



# **Agenda Reports & Other Papers**

Presented to the  
Meeting of the  
**Hertfordshire Growth Board**  
on  
**Thursday, 12 January 2023**



## HERTFORDSHIRE GROWTH BOARD

### COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, HERTFORD

THURSDAY, 12 JANUARY 2023 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  
L Haysey, East Herts District Council  
R Henry, Stevenage Borough Council  
T Kingsbury, Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council  
S Nelmes, Three Rivers District Council  
R Roberts, Hertfordshire County Council (Chair)  
P Taylor (Mayor), Watford Borough Council  
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

#### **Press and Public Attendance at This Meeting**

As required by law, this meeting will be held in person.

Webcasting: This meeting of the Cabinet 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:  
[www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/watchmeetings](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/watchmeetings)

The Council Chamber is fitted with an audio system to assist those with hearing impairment. Anyone who wishes to use this should contact main (front) reception.

## 1. Minutes

The Board is invited to note the Minutes (Part I and Part II) of the Board meeting held on 8 September 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 (HGB). 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](mailto:stephanie.tarrant@hertfordshire.gov.uk)

## 4. Hertfordshire Growth Board (HGB) – Governance arrangements: Nomination of new Vice Chair and Approval of the Hertfordshire Police and Crime Commissioner as a new Co-opted Board Member

*Report attached – Patsy Dell*

## 5. Hertfordshire Growth Board – Presentation: Harlow Gilston Garden Town, progress towards the vision.

*Presentation – Naisha Polaine and Guy Nicholson*

## 6. Hertfordshire Growth Board – Economy Briefing from Hertfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership

*Presentation – Neil Hayes*

## 7. Hertfordshire Growth Board – Reinvigorating Town Centres workstream

*Report attached – Jenny Foster*

**8. Hertfordshire Growth Board (HGB) – Work Programme Progress Report January 2023**

*Report attached – Patsy Dell*

**9. Hertfordshire Growth Board (HGB) – Temporary Accommodation Joint Work: Options Development**

*Report attached – Roger Barrett*

**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 Wednesday, 1 March 2023, 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**

“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 of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 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.”

**1. Hertfordshire Growth Board (HGB) – Approval of Hertfordshire Film Office Business Plan**

*Report attached – Adam Wood, Herts LEP*

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](mailto: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**

This page is intentionally left blank

# Hertfordshire Growth Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, 8 September 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:** Thursday, 8 September 2022

## Attendance

### Council Leaders (11 Voting Members)

M Bright, Hertsmere Borough Council  
L Cocking, Broxbourne Borough Council  
S Nelmes, Three Rivers District Council  
J Goodeve (*substituted for L Haysey*), East Herts District Council  
T Kingsbury, Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council  
E Dennis-Harburg, North Hertfordshire District Council  
R Roberts, Hertfordshire County 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

Neil Rutledge (*substituted for M Bretton*), Hertfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership



**1. Minutes**

- 1.1 The Minutes of the Board meeting held on 22 July 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) – Presentation by Visit Herts on the work of the Destination Management Organisation and plans for the next two years**

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

- 4.1 The Board received a presentation from Visit Herts on the work of the Destination Management Organisation and plans for the next two years. The presentation can be viewed here: [Visit Herts Presentation](#).
- 4.2 Members welcomed the presentation and queried if there was enough of an emphasis on promoting Hertfordshire's evening economy. Members heard that Visit Herts were working closely with partners at the UK Hospitality and Tourism Alliance and would circulate a briefing note to Members detailing the local response to the support packages available for hospitality and tourism. Members acknowledged the promotion of short break/overnight stays to boost the evening economy. Members noted the more varied night-time economy offers which now included activities such as escape rooms. Hertfordshire's screen tourism offer was noted as a unique selling point and was being promoted to draw audiences into visiting the film and screen related attractions in the County.
- 4.3 In response to a Member question regarding destination management plans for each district, Members heard that Visit Herts could provide support and share relevant data. Connectivity and sustainability were recognised and were promoted.
- 4.4 Members commented there was a need for a central place to list free/upcoming activities within the county. It was noted that there was a free listing and search facility on the Visit Herts website that could help with this. The need to increase awareness and provide the correct content was acknowledged. Visit Herts welcomed

Hollie  
Coffey,  
Visit Herts

CHAIRMAN'S INITIALS

communication from Members regarding support in developing a vibrant visitor economy.

- 4.5 The full Board discussion on this item can be viewed here at 00:04:15 [Item 4 - Visit Herts Presentation](#).

## **RESOLVED**

- 4.6 The Growth Board noted the information shared within the presentation.

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

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

- 5.1 The Board received a report which detailed the progress on the current Growth Board work programme a since the last meeting on 20 July 2022.
- 5.2 The recent changes in Government were noted and updates would be brought back to the Board in relation to what any changes meant for Hertfordshire. It was noted that there had been an announcement on combined County Deal proposals being signed buy Nottingham/Nottinghamshire and Derby/Derbyshire. More deals were expected to come forward and the Board would be updated on what it meant for Hertfordshire.
- 5.3 The Board noted that the fourth meeting of the Hertfordshire Infrastructure and Development Board had taken place on 7 September 2022 and marked the end of the first year since establishment in 2021. The Board had over 45 organisations subscribed and regularly saw attendance of around 80-100 people, including senior politicians and officers from Hertfordshire. The meetings were seen to be valuable and provided direct dialogue with the sector. Members noted that there was a meeting on 13 September 2022 to discuss development standards across Hertfordshire.
- 5.4 Cllr Linda Haysey had chaired the first year of the HIDB and the sector were due to chair the second year, however, on reflection it had been requested by the sector that a Hertfordshire Leader continue to Chair the meetings for the second year. Cllr Lewis Cocking was proposed to take over as Chair for the next year by Cllr Morris Bright and this was seconded by Tony Kingsbury. Cllr Linda Haysey was thanked for her commitment as Chair and for her support in the setup of the Board.
- 5.5 Members noted that the Film Office Business plan had progressed and would be discussed under the Part II agenda. It was noted that

CHAIRMAN'S INITIALS

the BBC were thought to be considering the sale of their Elstree site for residential, however it had been made clear that it was preferable that the site be kept for media and training, whether by the BBC or another production company. The Board heard that at the last Industry Panel it was discussed that the biggest challenge for production companies was ancillary space.

