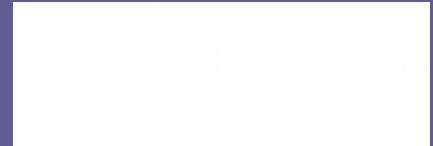




Agenda Reports & Other Papers

Presented to the
Meeting of the
Hertfordshire Growth Board
on
Wednesday, 20 July 2022

Agenda



HERTFORDSHIRE GROWTH BOARD

COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, HERTFORD

WEDNESDAY, 20 JULY 2022 11:30 – 13:00

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD (14) – QUORUM 9 VOTING MEMBERS

Council Leaders (11 Voting Members)

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

Co-opted Members (3)

M Bretton, Hertfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership Chairman
C Amies, Homes England
P Burstow, Hertfordshire and West Essex ICS, NHS

ANNOUNCEMENT

As required by law, the Council will be holding this meeting in person.

Webcasting: This meeting of the Council will be filmed and webcast live on the internet and will also be recorded and published on the Council's website. All parts of the room can be seen or heard by the camera or microphones and any members of the press and public present in the Council Chamber at any time during the meeting are likely to be included in the webcast and recording.

There may be occasions when the public are excluded from the meeting for particular items of business. Any such items are taken at the end of the public part of the meeting and are listed under "Part II ('closed') agenda".

Those wishing to watch the live broadcast should go here:
<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/watch-meetings>

1. Minutes

The Board is invited to note the Minutes of the Board meeting held on 14 June 2022 (attached).

2. Public Questions

At the discretion of the Chairman, members of the public may ask questions at meetings of the Hertfordshire Growth Board. Notice of the question should be submitted to the Chief Legal Officer of Hertfordshire County Council by 10am at least five working days before the meeting. The Hertfordshire Growth's Board arrangements for the receipt of public questions are set out in [Annex A – Standing Orders](#) of the Hertfordshire's Growth Board Constitution*.

3. Public Petitions

At the discretion of the Chairman, members of the public may submit and present petitions to the Hertfordshire Growth Board if they include at least 500 signatures of people living or working in Hertfordshire.

Notification of intent to present a petition must be given at least 10 clear working days before the date of the meeting.

The Hertfordshire Growth's Board arrangements for the receipt of petitions are set out in [Annex A – Standing Orders](#) of the Hertfordshire's Growth Board Constitution*.

*If you have any queries about the questions or petitions procedures for this meeting please contact Stephanie Tarrant, Democratic Services Officer, by telephone on (01992) 555481 or by email to stephanie.tarrant@hertfordshire.gov.uk

4. Hertfordshire Growth Board (HGB) – Presentation by Arup on the development of the Vision for Gunnels Wood Road, Stevenage

Presentation

5. Hertfordshire Growth Board (HGB) Overall Work Programme Progress Report July 2022

Report attached

6. Hertfordshire Growth Board (HGB) – Growth Board Budget outturn 2022, Budget Proposals 2022/23 July 2022

Report attached

7. Hertfordshire Growth Board (HGB) – Proposals for Establishment of the Hertfordshire Screen Office

Report attached

8. Hertfordshire Growth Board (HGB) – Planning Resilience and Capacity Task and Finish Group, update, and next steps for approval

Report attached

9. Hertfordshire Growth Board (HGB) – Updates from Growth Corridors

Updates from Leaders

10. Standing items

South West Herts Joint Strategic Plan – update by Cllr Chris White

11. Date of next meeting

The next planned meeting will be held on Thursday, 8 September 2022 - 11:30 – 13:00

12. Other Part I Business

Such other Part I Business which, if the Chairman agrees, is of sufficient urgency to warrant consideration.

PART II ('CLOSED') AGENDA

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

There are no items of Part II business on this agenda. If Part II business is notified the Chairman will move: -

“That under Section 100(A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item/s of business on the grounds that it/they involve/s the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph/s of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the said Act and the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.”

If you require further information about this agenda, please contact Stephanie Tarrant, Democratic and Statutory Services, Hertfordshire County Council on Telephone 01992 555481, or email stephanie.tarrant@hertfordshire.gov.uk. Agenda documents are available on the internet at <https://www.hertfordshiregrowthboard.com/documents>.

QUENTIN BAKER

DIRECTOR OF LAW & GOVERNANCE

Hertfordshire County Council on behalf of the Hertfordshire Growth Board

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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

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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.

CHAIRMAN.....

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Hertfordshire
Growth Board



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Room 204, Hertfordshire County Council, County Hall, Pegs Lane, Hertford SG13 8DE

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Agenda item 4

Hertfordshire Growth Board (HGB) – Presentation by Arup on the development of the Vision for Gunnels Wood Road, Stevenage

Report Author: Patsy Dell Hertfordshire Growth Board

1 Purpose of report

- 1.1 To provide Board Members with a presentation by Arup on the development of the Vision for Gunnels Wood Road, Stevenage.

