

**Draft Note - Co-operation for Sustainable Development Member Board
31 July 2017**

Attendance

Organisation	Councillors	Officers
East Herts DC		Claire Sime, Kevin Steptoe
Epping Forest DC	Cllr John Philip, Cllr Nigel Bedford, Cllr Chris Whitbread	Alison Blom-Cooper, David Coleman, Emily Taylor
Essex CC	Cllr Lesley Wagland	David Sprunt, Rich Cooke
Harlow DC	Cllr Danny Purton	Graeme Bloomer, Paul MacBride
Herts CC	Cllr Derrick Ashley	Jan Hayes-Griffin, Roger Flowerday
Uttlesford DC	Cllr Howard Rolfe	Richard Fox
Broxbourne	Cllr Paul Seeby	Douglas Cooper
Arup		Paul Jarvis
Greater London Authority		Jorn Peters

1. Apologies

Cllr Linda Haysey (East Herts)
Liz Watts (East Herts)
Derek Macnab (EFDC)
Glen Chipp (EFDC)
Cllr Barker (Uttlesford)

2. Draft notes of meeting of 26 June 2017 – including review of action points

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed.

3. Harlow and Gilston Garden Town Update

The report taken to the Cooperation for Sustainable Development Member Board on 26 June 2017 on project planning, management and delivery support had been updated to take account of member comments at the last meeting and was now being brought to the meeting for approval and implementation.

It was agreed:

- (a) To establish a sub group of the Coop Board to consider matters specifically associated with the Harlow and Gilston Garden Town – to be known as the Garden Town Member Board. This would consist of members from East Herts, Harlow, EFDC, Essex County Council, Herts County Council and Uttlesford (Uttlesford to attend in an observation non-voting capacity).
- (b) The Garden Town Member Board would meet monthly with the Coop Board meetings taking place bi-monthly. On months with the main Coop Board, the Garden Town meeting would take place for the first hour immediately prior to the main Board meetings. The Garden Town Member Board will be responsible for ensuring cooperation between the Districts and Counties on the growth of Harlow and Gilston Garden Town.
- (c) The Board would have decision making powers over the Garden Town project allowing them to provide strategic project direction, guided by the Garden Town Officer Steering Group and Project Team
- (d) A Garden Town Officer Steering Group is established to provide Officer direction for the Harlow and Gilston Garden Town Member Board. This would include Senior Officer representatives from each of the three Districts and two Counties (with Uttlesford to have a watching brief) as well as a representative from the Garden Town Project Team. The Steering Group would have responsibility in cooperation with the Project Team for guiding the objectives and vision for the Garden Town, prepare, agree and coordinate the Garden

Town work programme, review the outcomes of the workstreams and manage and review engagement with developers and communities.

- (e) The Garden Town Project Team would be responsible for setting, managing and delivering the workstreams to facilitate the development of Harlow and Gilston Garden Town. This team is currently led by Paul Jarvis (Arup)
- (f) The EFDC Local Plan Developer Forum should be extended to all sites within the Garden Town and be known as the Garden Town Developer Forum. Hertfordshire County Council should be included as an invitee to these meetings.

The sustainable transport corridor brief has been agreed and is now out to tender. Closing date is 16 August 2017, shortlisting to be agreed on 23 August with interview date set for 6 September 2017.

Officers have interviewed and made an offer for the Garden Town support officer role to start on the 21 August. Cllr Purton inquired as to scope of the role. This was as set out in the job description agreed with the three authorities but is essentially around co-ordination, preparation of MoUs and to support the work for the Garden Town at a senior level.

4. Capacity of waste water infrastructure

Following the GT steering group meeting Harlow had sent out email to EA inquiring as to what has been implemented since the 2009 Rye Meads Study. Harlow was hoping to get a reply this week and would follow up with a further meeting with key stakeholders to discuss matters.

PJ advised that a full water cycle study would take about 18 months so the aim is to focus down as much as possible as to what is required. Cllr Purton inquired as to the scope of commitments and what our approach is. This is to be determined when we understand the requirements.

5. Update on London Plan (Note that this item was taken first)

Jorn Peters attended to present an update on the London Plan (see attached presentation). The GLA are keen to engage with authorities/group of authorities in the South East. The GLA are currently finalising drafting of the London Plan, reflecting the evidence and comments that have been received. Once plan is agreed by the Mayor then the formal Consultation is scheduled for November 2017 with an EiP Autumn 2018 and adoption one year later.

There are significant growth challenges in London to address housing need with a SHLAA and SHMA currently being produced. 66,000 units per year is the indicative figure for housing provision at the moment. Mayoral team has asked the GLA to look at supply figures for inner and outer London, looking at more supply from outside London as a possibility to fill housing need. The indicative gap is in the region of 10,000 per year. In terms of migration, there are significant links between London and south east with commuting - 800,000 people every day commute from this area. The GLA want to work together with South East authorities as to how growth can be accommodated in the wider south east. London has a formal housing market area but based on the context there are wider linkages to take on board and the suggestion is to see if proposed infrastructure improvements can be linked to future growth.

Cllr Ashley asked about development in the Green Belt within the boundaries of the GLA as this will be hard to deliver otherwise. Jorn Peters advised that the GLA was working hard to deliver growth in London. However the green belt position is set and development in the Green Belt development is not considered as an option to pursue. Partners for growth is an alternative before looking at developing in the Green Belt.

