



Harlow Authority Monitoring Report 2018-2019



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1. Introduction

1.1. The Authority Monitoring Reports (AMR) form part of the Local Plan and replaced the Annual Monitoring Report. As an important part of the plan making process for Local Planning Authorities, the AMR can be updated as frequently as deemed necessary.

1.2. This AMR covers the period from 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019 and reports on the following:

- Local Context
- Progress of key indicators against the current Local Plan
- Progress of the Development Plan against the Local Development Scheme (LDS)
- Neighbourhood Planning
- Duty to Cooperate
- Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

1.3. The report sets out the local and regional context and demographic information, the growth in housing numbers and the calculation of the five-year land supply in the district, together with other indicators relating to employment and infrastructure changes. In addition it indicates Local Plan progress against the current Local Development Scheme, progress of Neighbourhood Plans, and how the Council has fulfilled the Duty to cooperate requirements.

2. Location

2.1. Harlow is a planned New Town characterised by distinct neighbourhoods separated by Green Wedges and other green spaces, providing varied housing types for all incomes, owners and tenants. It is made up of 11 wards, illustrated on Figure 2.1.

Harlow Total Area	30 square km
Harlow Constituent Area	24% Green Wedge, 10% Green Belt, 4% Green Finger, 10% Other Open Space, 52% All other land*. <i>*Approximate figures. 'All other land' includes built development and residential gardens</i>
Population	86,200 (2017) Sources: NOMIS- ONS

Table 2.1 Demographic Profile

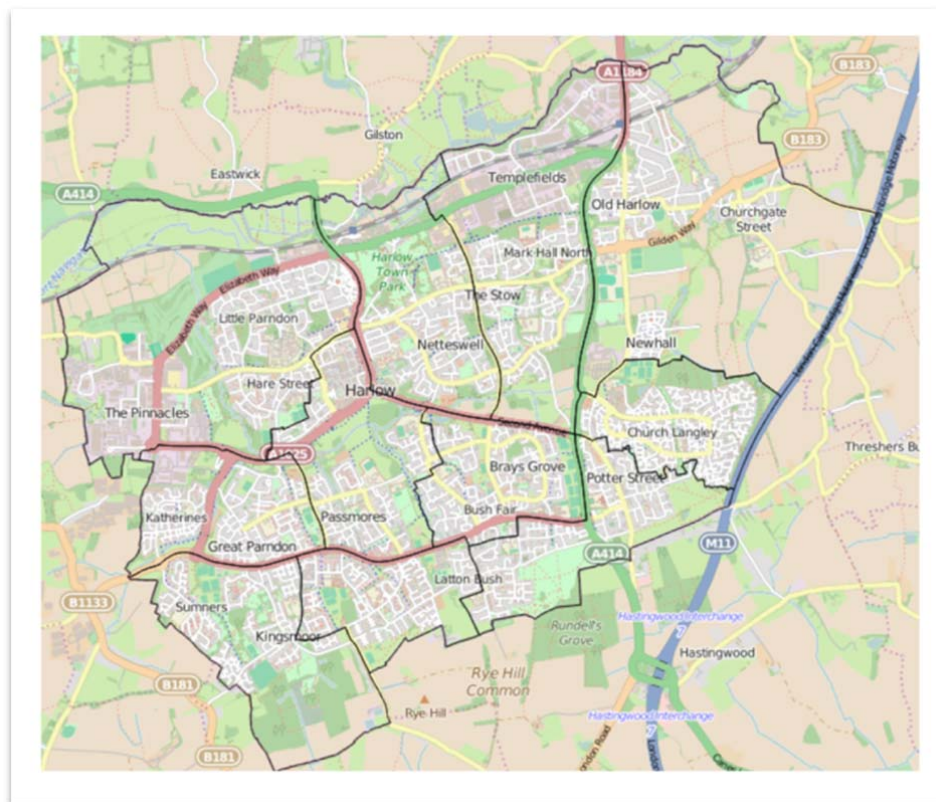


Figure 2.1 Wards in Harlow

2.2. ONS released the 2014-based population projections which use 2014 population data to extrapolate how the population of a Local Authority will change in the next 20 years and beyond. The population pyramids below show the data for 2018 and for 2033, the period the forthcoming Harlow Local Development Plan will cover.

