



Minutes
of the
Meeting of the
Hertfordshire Growth Board
on
Wednesday, 16 July 2025

1. **Agenda & Part I Business**
2. **Part I Minutes**

3 - 10

Hertfordshire Growth Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, 16 July 2025



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: Wednesday, 16 July 2025

Attendance

Council Leaders (11 Voting Members)

G. Gander, Broxbourne Borough Council
S. Symington, Dacorum Borough Council
A. Daar (*substituted for B. Crystall*), East Herts District Council
S. Jarvis, Hertfordshire County Council
J. Newmark, Hertsmere Borough Council (Vice Chair)
D. Allen, North Hertfordshire District Council
P. De Kort, St Albans City and District Council
R. Henry, Stevenage Borough Council (Vice Chair)
S. Nelmes (*substituted for S. Giles-Medhurst*), Three Rivers District Council
P. Taylor (Mayor), Watford Borough Council (Chair)
M. Holloway, Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council

Co-opted Members (4)

P. Burstow, Hertfordshire and West Essex ICS, NHS
A. Hawkins, Herts Futures
J. Krause, Homes England
K. Asante (*substituted for W. Wills*), University of Hertfordshire

The full Board Meeting can be viewed here: [Hertfordshire Growth Board - 16 July 2025](#).

1a. Appointment of Chair

- 1.1 In accordance with Annex A to Appendix 1 of the Hertfordshire Growth Board Constitution, 'the appointment of the Chair and Vice Chair shall be decided annually as the first substantive item of business at the AGM'.
- 1.2 Mayor Peter Taylor was nominated as Chair by Councillor Jeremy Newmark. This was seconded by Councillor Richard Henry.
- 1.3 Following a vote, Mayor Peter Taylor was appointed Chair for the following year, as agreed by the Board.

1b. Appointment of Vice-Chairs

- 1.4 In accordance with Annex A to Appendix 1 of the Hertfordshire Growth Board Constitution 'the Board shall elect two Vice-Chairs at the time of appointing the Vice-Chairs, the HGB shall decide which of them takes priority if the Chair is absent and both of them are present'.
- 1.5 Following nomination by Mayor Peter Taylor and seconded by Councillor Daniel Allen, Councillor Jeremy Newmark was appointed as a Vice-Chair, as agreed by the Board.
- 1.6 Following nomination by Mayor Peter Taylor and seconded by Councillor Jeremy Newmark, Councillor Richard Henry was appointed as the priority Vice Chair in the absence of the Chair and both Vice-Chairs present, as agreed by the Board.

2. Minutes

- 2.1 The Minutes of the Board meeting held on 22 January 2025 (Part I) were confirmed as a correct record.

3. Public Questions – Standing order 12

- 3.1 There were no Public Questions.

4. Public Petitions – Standing Order 13

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4.1 There were no Public Petitions.

5. Hertfordshire Growth Board (HGB) - Endorsement of Hertfordshire Retrofit Strategy

[Officer Contact: Neil Hayes, Director of Economy and Skills, HCC]

5.1 The Board received a report which sought endorsement of the Hertfordshire Local Retrofit Strategy, as attached at Appendix 1 of the report. The Strategy established a coordinated framework for retrofit delivery, partnership working and access to funding. It supported Goal 3 of the Sustainable County Mission in the HGB Vision and Mission and built upon the Commitment to Retrofit, which was endorsed by local authorities in Hertfordshire in April 2025.

5.2 This item can be viewed here at 00:15:23 [Item 5 - Hertfordshire Retrofit Strategy](#).

RESOLVED

5.3 The Hertfordshire Growth Board:

- a) Endorsed the Hertfordshire Local Retrofit Strategy in principle, as aligned with the Board's Vision and Mission.
- b) Supported continued engagement with the Strategy to enable knowledge-sharing, partnership working, and collaborative access to funding.
- c) Encouraged internal coordination to ensure alignment with relevant service areas and strategic priorities.
- d) Noted the development of a delivery-focused action plan, to be finalised through multi-agency collaboration.

6. Hertfordshire Growth Board: Advocacy Status Report

[Officer Contact: Lucy Gravatt, Interim Director of Advocacy and Partnerships]

6.1 The Board received a report which provided and update to the approach being taken in developing a new advocacy plan. The Board received a presentation on the Advocacy Status Report. The presentation can be viewed here: [Presentation - Advocacy Status Report](#).

6.2 Members welcomed the report and queried how the impact of the advocacy plan was to be measured. Board Members heard that work was ongoing with mission leads to develop a more detailed understanding of what success looks like, beyond the broad ambitions. It was noted that the goal was to define specific metrics for

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areas such as economic success, sustainability, and transport. The intention was for the final strategy to include clear measurable indicators.

- 6.3 The Board expressed appreciation for Lucy Gravatt's significant contribution to the development of the strategy. Members reflected on the progress made in establishing Hertfordshire as a centre for growth, noting that the programme was built from the ground up. The Board recognised the need to continue promoting the strategy externally, noting Hertfordshire's omission from the creative component of the Government's new industrial strategy as a reminder that further advocacy was required.
- 6.4 Members noted that Herts Futures (formerly the Hertfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership) had now been fully integrated back into the County Council following 12 years of operation. It was noted that the team had played a key role in driving economic growth across Hertfordshire during that period and with integration complete, funding was now available to support continued advocacy and development efforts.
- 6.5 The Board noted that the strategy could be further enhanced by reflecting on the role of public sector partners. The University of Hertfordshire expressed an interest in supporting the strategy and contributing to the development of its associated indicators.
- 6.6 This item can be viewed here at 00:17:35 [Item 6 - Advocacy Status Report](#).

RESOLVED

- 6.7 The Hertfordshire Growth Board:
- Noted the activity set out in Table 1 of the report and endorsed the draft Strategy, which would be presented at the next Board Meeting.
 - Agreed that the Advocacy Director acts as dedicated lead officer with strategic oversight from HGB Steering Group or another HGB Board Member.
 - Agreed for work to get underway immediately after the Board Meeting, subject to any modifications required.
 - Noted the activity will be funded from existing budgets.

7. Other Part I Business

- 7.1 None.

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8. Date of next meeting

8.1 The date of the next meeting was noted as to be confirmed.

CHAIRMAN.....

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