- 5.6 The full Board discussion on this item can be viewed here at 00:45:45 [Item 5 - Work Programme Progress Report](#).

## RESOLVED

- 5.7 The Board noted the progress with the work programme and the overall priorities as set out in the paper and nominated Councillor Lewis Cocking 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.

## 6. Hertfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership – overview of the Herts economy Q2 2022

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

- 6.1 Members received a presentation from Neil Hayes, Hertfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership which shared an overview of the Herts economy Q2 2022. The presentation can be viewed here: [Herts LEP Presentation](#).
- 6.2 The Board heard that there was currently the biggest balance of trade deficit since records began in 1997, with inflation on the increase. It was noted that whilst wages were on the increase they were failing to rise at the pace of inflation. A number of businesses had paused future investment plans due to increased demands, however it was noted that foreign direct investment to Hertfordshire had steadily improved.
- 6.3 The LEP had established a Business Intelligence Group to provide advice initially in response to Covid, however, it had remained in place to assist with current economic issues and potential responses. It was noted that the six-month price cap on energy for businesses was shorter than for residential and that a dedicated section on the Herts Growth Hub website would be available for cost-of-living support.
- 6.4 The Board acknowledged the importance of getting support packages out to businesses and residents quickly and noted that the short-term support needed to be followed up with a longer-term plan.
- 6.5 In response to a Member question regarding the LEP holding data on the financial implications of energy prices on each sector and the

CHAIRMAN'S INITIALS

confidence of early dialogue with Government, it was noted that energy costs were a real issue. Members heard that the potential impact needed to be fully explored and that whilst the LEP could help to encourage longer-term growth, financial concerns could continue grow over the coming months.

- 6.6 Members noted that the LEP annual conference in December 2022 would look ahead to the next ten years and the key sectors for growth. Economic challenges and the movement of people/commuter belt would be considered for the longer term.
- 6.7 The full Board discussion on this item can be viewed here at 00:57:20 [Item 6 - Overview of the Herts Economy Q2 2022](#).

## **RESOLVED**

- 6.8 The Growth Board noted the information shared within the presentation.

## **7. Digital Hertfordshire Board update**

[Officer Contact: Tony Gibbons, Senior Project Officer, HCC / Patsy Dell, HCC, Tel: 07949887794]

- 7.1 The Board received a report which provided an update on the work of the recently established Digital Hertfordshire Board.
- 7.2 Members were given an update on the four board priorities:
- Priority 1 - Accelerating the delivery of high-quality digital infrastructure in Hertfordshire. A digital growth team and Governance Board had been established with work on project gigabit underway, with the aim to secure investment in the county to deliver gigabit connectivity. A market information day was to be set for early November 2022 to promote Hertfordshire as a commercially viable location.
  - Priority 2 - Flexing public sector assets, levers, and resources to deliver digital Hertfordshire. GigaHubs data set had been reviewed but did not appear a viable funding stream due to the overlap with Project Gigabit. A small Cell pilot feasibility review was underway for mobile coverage.
  - Priority 3 - Achieving pervasive digitisation – places, communities, and businesses. The bid for an LEP top-up voucher had been approved to help target and support businesses in rural areas who lacked connectivity.

CHAIRMAN'S INITIALS

- Priority 4 - Building a world class digital sector and world class digital skills. Aligned with work underway with the LEP to look at sector action plans.

7.3 Members heard that the Digital Board had also been liaising with the planning team at Hertfordshire County Council regarding developing a consistent approach to 4g/5g rollout in relation to new developments and planning permissions being granted across the county.

7.4 In response to a Member question on whether it was felt the set priorities would help Hertfordshire catch up with rural digitalisation and connectivity across the wider community, officers advised that they believed that they would help, with project Gigabit bringing a potential large investment to the county to help improve connectivity in rural areas. Continued bidding for funding was key and having strategies in place that were ready to deploy was essential.

7.5 The full Board discussion on this item can be viewed here at 01:19:05 [Item 7 - Digital Hertfordshire Board Update](#).

### **RESOLVED**

7.6 The Hertfordshire Growth Board noted the progress with the Digital Hertfordshire Delivery Board programme.

## **8. Hertfordshire Growth Board (HGB) – Temporary Accommodation Joint project update**

[Officer Contact: Roger Barratt, Hertfordshire Growth Board, Tel: 07949 887794]

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

8.2 Members heard that work on the Temporary Accommodation predictive model was in the final stages and the business case for development was planned to go live in January 2023. There had been strong engagement across Hertfordshire with Heads of Housing, and training was being developed to make sure the model could be rolled out and embedded across Hertfordshire.

8.3 Work continued to shape the approach to the cohort of homeless people with ultra-high-level and complex needs. Whilst this was a small group in total across Hertfordshire it represents a particularly challenging need for the councils to address along with other demands currently being faced.

