

Combined Northern and Southern Growth Corridor Delivery Programme Updates (Dec 2021)

Delivery Project	Programme Lead/s	Red / Amber / Green Status	Description
NEC and Northern Corridor programme Board			
NEC JSP	Lead Leader: Linda Haysey Chief Executive: Richard Cassidy Programme Lead: Sara Saunders	Green	<p>The Growth Study was published for tender w/c 15th November and the closing date for potential bidders is 7 January 2022. Contract commencement is expected to be around late Feb/early March.</p>
Community Wealth Building	Lead Leader: Sharon Taylor Chief Executive: Matt Partridge Programme Lead: Rob Gregory	Green	<p>UK Community Renewal Fund</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was announced on 3 November 2021 that the 'Community Wealth Building Together' bid to the UK Community Renewal Fund was successful in securing £700,000. • The bid focussed on a delegated grants programme at a local level to help connect residents to employment opportunities and to support small businesses and social enterprises to innovate and drive further local growth as well as the creation and support of Strategic Procurement and Planning Working Groups to develop the Community Wealth Building approach throughout Hertfordshire. • In light of a later than anticipated funding award the original spend deadline of March 2022 has been extended until the end of June 2022. • An initial discussion with District & Borough Council partners concerning delivery of the programme took place on the 8 November 2021. The programme will need to be delivered at pace to meet the spend timeframe. <p>District Working Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The district / borough working group continues to meet and share good practice. • The group will function as a cross Hertfordshire project board for the Community Renewal Fund activities to include the two delegated grant delivery schemes and both working groups. • Dacorum Borough Council continue to work on strategic planning and social value to help drive further social investment at a local level linked to their planned growth and development. This work will be supported through the Community

			<p>Renewal Fund project through the Strategic Planning Working Group.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stevenage Borough Council has recently approved a revised Cooperative Procurement Strategy which will further strengthen efforts to embed the Community Wealth Building agenda including use of the Social Value Portal. Procurement, as a topic more broadly across Hertfordshire, will be considered by one of the targeted working groups as part of the Community Renewal Fund programme.
Delivery Models for New Settlements	<p>Lead Leaders: Linda Haysey, Elizabeth Dennis-Harburg/Paul Clark Managing Director: Anthony Roche Programme Lead: Ian Fullstone</p>	Green	<p>The group has agreed how it will move forward with this work stream. The work programme has been agreed through to the early New Year, with dates in the diary. Good session held with TCPA on 13 September. Very interesting session on 8 October reflecting on the lessons to be learned from the HGGT project. Next session, from HYAS on infrastructure and viability considerations was held on 17 November. Regular meetings being held between political and officer leads.</p>
Reinvigorating Town Centres	<p>Lead Leaders: Tony Kingsbury, Elizabeth Dennis-Harburg Chief Executive: Ka Ng Programme Lead: Tobias Barker (Interim)</p>	Green	<p>The working group has been engaging with the Institute of Place Management to discuss how they could support this workstream going forward. They have produced a proposal that will enable “Vital and Viable” assessments to take place in each of the districts. The programme held a sub-group meeting on 18th November to review the proposal and agree next steps.</p> <p>Once the proposal is agreed with each of the districts, it is expected that individual workshops will be held at district level, involving key stakeholders identified to review what is happening to their town and city centres, detailed assessment of the 25 local priority factors for vitality and viability, exploring priorities for the future and partnership structure model.</p> <p>A letter has been finalised regarding the impact of changes to permitted development rights on the programme and wider growth ambitions, to send to HM Government on behalf of the Growth Board. The final draft was shared at the HIPP on 6 October 2022 for endorsement, with the final version included in the rescheduled January 2022 HGB papers for sign-off.</p> <p>The Growth Board have successfully recruited a Programme Lead officer with resource to support</p>

