

NORTH HERTS COUNCIL

WEEK ENDING FRIDAY 11 OCTOBER 2024

MEMBERS' INFORMATION

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Produced by the Communications Team.

Any comments, suggestions or contributions should be sent to the Communications Team at

MIS@north-herts.gov.uk

NEWS AND INFORMATION

AGENDA & REPORTS

PUBLISHED WEEK COMMENCING 7 OCTOBER 2024

Planning Control Committee – 24 October 2024

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS WEEK COMMENCING 14 OCTOBER 2024

Licensing & Regulation Committee – 14 October 2024

UPCOMING CHAIR'S ENGAGEMENTS FROM FRIDAY 11 OCTOBER 2024

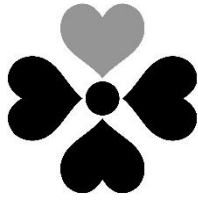
Date	Event	Location
	None	

UPCOMING VICE-CHAIR'S ENGAGEMENTS FROM FRIDAY 11 OCTOBER 2024

Date	Event	Location
	None	

UPCOMING OTHER EVENTS FROM FRIDAY 11 OCTOBER 2024

Date	Event	Location
	None	



**North
Herts**
Council

REGULATORY

MEMBERS

INFORMATION NOTE

North Herts Council response to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) Consultation

The Government recently consulted on proposed changes to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

The NPPF is a material consideration when deciding planning applications. It also guides how we produce policy documents such as the Local Plan, Neighbourhood Plans and Supplementary Planning Documents. The policies and requirements of the NPPF are identified, as applicable, in officer reports and recommendations to Planning Control Committee, Cabinet and Full Council.

The NPPF consultation raised a number of issues that were comprehensively debated at the Full Council meeting of Thursday 19 September 2024 in response to the questions and motions that were tabled.

The outcomes of these informed the consultation response. The letter setting out the key elements of this Council's response is attached.

A copy of the full response, including the technical appendix referenced in the attached letter, has been provided to the Planning Executive and Shadow Executive Members for each Group.

Nigel Smith
Strategic Planning Manager
Tel: 01462 474847
Email: nigel.smith@north-herts.gov.uk



Celebrating 50 years

The Rt Hon Angela Rayner MP,
Deputy Prime Minister & Secretary
of State for Levelling Up, Housing
and Communities

Contact: Debbie Coates, Principal
Strategic Planning Officer
Direct Dial No: 01462 474353
E-mail: Deborah.coates@north-herts.gov.uk

c/o Planning Policy Consultation
Team, MHCLG

By email only

24 September 2024

Dear Sir/Madam

Proposed reforms to the National Planning Policy Framework and other changes to the planning system

Thank you for consulting us on your proposed reforms to the NPPF and other changes to the planning system. We have considered your proposals.

This raises a number of issues that were comprehensively debated at our Full Council meeting of Thursday 19 September 2024 in response to questions and motions submitted for consideration by local Councillors.

As part of the consultation, the Government announced not only would it be re-introducing mandatory housing targets for Local Authorities, but that it would increase overall targets from 300,000 new homes per annum to approximately 370,000 per annum.

Under the Government's proposed new method announced as part of changes to the National Planning Policy Framework, North Hertfordshire will be required to build 992 new homes per year, representing an increase of 9%.

Neighbouring authority Luton will see its housing target reduced by 22%, and as a result of the Government removing the urban uplift, major cities such as London, Liverpool and Birmingham will all see a reduction in their housing targets by up to 31%.

Following the adoption of the North Hertfordshire Local Plan in November 2022, 47% of land within the district is designated as Green Belt. The reforms of which are proposed by the Government will weaken protections for Green Belt land, and could result in inappropriate development taking place within the district, particularly in and around our rural communities.

As a result of our Local Plan having recently been adopted, North Hertfordshire currently does not need to provide evidence of a five-year housing land supply in accordance with the 2023 NPPF. However, the Government is proposing to remove this element of the 2023 NPPF, which means that should this proposed change come into force there would be a presumption in favour of sustainable development through the decision-making mechanism. The loss of this protection

increases the likelihood of approval for major developments proposed within the district on sites not identified in the Local Plan.