2 Recommendation

- 2.1 The Growth Board are invited to note the information shared within the presentation.

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Agenda item 5

Hertfordshire Growth Board (HGB) Overall Work Programme Progress Report July 2022

Report Author: Patsy Dell, Hertfordshire Growth Board (Tel: 07949 887794)

1 Purpose of report

- 1.1 This report updates on progress with the current Growth Board work programme and specific areas of work that are new or which the Board needs to provide a view on. The last Growth Board meeting took place on 14 June 2022.

2 The Growth Board Work Programme and Priorities 2021 – 2022

- 2.1 The priority themes for 2021/2 were:
- a) Economic Recovery, performance, and resilience
 - b) Working together to deliver the homes that Hertfordshire needs
 - c) Future Hertfordshire.
 - d) Completion of the 2020 Work programme Projects
- 2.2 The work programme priorities for 2022/3 are to be confirmed. Appendix 1 is the Growth Board Work Programme Plan and progress to July 2022.
- 2.3 The updates that follow in section 3 relate to mainstream growth board programmes. The Growth corridor programme board updates are normally reported separately but given the short time between this and the last meeting there is no update this time.

3 Work Programme Updates

Engagement with HM Government

- 3.1 There has been no change since the position reported to the last Growth Board meeting. The first nine areas identified for new style County Deals remain in active discussion with government but the timetable for completion of those pilot areas agreements and announcements on the timetable for bids for a second tranche remains unconfirmed.

UK Shared Prosperity Fund

- 3.2 The UK Shared Prosperity Fund allocation has been confirmed and Hertfordshire District and Borough councils will receive allocations of just over £13 million between them, over three years. Individual local investment plans are at an advance stage of preparation and teams have worked with the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) in their preparation.

Digital Workstream

- 3.3 The Hertfordshire digital framework was approved by HGB in January 2022 and the establishment of a digital board to oversee delivery of the strategy was also agreed. The Board is now in place and Cllr Morris Bright is the political lead, Mayor Peter Taylor has also been asked to join. The board will determine priorities including bidding for further national funding. A full update will be provided to the September Growth Board.
- 3.4 As advised at last meeting, a team has been set up to take forward the work, with oversight by a steering group made up of LEP, Growth Board and Hertfordshire County Council officers.

Hertfordshire Infrastructure and Development Board (HIDB)

- 3.5 The HIDB held its inaugural meeting on 11 November 2021 and is now meeting quarterly. Subscription levels are very good demonstrating the high levels of industry and sector interest in engaging with this new consultative body. Forty organisations have become members and meeting attendances are now 100+ each time. The last meeting in June 2022 focussed on delivering sustainable growth.
- 3.6 Growth Board members, Chief Executives and Heads of Planning Services represent the board and to lead the sector level engagement through the HIDB events. The next meeting is on 8 September 2022 and will have a focus on Regeneration.

4 Implications

- 4.1 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.

5 Recommendations

- 5.1 That the Board notes the progress with the Growth Board Work Programme Plan and progress to July 2022, as set out in the paper and in Appendix 1.

APPENDIX 1

Workstream	Key deliverables	Key activities	June	July	August	September
HGB Governance	Implementation of Joint Committee(s) - Completed					
	New co-opted members joined from September 2021 - Completed					
	Communications and Engagement	HGB Communications Strategy				
		Engagement and participation events (virtual) - two events held in 2021, three webinars and new Chair's profile feature autumn 2021	To be reviewed			
	Oversight	On-going oversight in place, political oversight and forward agenda planning through CEx Co-ordinating Group	Active			
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Delivering the Homes Hertfordshire Needs	Strategic Partnership work	On-going housing pipeline and delivery pathway development work informed by Government discussions & accelerating housing workstream.	Completed			

		Homes England Strategic Partnership Expression of Interest Bid to Homes England Affordable Homes Fund	Completed
		Temporary Accommodation Collaboration Investigation	Active
		OSM/MMC project actions – facilitating the uptake of this option as part of our pipeline of sites	Guidance document approved and published
	Preparation of Housing and Growth submission to MHCLG	Programme of meetings with DLUHC officials on-going.	Programme completed
		DLUHC Deputy Director attends and briefs Growth Board regularly.	Programme completed
		Briefing Herts MPs at the appropriate times	Programme completed
	Partners, investors & delivery bodies Engagement	Establish Developer Forum with agreed partner, implementation Autumn (HIDB)	Next HIDB - 8 September 2022

