

EAST HERTS COUNCIL

DISTRICT PLANNING EXECUTIVE PANEL – 25 AUGUST 2016

REPORT BY THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

DUTY TO CO-OPERATE UPDATE REPORT

WARD(S) AFFECTED: ALL

Purpose/Summary of Report

- This report presents the notes of the latest Member-level meetings with adjoining local authorities

RECOMMENDATION FOR DISTRICT PLANNING EXECUTIVE

PANEL: That Council, via the Executive, be advised that:

(A)	the notes of the Member-level meetings held with neighbouring local authorities be noted.
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1.0 Background

1.1 A report to the District Planning Executive Panel on 28th November 2012 (see Background Papers) explained the background to the Duty to Co-Operate and its implications for the East Herts District Plan. The report explained that the duty required the Council, as Local Planning Authority, to engage constructively with a range of bodies throughout the plan-making process in order to address strategic cross boundary issues.

1.2 It was agreed that the notes of all Member-level meetings would be reported to District Planning Executive Panel.

2.0 Report

2.1 The Co-operation for Sustainable Development Board (known as the Co-op Board) was established in 2014 in order to facilitate strategic level co-operation between the following authorities: East Herts, Broxbourne, Harlow, Epping Forest, Uttlesford, Chelmsford, Redbridge, Enfield, Waltham Forest and Hertfordshire and Essex

County Councils. The Terms of Reference for this group were presented to Panel on 8th December 2014.

2.3 This report presents the minutes from three meetings of the Co-op Board. Notes of further meetings will be presented to future Panel meetings as required.

2.4 Prior to submission of the District Plan to the Planning Inspectorate in March 2017, it is expected that a series of Memoranda of Understanding (MoU's) will be agreed with neighbouring local authorities, and other bodies where considered appropriate. The MoU's will identify how strategic cross boundary issues have been addressed. A number of authorities across the country have had their Local Plans found 'unsound' at Examination in recent months on the basis that they have not adequately demonstrated that they have met the requirements of the duty. The MoU's referred to above will therefore form a key piece of evidence in support of the District Plan moving forward to Examination.

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

- Duty to Co-Operate Update Report (District Planning Executive Panel, 8th December 2014)

All reports may be accessed at:

<http://online.eastherts.gov.uk/moderngov/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=151>

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