CHAIRMAN'S INITIALS

- 8.4 Engagement continues with Homes England to further understand any funding rounds that may be on the horizon.
- 8.5 Hospital step down accommodation to aid the recovery of patients without accommodation was under review, with discussions taking place to understand the gap in provision and feasibility of sources of funding and sites being evaluated.
- 8.6 The full Board discussion on this item can be viewed here at 01:26:30 [Item 8 - Temporary Accommodation Joint Project Update](#).

**RESOLVED**

- 8.7 The Hertfordshire Growth Board noted the progress made.

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

- 9.1 The Board received a report which provided an update on the overall progress of the Growth Corridor work programmes and projects since July 2022.
- 9.2 Members acknowledged the comprehensive update at appendix A.
- 9.3 The full Board discussion on this item can be viewed here at 01:30:05 [Item 9 - Updates from Growth Corridors](#).

**RESOLVED**

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

**10. Standing Items  
South West Herts Joint Strategic Plan**

- 10.1 The Board heard that the Regulation 18 consultation stage of the plan was underway, in relation to the South West Herts Joint Strategic Plan.

**11. Date of next meeting**

- 11.1 The date of the next meeting was noted as Thursday, 10 November 2022 at 11:30am.
- 11.2 Police and Crime Commissioner, David Lloyd requested a formalised co-opted position on the Board. Officers agreed to consult the constitution and provide advise ahead of the November 2022 meeting.

Patsy Dell

CHAIRMAN'S INITIALS

**12. Other Part I Business**

12.1 None.

**PART II ('CLOSED') AGENDA**

**EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

The Chairman moved:

“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 of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 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.”

**1. Hertfordshire Growth Board (HGB) – Film Office Business Plan**

1.1 The Minute for this item of business is set out in the separate Part II Minutes.

**CHAIRMAN**.....

CHAIRMAN'S INITIALS



.....  
9



**Hertfordshire**  
Growth Board

[www.HertfordshireGrowthBoard.com](http://www.HertfordshireGrowthBoard.com)



[@hertsgoodgrowth](https://twitter.com/hertsgoodgrowth)



## Agenda Pack Page 14

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





# Agenda item 4

## **Hertfordshire Growth Board (HGB) – Governance arrangements: Nomination of new Vice Chair and Approval of the Hertfordshire Police and Crime Commissioner as a new Co-opted Board Member**

**Report Author: Patsy Dell (07949887794)**

---

### **1 Purpose of report**

- 1.1 The Growth Board currently has a politically balanced set of Chair and Vice Chairs. With changes to the Leader at Stevenage Borough Council in late 2022, a new Vice Chair nomination is now needed.
- 1.2 At the meeting on 8 September 2022, it was agreed that it would be desirable for the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) to be invited to join the Growth Board as a co-opted (non-voting) member. This paper facilitates a formal decision to be taken to bring that into effect.

### **2 Growth Board Governance**

- 2.1 The Growth Board was converted to a statutory joint committee in January 2021. The adopted integrated governance framework provides the constitution for the Board.
- 2.2 The statutory committee consists of voting and non-voting (co-opted) members. The local authorities are voting members and the co-opted members, Hertfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership, Homes England and the Independent chair of the Hertfordshire and West Essex Integrated Care System, form the current co-opted (advisory but non-voting) membership.
- 2.3 The constitution enables additional co-opted members to be invited to join the Growth Board over time.
- 2.4 The Hertfordshire Police and Crime Commissioner is proposed to be invited to join the Board as a new co-opted member. This would have effect from the January 2023 meeting.

### **3 Implications**

- 3.1 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.

## 4 Recommendations

4.1 That the Board:

- i) Agrees nominations for a new vice-chair; and
- ii) Approves an additional co-opted member and invites the Police and Crime Commissioner to join the Growth Board in that capacity and with effect from January 2023.

# Agenda item 5

Hertfordshire Growth Board – Presentation: Harlow Gilston Garden Town, progress towards the vision

**Report Author: Patsy Dell Hertfordshire Growth Board**

---

## **1 Purpose of report**

- 1.1 To provide Board Members with a presentation from Guy Nicholson, Independent Chair of Harlow Gilston Garden Town Board and Naisha Polaine, Garden Town Director, who will provide an update on the progress with Harlow Gilston Garden Town.

## **2 Recommendation**

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

This page is intentionally left blank

# Agenda item 6

## Hertfordshire Growth Board – Economy Briefing from Hertfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership

Report Author: Patsy Dell Hertfordshire Growth Board

---

### **1 Purpose of report**

- 1.1 To provide Board Members with a presentation from Neil Hayes, Hertfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership, sharing an overview of the Hertfordshire economy.

### **2 Recommendation**

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

This page is intentionally left blank

# Agenda item 7

## Hertfordshire Growth Board (HGB) – Re-invigorating Town Centres Workstream

**Report Author: Jenny Foster, Hertfordshire Growth Board (Tel: 01992 556621)**  
**Chief Lead Officer: Ka Ng, Chief Executive, Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council**

---

### 1 Purpose of report

- 1.1 This report updates on progress with the re-invigorating town centres workstream in supporting our district/ borough councils with the increasing challenges facing Hertfordshire's town centres and high streets.
- 1.2 The Growth Board working group has worked with stakeholders and consultants to collate a current picture of the economic situation facing high streets and town centres across Hertfordshire and has developed a bespoke package of support which would be commissioned from Save the High Streets, a leading advisory body in this field. The endorsement of the Board for this work, funding for the offer and the proposal for ongoing monitoring of the health of Hertfordshire's towns and high streets is set out below.