		Investigation of potential funding options/routes for strategic scale, part, or non-commercial infrastructure projects.	
Digital Workstream		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HCC, LEP and Growth Board lead. Digital Framework approved January 2022 Digital oversight Board established May 2022 	Active
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.	Under review
		Monitoring of national funding streams and bidding opportunities.	Active

Workstream

Key deliverables

Key activities

June

July

August

September

Future Hertfordshire	Closer working with Health sector, ensuring wellbeing as part of placemaking (planning and delivery stages)	Working group set up with Health sector, task, and finish project to enhance cross sector working and impact, particularly around infrastructure and place-making	Group continues to meet
	Climate, Carbon and Sustainability work alignment with HGB	Alignment with the current work being overseen by Herts Leaders.	Active
	Infrastructure costs update via the HIPP in 2021-22	Roll Forward of the HIFP – investigate cost effective options and optimal timing for this. HIPP oversight and recommendations to HGB later in 2022	Active
Planning Resilience Task and Finish Group	Improve overall performance of the Hertfordshire Growth delivery pathway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Task and Finish Group established • Action Plan to be considered at Growth Board on 20/7/22 	Active

Agenda item 6

Hertfordshire Growth Board (HGB) – Growth Board Budget outturn 2022, Budget Proposals 2022/23 July 2022

Report Author: Patsy Dell, Hertfordshire Growth Board (Tel: 07949 887794)

1 Purpose of report

- 1.1 This report updates on the Growth Board Growth Fund (GBGF), both ongoing spend and proposed budget profile for 2022/3. Appendix 1 includes the budget outturn and proposed budget profile.

2 Growth Board Growth Fund - Retained Business Rates

- 2.1 The fund is drawn from the 2019 Herts Business Rates retention pilot growth pot which has been committed for use by the Growth Board. The fund has generated £4.2m (gross, excluding documented spend commitments).

3 Changes since the last report in 2021

- 3.1 The budget spend reflects the work undertaken by the board in 2021-22 and the proposed budget for 2022-23 (so far). The budget outturn report has been delayed whilst review of the work programme has been undertaken and it is anticipated that a further report may be necessary to fully confirm Growth Board programme priorities in 2022.
- 3.2 Total cumulative and proposed spend from the GBGF from 2018/19 up to the end of 2022/2023 (e.g., used for Growth Board projects and programmes, running of the Growth Board, consultants' costs, staffing capacity and joint committee secretariat and support) is profiled at £2,057,000. This equates to a spend commitment from the fund of around £35,000 (with rounding) per partner per year¹.

4 Growth Board Growth Fund – New Budget items in 2021/22

- 4.1 In 2021, the Growth Board allocated £250k funding for investment in a range of priority work programmes and projects. This funding was to be used to secure the delivery and ongoing momentum of the programme,

¹ Includes 2022/23 new budget commitments if approved

and to provide additional support such as increased capacity and consultancy expertise.

4.2 Growth Board Programme Project Priority Funding (project areas and approved funding were):

- Housing Growth Deal/Accelerated Housing Workstream (£50k)
- Investment Ready Hertfordshire (£60k)
- North East and Central JSP preparation (£40k match funding)
- Growth Corridor Projects (£100k)

4.3 Table 1 below identifies the projects that have been supported and the outcomes delivered. A number of contributions to projects have also been on a match funding basis.

Table 1: Growth Board Programme Project Priority Funding

Funding Area	Funding	Outcome/Funding remaining
Housing Deal/Accelerated workstream	(£50K)	Budget used for consultancy support to work with the HGB officer team on the preparation of the Hertfordshire Housing and Growth prospectus, the feasibility investigation for the Homes England Strategic Partnership bid and preparation of the Hertfordshire Housing sites pipeline. All completed.
Investment Ready Hertfordshire	(£60k)	First stage work on the Hertfordshire Investment Strategy completed.
North East and Central Joint Strategic Plan (JSP) preparation	(£40k – match funding)	First stage work on the JSP growth study has been commissioned
Growth Corridor Projects	(£100k)	Support provided/committed for a range of current and on-going work programme projects in the identified workstreams: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Town centres and High Streets

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Creative and Screen – Green Lit Hertfordshire Studio Floorspace study contribution - Stevenage Gunnels Road area vision contribution - New Settlements investigations - Hertfordshire Off Site/Modern Methods of Construction Housing Guide <p>Approximately £60k committed/deployed.</p>
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4.4 Work on a number of Growth Corridor programmes continues including several of the ones identified above.

5 Growth Board Growth Fund – New Budget items in 2022/23

5.1 As in 2021, there are a number of specific projects that require budgetary support in 2022/3 and beyond.

5.2 **Digital workstream.** The Board will be aware that the implementation of Hertfordshire's digital framework is being delivered by Hertfordshire County Council (HCC) the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP), and HGB, with HCC taking the day-to-day lead. Funding to support this work had been identified as part of the development of the strategy framework and a three-way split of the expected costs was approved in January. The Growth Board's contribution over the next three years is proposed at £210k (£70k pa). It is proposed that the drawdown of the funds be flexible however, to enable the fastest possible progress.

