

Hertfordshire Growth Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, 14 June 2022



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: Tuesday, 14 June 2022

Attendance

Council Leaders (11 Voting Members)

M Bright, Hertsmere Borough Council
L Cocking, Broxbourne Borough Council
S Nelmes, Three Rivers District Council
L Haysey, East Herts District Council
T Kingsbury, Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council
E Dennis-Harburg, North Hertfordshire District Council
P Taylor (Mayor), Watford Borough Council
S Taylor, Stevenage Borough Council
C White, St Albans City and District Council
A Williams, Dacorum Borough Council

Co-opted Members

M Bretton, Hertfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership Chairman

N.B. This meeting was chaired by C White, Lead Vice Chair.

1. Minutes

- 1.1 The Minutes of the Board meeting held on 25 January 2022 were confirmed as a correct record.

2. Public Questions – Standing order 12

- 2.1 There were no Public Questions.

3. Public Petitions – Standing Order 13

- 3.1 There were no Public Petitions.

4. Hertfordshire Growth Board (HGB) – Overall work Programme Progress Report June 2022

[Officer Contact: Patsy Dell, Hertfordshire Growth Board, Tel: 07949 887794]

- 4.1 The Board received a report which provided updates on progress with the current Growth Board work programme and specific areas of work that were new or that the Board were required to provide a view on.
- 4.2 Members heard updates on three areas that had progressed since January 2022. Feedback had been received from the construction sector on planning resilience and capacity in Hertfordshire. It was noted that the delay in delivery of developments were of concern to developers. A report would be presented to the July 2022 Board.
- 4.3 The Digital Framework for Hertfordshire was signed off in January 2022 and the new Board to oversee the work had been established and Cllr Bright appointed Chair of the Board. The Board had met on 10 June 2022 and discussed connectivity. A bid was underway for national funding that can be used to top up the business connection vouchers in rural areas.
- 4.4 The Hertfordshire and Infrastructure and Development Board had a successful meeting in early June, with 45 organisations now signed up and over 100 attendees at the last meeting. Attendees were keen to discuss infrastructure and development across Hertfordshire.
- 4.5 The full Board discussion on this item can be viewed here at 00:03:10 [Item 4 - Work Programme Progress Report June 2022](#).

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RESOLVED

4.6 The Board noted the progress with the work programme and the overall priorities to July 2022, as set out in the paper and in Appendix 1.

5. Hertfordshire Growth Board (HGB) – Approval of the Hertfordshire Off Site Manufacturing/ Modern Methods of Construction Guide

[Officer Contact: Jenny Foster, Hertfordshire Growth Board, Tel: 01992 556621]

5.1 The Board received an update on the progress made with supporting housing delivery in Hertfordshire, specifically measures to increase the awareness and use of Off-Site Manufacturing/ Modern Methods of Construction (OSM/ MMC).

5.2 A Hertfordshire Guide and fact sheets had been developed to provide information to partners involved in housing delivery and to 'myth-bust' misconceptions about the use of this construction technology. Members noted that Government are seeking 25% of new developments to utilise OSM.

5.3 Officers noted that the role of the Board was to promote the methods. Members welcomed the factsheets and guidance.

5.4 The full Board discussion on this item can be viewed here at 00:08:50 [Item 5 - Approval of the Hertfordshire Off Site Manufacturing/ Modern Methods of Construction Guide.](#)

RESOLVED

5.5 The Board approved the guidance and factsheets in Appendix 1 for formal publication on the HGB website and by partners and supports the work to increase familiarisation and use of this construction technology in Hertfordshire.

6. Hertfordshire Growth Board (HGB) – Temporary Accommodation (TA) Joint Project – Next Steps

[Officer Contact: Roger Barrett, Hertfordshire Growth Board, Tel: 01992 556192]

6.1 The Board received a report which provided an update on the progress made developing the recommended options available to local authorities in Hertfordshire to better meet the housing needs for people living in Temporary Accommodation (TA).

6.2 Members noted three of the six initial options had been prioritised for further investigation:

CHAIRMAN'S INITIALS

- Development of a Hertfordshire TA Predictive Model to better understand manage future demand (demand model)
- Development of a Hertfordshire wide procedure for setting maximum rates for private sector TA
- Development of a multi-district or Hertfordshire wide Housing First service, building on lessons from existing practice

6.3 The Board noted that the situation surrounding temporary accommodation varied across the county and that district-by-district analysis needed to be undertaken.

6.4 A Member steering group was overseeing work on the three options.

6.7 The full Board discussion on this item can be viewed here at 00:14:14 [Item 6 - Temporary Accommodation \(TA\) Joint Project – Next Steps](#).

RESOLVED

6.8 The Growth Board noted the progress made with the joint project.

7. Hertfordshire Growth Board – Changes to the Local Enterprise Partnership

[Officer Contact: Patsy Dell, Hertfordshire Growth Board, Tel: 07949 887794]

7.1 The Board received a presentation from Neil Hayes (Hertfordshire LEP) on the changes to the Local Enterprise Partnership. The presentation slides can be viewed here: [LEP Presentation Slides](#).

