

Agenda – Co-operation for Sustainable Development Member Board

26 October 2015, 6.30 pm – ([Civic Centre, Harlow](#))

AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. Draft notes of meeting of 22 September 2015 – including review of action points
3. London Stansted Cambridge Consortium – growth commission/future workshop (John McGill)
4. Highways update/Highways England’s approach to funding for junction7/7A (David Sprunt)
5. West Essex/East Herts growth & Strategic Options work around Harlow – how to approach apportionment discussions (Paul MacBride & Alison Blom-Cooper)
6. Uttlesford DC’s Issues & Options consultation (Andrew Taylor)
7. Broxbourne BC Duty to Co-operate document (Douglas Cooper)
8. A.O.B.
9. Dates of next meetings (already booked):
 - 4 December 2015 - 6.30 p.m. Harlow DC
 - 18 January 2016 - 6.30 p.m. Harlow DC
 - 7 March 2016 - 6.30 p.m. Harlow DC
 - 19 April 2016 - 6.30 p.m. Harlow DC

**Draft note from Co-operation for Sustainable Development Member Board
26 October 2015 - Civic Centre, Harlow**

Attendance

Members

| | |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Broxbourne BC | Cllr Jim Metcalfe |
| East Herts DC | Cllr Gary Jones, Cllr Linda Haysey |
| Epping Forest DC | Cllr John Philip (Chair) |
| Essex CC | Cllr Kay Twitchen |
| Harlow DC | Cllr Tony Durcan, Cllr Jon Clempner |
| Uttlesford DC | Cllr Susan Barker |
| Redbridge | Cllr Helen Coomb |

Officers/others

| | |
|------------------|-------------------------------|
| East Herts DC | Kevin Steptoe |
| Epping Forest DC | Alison Blom-Cooper |
| Essex CC | Zhanine Smith, David Sprunt |
| Harlow DC | Paul MacBride, Vicky Forgione |
| Uttlesford DC | Andrew Taylor |
| LSCC | John McGill |
| Broxbourne BC | Douglas Cooper |

1. Apologies

- Epping Forest DC – Cllr Chris Whitbread, Cllr Richard Bassett
- Brentwood BC - Cllr William Trump
- Herts CC - Cllr Derrick Ashley

2. Draft notes of meeting of 22 September 2015 – including review of action points

- Notes were agreed.

Matters arising:

- None

3. London Stansted Cambridge Consortium – growth commission/future workshop

• **Growth Commission**

A short briefing note was circulated by John McGill. A Growth Commission has been established – this consists of a group of independent minded people to look at the corridor between London, Stansted, Cambridge and Peterborough to consider whether there is economic growth potential. Evidence gathering and hearings will be held by the Commission this year and early next and will be open to the public although not publicly advertised. Report to be launched at conference next June.

• **LSCC Central** - (Harlow, Epping Forest, East Herts and Uttlesford Districts)

Proposal to hold a workshop to look at the vision for this part of the area for Leaders and Chief Executives – date now set for 2 December 2015 – aim is to get senior officers, members and LEPs to look at the vision and the potential infrastructure needs for the area to deliver growth

• **Other work ongoing** through the West Anglia Task Force, Crossrail 2 Task Force and Outer London Commission – although focus on rail also looking at road case.

• **Broxbourne** questioned why they were not part of the workshop – John explained that this was because they were not part of the core SHMA area

• **Timescale** - East Herts expressed concern that any work undertaken as part of the LSCC should not affect their timescale for preparation of the Local Plan and also officers should not be deflected from the main task of preparing the plan

