

## Notice of Non-Key Executive Decision

<b>Subject Heading:</b>	Minor Fact Change to Romford Masterplan
<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Helen Oakerbee, Director of Planning and Public Protection
<b>Cabinet Member:</b>	Cabinet Member for Regeneration
<b>ELT Lead:</b>	Helen Oakerbee, Director of Planning and Public Protection
<b>Report Author and contact details:</b>	Jill Warren, Deputy Team Leader Planning Policy, jill.warren@havering.gov.uk
<b>Policy context:</b>	Havering Local Plan 2016-2031 and Romford Masterplan Supplementary Planning Document
<b>Financial summary:</b>	There are no direct financial implications arising from this minor correction.
<b>Relevant Overview &amp; Scrutiny Sub Committee:</b>	Places
<b>Is this decision exempt from being called-in?</b>	The decision will be exempt from call in as it is a Non key Decision

## Non-key Executive Decision

### **The subject matter of this report deals with the following Council Objectives**

People - Supporting our residents to stay safe and well

Place - A great place to live, work and enjoy (X)

Resources - Enabling a resident-focused and resilient Council

### **Part A – Report seeking decision**

#### **DETAIL OF THE DECISION REQUESTED AND RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Romford Masterplan was adopted as planning policy by Havering Council's Cabinet in March 2025.

It has since been brought to our attention by the Romford Baptist Church that an illustrative map for the Mercury Site Guidance incorrectly describes and illustrates a private piece of land as potentially available for a public access route, in the Mercury Site Guidance section.

The map in Section 6.8, Paragraph 6.8.3.3: Figure 115: *Indicative street hierarchy, access and route networks*, states that adjacent to the Romford Baptist Church there is a route with 'Potential to enhance pedestrian link between Dolphin Approach and Main Road.' This is indicated as an Active Travel Street.

This ED seeks approval for the map to be corrected by removing the reference text and the link drawn on the map, and to re-publish the Romford Masterplan SPD with this correction. This will be accompanied with the following statement on the website identifying this correction.

"A minor factual amendment has been made to Figure 115: Indicative Street Hierarchy, access and route networks. The text referring to Potential to enhance pedestrian links between Dolphin Approach and Main Road and the route of this have now been deleted from the Masterplan.

Appendix 1: shows the illustrative map with the factual error as published.

Appendix 2: show the illustrative map with the text and mapping error removed.

#### **AUTHORITY UNDER WHICH DECISION IS MADE**

##### **3.3.5**

##### **2. Planning**

2.1 To exercise all powers and functions on behalf of the Council and to meet all obligations imposed upon the Council pursuant to any planning legislation, except

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where such powers, functions and obligations are reserved to the Council or its committees.

On the 12<sup>th</sup> March 2025 Cabinet granted approval to adopt the Romford Masterplan as planning policy for Havering. This minor factual correction is not considered to be a material deviation from the adoption decision considered by Cabinet.

### **STATEMENT OF THE REASONS FOR THE DECISION**

A minor factual error was identified in the Adopted Romford Masterplan.

### **OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED**

To retain the Romford Masterplan without removing this error may result in confusion and legal dispute as the Romford Masterplan addresses potential development from 2025 to 2041, a long period in terms of planning policy.

### **PRE-DECISION CONSULTATION**

The option to correct this error was discussed with Legal; Helen Oakerbee, Director of Planning and Public Protection, Cllr Williamson, Cabinet Member for Regeneration Cllr Ray Morgon, Leader of the Council.

### **NAME AND JOB TITLE OF STAFF MEMBER ADVISING THE DECISION-MAKER**

Name: Jill Warren

Designation: Deputy Team Leader, Development Planning

Signature: *Jill Warren* Date: 16-03-2026

## Part B - Assessment of implications and risks

### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS**

The Romford Masterplan Supplementary Planning Document went through a formal process of consultation and approval. The error that has been identified is not fundamental to the Masterplan and the correction will have no other impact than preventing confusion in the future regarding the Romford Baptist Church land.

There are no direct legal implications from this decision.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS**

Formally correcting the identified error does not give rise to any direct financial risks or implications. There are no direct financial implications arising from this correction.

### **HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS (AND ACCOMMODATION IMPLICATIONS WHERE RELEVANT)**

There are no human resources implications from correcting and re-publishing the Romford Masterplan Supplementary Planning Document.

