

# Revitalisation of Bexleyheath Town Centre: An area-based major scheme for transport and public realm improvement



Conceptual Master Plan and Outline Design Principles

# Conceptual master plan: transport and public realm improvement

Improved and well-identified pedestrian routes to Bexleyheath railway station via Church Road

## AIMS & OBJECTIVES

1. restore the strength of the east-west Roman road route
2. new development to create greater enclosure along Arnsberg Way and screen building backs
3. new focal spaces to create public space and reduce the psychological distance along the Broadway, subject to agreement with land owners

## AIMS & OBJECTIVES

1. restore the strength of Mayplace Road West, a historic coaching route, and remove traffic signal at the junction
2. new development to provide enclosure and provide 'end stop' to the long view along Arnsberg Way

Improved and well-identified pedestrian routes to Barnehurst railway station via Erith Road

## AIMS & OBJECTIVES

1. de-clutter and remove unnecessary fixtures (e.g. guard rails, posts etc.)
2. ensure greater pedestrian convenience and safety, especially for children
3. removal of slip lane in south west corner will minimise crossing distances for pedestrians
4. be a positive gateway to the town from the east

## AIMS & OBJECTIVES

1. maintain the chapel elevation as the main architectural statement
2. respond to strong east-west pedestrian desire lines
3. unlock adjacent potential development sites and slow down traffic
4. tree planting and improved paving on Broadway and at junctions to provide greater enclosure and increase attractiveness
5. be a positive gateway to the town from the west


New public transport information booth to promote sustainable transport use

## AIMS & OBJECTIVES

1. remove slip lane to create more generous pavement outside cinema
2. new diagonal crossing and create more obvious and attractive connection to town centre
3. ensure flexibility for Highland Road — to remain open in short term but potential closure in the longer term as part of proposed Civic Centre redevelopment

-  EXISTING LANDMARK
-  KEY BUILDING FRONTAGE
-  POTENTIAL NEW LANDMARK
-  NEW TREE PLANTING
-  VEHICLE CIRCULATION
-  PEDESTRIAN SPACE
-  NEW DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY
-  EXISTING EDGE OF FOOTWAY



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## What's the purpose and nature of the scheme?

The London Borough of Bexley has embarked upon the design of an exciting scheme to further revitalise Bexleyheath town centre. This scheme, supported by the Mayor of London, focuses on transport and public realm improvement.

Bexleyheath is the Borough's strategic town centre and is designated as a major town centre within the London Plan. Although it is considered one of the most viable town centres in London, there are many opportunities that need to be taken up to help the town centre adapt and change to achieve its full potential. These opportunities cover both the day-time and evening economy. The current Area-Based Scheme, following Transport for London's design principles, aims to address this objective.

Specialist consultants appointed by the Council have produced their Interim Report. The main features are:

- A comprehensive public realm improvement of the centre focusing on a suitable shared space concept along the Broadway from its junction with Church Road to its junction with Gravel Hill/Erith Road, together with new public spaces for people to spend time, introduction of high-quality paving, street lighting and street furniture, and tree planting.
- Removal of clutter and barriers to pedestrian movement and improvement of the road junctions at Trinity Place

and along Arnsberg Way, including the potential removal of several sets of traffic lights.

- Creation of a safe, pleasant and visible walking route from the town centre to Bexleyheath and Barnehurst railway stations, with clear signage and lighting.
- Improvement of bus shelters at Market Place, including real-time information on bus arrivals and setting up a public transport information booth.

This major 'Area-Based Scheme' is set within the context of two previous studies – the Bexleyheath Development & Improvement Framework and the Bexleyheath Night Vision Strategy – that were adopted by the Council in December 2009.

The consultants' Interim Report on a Conceptual Master Plan and Outline Design Principles is available for reference in Bexleyheath Central Library, along with a display of some drawings of the scheme. The report can also be seen at the Council's website under 'consultation material'

Feedback from this consultation will prove useful in formulating the consultants' Final Report on the Conceptual Master Plan. The next step is to move to detailed design, which will involve further public consultation.

