

Essex County Council
Cabinet Office
PO Box 11, County Hall
Chelmsford
Essex CM1 1LX



Cllr Chris Whitbread
Leader of Epping Forest DC
Civic Offices
High Street
Epping
Essex CM16 4BZ

Date: 24 May 2018
Our Ref: KB/AC
Your Ref:

Email: cwhitbread@eppingforestdc.gov.uk

Dear Cllr Whitbread

As you may be aware I have taken on responsibility for highways maintenance as part of my portfolio at Essex County Council following my appointment as Cabinet Member for Infrastructure at last week's Full Council meeting. I look forward to discussing highways issues affecting your district with you and your colleagues in future.

At the same meeting we were pleased to announce close to £5 million in additional investment to fund further pothole repairs and highways improvements across the county. As part of this investment ECC has allocated £1.2 million to increase the budgets of our Local Highways Panels. This funding is available equally across the twelve Local Highways Panels, up to £100,000 each. It will only be awarded subject to match funding, up to a maximum £100,000, being committed by the relevant local Borough, City, or District Council.

I am therefore writing to ask whether Epping Forest district will be taking up this opportunity to match fund Essex County Council's investment in your Local Highways Panel. I am very keen that we get started on allocating and spending these additional monies as soon as possible and as such ask that you respond to confirm your Council's position by **15th June**.

I am of course happy to speak with you about this further if you have any queries and note that we are due to discuss this at the next Essex Leaders and Chief Executives meeting on 7th June.

I think this is a real opportunity for us to jointly make a difference in what we know is one of, if not the most important issues to our residents and I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kevin Bentley".

Cllr Kevin Bentley
Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Infrastructure