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Date: Mon, Sep 27, 2021 at 11:01 PM  
Subject: Cllr Martin Foley -CC Report Little Bardfield PC SEP OCT  
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## **COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT - SEPTEMBER 2021**

### **Highways**

Apart from the day to day highways issues we have been dealing with there has also been another spate of drain cover thefts. These thefts leave a very dangerous situation and there has been accidents caused as cars hit these drains particularly at night. If it happens in this parish please report to highways and the police immediately with a copy to me.

Uttlesford Local Highways Panel decisions (Highway PAN UPDATE pdf) attached

### **Crime Report – UDC area.**

Attached – but clearly not all crime reported.

### **Catalytic converters theft.**

The precious metal in catalytic converters has led to an increase in their theft within Uttlesford, with more than 40 cases reported in the district over the last six months.

The Uttlesford Community Safety Partnership is holding a free catalytic converter marking session in Saffron Walden next month. In conjunction with Tread First, residents are invited to attend and have their catalytic converters marked by Tread First and registered by local community safety officers.

Using Selectamark's CAT Converter marking kit, catalytic converters will be marked using a specially formulated metal etching compound and two highly durable, heat resistant labels that are uniquely numbered and impossible to remove in one piece. This will allow stolen CATs to be identified within seconds by police and scrap metal dealers once registered.

The marking event will be held on **Sunday 17 October, from 10am to 2pm, at Tread First, Shire Hill, Saffron Walden.**

The kits, which retail at about £25, are subject to availability. To register a vehicle, please send an email to [uttlesford.cpt@essex.police.uk](mailto:uttlesford.cpt@essex.police.uk) and specify the time slot you would like to attend (10am to 12pm or 12pm to 2pm). Residents are welcome to drive in on the day without an appointment, although are encouraged to email prior to the day to guarantee a kit.

### **Covid -19 Update**

Attached are the usual slides and vaccination update. Issues to note:

- Covid rates in Essex have been steady although are likely to increase a little to around 250 in the coming days. This remains below both regional and national average. There is little variation between districts;

- The rate is driven by a large increase in secondary school-age children, where rates are approaching 800, followed by primary school-age children. Most positively the rates in older people are dropping slightly and are around 80;
- Additionally hospital admission rates for Covid remain low although other non-Covid challenges are being seen in the NHS;
- This evidences the impact of the vaccines in preventing severe illness. Studies however are showing the decline in vaccine efficacy over time especially in older people;
- Booster vaccination in older and vulnerable people is therefore a priority and is beginning, using Pfizer and Moderna vaccines;
- We remain focused on getting to the small numbers who have still not been vaccinated at all, and will be focusing on ensuring full booster take-up.
- The last week has seen a very pleasing increase in the percentage of social care workers who have been vaccinated, this now being estimated at around 94 – 95%.
- NHS have previously announced that they will be rationalising the number of vaccination centres to focus on sites enabling the greatest throughput and operational efficiency. All sites have to be assessed and we are expecting the final list to be provided in the next week to ten days.

*Martin*

**Cllr Martin Foley**

**Thaxted Division- Essex County Council**

**Covering the Parishes of .....**

**Ashdon, Broxton, Debden, Felsted, Fitch Green,**

**Great Easton, Great Sampford, Hadstock, Hempstead,**

**Lindsell, Little Bardfield, Little Dunmow, Little Easton,**

**Radwinter, Swards End,**

**Stebbing, Thaxted, Wimbish**

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