## How will the scheme be funded?

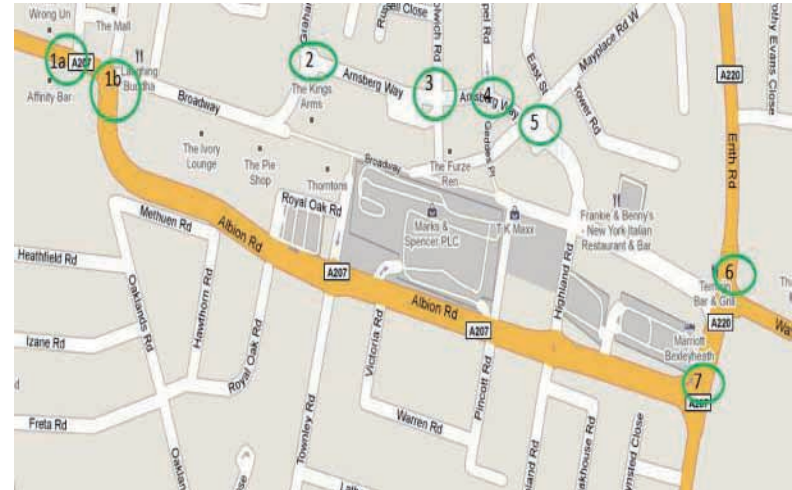
The Council has secured the approval of Transport for London to take forward the scheme to revitalise Bexleyheath Town Centre. Funds for the planning and design of the scheme have already been secured. And a further sum of over £3m is expected to be available after the detailed design stage and, with further approval from the Mayor of London.

Previous studies for the town centre identified a number of new development opportunities in Bexleyheath. It is intended that private sector investment will contribute to the cost of some components of the present scheme. The proposed Bexley First Project, involving the redevelopment of the Council's civic offices (to be financed by the Council and its partners), is also expected to provide a catalyst for the revitalisation of the town centre.

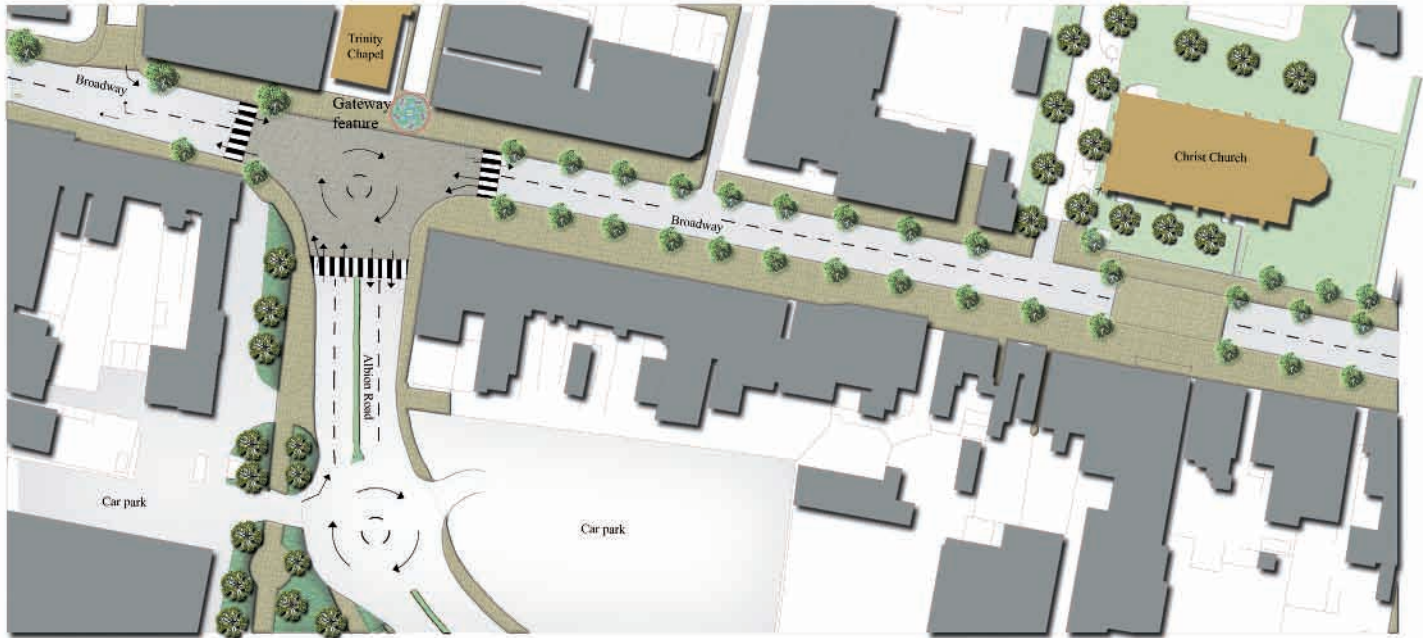
## Some elements of the Master Plan

(Whilst integrating engineering and urban design principles, these are conceptual at this stage and will be subject to detailed design including safety audit)

