

# Agenda item 4

## Hertfordshire Growth Board (HGB) – Work Programme 2021 Progress Report January 2022

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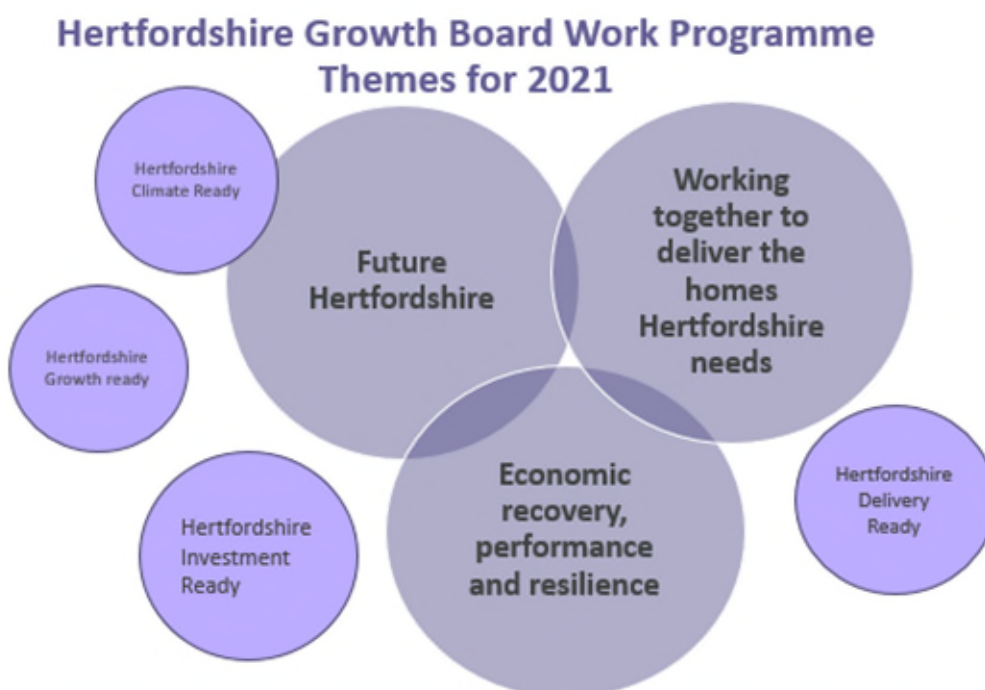
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### 1 Purpose of report

- 1.1 This report updates on progress with the agreed work programme for the Growth Board in 2021 and specific areas of work that are new or which the Board needs to provide a view on.

### 2 The 2021 Work Programme and Priorities

- 2.1 At the January 2021 Board, Leaders confirmed the priority themes for 2021 as:
- Economic Recovery, performance, and resilience
  - Working together to deliver the homes that Hertfordshire needs
  - Future Hertfordshire.
  - Completion of the 2020 Work programme Projects



- 2.2 By December 2021 the ambition was to have:
- Matured the Board's Governance and its 'reach'.
  - Continued to build on the HGB brand, story, and reputation.
  - Secured a Growth Deal with HM Government.

- Protected Hertfordshire from the impact of the virus upon our economy.
- Established the Hertfordshire Housing pipeline and Delivery Pathway.
- Developed an investment prospectus and approach.
- Assembled a spade ready projects investment portfolio.
- Embedded high productivity systems of joint working across our portfolio of projects.
- Delivered our wave 1 projects (current) and be progressing wave 2 (new).

2.3 Attached at Appendix 1 is the Growth Board Work Programme Plan to March 2022.

2.4 The Growth Board annual work programme review workshop is planned to take place in January 2022.

### **3 Engagement with HM Government**

3.1 Dialogue continues with the teams at the Department for Levelling up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) and colleagues from Homes England (HE). An update on the Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR) and County Deal process will be given in the meeting.

3.2 Hertfordshire Councils made a number of year 1 Levelling up and Community Renewal Fund (CRF) bids for projects in Broxbourne, Hemel Hempstead, Stevenage, Watford and Welwyn Hatfield. No levelling up bids were successful but just over £3m was secured from the CRF.