### 2 Re-invigorating Town Centres

- 2.1 The Growth Board has been working on this specific workstream since the inception of the Board, recognising the constantly changing and challenging economic situation, particularly for high streets and town centres, not only in Hertfordshire but nationally. The challenges cannot be pinpointed to one specific driver but range from legislative changes in the General Permitted Development Order (2015) rights (allowing retail to change to residential without the need for planning permission), to new development, Covid-19, significant changes to greater use of online shopping, rising inflation and increases in the cost of living. All of these factors have contributed to and continue to change the retail landscape across Hertfordshire.

### 3 Support For Town Centres Vitality and Viability

- 3.1 In March 2021, the Growth Board engaged with the Institute of Place Management (IPM), supported by Manchester Metropolitan University. A workshop was held and engagement with key stakeholders to establish a baseline of the situation in Hertfordshire at that time.

- 3.2 A Ten Point action plan for Hertfordshire was subsequently developed, (based on the IPM identified 25 priorities for town centre vitality and viability) and issued to all district/ borough councils in Spring 2021 following Growth Board endorsement. This was to help inform how district/ borough councils directed the Welcome Back Funding Allocations to best support local town centres following re-opening of high streets upon first relaxation of Covid-19 restrictions.
- 3.3 Over the course of 2022, the working group have considered appropriate next steps and further measures which could be put in place to support Hertfordshire's high streets and town centres. IPM were commissioned again to run the survey conducted in 2021, which was carried out in summer 2022. The Group have also worked with Save The High Streets.org to understand what additional support might be useful in Hertfordshire and which the Growth Board work could support. SaveTheHighStreet.org is a five-year-old industry movement. They deliver programmes to transform and strengthen high streets in partnership with local businesses, community champions, local authorities, trade associations, Government departments, new start-ups, property developers, retail landlords, industry suppliers, media owners and others. Through combining their market-leading technology, insight, and engagement, they have been able to radically improve the impact and economics of supporting small and start-up local businesses. Save The High Street.org have already worked with Dacorum Borough Council and Three Rivers District Council.
- 3.4 The results received from running the survey again showed a more comprehensive picture of the situation across Hertfordshire. When reviewing the data, it is clear from the responses that although Hertfordshire's high streets and town centres are unique, the feeling across them all is very similar. It is important to note that the survey was issued by each borough/ district council to ten key stakeholders identified for their input/ influence on the local economy. The survey results have now informed a more targeted offer of additional support from Save The High Streets.org to focussed on targeted retail support. The proposal recognises that each of our town centres is unique and therefore the suite of offers allows flexibility to select what is more appropriate by area.
- 3.5 The Save The High Streets.org offer seeks to provide local support for:
1. vacant units- through a landlord engagement campaign, a campaign to attract and evaluate potential occupiers, running an incubator pilot, developing a strategy brief, or designing a meanwhile space,
  2. targeted business support via the JO platform- their unique digital assistant for ten businesses for an 8-week period of support,
  3. community champion support- working to strengthen existing Traders Associations/ Groups and supporting new Trading Associations/ Groups. These offers would be open from the end of February 2023 up to 31 March 2024.



## 4 The Offer and Measuring Outcomes

- 4.1 To receive the offer from Save The High Streets.org, the Board is seeking funding of up to £5,000 per district/ borough council. The approach to place management in town centres/high streets across Hertfordshire is significantly mixed, from no discernible activity to cutting-edge approaches being undertaken. The offer will seek to bolster existing activities and where the survey results show that additional support is needed, it will seek to establish new Trading Associations which can be key to the vitality and viability of Hertfordshire's high streets/ town centres. Vacant units are a county and countrywide issue, with the changing retail scene there are a number of large vacant units in a number of our town centres. Save The High Streets.org can work to help repurpose units to allow for new start-ups, noting that whilst Covid-19 had a significant impact on high streets, a large number of new start-up businesses were born and are now looking for assistance in expanding/ moving to the high street. The use of the JO platform will give significant support to such businesses as well as to established businesses in supporting continued strong growth.
- 4.2 It is noted that should a district/ borough council wish to work together on this commission that this is accepted and encouraged. Providing this additional support will help colleagues continue to innovate, boost confidence, and help drive a positive increase in footfall, less vacant units, better business development and more community champions across Hertfordshire's town centres and high streets.
- 4.3 Both IPM reports identify and recommend similar interventions. The support offer will encourage further local collaborative working with key stakeholders to enact specific interventions based on the requirements of each individually identified town centre. Save The High Streets.org has come recommended as the most appropriate organisation to assist the Board with this work locally.
- 4.4 In measuring success of this scheme, each offer that is taken up locally will be measured against existing baseline data for the high street/town centre where available and the recommendations of the previous IPM reports.
- 4.5 The Working Group has also highlighted the importance of maintaining this workstream and will continue to monitor the progress of this scheme, subject to financial endorsement, reporting back after the summer of 2023 and at the end of the financial year 2024.

## **5 Implications**

- 5.1 This proposal seeks support from the Corridor projects budget of £5,000 per District and Borough from the Hertfordshire Growth Board Growth fund. This funding is already in this year's approved Growth Board budget.
- 5.2 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.

## **6 Recommendations**

- 6.1 That the Board approves funding of up to £5,000 per district/ borough council to provide the support offer for high streets and town centres and ongoing monitoring of the local economic situation in these locations across Hertfordshire.

# Agenda item 8

## Hertfordshire Growth Board (HGB) – Work Programme Progress Report January 2023

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 in September 2022.

### 2 The Growth Board Work Programme and Priorities

- 2.1 The Growth Board is currently reviewing its priority themes and work programme and an update on that will be provided to the next Growth Board meeting.

### 3 Work Programme Updates

#### Engagement with HM Government

- 3.1 New style County Devolution Deals have been announced in Nottinghamshire & Nottingham and Derbyshire & Derby along with Cornwall, Suffolk, and Norfolk. Michael Gove announced in early December 2022 that there would be a further round of devolution/County Deal expressions of interest starting in early 2023.

