



Hertfordshire County Council
County Hall CH316
Hertford SG13 8DQ

31 October 2014

Business Rates
Department for Communities and Local Government
2nd Floor, Fry Building
2 Marsham Street
London SW1P 4DF

Dear Sir,

APPLICATION TO FORM BUSINESS RATES POOL

Please accept this letter as our formal proposal to form a Business Rates Pool in Hertfordshire with the following members:

Hertfordshire County Council
Broxbourne Borough Council
North Herts District Council
Stevenage Borough Council
Three Rivers District Council
Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council

The S151 officers and lead members of each authority have approved the principles of acting as a Pool, and the attached Memorandum of Understanding has been agreed.

The key objectives in setting up a Pooling arrangement are to build capacity to invest in local developments that promote economic growth, supplementing LEP activity; and to develop collaborative working across administrative boundaries, supporting the planning of economic growth across the geographic area. Pool members represent key centres of economic activity in the county, where opportunities for growth are clearly identified.


There are already a significant number of joint projects in these areas which are in delivery or being planned, including:

- Broxbourne/County Council – joint acquisition of land to deliver an extension of the commercial development alongside the A10.
- North Herts/ County Council – rationalisation and redevelopment of public sector estate in the district's town centres
- Stevenage/County Council - public sector quarter project bringing major renewal in the public sector estate
- Three Rivers / County Council - Improving the transport links across South West Herts which will have benefits for development and commuting in the district
- Welwyn Hatfield / County Council/LEP – regeneration in Hatfield town centre

The additional funding delivered from the pool will support these projects.

In accordance with DCLG process, this proposal is subject to the details contained in the draft Local Government Finance Report, and any conditions added or amended by the Department.

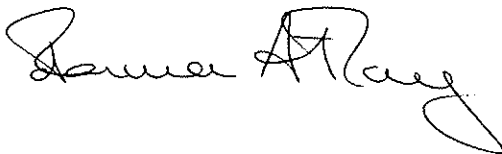
Yours faithfully,



Claire Cook
Assistant Director- Finance,
Hertfordshire County Council



Sandra Beck
Group Manager, Corporate Services,
Broxbourne Borough Council



Norma Atlay
Strategic Director Finance, Policy & Governance
North Herts District Council



Clare Fletcher
Assistant Director Finance,
Stevenage Borough Council



Joanne Wagstaffe
Director of Finance
Three Rivers District Council



Pam Kettle
Director (Finance and Operations)
Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council