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# Vision for Esher town centre

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Esher town centre will be a place to experience multiple activities. In the day, residents and visitors will come to the civic heart of the borough to work in the offices and businesses, to explore the independent and creative shops, and to socialise in the cafes and public spaces. There will be space for children to play, for community events and farmers markets.

Leisure and cultural uses will be encouraged and the re-location of business to the town centre will be supported. At night, the vibrant restaurants, theatre and cinema will draw in visitors from across the borough. Sandown will remain an important attractor for the town, offering a range of leisure activities, exhibitions and concerts.

## Destination experience



- Decrease the disturbance from traffic to the visitor's experience
- A past, understood and well celebrated – important monuments seen and understood
- Create a central multi-functional space within the town centre that represents the Civic Life of Esher
- Improve the council offices presence/visibility from the high street
- Focus civic uses – police, Citizens Advice Bureau, Elmbridge Borough Council and library into a single destination
- Improve the presence/visibility of the theatre
- Maintain the primacy of the High Street, creating a clear hierarchy of well-sign posted and attractive routes
- Focus visitor uses to the core of the existing High Street
- Foster the renewal of existing employment buildings and opportunities for employment
- Building design should reflect the nature and characteristics of its use, in particular design principles relating to the civic centre should reflect the council's commitment to visible, transparent and accountable governance
- Increase footfall in the town centre
- Install planting and terraces to improve the environment for pedestrians
- Use way-finding to help all users navigate the town centre and surrounding environs



**Elmbridge**  
Borough Council

*... bridging the communities ...*

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## Sustainable living



- Improve access to and the quality of green spaces
- Increase planting to create a more visually attractive environment and diversify habitats within the town centre
- Create high quality safe space for children to play
- Create green corridors that connect with green spaces beyond the town centre
- Increase the diversity of housing tenure
- Improve the setting of the residential units above the ground floor of the high street units
- Improve air quality within the Esher Air Quality Management Area

## Sustainable travel



- Increase permeability for pedestrians and cyclists
- Increase safety for pedestrians, cyclists and other road users
- Provide connections to join up cycling and walking routes through the town to neighbouring communities.
- Improve cycle parking in the town centre
- Review car parking needs for any new development
- Make space for a taxi rank, pick up point and relocate bus stop
- Use way-finding to help all users navigate the town centre and surrounding environs
- Reduce the reliance of private vehicles to access the town centre.

## Sustainable construction



- Incorporate low Carbon design
- Include passive design principles
- Achieve zero carbon development
- Incorporate combined heat and power networks