2.3. The population of Harlow is projected to be 98,800 by 2033.

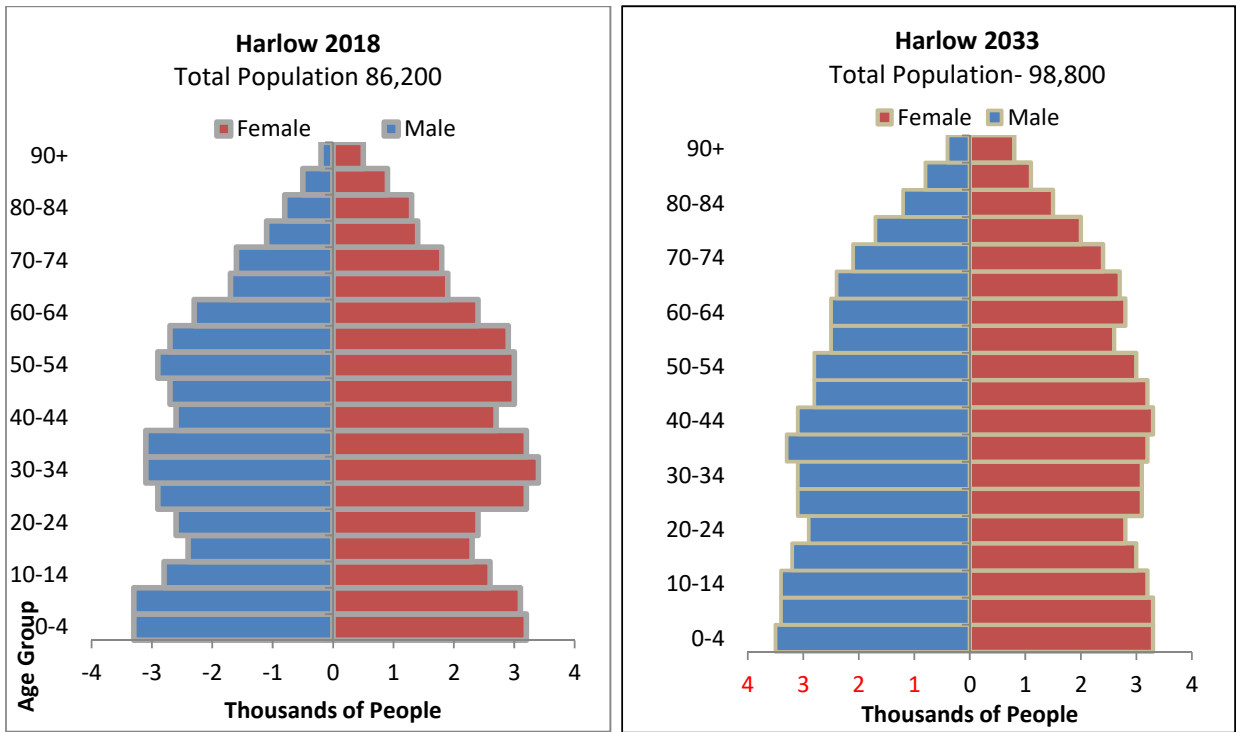


Figure 2.2 Population pyramids

Source: ONS

- 2.4. The 2014-based population projections and the subsequent household projections from the ONS formed the basis for identifying the objectively assessed housing need in the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) published in 2015, and has been updated in 2017.
- 2.5. The updated SHMA(2017) states that 2,350 new homes need to be provided each year across the Housing Market Area of Harlow, East Hertfordshire, Epping Forest and Uttlesford between 2011 and 2033. There is further information on the SHMA in Section Two.

3. Harlow Story



1940s and 50s

Harlow has a history which reaches back beyond the medieval period, with Neolithic, Bronze age and even Iron age remains found in the area. The oldest parts of the town, which contain numerous listed buildings include Churchgate Street, Potter Street and Old Harlow. In total there are 180 Statutory Listed Buildings and 26 locally Listed Buildings in Harlow.

Harlow was one of the first new towns to be built after World War Two to ease overcrowding in London and the surrounding areas. The masterplan for Harlow was prepared by Sir Frederick Gibberd in 1947 and was designed around the concept of having self-contained neighbourhoods supported by their own community services and facilities.

Key features of this design included green wedges and open spaces between neighbourhoods, with roads and cycleways connecting all areas to the town centre. Harlow featured some of the first modern-style residential tower blocks and the first purpose built sports centre.



1960s onwards

After reaching its original target population of around 81000 residents in 1974, Harlow was subject to a period of population stagnation and decline. At its lowest point in 1995, Harlow's population fell to 73000 people; threatening retention of social services and retail provision in the town.

there was also a decline in manufacturing jobs in the town. As this sector began to decline country-wide, Harlow was hit particularly hard.



Into the new millennium

The district is in an ongoing period of improvement and regeneration which has been supported by the delivery of several major housing schemes. This includes Church Langley which was completed in 2005 and provided approximately 2000 new homes and Newhall Phase 1 which has provided 580 homes to date. Newhall phases 2 and 3 are providing a further 2300 homes. More recently, planning consent was granted for land at Gilden Way which will provide around 1100 new homes.

The town centre has been through major redevelopment through the creation of new retail and service provision at the Water Gardens to the south and a new cinema in the Harvey Centre.

Source: British History Online

Figure 3.1 Harlow Timeline

4. An efficient and effective planning team

4.1. The Planning Department at Harlow District Council is formed of two teams; Forward Planning and Development Management. The Forward Planning Team leads in reviewing the socio-economic and environmental conditions of the district and associated technical evidence in order to prepare local plans to shape future growth and development needs. This is undertaken in accordance with the Council's corporate policies in line with government legislation to reflect the needs of Harlow residents and local business. Progress on the preparation of the Harlow Local Development Plan and its associated policies are detailed in section three of this report.

4.2. The Development Management team deal with the day to day implementation of the Council's planning policies when determining applications. The policies and Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) currently adopted and in use are listed in Table 4.1. Until the new Local Plan is adopted, the Local Plan Saved Policies, 2009 (taken from the Adopted Replacement Harlow Local Plan, 2006) contain the policies currently used in deciding planning applications.

Document	Adoption Date	Comments
Essex Design Guide	2018	The new Essex Design Guide website is launched, featuring wide-ranging content updates.
The Stow SPD	2016	This document provides a design framework for improvements to the town's first Neighbourhood Centre.
London Road South LDO	2015	These three Local Development Orders (LDOs) are in place in parts of the Harlow Enterprise Zone. They provide planning permission for a range of employment developments and associated infrastructure with the aim of speeding up the planning process and encouraging new business to the area.
London Road North LDO	2014	
Templefields North East	2014	
Harlow Design Guide SPD	2011	This document was designed to replace the 1997 Essex Design Guide. It gives guidance that helps new development to have regard to the distinctive features that give Harlow and its neighbourhoods their sense of place.
Local Plan Saved Policies	2009	This is the list of policies from the Adopted Replacement Harlow Local Plan that are saved for use in deciding planning applications.
The Essex Parking Standards Design and Good Practice	2009	While Harlow now has its own Design Guide, all highways matters are the responsibility of the Highway Authority - Essex County Council. Applicants are required to use this document in conjunction with the Harlow Design Guide SPD on

		all highways matters.
Open Spaces, Sport and Recreation SPD	2007	This document sets out the Council’s approach to the provision of open space in conjunction with new housing developments. It highlights where planning obligations will be sought for open space.
Affordable Housing SPD	2007	The document expands on policies H5 and H6 in the Adopted Replacement Harlow Local Plan and highlights where planning obligations will be sought for affordable housing.
Adopted Replacement Harlow Local Plan	2006	Although this document was only extended to 2011, while the new Local Plan is still being produced it is still the base document used to decide planning applications.
The Essex Design Guide	1997	Used alongside the Harlow Design Guide SPD, the servicing and access chapters of this document are still used.

