

## HPG Development Plans

Friday 5 April 2024 (10.00 – 12.00)

### 1. Welcome, Introductions & Apologies

#### Attendees:

Aaron Roberts	Three Rivers District Council	James Gummery	St Albans City and District
Adrian Ledbury	University of Hertfordshire	Jamie Alderson	Hertfordshire County Council
Anthony Collier	Hertfordshire County Council	Keeley Mitchell	Dacorum Borough Council
Antony Proietti	Hertfordshire County Council	Laura Wood	South West Herts
Chris Briggs	St Albans City and District	Lewis Claridge	Stevenage Borough Council
Chris Stanek	Hertfordshire County Council	Liam Bear	Hertfordshire County Council
Claire Sime	East Herts District Council	Marko Kalik	Three Rivers District Council
Conor Matthews	Welwyn Hatfield Borough	Matthew Newton	Hertfordshire County Council
Dan Tan	Hertfordshire County Council	Matthew Wilson	Welwyn Hatfield Council
David Hodbod	Hertfordshire County Council	Ronan Leydon	Dacorum Borough Council
Deborah Coates	North Herts District Council	Roy Warren	Sport England
Ellen Higginson	Watford Borough Council	Russell Monck	Hertfordshire County Council
Gary Beaumont	Hertfordshire County Council	Sally Talbot	Stevenage Borough Council
George Pavey	Hertsmere Borough Council	Sarah Martins	Stevenage Borough Council
Gerard Woods	Hertsmere Borough Council	Thomas Verbena	Hertfordshire County Council
Helen BurrIDGE	East Herts District Council	Trevor Mason	Hertfordshire County Council
		Victoria Leitner	Hertfordshire County Council

Apologies: Gary Beaumont (Hertfordshire County Council); Lewis Claridge (Stevenage Borough Council); Martin Paine (Borough of Broxbourne)

### 2. Meeting notes and actions

Meeting notes from the previous meeting agreed

**Action (MW):** None

**Action (others) :** None

### 3. Government Announcements

- Changes to various permitted development rights – consultation closes on 9 April 2024
- An accelerated planning system – consultation closes on 1 May 2024
- Funding Announcements – Planning Skills Delivery Fund, PropTech Innovation Fund: Round 4, Digital Planning Improvement Fund: Round 2

### 4. HPG, HIPP & Growth Board

Noted that the Hertfordshire Growth Board Mission had been agreed. Focus of the HGB is now to be on the implementation of the refreshed HGB Vision and six new Missions – more details on the missions can be found at: <https://www.hertfordshiregrowthboard.com/>

**Action:** All to note.

### 5. HSP / Sport England Update (AL)

The group was invited to note the following:

- An active design training module to support the implementation of active design will be available in April/May 2024.
- Design code guidance - new guidance note to help LPAs to incorporate principles of active design into their own local design codes

**Action:** All to note the resources available and offer to meeting and discuss this with Adrian/Roy

### 6. Round Table

- **Planometer:** MW to invite updates to the Planometer prior to the next meeting.

**Action:** Districts to continue providing Planometer updates.

- **North Herts** - sustainability SPD progressed to consultation, continuing work on strategic site delivery
- **East Herts** - has appointed principal urban design officer, likely call for sites in April (trying to digitise the process as much as possible, got some funding), sustainability officer starting in a few weeks, open spaces work with SBC and NHDC, finalising
- **Welwyn Hatfield** – Legal challenge to the Local Plan (adopted October 2023), first matter to be considered is whether the claimant (a local developer) severed the claim within time to the defendants (Council and SoS), likely to have an oral hearing on this single matter after March, date TBC. Exploratory work starting on visioning and aspirations for the Local Plan review. Working on CIL and Sustainability SPD alongside masterplans for strategic sites
- **Hertsmere** – Regulation 18 consultation commenced earlier in the week (3 April) and will run for six weeks. A series of engagement events will be held around the borough. Reg 19

in late 2024.

- **Three Rivers** - Local Plan is the focus, new LDS published (March), Reg 19 in the Autumn with submission in early 2025.
- **Dacorum** – Nothing to note this time other than continued involvement on matters Luton Airport
- **HCC Minerals and Waste** - Minerals and Waste Team is waiting for news on the Hatfield Aerodrome appeal. It is hoped that the Reg 19 Plan will be published for consultation by the end of the calendar year
- **Watford** - Local Plan over one and half years old, currently not planning to review. Looking at several SPDs, however cautious of changes at National level. Developer contributions and BNG are topics being explored. Looked at some design work for sites in Local Plan in terms of major constraints/opportunities, leading to design coding (that won't be done in house). Been reviewing appeals to see where weaknesses are in LP. A4D confirmed in Christmas. SWH doing joint studies for housing and employment.
- **Planner Directory:** A number of updates to the Directory were provided.

**Action:** Districts to continue providing Directory updates as required.

## 7. Joint Strategic Plans Update

- **SW Herts Joint Strategic Plan:** LW updated the group. Developed strategic growth principles based on vision work and leading into areas of map. Intention is this work will feed into reg 18 for JSP.
- **NEC Herts Joint Strategic Plan / Growth Study:** MW updated the group. The North East Central Hertfordshire (NEC Hertfordshire) authorities, together with Hertfordshire County Council, have jointly commissioned a cross-boundary growth study for the NEC Hertfordshire area. Stage 1 complete but paused to allow some visioning work to take place. This is now complete and will be the subject of focused consultation in due course before the Stage 2 of the Growth Study commences. The key aim of the commission is to support NEC Hertfordshire authorities in developing a series of place-based sustainable growth options that will form a critical piece of the evidence base to support a potential Joint Strategic Plan (JSP) for the period up to 2050. Heads of Planning considering options for next steps.

## 8. Feedback from Events

None this time. MW request to all to note feedback from events for next time.

## 9. Forward Programme: Future Agenda Items

As per the agenda:

- BNG – a particular focus on local plan and securing higher than mandatory requirements

- Article 4 Directions: Discussion on approach / progress / feedback from SoS / DLUHC
- Health and Wellbeing
- Design Codes

As usual, please forward any ideas to the Chair for future meetings – in order to get them on the agenda.

## **10.Outgoing Chair, Incoming Chair and Appointment of Vice Chair**

MW continues to welcome offers for Vice Chair.

## **11.Any Other Business**

None

## **12.Proposed Meeting Dates (10:00am)**

Friday, 24 May 2024

Friday, 19 July 2024

Friday, 20 September 2024

Friday, 8 November 2024