



Public Health
England

Protecting and improving
the nation's health

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PHE Harlow The Hub

Welcome from Public Health England

This is the fourth community newsletter about our plans to create a state-of-the-art public health science campus and headquarters at Harlow.

This issue comes at a very significant time as we have just submitted our outline planning application.

For details of
forthcoming events
please visit:

gov.uk/phe/harlow

This will be considered by Harlow District Council, which will make the final decision by late 2017 to early 2018.

Until then we will be holding a number of events to keep the Harlow community up to date with our plans.

If you would like us to come and talk to your organisation, group or business, please use the contact details on the back page.

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- P4: What's next?



Artist's impression, arrivals area

Harlow planning application submitted

Public Health England's planning application to create a world-leading public health science campus and headquarters at Harlow has been submitted to the town's district council.

Made up of more than 3,000 pages and nearly 300 images, the application sets out our plans to develop the former GSK site at the Pinnacles Industrial Estate into a centre of excellence for research, health improvement and protection.

Up to 2,750 people will initially work at the campus, with room for future expansion to take that figure beyond 3,200. We expect a number of our staff to relocate to Harlow, but we also anticipate recruiting a number of people locally.

That is why discussions have begun with local schools, colleges and universities to plan our workforce for Harlow. Apprenticeships and work experience have featured high in our discussions.

The application also sets out our transport plans, which include shuttle buses to and from the railway station, car sharing and a cycle scheme, as well as flexible working.

With a development of this scale there is a requirement to contribute to the local community. PHE is committed to spending on transport, education, and recognising Harlow's history of art and sculpture.

PHE is determined to create a campus and headquarters that not only works for our vision of public health, but also puts Harlow firmly on the map as the home for one of the best facilities of its kind in the world.



To view the full application see:
bit.ly/PHEHarlow

Why Harlow?

Artist's impression, masterplan with potential expansion



PHE considered several options but its preference was to acquire the vacant GSK site in Harlow.

The site offers a state-of-the-art science facility with laboratories and support facilities already in place, which we can adapt and extend to meet PHE's current and future needs.

It's large enough to co-locate all of the services that will transfer from PHE's Porton and Colindale sites as well as our headquarters and national functions currently based in central London.

A site of this size will allow us to bring together a critical mass of scientists and knowledge that will strengthen the organisation, our research and our ability to improve and protect public health.

Another key factor is Harlow's location in the London-Stansted-Cambridge life sciences corridor (LSCC). There are 37 life sciences research institutes in the LSCC corridor and 1,400 life sciences businesses.

PHE works with both academic and commercial partners, so together with the infrastructure and pool of scientific and technical talent, as well as the town's long standing links to science, Harlow is an ideal location for PHE.

The Harlow site is positioned next to the town's dedicated Enterprise Zone, which has a specific focus on the life sciences sector.

Harlow also has good transport links to central London via direct train services and internationally via Stansted Airport.

Jobs and training boost



If our application is approved, PHE's public health science campus and headquarters will ultimately see up to **2,750 staff based at the site in 2024** following a phased opening from 2021.

As you'd expect, scientists and technicians will be the largest group of staff working at PHE Harlow but we will also need people with a wide range of other skills ranging from **finance, HR, communications and marketing, to security, maintenance, catering and administration.**

In addition to PHE staff who will relocate we will need to **recruit from Harlow and neighbouring areas.**

With that in mind, we have already begun the conversations that will help us to develop our future workforce. **Links have been established with local schools, colleges and universities** to help us to consider training opportunities and apprenticeships.



We are meeting with educational establishments stretching across Essex, Hertfordshire, Cambridge and London, as well as a large number of Harlow schools.

As part of this work to nurture the next generation of PHE employees, our plans for the site include a **visitor information area and a teaching lab.** Here teachers and students will learn about the very latest scientific developments and the Harlow community will find out more about the work we do.

As well as the permanent staff, we expect **several thousand jobs to be created during construction.**

Investing in Harlow

Creating the campus is expected to **boost the local economy and provide wide-reaching benefits** for businesses and residents in Harlow.

PHE intends to make Harlow its headquarters and is committed to being an asset to the area, a part of the community and a good neighbour.

In addition to **supporting sustainable local transport and investing in jobs and training**, we have identified several areas we will support as part of the planning application.

These commitments include **increasing early years childcare provision in Harlow**. While we do not yet know exactly how many additional childcare places would be needed to accommodate the PHE Harlow development, we know we will need to add to existing services or contribute to the creation of new facilities.

We will also **contribute to the artistic and cultural heritage**. Harlow has a long-standing tradition of public art and sculpture and our plans provide



Artist's impression, arrivals area (internal)

opportunities to work in this area in partnership with the local community.

This may include displaying some of the town's art collection in our arrivals area, or working with local schools to create a large science-themed mural or mosaic.

We look forward to taking these contributions forward if the planning application is successful.