Despite the existence of unimplemented planning permission to build more than a million homes across England, the current government, like its predecessor, believes that making it easier for developers to get planning permission is the way to increase the availability of affordable housing. The council believes that increasing numbers of permissions, rather than focusing on building the right housing in the locations which are already identified for development will boost developers profits, rather than meeting the needs for affordable housing. It also notes that the government's proposed changes to the NPPF would make it easier for developers in North Herts to obtain planning permission on speculative sites, including those in parts of the Green Belt

The Government has also stated its ambition to build "a new generation of new towns" which will comprise of at least 10,000 homes. In order to identify potential locations for these 'new towns' a New Towns Taskforce has been created within the Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government

In response to these matters, Council resolved that we should call on the Government to:

1. Not increase the Housing Target for North Hertfordshire.
2. Restore the Urban Uplift, ensuring cities and urban areas take their fair share of housing development, particularly as many of these areas already have the infrastructure to support additional development.
3. Ensure infrastructure to support approved development is built prior to houses, thereby reducing the negative impact of development on existing communities, and ensuring local infrastructure is ready to provide for residents moving into new homes.
4. Adopt a brownfield first approach to development, and provide greater protection for green belt land in North Hertfordshire.
5. Not to amend paragraph 11(d) of the 2023 NPPF, which currently provides protection for North Hertfordshire as a local authority that has recently adopted a local plan but does not have a five-year housing land supply.
6. Strengthen the rights of local residents to ensure they have a meaningful say when development is proposed within their communities.
7. Not remove the emphasis and focus on 'beauty' and 'beautiful design' from the National Planning Policy Framework.
8. Meaningfully engage with Local Planning Authorities on the New Town Scheme and – where proposed sites are put forward within an area – ensure that plans have local consent and that sufficient additional funding is in place to support already-stretched planning departments.
9. Actively pursue reforms designed to ensure that a far greater proportion of planning applications – which continue to be approved under the existing policy framework – are actually built out by developers in a timely manner, recognising that this is the most effective way of meeting the Government's stated objectives.
10. Adopt a strategy that will prioritise increasing delivery of affordable housing with appropriate infrastructure and to prioritise giving more power to councils to build housing, in particular social and affordable housing.

We recognise that Point (8) above is not being directly consulted upon as part of the NPPF consultation. However it is of relevance to your consideration of future strategic planning arrangements.

Officers of the Council have additionally prepared technical responses to many of the detailed questions contained in the consultation. These are set out in the attached Appendix alongside

the resolutions of the Council set out above. Officer comments reflect their objective, professional opinions and expertise on these matters. These should be taken into consideration recognising that, where comments relate to matters other than those set out above, these are not presently formally endorsed positions of the Council.

Yours sincerely,

Cllr Daniel Allen
Leader and interim Executive Member for Planning & Transport
North Hertfordshire District Council

Cllr Val Bryant
Deputy Leader
North Hertfordshire District Council



WASTE MANAGEMENT

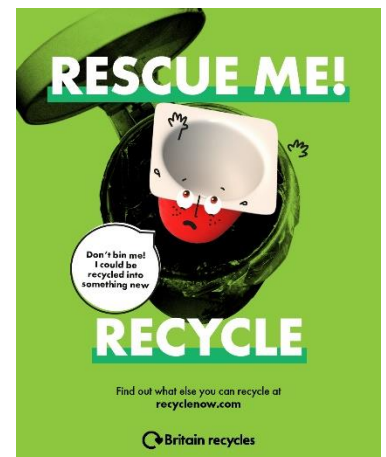
MEMBERS

INFORMATION NOTE

Recycle Week 14 - 20 October

Recycle Week 2024 will take place from the 14 to 20 October 2024. This year's theme – 'Rescue Me. Recycle' will focus on rescuing everyday recyclable items that often end up in the rubbish bin when they could've been recycled!

Both councils' coms teams have been working hard behind the scenes to prepare content for our social media channels. Please do show you support by sharing this content when you see it.



Litter bin review/rationalisation – further update.

All parishes impacted with a reduction of 30% or more will be contacted in the coming weeks to advise them of the project and to offer them the opportunity to contact us directly to discuss any specific questions around the project or concerns over a particular litter bin within their parish.

Louise Overington
Shared Service -Delivery and support manager
Tel: 01462 474336
Email: Louise.Overington@north-herts.gov.uk

Navigating Digital Health *Accessing your GP*

We want to speak to Hertfordshire Residents about their views and experiences of online GP services and bookings.

Make a difference to health and social care by completing our survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HwHOnlineGPServices>



Take part in the Churchgate Conversation

Help us shape the vision of the Churchgate shopping area of Hitchin and enhance Hitchin Town Centre.



North Herts Council is exploring options for the redevelopment of the Churchgate shopping area of Hitchin to help protect and enhance the vibrancy of the town centre for future generations to enjoy. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to revitalise the town centre and create a more attractive outlook for Market Place and the Church, for Hitchin and all the district's residents.

The Churchgate shopping area (shown in the image below) is a Council-owned site in the heart of Hitchin town centre. The site is located next to the town's historic Market Place and wraps around the Grade I listed St Mary's Church and its churchyard. The site extends to over 5 acres and includes:

- The 1970's Churchgate Shopping Centre
- The 800-year-old open-air charter market
- 4 car parks
- The River Hiz runs through and under the site



Turn over to find out how to have your say.

