

# HARLOW AND GILSTON GARDEN TOWN SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT IMPROVEMENTS

Housing Infrastructure Fund:

Working towards a more sustainable future



Essex County Council



Hertfordshire



***‘Securing sustainable transport infrastructure will be a key component in enabling the successful delivery of the wider Garden Town and achievement of the quality of life and place that the Garden Town vision aspires to. Hertfordshire County Council and the partnership that has supported this bid are pleased to promote what will be an exemplar in sustainable travel, supporting connectivity between new homes and jobs for the benefit of Hertfordshire and Essex residents now and in future.’***

**Cllr Derrick Ashley**, Hertfordshire County Council  
Executive Member for Growth, Infrastructure, Planning and the Economy



***‘Infrastructure is at the very heart of our economic growth and enhancing existing and creating new and exciting places to live and work. This can only be achieved in a sustainable way that provides for all forms of transport now and in the future. This bid to government will ensure we help this important part of the UK grow in a proper and measured way.’***

**Cllr Kevin Bentley**, Essex County Council  
Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Infrastructure

Harlow is an evolving new town and the primary economic and growth centre within West Essex. It boasts an excellent strategic position in the London-Stansted-Cambridge corridor, and has been designated a Garden Town and Enterprise Zone.

There are ambitious plans to develop new homes in Harlow, Epping and East Herts districts as part of the Harlow and Gilston Garden Town. It includes Gilston Park, Latton Priory, Water Lane and East of Harlow developments, and will create over 16,000 new homes in the area up to 2033 and further 7,000 beyond.

At present, the existing transport infrastructure in Harlow will impede this potential growth, slowing housing development and inhibiting economic growth. The transport network needs significant investment in order to cater for both the existing growth and the new housing and employment associated with the emerging local plans.

Hertfordshire County Council and Essex County Council are working together to improve transport infrastructure. With the delivery of the proposals being put forward in this document, the Garden Town developments will be able to maximise their potential for years to come.

## Enabling the delivery of housing

Enhancing the infrastructure in West Essex will help to enable significant housing growth in the London-Stansted-Cambridge Corridor and allow the region to capitalise on Harlow's designation as an Enterprise Zone and Garden Town.

### What is proposed?

The proposals will provide a high-quality bus, walking and cycling link from the Eastwick junction in Hertfordshire to Harlow town centre via the railway station, while also providing a second crossing of the River Stort. It therefore includes:

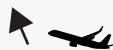
- Expanding the existing crossing over the River Stort to extend the sustainable transport corridor between the Gilston area, Harlow Town Railway Station and Burnt Mill Roundabout
- An additional road crossing over the River Stort, linking the A414 at Eastwick with a new roundabout north of the river and then onwards to Edinburgh Way via River Way
- Improvements to junctions along the A1019 that will enhance their operation, boosting accessibility and attractiveness of the public transport, cycle and walking networks

The proposed improvements will be linked by a sustainable transport corridor which will provide high-quality connections for buses, cycles and pedestrians between Gilston, the railway station and the town centre.

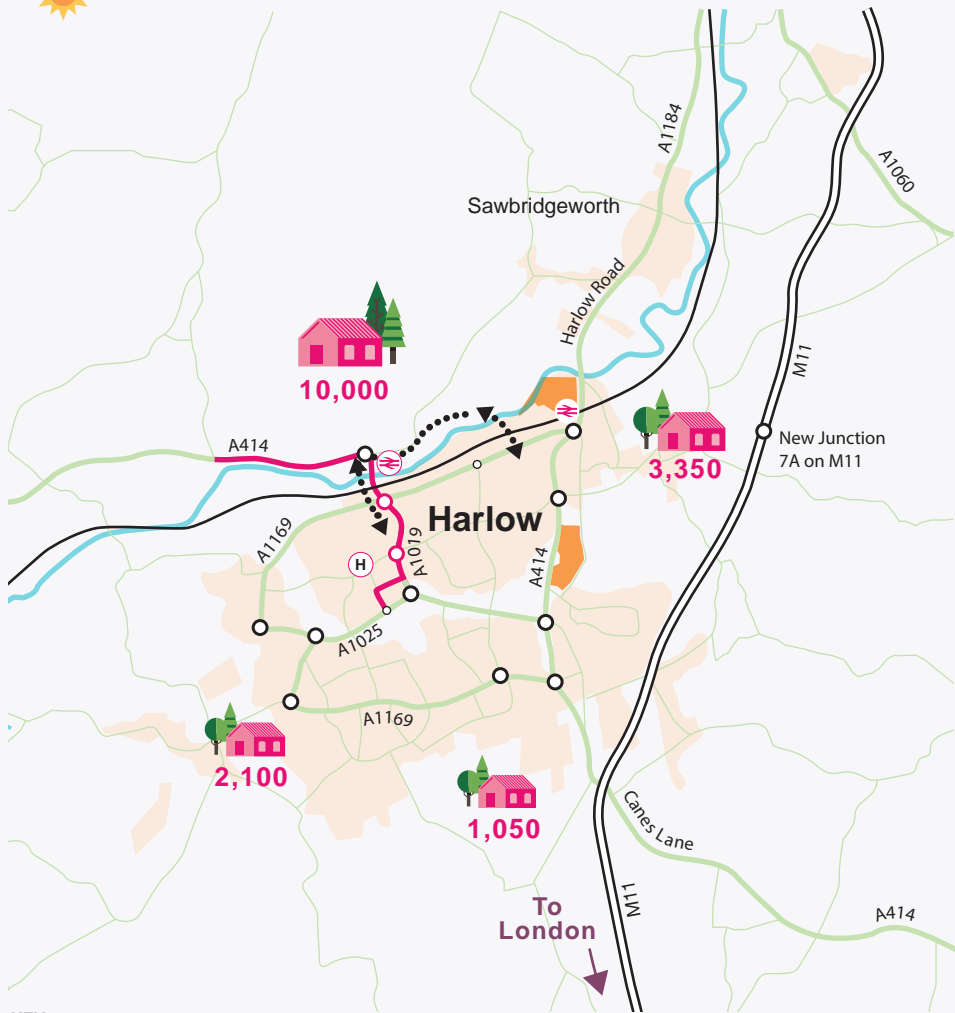
### What will this do for housing growth?