5.3 **North East and Central Herts JSP preparation** (£40k pa funding). Progress on the JSP in South-West Herts has been greatly assisted by the funding received from Central Government and the local authority partners, including the County Council. In North, East and Central Herts the JSP work is also being jointly funded but without access to any Government support. In 2021, the Growth Board agreed that it would also contribute toward the costs, matching funding from the other authority partners.

5.4 **Hertfordshire Film/Screen Office** – (£25k pa for 3 years) this project proposition is on this agenda for consideration.

- 5.5 **Hertfordshire Planning Resilience and Capacity Task and Finish Group –** progress with this work and proposed next steps are covered elsewhere on the agenda. Funding to take forward the identified actions is outlined in the paper and match funding support will be discussed with the sector through the task and finish group and the Hertfordshire Infrastructure and Development Board (HIDB). The Growth Board is asked to allocate £40k towards the delivery of this work.
- 5.6 The £100,000 allocated to corridor projects in 2021/22 has not all been used, including some that is committed but not yet drawn down. Given the benefits of providing seed corn, match, or multiyear funding to keep some corridor projects moving it is suggested that up to £80k is further made available in 2022/23 for Growth corridor projects.
- 5.7 In terms of general funding for the HGB day to day operation, the HGB team is now supporting the board, two corridor programme boards, Hertfordshire Infrastructure and Planning Partnership (HIPP), the Planning resilience task and finish group and a number of workstreams and projects. From September they will be supporting the Herts Leaders Group. Whilst use of this capacity is kept under review and efficiencies are always looked for, the budget for Project Management Officer (PMO) capacity has been increased to reflect this need.
- 5.8 In 2021, The Board recruited a new Growth Board Programme Lead and the intention is to offer an extension to the contract for that post for a further year.
- 5.9 The shared Growth Board Communications Lead has secured a promotion within the LEP and may no longer be available the two days a week that have been previously required. Options for communications cover at the same level are being investigated.
- 5.10 In January 2022, the seconded Growth Board Director secured a new role at Hertfordshire County Council and has been covering both roles since then. This is unsustainable and recruitment of a new Growth Board Director will be starting from July 2022.

6 External Funding secured for Growth Board sponsored projects

- 6.1 In the last year external funding support of circa £830,000 has been secured for a number of Growth Board programmes as follows:

- Community Wealth Building across Hertfordshire – £750,000 from the Community Renewal Fund for a programme of projects
- Temporary Accommodation Joint Investigation Project – £45k funding from the LGA Housing Advisers Programme and £33k from the One Public Estate fund.

6.2 Bids are currently being made for digital infrastructure investment and through Levelling Up and UK Shared Prosperity Funds.

7 Implications

7.1 The Growth Board has oversight of the deployment and use of the GBGF. Hertfordshire County Council s.151 Officer accounts for the fund on behalf of the Growth Board and the s.151 Officers of the partner Councils and Local Enterprise Partnership. There are no adverse financial implications arising from this report and its recommendations, the Growth Board is using the fund in accordance with its jointly agreed priorities.

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

8 Recommendation

- 8.1 Board Members are asked to note the report, and:
- a) agree the proposed budget and commitments for 2022/23 (including the new and continuing £325k of specific project funding) set out in Appendix 1, and
 - b) note the budget outturn for 2021/2 set out in Appendix 2.

Appendix 1 - Hertfordshire Growth Board Growth Fund – Jan 2021 update									
The Herts Business Rates Pilot Growth Fund has achieved circa £4.2m									
The table below sets out the funding drawn down so far and the proposed application of that funding in 2022/23									
Known and approved spending is profiled through to March 2024.									
		2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24		
		£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s		Cumulative Total £000s ²
Spending									
	Growth Board Programme Development support (1) ³	155 ³							155
	Growth Board Programme Development support (2)		355)						355
	Growth Board Programme Development support (3)			186					186
	Growth Board Dedicated Team ⁴ - Director (1FTE) - Communications Lead (0.2FTE) - Programme Lead (1 FTE)			268	221	230 ⁵			719
	Growth Board Programme Project Priority Funding (new for 2021): - Housing Growth Deal/Accelerated Housing Workstream (50k) - Investment Ready Hertfordshire (£60k) - NEC JSP (£40k match funding) - Growth Corridor Projects (100k)				110				110

² Excludes 2023/4 for the moment

³ Secured through EELGA Procurement Framework including 10 -15 % Framework Fee

⁴ HGB established dedicated team March 2020, budget for key roles agreed at that time