#### UK Shared Prosperity and Levelling Up Funds

- 3.2 The UK Shared Prosperity Fund allocation has been confirmed and subject to investment plan clarifications Hertfordshire District and Borough Councils will receive their first allocations of UKSPF shortly.
- 3.3 Levelling Up Fund round two bids have been submitted by Broxbourne, Dacorum and Watford Borough Councils. Government advised before Christmas that confirmation on successful bids would happen in early 2023.

## **Digital Workstream**

- 3.4 The Hertfordshire digital framework was approved by HGB in January 2022 and the working team and digital board are now fully operational. The board has approved priorities including bidding for further national funding and a market engagement day took place in December.

## **Hertfordshire Infrastructure and Development Board (HIDB)**

- 3.5 The HIDB held its inaugural meeting on 11 November 2021 and a year on is now meeting quarterly. Subscription levels for the second year are very good demonstrating the high levels of industry and sector interest in engaging with this 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, including capacity and resilience for growth delivery, delivering sustainable growth, regeneration, and the cost-of-living crisis. The theme for the February 2023 meeting is housing.
- 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. Cllr Lewis Cocking has taken over as Chair for the second year of the HIDB.

## **Hertfordshire Planning Resilience and Capacity Task and Finish Group**

- 3.8 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.
- 3.9 A very successful symposium for planning staff working across Hertfordshire was held at the end of November with speakers from the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) and industry and over 100 attendees participating.

## **Hertfordshire Film Office**

- 3.10 The principle of establishing a Film Office for Hertfordshire was agreed at the July 2022 Growth Board. The emerging business plan was approved in September 2022 and the final version is attached as item (1) at Part II of this agenda.

## **Temporary Housing Accommodation Joint Investigation project**

- 3.11 The Temporary Accommodation working group are providing an update at Item 9 on this agenda.

## **Growth Corridor Programme Boards – Project Updates**

- 3.12 The updates from active projects and the ones that the Growth Board keeps oversight of are attached at Appendix A.

## **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, workstream projects and the overall priorities as set out in the paper and at appendix A.

This page is intentionally left blank

## Item 8 – Appendix A: Combined Northern and Southern Delivery Programme Updates (Dec 2022)

Delivery Project	Programme Lead/s	Red / Amber / Green Status	Description
<b>NEC JSP and Northern Corridor</b>			
North East and Central Hertfordshire Joint Spatial Plan	<b>Lead Leader:</b> Linda Haysey <b>Chief Executive:</b> Richard Cassidy <b>Programme Lead:</b> Sara Saunders	Green	<p>Stage 1 of the Growth Study is now complete, and a summary was reported to Programme Board on 24 October 2022.</p> <p>The Programme Board on 24 October 2022 also agreed to undertake a strategic visioning exercise to inform stage 2 of the Growth Study. This work will be done broadly in parallel to the Growth Study and timescales for the Growth Study will be slightly adjusted to accommodate this work.</p> <p>A further annual contribution for 2023/24 of £20,000 for each partner authority to continue with the strategic planning and joint evidence-based project was also agreed.</p>
Community Wealth Building	<b>Lead Leader:</b> Sharon Taylor <b>Chief Executive:</b> Matt Partridge <b>Programme Lead:</b> Rob Gregory	Green	<p><b>UK Community Renewal Fund (CRF):</b> The programme received an additional £60k CRF with agreed outputs and outcomes matched to existing delivery., and work is underway to deliver the agreed projects with partners.</p> <p><b>District Working Group:</b> Monthly meetings have taken place to reflect on the outcomes of CRF activity. This will feed into the programme’s evaluation and feasibility plan. Business support providers, the Centre for Local Economic Strategies (CLES) &amp; Fusion 21 provided presentations on their involvement in the programme.</p> <p><b>Workstream updates:</b>  <u>Workstream 1: Hertfordshire Opportunities Portal</u>            A “Careers in Local Government” page has been developed on the Hertfordshire Opportunities Portal highlighting the breadth and depth of career opportunities in Local Government. Each Authority has produced a spotlight page that feeds from the main page and outlines relevant opportunities within their areas.  <u>Workstream 2: Procurement</u>            The Stevenage spend analysis has been completed and an action plan including recommendations for next steps is being compiled. Circa 50% of the Herts Local Authorities are either using, partially using or are soon to commence use of the Social Value Portal. Supply Hertfordshire has agreed to discuss a joint approach to social value in construction and this is being picked up in the New Year.</p>