			<p>this work over the next 12 months. They joined the working group in December 2021.</p> <p>Future milestones:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next formal working group meeting to be scheduled for December • Rollout further diagnostic activity with IPM • (Commission) strategy and action plan for High Streets and Town Centres based on the evidence and on individual needs and HGB offer
<p>Growing Science and Technology (Cell and Gene Focus)</p>	<p>Lead Leader: Sharon Taylor</p> <p>Chief Executives: Jeff Stack, Neil Hayes</p> <p>Programme Lead: Tobias Barker (Interim)</p>	Amber	<p>A cornerstone of this workstream will be the development of a framework for the Gunnels Wood Road area, and to assess potential opportunities beyond this area. A brief has been prepared and is now being discussed with potential consultants. Partners have agreed a shared funding approach for the work.</p> <p>Tendering processes will restart in January, estimated time required for that stage is 4-6 months, with the timescales for the three elements - vision, opportunity and design code, having their own timelines and individual milestones that will be agreed with the appointed consultant.</p> <p>Other projects</p> <p>Since the last meeting of the NEC Board several key milestones have been achieved. Planning consent has been granted for a £65m new life sciences facility in Stevenage town centre, to be developed by Reef Estates as a European site for Autolus, a cell and gene operator. The land sale has completed, and a ground-breaking ceremony took place on 8 November.</p> <p>GSK have announced their intention to seek a development partner to expand the current campus into a leading European life sciences facility, creating up to 4,000 new jobs. We await further updates on the progress of this procurement.</p> <p>Herts LEP have allocated £1m to Hertfordshire County Council to work on the design stage for highways changes to the south of Gunnels Wood Road, with full funding sought through the Levelling Up Funding bid and now endorsed by the Stevenage Development Board.</p>
<p>Climate Change & Sustainability</p>	<p>Lead Leader: Linda Haysey</p> <p>Chief Executive: Matt Partridge</p>	Amber	<p>All four of the Strategic Action Plans (Water, Biodiversity, Carbon and Transport) prepared by HCCSP were formally launched at this month's HCCSP COP26 event.</p>

	<p>Programme Lead: Julie Greaves</p>	<p>The countywide biodiversity baseline work has now started via a contract with consultants WSP and with input from the HMWT. It is hoped that this work will be completed by the end of this financial year.</p> <p>Two new subgroups have been formed to commence work to develop plans which will focus on Behaviour Change and Adaptation.</p> <p>The initial meetings to define the scope of work for the behaviour change group have taken place with all relevant actions from the approved plans identified and collated. Next steps will include setting out a work programme and key milestones for delivery of county level communications campaigns.</p> <p>The initial workshop and meetings to define the scope of work and begin the stakeholder mapping for the adaptation plan have also taken place. The next steps will include the identification of relevant officers (outside of the climate change and sustainability remit) at each local authority. It is anticipated that a further countywide workshop will be needed in the New Year to review the work to date and scope out the interdependencies.</p> <p>The recruitment process for a shared project officer resource was successful. It is hoped that the new officer will be in post by the end of the year. This will be a valuable additional resource to the HCCSP. The postholder will support the performance monitoring and delivery of the themed action plans along with horizon scanning for grant and/or other funding opportunities.</p> <p>Roll out of the HCCSP sponsored Energy Saving Trust app to households across Hertfordshire will begin very soon.</p> <p><u>Update to Green Infrastructure:</u> A draft Part 1 of the Hertfordshire Green Infrastructure Strategy has been reviewed by HiPP/HCC and LUC (Land Use Consultants) are preparing the final edits. This section of the study is to 'set the scene' and provide an update on policy and context since publication of the 2011 strategy. This document essentially covers the 'strategic review of green infrastructure in Hertfordshire' section of the brief.</p> <p>For Part 2, two workshops were held on the 21st and 22nd October 2021 and were well attended. The focus of the workshops were GI themes, best</p>
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Southern Corridor Programme Board			
Homes and Communities	<p>Lead Leader: Andrew Williams</p> <p>Chief Executive: Claire Hamilton</p> <p>Programme Lead: tbc</p>	Green	<p>Accelerated Housing Delivery</p> <p>The accelerated housing proposals were presented to the Growth Board in September and have been incorporated into the Housing and Growth Prospectus, which has now been shared with the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC).</p> <p>Following initial feedback from Homes England on the Short-Term Housing pipeline, further work is being undertaken to review those sites requiring either more information or more work to be progressed. Further discussions will then take place with Homes England about future options for progressing delivery</p> <p>Off-Site Manufacturing</p> <p>Support is continuing to be provided to the Hertfordshire OSM consortium members to assist them in identifying opportunities to use an OSM system approach to schemes they are progressing within their business plans. Whilst the formal support from ARK is completed, ARK are supporting the next 3 consortium meetings through to summer 2022.</p> <p>The OSM Consortium have completed and circulated 10 factsheets to members.</p> <p>National Model Design Code – Dacorum BC has been selected to pilot the creation of a model design code and meetings have taken place with the Dacorum lead for this work with the view to collaborating to include OSM within the project. This collaboration is ongoing and will also link into the guidance manual.</p> <p>Pattern books – the pattern books were presented to members at the consortium meeting on 30th September. Members will be able to engage with either supplier on any scheme and have access to a suite of standard house types to utilise in maximising the quality of schemes, increasing efficiencies, and driving sustainability standards.</p>

