

Co-operation for Sustainable Development Officer Group Meeting

Thursday 25 February 2021

09:00-11:00 – Zoom

Attendance

Alison Blom-Cooper (ABC)	Epping Forest District Council
Rhian Morgan (RM)	Epping Forest District Council
Lydia Grainger (LG)	Epping Forest District Council
John Houston (JH)	Epping Forest District Council
Claire Sime (CS)	East Herts District Council
Paul MacBride (PM)	Harlow District Council
David Burrows (DB)	Innovation Core
David Sprunt (DS)	Essex County Council
Rich Cooke (RC)	Essex County Council
Alex Ross (AR)	LB Waltham Forest
Claire Stuckey (CSt)	Chelmsford City Council
Stephen Miles (SM)	Uttlesford District Council
Tim Solomon (TS)	LB Harringey
Camille Rantz McDonald (CRM)	Broxbourne District Council

Meeting Notes

		Actions
1.0	Apologies	
	Jill Warren – Havering Jeremy Dagley – Conservators	
2.0	Draft Notes of previous meeting 11 November 2020 – including review of action points	
	CS to send through track changes for typos.	
3.0	Update on Local Plan examinations	
	<u>Harlow District Council</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">PM advised that the Local Plan was adopted in December 2020 and the challenge period has now expired with nothing	

untoward. Currently finalising printed versions of the plan and policies map.

- Now concentrating on other elements including the key supporting documents such as the affordable housing SPD which goes to Cabinet this evening for approval for consultation – if approved, the consultation will likely be delayed in order to place after the elections.
- Other SPDs Harlow are working on include a local update of the Harlow Design Guide and the Area Action Plan which was paused due to a number of contingencies such as Covid

Uttlesford District Council

- SM advised that Uttlesford are currently in the middle of a consultation on the Local Plan following the withdrawal of the previous Plan in April 2020.
- The consultation is running over 6 months (rather than 6 weeks) with 9 different themes being presented over that period (4 weeks each/with overlapping).
- Each theme is introduced via public discussion from an independent community stakeholder forum – asking for the public’s views on themes, rather than a document. The aim is to be more accessible to people not normally involved in the planning system.
- The consultation closes 21st April 2021.
- Uttlesford are currently out to ‘call for sites’ – also closing 21st April 2021
- Looking forward, a broad timetable for the Local Plan is:
 - Preferred options/Reg 18 style plan – Early 2022
 - Reg 19 Submission plan – Early 2023
 - Submission to Secretary of State – Summer 2023
 - Adoption – Summer 2024
- ABC asked re: Uttlesford’s housing numbers and SM advised that the standard methodology for housing numbers gives just under 700, however the uncapped calculation is just over 800 which will be considered. Had the changes in the consultation been taken forward by government Uttlesford would have had a 1,200 figure.

East Herts District Council

- CS advised that a East Herts are currently looking at how to proceed. A ‘call for sites’ is likely to take place this year but no timeline for this – will first need to start discussing duty to cooperate and housing type matters across the wider SHMA area. Also in discussions with colleagues across Hertfordshire in the context of the growth board.
- East Herts DC are continuing with SPDs – Sustainability SPD will be adopted next week, will start looking at an SPD for vehicle parking at new development – hoping for a draft by the summer, will also start looking over a couple of site specific SPDs in the next few weeks.