			<p><u>Workstream 3: Grants scheme</u> The main VCSE programmes: programmes ended 31 August 2022. However additional activity is underway re the additional funding that has been secured, and this will be reported in early January.</p> <p><u>Workstream 4: Planning</u> Dacorum BC in partnership with Fusion 21 is the case-study activity for this stream. The Social Value Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) has been shared with the Hertfordshire Planning group. Stakeholder consultation is taking place in November and the SPD is expected to be fully adopted in late Spring 2023.</p> <p><u>Workstream 5: Evaluation and Feasibility</u> The University of Hertfordshire undertook the evaluation and is currently refining its report, ready for distribution later in December 2022. An evaluation film has been commissioned using some of the additional CRF secured, and this is currently under way. This will be available in early January 2023.</p>
Delivery Models for New Settlements	<p><b>Lead Leaders:</b> Linda Haysey, Elizabeth Dennis-Harburg/Ruth Brown</p> <p><b>Managing Director:</b> Anthony Roche</p> <p><b>Programme Lead:</b> Ian Fullstone</p>	Green	<p>Initial desktop learning and review sessions have been completed. Two site visits and review meetings were completed earlier in the year. A successful visit to Ebbsfleet took place on 20 September 2022 and a visit to Chelmsford took place on the 17 October 2022; a review meeting took place on 2 November 2022 to consolidate learning from the two most recent site visits. A presentation will be brought to the next programme board meeting. The group and leads have identified emerging conclusions which will be presented.</p>
Reinvigorating Town Centres	<p><b>Lead Leaders:</b> Tony Kingsbury, Elizabeth Dennis-Harburg</p> <p><b>Chief Executive:</b> Ka Ng</p> <p><b>Programme Lead:</b> Jenny Foster</p>	Green	<p>The Institute of Place Management (IPM) questionnaire responses have been received. The report has been finalised and discussed with the working group. Save the High Streets have presented to the working group a suite of potential offers for district/ borough councils. A report is being prepared for January Growth Board to recommend that the Growth Board financially support an offer per district/ borough.</p>
Growing Science and Technology (Cell and Gene Focus)	<p><b>Lead Leader:</b> Sharon Taylor</p> <p><b>Chief Executives:</b> Jeff Stack,</p>	Green	<p>This workstream is well established. ARUP are appointed and are working to finalise the baseline study for Gunnels Wood Road and engage businesses including Stevenage Development Board.</p> <p>The construction of the Autolus life science headquarters in Stevenage Town Centre is well underway with partial</p>



	Neil Hayes <b>Programme Lead:</b> Jenny Foster		handover taking place in late November 2022.  Following discussions with Stevenage Borough Council officers, Developers have opened consultation on a 300k sqft mixed life science and retail, town centre regeneration project at the Forum in Stevenage.  Work to develop a design for the GWR roundabout is underway and the initial design stage is drawing to conclusion.
Climate Change & Sustainability	<b>Lead Leader:</b> Linda Haysey <b>Chief Executive:</b> Matt Partridge <b>Programme Lead:</b> Julie Greaves	Green	A new look independent website has been launched for the Partnership. Please see <a href="http://www.hccsp.org.uk">www.hccsp.org.uk</a> <u>Annual Stakeholder Conference held 9 Nov 2022 at Potters Bar</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 121 delegates attended from sectors including Town and Parish Councils, Climate Action Groups, community and special interest groups, local and regional businesses, and specific climate focussed organisations.</li> <li>• The key focuses were Adaptation and Behaviour Change</li> <li>• HCCSP colleagues presented on priorities and achievements</li> <li>• The Behaviour Change Strategic Action Plan was formally launched.</li> <li>• Breakout workshops were undertaken on cleaner air, energy efficiency and active travel.</li> </ul> <p>The “Solar Together cross Herts” project enables residents and businesses to procure solar panels at better than market-value. November 2022: Workshops are taking place to help convert interested parties to a commitment to purchase and install panels and battery storage. Training has been delivered for business support teams of the LEP and HGH. A response was coordinated in respect of the gov.uk’s call for evidence on the Net Zero Review.</p> <p><b>The Green Infrastructure strategy</b> has been completed. A report was presented to Hertfordshire County Council’s Growth Infrastructure and Planning Cabinet Panel on the 20 October 2022. In terms of what comes next, the strategy will complement the District’s Local Plan evidence base and, with respect to the County Council, some of the recommendations will be taken forward in the Local Nature Recovery Strategy.</p>
<b>Southern Corridor</b>			
<b>Temporary Accommodation &amp; Off-site Manufacturing</b>	<b>Lead Leader:</b> Andrew Williams <b>Chief Executive:</b> Claire Hamilton	Green	<b>Temporary Accommodation</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Predictive Model:</b> Final business case consulted on with Heads of Housing stakeholder group and signed-off by sponsor. Model focusses on operational improvements to aid response to the need for TA. The model includes a process that builds on collation of approved data from all authorities, enabling county wide view of TA</li> </ol>

