

Agenda item 5

Hertfordshire Growth Board (HGB) Overall Work Programme Progress and updates on Growth Board projects September 2022

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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 20 July 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.
- 2.3 The updates that follow in section 3 relate to mainstream growth board programmes. Growth Corridor Programme Board items are reported at item 9 on this agenda.

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 allegedly 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. The last coverage of this in sector media said deals announcements would now be towards the end of the year at the earliest.

UK Shared Prosperity and Levelling Up Funds

- 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 were submitted early August 2022 to meet the submission deadline date. Local teams have worked with the Local Enterprise Partnership and Growth Board in their preparation.
- 3.3 Levelling Up Fund round two bids have been submitted by Broxbourne, Dacorum and Watford Borough Councils.

Digital Workstream

- 3.4 The Hertfordshire digital framework was approved by HGB in January and the establishment of the working team and digital board has now taken place. The board will determine priorities including bidding for further national funding and an update is being provided at this Growth Board meeting at item 7 on this agenda.

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 plus organisations have become members and meeting attendances are now 100+ each time.
- 3.6 The meetings have been focussed on key issues for the sector and the Growth Board. In January 2022 the focus was on capacity and resilience for growth delivery, in June 2022 the focus was on delivering sustainable growth and on 7 September 2022, it will be regeneration.
- 3.7 Growth Board Leaders, Portfolio Holders, Chief Executives and Heads of Planning Services represent the board and lead the sector level engagement through the HIDB events.
- 3.8 The original terms of reference for the board agreed that the chair would alternate between the Growth Board and one of the HIDB sector partners each year. Cllr Linda Haysey has been the chair for the first year. The Growth Board has now been asked to take the chair for the second year of the HIDB

and nominations for a Leader to be the chair for the coming year will need to be sought at the September meeting.

Hertfordshire Planning Resilience and Capacity Task and Finish Group

- 3.9 The Action Plan for the task and finish group was approved at the last Growth Board along with funding to support the investigation of a joint planning application validation service and a number of other key actions. Funding was approved by the Growth Board to take the work forward and discussions have now been held with the task and finish group to approach the wider HIDB membership for match funding support.

Hertfordshire Film Office

- 3.10 The principle of establishing a Film Office for Hertfordshire was approved at the last Growth Board. The emerging business plan is attached as a Part II item on this agenda.

Temporary Housing Accommodation Joint Investigation project

- 3.11 The Temporary Accommodation working group are providing an update at item 8 of this agenda.

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 work programme and the overall priorities as set out in the paper; and nominates a Leader from the Herts Growth Board to be the Chair of the Hertfordshire Infrastructure and Development Board for 2022/23, effective from the November 2022 Hertfordshire Infrastructure and Development Board meeting.