

Co-operation for Sustainable Development Group - Terms of Reference

Objective:

To achieve effective co-operation between Councils to support Local Plan making and delivery for sustainable communities across geographical and administrative boundaries in West Essex, East Hertfordshire and the adjoining London boroughs..

How will this be achieved?:

This objective will be achieved by providing a forum across the county boundaries of Essex and Hertfordshire and Greater London for officers of participant councils to develop a shared understanding of community issues, to jointly review the options to achieve the needs of those communities, including growth, and to identify how they should co-operate to enable those needs to be met.

Notes

This group does not have any decision making powers, and is an informal group that will make recommendations to the constituent Councils when appropriate, and to any cross boundary grouping of elected members which has similar purposes. The group commits to working together to achieve sustainable development in the recognition that agreement between all relevant parties will not always be possible.

This group should not be construed as the only forum in which such cross-boundary discussions will take place where more than two District Council areas are affected. It is expected that participants will continue to hold separate or detailed discussions on cross boundary issues which affect only two, or a small number of, district Council areas on a bilateral basis or through county bodies such as HPOG and EPOA as they so determine.

Initial identification of cross boundary issues for discussion arise from the NPPF, NPPG and from the PAS workshop but are expected to change as new issues arise.

Chairmanship of the Group will be held by a Chief Executive or Director of one of the participant Councils to support linkages to Chief Executives and Councillors, and will rotate annually.

The chairing Council will be responsible for developing agendas after consultation with the members of the Group, distributing papers for meetings and for taking and circulating any notes of meetings.

As this is an informal group which makes recommendations to the constituent Councils the papers and notes of meetings will not be made public until agreed by all member authorities.

It is anticipated that meetings will be held approximately monthly, at least initially, and the location of the meetings will rotate around the participating councils.

30 July 2014.