### **EQUALITIES AND SOCIAL INCLUSION IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS**

The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 requires the Council, when exercising its functions, to have 'due regard' to:

- (i) The need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010;
- (ii) The need to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share protected characteristics and those who do not, and;
- (iii) Foster good relations between those who have protected characteristics and those who do not.

Note: 'Protected characteristics' are age, sex, race, disability, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnerships, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity and gender reassignment.

The Council is committed to all of the above in the provision, procurement and commissioning of its services, and the employment of its workforce. In addition, the Council is also committed to improving the quality of life and wellbeing for all Havering residents in respect of socio-economics and health determinants.

An EqIA (Equality Impact Assessment) is usually carried out and on this occasion, this is not required because of the minor, factual nature of the change .

The Council seeks to ensure equality, inclusion, and dignity for all in all situations.

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There are no equalities and social inclusion implications and risks associated with this decision.

**ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS**

There are no environmental or climate change implications from this decision.

**HEALTH IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS**

There are no health implications from this decision.

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None.

**APPENDICIES**

Appendix 1 – Map before correction  
Appendix 2 – Map after correction

**Appendix 1: Before Correction**

**6.8.3.3 Access and Movement**

The access and movement network must promote active travel, utilising green links to the town centre. All streets must be clear, safe and accessible for pedestrians and cyclists to encourage active travel.

Given the reconfiguration of the block and potential reversion of town centre uses, a coordinated servicing strategy will be needed.



Urban street with space for pedestrians, cyclists and public transport – New Islington, Manchester