Table 4.1 Policies and Supplementary Planning Documents

4.3. As well as these documents there are several related to conservation including Harlow’s Statutory Listed Buildings Schedule, Harlow’s Locally Listed Buildings Schedule and ten Conservation Areas. There are also Article 4 Directions in force at Templefields, Old Harlow and Morley Grove. All of these documents are available to view on the Harlow Council website at www.harlow.gov.uk/planning-policy

4.4. The performance of the Development Management team in processing planning applications in accordance with these policies is summarised in the table below.

	2018-19	2017-18	2016-17	2015-16
% Major applications processed within 13 weeks	92.30	100	88.89	93.33
% Minor applications processed within 8 weeks	87.75	86.86	91.14	84.21
% Other applications processed within 8 weeks	86.20	82.74	88.99	88.48

Table 4.2 Performance of the processing planning application

4.5. The Council’s performance in the processing of planning applications in 2018-19 has been to a good standard, with percentage increases for minor and other applications on last year.

4.6. Where planning applications have been subject to significant responses during the public consultation process they are reported to the Council’s Development Management Committee for a decision. All major applications also go to this Committee. This Committee is cross party and comprises ten Councillors. The

Committee meets every month when there are applications to be decided. Further Information on the Committee structure and upcoming meetings can be found at <http://moderngov.harlow.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=141>

- 4.7. The Development Management team also have responsibility for planning enforcement, when development is carried out without planning permission, does not properly follow the detailed plans or does not comply with conditions which have been approved by the Council. In most cases the Council will attempt to resolve the breach of planning control by negotiation; this may include giving the opportunity to apply for retrospective planning permission. However, where serious harm is being caused, the Council will take firm action and may not enter into any negotiations before doing so.
- 4.8. Where a breach of planning control is confirmed, the Council can serve an Enforcement Notice on the owner and/or occupier of the land. The notice explains the nature of the breach of control and sets out what steps are necessary to rectify the situation and a date by which this must be done. If the notice is not complied with, the Council may lay prosecution proceedings before the Magistrates or Crown Court.
- 4.9. The Council may also consider serving a Stop Notice or may apply to Court for an Injunction to prevent further harm being caused. This action requires the people responsible to stop specified activities. The table below summarises actions which have been taken by the Council in recent years.

	2018-19	2017-18	2016-17	2015-16
Enforcement Notices Issued	2	3	1	2
Stop Notices Issued	0	0	0	0
Breach of Condition Notices Served	0	0	0	0

Table 4.3 Enforcement Action

5. Housing

Dwelling Completions

5.1. In total as of 1st April 2018 there were 37,421 homes in Harlow. By 31st March 2019 this had risen to 38,097 homes.

5.2. The table below gives a range of indicators which illustrate housing delivery performance in Harlow.

	2018-19	2017-18	2016-17	2015-16	2014-15	2013-14	2012-13	2011-12
Net additional homes provided	676	351	340	225	204	126	152	389

Table 5.1 Harlow Housing Performance

Source: Harlow Council

5.3. In terms of additional homes provided, the statistics show that house building in Harlow for the period 2018/19 is significantly higher than 2017-18 and against the annual target of 336 homes.

5.4. Past completions within the Local Plan period have been less than would have been required to meet the dwelling target. Consequently the Council has accepted that a 20 per cent buffer as required by the NPPF should be applied. In addition, the deficit from the start of the Local Plan period has been incorporated in the five year target. Harlow has a 7.0 years supply of housing, when assessed against the objectively assessed housing need. The graph below illustrates the housing trajectory based on allocations set out in the forthcoming Harlow Local Development Plan.

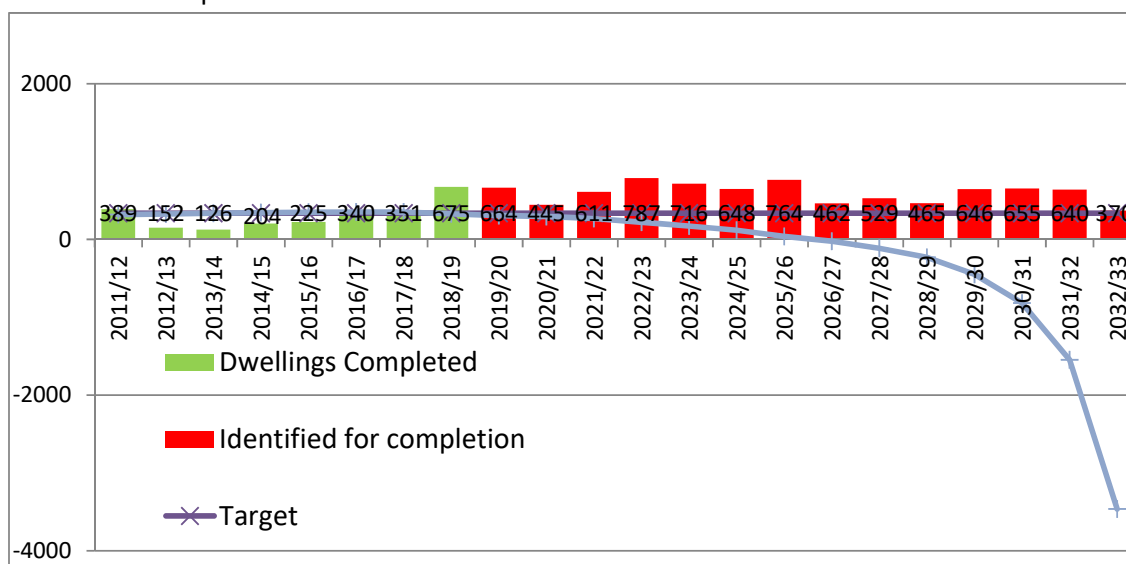


Figure 5.1 Housing Trajectory (Harlow Council)

Affordable Housing

	2018-19	2017-18
New affordable homes provided	24	53

Table 5.2 Affordable homes in Harlow

Source: ONS & HDC

5.5. Harlow Council will continue to work towards ensuring planning policies secure the provision of more housing, with a wider choice of housing types which are genuinely affordable and by helping to improve the choices for those in housing need, as well as improving health and wellbeing by improving housing conditions.