4. Highways update/Highways England's approach to funding for junction 7/7A

- David Sprunt reported that there had been some progress – had further discussions with Highways England re the £50million allocation. It is now clear that this is for Junction 7. Highways England now have a 5 year plan (RIS1) and have only just started looking at improvement works at Junction 7 and currently at Stage 0 so somewhat behind where Essex CC are with proposals for junction 7A which is at Stage 2/3. Essex CC has made the case to Highways England that they should continue to progress Junction 7A and there is full commitment at the County to do that. The key issue is the funding of Junction 7A – bid to SELEP is a possibility but won't allocate until we have received agreement at the planning stage – this is about a year away. Potentially we could also secure some contribution from developers. However this is likely to leave a funding gap which would require some forward funding. So ECC looking to Highways England for funding – would want to get in bid for November 2017 for RIS 2 funding. It was felt that there should be coordinated lobbying from all the local authorities affected to push for funding from RIS 2. Essex CC happy to lead this.
- Not clear what capacity improvements to Junction 7 will give in terms of future growth prior to bringing Junction 7A on stream. Uttlesford wanted Junction 8 to be included in the discussion. Essex CC have concerns around whether it would be better to bring 7A forward first – clear that need both improvements to J7 as well as 7A. It is not clear yet from the modelling what growth improvements to J7 alone would support. For the modelling work ECC have used the SHMA figures as a starting point for testing and made certain suppositions as to where growth could go from the evidence base. Can run further scenarios when we have completed the first run and seen the outputs.
- Officer group will meet to discuss outputs from the modelling work being undertaken to consider strategic options around Harlow (being facilitated by AECOM) towards the end of November and will then bring that back to the next meeting of the Board.
- ***The Board agreed that there should be a coordinated sign up to the same message from the Board and others and important that the £50 million funding from RIS 1 is used to best effect.*** To be looked at further at a future meeting

5. West Essex/East Herts growth and Strategic Options work around Harlow

- Officers are continuing to work together and with ATLAS to consider and test various options around Harlow for growth. The Board had previously discussed and agreed the appointment of a strategic sites co-ordinator via funding from DCLG at its meeting on 3 June 2015. This has now been advertised and the closing date is Friday 30 October. It is hoped that there will be sufficient interest to make an appointment, but otherwise alternatives will need to be sorted.
- East Herts DC are proposing to take options to members in spring 2016 based on evidence collected and wouldn't want this work to hold up the process.

6. Uttlesford DC's Issues and Options consultation

- Uttlesford are currently consulting on their issues and options with comments invited by 4 December 2015. The consultation sets 19 questions around issues and options and focuses on areas of search/scenarios, policy off in terms of approach. There are 7 scenarios; testing at SHMA levels and a higher growth level, some have come forward through call for sites and others not.
- Green Belt review, Highways consultant and Employment Land Reviews are about to be commissioned.
- Two outstanding appeals have been with the Planning Inspectorate for a year – one in Dunmow and one in Elsenham with no time lines for decision.

7. Broxbourne BC Duty to Co-operate document

- Douglas Cooper explained that on 20 October 2015 the Cabinet approved the framework for the future development of the Borough which shows the Council's proposed direction of travel. The Local Plan in preparation will not include DM policies, CIL or IDP which will come later. The current timetable is that the Draft Local Plan is due to go to Cabinet in January 2016 and then out for a Regulation 18 consultation for 2 months.

- The Council completed their SHMA in 2013 and this has since been updated to provide the current OAN – number is around 7,000. Have a draft GB review which will be completed shortly and published with draft local plan. Employment evidence is in preparation and retail evidence is now completed and on website. Transport assessment completed in draft and can share – options assessment mostly completed.
- Level of growth proposed is for 6,000 new homes and 7,500 new jobs, new shops at Brookfield and leisure, one secondary and eight primary schools. So 1,000 short in terms of homes – so want to discuss with the Co-op authorities whether or not this group of authorities can help to meet this shortfall. Urban area capacity 2,760 homes, Green Belt around 3,300 new homes and Green Belt also main area for employment allocations. Proposed to allocate 11% of current GB – can't yet share GB review. 89% GB retained.
- Number of strategic development sites included in the framework
- Consultation – revised document will be circulated this week following changes made by Cabinet and the Council propose to hold individual discussions with authorities. Need to discuss housing provision and gypsy/traveller provision through duty to cooperate discussions. Will be looking at current needs assessment to see whether it needs to be refreshed in the light of new guidance.

8. A.O.B.

None

9. Dates of next meetings (already booked):

- 4 December 2015 – 6.30pm Harlow DC – agreed that authorities would be consulted as to whether this date is practical and if so should the start time be brought forward.
- 18 January 2016 - 6.30pm Harlow DC
- 7 March 2016 - 6.30pm Harlow DC
- 19 April 2016 - 6.30pm Harlow DC