We want to understand your needs and wants for the future of the Churchgate Shopping area of Hitchin before the Council starts the process of finding a development partner.

We want to hear from all our residents, in Hitchin and throughout the wider district, who use the town centre, to understand what this development will mean for all our communities.

Our consultation is taking place until Sunday 3 November 2024. For more information and to complete our survey, please visit: www.north-herts.gov.uk/churchgate, or scan this QR code:

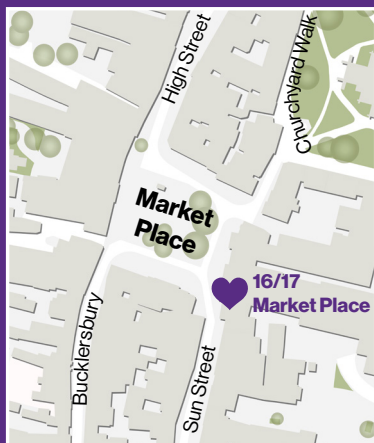


Come and see us in person

Our Churchgate Regeneration Hub opening dates are being extended, please visit: www.north-herts.gov.uk/churchgate to find out when we're open for additional opportunities to find out more and speak to the team.

You can find us at:
16/17 Market Place, Hitchin, SG5 1DS

Should you need our survey in an alternative format (e.g., hard copy, braille, larger format, community languages) and for any other enquiries, please contact us at: churchgate.regen@north-herts.gov.uk, or on 01462 474000



Incidents Summary Analysis by Zone
NORTH HERTS

01/09/2024 to **01/10/2024**

Incidents Summary Analysis by Zone

01/09/2024 to 01/10/2024

Category Summary

Zone: Baldock

<u>Category Name</u>	<u>Sub Category Name</u>	<u>No. of Incidents</u>
Concern for Welfare	Injury	3
Police Request	Warrant or Wanted	1
Traffic Incident	RTC	1

Total No. of Incidents in Zone Baldock: 5

Zone: Hitchin

<u>Category Name</u>	<u>Sub Category Name</u>	<u>No. of Incidents</u>
Alarm Activation	Intruder Alarm	3
Anti-Social Behaviour	Nuisance	13
Arson/Fire		1
Assault	GBH	3
Concern for Welfare		4
Deception/Fraud	Banking Protocol	2
Domestic		1
Drug Related		7
Other		1
Police Request	Warrant or Wanted	2
Post Event Viewing	Download For Police	10
Suspicious Activity		4
Theft	Shoplifting	3
Vehicle		2
Weapon	Firearms	1

Total No. of Incidents in Zone Hitchin: 57

Zone: Knebworth

<u>Category Name</u>	<u>Sub Category Name</u>	<u>No. of Incidents</u>
Concern for Welfare		1

Total No. of Incidents in Zone Knebworth: 1

Zone: Letchworth

<u>Category Name</u>	<u>Sub Category Name</u>	<u>No. of Incidents</u>
Alarm Activation	Intruder Alarm	2
Anti-Social Behaviour	Nuisance	1
Assault		1
Concern for Welfare	Injury	1
Drug Related		3
Post Event Viewing	Download For Police	7
Suspicious Activity		2

Incidents Summary Analysis by Zone

01/09/2024 to 01/10/2024

Weapon	Knife	4
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Total No. of Incidents in Zone Letchworth: 21

Zone: Royston

<u>Category Name</u>	<u>Sub Category Name</u>	<u>No. of Incidents</u>
Anti Social Behaviour	Nuisance	1
Arson/Fire		1
Concern for Welfare		1
Deception/Fraud	Banking Protocol	1
Domestic		1
Police Request	Warrant or Wanted	1
Post Event Viewing	Public Viewing Request	2
Suspicious Activity		1

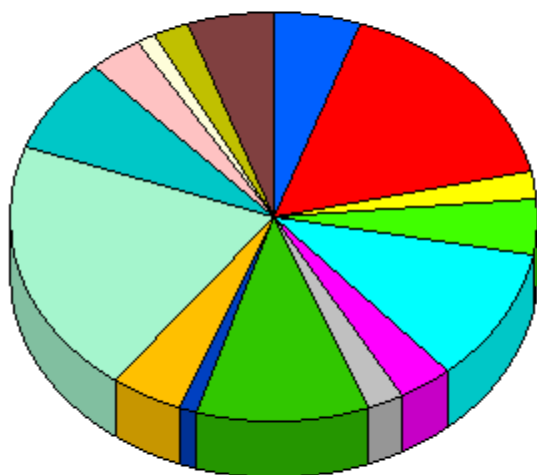
Total No. of Incidents in Zone Royston: 9

