

Help us make roads in Essex safer for everyone

EasyRead Version

March 2026

SAFER **GREENER** **HEALTHIER**



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Developed in partnership with:



Introduction



Essex has a new plan to help make roads in Essex safer.
It is called the **Essex Safer Speeds Strategy**.

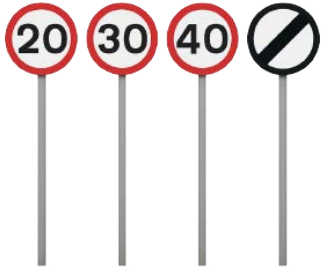


We want to stop people dying or getting badly hurt on Essex roads by 2040.



Speed is a big reason for crashes. In 2025, 60 people died on Essex roads.
Almost 4 in every 10 deaths or serious injuries were due to people driving too fast.

Vision and objectives



We want to make the roads safer. To do this we want to make sure that our roads have the right speed limits.



We also want people to understand why speed limits are important.

Main principles



Our new plan is based on the **Safe System**. This system looks at how to make roads safer.



It aims to stop people being badly hurt if crashes do happen.



We also want local people to help us decide the best places to change speed limits.

Different speed limits for different places



We are planning a new way to set speed limits.



Different roads have different uses. This means they need different speed limits.



This will help to keep everyone safe.

Focus areas



We want to focus on areas where we can make the biggest difference.
This includes places like schools, rural roads, and busy town centres.

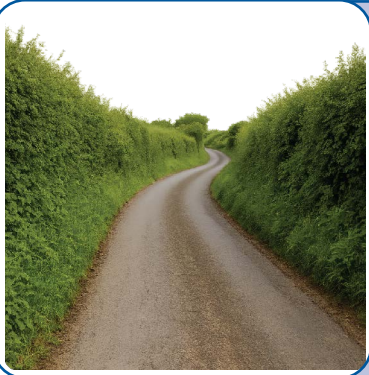


We want to introduce 20 mph speed limits in areas where a lot of people walk and cycle.



We want children to be safe when travelling to school.
Lowering speeds near schools can help.

Focus areas



Rural roads can be dangerous.
They are often narrow and have tight bends.



We want to make them safer by lowering speed limits.



We will start in areas where there is the highest risk of crashes.

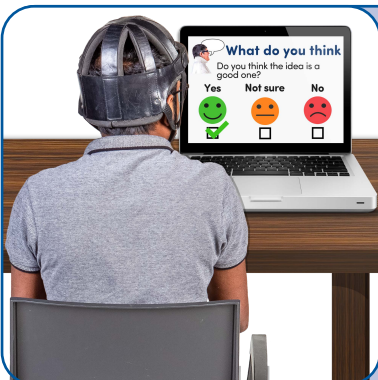
Tell us what you think



We want to hear what you think about our plan.



We will use what you tell us to make our plan better.



You can complete the survey online at:
<https://consultations.essex.gov.uk/essex-highways/7fdfa277>

Or by scanning this QR code:



Tell us what you think

What do you think?

Do you think the idea is a good one?

 Yes

 Not sure

 No

You can ask for a printed copy of the survey by emailing:

saferspeeds@essexhighways.org



Or you can attend a meeting where you will be able to ask questions about our plan.

Colchester

March

18



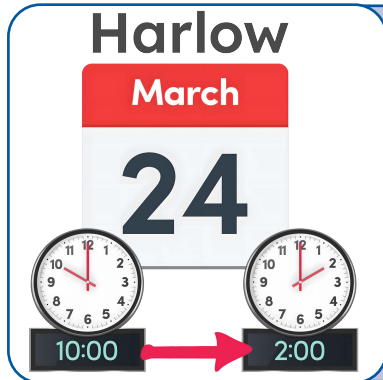
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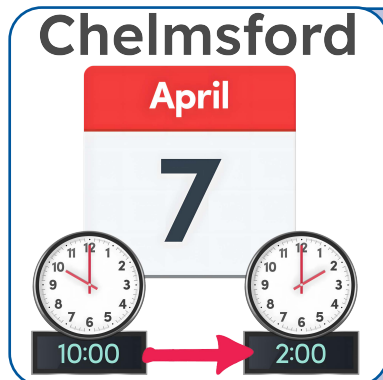
These will be in:

- Colchester on Wednesday 18th March from 10.00am - 2.00pm.

Tell us what you think



- Harlow on Tuesday 24th March from 10.00am - 2.00pm.



- Chelmsford on Tuesday 7th April from 10.00am - 2.00pm.



- Wickford on Thursday 26th April from 10.00am - 2.00pm.

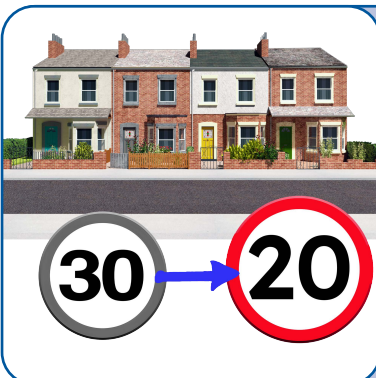
What will happen next



After we have listened to what you tell us, we will make changes to our plan.



The final plan will be approved later this year.



We will then start to change speed limits in the areas that people told us need it most.

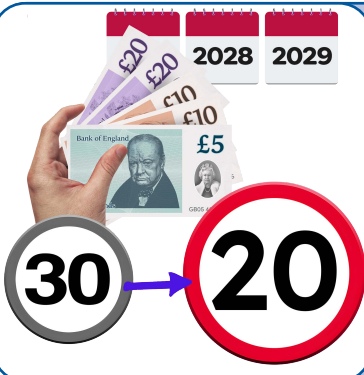
What will happen next



We will test new speed limits in areas you told us need to be safer.
This will help us learn what works best.



Over time we will make changes to speed limits in other areas.
This includes areas where a lot of people walk and cycle.



We will make more changes when we have more money.

Contact us



If you have any questions or need more information you can email us at:
saferspeeds@essexhighways.org

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