	<p><b>Programme Lead:</b> Roger Barratt / Jenny Foster</p>		<p>numbers. Building in links to migration work in progress. Interest from all authorities. Training underway for go-live in January 2023.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. <b>Ultra-High Needs:</b> The focus here, has been derived from initial examination of the value of a county wide Housing First approach. Following discussion with the Heads of Housing stakeholder group, it is felt that focus on the cohort of homeless people with complex needs, that do not fit a Housing First approach, is a better focus for this work. Tracking of: cohort numbers in place, provision of services and best practice examples.</li> <li>3. <b>Hospital Step Down:</b> System wide interest in pursuing a collaborative approach to developing such a facility, with a 'system wide' conference held on 15 November 2022. 50 people from across partners affected by this issue met to discuss, question and innovate on the issue. Work is currently underway to distil learning from the conference and determine the next steps.</li> </ol> <p><b>Off-site Manufacturing</b>  CPD event to be developed for roll out to planners in early 2023. There is a potential link with temporary accommodation and the SHAP bids. This workstream will be cognizant of this and seek to link if possible. Presentation to HIDB to be prepared early 2023.</p>
<p><b>Creative &amp; Screen Industries</b></p>	<p><b>Lead Leader:</b> Morris Bright  <b>Chief Executive:</b> Donna Nolan  <b>Programme Leads (current):</b> Adam Wood (LEP), Brenda Harris (Interim)</p>	<p>Green</p>	<p>Excellent overall progress:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Industry Panel has been set up and held its third meeting on 1 December 2022.</li> <li>• Industry Panel has approved the action/ delivery plan. Focus is: progressing supply of talent, business support, commercial property requirements (studio and ancillary), digital and visitor agenda</li> <li>• Film &amp; TV Action Log created</li> <li>• Herts Film Office business plan has been agreed by the Industry Panel, by the CSWG, HGB and HLG</li> <li>• Funding for HFO is confirmed from UKSPF plus HGB and LEP</li> <li>• LEP Sector Lead appointed – starts early January 23</li> </ul>
<p><b>Harlow &amp; Gilston Garden Town</b></p>	<p><b>Lead Leader:</b> Linda Haysey  <b>Chief Executive:</b> Richard Cassidy  <b>Programme Lead:</b> Naisha Polaine</p>	<p>Green</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HGGT Vision established and agreed by 5 Council Partners: embedded in the three local plans of EHDC, EFDC and HDC and endorsed by ECC and HCC.</li> <li>• HGGT is the Strategic Growth in and around Harlow, comprising 10,000 new homes at Gilston and a further 13,000 homes at East of Harlow, Latton Priory and Water Lane with 16,000 new homes projected for delivery by 2033.</li> <li>• This dashboard updates on Gilston only as part of the Hertfordshire growth area.</li> </ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Master Programme has been developed and agreed by members in April 2022.</li> <li>• The 2019 HGGT Infrastructure Delivery Plan is currently being updated.</li> <li>• The Gilston planning application with EHDC is currently under consideration which requires coordination across all 5 HGGT council partners.</li> <li>• The CPO to facilitate the Gilston development is being progressed, coordinated by HGGT.</li> <li>• A Strategic Transport Planning Forum (STPF) of all 5 partners has been set up to consider cross boundary issues.</li> <li>• The stewardship approach is being progressed for Gilston and the wider HGGT partnership.</li> </ul>
<b>Hemel Garden Communities</b>	<b>Lead Leader:</b> Andrew Williams <b>Chief Executive:</b> Claire Hamilton <b>Programme Director:</b> Phillipa Zieba	Green	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Framework Plan and Transport Plan progressing with conclusion scheduled for Q1 2023</li> <li>2. Quality Review Panel established with Design Southeast and separate Framework Plan and Transport Plan panels undertaken</li> <li>3. Homes England funding secured to implement active travel infrastructure projects in 2023</li> <li>4. Establishment of a Councillor Review Group to widen Member engagement</li> <li>5. Website established and Comms &amp; Engagement Strategy prepared</li> </ol>
<b>Mass Rapid Transit - Hertfordshire &amp; Essex Rapid Transit (HERT)</b>	<b>Lead Leader:</b> Phil Bibby <b>Chief Executive:</b> Mark Kemp <b>Programme Lead:</b> Darren Granger	Green	<p>Technical work on the Strategic Outline Case (SOC) has now concluded and this is helping to establish the context and key principles from which to formulate the preferred route, mode choice and the enabling complementary measures.</p> <p>Following the unsuccessful Restoring Your Railway Fund bid for improvements on the Abbey Line any alternatives to heavy rail will be incorporated within the HERT project.</p>
<b>Resetting the SE Herts economy in response to COVID-19 and climate change</b>	<b>Lead Leader:</b> Lewis Cocking <b>Chief Executive:</b> Jeff Stack <b>Programme Lead:</b> Kevin Clark	Amber	<p>Five separate elements for the programme have been identified and milestones for each set out in the table.</p> <p>Park Plaza West Film studios planning permission was granted on 18 July 2022.</p> <p>Brookfield – all 3-planning application now submitted and validated; a joint planning committee is expected to determine in March 2023.</p> <p>Park lane Railway Station – still awaiting final letter of support.</p> <p>Maxwells building has had some delays in regard of utilities final handover now due Feb 2023 still within budget. Marketing to commence early 2023</p> <p>Waltham Cross Renaissance the detailed design contract has been let.</p>

**Watford Junction Quarter**

**Lead Leader:**  
Peter Taylor  
**Chief Executive:**  
Donna Nolan  
**Programme Lead:**  
Julian Hart

Amber

Watford Junction rail lands has been adopted as a Strategic Development Area (SDA Watford Gateway) in the new Local Plan.  
The Council is in discussion with Network Rail on the area to be considered for a future masterplan and planning application for redevelopment of the rail lands.  
Tentative confirmation has been received that DfT have signed off £1m design funding for upgrading Watford Junction station.

**Towards Digital Growth**

**Lead Leader:**  
Morris Bright  
**Chief Executive:**  
  
**Programme Lead:**  
Tony Gibbons

Green

- Priority 1 – Accelerating Delivery**
- Project Gigabit OMR/PR completed. Intervention area in Herts likely to be reduced, but with many hard-to-reach premises still targeted.
  - Market Information Day – Session has now successfully taken place with digital/mobile suppliers engaged with. Outcomes are being finalised.
- Priority 2 – Public Sector Assets**
- BDUK are reviewing GigaHubs programme viability and may follow Project Gigabits launch in a different format
  - Small Cell trial is being investigated for 4G and possible 5G coverage
- Priority 3 – Pervasive Digitisation**
- LEP Top-up funding bid successful. Progressing towards voucher relaunch and promotional activities
- Priority 4 - World Class Digital Sector**
- LEP are reviewing this priority and progress

# Agenda item 9

## Hertfordshire Growth Board (HGB) – Temporary Accommodation Joint Work: Options Development

**Report Author: Roger Barrett**

**Chief Executive Lead Officer (Sponsor): Claire Hamilton, Chief Executive, Dacorum Borough Council**

**Lead Member: Andrew Williams, Leader, Dacorum Borough Council**

---

### 1 Purpose of report

- 1.1 This report provides an update on 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), whilst achieving quality and value for money.

