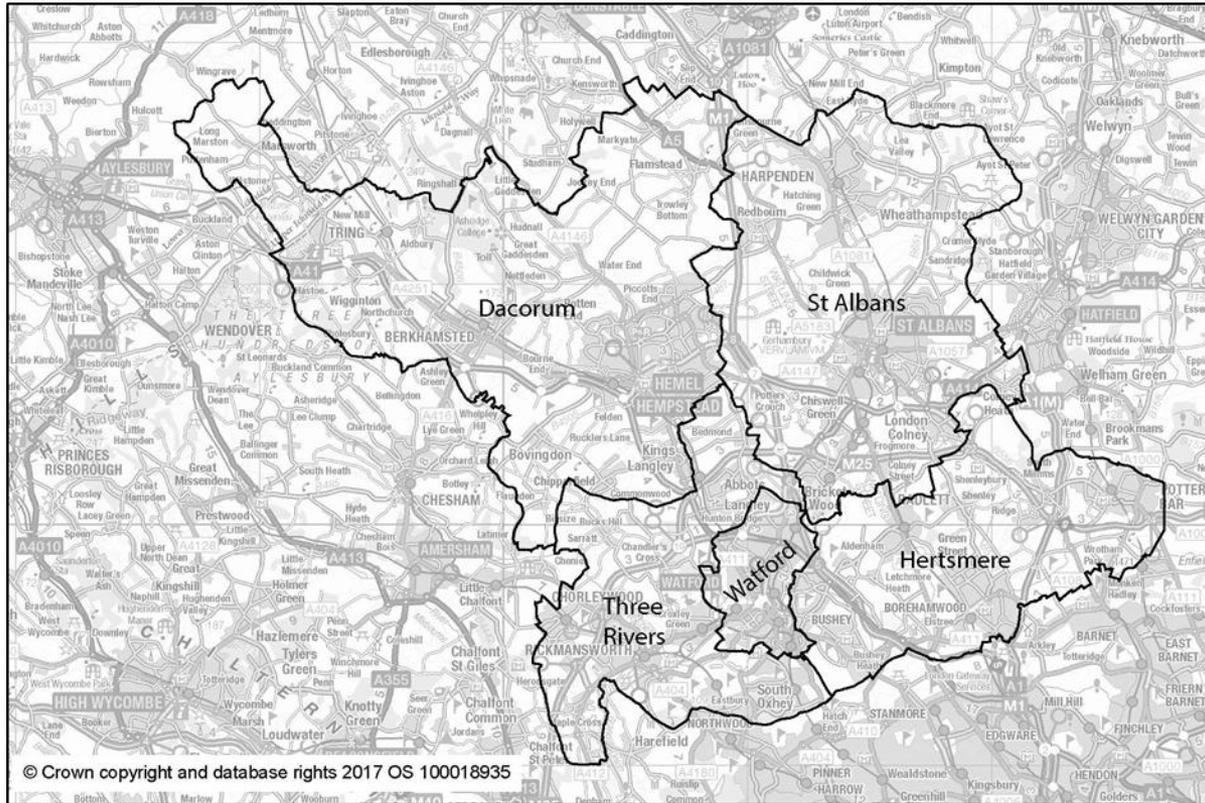




South West Hertfordshire Joint Strategic Plan

Chris Outtersides– South West Herts Strategic Plan Director

South West Herts Partners



The South West Herts Challenge

- A place where people want to be, but with a character that needs to be protected.
- Historic lack of combined political will to think strategically to facilitate growth.
- High growth requirements – approx. 4,000 houses per year.
- Identified infrastructure funding gap of £1.5bn to 2031.
- Historic growth ‘bolted to on to existing centres’ – not a long term sustainable solution.
- High reliance on car travel.



The SW Herts Opportunity

GVA of about £18 billion
(£30K per head) growing
2.8% a year.

SW Herts Sub Region

Well related to London and the
Cambridge – Milton Keynes - Oxford
Growth Corridor.

Workforce of 371,000
– jobs growing
annually by 2.7%.

Local
Industrial
Strategy

Infrastructure

Local Plans aligned to allow
strategic consideration of
growth opportunities.

Strong place shaping
leadership.

Housing

The right development delivered in
the right locations underpinned with
the right infrastructure.



SW Herts Collaboration Programme

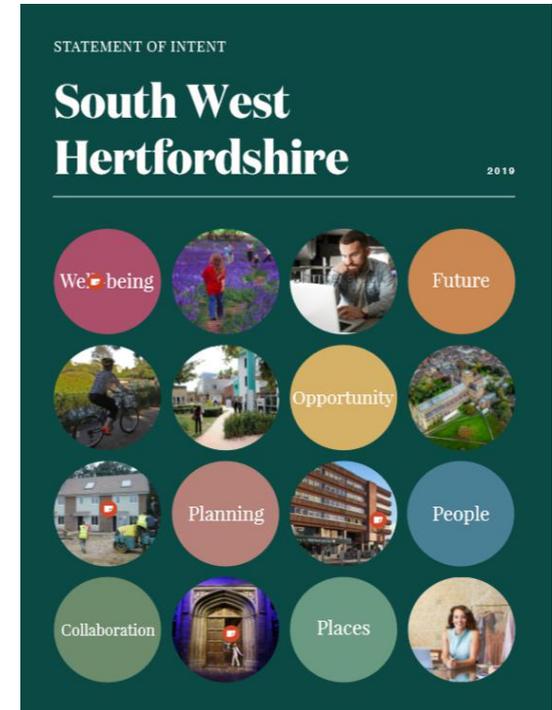
- Facilitated workshops involving Leaders and CEO's.
- Exploring a number of themes:
 - Place based ambition and branding.
 - Growth and spatial priorities.
 - Infrastructure needs to support growth.
 - Collaboration model and governance.
 - Vision statement.