House Prices

Year ending December	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Ratio of median house prices to median earnings	9.49	9.06	9.2	7.81	6.45

Source: ONS

Table 5.3 House Prices

5.6. The ratio of median house prices to median earnings has increased over time in line with these sale price increases. This effectively means that for those earning the least, even the lowest priced homes are becoming less affordable. This ratio will be used to assess housing need in future plans.

Strategic Housing Market Assessment 2017

5.7. Opinion Research Services were jointly commissioned by the local authorities of West Essex (Epping Forest, Harlow and Uttlesford) and East Hertfordshire to undertake a Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA). This identified the functional Housing Market Area and established the Objectively Assessed Housing Need (both market and affordable) and to provide evidence of this to inform the preparation of the new local plan for the district and to support decision making.

5.8. The SHMA set out in detail evidence of Harlow's housing need. This was considered to be 337 dwellings per annum or 7,409 dwellings over the plan period (2011-2033). This figure includes an uplift to take account of market signals including land prices, rents, affordability and the rate of development.

6. Employment

6.1. Harlow's economy has changed dramatically from its New Town origins. Large companies are no longer the hallmark of the local economy, as only 0.6% of Harlow businesses have 250 or more employees. Manufacturing has declined but still remains a very important element of our economy supporting 3,500 jobs. Harlow is growing in significance as a location for world class knowledge based businesses and organisations including Life Sciences (Public Health England), ICT & Digital (Arrow Electronics) and Advanced Manufacturing (Raytheon). There is increasing recognition that Harlow has an important role to play in delivering economic growth, particularly with an emphasis on our key growth sectors of life sciences, advanced manufacturing and ICT/Digital.

6.2. Figure 6.1 shows the major employment sites in Harlow, the Harlow Enterprise Zones and the proposed New Connections in Harlow. Harlow has three major employment areas, along Edinburgh Way in the North East of the town, the Pinnacles to the West and land east of London Road. Harlow also has smaller neighbourhood centres and hatches to serve the local neighbourhood, and provide employment opportunities.



Figure 6.1 Map shows key employment area in Harlow

Estimates of the site area and floor space in the allocated Employment Areas in *Harlow* can be found in the table below:

	Site Area (ha)	Estimated Floor Space (sqm)
Templefields and Riverway	129	423,631
Burnt Mill	12	36,430
Pinnacles	122	377,000
Staple Tye	4	18,480
Bush Fair	3	12,483
London Road South	8.4	52,000 (once construction is complete)
London Road North	14	60,343 (once construction is complete)
The Stow Service Bays	1.2	Unknown

Table 6.1 Estimates of the area floorspace in employment area

6.3. Table 6.2 below breaks this down into annual permissions granted. It does not include the Enterprise Zone proposals, nor does it include the details for all office to residential conversions as the amount of floorspace being converted in each case does not have to be submitted for approval by the Local Authority

Annual Change in Floorspace based on Permissions Granted	2018-19	2017-18	2016-17	2015-16	2014-15
Change in business (office or light industrial) space (B1)	N/A	-174.8	-3338.3	837.3	-2
Change in industrial space (B2)	N/A	786.3	275	-801	-583
Change in storage and distribution space (B8)	N/A	154	340.9	0	0

Table 6.2 Annual change in floorspace based on permissions granted

6.4. It was announced in 2015 that Public Health England intends to move its facilities into new laboratories on the northern part of the current GlaxoSmithKline site in The Pinnacles. On 13 December 2017 the Council's Development Management Committee approved outline planning consent for the development at the former GSK site subject to conditions and a Section 106 Legal Agreement. The development will provide a major boost to the local economy with 2,750 staff to be based at the currently vacant site by 2024, with scope for further expansion. Thousands of construction-related jobs would be created during the development of the site, of which it is anticipated a significant number would be recruited locally. To help develop the next generation of scientists and meet its future recruitment needs, PHE will pursue academic and commercial partnerships and work closely with local schools and colleges to offer work experience and apprenticeships. The plans include a visitor area where school groups and the local community would meet PHE scientists, attend talks, workshops and learn about public health, science and research.

6.5. The planning application includes a Travel and Visitor Plan, which outlines car parking provision and sets out sustainable travel and transport plans for the site. These include shuttle buses to and from Harlow Town railway station as well as car-share and cycle-to-work schemes. The outline planning application had widespread support from a range of local organisations that see this development as vital to Harlow's continued regeneration and building a reputation as a place to do business. Building work is expected to start in 2019 with phased occupation starting in 2021.

6.6. The council had three principal objectives for the Enterprise Zone in 2017/18:

- Commence construction of the first buildings for the Harlow Science Park at London Road North. Construction is well under way in 2018/19
- Support the landowner at Kao Park in securing additional tenants for both the office buildings and the data centres.
- Ensure the delivery of the new link road at Templefields connecting River Way to Cambridge Road.

6.7. A new access road and infrastructure has been delivered, resulting in a fully serviced site for the Harlow Science Park. In February 2018, Kao Park has opened the first of its four data centre buildings on what is the largest data centre development currently underway in the south east of England. The data centre provides storage for what is generally known as cloud computing.

6.8. Table 6.3 shows there has been a steady rise in the number of businesses in Harlow. It demonstrates that there is a higher number of micro to small enterprises and local units (both well over 80% of the total number) than medium to large scale.

Harlow Business Counts			
	2018	2017	2016
Enterprises			
Micro (0 To 9)	2,520	2,585	2,415
Small (10 To 49)	275	275	265
Medium (50 To 249)	60	50	50
Large (250+)	20	20	20
Total	2,875	2,930	2,750
Local Units			
Micro (0 To 9)	2,800	2,885	2,715
Small (10 To 49)	495	465	450
Medium (50 To 249)	115	125	115
Large (250+)	20	20	25
Total	3,430	3,495	3,305
Source: Inter Departmental Business Register (ONS)			

Table 6.3 Harlow Business Count

6.9. After a significant increase in 16/17, the number of people employed in Harlow has dropped in 17/18 and back to the same level before. The rate is now rising again in 2018/19.