Junctions assessed

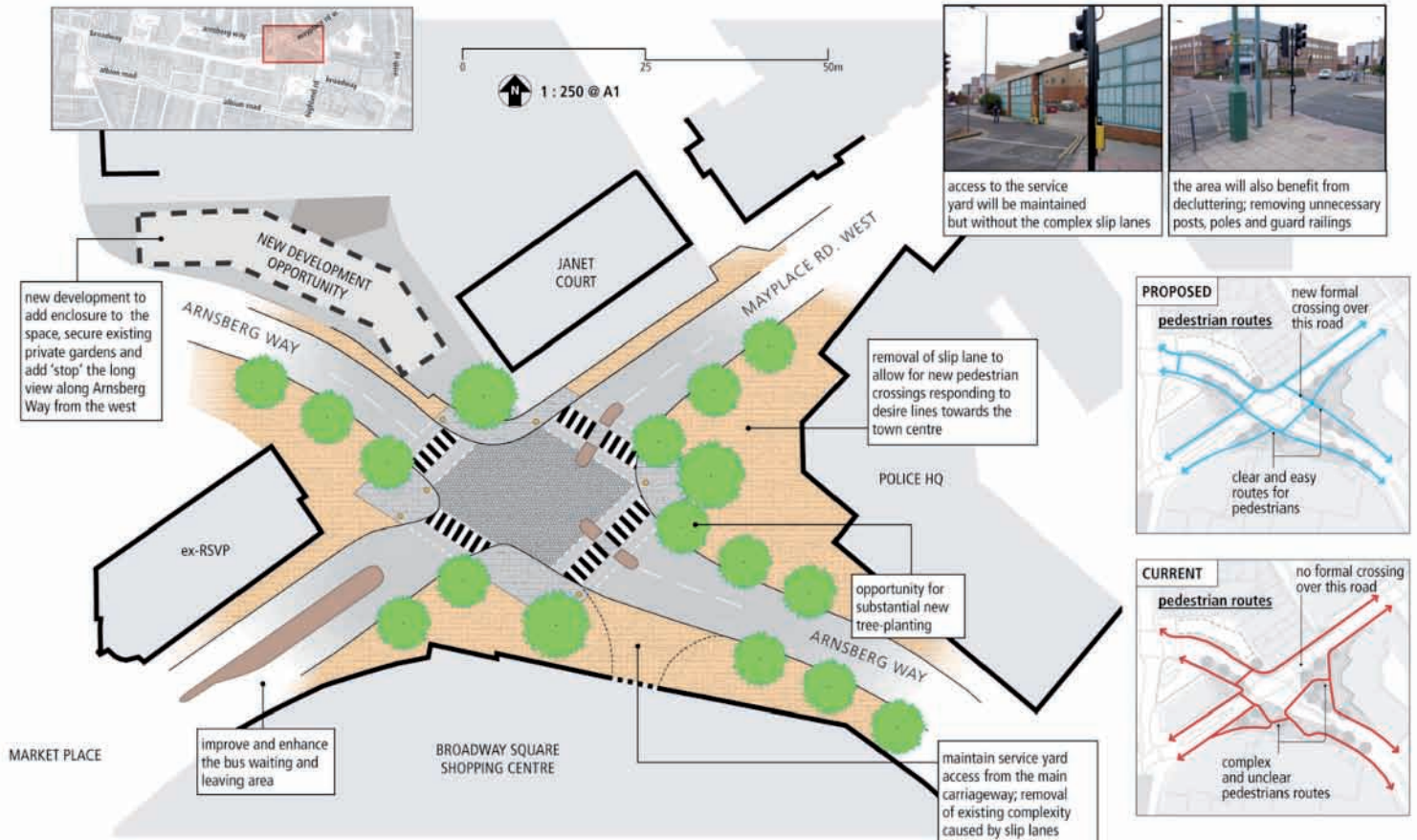


# Suggested conceptual redesign of Albion Road approach, junction with Broadway and public realm improvement on Broadway

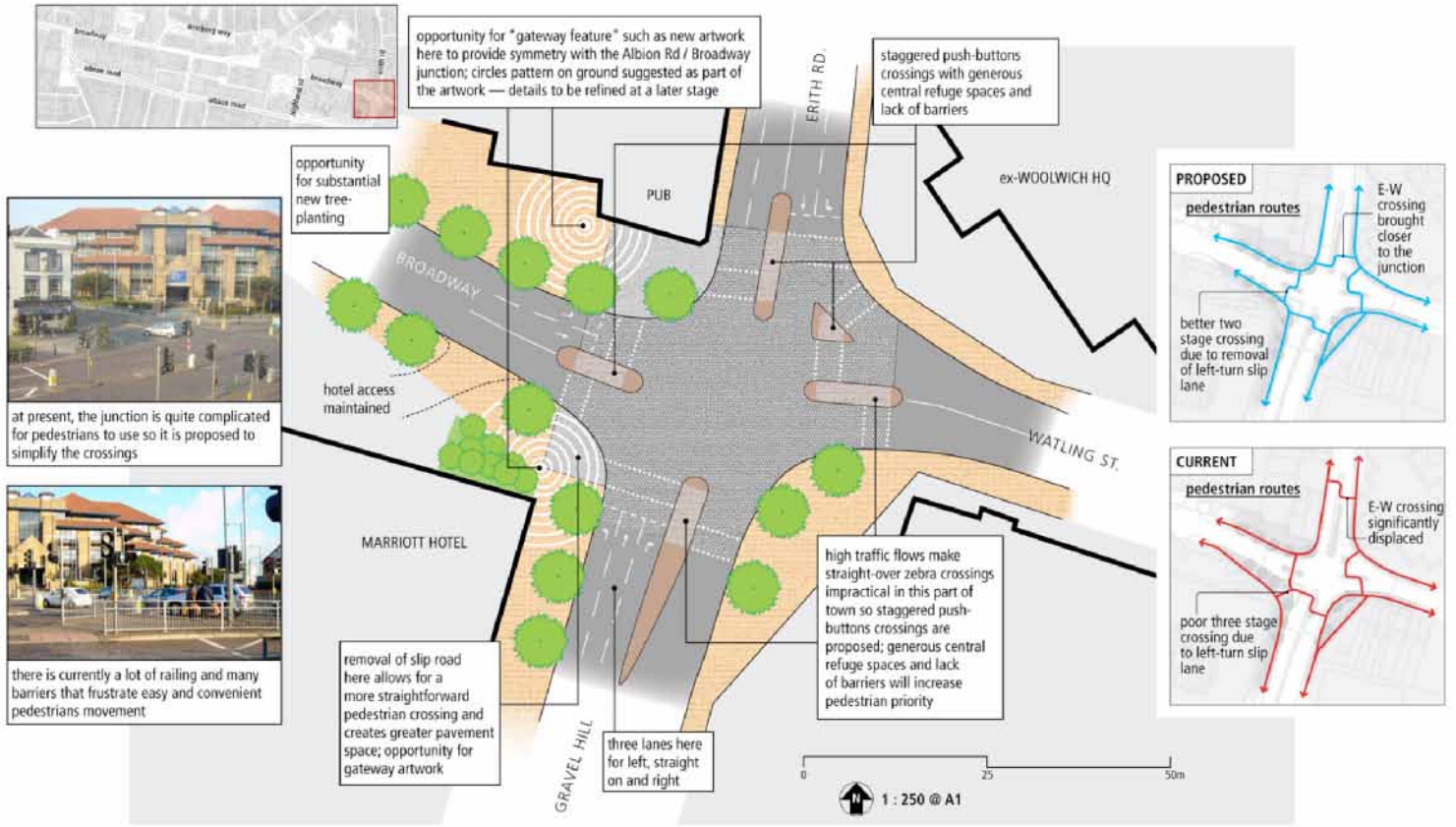


- Existing Buildings
- Heritage Buildings / Local Landmarks
- New Pedestrian Crossings
- Redesigned paved roundabout with central island removed
- New pavings
- Gateway feature
- Existing Trees
- New Roundabout
- New Trees

# Suggested redesign: Arnsberg Way / Mayplace West junction



# Suggested redesign: Broadway / Erith Road / Gravel Hill junction





For further information on this scheme please contact Richard Hawkins, Head of Transport and Traffic Services  
email: [TransportandTraffic@bexley.gov.uk](mailto:TransportandTraffic@bexley.gov.uk)

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