SW Herts Collaboration Programme

■ Outputs:

- MoU - setting out the principles of the partnership.
- Form a South West Hertfordshire Growth Board.
- Establish key workstreams, co-led by a leader and a CEO.
 - Leadership and Governance – joint S101 Board?
 - Development – to include the JSP
 - Connectivity – focus on transport and digital
 - Well Being – led by HCC
 - Public Services – focus on shared infrastructure funding
- Launch a statement of intent with key stakeholders.



WATFORD
BOROUGH
COUNCIL



St Albans
City & District Council



THREE RIVERS
DISTRICT COUNCIL



HERTSMERE



BOROUGH
COUNCIL



Hertfordshire

The SW Herts Joint Strategic Plan

SW Herts Housing Challenge: Emerging Local Plans are seeking to provide for substantial housing (over 4,000 dpa) and accompanying economic growth - requiring significant infrastructure investment.

The SW Herts JSP will be a high level strategic plan that will set out the vision and map the context for the Local Plans; focussing on the following:

- 1: A Spatial Strategy including any Strategic Areas of Opportunity;
- 2: Strategic housing need and provision;
- 3: Strategic employment need and provision;
- 4: Strategic infrastructure need and provision; and
- 5: Strategic approach to Green Belt, AONB and blue and green infrastructure.



SW Herts JSP – Progress to Date

- **January 2018** - Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed by all six partners with a commitment to:
 - *A Joint Strategic Plan setting out strategic spatial and infrastructure priorities across South West Hertfordshire; and*
 - *A Statement of Common Ground setting out how a JSP will be delivered, what the evidence base is, including identification of various development needs.*
- **Autumn – Winter 2018/19** – Facilitated ‘*Collaboration Programme*’ involving the Leaders and CEO’s – setting the future vision for SW Herts.
- Commencement of a shared SW Herts Local Plan evidence base (SHMA, EDNA).
- Successful bid to MHCLG for £300k of PDF capacity funding to support the JSP preparation.
- Appointment of South West Hertfordshire Joint Strategic Plan Director.



SW Herts JSP – Future Work Priorities

- February 2019 – Strategic Collaboration MoU – ‘SW Herts Vision’
- Mid 2019: Statement of Common Ground.
- Establish governance structure: Member Board.
- Embed programme / project management approach.
- Resourcing – one officer one day a week.
- Identify and start to procure joint evidence to support the JSP.
 - Strategic Growth Locations Study: mid 2019.
- Prepare Issues and Options Plan (early 2020).
- Prepare JSP Communication & Engagement Strategy.



SW Herts JSP – Strategic Timeline

- July 2019: Statement of Common Ground signed
- Spring 2020: Issues and Options JSP with spatial strategy options published for Regulation 18 Consultation
- October 2020: Preferred Options JSP with preferred spatial option published for consultation
- Sep 2021: Final draft version of JSP published for Regulation 19 Consultation
- January 2022: JSP submitted for Examination
- Winter 2022: JSP adopted by all SW Herts LPAs



SW Herts JSP – Emerging Lessons

- **Resourcing** – use and ‘buy in’ of existing Council staff.
- **Budget** – plans cost money!
- **Procurement** – what/when/how/by whom?
- **Plan timescales** - be realistic, plans take time.
- **Communications and engagement** – internal and external.



NEGC - Lessons Learned - Strategy

- **Objectives** - agree partnership objectives early.
- **Develop a USP/narrative** – what makes you different?
- **Embed non housing issues early** – infrastructure, employment, innovation.
- **Governance** - efficient with clear ToR and reporting.
- **Programme** - align the strategic growth areas timescale with the Local Plan(s) timescale.
- **Efficiency** - Twin track processes where possible.
- **Communications** - Engagement vs consultation.

NEGC Lessons Learned - Planning

Be ambitious but realistic – deliverability is key!

- **Strategic Infrastructure** – Consider, plan and evidence the key infrastructure requirements.
- **Infrastructure Phasing** – planning and delivery - what will happen if the infrastructure isn't delivered?
- **Delivery Mechanisms** – keep the option open to use a different delivery model(s).
- **Viability** - Ensure that a robust approach to delivery has been adopted.

NEGC Lessons Learned - Planning

- **Build out rates** – evidence.
- **Employment** – justify any numbers/areas.
- **Sustainability Appraisal** - Ensure objectivity in the choice of spatial strategy – has it been tested against the reasonable alternatives?
- **Legal representation** – is it needed, and if so at what level?
- **Stakeholder support** – are they supportive and on message?
- **Landowners** – agree in advance how they will support the plan, and how this will be demonstrated at the EIP.

Thank you!



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