⁵ Savings against Directors salary costs for 2021/2022 and 2022/23

	Growth Board Programme Project Priority Funding (new for 2022): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Digital - NEC JSP - Screen Office - Corridor projects - Planning Resilience and Capacity Total					140 ⁶ 40 25 80 40 325			325
	HGB Dedicated PMO (1FTE) ⁷ (2FTE in 2022)			60 ⁸	87	100			247
	Growth Board Joint Committee Secretariat and support costs including live streaming		1	3	4 ⁹	6			14
	Engagement events		4	7 ¹⁰	3	10			24
	Communications, Website development and hosting, sponsorship, HGB visual identity and brand products development ¹¹			28	13	25			66
	Legal Advice if needed		1	2 ¹²	0	5			8
	Room bookings, ancillary costs	5	7	2 ¹³	14	3			17
	Total/Proposed Spend	160	368	556	438	704	TBC		2256

⁶ Frontloaded digital workstream contribution – up to two years contribution can be made available in year 1 if needed

⁷ Changes to 2 FTE in 2022/3 because of additional responsibilities agreed by the Board and Herts Leaders in 2021 and 2022

⁸ PMO support provided through HCC at cost

⁹ Included new joint committee implementation and new and additional (and some one-off) Covid-related operating costs such as live streaming, on-line petitions module

¹⁰ Webinars used in 2020 so underspent – virtual events delivered in March 2021 and sponsored events in 2022

¹¹ Visual identity and website development and implementation in 2020, on-going communications, website and hosting costs in 2021 and 2022

¹² Legal advice sought three times in 2019 and 2020 – MOU, Draft Growth and Recovery Prospectus (delivery vehicles) and Joint Committee Integrated Governance Framework

¹³ Underspent because of use of Teams teleconferencing in 2020/21

¹⁴ In person, live streamed meetings resumed in 2021

	Actual spend	160	368	556	438				1,522¹⁵
Funded by									
	LGA support grant	34	39						73
	Contribution from Herts business rates pilot Growth Fund ¹⁶	126	329	556	438	704			2153
	Total funding	160	368	556	438	704	TBC		2226

Appendix 2 - Budget outturn for 2021/2

GROWTH BOARD 21/22					
HGB Report Headings		Growth Board Forecast -Mar	expenditure as at 31.03.22 aligned with GB headings	Difference between forecast and actual	
		£	£		
<u>Growth Board Dedicated Team¹⁷:</u>		300,000.00			
Director -1			137,871.05		
Comms Leads -0.2			31,222.48		
Programme Leads-1.5 ¹⁸			52,051.67		
Additional costs PM ¹⁹					
Total Growth Board Team Costs		300,000.00	221,145.20	(78,854.80)	

¹⁵ Actual spend using 2021/2 outturn

¹⁶ The monetised value of in the kind support from the Hertfordshire Councils and LEP as part of delivering the Growth Board work programme is excluded.

¹⁷ Part year costs for Director and new Programme Lead,

¹⁸ Vacant for part year, 1FTE in post from September 2021

¹⁹ Additional PMO capacity used to cover vacancies and increased demand in 2021 and 2022 – shown as overspend in PMO row now incorporated into budget

<u>Growth Board Programme Project Priority</u>				
<u>Funding:</u>				
Housing Growth Deal/Accelerated Housing Workstream	50,000.00		39,402.76	
Investment Ready Hertfordshire	60,000.00		20,440.00	
NEC JSP (Match funding)	40,000.00		40,000.00	
Growth Corridor Projects	100,000.00 ²⁰		<u>9,960.00</u>	
Total Growth Board Programme Project Priority		250,000.00	109,802.76	(140,197.24)
HGB dedicated PMO		60,000.00	86,683.53	26,683.53
HGB Secretariat & Support costs		20,000.00	4,000.00	(16,000.00)
Comms, website dev & Hosting, Brand products		25,000.00	13,309.50	(11,690.50)
Engagement events		10,000.00	2,976.00	(7,024.00)
Legal Advice		20,000.00		(20,000.00)
Room bookings, ancillary costs ²¹		3,000.00	285.00	(2,715.00)
Total		688,000.00	438,201.99	(249,798.01)

²⁰ Commitments for Town centres and High Streets, Stevenage Gunnels Road area vision contribution, New Settlements investigations and Hertfordshire Off Site/Modern Methods of Construction Housing Guide not yet reflected here

²¹ Two HGB meetings cancelled and one voided in 2021/2

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Agenda Item 7

Hertfordshire Growth Board (HGB) – Proposals for Establishment of the Hertfordshire Screen Office

Report Authors: Adam Wood (Herts LEP), Patsy Dell (Hertfordshire County Council 07949887794)

1 Purpose of report

- 1.1 This report sets out the case for creating a Hertfordshire Film/Screen Office, outlines what services the Screen Office could provide, and identifies the next steps in potentially making the Screen Office a reality.

