

# **County Councillor report to Hadlow Down Parish Council August 2025.**

August is normally a quiet period for official meetings and this year is no exception. However, there are a number of issues to report.

## **Highways**

### **Highway Steward**

Stefan Rumary, Highway Steward left the East Sussex Highways at short notice.

Liz Humphreys, Stakeholder Manager is sending Vicki and me regular updates and have to say is a significant improvement on the previous stakeholder management. I don't always like to answer to the points I raise but at least I get answers.

### **School Lane**

I have raised the issue again but informed it does not meet the criteria for resurfacing.

### **A272 near Nashes' Farm**

Raised issue of drain clearance and informed work due in November.

### **Fair Funding Review**

The govt launched a consultation, running from 20<sup>th</sup> June to 15<sup>th</sup> August.

It should be renamed just a Funding Review as it would seem that, from a ESCC point of view, the funding allocation will be less than previous years. This despite the high demands of an aging population, rural nature of large parts of the county etc.

### **Special Educational Needs**

A white paper was due in July but now expected in the autumn. There has been some speculation that EHCPs would be removed. This has caused a significant increase in applications from parents wanting to get into the system before any changes are proposed.

The white paper will need to either change the definitions of SEND or provide more financial resources. Keeping the status quo is not a sustainable option.

RWS Sep 2025