### 2 Background

- 2.1 The strategic programme outcomes below, guide the work:
- Develop a coordinated county wide framework for provision to improve outcomes and life chances for households who are temporarily homeless
  - Secure, sustainable long-term improvements in accommodation arrangements that meets the minimum standards
  - Develop an approach to temporary accommodation across the county that can respond to local issues
  - Build on existing activity to utilise publicly owned land and assets to support delivery of homes
  - Be an exemplar county in managing use of temporary accommodation, building social and economic benefits for Hertfordshire

The principle that local authorities are able to engage with the options that most fit with local need is maintained.

- 2.2 Collective work with stakeholders from all Hertfordshire local authorities and other partner organisations has continued in support of progressing work on the options outlined below. Engagement by stakeholders continues to be positive on developing new approaches to resolving accommodation challenges faced across the county. Activity is supported through briefings to the leader reference group.

Shortlist of original options for further development	
Option	Description
1	Development of a Hertfordshire TA Predictive Model to better understand and manage future demand
2	Development of a Hertfordshire wide procedure for setting maximum rates for private sector TA – now discounted, previous paper refers
3	Development of options for the joint procurement and management of Private Rented Sector accommodation to prevent homelessness and for move on from TA
4	Development of a multi-district or Hertfordshire wide Complex Needs accommodation provision service
5	Collaborative development of new build accommodation to let as PRS, TA or supported housing
6	Development or commissioning of Hospital Stepdown accommodation to aid the recovery of patients without accommodation

### 3 Progress made and next steps

3.1 The current focus of activity is on:

- a) Development of a Hertfordshire TA Predictive Model to better understand and manage future demand (original option 1)
- b) Development of a multi-district or Hertfordshire complex needs/Housing First service, building on lessons from existing practice (original option 4)
- c) Development or commissioning of Hospital Stepdown accommodation to aid the recovery of patients without accommodation (original option 6)

Multi-district working groups were put in place to take these items forward, with programme and consultant support over 2022.

#### 3.1.1 Development of a Hertfordshire TA Predictive Model to better understand and manage future demand (demand model)

As a result of further research and to better reflect functionality, this option has been renamed as Development of a Hertfordshire TA Predictive, Monitoring and Control Toolset.

##### **Objective:**

The model will enable better control of TA demand (into TA) and supply (out of TA) and be able to be used as a 'live performance tool' by local authorities. The model will help focus effort through targeted interventions for managing or reducing TA numbers.

**Progress Made:**

The model has been developed based on best practice and use of targeted interventions by other authorities and piloted with housing managers across the county. Training in its use has been delivered to all district and borough housing staff.

Work to develop a data capture mechanism enabling better understanding of demand and the actual numbers of people who are in TA across the county is now complete.

The business case for this operational improvement has been signed off by the Lead Chief Executive Officer and both elements of this option will be implemented from 1 January 2023.

**Next Steps:**

- Support the final implementation of the elements described above
- Conduct an evaluation of the impact with the aim of delivering an interim evaluation report by April 2023

### 3.1.2 **Development of a multi-district or Hertfordshire wide Complex Needs Accommodation provision**

As indicated in the previous update, the focus for this option has shifted slightly to working to resolve the accommodation provision for the cohort of homeless people having an ultra-high level of complex needs. Whilst the numbers are small the impact of providing effective accommodation and provision of care needs in one place is both complex and costly.

**Objective:**

To understand why current accommodation arrangements are unable to support homeless people with ultra-high needs.

To determine the most effective model of accommodation provision through which delivery of interventions to resolve complex needs can be made.

**Progress Made:**

- Work continues to scope a new model, confirming demand and building the specification required to deliver an effective accommodation solution, building on existing work to support those with complex needs across the county. Interest in this option is maintained.
- The prospectus for the Single Homelessness Accommodation Programme (SHAP) funding opportunity, operated by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities, was released in December. Regular meetings are in place with fund advisors and Homes England to establish how an effective bid can

be made for Hertfordshire, ensuring that the needs of North Herts District Council, the district within Hertfordshire targeted by the fund due to the number of 18-25yr old homeless people, are met.

**Next Steps:**

- Develop further the model for delivering an integrated accommodation and support solution to meet the defined and quantified need
- Determine the most pragmatic approach to submitting a bid to SHAP, ensuring Hertfordshire benefits from the funding available
- Continue work to identify alternate sources of funding
- Keep under review the identified level of need across Hertfordshire, and develop further understanding of the whole-system cost to Hertfordshire of this cohort
- Explore delivery options with a range of potential partners and potential sites
- Develop the business case for this option with a clearly defined specification, alongside development of a funding bid

**3.1.3 Development or commissioning of Hospital Stepdown accommodation to aid the recovery of patients without accommodation**

Focus is on responding to the need for appropriate Hospital Stepdown accommodation for homeless people, to reduce the delayed discharge from hospital.

**Progress:**

- Engagement with system stakeholders culminated in a 'mini-conference' in November last year, attended by 50 people representing organisations having an interest in this issue. Participants heard from example sites from around the country and from the London School of Economics who are involved in evaluating such provision on behalf of central Government.
- Continued engagement with sites operating similar schemes and national researchers to align with good practice.

**Next Steps:**

- Finalise data collection across all acute sites
- Develop a profile for how benefits would accrue across the system
- Develop a specification, identification of a suitable site and identify funding opportunities through Homes England, One Public Estate and the Department for Health & Social Care.



## **4 Implications**

- 4.1 There are no adverse legal, financial, equalities, environmental, sustainability or other implications associated with this report.
- 4.2 A business case for each option under consideration will be developed and set out the legal, financial, environmental and sustainability implications to be considered.

## **5 Recommendations**

- 5.1 That the Hertfordshire Growth Board notes the progress made across the three workstreams.

This page is intentionally left blank

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank