

Date received	Date replied	Questioner	Responder	Question	Answer
14/01/2024	24/01/2024	Aidan McGurran	Cllr Kevin Bentley	<p>In relation to payments from Essex County Council to Simon Harris. When did the council's "established relationship" with Mr Harris start and how? Was he vetted in any way? Who was his work managed by? What, if any, was the involvement of the Council's own Communications team in his work? How much funding was allocated for the social media campaigns organised by Mr Harris? Were any other organisations/individuals paid for this type of work? What Governance policies were employed concerning the work carried out by Mr Harris? Were any real or potential breaches in terms of conflicts of interest by staff members identified by Mr Harris? Did Essex CC know who else, if anyone, was being paid by Mr Harris?</p>	<p>Dear Cllr McGurran, thank you for your questions. You will have been sent an email pointing you in the direction of ECC's full response to these questions and more. I trust this answers your questions. For completeness ECC's published response is also here: https://www.essex.gov.uk/running-council/spending-and-council-tax/spending-digital-community-engagement-pandemic-2020</p>

03/01/2024	25/01/2024	Dave Harris	Cllr Tom Cunningham	<p>Is there a list of known defects in each division for</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Pot holes in a spreadsheet to share with divisional members 2) Flooding sites with priority for each division 3) Lists of future works 4) Lists of planned drainage clearing in each division <p>Such lists would assist county members work with ECC officers and save a lot of re reporting.</p>	<p>Thank you for your question about providing further information to members about some of the service Essex Highways deliver across the county to repair and maintain the roads. Providing members with more information so you have a clear picture of what's happening in your divisions so you can guide residents when they raise questions and ask for updates is important to me and the Essex Highways team, and identifying how best to achieve this without diverting resource or requiring additional costs is currently being worked through.</p> <p>The team is currently developing a new page on the Essex Highways website for members where information will be easily accessible and tailored for your division. In time, this will include upcoming roadworks, details of member-led schemes and an easy way to report new issues. The idea with the page is for it to evolve and include more information over time as we establish how best to draw this out without requiring additional resource or costs to develop it. I will take your suggestions in your question and feed it back to the team to consider.</p>
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