Harlow Employment rate			
	Harlow	East	England
2014/15	74.9%	76.0%	72.7%
2015/16	74.3%	77.0%	73.7%
2016/17	83.3%	77.2%	74.2%
2017/18	74.6%	77.6%	75.0%
2018/19	81.8%	81.2%	78.9%

Sources: NOMIS- ONS

Table 6.4 Employment Rate

6.10. Figure 6.3 shows the discrepancy between the earnings of Harlow residents compared to people employed in Harlow. From 2002 -2018, the average difference was 17%.

In 2018, the difference lowered to below 6%. Figures for 2019 are not available.

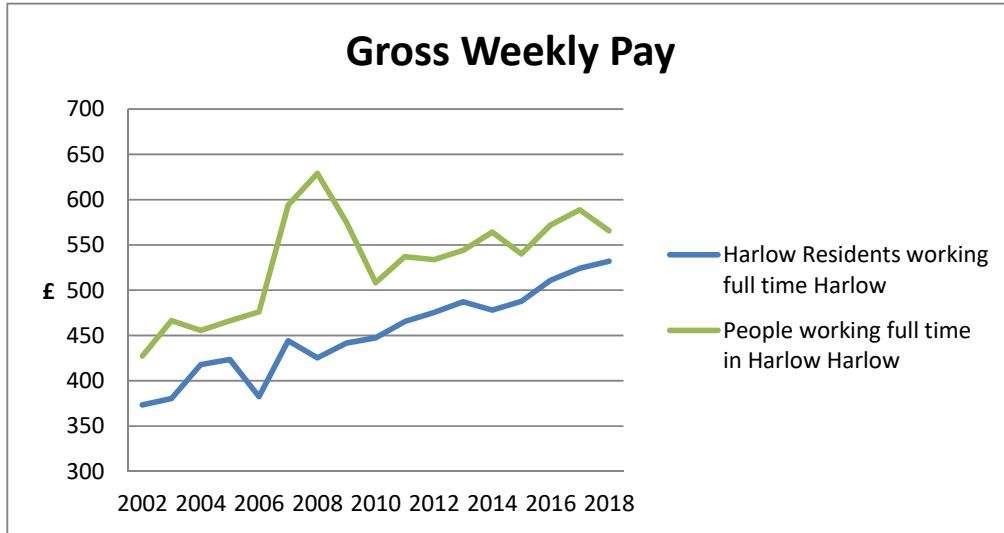


Figure 6.3 Gross Weekly Pay

6.11. Figure 6.4 shows the percentage of residents claiming out of work benefits. This includes job seekers allowance, tax credits and universal credit and counts people who are actively seeking work. Harlow’s figure has had a noticeable increase between 2017 and 2019.

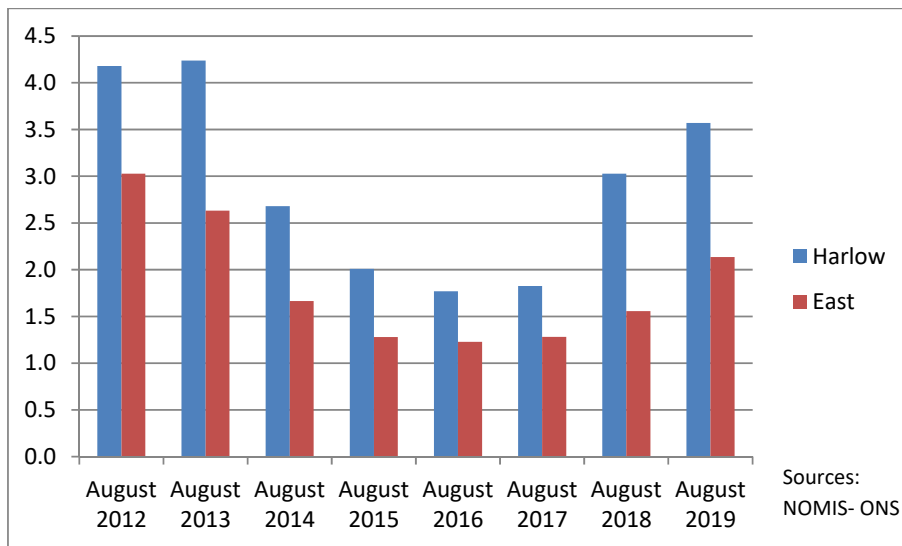


Figure 6.4 Out of work benefits claimants

7. Retail and Leisure

7.1. Harlow Retail & Leisure Needs Study was published in January 2017. The Study has been used to inform the retail policies in the new Local Plan, and the potential allocation of retail floorspace in the district.

7.2. Figure 7.1 shows the Harlow retail network, which is mainly formed of the town centre, retail warehouse parks, neighbourhood centre and hatches.