Travel and transport

PHE is committed to sustainable travel for staff and visitors to the PHE Harlow site, to minimise our impact on the environment. This is set out in our comprehensive travel and visitor management plan.

Public transport



Harlow is easily accessible from central London by train and it is likely some staff will commute. To facilitate this PHE Harlow plans to provide a shuttle bus service to connect the site to Harlow Town Railway Station. We'll also upgrade existing bus stops around the site.

Car sharing



Car sharing can provide a sustainable alternative for those who are unable to travel by public transport, bike or on foot. We'll establish an online car share database and dedicate a portion of parking spaces to car sharers, with passes allocated to scheme members.

Walking and cycling



We will encourage cycling as a means of transport for staff with a cycle to work scheme. To support this we will extend the foot/cycleway along Elizabeth Way and improve Coldharbour Road by resurfacing and upgrading street lighting.



Reducing the need to travel



We would look to minimise travel by providing facilities such as a restaurant and a cash point on site. Where job roles allow, teleworking, homeworking, flexitime and compressed working weeks will be considered.

PHE buys Harlow site

In July PHE announced it had bought the vacant GSK site on the Pinnacles Industrial Estate.

The site was purchased at a cost of £25 million, which independent analysis has shown to represent excellent value for money for the taxpayer.

PHE's Deputy Chief Executive Richard Gleave and Science Hub Programme Director Tim Harry were joined by Harlow MP Robert Halfon, Harlow Council leader Jon Clempner, and other stakeholders as the acquisition was officially marked with the raising of a PHE flag.



Richard said: "Our move to Harlow will create a world-class science campus for public health, of international significance and with real benefits for the local community.

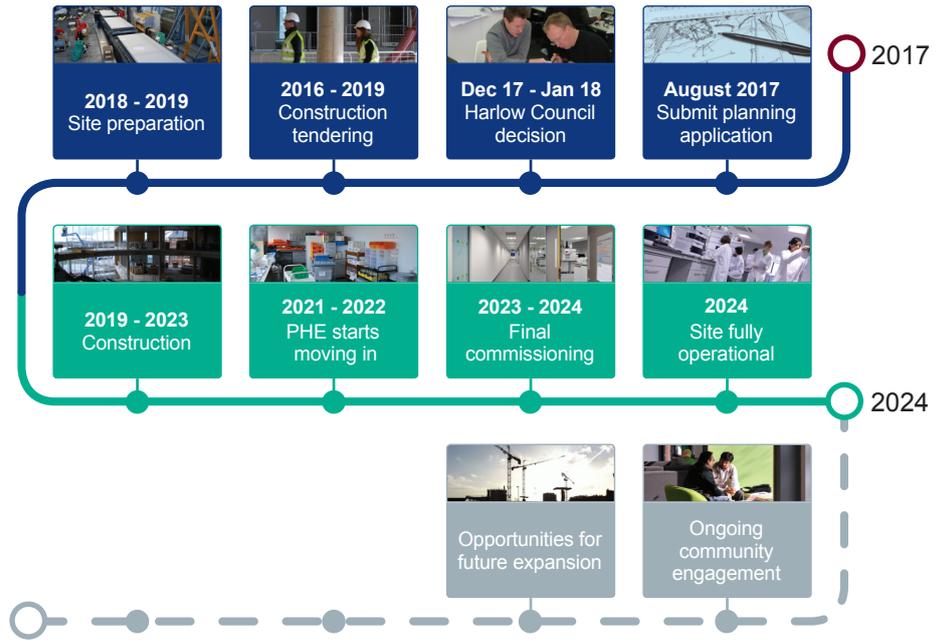
"The decision to buy the site prior to submitting a planning application was taken after careful consideration of the advantages and represents best value to the British taxpayer."

Contact us

If you have any questions please get in touch:

-  @PHE_UK
-  pheharlow@phe.gov.uk
-  0800 228 9100
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Timeline: what happens next



Out and about in Harlow

Eighteen months ago PHE set out to engage with the Harlow community.

We were determined to reach as many people as possible, not only to share our vision for our public health science campus but just as importantly to listen.

We wanted to hear from as many people as we could about what they thought of our plans and what really mattered to their communities.

And you didn't disappoint. At two public exhibitions, through our community newsletters, via our website, at dozens of public and community events and meetings you have helped us to shape the planning application we have now submitted.

Not surprisingly, a commitment to jobs was high on the agenda, particularly one that gave local schoolchildren a real opportunity to one day work at the science

campus. You also told us you wanted a commitment to a transport plan and to include the town's heritage of art and sculpture in our plans.



The many hours of engagement have proved extremely valuable to us and we hope they have been for you too.

Wherever possible we have reflected your comments and feedback and believe that PHE Harlow is a truly world-leading campus both PHE and Harlow can be proud of.

If you require this document in another format please contact publications@phe.gov.uk or call us on 020 8327 7018