2 Background

- 2.1 Creative & Screen Industries is one of the fastest growing sectors in Hertfordshire and in the wider south-east. Just over half of the new studio space being planned and delivered in London and the south-east is coming to Hertfordshire, confirming its pre-eminence in the UK film and TV world. If all the studio floorspace being planned for Hertfordshire is delivered, then in time the area of sound stages in Hertfordshire will exceed that of Hollywood.
- 2.2 These changes are the result of the emergence of platforms driven by new technologies, and the maturing of a diverse and 'digitally native' generation of audiences and filmmakers. Those enterprises able to adapt to the new platforms (such as streaming) and harness new digital technologies are thriving, as they respond to increasingly sophisticated audiences with an altered perception of the value of what they watch, and a different expectation of how they consume and interact.
- 2.3 In tandem with these changes there has been a demand for greater product output. In 2017, film production spend in the UK reached an all-time high of £1.9 billion, an increase of 125% over the course of the previous decade. High-end TV (HETV) – has seen equally impressive growth, with British Film Institute (BFI) figures showing the total UK production spend of £938 million in 2017, the highest annual figure since it became eligible for tax relief in 2013. In the 5 years to 2017 film economic output increased 88% and film inward investment by 162%.

- 2.4 Although the Covid-19 pandemic initially hit film and TV production hard, the effects appear largely temporary and growth in the sector has resumed its upward curve, boosted by increases in those watching audio-visual content and subscription video on demand (SVoD) streaming services during lockdowns.

3 Hertfordshire's Studios

- 3.1 There are currently a total of 13 major film studios in London and its immediate hinterland, providing a total of 1,629,000 sq.ft. of studio space and 110 sound stages, 54 of which are larger than 10,000 sq.ft. All but two are either in south-west Herts or West/West of London, forming part of a 'Central London & Soho/SW Herts/ West London & M4 corridor triangle' that has characterised major film studio locations since the early days of film.
- 3.2 16 new studio developments in London and its immediate hinterland are currently being planned or built totalling some 3.8m sq.ft. of space. 7 of the 16 are in Hertfordshire, and one of the proposals involves the largest single new proposal in the UK (the 608,000 sq.ft. Hertswood Studios in Borehamwood). If all proposals are delivered, and combined with the studios already operating, this would take total provision of film and TV studios in London and its immediate hinterland, primarily Hertfordshire, to just under 5.5 m sq.ft. across close to 300 sound stages.

4 Screen Ecosystem

- 4.1 This rapid and large-scale growth highlights the need for a consistent and co-ordinated approach to ensuring that we have the right eco-system in place to exploit the opportunities presented by creative & screen industries. The wider skills agenda plus the benefits of filming location services across the county potentially benefit all councils. To that end Herts Growth Board set up the Creative & Screen Industries Working Group to pull together the work of public agencies that have a stake in the sector's future. At present the working group consists of those districts most directly affected by the sector, Hertfordshire County Council (HCC) and the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP). Similarly, the LEP has set up a Screen Industry Panel, chaired and led by businesses from the sector, to give the sector a voice in the county and ensure that interventions and public investment meet the needs of the industry.

5 Herts Screen Office Proposition

- 5.1 A number of counties and cities have developed film offices to promote and support the sector. For instance, Kent Film Office was set up in 2006 and sits alongside Surrey Film Office and Oxon Film Office. Other well-established offices include Bath Film Office, Film Birmingham, and Bristol Film Office. All film offices have a broadly similar remit of encouraging and supporting film and TV production in their locality. At a national level the BFI funds Creative England (based at Elstree Film Studios) to provide filming support (outside London which has its own arrangements) and sign-post support services, such as locations, to local film offices.
- 5.2 In order to support this growth and exploit the opportunities it brings to the benefit of the Hertfordshire economy; a number of agencies have proposed creating a similar film office service for Hertfordshire. This has been supported by the sector panel.
- 5.3 The Herts Screen Office could be to provide a one-stop-shop service for a variety of film and TV-related activities across the county. Working closely with Creative England, the Screen Office's activities could include:
- Promoting film locations and providing the support and interface for those offering and wanting to use locations
 - Promoting production facilities by liaising with production companies and those providing services to the industry
 - Promoting and lobbying Hertfordshire as 'film friendly' and the 'home of UK film' to help secure future investment
 - Organising highway permits, parking options and liaising with regulatory bodies to making filmmaking as quick and painless as possible
 - Providing production advice and guidance, acting as the conduit to private and public agencies, and generally helping to resolve issues
 - Promoting screen tourism in the county (working in conjunction with Visit Herts or a similar destination management organisation)
 - Promoting film and TV studio development as part of a number of cultural hubs (for instance one suggestion is a Herts Film Festival)
 - Providing a conduit to inform skills providers about meeting the industry's skills needs
 - Providing a means for business of all scales to engage with the sector and help supply the broad range of specialist, general and bespoke skills, and

support that the sector needs within Hertfordshire – leveraging the benefits for our county.

