

# WHAT IS AN ESSEX “HEALTHY SCHOOL STREET?”

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**“A healthy school street is any street outside a school where changes have been made to make walking and cycling safer, greener and healthier”**

*This differs from ‘Hackney model’ which goes straight to closure and enforcement*



# WHY ARE HEALTHY SCHOOL STREETS NECESSARY?

1

## **Reduce exposure to pollution**

- 65 schools in Essex within 1 km of high pollution
- Air pollution is one of the top 10 threats to global health according to WHO
- Children in highly polluted areas are 4X more likely to have reduced lung function

2

## **Improve physical and mental health and wellbeing:**

- 30% of children are overweight or obese
- 80% of boys and 72% of girls are physically inactive
- Children who cycle have higher levels of psychological wellbeing

3

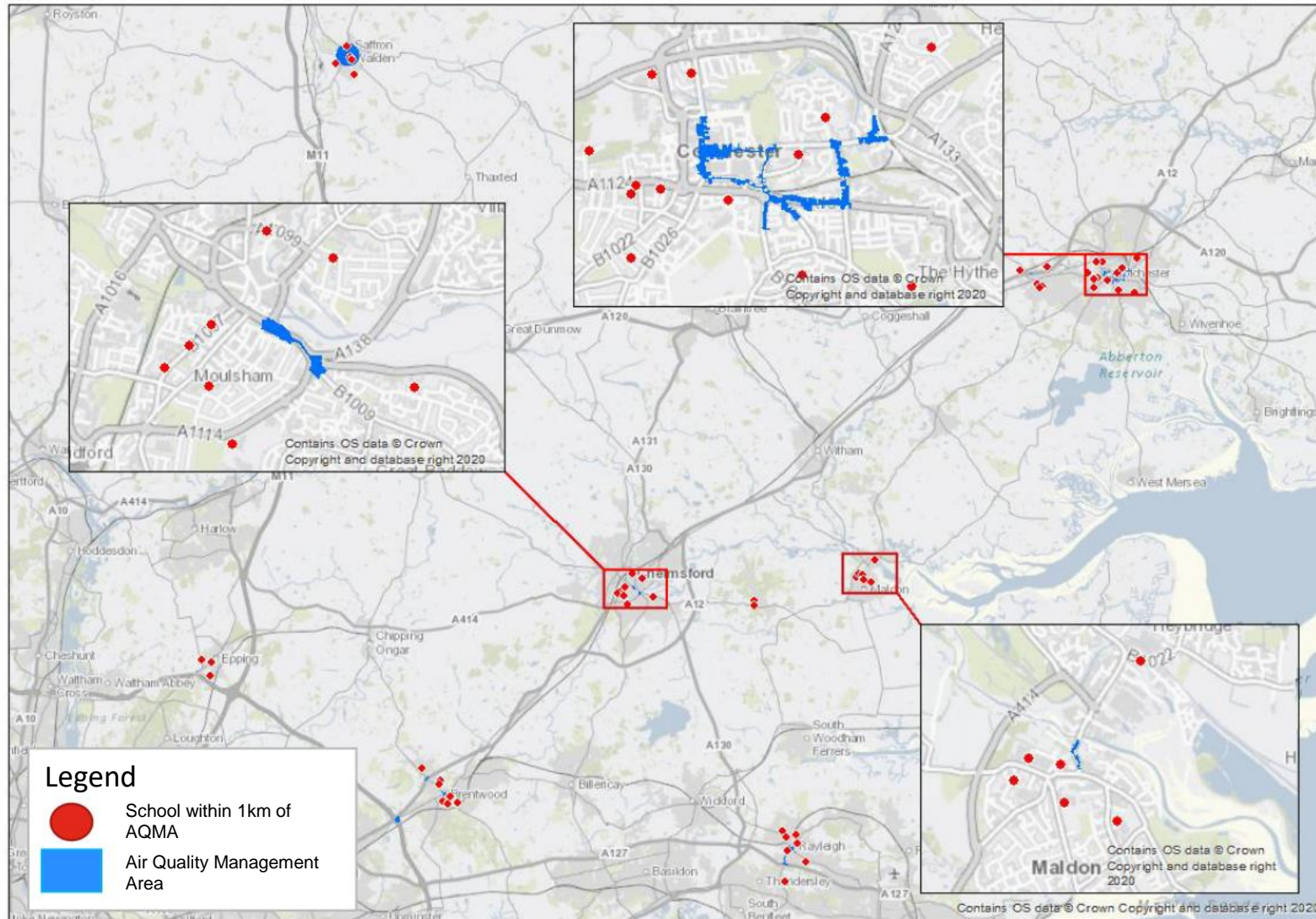
## **Improve road safety**

- Evidence shows children / parents feel streets are congested and unsafe for children, compounded by dangerous parking
- Data on why children don't walk to school includes:
  - 60% said traffic speed
  - 35% said unsafe parking
  - 30% said overcrowding of traffic

**SAFER**  
**GREENER**  
**HEALTHIER**



## SCHOOLS IN AREAS OF HIGH POLLUTION



There are **approximately 65 schools in Essex** within **1 kilometre** of where Air Quality Objectives are exceeded.