### **4 Housing workstream update**

4.1 The main output of recent work from the housing workstream is contained within the Growth and Housing Prospectus, this has been submitted to DLUHC and HE. Feedback from DLUHC/HE officials on the prospectus and associated work will be provided at the meeting.

4.2 An update on the Temporary Accommodation joint investigation and outline business case is covered at agenda item 8.

### **5 Hertfordshire Investment Ready Workstream**

5.1 The draft Investment strategy and recommended next steps is also included on this agenda at item 6.

## 6 Digital Workstream

- 6.1 The Hertfordshire digital framework was presented to HGB in June 2021 and the final version with recommendations for next steps is covered separately on this agenda at item 5

## 7 Hertfordshire Infrastructure and Development Board (HIDB)

- 7.1 The HIDB held its inaugural meeting on 11 November 2021. Growth Board members, Chief Officers and Heads of Planning Services were invited to represent the board. Subscription levels were very good, demonstrating the high levels of industry interest in engaging with this new consultative body.
- 7.2 The proposed Terms of Reference (ToR) for the HIDB are attached at Appendix 2 to this report.

## 8 Update on Place Narrative, Branding and Communications

- 8.1 A further series of external events took place over the autumn to update stakeholders/partners on activity over the past 12 months and future priorities. These livestreamed panel discussions, sponsored by Willmott Dixon, were scheduled to take place on 1 November 2021, 2 December 2021 and 13 January 2022, as follows:

### 1 November 2021

11.00-12.00

#### ***Rewind and fast***

***forward:*** What have the Growth Board achieved over the past 12 months and how will it be ready to respond in the future?

### 2 December 2021

11.00-12.00

#### ***Making Hertfordshire investment and delivery***

***ready:*** How is the Growth Board and partners fast tracking recovery from COVID-19 and building the homes and infrastructure Hertfordshire needs?

### 13 January 2022

11.00-12.00

#### ***Future***

***Hertfordshire:*** How will Hertfordshire lead a 'green' recovery and ensure that every person can benefit from good, sustainable growth?

- 8.2 HGB Chair Profile: Cllr Richard Roberts was interviewed on 2 November 2021, as part of the leader profile series on The Voice of Authority platform (TVoA). This will be available to view on the HGB YouTube channel and TVoA platform. There will be further opportunities for HGB members to be profiled in this way. Cllr Roberts also made the address at the Building Futures conference on 21 October 2021, setting out the challenges and opportunities for delivering growth to a wider

audience. HGB has sponsored the Hertfordshire Building Futures Awards this year, recognising the central importance of design quality to successful placemaking.

- 8.3 The Growth Board is also sponsoring Hertfordshire Chamber of Commerce's Keeping the Heart in Hertfordshire campaign which aims to help businesses to recover by promoting 'buy local' and creating opportunities for Hertfordshire's talent base through apprenticeships and recruitment opportunities.

## **9 Implications**

- 9.1 There are no adverse legal, financial, equalities, environmental, sustainability or other implications arising from this report and its recommendations which support the ongoing work and priorities of the Growth Board.

## **10 Recommendations**

- 10.1 That the Board notes the progress with the work programme and the overall priorities to March 2022, as set out in the paper and in Appendix 1 and 2.

## APPENDIX 1: HERTFORDSHIRE GROWTH BOARD WORK PROGRAMME Nov 21– April 22

### Agreed Hertfordshire Growth Board Priority Themes:

- Economic recovery, performance, and resilience,
- Building the homes Hertfordshire needs, and
- Future Hertfordshire