6 Financials and Procurement

- 6.1 It is believed that there is scope to provide at least some of these services on a paid subscription basis so that the Hertfordshire Screen Office can work towards becoming self-funding at the earliest opportunity. The one stop shop could help provide the front door, co-ordination and promotion for all councils engaging in this joint venture.
- 6.2 Estimations are that it would require support of around £100k p.a. for up to three years to get the service to cover its costs (and in the longer term generate a surplus if possible). This would cover the cost of a senior manager plus an assistant and initial support/development costs. If spread across a number of public and private agencies the cost per organisation would be modest but would provide the seed corn funding to get the office up and running. District and Borough Councils have been asked to consider a contribution from the UKSPF, The LEP and the Growth Board will also be asked to contribute. The sector will be approached and asked to endorse the proposition and match the initial local funding from councils/LEP and Growth Board.
- 6.3 Ideally the service would be based at one of Hertfordshire's Studios since officers believe the connectivity with industry is critical. Employees could be hosted by one of the Hertfordshire councils or the LEP on behalf of the partnership. The screen office would co-ordinate across all the councils, LEP and partners and front up the one stop shop delivery of services to the sector.
- 6.4 Officers believe this would be an important way to support the sector and at the same time leverage the benefits for Hertfordshire in terms of skills, employment and provision of location and related services to generate income locally.

7 Next Steps

- 7.1 If the Growth Board supports the principle of establishing a Herts Screen Office, then next steps would be working up a more detailed proposal and business plan and securing/confirming the seed corn funding. In particular, officers need to investigate if the service is best provided direct

by a partner or by a third party. If the latter, then officers would need to ensure that procurement obligations are met. At this stage officers believe that a partnership by the LEP, Growth Board and Local Authorities may well be preferable but will investigate and report back on options.

8 Recommendation

8.1 That the Hertfordshire Growth Board:

- a) agrees in principle to the establishment of a Herts Screen Office for the county, in partnership with the LEP and Local Authorities and to work closely with external partners such as Creative England, Visit Herts, Higher and Further Education and the Creative Sector representatives (through the LEP sector panel).
- b) Seed corn match funding support of up to £25k to be made available from the Growth Board Growth Fund in 2022/23, subject other partners and the sector also committing sufficient funding support to proceed
- c) A more detailed business plan and regular updates to be brought to a future Growth Board meeting.
- d) Approval for any immediate consultancy support of up to £10k¹ needed to enable progress with this work.

¹ To be taken from the principal £25k contribution

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Agenda item 8

Hertfordshire Growth Board (HGB) – Planning Resilience and Capacity Task and Finish Group, update, and next steps for approval

Report Author: Patsy Dell, Hertfordshire Growth Board (Tel: 07949 887794)

1 Background

- 1.1 Herts Leaders Group, the Growth Board and Hertfordshire Planning and Infrastructure Partnership (HIPP) have recognised the current challenge of operating an effective and well-resourced pan-Hertfordshire growth delivery and planning system.
- 1.2 All councils are struggling to various extent with staffing and capacity across planning, estates, drainage, and other related specialist service areas that are critical to delivering growth in the county. Through the Hertfordshire Infrastructure and Development Board (HIDB) we heard direct industry views that lack of capacity leading to delays at various points on the planning delivery pathway is the biggest cost to them and has the most damaging impact upon the pace of development delivery and certainty. They identified planning capacity as the highest priority issue for them to discuss with Hertfordshire Leaders and senior officers through the HIDB.
- 1.3 The private sector is struggling with recruiting specialist staff as much as local government but has more flexibility to offer higher salaries and other terms and conditions benefits in comparison which is of itself contributing to the flow of experienced planners from local government, especially that are mid-career.
- 1.4 This situation is not new but has worsened in recent years. The interrelationships between a successful economy, functioning housing market, securing net zero, the ability to plan for and deliver necessary infrastructure, the ability to secure well-planned, healthy, sustainable, high quality new development are all contingent on a well-resourced and functioning planning and development system. This has to a degree been recognised by Government through the recent proposals to substantially increase to the current levels of planning application fees.



