

Agenda item 5

Hertfordshire Growth Board – Progress Report

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1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 This item, together with an accompanying presentation (see appendix 1), introduces the 2023 Growth Board Progress report (see appendix 2) which provides details on the work, progress and achievements made by the Growth Board to date.

2. Background

- 2.1 Hertfordshire Growth Board was established in 2019 when 12 partners signed a Memorandum of Understanding in order to respond to the challenges and opportunities growth will bring to Hertfordshire. To date, the aims of the Board have been:
 - Strategic planning and positioning – the need to raise Hertfordshire’s profile and secure central government support for scaled and accelerated delivery, helping to overcome the challenges faced by the local plan system, and growing strategic employment and housing corridors within Hertfordshire.
 - Homes – the need to deliver the housing Hertfordshire needs. This includes more social and affordable housing; good and inclusive growth that delivers sustainable communities, housing, and places into the future; and accommodating housing and economic growth with sustainable construction and excellent design that does not compromise the attractiveness of our existing places.
 - Infrastructure – the need to access sufficient forward funding to put ‘infrastructure in first’ ahead of development delivery, reduce our carbon footprint, and plan for active and sustainable travel.
 - Economy – the need to further unlock the potential of our key sectors, stimulate new sectors, and create quality local jobs growth, in alignment with the emerging Local Industrial Strategy.
- 2.2 Since the Boards creation, a number of projects and programmes have been developed in response to the aims set out above.

3. Purpose of the Impact Report

- 3.1 The report provides a summary of the progress and achievements made under each of the original aims of the Growth Board as well as examples of how the Board works in partnership and outlines the next steps.
- 3.2 The report will be used to demonstrate the successes of working in partnership and help increase understanding of its purpose and work for residents and business in Hertfordshire. The report contains links where interested parties can follow up on specific projects.

4. Next steps

- 4.1 Should the Board approve the report, forewords will be added prior to final versions being circulated to all Board members and the report being published on the Hertfordshire Growth Board website.

5. Recommendation

- 5.1 That members of the Growth Board note the 2023 Hertfordshire Growth Board Progress Report and agree to it being finalised and circulated.

If you have accessibility requirements and require further detail of the appendices, please contact the report author.