Total No. of Incidents : 93

Incidents Summary Analysis by Zone

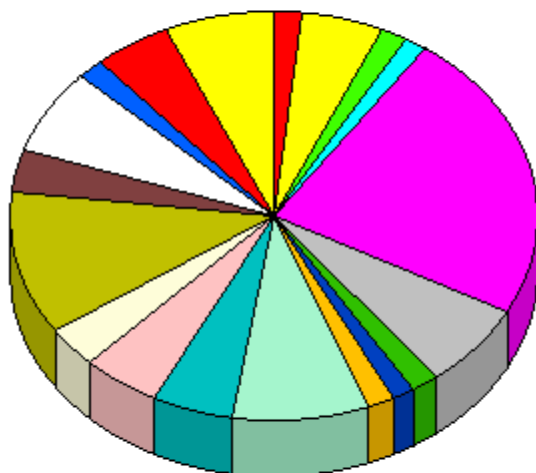
01/09/2024 to 01/10/2024

No. of Incidents by Category



Alarm Activation	5.4%
Anti Social Behaviour	16.1%
Arson/Fire	2.2%
Assault	4.3%
Concern for Welfare	10.8%
Deception/Fraud	3.2%
Domestic	2.2%
Drug Related	10.8%
Other	1.1%
Police Request	4.3%
Post Event Viewing	20.4%
Suspicious Activity	7.5%
Theft	3.2%
Traffic Incident	1.1%
Vehicle	2.2%
Weapon	5.4%
Total:	100.0%

No. of Incidents by Sub Category



	0.0%
Affray	1.6%
Banking Protocol	4.9%
Begging	1.6%
Disorder	1.6%
Download For Police	23.0%
Drunken Behaviour	6.6%
Firearms	1.6%
GBH	1.6%
Indecency	1.6%
Injury	8.2%
Intruder Alarm	4.9%
Knife	4.9%
Missing Persons	3.3%
Nuisance	11.5%
Personal Attack	3.3%
Public Viewing Request	6.6%
RTC	1.6%
Shoplifting	4.9%
Warrant or Wanted	6.6%
Total:	100.0%

Incidents Summary Analysis by Zone

01/09/2024 to 01/10/2024

Call Source Summary

Zone: Baldock

<u>Call Source</u>	<u>No. of Incidents</u>
Police Airwaves	5

Total No. of Incidents in Zone Baldock: 5

Zone: Hitchin

<u>Call Source</u>	<u>No. of Incidents</u>
Controller	20
Police Airwaves	19
Police Control	3
Post Event Viewing	9
Town Link	6

Total No. of Incidents in Zone Hitchin: 57

Zone: Knebworth

<u>Call Source</u>	<u>No. of Incidents</u>
Police Airwaves	1

Total No. of Incidents in Zone Knebworth: 1

Zone: Letchworth

<u>Call Source</u>	<u>No. of Incidents</u>
Controller	4
Police Airwaves	9
Police Control	1
Post Event Viewing	6
Town Link	1

Total No. of Incidents in Zone Letchworth: 21

Zone: Royston

<u>Call Source</u>	<u>No. of Incidents</u>
Controller	2
Police Airwaves	5
Post Event Viewing	2

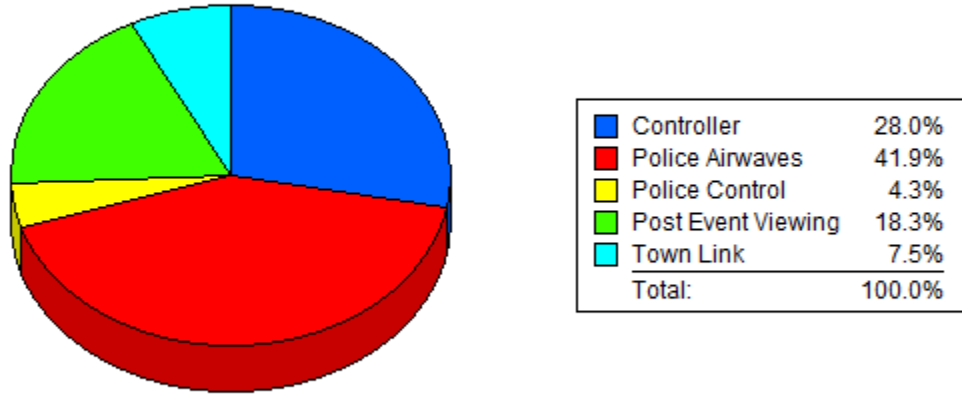
Total No. of Incidents in Zone Royston: 9

Total No. of Incidents : 93

Incidents Summary Analysis by Zone

01/09/2024 to 01/10/2024

No. of Incidents by Call Source



Incidents Summary Analysis by Zone

01/09/2024 to 01/10/2024

Camera Summary

Zone: Baldock

<u>Camera Name</u>	<u>Camera Location</u>	<u>No. of Incidents</u>
00802	Thurnall Close	2
00803	High Street Junc	5

