

**(1) Question from J Nutton to Cllr N Avey, Contracts and Commissioning Portfolio Holder and wider Council Members:**

*"Despite having first brought this to the Council's attention prior to Covid Lockdowns - the state of the pathway between Centre Drive and Epping Tube Station is worsening and little, if anything, was being done to clear the litter or remove the graffiti (see attached pictures attached to the agenda). I would appreciate your views on this matter and some help in getting the problem resolved as soon as possible.*

*I would also like to ask the Council for an update on their 'Litter Strategy' that was passed last year, as there doesn't seem to have been any movement on this since. In the meantime, Epping and the surrounding streets are becoming a dumping ground."*

Response from Cllr K Williamson, Technical Services Portfolio Holder, on behalf of Cllr N Avey:

"In response to the questions that you raise regarding the state of litter and graffiti on the pathway between Centre Drive and Epping Tube Station and what is being done, I can confirm that the location of the litter is not on the pathway, the pathway is kept clear and clean. The location of the litter is between fences on private land; therefore, it is the landowner's responsibility to remove this litter. Most of the litter is inaccessible due to fences that the private landowner has put up.

EFDC's Environmental Protection Team and Waste Management Team are working on a joint project to resolve the litter and graffiti issue and improve the area. As this is not public land, we require the co-operation of the private landowner to proceed and remove the rubbish and graffiti, which can take a considerable amount of time. The rubbish cannot be accessed as the landowner has erected a fence which traps the litter and will need to be removed to access the litter. Please be rest assured that we are working to improve the situation and remove both the litter and graffiti as soon as possible.

In terms of the litter strategy, EFDC continues to support national campaigns such as 'Keep Britain tidy' and clean up days through volunteering, supporting groups with equipment and collection of waste and use of social media. EFDC provides support to litter pick schemes with the public and internal and external partners by providing equipment, advice and guidance and the collection of litter. EFDC uses and promotes the Love Essex (an umbrella brand that acts on behalf of the Essex Waste Partnership and the Cleaner Essex group) messages via various media platforms. Through the Love Essex brand, we aim to inspire Essex residents to reduce the amount of waste they throw away, recycle more, and reduce environmental crimes such as littering and fly-tipping."

**(2)) Question from D Saunders to Cllr H Whitbread, Housing & Community Portfolio Holder:**

*"Can the Cabinet Member for Housing and Community tell me about the £5million regeneration works for the Limes Farm Estate, and in particular, provide an update on the progress made to date and what is due to happen next?"*

Response from Cllr H Whitbread, Housing & Community Portfolio Holder:

"We are pleased to confirm the regeneration works to the Limes Farm Estate have recently commenced (30 January 2023) with the site compound now set up and the early stages of scaffolding ongoing.

The Council's successful contracting partner's undertaking the works are Equan's Regeneration Ltd and they have been appointed following a successful procurement process to undertake the below planned maintenance and regeneration works:

- Roof repairs
- A review of all rainwater goods and remediation as necessary
- External cladding/brickwork and concrete repairs as necessary
- Replacement window and balcony doors
- Replacement of Front Entrance Doors with new Fire safe FD30 doors.
- Overcoating of walkway surfaces.
- Improvement works to the external staircases
- Balcony works as necessary to ensure all are watertight
- External communal lighting upgrades
- New controlled access systems
- Repairs to pram sheds
- Fire Risk Assessment works
- Redecoration of all previously painted surfaces including internal communal areas
- New vinyl floor coverings to internal communal areas
- Repair of public footpaths around the estate
- A review of below ground drainage and repairs as necessary
- Regeneration improvements, these include, new benches, new soft landscaping areas, new estate signage, outdoor gym space.

By way of a more recent works progress update see below:

- Scaffolding is ongoing to Yellow and Green blocks as well as block 216-230 Limes Avenue.
- 90% of windows and doors have been measured to these blocks.
- The window replacement pilot has been installed and agreed. Windows to green block have subsequently been ordered and await install.
- Fire safety works are ongoing
- Agree the level of works to the balconies and walkways
- Paint samples across the estate have been agreed. These allude to previously painted areas and will best match the existing colour scheme.
- The upgrade of controlled access entrances to blocks is ongoing.

In terms of what happens next:

- The project will continue to deliver the above works in accordance with Equan's programme. The completion date is early January 24. Most window and front entrance door installations will take place over the Spring/Summer months this year
- The project will continue daily communications with residents. Our next official residents progress meeting is 12 April 23."