

Public Questions and EDC Response

EDC Board 14 December 2016

The following questions and responses can also be found on the Corporation's website at www.ebbsfleetdc.org.uk

Relating to Item 2a) Interim CEO's Strategic Report

Q1: What positives were in the Autumn Statement for Ebbsfleet Garden City?

Answer: The Autumn Statement set out the government's plans for future investment in infrastructure and housing. The EDC continues to work closely with government officials to ensure the Garden City benefits from these opportunities wherever possible.

Q2 There isn't an Agenda item for feedback on the Draft Implementation Framework (IE), although it was in the non-public section on 16th November. When and where can we expect to see the revised version?

Answer: The Implementation Framework is being taken to our local authority partners during December and January, with the ambition that the document is formally endorsed by their members. Our expectation is to be able to formally publish the Framework in February. In the meantime we will be providing detailed responses to those parties that provided helpful feedback on the public draft in October.

Relating to Item 2b) Communications

Q3 At the 21st April 2015 (1st) Board a proposed Organogram was discussed. Now EDC has an approved headcount of 28 FTE Staff, will you put the finalised Organogram on the Website to complement the "Meet the Team" item?

Answer: A full list of staff, with their titles, emails and telephone numbers is on our website, giving everyone easy access to us. We can make the organogram available to anybody who requests it.

Q4 Highways England are enquiring about a display of Bean and Ebbsfleet Junction Options in Bean Community Centre on 18th and 21st January 2017. What part of EDC will be commenting on the Options or will EDC be confining their comments to bringing forward the "End date: by the end of March 2023"?

The Director of Projects, Julia Gregory will be drafting a response to the consultation on behalf of EDC. EDC will respond to the consultation once the consultation material has been published. Our proposed response will be reported to the EDC Board in open session and published on our website.

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Relating to Item 3 Acting Chief Planning Officer's Report

Q5 In November it was said, "A significant amount of work is taking place on the revision to the Eastern Quarry masterplan with a submission for the S73 application expected in December". On 23 Nov CBRE ran a 3-hour Observatory event on "forthcoming minor amendment proposals" for the EQ development.

The many revisions still have a Garden City access onto Watling Street, Bean. This conflicts with daily queues for the A2 eastbound. Will EDC insist that it is not brought into Public use before Bean Junction improvements are open?

Answer: We understand that work is being completed for the S73 application in relation to Eastern Quarry which we expect to be submitted shortly. The consideration of this planning application along with all other planning application submissions is a matter for the EDC Planning Committee and not for this Board.

Relating to Item 4 Finance Director's Report

Q6 The 16th November 2016 Board Report said that the "programme spend for 16/17 is a forecast outturn of £15.1m" compared to the £39.1m Project Budget. What is the explanation for the anticipated £24m underspend?

What is the revised 5-year profile? The 5th December 2016 update to "The National Infrastructure and Construction Pipeline" didn't show any change to the "Large development – Ebbsfleet" profile provided by DCLG.

Developers are now moving forward at pace with their own schemes in Ebbsfleet Garden City and we are pleased to say that stalled sites identified for 16/17 investment by the EDC, now have interest in them from the private sector. We fully expect to see house builders develop those sites in the not too distant future. As a consequence of this private sector involvement, less EDC capital investment is required in 16/17. As previously reported to the EDC board, EDC's overall 5-year capital programme has been reviewed and discussions with Government regarding a revised 5-year profile for EDC's capital expenditure are ongoing.