Workstream	Key deliverables	Key activities	Nov (w/c)	Dec (w/c)	Jan (w/c)	Feb (w/c)	March (w/c)	April (w/c)										
			0 0 1 2 2	0 1 2 2	0 1 1 2 3	0 1 2 2 0	1 2 2 0 1 2 2	0 1 1 2										
			1 8 5 2 9	6 3 0 7	3 0 7 4 1	7 4 1 8 7 4 1 8 4 1 8 5												
<b>HGB Governance</b>	Implementation of Joint Committee(s) - <b>Completed</b>		Hertfordshire Growth Board dates in 2021 & early 2022															
	Review Co-opted membership to see if other partners should be involved – <b>Completed</b> . New co-opted members join from September		0															
	Communications and Engagement	HGB Communications Strategy	Implementation across 2021 – early 2022															
		Engagement and participation events (virtual) - two events held in 2021, three webinars and new Chair's profile feature planned autumn 2021	Implementation across 2021 – early 2022															
<b>Delivering the Homes Hertfordshire Needs</b>	Strategy & Steering Group established	On-going oversight in place, political oversight and forward agenda planning through CEx Co-ordinating Group																
	Strategic Partnership work	On-going housing pipeline and delivery pathway development work informed by Government discussions & accelerating housing workstream.	Housing pipeline and Growth and Housing prospectus approved September															
		Homes England Strategic Partnership Expression of Interest Bid to Homes England Affordable Homes Fund	Affordable Homes Fund bidding prospectus published. Feasibility Investigation of the merits of submission of a Hertfordshire EoI for Local Authority Strategic Partnership. Concluded May 21 – recommendation not to proceed at this time. Completed.															
		Temporary Accommodation Collaboration Investigation	Outline case to proceed to next stage considered at HGB in June. Business case investigations next steps to be considered in November															
		OSM/MMC project actions – facilitating the uptake of this option as part of our pipeline of sites	Support for the work on Herts OSM with Herts LEP continues. Planning and Development Guide for increased use of OSM in Herts commissioned, expected HGB January															

	Preparation of Housing and Growth submission to MHCLG	Programme of meetings with DLUHC officials on-going. DLUHC Deputy Director attends and briefs Growth Board regularly. Briefing Herts MPs at the appropriate times	On-going engagement with officials from DLUHC, BEIS & DfT. Growth and Housing prospectus prepared and submitted September County Deal expression of Interest submitted 13-8-21																													
	Partners, investors & delivery bodies Engagement	Establish Developer Forum with agreed partner, implementation Autumn	Briefings to Herts MPs on HGB work, County Deals and Levelling up Fund project bids as and when needed																													
<b>Workstream</b>	<b>Key deliverables</b>	<b>Key activities</b>	Nov (w/c)		Dec (w/c)			Jan (w/c)			Feb (w/c)			March (w/c)			April (w/c)															
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			1	8	5	2	9	6	3	0	7	3	0	7	4	1	7	4	1	8	7	4	1	8	4	1	8	4	1	8	5	
<b>Economic Recovery, Performance and Resilience</b>	Hertfordshire Investment Ready	Development of a purposeful Investment Ready Strategy – to bring greater investment into Herts (both public and private sources). Investigate options such as impact and regional funds and bear down on establishing the conditions locally that need to be created to leverage in investment.  Investment Strategy and Portfolio of our investable propositions (infrastructure and schemes that are or can be made spade ready).  Investigation of potential funding options/routes for strategic scale, part, or non-commercial infrastructure projects.	Investment Strategy to November Growth Board																													
	Digital Workstream	LEP lead, supported by HGB and partners. Draft Digital Framework presented to June HGB, final version to November HGB																														
	Virtual observatory	Enhance the joint LEP/HGB data analytics availability to support Board members as well as enhancing bidding and lobbying activities across our priority areas. Monitoring of national funding streams and bidding opportunities aligned with bidding																														



