

# **East Herts Council Non-Key Decision Report**

**Date: 2 February 2021**

**Report by: Councillor Linda Haysey – Leader of the Council**

**Report title: Hertfordshire County Council – Draft South East Hertfordshire Growth and Transport Plan Consultation, October 2020**

**Ward(s) affected: All**

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## **Summary**

The report discusses Hertfordshire County Council's Draft South East Hertfordshire Growth and Transport Plan and proposes East Herts Council's response to the consultation.

**RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DECISION: That:  
Hertfordshire County Council be informed that East Herts Council (the Council):**

- (a) Welcomes the publication of the Growth and Transport Plan and the identification of interventions and packages to address transport issues across the area, particularly in relation to increasing the potential for sustainable journeys to be undertaken.**
- (b) Submits representations within the table at Appendix A to this report as its main response to key issues raised in the Draft South East Hertfordshire Growth and Transport Plan Consultation; and**
- (c) Submits representations within the table at Appendix B to this report as its response to minor matters and typographical errors within the Draft South East Hertfordshire Growth and Transport Plan Consultation.**

## **1.0 Proposal(s)**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise members of Hertfordshire County Council's (HCC) consultation on its Draft South East Hertfordshire Growth and Transport Plan, which closes on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2021 (an extension from initial closing date of 31st January 2021), and to agree this Council's response.

## **2.0 Background**

- 2.1 On 30<sup>th</sup> October 2020, HCC launched a consultation on its draft South East Hertfordshire Growth and Transport Plan.
- 2.2 The South East Hertfordshire Growth and Transport Plan (SEGTP) comprises a new transport strategy which is intended to help direct and plan transport improvements and investment in Hertford, Ware, Hoddesdon, Broxbourne, Cheshunt and Waltham Cross, and their surrounding areas.
- 2.3 On 9<sup>th</sup> December 2020, Members benefited from a presentation by Trevor Brennan, HCC's Strategy and Programme Manager for East Herts and Broxbourne, where headline details of the consultation were discussed and the opportunity to ask questions was provided.
- 2.4 Consultation on the SEGTP closes on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2021. This is an extension on the initial closing date of 31st January 2021, to allow for additional representations to be made and take into account that respondents may have been affected by the inability to access documents with Covid-19 restrictions in place.
- 2.5 East Herts Council's proposed headline response to the Draft SEGTP is set out in the recommendations at the head of this report, with detailed responses provided at **Appendix A** and **Appendix B**.

### **3.0 Reason(s)**

#### ***Draft Growth and Transport Plan Proposals***

- 3.1 The South East Hertfordshire Growth and Transport Plan (SEGTP) comprises a new transport strategy which is intended to help direct and plan transport improvements and investment in Hertford, Ware, Hoddesdon, Broxbourne, Cheshunt and Waltham Cross, and their surrounding areas.
- 3.2 The Plan is intended as a supporting strategy to Local Transport Plan 4 (LTP4) and builds on the principles contained therein.
- 3.3 Attention is drawn to the important transport links in the area including the M25, A10, A414, A119, B1197 and A1170 roads, the West Anglia Main Line railway line, the National Cycle Route 61 and a range of local and longer distance bus and coach services provided to accommodate trips.
- 3.4 However, it is also recognised that the GTP area is subject to significant levels of growth in the forms of proposed new housing and employment development. These developments, alongside growth in surrounding areas both within, and external to, Hertfordshire will create travel pressure for additional journeys on the network. The SEGTP will aim to address these pressures through a variety of mechanisms to lessen the effects of current and future congestion issues and their negative impact, while providing opportunities for more active and sustainable journeys to be made.
- 3.5 It is important to note that the SEGTP has been prepared alongside the draft Eastern Area GTP (covering an area including Bishop's Stortford and Sawbridgeworth), which is being consulted on concurrently with this draft Plan (the subject of a separate non-key decision), and where there are some interlinkages. Therefore, the two GTPs have been devised to align and the proposed packages of interventions

within each Plan are intended to work together with the other.