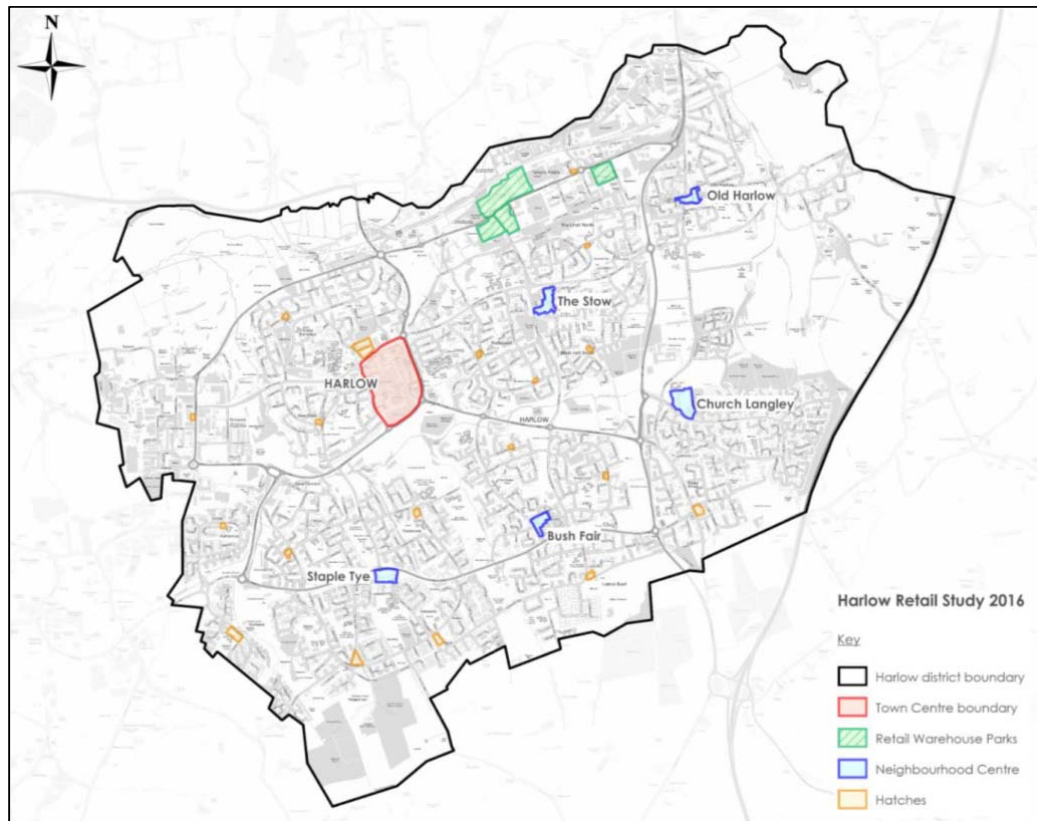


Figure 7.1 Harlow retail areas

7.3. In order to inform the preparation of planning policies, and reflecting the duty placed on the Council as Local Planning Authority to review the socio-economic and environmental conditions of the district, the Council annually assesses the retail frontages in Harlow. This provides analysis of changes that have occurred in the retail frontages. (Table 7.1 below)

	Pre-'01*	'02*	'03	'09	'13	'14	'15	'16	'17	Jul '17	'18	'19
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
A1	83.4	83.0	77.6	71.1	74.2	74.5	71.4	64.6	60.2	59.5	65.7	58.7
A2	3.4	3.7	3.7	3.1	4.2	4.0	4.1	3.6	4.3	4.3	4.9	4.9
A3	1.8	1.8	1.6	3.6	3.9	4.4	4.9	5.5	7.0	6.8	9.0	9.0
A3/A5	3.3	3.3	2.9	2.9	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1
A4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
A5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
SG	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.3	1.0	1.0	0.5	0.8	0.7	0.7	1.0	1.0
Other	1.9	1.9	1.7	2.3	2.0	2.0	1.1	1.1	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3
B1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.3
D1/D2	6.0	6.0	5.4	5.3	3.9	3.9	4.1	4.1	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.2
Vacant	0.0	0.0	6.6	11.2	8.5	8.0	2.8	7.9	9.9	10.5	4.5	11.5
VA1	0.0	0.0	2.1	6.4	5.4	5.5	2.3	7.1	8.8	9.4	2.9	10.2
VA2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.2
VA3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
VU	0.0	0.0	4.4	3.9	2.0	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
VSG	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.6	0.6	0.3	0.3
VN/A	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.8
Redev't.	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.4	10.1	9.0	9.3	6.1	6.1

*Approx. 20% of the town centre primary frontages were not recorded in 2001 & 2002, so data for these years is of limited use.

Table 7.1 Town Centre primary frontage use classes

7.4. The Retail Frontages Study has been updated in 2019. In early 2018, the large BHS unit changed from vacant to A1 use, the amount of vacant frontage fell to 4.5% and the amount of A1 frontage increased to 65.7%. In 2019 A1 frontage length dropped to the 2017 level and vacant frontage increased to 11.5%.

8. Environment

8.1. In 2013 an application for repair, conservation and improvement works to the Town Park was approved. The Council's successful bid of £1.83m Heritage Lottery Funding and the Big Lottery Fund has contributed towards part of the £2.8m restoration of Harlow Town Park, with around £800,000 spent on the Pets' Corner refurbishment. These works aim to improve the awareness, appreciation and enjoyment of Harlow Town Park, restoring and adapting its unique collection of features and styles for today's park users.

8.2. The restoration programme of Harlow Town Park was completed in 2016. In July 2019, Harlow Town Park received the fourth Green Flag Awards in a row and Parndon Wood Nature Reserve won its eleventh Green Flag in a row. Green Flag Awards is the mark of a quality park or green space.

- 8.3. The Development Management team have been contributing to this Corporate Priority more broadly by undertaking a comprehensive review of the current Tree Protection Orders (TPOs). The aim of this is to assess trees with existing TPOs to ensure their information is accurate and up to date and to identify trees which should be given protection.
- 8.4. In Harlow there is 640 hectares of Green Belt, which remain unchanged in 2017-18. As part of the evidence base for the Harlow Local Development Plan a review to assess the function of the Green Belt against National Guidance was undertaken. This is available on the Council’s website. The Green Belt Review has demonstrated that the Council has considered all options for accommodating the district’s housing needs as set out in the Harlow Local Development Plan. To assist in meeting the Council’s housing requirement, 130 hectares of Green Belt that was not meeting the Green Belt purposes has been released from the Green Belt and allocated for housing in the Pre-Submission Harlow Local Development Plan. A further 173 hectares of Green Belt land which was also not fulfilling the Green Belt purposes has been released from the Green Belt and re-designated as Green Wedge or Green Finger.

