

EAST HERTS COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE – 12 FEBRUARY 2019

REPORT BY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING GUIDANCE 2019

WARD(S) AFFECTED: ALL

Purpose/Summary of Report

- To agree approval for the publication of the Neighbourhood Planning Guidance 2019.

RECOMMENDATION(S) FOR EXECUTIVE: That:

(A)	The Neighbourhood Planning Guidance 2019, contained at Essential Reference Paper 'B', be approved for publication.
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1.0 Background

1.1 Neighbourhood planning was introduced by the Government through the Localism Act 2011. Since then neighbourhood planning has been strengthened through subsequent legislation such as the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended) and most recently through the Neighbourhood Planning Act 2017.

1.2 Neighbourhood planning activity in East Herts has been steadily increasing since its formal introduction in 2011. Currently we have five formally adopted Neighbourhood Plans with a number of others advancing to the latter stages of the process.

1.3 Members may recall an Interim Neighbourhood Planning

Guidance Note that was produced in December 2011. Following this, in October 2014 an updated Neighbourhood Plan Guidance Note was presented to members at the District Planning Executive Panel.

1.4 It is considered appropriate timing to now update the previous Guidance Note to reflect the adoption of the District Plan and the implementation of new legislation.

2.0 Report

2.1 A copy of the Guidance document is attached at **Essential Reference Paper 'B'**. This Guidance document incorporates updates brought about by new legislation and the adoption of the District Plan. The Guidance is split into 3 sections:

- Introduction
- Neighbourhood Plan Process
- District Plan and NPPF Impacts on Neighbourhood Planning

2.2 The structure is such that prospective Neighbourhood Plan groups should be able to understand the holistic process from start to finish. Likewise, groups that have already embarked on the process are able to find detailed assistance and guidance on East Herts specific subjects.

2.3 There is also a small section at the end which gives advice on funding and further resources available to speculative Neighbourhood Plan Groups.

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

Contact Member: Councillor Linda Haysey – Leader of the Council
linda.haysey@eastherts.gov.uk

Contact Officer: Kevin Steptoe – Head of Planning and Building
Control, Tel: 01992 531407
kevin.steptoe@eastherts.gov.uk

Report Author: George Pavey – Principal Planning Officer, Tel:
01992 531623 george.pavey@eastherts.gov.uk