

Decision Notice (4 November 2021)

Published 5 November 2021

This document lists the decisions taken by Cabinet at a meeting held on Thursday, 4 November 2021. The list covers key and non-key decisions. A decision may be implemented with immediate effect, unless it is eligible for call-in as identified below, whereupon a decision will not be implemented until five working days have elapsed.

Agenda Item No	Decision	Reasons for Decision	Any Options Rejected?	Declared Conflict of Interest	Eligible for call in?
A9	<p><u>Rolling Infrastructure Fund Memorandum of Understanding</u></p> <p>Key decision? Yes</p> <p>RESOLVED that Cabinet agreed:</p> <p>A The Memorandum of Understanding relating to The Harlow & Gilston Garden Town Rolling Infrastructure Fund (attached as Appendix A to the report) and agrees its submission to Homes England by the end of November 2021 as required of the Harlow and Gilston Garden Town Authority partners and specifically Hertfordshire County Council (as accountable body for the Housing Investment Grant funding to which the</p>	<p>A To ensure that the Harlow and Gilston Garden Town Authority partners and specifically Hertfordshire County Council (as accountable body for the Housing Investment Grant funding) meets requirements within the Grant Determination Agreement with Homes England for the award of the Housing Investment Grant, specifically that of the recycling of the Housing Investment Grant into a Rolling Infrastructure Fund.</p> <p>B To establish a mechanism through which the Harlow and Gilston Garden Town</p>	None	None	Yes

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	<p>Memorandum of Understanding relates).</p> <p>B To set up and operate the Rolling Infrastructure Fund 'in principle' subject to more detailed work and approval of the appropriate governance and operational arrangements for its management.</p> <p>C To govern the Rolling Infrastructure Fund initially in accordance with the approved Memorandum of Understanding as required by Homes England as a condition of the Housing Investment Grant funding and subsequently in accordance with any further governance arrangements that may be effected.</p> <p>D Delegated authority is provided to the Director of Strategic Growth and Regeneration in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Strategic Growth to agree any minor amendments to the</p>	<p>Authority partners will initially agree how to operate the Rolling Infrastructure Fund pending future governance arrangements.</p>			

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	Memorandum of Understanding that arise from the decision making structures of the other four HGGT partners.”				
A10	<p><u>Environmental Enforcement Delivery</u></p> <p>Key decision? Yes</p> <p>RESOLVED that:</p> <p>A The Council tender for environmental enforcement services as set out under Proposals in the report with a service specification to be determined by the Director of Strategic Growth and Regeneration, in consultation with Portfolio Holder for Environment.</p> <p>B The current pilot operation continue with NES as the Council’s contractor until 31 March 2022 to provide service continuity through</p>	<p>A To provide for future enforcement capacity in relation to environmental offences such as fly tipping dog fouling and littering that lie within the Council’s remit.</p>	None	None	Yes

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	<p>the procurement process recommended at A above.</p> <p>C The Council engage in communications measures to enhance the effect of enforcement as set out under Proposals in the report.</p>				
<p>A11</p>	<p><u>Tree Planting and Bio-Diversity Management</u></p> <p>Key decision? Yes</p> <p>RESOLVED that:</p> <p>A The tree planting programme for winter 2021/22 as set out in Appendix A is approved with a commitment to develop a medium term (3 – 5 years) tree planting strategy by March 2022 which is then reviewed on an annual basis.</p> <p>B The approach to woodland management as set out in Appendix B is agreed.</p>	<p>A To agree the implementation of the successful Local Authority Treescape Fund bid.</p> <p>B To develop a strategic approach to the Council’s work on bio-diversity. As a planned New Town, Harlow benefits from networks of open spaces which contribute to the biodiversity of the district, conserve habitats of local significance and enable the appreciation of wildlife. Helping to protect and enhance biodiversity is one of the fundamental aims of national policies and guidance, to halt the overall</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>Yes</p>

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	<p>C The approach to grassland management as set out in Appendix C is agreed including the increase in wildflower planting from four strips in 2021 to a minimum of eight in 2022 with the final locations to be agreed by the Portfolio Holder for Environment.</p> <p>D Cabinet agree to end the use of single use plastics in all of its tree planting and bio-diversity work with effect from the 2022/23 winter programme.</p>	<p>decline in biodiversity. Through this report Harlow Council commits to playing its role in delivering against this national agenda. The Council will also commit to identifying and implementing a monitoring regime to measure, as far as is possible, the impact that the Council's measures are having on bio-diversity within the town.</p> <p>C In 2020 the Government published its Environment Bill which sets out policies, plans and targets for improving the natural environment and to combat the climate crisis. The bill proposes targets for improving air quality, reducing residual waste and for improving bio-diversity. In terms of the latter, there are specific targets to restore 75% of protected sites to a favourable condition and</p>			