- 1.5 Recognising this as a priority area, in early 2022 the Growth Board established a Task & Finish Group to look at these issues with representatives from industry, Higher and Further education, and the councils. The chair of HIPP, Cllr Linda Haysey is the political sponsor for this work, with Amanda Foley CEx at St Albans City and District Council the Chief Executive sponsor.
- 1.6 Officers are aware that the Department for Levelling Up, Communities and Housing (DLUHC) is looking at the same issues and a new programme of support and change is planned as part of the Levelling Up Bill. The recent Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill already proposes a number of further changes to the planning system, including changes to development plans and a new infrastructure levy mechanism and increases in the planning fees regime. The Hertfordshire work is of interest to HM Government, and a meeting was held with the DLUHC Leads on this on 5 July 2022.

2. Progress to date

- 2.1 The wider Task & Finish Group has now met twice along with a number of interim sub-group and consulting meetings with the Herts Heads of Planning and HIPP. Baseline survey work has been undertaken to identify existing staff levels, vacancies, workloads, backlogs, skills levels, and any salary issues.
- 2.2 The outputs of the work so far have been to identify a range of short-, medium- and longer-term actions that can be progressed by coalition of willing partners. The draft action plan ideas have been discussed at HIPP. Actions being suggested range from exploration of how joint resources and capacity can be used more effectively, to investment in better training and development to assist with recruitment and retention of key planning and other staff. An important part of the work will be to promote the benefits of planning, as an activity to deliver positive change and important outcomes for communities.
- 2.3 The sector along with Further and Higher Education representatives on the task and finish group have contributed to the development of the action plan including participation on a number of sub-groups being planned to take actions forward.

- 2.4 Capacity to move agreed actions from the plan into implementation will be critical. The Growth Board will be considering its budget on 20/7 and funding is being asked for to progress this work but on the basis that match funding will also be sought from the sector to help deliver these plans and improvements.

3 Hertfordshire Planning Capacity and Resilience Action Plan

- 3.1 The action plan set out in the tables below has centred on three main areas of future activity: these are through joint working and sharing of capacity and resources, through measures that raise awareness of this world of work, locally and more broadly and measures that focus specifically on recruitment and retention. The action plan is aimed at improving the capacity and operation of the system as a whole, not just for the public sector in Hertfordshire. Sector colleagues will operate as a reference group and provide support in taking these various actions forward.

Table 1: Planning Capacity and Resilience Actions

1	Actions to promote joint working, sharing of capacity and resources	Lead Authorities
	Councils to explore the merits of establishing a joint planning application validation service to undertake the common technical processing/administrative work for planning services.	Four Councils have expressed an initial interest in this feasibility investigation: Hertfordshire County Council, East Herts District Council, Dacorum Borough Council and St Albans District Council.
2	Measures to promote careers in the 'Place' sector in Hertfordshire	Task and Finish Group supported by HIDB

	<p>Using new Hertfordshire material in schools, careers fairs etc. One that recognises the different levels that people come into this work, the entry points, and the qualifications at those entry points. Promotion of these roles to a wider audience and not just graduates, recognising the alternative ways into the industry.</p> <p>Mapping exercise to be undertaken with Oaklands College to determine the range of routes into careers in place work. Job mapping for planners would help identify the different levels that people come in and map the different entry points, and the qualifications at those entry points.</p> <p>Through HIDB undertake an active promotional PR campaign for the positive opportunities in place-based work and planning as a career particularly in Herts.</p>	
3	Measures to help recruitment and retention of planners in Hertfordshire	Task and Finish Group
	<p>Partners to organise CPD events and programme for all planners in Herts, to build enthusiasm, increase knowledge and encourage cross-county networking of the cohort as part of retention and training. Creation of a new USP for working in planning in Hertfordshire.</p> <p>Partners to establish a countywide mentoring programme – to increase skills development and as part of recruitment and retention</p> <p>Partners to devise a pan-Herts, pan sector apprenticeship programme, increasing the investment in new staff and allowing a broad (and highly attractive) learning approach by staff spending time at DLUHC, HCC, districts, Boroughs, and private sector, alongside learning</p> <p>Partners to devise countywide career progression scheme</p>	

	Partners to devise intensive skills development programme to speed up the pace of skills development and to help with specific recruitment and retention of mid-career planning staff.	
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- 3.2 Growth Board is asked to endorse the action plan and to commission officers to work with the sector to secure its implementation. The Task and Finish group will continue to work on this area and progress on the individual action plan activities will be reported regularly through the Chief Executives Co-ordinating Group, HIPP and Growth Board.

4 Implications

- 4.1 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.

5 Recommendations

- 5.1 That the Board agree the action plan actions identified in Table 1.

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Agenda item 9

Hertfordshire Growth Board (HGB) – Updates from Growth Corridors

Report Author: Patsy Dell Hertfordshire Growth Board

1 Purpose of report

- 1.1 To provide the Board with an update from Leaders on the Southern and North, East and Central Herts Growth Corridors.

2 Recommendation

- 2.1 The Growth Board are invited to note the information shared within the update.

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