

**SUPPLEMENTARY DOCUMENTS FOR
CABINET
Thursday 14 October 2021 at 7.30 pm
Council Chamber, Civic Centre**

The attached documents are due to be considered at the meeting listed above and were unavailable for circulation when the agenda for the meeting was published. The agenda items to which the documents relates are noted below.

AGENDA

5. Written Questions from the Public (Page 2)

To receive any questions from members of the public in accordance with Rule 10 of the Council Procedure Rules.

6. Written Questions from Councillors (Page 3)

To receive any questions from Councillors in accordance with Rule 11 of the Council Procedure Rules.

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Questions from the Public

1 Alan Leverett to Councillor Michael Hardware (Portfolio Holder for Strategic Growth):

Regarding the Town Centre Masterplan can the council for the sake of transparency tell us the cost of the Interim Planning Guidance Report for the Town Centre which was provided by consultants for presentation this evening?

Reply from Councillor Michael Hardware (Portfolio Holder for Strategic Growth):

The Council has invested £93,000 to produce a substantial, detailed master plan for the town centre. It will become an important material consideration in planning terms for projects in the town centre: for applicants when producing proposals, for officers when considering those proposals, and for members when deciding the applications.

This is the first of its kind and will ensure that we attract the right investment into the town centre in keeping with our regeneration plans.

2 Alan Leverett to Councillor Michael Hardware (Portfolio Holder for Strategic Growth):

The residential planning applications already approved by the Council in the Town Centre have reduced parking provisions. The proposals in the report suggest that Post Office Road carpark will be lost in the scheme. Does the Council consider this lack of parking the right approach to revitalise the retail business in the town when the competition from out of town retail provides an abundance of free parking?

Reply from Councillor Michael Hardware (Portfolio Holder for Strategic Growth):

At present there are no firm proposals to remove the Post Office Road car park – the masterplan provides a planning framework and not a set of detailed proposals. However, the masterplan does indicate that this site may be suitable for future development.

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Questions from Councillors

1 Councillor Tony Edwards to Councillor Alastair Gunn (Portfolio Holder for Environment):

Please could you detail your understanding of Harlow Council's and/or HTS responsibilities with respect to the maintenance of the Northgate Roundabout and if the Council/HTS have any responsibility for this roundabout why has it been so badly neglected state for well over year?

Reply from Councillor Alastair Gunn (Portfolio Holder for Environment):

Essex County Council is responsible for maintenance of the Highway including roundabouts. This includes some works to vegetation where that is necessary for highway safety, such as sightlines and direct risks to road. Essex County Council makes an annual payment to Harlow Council for the maintenance of vegetation on Highways land in Harlow for these purposes.

Harlow Council, through HTS, carries out where practicable work on highways land over and above the minimum required standard, mainly in order to improve the appearance of its area.

It has never been practicable to carry out landscape works on the roundabout at the junction of Fourth Avenue and Northgate due to its design as access cannot be obtained safely without closing the road to traffic.

The Council is in discussion with Essex County Council regarding the most appropriate means of resolving this issue. Discussions are currently underway with regard to installing hard surfacing on the roundabout to prevent future maintenance requirements.