- 3.6 The SEGTP itself comes in the form of an overarching Prospectus, detailing the main headlines and themes to be addressed, and a Stage 3 Interventions Paper, which provides an in-depth assessment of topic areas and specific proposals at a more localised level.
- 3.7 The Plan identifies the methodology behind, and details of, twenty three categories of interventions and proposes a series of forty packages aimed at their delivery. Such interventions vary significantly in size and anticipated timescale for delivery and are also dependent on funding opportunities and degree of local support.
- 3.8 The four key challenges that the document seeks to address in the South East GTP area are:
- Traffic congestion and routing;
  - Lack of safe and attractive cycle and pedestrian routes;
  - Poor east-west public transport connections; and,
  - Growth.
- 3.9 The series of proposals are bundled into specific area Packages:
- Packages 1-5 Hertford  
Packages 6-9 Ware  
Packages 10-14 Hertford and Ware – Links to the west and north-west  
Package Hertford and Ware – links to the south  
Packages 16-17 Stansted Abbots [*sic*] and St Margarets  
Packages 18-19 Hertford and Ware – links to the north and east  
Packages 20-21 Harlow and Gilston  
Package [*sic*] 22-34 Broxbourne Towns  
Packages 35-38 Western Broxbourne and Cuffley

## Packages 39-40 Links to Enfield

- 3.10 As some packages lie outside East Herts, it is intended that responses will only be made in respect of those in this district, except for any cases where there would be effects caused by interlinkages between local authority areas.
- 3.11 Proposed representations to form the main response to key issues raised in the Draft South East Hertfordshire Growth and Transport Plan Consultation are to be found within the table at **Appendix A** to this report, with the table at **Appendix B** responding to minor matters and typographical errors.

### ***Next Stages***

- 3.12 The Council will submit the responses to the SEGTP at the head of this report and at **Appendix A** and **Appendix B**, before the consultation closes on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2021. Subject to the outcome of the consultation, HCC will agree the SEGTP and work towards delivery of the schemes included in the finalised packages, in due course.

## **4.0 Options**

- 4.1 The Council could choose not to respond to the consultation.

## **5.0 Risks**

- 5.1 Not responding to the consultation would mean that the Council would miss the opportunity to respond to HCC in relation to any key concerns with, or suggestions for improving, the Draft South East Growth and Transport Plan.

## **6.0 Implications/Consultations**

- 6.1 This report is a response to HCC's Draft South East Growth and Transport Plan.

## **Community Safety**

No

## **Data Protection**

No

## **Equalities**

No

## **Environmental Sustainability**

No

## **Financial**

No there are no financial implications of responding to the consultation.

## **Health and Safety**

No

## **Human Resources**

No

## **Human Rights**

No

## **Legal**

No

## **Specific Wards**

All Wards

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

- Draft South East Hertfordshire Growth and Transport Plan, Hertfordshire County Council, October 2020  
<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/about-the-council/consultations/transport-and-highways/south-east-central-growth-and-transport-plan.aspx#>

- Local Transport Plan 2018 - 2031 (LTP4), Hertfordshire County Council, May 2018 <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/media-library/documents/about-the-council/consultations/ltp4-local-transport-plan-4-complete.pdf>
- Hertfordshire's Local Transport Plan Rural Transport Strategy July 2019 – 2031, Hertfordshire County Council, 2019 <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/media-library/documents/environment-and-planning/planning/rural-transport-strategy.pdf>
- Hertford Town Centre Urban Design Strategy, Tibbalds on behalf of East Herts Council, Hertfordshire County Council, and Hertford Town Council, February 2016, [https://eastherts.fra1.digitaloceanspaces.com/s3fs-public/2019-11/Hertford%20Town%20Centre%20and%20Urban%20Design%20Strategy\\_0.pdf](https://eastherts.fra1.digitaloceanspaces.com/s3fs-public/2019-11/Hertford%20Town%20Centre%20and%20Urban%20Design%20Strategy_0.pdf)

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