**Information re the Illegal Encampment at the Great Notley Country Park – 12th May 2023**

An Essex County Council spokesperson said: “Following the arrival of an encampment at Great Notley Country Park on Thursday 4 May, the Essex Country Parks management team informed the Essex Countywide Traveller Unit who began proceedings to remove the encampment from the park. The encampment has been served notice and the court date is scheduled, with the encampment expected to vacate the park by Monday 15 May. We are aware that the encampment gained access to the park from a locked access gate from the dual carriageway. Whilst we will be reviewing whether there is anything that can viably be done to mitigate the risk of further illegal access via this gate, it is worth noting that it is used as an access point by both the emergency services and staff who utilise it to ensure essential machinery can access this part of the park.”