

NewsRelease



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Extra pothole crews deployed as work to tackle the Essex pothole emergency gets underway

An extra £7.5 million will help address the potholes most concerning to residents.

Extra road repair crews are out in force across the county from this week as part of Essex County Council's drive to fix more potholes.

After County Councillors declared a pothole emergency in Essex last month, the extra crews will carry out road repairs as part of the £7.5 million funding announced at the same time.

The three additional crews will join the nine already on the network tasked with fixing more potholes on the county's 5,000-mile road network. This is the equivalent distance of driving from Chelmsford to Las Vegas.

The extra repairs will be carried out alongside the council's annual resurfacing and repair programmes, which are already underway.

The pothole repair programme will see crews repair what were previously considered to be "non-urgent" potholes as they were not classified as dangerous.

The programme will help fix issues quicker, improving roads and everyday journeys.

The mix of new and reprioritised funding will enable the council to use a wider selection of specialised machinery, meaning extra flexibility to use the right tool for the job so that more defects can be fixed faster than before.

Councillor Mark Webster, Cabinet Member for Highways and Infrastructure, said: "We have listened to residents across Essex, and fixing our roads is their biggest concern.

"The increased funding we've already been able to allocate allows us to make practical changes to how we fix our roads. Increasing our pothole crews from nine to 12 means every district has its own dedicated team, improving our ability to fill more potholes in more areas.

"This is about making life better for the people of Essex in a more efficient and effective way so that we can fix more problems, faster."

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