

## **Harlow and Gilston Garden Town Members Briefing Note**

**Number 01/ 2020**

### **Transport Strategy Consultation: Getting Around the Garden Town**

The purpose of this Note is to provide a reminder brief for Members on the Transport Strategy and set out details of the associated consultation.

#### **1 The Garden Town Transport Strategy**

1.1 The Transport Strategy builds on the work of the Garden Town Vision. The draft, on which the forthcoming consultation exercise is based, was reported to the Garden Town Board at its meeting of 4 February 2019.

1.2 It was subsequently reported to the Cabinet and Executive meetings of the District Council partners as follows:

East Herts District Council: Executive Meeting: 26 February 2019

Epping Forest District Council: Cabinet Meeting: 7 March 2019

Harlow District Council: Cabinet Meeting: 28 February 2019

1.3 All of the District and County Council partners endorsed the draft Transport Strategy for consultation.

1.4 The Transport Strategy sets out the following as objectives:

1. To achieve at target where 60% of all journeys within the new Garden Town Communities, and 50% of all journeys across Harlow, will be undertaken by sustainable modes;
2. That mobility options will be based on a hierarchy of importance:
  - (i) Reducing the need to travel
  - (ii) Walking and cycling
  - (iii) Public transport
  - (iv) Private vehicles
3. Supporting and encouraging a culture of active and sustainable travel ensuring that all journeys are efficient and safe.

1.5 The Strategy also raises vehicle parking as an issue for the Garden Town to consider in more detail as this has an impact on the travel choices made by residents and visitors.

#### **2. Sustainable Transport Corridors (STCs)**

- 2.1 The STCs will be a key deliverable in the achievement of the Transport hierarchy. They will comprise corridors which are dedicated to enable high frequency, high quality bus services. The STCs will also provide safe and welcoming walking and cycling routes to support active travel. Buses using the STCs are seen as the primary sustainable mode serving the major new developments and therefore need the highest level of priority.
- 2.2 There will be two main routes crossing the town and linking into the new development sites. These will be a north to south STC. This will link the Gilston area of development (in East Herts) through to the Harlow Town railway station, on to the town centre and then southward to link to the Latton Priory (strategic allocation within Epping Forest District).
- 2.3 The east to west route will commence in the East Harlow strategic allocation (part in Epping Forest District and part in Harlow) close to the new M11 junction 7a and the possible site of the relocated Princess Alexandra Hospital. It will link through the town centre via the London Road Enterprise Zone and then continue westward to the Pinnacles employment area (where Public Health England are to relocate to) and then into the proposed development sites around Water Lane (in Epping Forest District). As well as serving new developments, the STCs will provide a dedicated and improved sustainable transport corridor for existing residents in the town.

### **3. Actions**

- 3.1 In order to achieve the objectives, the Transport Strategy sets out a series of actions to be considered as the next steps to implementing the Strategy

### **4 Consultation Arrangements**

- 4.1 The Transport Strategy Consultation will have the headline or title 'Getting Around the Garden Town'. The dates are for a 6 week consultation period from **31 Jan through to 13 March 2020**. Full information will be available on the new Garden Town website<sup>1</sup> and will be publicised by full social media coverage and through issue of a press release. All partner Councils are being asked to publicise the consultation on their websites and redirect those interested to the Garden Town website for full details. All stakeholders will be targeted for their views. The full arrangements for public events are currently being formulated. A table is included below setting out emerging details as at the date of the preparation of this Note.
- 4.2 Responses will be invited online, through the use of a questionnaire/ feedback form. The same arrangements will also be in place at the consultation events, where officers will invite those attending to take away and complete questionnaires, or direct attendees to the website. Unattended consultation events will have the same material available. Social media coverage will also direct respondents to the website for online submissions. Respondents will be invited to identify whether they are responding personally or on behalf of an organisation. Appropriate data collection arrangements will be in place and respondents will be informed of the way in which their data will be stored and handled.

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<sup>1</sup> [www.harlowandgilstongardentown.co.uk](http://www.harlowandgilstongardentown.co.uk)

- 4.3 Each Councils Lead or Garden Town Officer can provide more information in relation to the consultation exercise.

#### Emerging Consultation Event Details

Date	Location	Format
Thur 6 Feb	Harvey Centre, Harlow Town Centre	Presentation material available. Officers present to answer questions and hand out material
Sat 8 Feb	Harvey Centre, Harlow Town Centre	Presentation material available. Officers present to answer questions and hand out material
See dates in next column 8 Feb	East Herts PCs: Hunsdon (19 Feb), Gilston and Eastwick (24 Feb), High Wych (TBC)  Hunsdon, Gilston and Eastwick NPG meeting	Presentation and then QA  Presentation and then QA
13 Feb	Harlow College	Attended displays at high footfall times before/ during/ at end of teaching day
19 Feb	Harlow Chamber of Commerce	Presentation and then QA
10 – 14 Feb	East Herts Offices - Hertford	Unattended exhibition with publicity material available - with leaflet to takeaway
17 – 21 Feb	East Herts Offices – Bishop’s Stortford	Unattended exhibition with publicity material available - with leaflet to takeaway
27 Feb	Epping Forest Ward and Parish Councillor events	Presentation and then QA
24 Feb - 6 March	Epping Forest Offices	Presentation material available. Officers present to answer questions and hand out material on Wednesday 4 March 1.30 to 7.30 on
Throughout consultation period	Harlow DC Offices	Unmanned exhibition with publicity material available - with leaflet to takeaway

Additions:

Poster material to be available in the Harlow Town Railway Station and Harlow Bus Station during the timescale of the event.