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Our Ref: LTP/CM/7/1

Dear Occupier

A414 LONG TERM MAINTENANCE SCHEME (DANBURY)

I write to inform you of the planned highway maintenance scheme which will affect both you and the wider community around Danbury.

The works are essential to improve the deteriorating fabric of the road and install new highway drainage to alleviate some flooding problems. Details of the scheme are attached to this letter. My colleagues will be arranging a public exhibition of the scheme early in the new year. Although this will come after the start of Phase 1 works, the main purpose of the exhibition will be to give residents more detailed information about Phase 2 which is the "critical stage", requiring road closure and diversion routes for through traffic.

The programme of works is as follows:

22 November to 17 December - Phase 1a: Renew the majority of street lighting and signs.

4 January to 9 April - Phase 1 b: Raise kerbs, reconstruct / resurface footways and install new high kerb bus stops.

11 April to 30 July - Phase 2: Lay two new sections of highway drains, reconstruct adjacent footways and resurface the road throughout the scheme area.

The road will be closed to through traffic during Phase 2. Access to properties will be maintained during the works but there will be occasions when this is limited due to the proximity of the works. However, the works contractor will liaise closely with all affected residents and businesses to accommodate any special access arrangements.

The maintenance scheme will cause disruption, but the County Council and the works contractor will endeavour to minimise any inconvenience and your patience and understanding at such times will be very much appreciated.

I hope you find the attached information useful. If you have any queries about the scheme, please do not hesitate to contact Essex County Councils Traffic Control Centre on 0845 6000110. They will be able to advise you on traffic management related issues. Any technical queries will be passed on to the Engineers organising the works. You can contact the centre between 07:00hrs and 19:00hrs. If you wish to e mail use etcc@essexcc.gov.uk

Yours faithfully

AREA HIGHWAY MANAGER

A414 Long Term Maintenance Scheme (Danbury)

What is the Problem?

- The footways along most of the length of the A414, through Danbury, are in a poor condition, and with low kerbs, so providing very little separation in level between pedestrian and vehicular traffic.
- There is a highway drain system in existence between Riffhams Lane and St Cleres Hall, but this has collapsed, rendering it inoperative, and consequently needs to be replaced.
- There is no highway drainage on the section of carriageway from Eves Corner for approximately 300 m eastwards
- Principal routes in the county are regularly inspected and the Coarse Visual Inspection(CVI) of the A414 through Danbury show virtually the whole of this length of road as having a condition index in excess of 100. This indicates that the carriageway is in a poor condition due to surface deterioration, poor skid resistance in places, and deformation of the running surfaces. This is undoubtedly exacerbated by the collapsed highway drainage system.
- The street lighting is not energy efficient, provides poor light distribution, and gives excessive light pollution,
- **What is to be done?**

A major scheme to resurface the carriageway, footways, and to provide new drainage and street lighting for the A414 Danbury has been programmed to commence on 22 November 2004.

The work falls into four main phases of operation (see Scheme Plan):

Phase 1a : Replace / refurbish street lighting and signs throughout the scheme area. In most cases this will only involve replacing columns with new street lights of the same height and signs in their existing position, although the opportunity will be taken to reduce street clutter. Some additional columns will be installed to improve the uniformity of lighting levels and achieve the current British Standards requirement. The new lanterns will have high pressure sodium (white) lamps throughout the scheme and will greatly reduce upward light spill and light pollution at night. This will give improve visibility for pedestrians and traffic than the current SOX (orange) light source.

Phase 1b : Raise kerbs, reconstruct / resurface footways and install new high kerb bus stops

