

# Motions under Standing Order

## 16.11.2

### 1. Review of the Ringway-Jacobs Contract

Moved by Councillor R Lord and seconded by Councillor N Le Gresley

‘That in view of the continued disquiet felt by many County, District and Parish Councillors as well as the general public, about the state of Essex Highways, this Council calls for a re-negotiation of the Ringway-Jacobs maintenance contract, as it has failed to bring true competition into highway maintenance and in all likelihood will destroy the prospect of any local companies being able to tender in future.

In addition, due to the lack of performance oversight and accountability, Council believes that in future, no contract should exceed 50% of all reactive maintenance or 25% of cyclical maintenance, and the remaining work should be split between a minimum of five unconnected competing companies.

The objective of these changes would be to increase competition, raise quality, reduce vehicle damage and enhance road safety for both motorists and pedestrians.’

### 2. School Crossing Patrols

Moved by Councillor D Kendall and seconded by Councillor T Higgins

‘That this Council recognises that the safety of children walking to school and crossing busy roads is paramount.

Council, therefore, calls on the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transportation to abandon his proposal to withdraw funding for school crossing patrols (where controlled crossings exist) in the interests of children’s safety.’

### 3. Essex Roads and Footpaths

Moved by Councillor J Young and seconded by Councillor I Henderson

‘That Council acknowledge the growing public dissatisfaction with the condition of road surfaces and footpaths in Essex which, over the course of the year, has seen a sharp rise in the number of defects that remain outstanding on our roads.

Despite re-prioritisation one year ago and even more of taxpayers' money available for Ringway Jacobs, Council believes the contract is not delivering value for money and action is needed to address widespread public dissatisfaction ensuring that the safety of residents is put first.

Council calls on the Administration to explore opportunities to devolve powers and funding to local authorities for smaller priority schemes such as pothole repair, giving localities greater flexibility, accountability and councillor representation over delivery departing from current governing arrangements, which are wholly inadequate for a County of this size.'

#### 4. Unconventional Fossil Fuels

Moved by Councillor J Abbott and seconded by Councillor M Hoy

'That this Council recognises that exploration of unconventional fossil fuels undermines action on climate change and diverts resources away from investment in a safe, secure and sustainable renewable energy future.

This Council notes that there are possible significant adverse impacts from the industrial exploration and production of fossil fuels by hydraulic fracturing on those communities in Essex living near deposits, including water contamination and air pollution - as highlighted by the European Commission and the UN.

This Council notes with concern that the Government is considering allowing companies to exploit shale gas reserves under privately owned land even if the owners object.

This Council supports the application of the precautionary principle to its own decision-making and policy-making on unconventional fossil fuels and calls on the Government for a moratorium on unconventional fossil fuel exploration within the UK.'