

Motions under Standing Order

16.11.2

1. Footway Improvements

Moved by Councillor C Pond and seconded by Councillor J Lodge

Council notes with approval the progress that has been made in recent years with maintaining carriageways, especially on PR 1 and 2 roads.

Council now looks to the two Cabinet Members to secure an equivalent improvement with footways, many of which, throughout the county, have become seriously degraded.

The allocation of extra funds for footway repairs has been welcome, and Council believes what is now needed is a timed programme of footway improvements, district by district, over a five-year period, and engaging with local county councillors and parishes, to ensure the worst problems are identified and rectified as soon as possible.

2. Local Enterprise Partnerships

Moved by Councillor G Butland and seconded by Councillor Lady Newton

This Council fully supports the Government's plans for devolution of powers to elected local authorities and calls on Ministers to help support Essex businesses and Councils deliver further prosperity to residents by expeditiously agreeing to the formation of a Greater Essex Local Enterprise Partnership (GELEP).

This will support more local and much quicker decision making, than the current South East Local Enterprise Partnership (SELEP), on schemes and projects which will help further to increase jobs, skills, wealth and growth in the Greater Essex economy.

The creation of a GELEP could also be co-terminus with plans for devolution in Essex and help return powers to local people.

3. Call for 20 MPH default Speed Limit on Residential Roads

Moved by Councillor M Mackrory and seconded by Councillor J Deakin

This Council notes that:

- speed limits on Britain's residential roads are 60% higher than in Europe
- more than half of all road accident casualties occur on roads with 30mph limits
- reducing speed limits on residential roads has been found to reduce both the incidence of accidents and the numbers of fatalities and serious injuries that result
- new Department for Transport guidelines make it easier for local authorities to adopt a 20 mph default speed limit on residential roads.

This Council therefore resolves:

- (a) to endorse the need to reduce injury accidents
- (b) to welcome and encourage proposals for 20 mph zones from City/Borough/District/Parish Councils and community groups in Essex
- (c) to include consideration of requests within the remit of Local Highways Panels.

4. Living Wage

Moved by Councillor M Danvers seconded by Councillor D Harris

Council believes that paying the living wage not only benefits employees but also employers and the wider economy. Council further believes that the living wage has the support of all three main political parties in raising those on low pay up to a decent standard of living.

Council therefore agrees:

- a) to ensure that Essex County Council and Essex Cares employees are paid at least the living wage as soon as practicable and that any financial implications resulting from this are considered as part of the Medium Term Resource Planning process;
- b) to explore ways through the appropriate scrutiny process of using its influence as a major local employer and provider of services to encourage other local employers to pay the living wage in Essex.