

Hertfordshire Growth Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, 17 December 2020



Hertfordshire
Growth Board

Minutes

To: All Members of the Hertfordshire Growth Board
From: Legal, Democratic & Statutory Services, Hertfordshire County Council
Ask for: Stephanie Tarrant
Tel: 01992 555481

Date: Thursday, 17 December 2020

Members of the Board

Council Leaders

L Cocking, Broxbourne Borough Council
A Williams, Dacorum Borough Council
L Haysey, East Herts District Council
D Williams, Hertfordshire County Council (Chairman)
M Bright Leader, Hertsmere Borough Council
M Stears-Handscorn, North Hertfordshire District Council
C White St Albans City and District Council
S Taylor, Stevenage Borough Council
S Giles-Medhurst, Three Rivers District Council
P Taylor, Watford Borough Council
T Kingsbury, Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council

Council Chief Executives

J Stack, Broxbourne Borough Council
C Hamilton, Dacorum Borough Council
R Cassidy, East Herts District Council
O Mapley, Hertfordshire County Council
S Bijle, Hertsmere Borough Council
A Roche, North Hertfordshire District Council
A Foley, St Albans City and District Council
M Partridge, Stevenage Borough Council
G Muggerridge substitute for J Wagstaff, Three Rivers District Council
D Nolan (Managing Director), Watford Borough Council
K Ng, Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council

Hertfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership

N Hayes, Chief Executive
M Bretton, Chairman

Hertfordshire Growth Board

P Dell, Director Hertfordshire Growth

Other Officers

Mark Kemp, Director Hertfordshire County Council
Jon Tiley Hertfordshire County Council

1. Apologies

1.1 None.

2. Minutes

2.1 The Minutes of the Board meeting held on 13 October 2020 were confirmed as a correct record.

3. Constituting the Growth Board Joint Committee

3.1 The Board reviewed a report which detailed the final stages of implementing the Growth Board Joint Committee. Board Members noted that all Growth Board partners had taken the Joint Committee proposals via their democratic process and that if agreed, the recommendation would enable the establishment of the Joint Committee in January 2021.

3.2 The Board heard that concerns were raised during the democratic process at Borough of Broxbourne Council about existing joint projects within the partnership, with concerns expressed regarding potential outcomes for the Borough. The Chairman assured the Leader and Chief Executive of the Borough of Broxbourne Council that the Board and the County Council was supportive of a number of local initiatives and agreed to meet to alleviate any concerns ahead of the first Joint Committee meeting.

3.3 In response to a Member question, it was noted that if all partners did not join from the Committee being constituted and a partner wanted to join at a later date, the request would have to be agreed by all partners' democratic processes.

3.3 The Board noted that unity going forward with consensus of all partners would be preferable.

3.4 Patsy Dell was thanked for co-ordinating and assisting with the Joint Committee process.

RESOLVED

3.5 The Board confirmed:

- a) The Hertfordshire Growth Board Statutory Joint Committee will be constituted at its first meeting on 26 January 2021 and the Integrated Governance Framework will be published on the Growth Board website as the constitution for the operation of the joint committees.
- b) The implementation of the Growth Board Scrutiny Committee to be aligned to MHCLG confirmation of a Growth and Housing Deal, as previously agreed.

David Williams

4. Proposed Agenda for The Growth Board Joint Committee 26 January 2021

- 4.1 The Board reviewed a report which appended the proposed agenda for the first meeting of the Joint Committee.
- 4.2 Board Members heard that the first proposed agenda contained all the formalities and usual updates. Speakers would be invited to following meetings based on the wishes of the Board.
- 4.3 The Board noted that they would like cross-party representation amongst the Vice-Chairs, and it was agreed that Leaders would bring Vice-Chair nominations to the first meeting.
- 4.4 The Board proposed that a rolling programme of speakers was organised, to cover topics such as the digital strategy including superfast broadband, sustainability, environment and climate change. In addition, a regular update from the LEP was requested.
- 4.5 Members discussed the impact of Covid-19 on high streets and noted the work of Bill Grimsey. Links to papers to be shared with Members. Members noted views of figures such as former Manchester City Council Chief Executive Howard Bernstein would be useful to the board and its future work.

All Leaders

Patsy Dell

Patsy Dell

RESOLVED

- 4.6 That Leaders/LEP Chair note the proposed agenda for the first Growth Board Joint Committee meeting in January 2021 (at Appendix A) and provide any feedback on content or other matters.

5. Hertfordshire Growth Board (HBG) Programmes update

- 5.1 The Board considered a report on the overall progress of the key Growth Board programmes and noted the status of projects as detailed within the appendix to the report.
- 5.2 The Board noted that Programme Board meetings in the South and North continued to be helpful and providing good oversight of progress being made across the various growth board workstreams and project. The Southern Corridor had had a recent update on the mass rapid transit project which all had been supportive of. Some broader issues around climate had been brought into projects to enable cross-programme work to take place. A written update from officers on the mass rapid transit was requested.
- 5.3 Good progress was reported for the North East, with accelerated work around recovery from the pandemic and work progressing with the help of the LEP and the involvement of town centre stakeholders. A way forward had been agreed for the cell and gene sector project.

Jonathan Tiley

RESOLVED

- 5.4 The Leaders noted the update in Appendix 1 and the overall progress across the Growth Board programme and individual workstreams since the last meeting.

6. Standing Items**South West Herts Joint Plan**

- 6.1 The Board heard that the plan was progressing well, with the consultation complete and feedback being pulled together.
- 6.2 The Board was provided with a brief update on other major programmes across the county. Members noted that the Harlow Gilston Garden Town Programme was progressing through the County Council governance process and Members requested that ambitious modal shift plans continued to be sought, to deliver sustainability ambitions. In addition, it was noted that the County Council was in the process of procuring a master developer for the Baldock development and that the developer for Brookfield Riverside remained positive about the appeal of the development and that completion of a development agreement was imminent.

7. Date of next meeting

- 7.1 First Joint Committee meeting scheduled for Tuesday, 26 January at 16:30 via Teams
- 7.2 Additional confirmed dates for Hertfordshire Growth Board 2021/22 were noted as:
- Tuesday 30 March 21: 9.30 – 11.30
 - Tuesday 22 June 21: 16.30 – 18.30
 - Tuesday 7 September 2021: 9.30 – 11.30
 - Tuesday 2 November 2021: 16.30 – 18.30
 - Tuesday 25 January 2022: 16.30 – 18.30

8. Any other business

- 8.1 None.



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