

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****Do Bexley residents really believe Bexley roads are the 7th best in the country?**

Bexley Labour group strongly refute the council's statement last week that Bexley is the 7th best borough in the country for the condition of its roads, when the government and Bexley's own statistics do not support this assertion. Bexley's own statistics on the condition of the councils' highways show that they are in a worse condition than they were in 2020, with 2024 as the worst year reported in their statistics. These figures show the failure of this council to get a grip on an issue that residents want more action on. In addition, this council has failed to invest in whole pavement renewal and instead has relied on a 'patch and mend' approach which leaves vulnerable people at risk to injury from falls.

Councillor Anna Day, (Shadow Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods) said.

We know from meeting thousands of residents across Bexley on the doorstep that one of their top issues is potholes damaging their vehicles; they want more investment in improving roads and pavements. Instead, all we have seen recently is Bexley Conservative Councillors churning out press releases and statements that do not bear any resemblance to the reality faced by residents across the borough.

On 7th May 2026, the local elections are Bexley residents' chance to show that they have had enough of cuts and managed decline to our services over 20 years, and that **Bexley Deserves Better**.

The Chancellor ensured that Bexley had £895,000 available to fill potholes this year and we are proud that this Government will supply up to £11.3 million over the next four years to help them get potholes filled, roads resurfaced and reverse the deterioration they created.

The data in the report confirms the condition of 'A' roads in Bexley, placing it 72nd in the country for the condition of our main roads, but the Conservatives' recent bulletins seem to be skewed to make you think they are 7th.

The Government is committed to restoring pride in our communities and the places we call home. This includes cracking down on the crater-marked roads that motorists across Bexley have endured for too long.

Councillor Stefano Borella, (Leader of the Opposition Labour Group) said:

'Bexley Conservatives have put out a misleading statement saying that Bexley has some of the best roads in the country. Many different boroughs will have different length of roads and the government's own statistics show clearly that we are not one of the 16 green-rated local highways but are actually amber-rated. Bexley residents know the reality, not skewed statistics'

Below are the 25/26 ratings and links showing the data for Bexley:



2025 to 2026 ratings

For 2025 to 2026, there are:

- 16 green rated local highway authorities
- 125 amber rated local highway authorities
- 13 red rated local highway authorities

Table 1 (below) lists all the local highway authorities and links to the page where they have published their 2025 to 2026 report.

| Local highway authority | Overall rating | Condition scorecard | Spend scorecard | Wider best practice scorecard |
|-------------------------------|----------------|---------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| <u>Bexley</u> | Amber | Green | Green | Amber |

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-road-maintenance-ratings/local-road-maintenance-ratings-2025-to-2026#to-2026-ratings>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/methodology-used-to-calculate-ratings-for-local-road-maintenance>

ENDS

Notes to editors:

- For further information, please contact Cllr Stefano