

# East Herts Council Non-Key Decision Report

**Date:** 24/11/2020

**Report by:** Councillor Jan Goodeve – Executive Member for Planning and Growth

**Report title:** Hertford Heath Neighbourhood Plan: Pre-submission – Regulation 14 Consultation

**Ward(s) affected:** Hertford Heath Parish

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## Summary

- The purpose of this report is to agree the Council's response to the Hertford Heath Neighbourhood Plan: Pre-Submission (Regulation 14).

## RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DECISION: That:

- **Hertford Heath Parish Council be advised that the District Council welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Hertford Heath Neighbourhood Plan Pre-submission Version and that the response at Appendix 'A' be submitted to the Parish Council for their consideration.**

## 1.0 Proposal(s)

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to agree the Council's response to the Hertford Heath Neighbourhood Plan Pre-Submission Draft (Regulation 14).

## 2.0 Background

- 2.1 Neighbourhood Planning was introduced by the Government under the Localism Act in 2011. The Town and Country Planning England Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended) came into force on the 6 April

2012 and prescribe both the process, and role of the local planning authority in supporting neighbourhood planning. In East Herts, Parish or Town Councils are qualifying bodies able to produce a Neighbourhood Plan.

- 2.2 East Herts Council received an application from Hertford Heath Parish Council for the designation of a Neighbourhood Area on 2 September 2013. The Council's Executive formally agreed to designate Hertford Heath Parish as a Neighbourhood Area on 4 February 2014.

### **3.0 Reason Regulation 14 Public Consultation**

- 3.1 Before a plan is formally submitted to the local planning authority, Hertford Heath Parish Council must carry out a pre-submission consultation and publicity in accordance with Regulation 14 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.

- 3.2 A public consultation is currently being held which runs from 19 October 2020 to 14 December 2020.

- 3.3 The consultation documents are available on the Hertford Heath Neighbourhood Plan website at <http://www.hhnp.co.uk/>

- 3.4 The Neighbourhood Plan's vision has been translated into a set of objectives that focus on particular areas such as:

- Protecting the character of the village of Hertford Heath
- Meeting the housing target through sustainable development
- Enhancing green spaces and biodiversity
- Ensuring connectivity through improvements to cycle/footpath routes and improving health and wellbeing of residents

3.5 East Herts District Council welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Pre-submission Neighbourhood Plan. Whilst there are still a number of stages to complete before the Plan can potentially be adopted (including a further public consultation (Reg. 16), examination and referendum,) the Parish Council should be commended for their hard work to date.

3.6 **Appendix 'A'** contains the Council's response to the draft Neighbourhood Plan. **Appendix 'B'** contains a copy of the draft Neighbourhood Plan.

#### **4.0 Options**

4.1 The Council could choose not to comment on the Pre-submission Neighbourhood Plan.

#### **5.0 Risks**

5.1 If the Council does not comment on the Neighbourhood Plan then the Council's view would not be taken into consideration during the re-draft of the Plan.

#### **6.0 Implications/Consultations**

6.1 The Neighbourhood Plan is currently subject to public consultation and will be subject to another as well in order to proceed.

#### **Community Safety**

No

#### **Data Protection**

No

#### **Equalities**

No

**Environmental Sustainability**

No

**Financial**

No

**Health and Safety**

No

**Human Resources**

No

**Human Rights**

No

**Legal**

No

**Specific Wards**

Hertford Heath

**7.0 Background papers, appendices and other relevant material**

None

**Contact Member**

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