

## Public Questions and EDC Response

EDC Board 21 June 2017

The following questions and responses can also be found on the Corporation's website at [www.ebbsfleetdc.org.uk](http://www.ebbsfleetdc.org.uk)

**Question 1: The answer to question 7 (from Swanscombe & Greenhithe Town Council) at the 18 Aug 2016 Board was, "Amongst the key Values adopted by EDC through our Corporate Plan and now agreed by Ministers is to work to agree a sustainable legacy for the Garden City in how it is managed and maintained in perpetuity. EDC is working to develop an appropriate approach which will include stewardship for green spaces, public realm and community assets and we aim to make recommendations to Board by the end of March 2017". What is progress? Has it considered new Borough boundaries?**

The EDC remains committed to ensuring effective long term stewardship of the public realm and green environment of the Garden City. We recognise that this involves working with all land owners, developers, management companies, residents and local authorities and we are adding additional expertise and capacity to our team to progress this important work. We will take account of local authority boundaries and responsibilities and we expect to report progress later in the year.

**Question 2: At the 25 May 2017 Bluewater Community Forum, on the topic of Health, an Indoor Swimming Pool to serve the Garden City and adjacent areas was suggested. Individual planning consents do not include such a facility. The 2017 Implementation Framework includes a concept of "Natural Swimming Pools". Will EDC Board support a safer option for an Indoor Swimming Pool to serve the proposed 50,000 new residents as well as those nearby?**

The EDC has neither plans nor funding to commit to the provision of an indoor swimming pool in the Garden City. However we recognise the potential benefits of such a leisure facility and if a commercially viable proposal for a swimming pool was put forward I am sure we would wish to consider it.

**Question 3: Is the "2016 to 2021 EDC Corporate Plan" available to download? The Web Site has a version in a fancy, but impractical, Adobe Spark format.**

The Corporate Plan has been on the website for a year and has been viewed thousands of times without any complaints so we see no reason to change it. There is no downloadable or printed version but we'd be happy to supply a copy on request.

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**Question 4: Have the Board been alerted to the controversy concerning three recent planning applications in Eastern Quarry: i) Market Centre adjacent to Bluewater; ii) Destruction of Western Cross Farm; iii) Dam, to replace footbridge across Craylands Gorge?**

The representatives of the Board who sit on the EDC Planning Committee, including the Planning Committee Chairman, are kept apprised of the key issues arising from the various streams of planning work, including these cases. The S73 application for Eastern Quarry will be reported to planning committee in due course, this includes the area of Western Cross Farm. The application that was submitted for the demolition of Alkenden Farm has now been withdrawn and the proposals at Craylands Gorge are currently out to consultation.

**Question 5: A scheme (KentEx) has emerged for a Cross Thames Tram Link. How would this be integrated with existing and proposed homes and businesses in the Garden City? Does it have EDC support?**

We are aware of the publicity surrounding this idea which we understand is not yet developed as a proposal for detailed consideration by local authorities, the EDC and other bodies.

When further details are available we will give close consideration to the proposal and in particular identify how it might integrate with and benefit the Garden City.

**Question 6: The 2016/17 Year End Operational expenditure included £65,120 “To establish KPI baselines”. The report to the 17-May-17 Board had a further £10,000 in 2017-18 for “Corporate Plan/KPI baseline monitoring”. Are the KPI baselines now established? When, and how often, will the 10 KPI identified in the “2016 to 2020 EDC Corporate Plan” be published and updated?**

Ebbsfleet Development Corporations' Corporate Plan 2016-21 was approved by Government in June 2016. The Corporate Plan includes our 10 key performance indicators (KPIs) which will measure our progress and success against our agreed Vision and Objectives. The KPIs include a number of measures and targets which are linked to improvements based on a 2016 baseline and are reported on annually within the EDC's Annual Report and Accounts.

During 2016/17, we completed the baselines for Modal shift, Quality of Life, existing Land-use and Residents Satisfaction, and we have access to existing data on local air quality.

The resident's satisfaction survey and modal shift survey will be repeated bi-annually or as appropriate. The Quality of Life survey will be reviewed in 2021 based on available objective data sets. Our 10 KPIs will be monitored in detail annually and where appropriate we will commission independent surveys and assess performance and indicators such as quality of life.