

EAST HERTS COUNCIL

DISTRICT PLANNING EXECUTIVE PANEL – 21 JULY 2016

REPORT BY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

EAST HERTS DRAFT DISTRICT PLAN – CHAPTER 12 – GILSTON  
AREA: RESPONSE TO ISSUES RAISED DURING PREFERRED  
OPTIONS CONSULTATION

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WARD(S) AFFECTED: ALL

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**Purpose/Summary of Report**

The purpose of this report is:

- To bring to Members' attention the issues raised through the Preferred Options consultation in connection with Chapter 12 (Gilston Area) of the Draft District Plan Preferred Options version, together with Officer responses to those issues.

**RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DISTRICT PLANNING EXECUTIVE  
PANEL: That Council, via the Executive, be advised that:**

<b>(A)</b>	<b>the issues raised in respect of Chapter 12 (Gilston Area) of the Draft District Plan Preferred Options, as detailed at Essential Reference Paper 'B' to this report, be received and considered; and</b>
<b>(B)</b>	<b>the Officer response to the issues referred to in (A) above, as detailed in Essential Reference Paper 'B' to this report, be agreed.</b>

1.0 Background

1.1 The Council published its Draft District Plan Preferred Options for consultation for a period of twelve weeks between 27<sup>th</sup> February and 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2014. Several thousand comments were received through the consultation exercise from over a thousand stakeholders including statutory consultees and members of the public.

1.2 In order to manage these comments, the Council's agreed approach, as set out in its Statement of Community Involvement (October 2013), is to summarise the issues raised through the consultation and record how these issues have been used to inform the next draft of the District Plan.

1.3 This report presents the Issue Report for the Gilston Area at **Essential Reference Paper 'B'**.

## 2.0 Report

2.1 The Issue Report summarises the issues raised through the Preferred Options Consultation and the issues are grouped according to the section of the Draft Plan they relate to. The table presents an officer response to each issue and then sets out whether or not it is proposed that any subsequent proposed amendments to the text or policies of the draft Plan be made as a result.

2.2 As there have been significant advances in the technical evidence available to support the development strategy, and changes in local and wider circumstance since the publication of the Preferred Options version of the Draft Plan, it is considered appropriate that each of the settlement chapters be rewritten to take these factors into account rather than presenting a 'track change' iteration of the previous version. Therefore, unlike the approach taken for the Topic Chapters, the Issue Report for this Settlement Chapter does not specify a form of wording that any proposed amendment should take.

2.3 In consequence, it is likewise not proposed that amendments are shown in the form of 'track changes' for the settlement chapters. Instead, a revised chapter, which incorporates any proposed necessary amendments to the Plan identified in the Issue Report, will be brought before Members for consideration at the District Planning Executive Panel meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> August, along with the relevant Settlement Appraisal.

2.4 As Members will recall, a report was presented to this Panel on 24<sup>th</sup> May 2016 which sought support for the submission of an expression of interest to Government for a Garden Village or Garden Town in relation to the Gilston Area. The report identified that it is the view of Officers that the Gilston Area should be identified as an allocation for 10,000 new homes, to be delivered

in this plan period and beyond, within the forthcoming 'Publication' stage of the District Plan. This position is confirmed within the Issue Report presented in **Essential Reference Paper 'B'**. Members are invited to agree the Issue Report as a basis for informing a redrafted chapter on Gilston Area in the final draft District Plan.

### 3.0 Implications/Consultations

3.1 Information on any corporate issues and consultation associated with this report can be found within **Essential Reference Paper 'A'**.

#### Background Papers

None

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