Total No. of Incidents in Zone Baldock: 5

Zone: Hitchin

<u>Camera Name</u>	<u>Camera Location</u>	<u>No. of Incidents</u>
00300	Bancroft North	11
00301	Bancroft Park Car	7
00302	Bancroft Middle	5
00303	Bancroft	10
00304	Brand Street	11
00305	Market Place	9
00306	Market Place Sun	9
00307	Hermitage Road	12
00308	Woodside Car Park	2
00309	Churchyard South	11
00310	Churchyard North	4
00311	Sun Street	4
00312	Bucklesbury	2
00313	Biggen Lane Car	1
00314	Queen Street	3
00315	Portmill Lane Car	4
00316	Station Approach	3
00317	Nightingale Road	7
00822	Westmill John	1

Total No. of Incidents in Zone Hitchin: 57

Zone: Knebworth

<u>Camera Name</u>	<u>Camera Location</u>	<u>No. of Incidents</u>
00850	Station Road Junc	1

Total No. of Incidents in Zone Knebworth: 1

Zone: Letchworth

<u>Camera Name</u>	<u>Camera Location</u>	<u>No. of Incidents</u>
00401	Eastcheap Car Park	8
00402	Broadway Hotel	5
00403	Station Place	6
00404	Station Road West	3
00405	Station Road	2
00406	Station Road East	3

Incidents Summary Analysis by Zone

01/09/2024 to 01/10/2024

00407	The Wynd	2
00410	Eastcheap Middle	3
00411	Broadway Gardens	4
00412	Broadway South	1
00413	Gernon Road	1
00414	Howard Park Car Pa	1
00415	Norton Way South	3
00417	Leys Avenue Top	4
00419	Leys Avenue	1
00820	Grange Estate Southf	3
00821	Grange Estate Rear Sh	5

Total No. of Incidents in Zone Letchworth: 21

Zone: Royston

<u>Camera Name</u>	<u>Camera Location</u>	<u>No. of Incidents</u>
00810	Lower King Street	2
00811	Lower high street	5
00812	Upper High Street	2
00813	Corn Exchange Junc	4
00814	Market Hill	2
00815	Fish Hill Opp NU	1
04105	MG Caravans 5	1

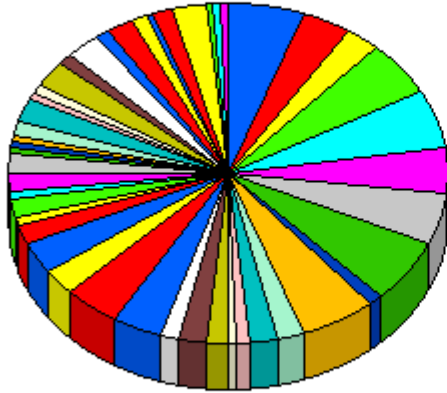
Total No. of Incidents in Zone Royston: 9

Total No. of Incidents : 93

Incidents Summary Analysis by Zone

01/09/2024 to 01/10/2024

No. of Incidents by Camera



0300	Bancroft North	5.6%
00301	Bancroft Park Car Park	3.6%
00302	Bancroft Middle	2.6%
00303	Bancroft Hermitage Rd	5.1%
00304	Brand Street	5.6%
00305	Market Place High St	4.6%
00306	Market Place Sun St	4.6%
00307	Hermitage Road	6.1%
00308	Woodside Car Park	1.0%
00309	Churchyard South	5.6%
00310	Churchyard North	2.0%
00311	Sun Street	2.0%
00312	Bucklesbury	1.0%
00313	Biggen Lane Car Park	0.5%
00314	Queen Street	1.5%
00315	Portmill Lane Car Park	2.0%
00316	Station Approach	1.5%
00317	Nightingale Road	3.6%
00401	Eastcheap Car Park	4.1%
00402	Broadway Hotel	2.6%
00403	Station Place	3.1%
00404	Station Road West	1.5%
Total:		100.0%

NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

DECISION SHEET

Meeting of the Joint Staff Consultative Committee held in the Virtual Via Zoom
on Wednesday, 9th October, 2024 at 10.00 am

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Val Bryant.

2 MINUTES - 12 JUNE 2024

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 12 June 2024 be approved as a true record of the proceedings and be signed by the Chair.

3 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- (1) The Chair advised that, in accordance with Council Policy, the meeting would be recorded.
- (2) The Chair drew attention to the item on the agenda front pages regarding Declarations of Interest and reminded Members that, in line with the Code of Conduct, any Declarations of Interest needed to be declared immediately prior to the item in question.

