

COLCHESTER LOCAL HIGHWAYS PANEL

Minutes of the meeting held on 16 September 2025 - 10.00

ONLINE MEETING: MICROSOFT TEAMS

Chair:	County Councillor Sue Lissimore
Panel Members:	County Councillors: Cllr Lewis Barber, Cllr Mark Cory, Cllr Lee Scordis, Cllr Dave Harris, Cllr David King City Councillors: Cllr Elizabeth Alake-Akinyemi, Cllr Jeremy Hagon, Cllr Andrea Luxford-Vaughan, Cllr Kemal Çufoğlu Parish Councillors: Sue Allen Shepherd, Robert Johnstone
Officers:	Essex Highways: Jon Simmons – Highways Liaison Officer Daniel MacLean – Highways Liaison Team Leader
Secretariat:	Colchester City Council: Madeline Roelofsma – Democratic Services Officer

Item		Owner
1.	Welcome and Introductions: The Chairman welcomed Councillors and officers to the meeting.	
2	Apologies for Absence Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Simon Crow	
3.	Minutes of the meeting held on the 17 June 2025 The minutes of the meeting held on 17 June 2025 were confirmed as a correct record.	

4.	Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting	
	Regarding minute 5, paragraph 5, the meeting with the Cabinet member for Highways had not yet taken place but would now be prioritised.	Cllr Cory
	Regarding minute 8, paragraph 9, Cllr Lissimore had spoken to Cabinet Member for Highways several times about what would happen to schemes that had not reached the implementation stage, and they were aiming to set up a meeting to discuss further in the near future and develop a flow chart that could be circulated to members.	Cllr Lissimore
	The Panel sought clarification about schemes which were in validation that were not included in the report. Highways Liaison Officer confirmed that these were no longer coming to the panel and Highways Liaison Team leader further explained that such schemes need to be fitted in around other schemes that were being commissioned and could be in a queue for some time. The Chair wanted to ensure that such schemes would be forwarded to the new Highway Authority following Local Government Reorganisation, and that the Panel had done everything it could to ensure funding.	
	The Panel requested clarity on what would happen if a scheme overran and was not completed during dissolution. Highways Liaison Team Leader confirmed that this was one of the reasons that all panels would have set 2-year rolling programmes, with plenty of contingency. Only schemes that could be delivered within the 2-year period should be commissioned, which meant that it would not be appropriate to commission design-only or feasibility studies. The Chair confirmed that she would discuss with the Cabinet Member for Highways the lack of continuity if the Panel did not have a pipeline of schemes to hand over to the new Highway Authority and would keep the Panel informed.	Cllr Lissimore
	Regarding the resolution to minute 8, Highways Liaison Officer confirmed that the prioritised list of Schemes Awaiting Funding had been circulated to the Panel and reminded members that at the June meeting they had looked at all schemes that had been prioritised from P1-P5 and those schemes with priority P1-P4 had been added to the works programme. Schemes rated P5 remained for the Panel to discuss.	

stressed that Panels were required to allocate money by end of September, to schemes that were deliverable within two years. Given that special dispensation would be required from the Cabinet Member for Highways to proceed with a revised Clifton Terrace scheme, the panel reviewed options that could be delivered within two years from the list of schemes awaiting funding. Traffic Management Of the eight schemes that were either total schemes or implementation, the Panel agreed that 4 (Swan Street - Gateway Improvements) and 6 (Argents Lane - Water depth markers) should be given funding, leaving a total of £137,750 for other schemes. In addition, scheme 7 (Mersea Road j/w Stansted Road, improvements to mini roundabout) required more feedback from local residents, which Cllr Harris agreed to collect. Walking The Panel noted that implementation schemes 1 (Chappel Road, Great Tey, footway) and 2 (Maldon Road, Tiptree, new footway) were outside the budget, but agreed that they should be kept on the reserve list. Cycling In respect of Scheme 1, improvements to Spring Lane Roundabout, the Panel agreed that major improvements were needed. However, whilst this would be a small contribution to making cycling a little safer, the roundabout was used by comparatively few cyclists and there was some doubt as to how the scheme would be welcomed by local cycling groups. The Panel therefore decided not to allocate any funds to the scheme. Passenger transport The Panel discussed items 1 (East Mersea Road, West Mersea) and 4 (A1124 Colchester Road) for the replacement of bus shelters which fell outside the remit of the Essex Wide Bus Shelter contract. It was agreed that item 1 should be funded. Item 4 would potentially be delivered more cheaply by the Parish Council, and discussion would be taken off-line. It was noted that the Parish council no longer wanted item 2 (Spring Lane, Eight Ash Green) which could therefore be removed from the list. Public rights of Way The Panel considered the only potential total scheme proposal (Cambridge Road, Footpath 198) should not receive funding at that stage.	Cllr Harris Highways Liaison Officer
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	Highways Liaison Officer confirmed that there was an unallocated budget of £121,250. Cllr Cory proposed that this should be ringfenced for the Clifton Terrace scheme, which was agreed by the Panel. Highways Liaison Team Leader agreed to speak with engineers about what was possible. If the Clifton Terrace scheme was not feasible, the Panel would consider other options. Cllr Cory informed the panel that he had asked the Cabinet Member for Highways for a site visit. <i>RESOLVED</i> that the following schemes, totalling an additional £47,530 be funded through the Local Highway Panel: • LCOL222060 Swan Street - Gateway Improvements • LCOL242048 Argents Lane – Water Depth Markers • LCOL165012 Flag Name - Blue Row, East Mersea Road <i>RESOLVED</i> that the amount of £121,250 be ringfenced for the Clifton Terrace scheme, pending discussion with the Cabinet Member for Highways.	Highways Liaison Team Leader Cllr Cory
7.	Any Other Business A panel member requested an update on the Speed Indicator Devices. Highways Liaison Team Leader agreed to circulate an update on inspection outcomes and next steps. In response to a query from Cllr Cufoglu regarding 3PR school parking initiatives, Highways Liaison Officer explained that these were dealt with by the North Essex Parking Partnership and agreed to provide the councillor with contact details after the meeting.	Highways Liaison Team Leader Highways Liaison Officer