Even assuming a conservative estimate of just 200 children per school, this means **13,000 children are exposed** to high levels of damaging air pollutants several times a day.

# HOW DO YOU CREATE A HEALTHY SCHOOL STREET?

Combination of behavioral *and* physical interventions, and enforcement:

## Behavioural

- Education within schools e.g., Abbie Ayre (theatre in schools)
- Walk / cycle to school competitions e.g., Modeshift Stars
- Parking campaigns such e.g., 3PR

## Physical

- Building cycle routes
- Improving the walking routes / walking buses
- Park & Stride
- Introducing speed restrictions
- Setting up Controlled Parking Zone / Red zones
- Closing the road to motor traffic e.g., caterpillar gates
- Improved public realm- street art

## Enforcement

- Cameras
- Enforcement officers
- Policy

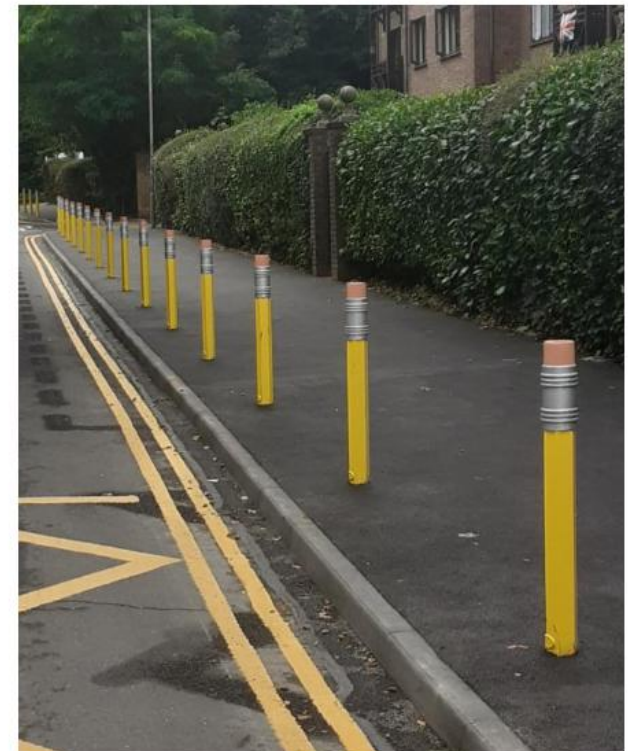


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# WHAT ARE WE DOING IN ESSEX?

- ~10 healthy school streets being developed through the Active Travel Fund
    - Delivered phase 1 of Sawyers Hall Lane, Brentwood and Lancaster Way and Gilchrist Way in Braintree and Trinity Way, Chelmsford
  - Delivered phase 1 of our flagship school street, Winstree Road in Stanway
  - Developing a school street strategy and toolkit
  - Creating a School Streets Design Manual for developers - design out the need to drive
  - Launched trial of 'Home Run' car share scheme for Tendring Primary & Stebbing
  - Partnership with Sustrans and Living Streets to utilize national best practice
  - 3PR parking campaign with Parking Partnerships
  - 1 school transport planning officer working with as many schools as possible
  - Working with Active Essex on healthy school initiatives
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- Healthy school streets cost ~£250K - £1M per street, depending on complexity. Total allocation in 23/24 design budget is £160K (1 zebra crossing and a small amount of road surfacing on 1 street).



# HEALTHY SCHOOL STREETS ONE PAGER

## SCHOOL STREETS IN ESSEX

**SAFER  
GREENER  
HEALTHIER**

### OUR AMBITION:

All pupils walk, scoot or cycle all, or part of their journey to school.

### HOW WILL WE DO THIS?

**PHASE 1:** Engage with local communities

**PHASE 2:** Implementation



#### Engagement will include:

- Understanding the barriers using school journey data and local issues
- Facilitating discussions to shape a local solution together
- Trialling ideas with opportunities for feedback before designs are finalised

Deliver a range of bespoke solutions to make schools streets in Essex safer, greener and healthier.

