

**COUNCIL
21 NOVEMBER 2019**

PART 1 – PUBLIC DOCUMENT

ITEM 6A

**TITLE OF REPORT: ITEM REFERRED FROM CABINET: 31 OCTOBER 2019 –
HERTFORDSHIRE GROWTH BOARD**

Extract from the draft Minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 31 October 2019

The Executive Member for Planning and Transport presented the report entitled Strategic Planning Matters together with the following appendices:

- Appendix A – Letter from NHDC to Local Plan Inspector;
- Appendix B – Consultation response to Hertfordshire Local Industrial Strategy;
- Appendix C – Consultation response to HCC Draft Developer Contributions Guide;
- Appendix D – Hertfordshire Growth Board MoU.

The Executive Members for Planning and Transport drew attention to the following:

- A Local Plan Project Board meeting would take place on 15 November 2019;
- A report regarding Community Infrastructure Levy and Section 106 would be presented to the Cabinet meeting due to be held on 17 December 2019;
- In respect of the declared Climate Emergency:
 - Improved design of housing would be considered in the Design SPD;
 - All Planning reports would contain an environmental impact assessment;
- The consultation regarding London Luton Airport had commenced.

The Service Director – Regulatory advised Members of the issues relating to Central Bedfordshire's Local Plan.

The Leader of the Council drew attention to the Hertfordshire Growth Board Memorandum of Understanding and explained that this was needed to enable all Hertfordshire Councils to speak as a whole.

The following Member asked questions and took part in the debate:

- Councillor Ian Albert.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the report entitled Strategic Planning Matters be noted;
- (2) That the submissions in Appendices A, B and C be noted and endorsed;

- (3) That the use of Conservation Area Character Statements for Charlton, Gosmore, Great Offley, Preston and St Ippolyts as listed in Paragraph 8.4.3 of the report as material considerations in decision making for planning applications and in the preparation of Neighbourhood Plans be endorsed.

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL: That Cabinet supports the proposed Memorandum of Understanding relating to the Hertfordshire Growth Board, attached as Appendix D, and recommends to Council the signing of the agreement.

For clarity and to aid discussions at Council we have only produced an extract from the original report that relates to this decision

EXTRACT FROM THE STRATEGIC PLANNING MATTERS REPORT TO CABINET ON 31 OCTOBER 2019 WHICH REFERS TO THIS RECOMMENDATION:

- 8.7.10 *In previous Strategic Planning Reports reference has been made to the formation and development of the Hertfordshire Growth Board and the work that it has been undertaking in looking at the future development and infrastructure needs of the County with a focus on the period after the current round of Local Plans. Much of that work has focussed on the development of a place narrative for Hertfordshire and the range of issues which Hertfordshire wishes to raise with Central Government as the basis for a Hertfordshire Growth deal.*
- 8.7.11 *In early conversations with Government officials it has become clear that, as a grouping of Local Authorities and the Local Enterprise Partnership, there needs to be some form of more formal working arrangement documented to demonstrate our commitment to work together in formulating and delivering a growth deal for Hertfordshire. It is proposed that the working arrangements are encapsulated in a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that all of the Councils and the LEP sign up to.*
- 8.7.12 *The draft MOU was most recently discussed and agreed as a working draft at the Growth Board on the 15th October for each Authority to consider and hopefully sign up to. The draft MOU is attached as Appendix D to this report. The key points in the MOU are that:*
- *The 12 partners agree to work together in pursuing a growth deal for Hertfordshire;*
 - *The MOU does not alter any Local Authority's power or responsibility;*
 - *Decisions of the Growth Board are reached by consensus;*
 - *Any partner can decide that they wish to leave the partnership.*
- 8.7.13 *In essence the MOU sets out in one document how the Growth Board arrangements have been working over the recent year in order that this can be demonstrated to outside bodies and Central Government.*

Link to Full Cabinet Report and Appendices:

<http://srvmodgov01.north-herts.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=133&MId=2303&Ver=4>