

29 June 2020

Dear Colleague

## Publication of new Essex County Council covid-19 Recovery Transport Plan

I hope you are well in these troubling times.

I am writing today to let you know that this week Essex County Council is publishing its 'Covid-19 Recovery Transport Plan'. The main document is online to read; accompanying this letter is a shorter Executive Summary for your information.

In the face of the coronavirus pandemic and its widespread negative effects on Essex and the wider world, the plan outlines Essex County Council's response to our new travel, transportation and highways reality. It helps define our 'new normal'.

We want to ensure our county is well-prepared to provide our communities with a safer, greener, healthier and sustainable recovery – this plan defines our direction and focus, not just for the immediate situation, but for the direction we intend to move in over the coming years.

From adversity we seek to seize the opportunities too. The plan should encourage us to work together for our residents and our Essex economy, delivering improvements and changes to our overall travel and transport environment that benefit not just us, but future generations.

Planning for a second phase of safe and sustainable travel initiatives will begin soon. Districts are encouraged to prioritise their ideas locally and then share with ECC. All phase two initiatives will be contingent on DfT funding and criteria.

This plan was developed at speed and is already driving some of our highways-related social distancing and safety changes, and more will follow in due course.

The full plan document, and a shorter Executive Summary (attached), are available online at [www.essex.gov.uk/safer-greener-healthier](http://www.essex.gov.uk/safer-greener-healthier).

I hope you find it useful and interesting.

As always, if you have any comments or questions, please do email me.

Yours sincerely

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