



Chelmsford North East Bypass latest news

Major milestone as Chelmsford North East Bypass is granted planning approval



The proposed new [Chelmsford North East Bypass](#) has taken another significant step forward after the scheme was granted planning approval.

Essex County Council, working with Chelmsford City Council, submitted a planning application for the planned new bypass, which is part of a £250 million investment also including a [new railway station at Beaulieu](#).

The application was approved by Essex County Council's Development and Regulation Committee, subject to any decision by the Secretary of State to review the application.

The new route will bypass residential areas and help relieve congestion in Chelmsford, as well as providing a strategic link

between the city, Braintree, London Stansted Airport and the wider east and southeast of England, including South Essex and the planned new Lower Thames Crossing.

It will also help unlock housing and economic growth to the north-east of Chelmsford, connecting proposed new communities with Chelmsford and Braintree.

The scheme and proposed new railway station at Beaulieu are progressing with more than £218million in funding from the Government's Housing Infrastructure Fund, plus £34million of other funding from the South East Local Enterprise Partnership and developer Countryside Zest.

Construction of the bypass is currently scheduled to begin early next year, with the new road expected to open in 2024/25.

What is the Chelmsford North East Bypass scheme?

The scheme will connect to the new Beaulieu Park development in the south and Deres Bridge Roundabout, Great Leighs, in the north, providing a vital link between the A120 and the A12.

A new 4.6km single carriageway bypass will be constructed and join a new roundabout on the existing A131 at Chatham Green, while a 1.2km stretch of the existing A131 between Chatham Green and Deres Bridge will be widened to a dual carriageway as part of the scheme.

A new segregated left turn lane will be created, connecting Main Road, Great Leighs, at Deres Bridge to the southbound carriageway of the A131.

The scheme also includes various walking, cycling, horse riding and bus improvements.

Watch our video below to find out more about the background to the project and view visualisations of the proposed new bypass.



Conveyor bridge construction set to start this summer

Works are expected to get underway this summer on a new bridge to enable operation of an existing mineral quarry to continue.

As part of our scheme, we are proposing to build a conveyor bridge to ensure continued operational access between the two sides of Bulls Lodge Quarry, which will still be actively quarried both during construction of the bypass and once the road is open.

The new conveyor bridge will span the planned bypass and provision has been made for the future upgrade of the bridge as part of the Chelmsford Garden Community development.

Subject to approvals and award of a contract for the works, construction of the bridge is likely to start this summer and will take approximately a year.

No major traffic disruption is expected, with the majority of the works taking place away from the existing road network.

Further information will be published on the [project website](#) once details are finalised.

Design contract awarded for proposed new Beaulieu Park station



Network Rail has awarded a contract for the final phase of design of the [proposed new railway station at Beaulieu Park](#).

The planned new three platform station, which will be the first new station on the Great Eastern main line for over 100 years, will provide regular connections to the capital and other destinations in the east of England and help ease congestion at Chelmsford and Witham stations.

The contract awarded to J Murphy & Sons Ltd to complete the design of the new Beaulieu Park station includes:

- Three platforms with a central loop line and new tracks to enable stopping services to call at the station while allowing fast trains to pass through unimpeded

- A pick up and drop off area with dedicated taxi bays

- A bus interchange, including bus stands for local services

- 500 spaces for cycle parking and storage

- Pedestrian and cycle access routes to the station

- Car and motorcycle parking

- Step-free access to all platforms via two lifts

- Ticketing facilities

- Accessible toilets, baby change facilities, waiting area and

space for retail/catering



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