		updated/prepared in 2021		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Future Hertfordshire</li> </ul>
	Outline Business Cases.	Initial tranche of business cases developed to a common framework and to support investment opportunity discussions with Government and private sector. Update where supports spade readiness for bidding.		Information gathering and detailed OBC development work as needed across 2021 and in support of HGB submissions to HM Government Funding rounds.
<b>Workstream</b>	<b>Key deliverables</b>	<b>Projects &amp; key milestones</b>		Nov (w/c)    Dec (w/c)    Jan (w/c)    Feb (w/c)    March (w/c)    April (w/c)
				0 0 1 2 2 0 1 2 2 0 1 1 2 3 0 1 2 2 0 1 2 2 0 1 1 2 1 8 5 2 9 6 3 0 7 3 0 7 4 1 7 4 1 8 7 4 1 8 4 1 8 5
<b>Southern Corridor Board and Delivery Programmes</b>	Southern Corridor Programme Board	Board oversight	Southern Corridor Programme Board dates	2 0
	Southern Corridor Delivery Programmes	Accelerating Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Housing Pipeline monitoring</li> <li>Local interventions to address housing market failure</li> <li>Deploying freedoms and flexibilities from Govt to accelerate housing delivery</li> </ul>	Housing pipeline validation and dialogue with the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC). Progress being reported through project updates.
		Creative & Screen Industry Sector Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Screen Industries new space research commissioned</li> <li>Film &amp; TV Production Business Support and Creative &amp; Screen Industries Skills Development Programme reviewed through LEP sector action plan</li> </ul>	Progress being reported through project updates.
		Harlow Gilston Garden Town	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Integrated Transport Hubs &amp; Sustainable Mobility Behavioural Change</li> <li>Local Employment Space &amp; Digital Implementation</li> <li>Supporting Infrastructure Projects</li> </ul>	Progress being reported through project updates.



		Hemel Garden Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Viability and Delivery Strategy</li> <li>• Stewardship Framework &amp; Approach</li> <li>• HGC Strategic Masterplan Guidance &amp; Transformational Plan</li> <li>• HGC Infrastructure Delivery Plan</li> <li>• Social Housing Delivery</li> <li>• Sustainable Energy Infrastructure Projects - Evidence Base Study</li> </ul>	Progress being reported through project updates.
		Hertfordshire and Essex Rapid Transit System (HERT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MRT Promotional Video</li> <li>• Options Assessment Report; Appraisal Specification Report</li> <li>• Strategic Outline Business Case</li> <li>• Sustainable Travel Towns Design</li> </ul>	Progress being reported through project updates.
		SE Hertfordshire Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Park Plaza West – Sunset Studios investment confirmed</li> <li>• New Park Lane Railway Station (Waltham Cross) - Footbridge Procurement</li> <li>• New Business Park and hi-tech starter Centre: Maxwells West – Planning permission &amp; procurement</li> <li>• Waltham Cross Town Centre Regeneration - Public realm design - Phase 1</li> </ul>	Progress being reported through project updates.
		Watford Junction Interchange	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SOBC Transport Interventions (subject to funding)</li> <li>• Network Rail design pedestrian link/entire station development</li> <li>• Development Agreement</li> <li>• Design &amp; Planning</li> </ul>	Progress being reported through project updates.

Workstream	Key deliverables	Projects & key milestones	Nov (w/c)		Dec (w/c)			Jan (w/c)			Feb (w/c)			March (w/c)			April (w/c)							
			0	1	2	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	1	2				
<b>Northern Corridor Board and Delivery Programmes</b>	Northern Corridor Programme Board	Board oversight	Northern Corridor Programme Board dates																					
	Northern Corridor Delivery Programmes	Community Wealth Building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CWB Pilot 1 Stevenage &amp; 2 North Herts</li> <li>County-wide working group established</li> </ul>	Progress being reported through project updates.																				
		Future Growth Locations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scope review to be undertaken</li> </ul>	Progress being reported through project updates.																				
		Town Centres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Formal steering group with monthly meeting</li> <li>Health check questionnaire</li> </ul>	Progress being reported through project updates.																				
		Science and Technology (Cell and Gene Focus) Sector Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Framework/Masterplanning/visioning study for Gunnels Wood Road</li> </ul>	Progress being reported through project updates.																				
		Climate, carbon and Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finalised Water Action Plan</li> <li>Biodiversity Action Plan and baselines established</li> <li>Carbon Action Plan finalised</li> <li>Transport Action Plan finalised</li> </ul>	Progress being reported through project updates.																				
<b>Joint Strategic Planning (JSP) workstreams</b>	SWH JSP	JSP Programme	On-going implementation programme across 2021. Progress being reported through project updates																					
	NECH JSP	JSP Programme	On-going implementation programme across 2021. Progress being reported through project updates																					