

**Draft Note - Co-operation for Sustainable Development Member Board
Thursday 23 January 2017**

Attendance

| Organisation | Councillors | Officers |
|---------------------|---|--|
| ATLAS | | James Farrar, Dinah Roake |
| East Herts DC | Cllr Linda Haysey (Chair), Cllr Bob Brunton | Liz Watts, Kevin Steptoe, Claire Sime |
| Epping Forest DC | Cllr Chris Whitbread, Cllr John Philip, Cllr Richard Bassett | Derek Macnab, Alison Blom-Cooper, David Coleman, Sarah King |
| Essex CC | | David Sprunt, Rich Cooke |
| Harlow DC | Cllr Jon Clempner | Paul MacBride |
| Herts CC | Cllr Derrick Ashley | Jan Hayes-Griffin, Roger Flowerday |
| LB Redbridge | Cllr Helen Coombe | |
| Uttlesford DC | Cllr Susan Barker | Gordon Glenday |

1. Apologies

- Broxbourne BC – Cllr Paul Seeby, Douglas Cooper, Martin Paine
- East Herts DC – Cllr Gary Jones
- Epping Forest DC – Glen Chipp
- Essex CC – Cllr Mick Page, Cllr John Spence, Sean Perry
- Harlow DC - Cllr Danny Purton, Graeme Bloomer
- Highways England – Nigel Allsopp
- Natural England – Sarah Fraser

2. Draft notes of meeting of 19 December – including review of action points

The draft notes were agreed subject to the following minor changes being made -

- Item 6 - amend the last sentence of paragraph 1 to, 'A decision was expected in January 2017'
- Item 7 - amend the last sentence of para. 1 to 'The HCA is currently reviewing its future enabling offer, taking into account available resources.'

Actions from previous meeting -

- *Epping Forest DC/East Herts DC officers to draft letter to Gavin Barwell MP introducing the Co-op. Board* – not yet done. It was agreed that the Board would await publication of the Housing White Paper, and then respond if appropriate to do so
- *All relevant authorities to take the relevant MoUs through their governance processes for signing* – in progress, Sarah King is chasing those who have not yet sent signatures
- *Graeme Bloomer (Harlow DC) to draft a discussion paper on distribution of affordable housing* – done, this paper is on the agenda this evening
- *David Sprunt (ECC) to circulate M11 J7A 'Preferred Route Status' report* – done. David Sprunt noted that an announcement had been made that M11 J7A will receive funding (see <http://www.theplanner.co.uk/news/%C2%A312-billion-roads-funding-allocated>). The definite amount has not yet been announced by the Department for Transport
- *James Farrar (ATLAS) to prepare a scoping paper on governance etc., for Harlow & Gilston Garden Town with officers* - done, this paper is on the agenda this evening. It was noted that CLG announced a £0.5m award for Harlow & Gilston Garden Town in January 2017
- *Various actions re: PAH relocation feasibility* – PAH has now supplied some data on existing trips to and from current site, to feed into transport modelling. Officers have not yet seen PAH's brief for the Strategic Outline Case (SOC) for the relocation of the hospital [Note – since this meeting, the brief for the SOC has been sent, and circulated to HMA officers]

3. Update on current/recent consultations and Local Plan progress

a. East Herts DC

There were ~2,470 overall respondents to the regulation 19 publication Plan, who made a total of ~3,780 comments, of which ~1,830 were from Stop Harlow North, regarding the Gilston

area. These are now all in the online system, and analysis will be presented to the Executive Panel on 9 March 2017. East Herts DC intend to submit the Plan to PINS on 31 March 2017.

b. Epping Forest DC

There were ~3,300 responses to the regulation 18 Draft Local Plan. Roughly 50% came in online, with most of the rest being received by email, and relatively few in hard copy. Coding of these responses is underway, preliminary analysis will be reported to Cabinet in March 2017. Dates for regulation 19 publication are not yet known as the timetable is being assessed.

c. Harlow DC

Harlow DC officers are working on resolving outstanding issues with transport infrastructure and Thames Water etc. A Full Council debate is planned for the end of February 2017 on outstanding issues, particularly on the sites to the south and west of Harlow in Epping Forest District. Essex CC officers are working with Harlow DC on the particular transport issues. Harlow DC plans to publish a regulation 19 Plan in summer 2017, with submission later in 2017.

d. Uttlesford DC

Uttlesford DC has chosen to 'pause' the Local Plan timetable while considering evidence, particularly on housing numbers and new settlement options, and has taken advice from PINS/CLG. It was noted that PINS/CLG felt that notes of the Member Board may be more helpful if organised by theme, e.g. discussions on affordable housing etc. Cllr Barker noted the clear message from PINS/CLG that the 2014-based projections should be the starting point, and that there should be more explanation on apportionment of HMA OAHN. Uttlesford DC is likely to publish its regulation 19 Plan towards end of 2017, and submit in March/April 2018.