7.2 In response to a Member question regarding the LEP changes and its impact of Hertfordshire, Members heard that three pathways had been set for LEP's to take. It was advised that Hertfordshire was on pathway 2, which meant that the LEP would continue to exist until such time a county deal or devolution plan was agreed locally. If there was an appetite for a county deal, part of the process would include ownership of the LEP.

7.3 Members noted the tight timescales on the shared prosperity fund and the difficulty in ensuring transparency and democracy.

7.4 The Board commented on Hertfordshire earnings growth being below national figures. Members heard that some economies had sectors that were declining, and future work should address how to bring benefits from other sectors into struggling communities. Members requested a future report to the Board bringing together market intelligence and looking at the future of the Hertfordshire economy.

Patsy Dell

CHAIRMAN'S INITIALS

7.5 The full Board discussion on this item can be viewed here at 00:24:08 [Item 7 - LEP Update](#).

RESOLVED

7.5 The Growth Board noted the information shared within the oral update.

8. Hertfordshire Growth Board (HGB) – Growth Corridor Programme Boards Work Programme Updates

[Officer Contact: Patsy Dell, Hertfordshire Growth Board, Tel: 07949 887794]

8.1 The Board reviewed a report that provided an update on the overall progress of the Growth Corridor work programmes and projects since January 2022.

8.2 Members heard that both corridors were working extremely well, with a number of projects being cross-corridor.

8.3 In the Southern Corridor, the Harlow and Gilston Town project with moving ahead with the two planning applications for bridges had been approved by East Herts and Harlow Councils. As a Garden Town, review of the structure was underway to ensure a modern and sufficiently transparent approach. Funding had been received from Homes England, but long-term funding was sought to enable high-quality staff to be employed on longer than one-year contracts.

8.4 Members heard that the Mass Rapid Transport project was progressing, and plans had gone out to consultation with a report due to be presented to the Growth Board later in the year.

8.5 The North, East and Central Herts Local Planning Authorities had made progress with the Joint Spatial Plan with the stage 1 report expected in July 2022. Members heard that both the Community Wealth Building and the Reinvigorating Town Centres were progressing well.

8.6 Members were given an update on the Creative and Screen Industries project and heard that the working group had met the previous week. Constructive discussion had been continuing and major studios had agreed to join the Creative and Screen Industries Panel with a view to delivering a Hertfordshire film office. The Board noted a focus on developing creative skills in the area.

8.7 The Board heard that the Delivery Models for New Settlements project had moved forward with two site visits taking place at Alconbury Weald and Houlton Rugby. The visit to Eddington in North Cambridge

CHAIRMAN'S INITIALS

would be available as a self-guided tour. The forthcoming workstream review would consider the next steps for this investigative work.

- 8.8 The full Board discussion on this item can be viewed here at 00:46:25 [Item 8 - Growth Corridor Programme Boards Work Programme Updates](#).

RESOLVED

- 8.9 The Board noted the project updates in Appendix 1 and overall progress across the Growth Board programme and individual workstreams since the last meeting in January 2022.

9. Hertfordshire Growth Board (HGB) – Changes to Growth Board Governance – Substitutions provisions

- 9.1 The Board reviewed a report which proposed an amendment to the approved Integrated Governance Framework of the Hertfordshire Growth Board to enable notification of substitute members within a more convenient time period.
- 9.2 Members heard that it was proposed to change the 5 day notice period for substitutions to a one-hour period, in line with other Council meetings.
- 9.3 The Board discussion on this item can be viewed here at 01:00:15 [Item 9 - Changes to Growth Board Governance – Substitutions provisions](#).

RESOLVED

- 9.4 The Board approved a change to part 2.3 of the standing orders, replacing the requirement for 5 days' notice of substitutions to a period of one hour.

10. Standing Items South West Herts Joint Strategic Plan

- 10.1 The Board heard that that plan was moving towards Regulation 18 consultation. It was noted that Members had provided input and the plan was being reviewed by the 6 Councils involved (5 districts and County Council). Three Rivers confirmed that it had approved the plan.

11. Proposed Dates for 2022/2023 Growth Board meetings

- 11.1 The Board noted the proposed meeting dates for 2022/23:
20 July 2022 - 11:30 – 13:00
8 September 2022 - 11:30 – 13:00
10 November 2022 - 11:30 – 13:00
12 January 2023 - 11:30 – 13:00

CHAIRMAN'S INITIALS

9 March 2023 - 11:30 – 13:00
11 May 2023 - 11:30 – 13:00
20 July 2023 - 11:30 – 13:00

11.2 Board Members noted the requirement to reschedule the May 2023 meeting, due to its proximity following Local Elections.

Stephanie
Tarrant

12. Date of next meeting

12.1 The date of the next meeting was noted as Wednesday, 20 July 2022 at 11:30am.

13. Other Part I Business

13.1 None.

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