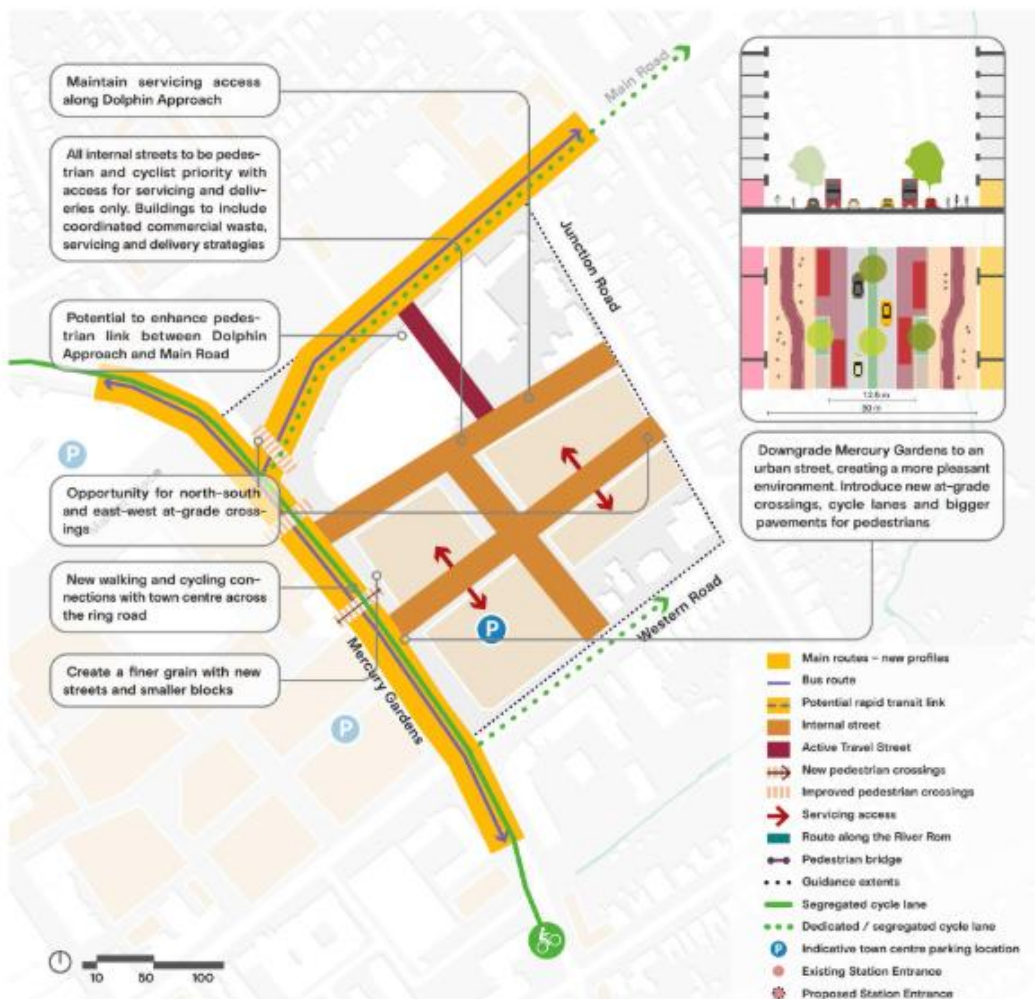


Fig. 115. Indicative street hierarchy, access and route networks

**Appendix 2: After Correction**

**6.8.3.3 Access and Movement**

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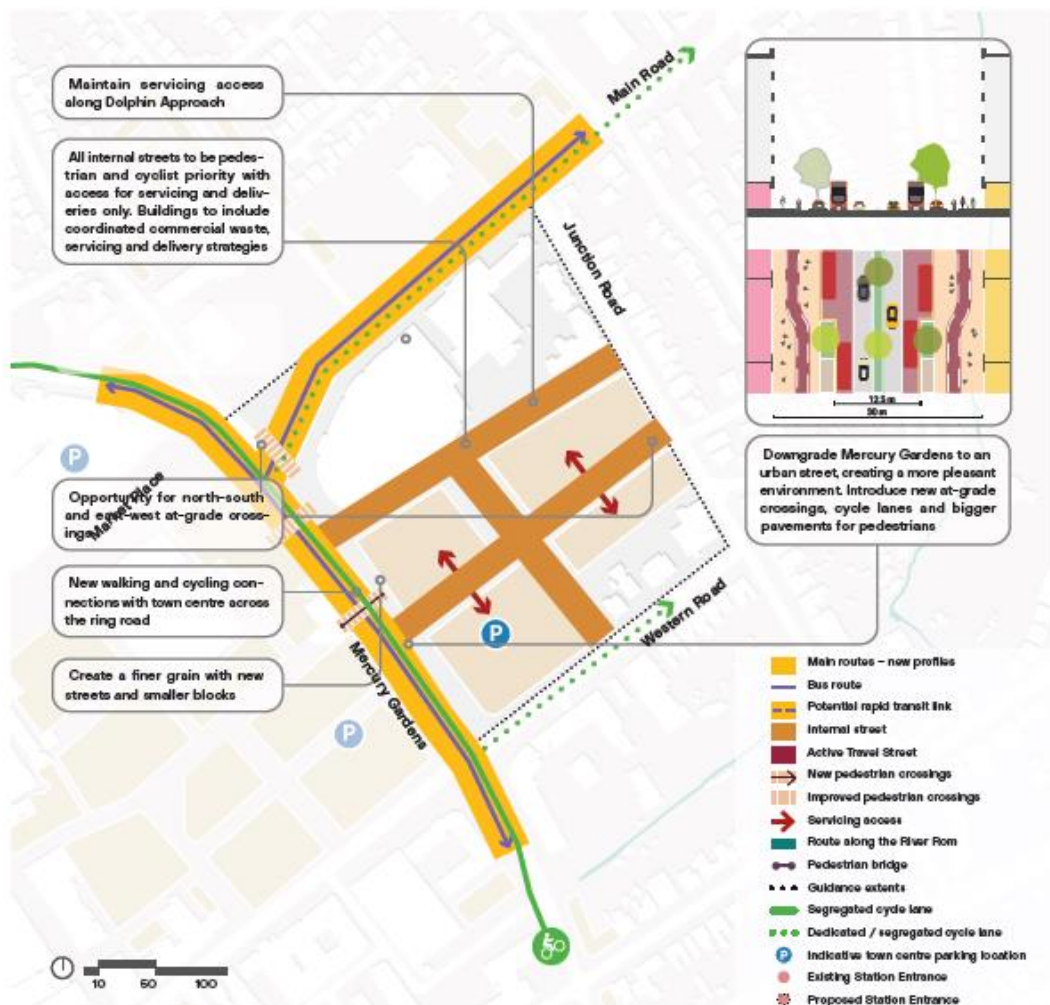


Fig. 115. Indicative street hierarchy, access and route networks

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**Part C – Record of decision**

I have made this executive decision in accordance with authority delegated to me by the Leader of the Council and in compliance with the requirements of the Constitution.

**Decision**

Proposal agreed

**Details of decision maker**

Signed 

Name: **Helen Oakerbee, Director of Planning and Public Protection**

Date: 5 May 2025

**Lodging this notice**

The signed decision notice must be delivered to Committee Services, in the Town Hall.

**For use by Committee Administration**

This notice was lodged with me on \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_