4. Distribution of affordable housing (paper from Harlow DC)

- Harlow DC's paper was circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr Haysey thanked officers for producing this
- Officers will be arranging a meeting with CLG arrangements regarding affordable housing, to take this forward

5. 'Harlow & Gilston Garden Town (H&GGT)' (scoping paper from ATLAS)

- James Farrar (ATLAS) introduced the scoping paper which builds on the H&GGT bid, and on feedback from each of the Councils involved
- ATLAS recommended recruiting a Project Director asap, and using the officer workshop which ATLAS will facilitate (booked for 8 February) to think about a potential joint delivery team
- Initial priorities for H&GGT were flagged in the scoping paper, and the need for a realistic, staged approach to priorities in this financial year was stressed. Work on the sustainable transport corridors and the potential for PAH relocation, are already underway. Other priorities include delivery before 2020, and longer term thinking on future spatial vision
- Cllr Linda Haysey highlighted the need for community engagement for H&GGT. East Herts DC have already planned an early meeting with the local community, also including Places for People and the Neighbourhood Planning team, to discuss the Gilston area
- Epping Forest DC has contacted SELEP to engage them regarding the proposed green corridors, as recommended by the Co-op. Officer Group. Herts LEP is already aware
- Cllr John Philip stressed the importance of recruiting a Project Director swiftly, to maintain momentum and to help sort through the priorities for H&GGT
- All agreed that **Epping Forest DC should start recruitment process for Project Director**
- It was noted that the award from CLG would not cover every workstream, and that the budget in the original bid would need careful consideration. David Sprunt noted that PAH had offered to contribute to the costs for the work on PAH relocation, but they, and Essex CC, would not be able to fund all of the work, so the H&GGT budget would need to contribute

6. Verbal update on Princess Alexandra Hospital (PAH) relocation feasibility work

- David Sprunt explained that officers met with PAH last week to talk about data they hold on transport movements. This, and information on future aspirations for a campus-style site, will be worked into the model
- Essex CC is **working on a brief to be finished by the end of this week**. Essex CC has some funding to help pay for this but not enough, contributions from PAH and the H&GGT

budget will be needed as this is relatively expensive, but essential, transport modelling work. It could help with decisions on sites as it may indicate the merits of one site over the others, and the results will impact all three Council's Local Plans, and the PAH relocation business case

- The HMA authorities had not yet received a copy of the brief for the Strategic Outline Case (SOC) for the relocation of the hospital. It is due to be discussed at the Partnership Board meeting in January [*Note – since this meeting, the SOC brief has been sent, and circulated*]. The authorities also had not yet seen the Price Waterhouse Coopers PAH report. It was agreed that **Epping Forest DC would draft a letter from the Co-op. Member Board to PAH requesting copies of these documents**, cc'ing the Health Minister, local MPs etc.
- Harlow DC officers noted the importance of considering the wider functions of PAH, e.g. employment provision, relationship to other businesses, and social care. They queried whether the LEPs might contribute to the study costs, given the economic and employment factors, e.g. Public Health England relocating to Harlow

7. Verbal update on Memoranda of Understanding

- Alison Blom-Cooper explained that an officer workshop was planned for 10 February to discuss HMA employment distribution, and to scope out the need for a fourth MoU, on this topic.
- Sarah King noted that most of the relevant authorities had sent their electronic signatures to sign the 'Impacts on Epping Forest SAC' and 'Highways & Transportation Infrastructure' MoUs, but that some were yet to do so. **All remaining signatories to please secure agreement for signing asap, and forward electronic signatures to Sarah King.** Swift signing is essential, especially given East Herts DC's intent to submit by 31 March 2017.

8. Any other cross-boundary/strategic matters

- Herts CC officers are commissioning technical work relating to a possible Harlow northern bypass, and intended to take a paper to their Members after May 2017. They are also considering how this would link in with the rest of the A414, and they are considering a possible bypass for Hertford as well
- Uttlesford DC has now received a planning application for a new arrivals terminal at Stansted Airport. A further application, to increase passenger numbers from 35 million per annum to 43 million per annum, is also expected this year
- Essex CC has been awarded some funding for the interim scheme for M11 J8 from SELEP, and is waiting for a decision from a Highways England (HE) scheme, which could add up to £5m. This, plus other funding already secured, should be enough to take forward the interim scheme for J8. Essex CC is also working on the model to test strategic future intervention options for J8, and will meet with HE and Stansted Airport soon on how to take this forward
- Cllr Linda Haysey referred to the 'Wider South East Member Briefing Note' which was prepared for the meeting with Gavin Barwell MP on 19 January 2017, which had been circulated. She explained that the meeting had been positive, and that **the notes would be shared asap**. The GLA representative from the Mayor's office (Jules Pipe) was very effective in supporting the London-bordering local authorities present, and pushing for London to engage in a meaningful cross-border relationship with these authorities. Mr. Pipe is keen to receive any information on why any extant planning permissions aren't being implemented. **All attendees to please send any data/insight on this to Cllr Haysey**
- Cllr Susan Barker noted the extreme difference in dwelling prices in the HMA, having spoken with a constituent who had moved to take advantage of the difference in prices and availability between Takely and Ware. This further highlights the pressure for housing in some places

9. A.O.B.

- It was noted that Sarah King would be leaving Epping Forest DC. All attendees thanked her for her efforts for the Board.

10. Dates of next meetings (confirmed):

- Monday 27 February 2017 - (6:30pm Harlow DC)
- Monday 20 March 2017 - (6:30pm Harlow DC)