Cllr John Philip pointed out that it is hard to deliver houses in Epping Forest DC as to meet the housing need it is necessary to build on Green Belt and so the Council won't be doing it for London given mayoral position on the Green Belt and cannot see infrastructure benefit for the district.

Cllr Lesley Wagland made the suggestion that the Mayor's position is unmovable and not in line with duty to cooperate, especially in relation to Green Belt as London is not looking within its own boundaries. Problem with London is that the amount of social housing is reducing and foreign investors are buying up property to store capital, unsustainable commuting patterns should not be supported. Clear demonstrable evidence is needed to show London is trying to meet its need within its borders and is looking at it in a way that is collaboratively.

Cllr Purton stated that Harlow has aimed to develop as a sustainable town and want to retain employment in the area but not supply housing for commuting.

6. Memoranda of Understanding

OAHN

East Herts has commissioned an update on the SHMA on behalf of the SHMA group for the purposes of their forthcoming examination. It will be necessary to look at whether there are any implications for the agreed memorandum of understanding. The OAHN has gone up to 51,700 for the SHMA (currently at 51,100 in the agreed MoU so not a significant increase across the HMA). East Herts have received further questions on the updated SHMA work from the inspector. **Action: agenda item for next officer group meeting to discuss whether an update to the MoU is required.**

Epping Forest SAC

Work is underway to send transport data to Natural England to undertake work around what is required in terms of air quality and the forest. Committed in MoU to develop an action plan, there are two aspects: transport impact and also recreational impact so further evidence is needed to support this. Conservators are suggesting to understand recreational use further survey work is needed. A quote for this work had been obtained and officers are meeting to progress on 8 August. The aim is to extend the MoU to the relevant London Boroughs as growth planned will also impact on the forest. Broxbourne have indicated they would like to be part of the MoU so discussions are ongoing. NE have made clear that action plan is needed before Examination. In context of East Herts this needs to progress.

Employment MoU

Meeting last week considered the emerging findings and a draft report is expected shortly. Officers are meeting on 23 August to discuss and review findings. Cllr Purton asked whether there was any indication of where the growth should go. DC advised that this was not yet known as the consultants were still quantifying results. There will be a further meeting set up between the relevant authorities to discuss potential options when it gets to this stage.

7. Proposed recovery facility at 2 Ratty's Lane, Hoddesdon

Douglas Cooper from Broxbourne explained that there was currently an application for an energy recovery facility. Broxbourne have objected on the grounds that the scale of development will have serious visual implications. Objections also received from Lee Valley Regional Park Authority and EFDC. Broxbourne are also requesting given the history of site and the strategic significance that the application should be referred to the planning inspectorate for determination. HCC have declined the request. Broxbourne will be writing a letter to the inspectorate and would like to understand the perspective from the members of the Board.

Cllr John Philip advised that EFDC were comfortable with the approach by Broxbourne and are supportive of the application being called in. EFDC would be writing to this effect.

KS stated that East Herts has not raised an objection.

Cllr Danny Purton stated that no objection has been raised by Harlow.

8. Any other cross-boundary/strategic matters

Princess Alexandra Hospital (PAH)

A transport brief has been prepared and in the hands of Essex CC. Transport implications of hospital to potential sites to North and East of Harlow to be considered. DS advised that this was being considered to get a feel for what it would look like to feed into decisions around sites.

Herts CC have been approached by the hospital to have a meeting, refused meeting on own as only right that representatives from the whole group meet with them. Officer level meeting suggested and Cllr Philip asked that EFDC should be involved given PAH relocation status in the Local Plan.

GTAA

Still waiting for GTAA report from ORS – view taken by most authorities within Essex was that individual authorities report and overarching report was the best way to proceed. Essex CC has sent a letter stating that transit need not being currently addressed. ORS have suggested this should be dealt with separately as there is not sufficient data given the change in definition. Essex CC are concerned that this will be raised at examination but ORS have pointed out that the approach was accepted at the recent Maldon examination and Inspectors report. EFDC will be writing on this matter as urgently need local authority break down. Uttlesford's view is to issue the report now as the information on need is urgent.

Highways and Transportation

Update on Junction 7a – not been called in so good news. Will move the project forward. M11 Junction 8 still under discussions with Highways England in relation to funding. Looking for final submission in October time. In parallel bidding for other funding also. Testing options for junction 8 which will support the bid.

Cllr Rolfe asked about the interim solution for Junction 8? DS advised that there were improvements up to just under £10 million identified with half of the funding approved. Improvements to Junction 9 would also need to be considered.

9. AOB

Items for September meetings:

- community led housing fund presentation for all members of the Coop Board
- Update on spatial vision and design charter for the Garden Town Member Board

10. Dates of next meetings:

*18 September 2017 – Garden Town Member Board 18.30-19.30
Coop Board meeting 19.30
EFDC Offices*

*16 October 2017 - Garden Town Member Board
Harlow Civic Offices*

*13 November 2017 - Garden Town Member Board 18.30-19.30
Coop Board meeting 19.30
Harlow Civic Offices*

*11 December 2017 - Garden Town Member Board
Harlow Civic Offices*