

Public Questions and EDC Response

EDC Board 16 August

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

Question 1: On 12th July 2017, in a Debate on New Towns, it was proposed to set up an All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG). The purpose would be, "to look at the lessons to be learned from the new towns programme so that, as we move forward and build garden towns, villages and cities, we do not make the same mistakes". Would EDC participate in this and, if so, who would be the Ebbsfleet Garden City representative?

The EDC would willingly participate in any such study and any submission of evidence would be prepared with our Board.

Question 2: London Resort Company Holdings Ltd say they have regular meetings with EDC. Have decisions been made on how the Resort Access would pass through the Ebbsfleet Central Area? If it were necessary to build above the Access, who would pay for bridging over it to support the Commercial Centre?

The EDC continues to work with Highways England, Kent County Council and Dartford and Gravesham Councils to respond to London Resort Company Holdings' plans for the theme park access road and master plan. These plans are still being developed and we will report progress in due course.

Question 3: On 20th June 2017 BBC carried a feature on "Is it safe to live on a former landfill site". This included recreational uses. The proposed Central Park is on a former landfill site. Who would be responsible for its creation and long-term management and monitoring, reported to be necessary?

The landfill site is identified as a future Central Area park in our Implementation Framework. At the present time the land owners have not developed their plans for this site and we will work closely with them on proposals for the site, and its long term maintenance, as plans are being developed.

Question 4: The Healthy New Towns (HNT) event on 20th July 2017 was well organised with extensive coverage on Facebook. Are there separate communications budgets from EDC and NHS to cover HNT activities?

We are very encouraged local residents and workers from the new and established communities across the Ebbsfleet Garden City area have taken part in the Digital Monitoring Initiative and this specific event was well received.

The Healthy New Towns Programme does not have a specific communication budget, and neither does the EDC. However the HNT programme does have resources which can support events such as this.

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Question 5: The August Planning Committee Agenda includes a Q1 Activity Report. It shows there were 21 planning applications determined. It doesn't say: -

- how many were decided by the Planning Committee?
- how many were decided under delegated powers?
- how many applications were refused?

Can these three figures be provided?

2 planning applications were decided

19 planning applications decided under delegated powers

No planning applications were refused

Question 6: The 27th July 2017 'Kent News' headlined, "EDC to pump £30m into electricity sub stations ..." What is the schedule of payments to UK Power Networks?

There are elements of the electricity investment that may be subject to competitive procurement and hence are commercially sensitive. The current profiling of the budget (which may include expenditure to other suppliers as well as to UKPN) across the EDC's investment programme is as follows:

2017/18	£	9,300,000
2018/19	£	12,350,000
2019/20	£	8,394,447

Total	£	30,044,447
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Question 7: Why is the development going ahead when the base water treatment infrastructure is not fit for purpose and cannot sustain the Garden City, let alone a major development

We are aware of the issues surrounding the Waste Water treatment plant and we are working with Southern Water to bring forward a long term solution that meets the capacity needs of the Garden city and to ensure any provision is of the highest environmental quality.

Question 8: The smell is terrible on a daily basis as any local, why are you building a primary school on top of a sewage works – the smell may not be toxic but it will impact on those with breathing difficulties. The sewage works is a major blocker to quality of life in Ebbsfleet.

The principle of a primary school being located on Springhead Park was agreed around 10 years ago. The emerging plans show the school buildings being located towards the southern end and therefore as far from the Waste Water Treatment Works as possible. The relationship between the school and the Waste Water Treatment Works will be assessed in detail during the planning application process.