

Council

- Date of Meeting:** 23 July 2025
- Report by:** Councillor Ben Crystall, Leader of the Council
- Report title:** Executive Report – 3 June and 8 July 2025
- Ward(s) affected:** All
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Summary

- This report details the recommendations to Council made by the Executive at its meeting on 3 June and 8 July 2025.

1.0 Item considered and recommended to Council

- 1.1 Since the last Council meeting, the Executive met on 3 June and 8 July 2025. At these meetings the Executive considered and supported a number of recommendations for Council on the following items:

- 1.1.1 Update of the Statement of Community Involvement
- 1.1.2 Hertfordshire Green Infrastructure Strategy
- 1.1.3 Membership of the District Plan Executive Panel
- 1.1.4 Gilston Area Monitoring framework
- 1.1.5 Hatfield Forest Mitigation Strategy and Development Tariff
- 1.1.6 Refreshed LEAF priorities and Annual Report for 2024/25

- 1.2 This report sets out the recommendation for the above items. The full report, including the Appendix, may be viewed on the council's website.
- 1.3 This report excludes items also considered by the Executive where those reports are separate agenda items on the Council agenda.

2.0 Update of the Statement of Community Involvement

- 2.1 The Executive was asked to consider a number of proposed changes to the Council's adopted Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) 2019 and recommend its adoption to Council.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL:

- (a) The Statement of Community Involvement 2025, as detailed at Appendix A to this report, be approved for adoption.**

3.0 Hertfordshire Green Infrastructure Strategy

- 3.1 The Executive was asked to consider the Hertfordshire Green Infrastructure Strategy and recommend to Council that it be used as part of the evidence base to inform the new East Herts District Plan.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL:

- (a) The Hertfordshire Green Infrastructure Strategy (2022), attached in three sections as Appendix A, B and C, be agreed as part of the evidence base to inform the new East Herts District Plan.**

4.0 Membership of the District Plan Executive Panel

- 4.1 The Executive was asked to consider the arrangements and membership for the District Plan Executive Panel and recommend to Council that it be reconvened.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL:

- (a) The District Plan Executive Panel is reconvened as a sub-group of Executive for the specific purposes of advancing the new District Plan;**
- (b) Three Members are drawn from the Executive to sit on the DPEP, namely Cllrs Vicky Glover-Ward (Chair), Ben Crystall and Joseph Dumont, with Cllr Tim Hoskin nominated as a substitute for Green Party members and Cllr Chris Wilson for Cllr Joseph Dumont, and**
- (c) The Council's website is updated to reflect the formation and purpose of the Panel and forms the primary source of information pertaining to the Panel.**

5.0 Gilston Area Monitoring framework

5.1 The Executive were asked to consider the Gilston Area Monitoring Framework and recommend its endorsement to Council.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL:

- (a) **The Gilston Area Monitoring Framework, attached at Appendix A, be endorsed.**

6.0 Hatfield Forest Mitigation Strategy and Development Tariff

6.1 The Executive were asked to consider the outcome of the strategic mitigation solution for the adverse impacts of recreational pressure on the Hatfield Forest.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL:

- (a) **The final version of the National Trust Hatfield Forest Mitigation Strategy (version 6, attached at Appendix A), which includes the Site Access Management and Monitoring Measures (SAMMS), is approved as a basis for seeking a financial contribution for mitigation at Hatfield Forest;**
- (b) **The apportionment of the SAMMS between the four LPAs via a hybrid method, taking equal account of both the percentage visitor impact and the proportion of new housing relative to existing within the Zol, is approved;**
- (c) **The apportioned SAMMS tariff for East Herts District Council is set at £540.07;**
- (d) **The tariff is applicable to new residential dwellings with immediate effect, subject to transitional arrangements to agree appropriate legal, financial and administrative mechanisms being brought into place to allow the collection and transfer of funds;**
- (e) **The draft Governance Agreement (Appendix B) between the four local planning authorities and the National Trust as landowners is approved and delegated authority is given to the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to work on the final version with an expectation that this is signed and sealed in Autumn 2025.**

7.0 Refreshed LEAF priorities and Annual Report for 2024/25

7.1 The Executive were asked to review progress against last year's LEAF priorities and consider the amended LEAF priorities before recommending to Council for adoption.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL:

(a) To adopt the revised LEAF priorities.

8.0 Background papers, appendices and other relevant material

8.1 [Executive minutes – 3 June 2025](#)

Contact Member

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