	<p><u>Chelmsford City Council</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSt advised that, since adopting last year, they have been focusing on masterplan work. A number of masterplans are being evolved for strategic sites including the Garden Community in north east Chelmsford, and a couple of masterplans have now been formally adopted. • Recently adopted 2 SPDs including Making Places which is a planning obligations design guidance. A solar farm development SPD will go to Committee next week – if approved, looking to consult after the elections. And further on this year, Chelmsford’s public realm SPD will be updated. • Waiting on the White Paper before embarking on a review of the Local Plan. <p><u>Broxbourne District Council</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CRM advised that Broxbourne’s Local Plan was adopted in June 2020 and they are currently updating their public realm SPD • Also working on 2 DPDs currently – one for a new secondary school with a sustainability appraisal, and another one for the Waltham Cross Area Action Plan. • Recently gone out to consultation on Goffs Oak Village Improvement Plan. <p><u>LB Waltham Forest</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AR advised that two documents went out to consultation during the run up to Christmas – a Reg 19 on LP1 (strategic policies) and a Reg 18 on the site allocations. • Pushing ahead towards the 2023 deadline but aiming to have a Local Plan examination during this year – pending PINS backlog. <p><u>LB Haringey</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TS advised that Haringey have just finished consultation on issues and options first phase – currently processing feedback from this and looking to proceed with consultation on a draft Reg 18 end of 2021/start of 2022. • Also working on an SPD for Highgate School. <p><u>Epping Forest District Council</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ABC advised that EFDC are still working towards MMs consultation – still agreeing MMs with the Inspector so unlikely to go out to consultation before the election. • Sustainability Guidance will go to Cabinet on 11 March for adoption – this is not an SPD but will be a material planning consideration and has had 6 weeks consultation so will effectively have the same weight as an SPD. • The Green Infrastructure Strategy was due to go to the 11 March Cabinet but will now go through the Select Committee route first, before going to Cabinet in April for adoption. 	
4.0	Update on Air Pollution Mitigation Strategy for EFSAC	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ABC advised that the EFDC interim Air Pollution Mitigation Strategy has now been adopted and as part of it, a stakeholder working group is suggested for monitoring the measures included the strategy. • The strategy looks at whether or not a Clean Air Zone will need to be brought forward in 2025 – the current evidence suggests it is likely, however there will be a number of other measures implemented in the meantime, so will need to be reviewed. ABC suggests a sub-group of the co-op officers to look at this – group to include Essex CC, Highways England, Natural England and Conservators, as well as authorities effected by the impact of growth going through the forest (Enfield, Waltham Forest, etc.). 	
5.0	Update on SAMMS for EFSAC	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ABC advised that there is a SAMMS strategy for EFSAC in place – which was adopted by EFDC’s Cabinet in 2018, and there is now a sub-group looking at governance arrangements for spending the money on the SAMMS projects. • The sub-group includes those authorities that are within the 6.2km ZOI for the forest and Natural England have agreed to take the lead. One meeting has already taken place, with a further meeting scheduled for 5 March. • Regular finance meetings will also take place to look at the development coming forward and how the costs can be apportioned between the authority areas. 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ABC added that, in relation to EFDC’s GI Strategy, Natural England have asked that site specific projects are brought closer to the forest for the developments in the south of the district (as well as making provision for SANG on larger sites). This includes Roding Valley playing fields and the Woodland Trust site at Theydon Bois (both in public ownership). 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ABC noted it is possible that the ZOI will change following a further Visitor Survey, due to Covid causing people from much further away to use the forest so important for the group to be aware of the above information. 	
6.0	Other cross-boundary/strategic matters	
	<p>Princess Alexandra Hospital</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - LG advised that Harlow DC, EFDC and Essex CC have agreed the interim Planning Position Statement that’s required by the hospital to support their outline business case. - Timescale – they will need to prepare and submit an outline business case to the treasury by October 2021, followed by the full business case which is required by June 2022 – to support the full business case they will require full planning permission to go to the treasure to secure funding. - The interim position statement was required sooner to assist in negotiations with the landowner to secure the land required for the hospital are currently ongoing. Part of the land required is around the Pincey Brook – which is part of the Lee Valley tribute trees to the east of the catchment 	

	<p>(covering East Herts, Uttlesford and Epping Forest district in Harlow) and therefore cannot be developed on. EFDC Chief Executive has prepared a letter of support to the hospital to assist in unlocking the land deal currently in place.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consultations have commenced – two online events in February were well attended by members of the public. - Regular meetings are taking place in relation to Champions roundabout which is to the east of Harlow and junction 7A - DS added that the planning permission for the underpass at Champions roundabout came through yesterday; although they are now looking to build a very minor change to the roundabout. - LG advised that Jacobs have been commissioned to undertake a piece of work looking at revisions to the M11 junctions to provide additional capacity for the hospital. This work is due to take place – trying to get the design consent aligned with when the work will take place. - Anticipate an application will be reading in September – either a full application or hybrid comprising of a full detailed application for the hospital and possibly an outline for the other uses such as clinical adjacencies (mental health wards, staff accommodation, etc.) <p>East of Harlow</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - LG advised that Miller Homes have now pulled out so the agent for the landowners are going out to exercise to see if they can find a new site promoter. - EFDC and Harlow DC are starting to get speculative pre-application enquiries for small parcels of land in and around the East of Harlow site – both Councils will be meeting to discuss a strategy around this. <p>Hatfield Forest SSSI</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No update <p>Highways and Transportation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DS advised that M11 junction 8 has now gone out to tender – looking at completion by the end of 2022/early 2023 - Junction 7A is proceeding at a pace – a lot of work carried out on Gilden Way and now moving onto the link road. Contractors programme indicates completion by Spring 2022, Essex CC programme indicates September 2022 (allowing for bad weather etc.) - North to Centre STC looking to have designs finalised soon – completion is due March 2025 as part of the HIG. - All other STCs are currently being designed currently – hoping to have full preferred routes and designs ready for discussion with developers by the end of the next financial year. - Also looking at the access from River Way to Cambridge Road as part of the Enterprise Zone because it is now included within the HIG submission – looking at delivery by March 2023. 	
7.0	Items for Cooperation for Sustainable Development Member Board on 4 March 2021	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Update on Local Plans and Examinations ➤ Update on Air Pollution Mitigation Strategy for EFSAC ➤ Update on Strategic Access Management and Monitoring Strategy (SAMMS) for Epping Forest SAC ➤ Update of Princess Alexandra Hospital 	
8.0	A.O.B.	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ABC asked whether any other authorities applied for the pilot Design Code • SM advised Uttlesford have – for one site in Thaxted • CS advised that East Herts looked at it for Gilston but the timeline was not suitable • CSt also advised that Chelmsford couldn't make the timeline 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CS asked whether any other authorities are doing a response to the NPPF and National Model Design Code • ABC advised that EFDC are looking at it but undecided whether a formal response will be done • CS advised East Herts are likely to focus on the design code • CSt advised that Chelmsford are doing comments for both – scheduled to get them approved by Committee on 15 March 	CS and St to share their responses
8.0	Future Co-op Officer meeting dates	
	13 th May 2020 @ 09:00-11:00	