4 SCF MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the Committee noted the minutes of the Staff Consultation Forum for June, July, August and September 2024.

5 HR INFORMATION NOTE

The Human Resources Services Manager presented the Information Note entitled 'HR Update'.

6 DISCUSSION PAPER - COACHING

RESOLVED: That the Committee commented on and noted the Discussion Paper on Coaching.

7 SUGGESTED DISCUSSION TOPICS

The Chair suggested two topics 'Mental Health' and 'Neurodiversity in the Workplace' for the next meeting of the Committee and this was agreed with Members present.

RECORD OF DECISION MADE UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

PART 1 – PUBLIC DOCUMENT

Any interest to declare/ or conflict and any dispensation granted for the Officer or Executive Member
[**YES, the Executive Member for Community and Partnerships declared an interest in relation to grant 1.1.1 so the decision has been passed to the Leader of the Council in consultation with the Service Director – Legal and Community. See Legal implications**]

Any conflict with any Member of the Panel and the bodies concerned

[**YES – Cllr Tina Bhartwas. However, she declared his interest and therefore did not take part in the voting on this application.**]

SERVICE DIRECTORATE: Legal and Community

1. DECISION TAKEN

1.1 The approval of the allocation **North Herts Prosperity Fund** funding of:

1.1.1 **£14,622** to NORTH HERTS & STEVENAGE CVS towards their digital poverty project.

On condition that three relevant quotes are received.

2. DECISION TAKER

2.1 Cllr Daniel Allen, Leader of the Council, in consultation with the Service Director – Legal and Community.

3. DATE DECISION TAKEN:

9 October 2024

4. REASON FOR DECISION

4.1 The **District Wide Community Facilities Capital & Revenue Grants Panel** meetings held on 3 October 2024 considered applications for the North Herts Prosperity Fund and recorded their recommendation to the Executive Member for Community and Partnerships for the formal commitment of North Herts Prosperity Fund monies via the delegated authority process.

4.2 As the Executive Member for Community and Partnerships is the Council's representative on the North Herts & Stevenage CVS, she has a registerable disclosable interest and therefore cannot sign off on this decision which has been delegated to the Leader of the Council.

5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 There are no other reasonable alternative options.

6. CONSULTATION (INCLUDING THE EFFECT ON STAKEHOLDERS, PARTNERS AND THE PUBLIC)

6.1 Consultation has taken place with the District Wide Community Facilities Capital & Revenue Grants Panel members in a closed meeting on 3 October 2024. Members are in favour and recommend that the North Herts Prosperity Fund should be used for this purpose.

7. FORWARD PLAN

- 7.1 This decision is not a key Executive decision and has therefore not been referred to in the Forward Plan.

8. BACKGROUND/ RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS

- 8.1 This grant application was considered by the District Wide Community Facilities Capital & Revenue Grants Panel on 3 October 2024.
- 8.2 This delegated decision confirms that the recommendation made by the District Wide Community Facilities Capital & Revenue Grants Panel members was accepted by the Leader of the Council, and Service Director on application 1.1.1.
- 8.2.1 Funds are only to be released on condition of receipt of relevant quotes.

9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 Under the Constitution, the Executive Member for Community & Partnerships and Service Director Legal & Community have delegated authority to make these Executive decisions under section 14.6.9(b)(ii)A 5. The Executive Member has a conflict of interest in relation to the is body, therefore the Leader can exercise such powers, as per section 14.6.16.1. This decision will be subject to a five clear working day call-in period, following publication in the Members Information Service (MIS) and on the Council's website.
- 9.2 This grant has been assessed against the Subsidy Control Act 2022.

10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1. The North Herts Prosperity Fund budget is **£210,000**.
- 10.2. Of the £210,000 allocated there is a prescribed Capital/Revenue split on the funding. The proportion of spend will be £130,000 capital funding and £80,000 revenue funding.
- 10.3. When all grants that have been recommended and those that are tabled for recommendation are taken into consideration, they represent a split of £140,657.00 capital spend and £69,343.00 revenue spend. While this does not quite meet the prescribed split set out in paragraph 10.2, this has been reviewed in the context of spend against the overall UKSPF grant and this variance does not create a problem. This has been confirmed by the Economic Development Officer and S151 Officer.
- 10.4. Of the £210,000 budget, **£121,157** has been awarded, leaving **£88,843** to be allocated.
- 10.5. If the grant application in this delegated decision is awarded as outlined in 1.1.1, the remaining balance will be **£74,221**.
- 10.3 At the meeting to be held on 18 October, there are five grant applications to be heard that total **£74,221**.
- 10.4 If applications at all meetings are recommended, the amount recommended / awarded will total **£210,000**.

11. RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 Good Risk Management supports and enhances the decision-making process, increasing the likelihood of the Council meeting its objectives and enabling it to respond quickly and effectively to change. When taking decisions, risks and opportunities must be considered.
- 11.2 There is a requirement for allocated funds to be spent by the end of March 2025. Therefore, there is a risk that we will have to request the return of funds from applicants where projects have not been completed on time. This is assessed as unlikely, as the application process included an assessment of each applicant's ability to commence their project as soon as funding is available and to progress work in a timely manner.

12. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 12.1 In line with the Public Sector Equality Duty, public bodies must, in the exercise of their functions, give due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation, to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- 12.2 North Herts Prosperity Fund monies are awarded to groups that clearly demonstrate positive impact on the community and wider environment. The projects outlined in this report seek to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations.

13. SOCIAL VALUE IMPLICATIONS

- 13.1 The Social Value Act and "go local" policy do not apply to the matters contained within this report, as there are no recommendations on procurement.

14. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 14.1 The Fund's criteria enabled application for projects related to environment and climate. In addition to this, in further developing the criteria and scoring process applicants were asked to confirm which of the Council's priorities their project supported. Therefore, applications which fulfilled the Council's Sustainability priority were able to score an additional point for this, which could aid in boosting their overall score.

15. HUMAN RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 15.1 The activities of the Community & Partnership team are covered by existing budgets.

16. BACKGROUND PAPERS

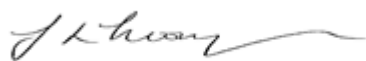
- 16.1 Terms of Reference for the District Wide Community Facilities Capital & Revenue Grants Panel can be found on the Council's website [Terms of reference](#)
- 16.2 [UK Shared Prosperity Fund Prospectus](#)
- 16.3 [North Herts Prosperity Fund Criteria](#)
- 16.4 [Community Grants Policy, 9th May 2023](#)

17. APPENDICES

- 17.1 See website links above.

NOTIFICATION DATE

11.10.24



Signature of Service Director Consulted

Date: 9.10.24

Signature of the Leader



Decision Taker ... _____

Please Note: that *unless urgency provisions apply* EXECUTIVE decisions cannot be implemented until 5 clear working days have elapsed after the decision has been taken to allow for scrutiny call-in.

Call-in does not apply to NON-EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

RECORD OF DECISION MADE UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

*PART 1 – PUBLIC DOCUMENT

Any interest to declare/ or conflict and any dispensation granted N/A

SERVICE DIRECTORATE: Place

1. DECISION TAKEN

- 1.1 To appoint Wilmott Dixon to prepare Heat Decarbonisation plans and support for an application to the Public Sector Decarbonisation Fund.

2. DECISION TAKER

- 2.1 Sarah Kingsley, Service Director - Place

3. DATE DECISION TAKEN:

04 October 2024

4. REASON FOR DECISION

- 4.1 To ensure the council had specialist support in order to successfully submit a bid for the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme and to deliver a Heat Decarbonisation Strategy covering the Council's remaining fossil fuel heated estate to meet requirements of grant funding awarded under the Government's Low Carbon Skills Fund (LCSF).

5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 5.1 To carry out a competition via the Council's E-sourcing system for the services required, however this would not have been possible, due to the timescales required to meet the LCSF grant conditions. Wilmott Dixon also provide additional value by engaging with their construction arm to ensure the proposed schemes were deliverable and costed accurately.

6. CONSULTATION (INCLUDING THE EFFECT ON STAKEHOLDERS, PARTNERS AND THE PUBLIC)

- 6.1 The Executive Member for Environment, Leisure and Green Spaces was consulted.

7. FORWARD PLAN

- 7.1 This decision is not a key Executive decision and has therefore not been referred to in the Forward Plan.

8. BACKGROUND / RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS

- 8.1 The Council was successful in its bid for funding to decarbonise our three leisure centres through the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS) in Autumn 2023 and was awarded a grant of £7.74m. This project is being delivered over 2024-25 and 2025-26. Our focus is now on decarbonisation of our wider estate, particularly

the District Council Office, North Herts Museum and Hitchin Town Hall (our priority buildings) to meet our 2030 target of being Carbon Neutral for our own operations.

