



Progress so far

Welcome to the third edition of the Chelmsford North East Bypass Section 1A newsletter, produced by Octavius Infrastructure, on behalf of Essex County Council. In this newsletter we outline the successes of our programme throughout the spring and summer, and report on progress against our social value commitments.

Taking advantage of the good weather we have had this summer, our programme is pushing on and we have made great progress during earthworks season. Supported by our supply chain, we have successfully completed two culverts, the largest of which spans 38m long and 2m x 2m wide, and includes finished handrails and headwalls. This vital piece of infrastructure allows the bypass to cross the Boreham Brook tributary. We have also completed the full excavation of one attenuation pond, ready for lining, forming a critical part of the drainage network. Landscaping has commenced across earthworks, and pre-earthworks ditches have been completed in various areas.

We will soon begin works on Generals Lane, including the tie-in at the roundabout connecting Generals Lane to the A131 Beaulieu Parkway. These works will commence on 27th October for five weeks with temporary signal controls activated by vehicles exiting Generals Lane. Traffic on the A131 travelling between Beaulieu and Boreham will be unaffected except in instances when traffic exits Generals Lane and triggers the signals to halt neighbouring exits on the roundabout. We will notify local residents and businesses prior to works beginning.





Looking ahead

We move into an exciting phase towards the end of the year, with key works planned over the coming months. On site, the focus remains on major earthworks and drainage installation, providing the foundations for the future carriageway. We also begin the main phase of civils works when utility diversions take place, ensuring essential services remain uninterrupted while making way for the new road. Works continue on the construction of the attenuation ponds, including geotextile lining and a 400mm base of thick sand.

For local residents and road users, these activities mean visible progress and some short-term changes. Even though our construction remains off the live road network, we are committed to keeping disruption to a minimum, and ensuring works are carefully phased to reduce the impact on local communities. We will provide more updates on the project as milestones are reached.



Main earthworks



Earthworks under bridge

Want to know more?

To find out more about the Chelmsford North East Bypass, please visit www.essexhighways.org/chelmsford-north-east-bypass

Please email any enquiries about the Chelmsford North East Bypass project to CNEB@essexhighways.org

If you have a general highway query, please contact the Essex County Council customer service team via the online form at: www.essex.gov.uk/highways, or call 0345 603 7631 if you have an urgent highway matter you wish to report.

Have you signed up to our Chelmsford North East Bypass email newsletter? Subscribe at: www.essexhighways.org/chelmsford-north-east-bypass



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Social Value & Sustainability



Earlier this year we were out and about in the community constructing and installing bird boxes to support nesting bird season. We delivered workshops in collaboration with The Conservation Volunteers, a charity dedicated to connecting people with green spaces to improve health, wellbeing, skills and the environment. In May we installed a series of boxes across the works site in the hope that birds will take up residence. We have been keeping an eye out and were fortunate enough to accommodate a trio of kestrels ready to fledge.



In June, we supported as volunteer marshals when Chelmsford hosted Pride, the largest LGBTQ+ event in Essex. With over 4,000 attendees from all over Essex, we kept busy putting up balloons and signs across Chelmsford to ensure visitors knew where to go. With temperatures reaching over 33 degrees, we kept an eye out for signs of heat exhaustion, passing out water and ensuring vulnerable attendees remained sun safe.

In July we attended the Sandon School Sixth Form Careers Carousel where we spoke with enthusiastic students about potential careers in construction, engineering and infrastructure. Many were surprised to learn about the range of careers which exist that do not require construction or engineering qualifications. We will continue to support our schools and colleges network with practical careers support and industry insight throughout the autumn term.



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Stakeholder Engagement & Social Value

We are committed to delivering sustainable infrastructure, making a commitment to provide value to society and the communities in which we work.

Focusing on Essex County Council's priorities, we will:

- Spend money with Local and Small Medium Enterprise businesses
- Deliver local skills and employment for the local area
- Support local community initiatives

So far across this project we have achieved social value through:

- £1.8m spent in Essex and £4.2m spent with small, medium, charity and voluntary enterprises in Essex
- 7 full time equivalent local people hired for the duration of the contract
- Over 180 hours volunteering with local community initiatives and supporting school and college careers programmes



Anglia Ruskin University



Chelmsford College



Baddow Races event marshal



Essex Pride event marshal



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