			<p>OSM manufacturing facility – Herts LEP/Herts IQ are currently working with three OSM companies to encourage them to construct an OSM factory in Hertfordshire.</p> <p>Temporary Accommodation - County wide review</p> <p>The strategic case for this work, approved by the Growth Board at its meeting of 22 June 2021, proposed the potential value of adopting a coordinated range of approaches to the supply and management of TA accommodation in Hertfordshire. This includes building on existing good practice, with the aim of better meeting the housing need of people living in Temporary Accommodation (TA), whilst achieving quality and value for money.</p> <p>Following detailed work with all of Hertfordshire's local authorities to investigate gaps in accommodation provision and options for joint working, 11 options were initially identified as having potential to meet the objectives of the work within three blocks of activity:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Closer working; 2. Joint Working, and; 3. New Builds or Acquisition. <p>Following consultation with officers and elected members from all Hertfordshire councils, the options have been refined to 6 areas of focus that are recommended for more detailed investigation and development into a Full Business Case. It is recognised that not all options will be suitable for a pan-Hertfordshire approach and may be more suited to a smaller number of councils to engage in joint working; this will be determined during the development of the Full Business Case. The principle that households will be kept close to existing social networks in line with legislation and guidance when placed in TA is core to the work.</p> <p>The Outline Business Case (OBC) has been finalised and awaits approval by Hertfordshire Growth Board. The approval will allow for the development of full business case and implementation plans for the recommended options.</p>
<p>Creative & Screen Industries</p>	<p>Lead Leader: Morris Bright Chief Executive: Neil Hayes (LEP)</p>	<p>Amber</p>	<p>The working group has met twice since the last update, with constructive discussions around key activities that can be progressed whilst awaiting the final version of the LEP's emerging sector action plan (due to be completed early 2022).</p>

	<p>Programme Leads (current): Adam Wood (LEP), Tobias Barker (Interim)</p>		<p>A further separate officer-led subgroup was arranged to discuss the possibility of setting up a centralised Hertfordshire TV & Film office, as a “1 stop shop” for production companies to liaise with the public sector. The initial meeting found some broad areas of interest for pursuing further research and engagement with wider stakeholders to develop the proposal further. The next action is for the group is to compile a survey to understand how each district currently operates their location requirements for filming and see how this proposal can best complement existing arrangements.</p> <p>The Markides Associates study: ‘Greenlit Hertfordshire: working towards further film and TV studio development opportunities for the county’ was presented to the working group in draft in late September 2021 and has now been completed.</p>
<p>Harlow & Gilston Garden Town</p>	<p>Lead Leader: Linda Haysey Chief Executive: Richard Cassidy Programme Lead: Naisha Polaine</p>	<p>Green</p>	<p>The HGGT project is now moving from a policy making focus towards the delivery phase of the project. HGGT work priorities are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. HGGT – Next Steps for the Partnership - Governance Review 2. HGGT Delivery Programme <p>The project delivery programme has been fundamentally reviewed and reset. The 2021/22 HGGT Work Programme aims to deliver the overarching objective of co-ordinating and enabling delivery of 14,000 homes by 2033, along with associated infrastructure, delivering the Garden Town Vision, principles and guidance that has been agreed by the 5 partner councils (a copy of the programme overview is attached in this link).</p> <p>The key strategic priorities for 2021/22 are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Delivering the Garden Town Vision of quality, beautiful and sustainable places o Enabling the Infrastructure Foundations for Growth o Maximising and Accelerating Delivery with a focus on outcomes by 2025 o Ensuring our Governance is Fit for the Future <p>a) Gilston Villages 1 – 6 Planning Application Planning application proposals for the 10,000 new home development at Gilston (as part of the Harlow and Gilston Garden Town) remain under consideration by Harlow and East Herts Councils. Committee meetings are likely to be in Spring 2022. The Councils and applicants continue to work together to secure a development related funding package (through s106 Agreement) that will deliver a full range of</p>

