

## PRESS RELEASE



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### **Cycling Champion for Aylesbury Garden Town is Announced**

A new Cycling Champion has been announced to promote the bicycle as a means of transport in Aylesbury Garden Town. Councillor Clive Harriss, who's a member of the Aylesbury Garden Town Delivery Board, jumped at the opportunity to advocate cycling, as a great way to get fit and a more sustainable way to travel.

Like many, Clive was keen to embark on a more healthy lifestyle in the new year and believes cycling is the perfect way to increase his exercise. He now regularly travels the six miles to work in Aylesbury by bike and has already noticed a difference in his fitness levels and lost weight in the process. He commented, "I'm delighted to be championing cycling in Aylesbury. One of the key focuses of becoming a Garden Town is to encourage more environmentally friendly ways to get around and going by bike is a great option. I'm already feeling more energetic and riding into Aylesbury in spring, through the gorgeous Buckinghamshire countryside, is a pleasure and a great way to start the day!"

Plans are already afoot, through the Aylesbury Garden Town Programme, to make cycling a more attractive way to travel. The Waddesdon Greenway cycle path, that opened last year, has proved extremely popular, laying the foundations for a range of better opportunities for cyclists. Repairs will be carried out to the existing Gemstone routes and improved signage put in place. Additional cycle storage is also being installed, including bike racks in the new Exchange development in the town centre.

Cllr Angela Macpherson, Chair of the Aylesbury Garden Town Delivery Board said, "We want people to feel that cycling is a viable option for either travelling to work in the town, or carrying out local journeys. Through the public engagement that we've been doing, as we've been working on the Masterplan for Aylesbury Garden Town, we've heard from many people who'd like to see better cycling infrastructure in place and we will be investing the money to ensure that this can happen."

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Work is already underway on a Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan, which will provide a detailed analysis of what's needed in the town, looking ahead to the future. This is expected to be completed this summer and will make recommendations for the Aylesbury Garden Town Programme Team to work on and also generate opportunities to bid for government funding to deliver these.

The Masterplan for Aylesbury Garden Town will go to public consultation later this year. For more information on Aylesbury Garden Town, go to [aylesburygardentown.co.uk](http://aylesburygardentown.co.uk)

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**Additional Notes:**

Aylesbury received Garden Town status from the government in January 2017. It recognised the town as one of the key places for growth in the UK and brings the opportunity to receive extra funding to put in place the right infrastructure, facilities and leisure spaces, alongside new developments totalling just over 16,000 new homes.

The Aylesbury Garden Town project is a partnership between Aylesbury Vale District Council, Buckinghamshire County Council and the two Local Enterprise Partnerships (Buckinghamshire Thames Valley and South East Midlands).