

One Horton Heath, Eastleigh Borough Council
Eastleigh House, Upper Market Street
Eastleigh SO50 9YN
onehortonheath@eastleigh.gov.uk

September 2021

Dear resident,

# Junction Improvement Scheme - Allington Lane / Blackberry Drive / Sandy Lane / Fair Oak Road

You may have recently received a letter from the Council's planning team letting you know that a planning application, called One Horton Heath, is proposing improvements to roads junctions in your area and inviting you to comment on proposed plans so that the Council's planning committee can understand the views of local residents.

This letter, on behalf of the Council's One Horton Heath team is to help clarify the situation and provide you with further information regarding our proposals and the discussions between ourselves and the Highway Authority, Hampshire County Council.

#### One Horton Heath



One Horton Heath is a Council owned development on 355 acres to the west of the present village of Horton Heath.

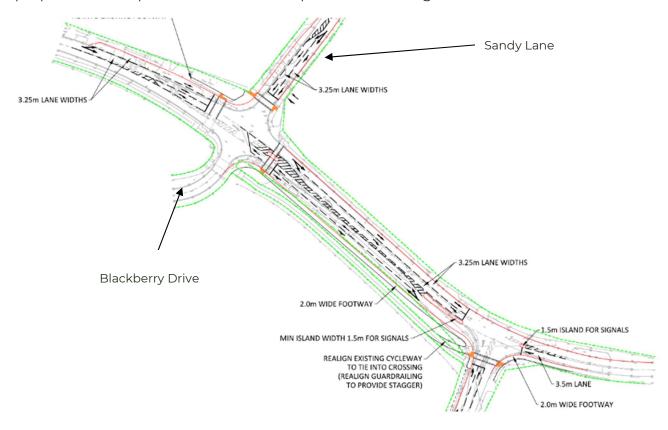
Planning permission was granted on this site in 2017. The project stalled and the Council subsequently bought the site and is in the process of redesigning it to ensure the development best meets the needs of those that live or work locally.

A new planning application setting principles for the entire development will be considered by a committee of local Councillors on the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

Our proposals can be viewed here <a href="https://planning.eastleigh.gov.uk/s/public-register">https://planning.eastleigh.gov.uk/s/public-register</a> using reference number 0/20/89498.

## Junction Improvements

The design at the Allington Lane / Blackberry Drive / Sandy Lane / Fair Oak Road approved with the 2017 planning permission can be viewed below. Despite meeting relevant planning tests at the time, this proposal addressed only the impact of the then proposed development and did not improve the existing situation at this location.



The Council has already carried out many of the highway improvements approved in 2017 but this junction, understandably, has caused much concern over the years so we wanted to see how we could better improve the traffic issues at this location for the long term. We started work on a new planning application at the end of 2019 and resolving the issues at this junction was a key part of our plan and new proposals for the One Horton Heath development.

As with all works on the public highway in Eastleigh, it is Hampshire County Council who are responsible for all decisions and work related to the highway. We have been working with the County Council over the last two years to achieve a number of junction improvements in the borough which will be completed as part of the One Horton Heath project.

In November 2020 we carried out a public consultation on our new proposals for the site which included input from local residents and stakeholders as part of extensive engagement and design work carried out over the previous 12 months. The Allington Lane / Blackberry Drive / Sandy Lane / Fair Oak Road junction was featured and addressed in our consultation video which is still available online at: <a href="https://youtu.be/dEResd\_5AZI">https://youtu.be/dEResd\_5AZI</a>

We have continued to work with Hampshire County Council during the planning approval process to ensure that best possible improvements to the road network are achieved, this included a very recent request from the County Council to explore the relocating of the Blackberry Drive junction. A plan exploring this option was provided to Hampshire County Council at the start of July 2021 and was subsequently shared by our planning department for feedback from those immediately adjacent to the potential work.

#### Working to keep Blackberry Drive in its current location

The feedback we have received has been invaluable and we, as a local authority, have been able to respond straight away championing only those junction improvements in this location that <u>DO NOT</u> include the relocation of Blackberry Drive, as this is not something Eastleigh Borough Council supports.

We are pleased to advise that further revised proposals were submitted to Hampshire County Council earlier this month that mitigate not only the future traffic impacts of the One Horton Heath proposals but also the forecast traffic growth in this part of the Borough up to the year 2036.

## What Happens Next

The planning application for the wider One Horton Heath project is being considered by a committee of Local Councillors on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021. www.eastleigh.gov.uk/OHHagenda

The planning application has been recommended for approval by the Council's planning department subject to a number of ongoing matters which also includes final agreement with Hampshire County Council for a plan to improve the Allington Lane / Blackberry Drive / Sandy Lane / Fair Oak Road Junctions.

Please note that the planning committee will not be considering full detail or final outcome of any proposed junction improvements at this time, as we are only part way through the consultation, design and technical process that must be concluded before Hampshire County Council consent to any improvements being carried out on the public highway.

We hope that this information has provided some clarity and alleviated concerns you may have had regarding the junctions. Your views and comments have already helped us in shaping our plans and we will continue to keep the local community involved as our plans progress. You can learn more about One Horton Heath by visiting www.onehortonheath.co.uk

If you would like to speak directly to the One Horton Heath team about any of the issues within this letter, please email us at <a href="mailto:onehortonheath@eastleigh.gov.uk">onehortonheath@eastleigh.gov.uk</a>.

Yours sincerely

Chris Payne One Horton Heath – Project Director