			<p>supporting infrastructure and other service provision – transport enhancements, education provision and significant affordable housing delivery chief amongst them.</p> <p>b) Full planning applications for the river crossings, (infrastructure to be funded initially by the Government Housing Infrastructure Grant (HIG)), were due to be considered by East Herts Planning Committee on 16th November and Harlow Planning Committee on 17th November. However, one day in advance of the first committee meeting, lengthy additional representations, including points of a legal nature, were submitted by two landowners in the vicinity of the application and wider Gilston sites. The committee meetings have been postponed in order to enable the additional representations to be considered fully. New committee meeting dates will be scheduled as soon as possible.</p> <p>3. Funding</p> <p>The primary source of external funding for the HGGT project has, to date been Garden Town Capacity Funding; Government funds applied for via Homes England in September 2020. The funding award announcement for 2020-21 was made in June 2021 for £475,000.</p> <p>The HGGT Partnership was invited to bid for 2021-22 Capacity Funding at the end of November 2021; the deadline for bid submissions is 17th December 2021. Leaders and CEO's of the 5 partner councils have agreed the following framework which sets the strategic direction and priorities of the bid that will be submitted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HGGT's primary purpose is to co-ordinate and enable delivery of 14,000 homes by 2033, along with associated infrastructure, delivering to the Garden Town Vision, principles and guidance that has been agreed by the 5 partner Councils. • HGGT's Strategy is to provide and coordinate an operational framework across LA boundaries, agreed by all 5 partner Councils, that defines priorities needed to meet, if not accelerate, the delivery of the strategic growth. <p>In 2022/23 HGGT will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to be the holder of the Garden Town Vision for the 5 Local Authorities and coordinate them to achieve that ambition • Map the Garden Town's technical programme showing milestones to deliver the planned housing, jobs & infrastructure and implement
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			<p>rigorous Programme Management of the overall garden town growth to meet delivery trajectories</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop the Rolling Infrastructure Fund for the 5 Local Authorities to collect developer contributions and HIG repayments; providing the method to deliver critical enabling infrastructure for the future • Develop and implement the Stewardship Body to ensure that new community assets are held long-term • Co-ordinate partners across the functional economic area to develop an economic growth strategy to foster inclusive growth • Support the regeneration delivery of Harlow Town Centre and neighbourhoods
<p>Hemel Garden Communities</p>	<p>Lead Leader: Andrew Williams Chief Executive: Claire Hamilton Programme Lead: Tom Dewey</p>	<p>Green</p>	<p>HGC Transport Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work on the HGC Transport Plan continues to progress forward. A full draft of the Plan has now been received from the Consultant team and is being reviewed by officers through the forum of the Transport Subgroup of HGC. The Plan focusses on a series of 'Big Moves' to bring about modal shift and behaviour change to sustainable transport. A plan for engagement activities is being developed which is proposed to be undertaken in two phases; initial high-level engagement in Feb/Mar followed by consultation on the plan in the summer. <p>HGC Framework Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HGC Framework Plan is the key study that will shape the strategic infrastructure and spatial requirements for Hemel Garden Communities. The work is being progressed by David Lock Associates, landowners within the growth area and HGC. A draft programme, key issues log has been produced by the working group to ensure decisions are made and engagement occurs with all relevant audiences, as well as a range of stakeholder workshops to obtain input into the FP issues and opportunities. A draft spatial plan has been produced which is in the process of review by the partners. • Presentations have been made to DBC Spatial Planning Overview and Scrutiny Committee and SADCs Local Plan Advisory Group on key workstreams during November. <p>Communications and Engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Communications and Engagement Strategy has been prepared and has been shared for review with the HGC Comms and Engagement Subgroup. This forms the basis of approach to engagement, with an Action Plan being developed off the back of this.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support has been commissioned to develop a HGC branding and a website as a resource and engagement portal for the programme which will be launched in early 2022. <p>Recruitment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recruitment process of an Independent Chair will commence in January 2022 Permanent HGC Programme Director role recruitment has now concluded and an announcement will be made prior to the Christmas break
Mass Rapid Transit - Hertfordshire & Essex Rapid Transit (HERT)	<p>Lead Leader: Phil Bibby</p> <p>Chief Executive: Mark Kemp</p> <p>Programme Lead: Darren Granger</p>	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Engagement commenced on 18 Nov 2021 and runs until 28 Jan 2022. Full details can be found at www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/HERT, including access to the virtual exhibition room, brochure and survey. The survey includes questions on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How they travel – mode, purpose and main issues they experience with passenger transport, - Whether they agree with our vision, - Views on the towns and stations the HERT will serve, - What would make public transport attractive to use, - What types of journey they would use the HERT for, - Whether they agree with the benefits of the HERT and support the project 3-minute promotional video has been released and is available to view on HCC's YouTube channel https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EAOFFO2dg3I and also on the Growth Board website www.hertfordshiregrowthboard.com/2021/11/18/introducing-the-hertfordshire-to-essex-rapid-transit-her/ Stakeholder engagement with businesses and transport campaign groups, bus operators, interest groups and national accessibility campaigners ongoing, along with a programme of briefings and 1-2-1s with key regional and local stakeholders. MP Briefing in Westminster planned for 25 Jan 2022. Completion of Strategic Outline Business Case by early 2021 ready for political sign off. Submission of SOBC for funding approval in Spring/Summer 2022.
Resetting the SE Herts economy in	Lead Leader: Lewis Cocking	Green	<p>Project 1 Park Plaza West</p> <p>Plans for major new film/TV studios have just been announced with the potential to create over 4,500</p>