The proposed schemes will remove constraints to development, bringing forward the delivery of homes. The schemes will also facilitate the delivery of new jobs and provide much needed infrastructure for the Garden Town that enables access to and from the new developments.
















To Cambridge and London Stansted



KEY

-  Route improvements
-  Urban areas
-  Harlow Town railway station
-  Enterprise Zone
-  Harlow Mill railway station
-  Princess Alexandra Hospital
-  West Anglia Main Line
-  New / improved road river crossings
-  Local roads
-  Potential road extension
-  Proposed housing
-  River
-  Airport

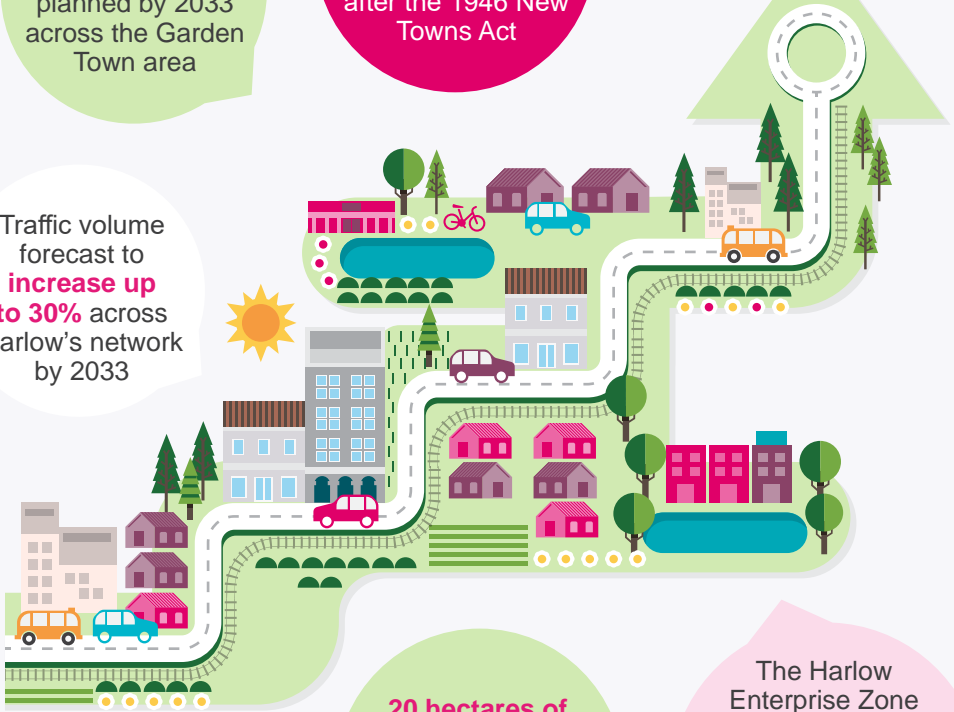
# Key Benefits

**16,000 new homes** and **12,000 jobs** planned by 2033 across the Garden Town area

Sustainably develop one of the first New Towns to be delivered after the 1946 New Towns Act

Approximately **20 minutes** from Harlow to London Stansted Airport by train

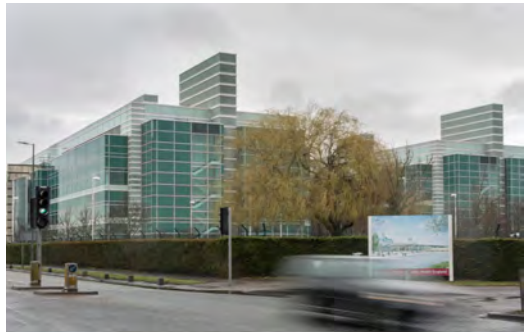
Traffic volume forecast to **increase up to 30%** across Harlow's network by 2033



**£450 million investment** from the public sector with the relocation of Public Health England to Harlow

**20 hectares of future employment floorspace** is planned at sites across the Garden Town

The Harlow Enterprise Zone has the **potential to leverage + £150m** of private sector investment and **deliver 5,000 jobs**



## The case for Government funding

The East of England is one of the fastest growing regions in the country – in the next 20 years there will be a need for 180,000 new homes in Greater Essex alone. It is therefore vital that the infrastructure in the county and the surrounding areas can keep pace with this growth.

Investing in this infrastructure is vital for the future of housing developments in the area - the Harlow and Gilston Garden Town will not be able to maximise its potential of delivering 23,000 homes without it.

This infrastructure will also facilitate a shift to more sustainable transport modes and address traffic congestion, enhancing the resilience of the Garden Town so that it can continue to be a driver of the local and regional economy.

**£171 million**

anticipated to be required to implement these improvements