

13 November 2019

## **Legal & General presents plans for early infrastructure at land north of Horsham**

### ***Local community invited to input into future plans for community facilities in first phase***

Initial plans for the first phase of a sustainable new community at land north of Horsham were presented by Legal & General at two drop-in events in the town last week.

Almost 700 local residents, councillors and representatives of community groups visited The Holbrook Club on Tuesday 5 and Saturday 9 November to find out about Legal & General's plans for the heart of the new community, which will be located north of the A264.

Legal & General also gave an update on important infrastructure it is delivering before any homes are built and asked visitors to input into future plans for community facilities in the first phase, including the village centre, sports hub and bridge for pedestrians and cyclists over the A264.

Comments can still be provided to Legal & General via the project website [www.landnorthofhorsham.co.uk](http://www.landnorthofhorsham.co.uk), where an online feedback form will be available until Friday 29 November 2019

Sebastian Balcombe, Senior Land and Planning Manager at Legal & General said: "We want to thank everyone who attended our drop-in events and provided feedback on our plans for the first phase. The comments we received are extremely valuable as we work towards creating a sustainable development that supports local needs and delivers social and economic benefits for Horsham.

"Our ambition is to deliver a sustainable community that is welcoming, inclusive and built to last and the input of local people will help us achieve this.

"We had lots of positive conversations about the importance of delivering new homes and many residents were excited about what the development will bring. From the sports hub and nature trails to the village centre and new school, we want to create a high-quality place that benefits the whole community.

"At the same time, we recognise some residents have concerns about the scale of change and we are committed to managing this with the least possible disruption for the existing community by providing the infrastructure needed to support it.

“We want local people of all ages and backgrounds to help shape our proposals, so please do continue to share your comments with us. This is very much the start of detailed conversations on the plans and we look forward to continuing to work closely with the community as our plans develop.”

The land north of Horsham site has planning permission for 2,750 private and affordable homes in a range of sizes and 500,000 sq ft of high-quality employment space. The development will deliver around £50 million of funding for essential services, community facilities and improvements to local roads, public transport, and walking and cycling routes.

Legal & General is the master developer for the new community and is committed to delivering the public areas of the development to the highest standards, including roads, green spaces and community facilities. Legal & General is producing a Design & Landscape Strategy for the first phase that will ensure the new homes and commercial buildings built by different housebuilders and contractors match these standards.

The first phase is located either side of Rusper Road and is set to deliver around 1,000 homes over the next five years. Legal & General is targeting occupation of the first homes in late 2021. The first phase will also be home to the new Bohunt Horsham School, which is due to open in September 2021. Detailed plans for the school, which will include a nursery, 450 primary places and a secondary school for 1,200 pupils, were submitted to Horsham District Council by the Department for Education in August.

In the next 18 months, Legal & General will deliver major road improvements that are key to the new school opening on time. Construction work is due to start in early 2020 on an improved roundabout at the junction of the A264 and Rusper Road. The detailed design of the improved roundabout was approved in 2018 and will increase capacity, reduce delays and improve safety compared with the existing roundabout. The works are expected to finish in autumn 2020.

Once the A264 roundabout is completed, work will start on improvements to Rusper Road north of the A264. Legal & General is proposing changes to the approved plans for this part of Rusper Road to create a greener route, retain more existing trees and hedgerows, and create better footpath, cycle and bridleway links. The works are due to finish in early 2021.

Some disruption is to be expected but every effort will be made to minimise this through the phasing of the works.

For anyone who wasn't able to attend the events, more information is available to view at [www.landnorthofhorsham.co.uk](http://www.landnorthofhorsham.co.uk). The Legal & General development team can also be contacted on 020 7323 3544 or via email at [info@landnorthofhorsham.co.uk](mailto:info@landnorthofhorsham.co.uk).

All feedback received by 5pm on Friday 29 November 2019 will be considered by Legal & General as the plans progress. Subject to detailed planning approvals, the first phase will be delivered over the next five years. The whole development is expected to take at least 15 years to be completed with further consultation, including more events, taking place on each element of the plans.

**ENDS**