response to COVID-19 and climate change	Chief Executive: Jeff Stack Programme Lead: Kevin Clark		<p>permanent jobs and £300m to the local economy. This has caused the RAG rating to move from Red to Green. Discussions with the Planning Authority are ongoing. The current programme is for submission of a planning application in March 2022 with a probable decision July 2022. Assuming that is positive, construction work is expected to commence in late 2022.</p>
		Amber	<p>Project 2 New Park Lane Railway Station, Waltham Cross</p> <p>Views on the initial strategic outline business case were sought in July 2021 at a meeting with DfT. They confirmed support for the project is critical from the Train Operation Company and Network Rail. The next key step is therefore to establish and ensure Network Rail's and the operators' requirements are met so they can fully support the project and give it a much stronger chance of funding and getting onto the Rail Network Enhancement Pipeline in Control Period 7 (2024-2029).</p>
		Green	<p>Project 3 Development of a new Business Park and hi-tech starter Centre – Maxwells West</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The access road is on target for completion in January 2022. Broxbourne has now let the build contract and the construction company occupied the site on November 29 2021. The contractual completion date for the centre is 5 December 2022.
		Amber	<p>Project 4 Brookfield & surrounding infrastructure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The submission of planning applications is now programmed for Q2/3 of 2022 with a planned public consultation in Q1. Ongoing discussions still being held with Homes England on possible engagement in the project. Pre app discussions are in train with the LPA.
		Green	<p>Project 5 Waltham Cross Town Centre Regeneration</p> <p>A full public consultation started in September 2021 and closed on 3 October 2021. The Levelling Up Fund bid was unsuccessful and the Council is still awaiting the feedback, however the Council has been encouraged to resubmit the bid in the next round in February 2022. The results of the public consultation exercise show a high level of support for the proposals.</p>
Watford Junction Quarter	Lead Leader: Peter Taylor	Amber	<p>Station</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Network Rail and Kingshott still hoping to agree changes to concourse, however covid has impacted retail trade and this has impacted on

<p>Chief Executive: Donna Nolan</p> <p>Programme Lead: Julian Hart</p>		<p>the land deal negotiations. The financial position is being reviewed and agreement is anticipated in early 2022.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Network Rail has submitted a funding request to DoT for £1m for a pedestrian bridge – all going well, this would be signed off in early 2022. Design would proceed for 12 months to explore pedestrian bridge feasibility and confirm costs.
	Green	<p>Planning Policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watford draft Local Plan – Council has reviewed and responded to representations. Examination of Local Plan expected at year end. • One of the Deloitte workstreams (see below) has included reviewing watertightness of planning policy and how to manage landowner relationships going forwards to ensure comprehensive regeneration takes place. A recommendation arising from this is to review whether the site should remain excluded from CIL. Otherwise, apart from a few minor tweaks, the planning policy position is considered robust.
	Green	<p>Funding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stakeholder engagement with key landowners on-going. • Homes England has provided a contribution towards the revenue funding costs of the Deloitte work.
	Green	<p>Funding and Development Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deloitte has been appointed to progress strategy work. • First stage of work has been commissioned and commenced – this involves contacting all landowners and carrying out baseline analysis in order to review overall work programme and deliverables. Initial output has been reviewed by public sector stakeholders. • Next stages of work have now been agreed and are being progressed.