Paul Bird Director for commission; Transport and Infrastructure Essex County Council County Hall Market Road Chelmsford CM1 1QH



Name The street Town County Postcode Our Ref: SG-14/EPS Date: 04 June 2014

**Dear Consultee** 

## New Consultation – 'Essex Permit Scheme for Road Works and Street Works

Part 3 of the Traffic Management Act 2004 and The Traffic Management Permit Scheme (England) Regulations 2007 gives local authorities powers to design and operate a permit scheme to improve the management of works in the street undertaken by highway authorities and utilities companies. Essex County Council proposes to exercise these powers to introduce a system of permits for street works and road works.

In simple terms, the Permit Scheme will require permission to be obtained for most road and street works, whether they are undertaken by or on behalf of utility companies or highway authorities themselves.

The consultation is primarily aimed at highway works promoter, utility companies and their regulators but responses are welcomed from anyone with an interest. If you have any suggestions of others who may wish to be involved in the consultation process please let us know.

Essex Council will adopt solely the nationally agreed conditions text developed and approved by HAUC (England) as our standard conditions, including referencing. We recognise that these conditions may be subject to change and may develop over time. Any future changes to the conditions text ratified through HAUC (England) formal approval process will automatically be incorporated into this scheme. Any changes will have been consulted on and agreed by the sector and we will not undertake further consultation on those agreed changes, but will inform stakeholders of their implementation date for use within our permit scheme. Furthermore, Essex County Council will review the Permit Scheme Annually. If there is a surplus in the income from permit fees, then this will be addressed in subsequent years as appropriate.

The Secretary of State may then approve the scheme, with or without modifications, and it will be given effect by a Statutory Order.

Continued:







Details of the scheme and details of any transitional arrangements, including not only such arrangements as have been provided for in the Order giving effect to the scheme, but also any practical steps which the Permit Authority proposes to take in order to ease the transition will be provided.

It would be helpful if representatives of any groups could give brief details of organizations they represent.

In order to see a copy of the Essex Permit Scheme for Road Works and Street Works documentation and to provide a response to this consultation please go to the following web address:

http://www.essexhighways.org/Transport-and-Roads/Essex-Permit-Scheme.aspx

## Have your Say

To comment on this consultation please complete our **Essex Permit Scheme consultation questionnaire** at the above web page address and email to: permitscheme@essexhighways.org or send to me by post at the above address. Your Views are very important to us and will be summarised and passed to the Department for Transport in the Council's formal Application.

## Deadline: 16<sup>th</sup> July 2014

Essex Council will also be holding briefing sessions throughout the consultation period. Furthermore, will be also offering the opportunity for "one to one" sessions for all major utilities who are works promoters. For more details please visit the web address above.

The closing date for this consultation is 16<sup>th</sup> July 2014

Yours sincerely

Paul Bird Director for Commissioning Transport & Infrastructure

Please reply to: Sam Guiver Project Lead – Essex Permit Scheme Email: <u>permit-scheme@essexhighways.org</u>



