The Essex County Council (A1025, Gilden Way and Mulberry Green, Harlow) (Prohibition of Right-Hand Turn) Order 202*

The Essex County Council (A1025, Gilden Way and Mayfield Farm, Sheering, Epping Forest) (Prohibition of Right-Hand Turn) Order 202*Statement of Reasons

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Mulberry Green

The Mulberry Green junction is located on the A1025 Gilden Way, approximately 890 metres north of the London Road Roundabout and south of the Churchgate Roundabout.

Funded through the Major Projects budget previously allocated within Essex Highways, and supported by National Highways, the junction forms part of the wider scheme for the construction of the new, Junction 7a, on the M11 motorway. Opened to the public in 2022, this scheme incorporated a Link Road and improvement works on the B183, now designated as the A1025. The primary objectives of this scheme focused on:

- Improved accessibility to and from Harlow.
- Ensuring the proposed infrastructure is appropriately scaled to accommodate future traffic growth.
- Supporting future housing developments around Harlow and employment growth to the east of the town.
- Reducing congestion, particularly along the A414 corridor through Harlow. Improvement works on the A1025 included the addition of a new lane, resulting in two southbound lanes and one northbound lane. This enhancement was required to accommodate the forecast increase in traffic volumes. The scheme also incorporates a dedicated cycle track. Due to spatial constraints within the existing highway corridor, it was not feasible to accommodate both right-hand and left-hand turning movements. As a result, the prohibition of right-hand turns is required to:
- Enhance road safety.
- Maintain free-flowing traffic along the A1025 Gilden Way.
- Improve conditions for all road users, including cyclists and pedestrians.
- Prevent inappropriate use of residential roads by through traffic.

The scheme has undergone a comprehensive Road Safety Audit, which has provided positive feedback and confirmed the safety and suitability of the proposed changes.

The proposal also supports the decision by an Inspector on the Gilden Park development that the short cut through Old Harlow should be protected from the impacts of that development of some 1,100 homes. A funding allocation was made accordingly from the developers, which is currently being used to support other measures on Old Road to provide a comprehensive traffic management package to protect Old Harlow.

<u>Mayfield Farm</u>

The Mayfield Farm junction is located on the A1025 Gilden Way, between the Churchgate and Campions roundabouts. It is situated approximately 550 metres north of the Churchgate

Roundabout and provides access to the Mayfield Farm businesses, which are opposite the Campions residential area.

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The primary objectives of this scheme focused on:

- Improved accessibility to and from Harlow.
- Ensuring the proposed infrastructure is appropriately scaled to accommodate future traffic growth.
- Supporting future housing developments around Harlow and employment growth to the east of the town.
- Reducing congestion, particularly along the A414 corridor through Harlow.

Improvement works on the A1025 included the addition of a new lane, resulting in two southbound lanes and one northbound lane. This enhancement was required to accommodate the forecast increase in traffic volumes. The scheme also incorporates a shared surface for combined cyclists and pedestrians along the Campions residential area.

Due to spatial constraints within the existing highway corridor, it was not feasible to accommodate both right-hand and left-hand turning movements. As a result, the prohibition of right-hand turns is required to:

- Enhance road safety.
- Maintain free-flowing traffic along the A1025 Gilden Way.
- Improve conditions for all road users, including cyclists and pedestrians.
- Prevent inappropriate use of residential roads by through traffic.

The scheme has undergone a comprehensive Road Safety Audit, which has provided positive feedback and confirmed the safety and suitability of the proposed changes.