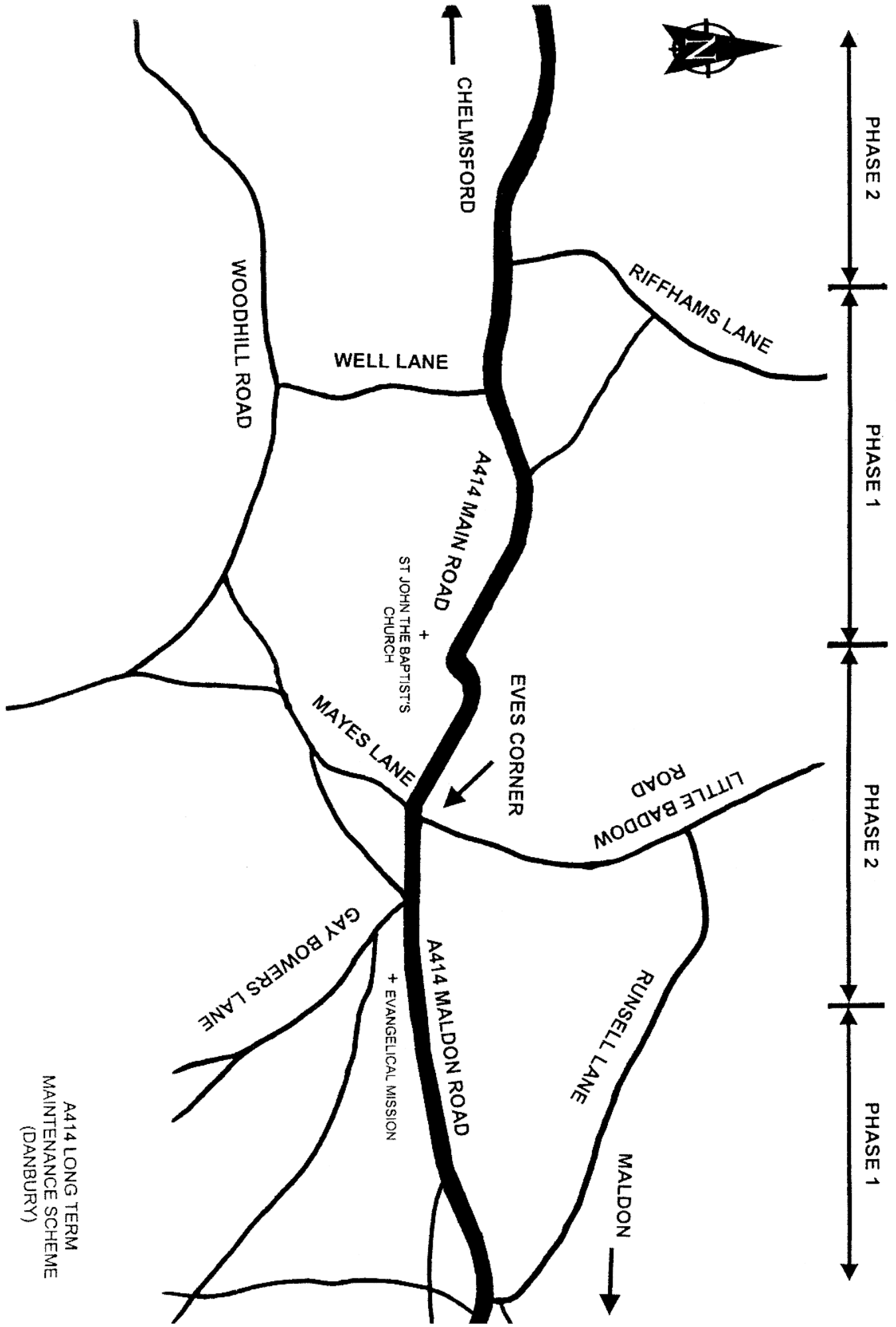
Phase 2a : Provide and lay two new sections of highway drainage system and reconstruct footways at:

- a) Eves Corner Eastwards for approximately 300 metres
- b) Riffhams Lane Westwards for approximately 800 metres

Phase 2b : Resurface the carriageway throughout the scheme area i.e. over 3km of road

How will it be done?

Phase 1 of the works will be carried out using temporary traffic lights to control traffic past the works. Working hours will be restricted to between 09.30 to 15.30 for street lighting works. It is intended to commence all other work at 07.30 and continue through the available daylight hours. Work is also scheduled for Saturdays. This will allow the footways to be completed in a shorter time than if restricted off peak only working were to be used. The traffic lights will be manually controlled through the peak hour periods to maximise traffic flows. Phase 2 of the works can only be dealt with under a complete closure of the carriageway at the section where work is taking place and will involve substantial diversion routes for through traffic.



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