Sheering, Harlow, Essex we have provided the site history relevant to your claim. The road maybe known locally by another name.

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).

Please see the attached site history report, which includes defects identified during inspections and their associated risk assessment detailsChoose an item. as well as the maintenance history.

As shown on the site history report Choose an item. 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).

**Your Right to Know**

Democracy and Transparency

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