Sites of special scientific interest

- 8.5. Sites of special scientific interest (SSSI) are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Harlow has three SSSIs sites: Harlow Woods (in two parts) and Hunsdon Mead.
- 8.6. The condition of SSSI land in England is assessed by Natural England, using categories across England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland through the Joint Nature Conservation Committee. There are six reportable condition categories: favourable; unfavourable but recovering; unfavourable and no change; unfavourable and declining; part destroyed; and destroyed.
- 8.7. Harlow Woods has 46.1% of designated land considered as favourable and 54% as unfavourable but recovering. The condition of Hunsdon Mead SSSI is 100% unfavourable but recovering.

		% meeting area of favourable or unfavourable recovering	Favourable	Unfavourable - Recovering
Harlow Woods	Area (ha)	45.15	20.79	24.36
	Percentage	100.00%	46.05%	53.95%
Hunsdon Mead	Area (ha)	34.23	0	34.23
	Percentage	100.00%	0%	100%

Table 8.1 Condition of SSSI in Harlow

Local Nature Reserves

8.8. The total area of Harlow Marsh Local Nature Reserve is 13.77 Ha. The Reserve consists of three sites – Maymeads Marsh, Marshgate Springs and Parndon Moat Marsh which provides a range of wetland habitats. The “Town Park – Stort Valley Meadows – Wildflower Meadow Project” aims to redress some of the loss of flower-rich grassland. The project has been carried out in two parts. Part 1, consisting of the restoration of about half the meadow plus an interpretation board for the meadow, has been funded by a £10,000 grant from the Tesco Bags of Help scheme which is administered by Groundwork UK. Part 2, restoring the remainder of the meadow, was contributed to by Harlow Council and funded by a private donation. The total value of Parts 1 and 2 is £18,200.

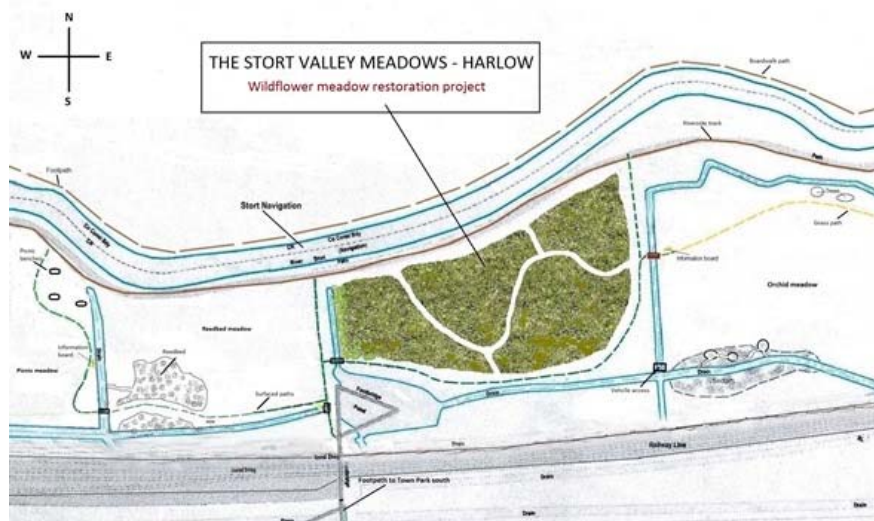


Figure 8.1 Town Park – Stort Valley Meadows – Wildflower Meadow Project

9. The new Local Plan

9.1. The Council is in the process of preparing a new Local Development Plan for Harlow which will replace the Adopted Replacement Harlow Local Plan 2006. The timetable for the production of the Local Development Plan can be found below.

Timetable	
Evidence gathering and identification of issues and options	2009-2010
Issues and Options Consultation	November 2010 - 2011
Further evidence gathering, consideration of implications arising from Localism Act 2011	2011-2014
Emerging Strategy and further Options Consultation	April 2014 – May 2014
Participation with adjoining districts on strategic planning matters in accordance with the obligations of the Duty to Cooperate, set out in the Localism Act 2011	August 2015 - Ongoing
Finalising Draft Local Development Plan, Sustainability Appraisal, Health Impact Assessment and Equalities Impact Statement	Ongoing
Development Management Policy Consultation (6 weeks)	20 July 2017 – 7 September 2017
Publication Regulation 19 Consultation on draft Local Development Plan (6 weeks)	May 2018 – 6 July 2018
Preparation of Submission Local Plan and sustainability Appraisal, Habitat Regulation Assessment	July 2018 – August 2018
Submission to Planning Inspectorate for Examination, Regulation 22	August 2018
Examination in Public, Regulation 24	28 March 2019 – 4 April 2019
Consultation on proposed main modifications (6 weeks)	Winter 2019/2020
Receipt of Inspectors Report, Regulation 25	Winter/Spring 2020
Adoption & Publication (including Policies Map Regulation 26	Spring/Summer 2020

Table 9.1 New local plan timetable

Pre-Submission Publication Harlow Local Development Plan

9.2. This is the final version of the Harlow Local Development Plan that the Council submitted for formal examination, which includes the Local Plan document and the Policies Map. The Local Plan sets out a long-term vision for Harlow, identifying land where development will be acceptable and where it will be unacceptable. It contains policies that ensure future development is sustainable by meeting the needs of residents, businesses and visitors, while providing the required infrastructure and protecting environmental assets. This document was published

under Regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended) between 24 May 2018 and 6 July 2018.

9.3. During this publication period 72 representations were received comprising 165 comments. A Schedule of Minor Modifications was prepared to submit with the Local Plan to provide the Inspector, if minded to accept, with the most up-to-date policy position. These addressed minor issues that have been raised in the submitted representations, as well as the matters that will be agreed through emerging Statements of Common Ground, together with other minor changes to ensure clarity and consistency which will not affect the soundness of the Local Plan.

9.4. The Examination in Public into the Plan began at the end of March 2019, with final adoption of the Plan not expected until 2020.

Duty to Co-operate

9.5. The Duty to Co-operate is a requirement set out in the Localism Act 2011. This requires a Local Authority to work closely with its neighbours to look at cross boundary strategic issues and find suitable solutions to meeting housing, employment needs, infrastructure requirements etc.

