Item 5 Appendix 1: NEC Joint Planning, Northern & Southern (E-W) Growth Corridors Delivery Project Updates



| Project | RAG Status | Description |
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| | | Northern Growth Corridor |
| Accelerated Housing (Update for both Northern and Southern Growth Corridors) | Green | Housing Team ongoing positive engagement with Homes England discussing the latest accelerated housing delivery data (delivery trajectories and required investment). The overall delivery programme and various Growth Board identified packages (including GVA / economic contribution) are being discussed at meetings with MHCLG. Other papers have been prepared as part of the overall package, including on Resources, Freedoms & Flexibilities and Future Growth Fund. Housing Team undertaken Round 3 discussions with all local authority teams to confirm housing delivery trajectories, investment information and a list of developer / agent per site housing numbers, and COVID-19 impact. The latest data updates are close to being completed; the Task Team is awaiting further clarification on information from some of the District/Boroughs, with a deadline of 30/09 for receipt of data. At this date, a "line will be drawn" against the data set to be used in final discussions with Homes England and MHCLG. |
| North East and Central Joint planning work | Green | Initial Scoping Report and Statement of Common Ground papers shared in August, approved subject to final amendments. A summary presentation of the Joint Spatial Plan business case timeline and next steps to November Programme Board, |
| Community Wealth Building | Green | SBC officer meetings held. External partners forming working group now being contacted, CWB metrics in progress and will be included within CWB milestones spreadsheet. Preparing for Cooperative and Inclusive Economy Charter launch next month. Working to secure early pledges. Initial skills survey of social economy sector and skills plan completed. Stevenage and North Herts pilot activities are being identified, offers of interest to work on this pilot from Broxbourne and Watford |
| Future Growth Locations, New Settlements and Connectivity | Amber | A project scope for the 'next steps' was circulated on 9/9 to officers, with final draft due for completion 25/9. Consultants brief for review/ sign-off at November Board. Once final brief is accepted, procurement of the consultant will commence. |
| Reinvigorating Town Centres | Amber | Meeting of LEP and HGB team to review project status took place 22/9. Additional HGB support (Jane Briginshaw) now in place to assist with these projects. Town centres team to be reconvened, scoping review to take place (Stevenage Town Deal, LEP Economic Recovery Plan plus Covid implications need to be considered). Updated project scope, timelines and milestones to be brought back to Board for approval in November. |
| Growing Science & Technology Sector | Amber | Meeting of LEP and HGB team to review project status took place 22/9. Additional HGB support (JB) now in place to assist with these projects. LEP and HGB team to be reconvened, scoping review to take place (relationship to OJOU promotion of land North of Baldock, Stevenage Town Deal, LEP Economic Recovery Plan plus Covid implications need to be considered). LEP have produced a paper capturing sector assets in this area, focusing on cell & gene, advanced manufacturing and ICT (Inc. Al and logistics). |
| Climate Change & Sustainability | Amber | Herts Climate Change & Sustainability Partnership (HCCSP) have agreed 4 priority areas: Biodiversity, Water, Transport and Carbon reduction. The Water Acton Plan has been drafted but requires further work prior to sign off Biodiversity was discussed at the HCCSP Board meeting on 24/9. A paper was taken to the HCCSP meeting on 24/9, highlighting the need to ensure that the key priority action plans are sufficiently strategic to inform the growth corridor project proposals. The paper also sought agreement for external support to ensure the plans are sufficiently strategic. |