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		<p>also creating or restoring 500,000 hectares of wildlife rich habitat. The work that Harlow Council does in the both the short term and also in setting longer term targets will have to be set in this context.</p>			
<p>A12</p>	<p><u>Harlow and Gilston Garden Town Transport Strategy</u></p> <p>Key decision? Yes</p> <p>RESOLVED that:</p> <p>A Cabinet consider the Harlow and Gilston Garden Town Transport Strategy, October 2021 (as set out in Appendix A to the report), together with the accompanying appendices including the high level programme (as set out in Appendix B to the report), consultation report (as set out in Appendix C to the report) and equality impact assessment (as set out in</p>	<p>A To ensure that the Harlow and Gilston Garden Town Transport Strategy is afforded suitable planning weight by approving it as a material consideration in the planning process. This will ensure that development proposals across the Garden Town contribute to the Council's and its Harlow and Gilston Garden Town Authority Partner's sustainable mobility ambitions, and that clear and consistent parameters are established for future pre-application advice, preparation of masterplans, assessing planning applications and any other development</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>Yes</p>

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	<p>Appendix D to the report).</p> <p>B Cabinet approves the Transport Strategy as a material consideration in the planning process for the preparation of masterplans, pre-application advice, assessing planning applications and any other development management purpose for all sites within the Garden Town area, including Harlow District in its entirety.</p> <p>C Cabinet delegate to the Director of Strategic Growth and Regeneration in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Strategic Growth and the Director of the Harlow and Gilston Garden Town to make any minor text or design amendments to the Transport Strategy prior to publication should there be necessity for clarification or changes proposed by the respective decision makers of East Herts, Harlow and Epping Forest Districts and Essex and</p>	<p>management purposes across the Garden Town area.</p> <p>B To establish a common approach to supporting sustainable travel across the Garden Town area that will inform the work of the five Harlow and Gilston Garden Town Authorities.</p>			

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	<p>Hertfordshire Counties in order to ensure a consistent document.</p> <p>D Cabinet endorses the future transport network plan (on pages 34-35 of the Transport Strategy) in so far that it identifies, illustratively, the proposed Sustainable Transport Corridors extending from the Town Centre to the north, east, south and west and confirm support in principle for the delivery of new infrastructure that supports safe and attractive travel by walking, cycling and public transport that will benefit existing neighbourhoods of Harlow and sustainably integrate any proposed new allocations with the town.</p> <p>E Cabinet acknowledge that the ambition, mode share objective and principles in the Transport Strategy should help shape existing and future work programmes of the Highway</p>				

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	<p>Authorities across the Garden Town, and can provide supporting justification for funding submissions and spending commitments in relation to transport. Content will also be relevant to development, regeneration and other initiatives undertaken by Harlow Council.</p> <p>F Although recognising that endorsing the Transport Strategy is not a legally binding act, Cabinet agrees that it will not introduce a congestion charging scheme for Harlow and will continue to work to improve residential parking amenity for existing Harlow residents.</p>				
A13	<p><u>Health and Wellbeing Strategy - Positioning Statement</u></p> <p>Key decision? Yes</p> <p>RESOLVED that:</p> <p>A Approves the Harlow Health</p>	<p>A This approach will allow time for Essex County Council, the West Essex Clinical Commissioning Group, the One Health and Care Partnership and other relevant health and social care partners to publish the most recent health and</p>	None	None	Yes

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	<p>and Wellbeing Partnership Board Strategy Positioning Statement (attached at Appendix A to the report) to ensure residents are fully aware of the Council's current position and intentions until such time that relevant data is available to inform development and publication of a new robust, relevant and aspirational Health and Wellbeing Partnership Board Strategy for Harlow.</p> <p>B Acknowledge the need to develop a new Health and Wellbeing Partnership Board Strategy for 2022 – 2025 that is driven by the most recent and reliable local health and wellbeing data available.</p>	<p>wellbeing data that reflect the impact of Covid-19 and the current health needs of Harlow's population.</p> <p>B It is crucial that the development of a new Health and Wellbeing Partnership Board Strategy is driven by robust and reliable local data, so that available resources can be targeted effectively to ensure maximum benefit for Harlow residents. The Council is driven by a commitment to delivering good health and wellbeing outcomes for its residents.</p> <p>C This approach will allow time for the Harlow Health and Wellbeing Partnership Board to consult with residents on the development of the Strategy and to work with Essex County Council, West Essex Clinical Commissioning Group, the One Health and Care</p>			

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		<p>Partnership and the two other West Essex Councils (Epping and Uttlesford) to identify and consider any common themes or emerging trends that would benefit from a collaborative working approach across borders and/or the sharing of resources to ensure maximum benefit for Harlow residents. The Council will also look to support a more enhanced evidence-led approach in order to deliver better public health outcomes with partners.</p> <p>D Results from the Essex County Council review of the 'Livewell' campaign will be available in early 2022 and will help inform development of the new strategy in terms of how the Council and its partners can positively promote the brand and actively involve individuals, families and communities in achieving</p>			

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		positive health and wellbeing outcomes for themselves and help build stronger community resilience for the future.			
A14	<p><u>Local Plan - Statement of Community Involvement</u></p> <p>Key decision? Yes</p> <p>RESOLVED that:</p> <p>A Approves the Draft Statement of Community Involvement (attached as Appendix A to the report), to enable it to be published for the purposes of consultation.</p> <p>B Delegates authority to the Director of Strategic Growth and Regeneration, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Strategic Growth, to make and approve any minor or inconsequential amendments to the Draft Statement of Community Involvement arising from the</p>	<p>A To approve the Draft Statement of Community Involvement for publication for a six week consultation period.</p> <p>B To replace the existing SCI (adopted in 2014), which is now out of date in order to allow the Council to modify its consultation procedures.</p>	None	None	Yes

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	statutory consultation.				