9.6. In 2018 and 2019, Harlow Council worked with neighbours Authorities and completed numbers of Memorandum of Understanding. The table below shows the details of these.

Memorandum of Understanding on:	Authority
Highways & Transportation Infrastructure for the West Essex/East Hertfordshire Housing Market Area	Essex County Council; Hertfordshire County Council; Highways England ; East Hertfordshire District Council ; Epping Forest District Council ; Harlow District Council ; and Uttlesford District Council
Managing the impacts of growth within the West Essex/East Hertfordshire Housing Market Area on Epping Forest Special Area of Conservation	East Hertfordshire District Council ; Epping Forest District Council ; Harlow District Council ; Uttlesford District Council ; Essex County Council ; Hertfordshire County Council ; City of London Corporation (Conservators of Epping Forest) ; and; Natural England

Distribution of Objectively Assessed Housing Need across the West Essex/East Hertfordshire Housing Market Area	East Hertfordshire District Council ; Epping Forest District Council ; Harlow District Council ; and Uttlesford District Council
Thames Water – Greater Harlow Position Statement	Thames Water
Statement of Common Ground East of Harlow (Site) Policy SP 5.3 and HS3 February 2019	1) Epping Forest District Council (EFDC) 2) Harlow District Council (HDC) 3) Miller Homes

Table 9.2 Memos of Understanding

Town Centre Area Action Plan

9.7. The Town Centre Area Action Plan (AAP) is a Development Plan Document and will sit alongside the Local Plan. The AAP will provide a spatial planning framework to guide development and secure the regeneration of Harlow Town Centre for the period up to 2033. This will take into account the key role the Town Centre performs across the wider Harlow area, reinforced by the need to accommodate additional retail provision, arising from increased housing growth being brought forward.

9.8. As part of the Local Development Plan process, in June 2017, Cabinet approved the Council to produce an AAP for the town centre.

9.9. In July 2017, Allies and Morrison were appointed to support the Council in developing the AAP, in particular the consultation requirements under Regulation 18 and the publication of the proposed AAP under Regulation 19 (pre-submission to Secretary of State). The Regulation 18 consultation took place in June 2018. The Regulation 19 submission is expected early 2020.

Evidence Base

9.10. The Forward Planning Team have produced and commissioned a wide range of work which underpins the key Local Plan policies, some of which have been produced in conjunction with other Local Authorities as part of the Duty to Co-operate.

9.11. Evidence completed in 2017/18 included The SHMA(2017), SHMA- Affordable Housing Update 2017, Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment 2017, West Essex and East Hertfordshire Assessment of Employment Needs 2017, Sport Facilities and Playing Pitches Assessment and Strategies 2017, Infrastructure Delivery Plan 2018 & Local Plan Viability Assessment and Affordable Housing and CIL Review 2018.

9.12. In this reporting year a Sustainability Appraisal of the Pre Submission Plan was completed along with a Habitats Regulation Assessment.

9.13. Evidence base can be found on the Harlow Council website www.harlow.gov.uk/evidence for more details.

10. Harlow and Gilston Garden Town

10.1. The Harlow and Gilston area was designated as a Garden Town by central Government in January 2017. In July 2017 governance arrangements were agreed with the founding of a Garden Town Member Board and Garden Town Officer Group meeting monthly. A Projects Officer and Garden Town Director were appointed, and a series of thematic work stream groups have been created, bringing together officers across the five authorities, to deliver the work of the Garden Town Team. A significant amount of work has been undertaken in the monitoring year; detail can be found on the Harlow Council website at www.harlow.gov.uk/garden-town

11. Neighbourhood Planning

11.1. There are no current proposals for neighbourhood plans in Harlow. The Forward Planning team have produced guidance which is available for those who may be interested in becoming involved in the process.

12. Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

12.1. Following a viability assessment, a decision will be made on whether Harlow Council will adopt CIL. The assessment can be found on the Harlow Council website www.harlow.gov.uk/evidence

13. Brownfield Land Register

- 13.1. The Town and Country Planning (Brownfield Land Register) Regulations came into force on 16 April 2017 and require Councils to prepare, maintain and publish registers of previously developed (brownfield) land they consider to be appropriate for housing development.
- 13.2. The Council is legally required to produce and maintain this Brownfield Land Register. The purpose of the register is to identify suitable brownfield sites that are available for housing development or housing led mixed use development. It also helps to provide publicly available information on suitable brownfield sites. The Brownfield Land Register comprises two parts:
- 13.2.1. Part 1 identifies suitable brownfield sites for housing for five or more dwellings or 0.25 hectares in area. Inclusion on this list does not necessarily mean that the site would be granted planning permission.
- 13.2.2. Part 2 is a list of sites that have been granted planning permission in principle. The Council does not yet have any sites in Part 2. When there are sites to be included in Part 2 to grant permission in principle, appropriate local consultation will take place.
- 13.3. The Council has produced a draft list of sites for Part 1 of the Brownfield Land Register. These can be viewed or downloaded from Harlow Council website www.harlow.gov.uk/planning-brownfield-land-register Most either have existing planning permission or have been identified as developable in the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment. It is the intention to review the register and to add to, and expand, the list on Part 1 of the Brownfield Land Register in the future if necessary.

14. Self-Build Register

- 14.1. Under the Self-build and Custom House building Act 2015 all district councils have responsibility for keeping a self-build and customer house building register. The purpose of this being to understand demand for self-build and custom house building in the area.
- 14.2. The Harlow Council Self-build and Custom Build Register went live on the Council website on 1st April 2016. As of 31st March 2019, 60 registrations were on the Self-build and Custom Build Register list. The Pre-Submission version of the Local Plan policy includes policy to allocate serviced plots on development sites of more than

50 dwellings (subject to adoption). More information can be found on the Harlow Council Website: <http://www.harlow.gov.uk/self-build>

For any further enquiries, please email Myharlow@harlow.gov.uk or contact the Forward Planning team on 01279446897

This information is available in Accessible communication formats upon request