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| | | When the individual priority area action plans are signed off by the HCCSP they can be considered by the Growth Corridor Boards with a view to selecting specific projects that could form part of the individual growth corridor / future HGB bids to Government. | | | |
| Southern Growth Corridor | | | | | |
| Mass Rapid Transit | Green | Outline for MRT strategic narrative agreed. Summary document to be produced to go alongside the promotional video. On track for draft Strategic Outline Business Case to be produced by Feb 2021. Consultation and finalisation will be after the Spring 2021 elections. Storyboard for MRT promotional video will be presented to the A414 members Group on 13th October. Video should be available end of October. Options Assessment Report; Appraisal Specification Report - work commissioned – long list of route options developed and presented to district & county officers for comment. Constraints mapping and background evidence completed. | | | |
| Harlow & Gilston Garden Town | Green | Hubs and Sustainable Mobility Behavioural Change A Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) has been reported to HGGT Board to identify priority investment in new infrastructure to support a greater number of people making journeys on foot or on cycle. A Task and Finish group on Hubs is being set up by HGGT Officers. Local Employment Space and Digital Implementation Ongoing dialogue continues with planning applicants on the provision of employment land allocation at Gilston HGGT Digital Task & Finish group has been established to identify the digital infrastructure needs of the Garden Town. Meeting on a fortnightly basis and will progress this agenda. Infrastructure The HGGT Team is working closely with HCC as accountable body for Housing Infrastructure Grant to progress negotiations on the Grant Determination and set up of Rolling Infrastructure Fund. The LCWIP has achieved HGGT Board approval for consultation and identifies the interface points for cycling and walking to the Gilston development allocation. | | | |
| Resetting the SE Herts economy in response to COVID-19 and climate change | Green | In progress and upcoming milestones: Project 1 Park Plaza West: Aug 2020 - On site infrastructure design commenced, due to complete end Dec 2021 (tbc as subject to Third-Party dependencies); Project 2 New Park Lane Railway Station, Waltham Cross: Aug 2020 - Business Case for new station in development, due to complete Nov 2020. Footbridge design refreshed with Network Rail, due to complete Jan 2021; Project 3 Development of a new Business Park and hi-tech starter Centre – Maxwells West: Design work commenced Sept 2020; Project 4 Brookfield & surrounding infrastructure: Design - infrastructure & overall Brookfield development commenced Aug 2020, due to complete Oct 2020; Project 5 Waltham Cross Town Centre Regeneration: Public realm design - Phase 1 commenced Aug 2020, due to complete Oct 2020. | | | |
| Watford Junction Quarter | Green | Station Network Rail and Kingshott close to agreeing business case for station concourse improvements; Detailed design work to start imminently with 6-month programme; Start on site in 2021; Network Rail close to confirming business case for pedestrian link bridge across rail lines; Design feasibility work to commence shortly. Systra work on transport interventions Strategic work - technical and pre-strategic outline business case - now completed; Stage 2 work to look at more detailed design feasibility of key interventions to be commissioned. | | | |



| | | Planning Policy |
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| | | Text for Strategic Development Area in Local Plan now drafted and being reviewed; |
| | | Supplementary Planning Guidance to be progressed during 2021. |
| | | Funding |
| | | Funding request submitted with Herts Growth Board - for £131m. |
| | | Stakeholder engagement with key landowners on-going. |
| Creative & | Amber | The Group will be meeting shortly to agree the updated scope of the project and its |
| Screen Industries | Allibei | activities, its area of focus (geographic not just thematic as CS&I extends beyond SW Herts), |
| Sereen maastries | | review current activities in the sector, review/refresh the identified projects, and start to |
| | | determine a process for delivery. |
| | | The LEP was awarded £16.8m under the Government's Getting Building Fund. Investment in |
| | | CS&I is one of five projects that has been progressed for a decision by the LEP Board on 24 th |
| | | September for a final decision on funding. If approved the project will commence almost |
| | | immediately. |
| | | Additional HGB support (Jane Briginshaw) now in place to assist with these projects. |
| Hemel Garden | Amber | • The business case will be updated in October/November 2020. This will reflect the review of |
| Communities | | housing numbers, delivery trajectory and economic contribution/cost/benefits in line with |
| | | DBC Local Plan progress. |
| | | MHCLG capacity Funding bid submitted £852,500 in total, for capacity funding to support |
| | | the programme staff and study costs for 2021 - £635,000, it also included a bid for funding |
| | | to support collaborative transformational projects with other Garden Towns £217,500 (HGC |
| | | share of total costs): |
| | | 1 - for a solar bulk-buying scheme in partnership with Aylesbury Garden Town (AGT) to |
| | | cover all towns in HCC and BCC; |
| | | 2 - for a joint Garden Town proposal for HGC, AGT and Harlow and Gilston Garden |
| | | Town to deliver a digital strategy to contribute to the development of a mobile and |
| | | internet connectivity and open data networks (LORaWAN) and |
| | | 3 - for HGC and AGT to deliver a LORAWAN network for Aylesbury and Hemel |
| | | Hempstead. |
| | | Upcoming milestones: |
| | | September 2020: MHCLG HGC Garden Communities Bid Submitted |
| | | October 2020: Collaborative Garden Town projects - programme scoping. |
| | | October/November 2020: Refresh HGB HGC business case proposal. |
| | | September-November 2020: HGC Spatial Vision – workshops to refine draft vision; |
| | | sign off Nov 2020. |
| | | September-December 2020: draft briefs and procure key studies – Programme Delivery |
| | | Strategy and Plan, Transformation Plan, Infrastructure Delivery Plan and Infrastructure and |
| | | Transformation Framework SPD. |

