

Meeting Note – Co-op for Sustainable Development Member Board

6.30pm, 22 January 2018

Attendance

Organisation	Councillors	Officers
East Herts DC	Cllr Linda Haysey (Cllr Haysey)	Liz Watts (LW) Claire Sime (CS) Kevin Steptoe (KS) Adam Halford (AH)
Epping Forest DC	Cllr John Philip (Cllr Philip) Cllr Nigel Bedford (Cllr Bedford)	Derek Macnab (DM) David Coleman (DC)
Essex CC	Cllr Wagland (Cllr Wagland)	David Sprunt (DS) David Hill (DH)
Harlow DC	Cllr Danny Purton (Cllr Purton) - Chair	Brian Keane (BK) Graeme Bloomer (GB)
Herts CC		Jan Hayes-Griffin (JHG)
Uttlesford DC	Cllr Susan Barker (Cllr Barker)	Philip Bylo (PB)
Garden Town	N/A	Sarah Pullin (SP) Claire Hamilton (CH)
Princess Alexandra Hospital	N/A	Marc Davis (MD)

1. Apologies

Cllr Derrick Ashley, Herts County Council

Cllr Bob Brunton, East Herts

Mark Norman, Highways England

Alison Blom-Cooper, Epping Forest District

Doug Cooper, Broxbourne

Cllr Kevin Bentley, Essex County Council

Cllr Helen Coomb, Redbridge

2. Draft notes of meeting of 13 November 2017 – including review of action points

Notes of November's meeting agreed.

3. Update on HIF bids

DS reported that there had been no announcement on the HIF bid – it is understood that the announcement has now been delayed until March, but it is not known why. DS noted that officers hope that the timescales for submission of outline business cases for successful bids (originally September 2018) will be amended to reflect the delay, as the original timetable for preparation of an outline business case following the announcement was tight, but with the significant delay to the announcement, this timescale would be incredibly challenging.

4. Garden Town update

a) Spatial Vision

Allies and Morrison are preparing a draft final report – there will be further engagement with Members at the rescheduled Garden Town Member Board workshop on 8 February 2018. The intention is for the draft report to be taken to the 26 February Garden Town Developer Forum, for developer input. It is also intended that the draft report will be taken to a Gilston steering group meeting for community input. Following that, the document will be reviewed by the Quality Review Panel, before going to the Garden Town Member Board for agreement.

Note: subsequently to the meeting, it was apparent that the draft report would not be ready to be made available for developers to see in February, therefore the consultants will give a presentation at the Developer Forum meeting, with the draft report to be circulated after the Forum, once ready.

b) Sustainable Transport Corridor Study

The draft final Sustainable Transport Corridor report is being prepared by Systra. Systra will present and help to run the Garden Town Member Board workshop on 8 February. Systra's report will also be circulated ahead of the 26 February Garden Town Developer Forum, which Systra will present their work to, for input/comments. The work will also be taken to a Gilston Steering Group meeting. The report will then be reviewed by the Quality Review Panel before coming to the Garden Town Member Board for agreement.

It was highlighted that there is concern amongst officers that Systra aren't meeting the work brief and, as such, a letter has been drafted expressing this concern and requesting that the concerns are addressed. EFDC's internal legal team has been consulted and it is intended that the letter will be sent to Systra on 23 January.

c) Quality Review Panel

Frame were appointed last year to establish and manage the Panel. The Chair and members of the panel were selected last week and appointments will be confirmed in the next week or so. As mentioned above, the Spatial Vision and Sustainable Transport Corridor work will be reviewed by the Panel and the Panel will form part of the masterplanning and PPA process. It is anticipated that the Panel induction meeting will take place in mid-February. Frame will present at the 8 February Member workshop.

Cllr Purton highlighted the need for the 8 February workshop presentations to be meaningful.

d) Garden Town Project Director

The Board welcomed Claire, who attended this meeting ahead of her 5th February start date. Claire has a couple of engagements prior to 5 February, including presenting at the LSCC 'Harlow @ 100' event.

5. Update on MoUs

a) Managing the impacts of growth across the West Essex/East Herts HMA on Epping Forest Special Area of Conservation

Conservators of Epping Forest have commissioned survey work to find out where visitors have come from.

Work has commenced to develop the Action Plan – a meeting was held last week. Due to resource constraints, Natural England were unable to attend the meeting.

b) Employment

Officers are in the process of pulling together an MoU on employment for the LPAs to collectively agree the outcomes of the Hardisty-Jones work. The intention is to bring the draft MoU to the next Co-op Member Board meeting for agreement.

Cllr Barker requested that the MoU is circulated to the Board ahead of the meeting.

6. Other cross-border strategic matters:

a) Princess Alexandra Hospital

The strategic outline case was submitted last June – looking for okay to proceed to outline business case with funding to develop that business case. There is considerable delay and confusion around capital funding in the NHS – it was anticipated that there would have been an announcement in the November budget, but there wasn't and there has been no

announcement since. MD was assured recently that information should be forthcoming in the near future.

A steering group has been established for the outline business case, which includes CCGs and patient user groups. Lawson Planning have been appointed to work with the local authorities to look at potential sites for the new hospital.

PAH tendered for consultants to undertake transport assessment work recently and are looking to appoint in the next week and to start progressing work in early February.

PAH are reviewing timescales for identification of preferred site and wider project plan – it was due to be April (previously end of January), but MD advised that that may be pushed back.

b) Highways and transportation

DS provided updated the Board as follows:

- J7a M11 – about to start spring ecology work, followed by utilities work. Main works to commence in summer 2019 and due to be completed in the summer of 2021
- J8 M11 – interim scheme due start in spring 2019 and complete in spring 2020
- J8 M11 – ECC have been looking at options longer term scheme – this has now been taken on by Highways England – so is moving forwards
- Modelling – some more modelling is needed – will need to see outcome of Systra work – still need to do final test of the employment sites and one final test across the Garden Town to come up with some outcomes.
- Also working with Uttlesford and Epping Forest Districts to take forward Local Plans from a transport perspective

JHG advised that HCC is continuing with work on A414, looking at various strategic interventions along the route – the work is on target.

7. Update on Update on Local Plans:

- a) East Herts** – Last examination hearing session is programmed for 30 January, which is a joint hearing session with Welwyn Hatfield. Officers are then seeking for full Council approval to agree main modifications for consultation at an extraordinary meeting on 6 February, with consultation taking place for six weeks through to 29 March. The Inspector's report is expected by end of April.

Cllr Haysey asked whether Members of the Board would be happy to send a joint letter regarding the preferred area of search identified for gravel extraction adjacent to the Gilston

area in the draft HCC Minerals Local Plan – which would mean mineral extraction and build out taking place at the same time in very close proximity. Cllr Haysey explained that this will undermine relationships with the local community who East Herts have been working extensively with – the mineral extraction is something that no one was aware of previously. This site is not identified as a preferred site, but has come up as a fourth option as it would allow the County Council to meet their targets.

GB asked if local planning authorities had been formally consulted – JHG agreed to check and get an answer to the Board tomorrow.

ACTION: JHG to check whether LPAs have been specifically consulted on the HCC Draft Minerals Local Plan.

Cllr Haysey suggested that East Herts could draft letter on behalf of the group and circulate to the other authorities for agreement.

Cllr Philip agreed that this was something to look at seriously.

The Board expressed concerned over lorry movements associated with any such extraction and the implications it would have for the road network, particularly for Harlow.

Cllr Purton agreed Harlow Council could support the objection

ACTION: East Herts to circulate draft letter response to HCC Minerals Plan consultation to the other GT LPAs for joint agreement

- b) **Harlow** - The Local Plan is going to a meeting of the Cabinet on 25 January to seek approval to publish the Plan for Regulation 19 publication. Looking to seek approval to submit the Plan this Spring.
- c) **EFDC** – Full Council agreed to publish the Local Plan Submission Version 2017 for Regulation 19 representations at a meeting on 14 December. The Plan was published on 18 December 2017 for a six week period, closing on 29 January 2018. The Council aims to submit the Plan in mid-March. As Epping Forest District is a predominantly Green Belt authority, officers have been advised that the Local Plan would be prioritised by the Inspectorate.
- d) **Uttlesford** – Working on Regulation 19 version of the Plan and officers are in the process of responding to Regulation 18 comments and deciding how to amend the Regulation 19 Plan appropriately. Regulation 19 publication is anticipated from June to August 2018, with submission of the Plan in the Autumn.
- e) **Brentwood** – no one from Brentwood was at the meeting to provide an update.
- f) **Redbridge** – Nobody was able to attend the meeting from Redbridge to update the Board on the key relevant issues from the Redbridge Local Plan examination, but officers provided a position note ahead of the meeting instead. **ACTION: SP to circulate Redbridge Local.**

g) Colchester – The Planning Inspectorate has appointed a Planning Inspector - Mr Roger Clews, to conduct the examination of Section One - the North Essex Authorities' Joint Strategic Plan. The hearing sessions are due to run from 16th to 25th January 2018. Section Two of the Colchester Local Plan will be examined separately at a later date.

h) Broxbourne – no one present

8. Position statement on list of complex/contentious issues to be resolved (see note)

Item moved to Garden Town meeting, following directly on from this Co-op meeting.

9. A.O.B.

It was noted that the December Garden Town Member Board workshop had been rescheduled to 8 February – the purpose of the workshop is for Members to input into the Spatial Vision and Sustainable Transport Corridor Study work.

Cllr Purton advised the Board that the LSCC 'Harlow @ 100' event is taking place at 13.00 on Wednesday 31 January at Harlow Playhouse. The event will include speakers from the business community and local authorities. Cllr Purton encouraged Members of the Board to attend.

10. Date of next meetings

- a) 19 February 2018, 6.30pm - Harlow Council Chamber (*subsequently cancelled*)
- b) 26 March 2018, 6.30pm - Harlow Council Chamber (*subsequently cancelled*)