- 8.2 To support this objective, the Council submitted a bid for a grant from the Low Carbon Skills Fund in April 2024 to produce heat decarbonisation plans and an overarching strategy covering our remaining fossil fuel heated estate. We were awarded this grant in July 2024. Through this grant, detailed feasibility assessments for the opportunities of low carbon heating (such as air source heat pumps) will be conducted for our priority buildings: District Council Office, Hitchin Town Hall and North Herts Museum, and the North Herts Leisure Centre learner pool. High level energy audits will also be carried out for: Royston Town Hall Annex, Grange Sports Pavilion, and Letchworth and Hitchin Lidos.
- 8.3 Having requested quotes from a number of consultancies to deliver this work, Wilmott Dixon were appointed through the SCAPE Framework to deliver the grant awarded through the LCSF, as well as to support an application to PSDS for our priority buildings: District Council Office, North Herts Museum, Hitchin Town Hall and the learner pool at North Herts Leisure Centre.
- 8.4 The priority buildings have been identified for submitting bids for PSDS funding due to our long-term commitment to these sites and their contribution to the Council's Scope 1 emissions (due to use of gas as a heating source). PSDS offers public sector organisations the opportunity to apply for funding which will help decarbonise their buildings. Therefore, applying to the fund allows the council an opportunity to decarbonise part of its estate, with a much-reduced capital outlay. Detailed applications have to be prepared for the scheme, including heat decarbonisation plans and further technical, risk and governance assessments.
- 8.4 Wilmott Dixon's appointment through the major works element of the SCAPE Framework for the initial plans would also allow us to directly award the construction contract for delivering the project to them should we be successful.

9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 Under 14.6.4 (a) (ii) of the Council Constitution, Service Directors have a general authorisation for "entering into contracts to carry out works and/or for the supply of goods and services within approved budgets".
- 9.2 The Council is a member of the SCAPE Framework which allows call off by relevant partner organisations. Therefore, under the Contract Procurement Rules (11), the Council is not required to undertake a full tendering procedure and can call off from an approved external Framework Agreement (CPR 11.1, 11.3) and shall follow the call-off procedure.
- 9.3 The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 (No. 2095) require officers undertaking non-executive decisions to record (amongst other things) an award of a contract that materially affects the Council's position in a written delegated decision. At North Hertfordshire District Council, this is any award of a contract or financial decision, that is or is likely to be above £50,000.

10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1. The LCSF grant awarded to deliver this work is £39,065.00 Additionally, £35,919.80 of an existing council budget allocated for producing heat decarbonisation plans will be utilised to deliver the work and submit a funding application to PSDS. This is considered a key opportunity towards reducing our fossil fuel usage and making progress towards meeting the Council's climate commitments.

- 10.2. There is currently no additional capital funding allocated to deliver decarbonisation works at our priority buildings. The council plans to submit an application to PSDS which commits 2025-26 to act as a planning year with works (and associated costs) delivered in 2026-27. If the Council is successful in its bid to PSDS round 4, a capital budget proposal will be submitted.

11. RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 There is a risk that the PSDS bid will be unsuccessful, or the planned works are not deliverable. However, with the LCSF funding, the financial implications of that are quite low. The work towards submitting the PSDS bid is valuable in understanding the options available and the financial implications of those options for planning future capital proposals.
- 11.2 There is also a risk that, if we are successful in our bid to PSDS round 4, that additional costs will emerge as the project develops, requiring additional capital funds to deliver. To mitigate this risk, Wilmott Dixon have engaged their construction focused colleagues earlier to get greater input in the plan designs. This is intended to ensure we gain a fuller understanding of construction costs prior to submitting a capital budget proposal.

12. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 12.1 In line with the Public Sector Equality Duty, public bodies must, in the exercise of their functions, give due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation, to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- 12.2 There are no equalities implications arising from this report.

13. SOCIAL VALUE IMPLICATIONS

- 13.2 The “go local” policy has not been applied because the support required is specialist in nature though the consultants appointed are locally based. Utilisation of a government grant (LCSF) to support this application has also limited opportunities to embed social value.

14. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 14.1 There are no Environmental implications associated with the appointment of Wilmott Dixon, though the heat decarbonisation plans that they produce will help the council understand how it can decarbonise our wider estate, thereby reducing impact on the environment. Appointing Wilmott Dixon will also result in an application to the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme. If we are successful, the scheme will allow us to deliver works highlighted in the heat decarbonisation plans on the Council’s priority buildings. These works would achieve energy and carbon savings. As such, a full Environmental Impact Assessment will be undertaken if the council is successful with its funding application, and at the point at which formal decision is made to move forward with the decarbonisation projects.

15. HUMAN RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 15.1 Wilmott Dixon were appointed in recognition that the council does not employ specialist staff who could produce heat decarbonisation plans and also had limited capacity to pull together the application. If successful in receiving the PSDS funding, the resource implications will be considered as part of the project management process.

16. BACKGROUND PAPERS

16.1 None

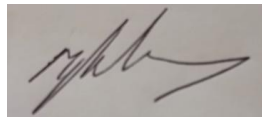
17. APPENDICES

17.1 None

NOTIFICATION DATE

04 October 2024

Signature of Executive Member Consulted ...



Date 04/10/2024

Signature of Decision Taker

J. King

Please Note: that *unless urgency provisions apply* EXECUTIVE decisions cannot be implemented until 5 clear working days have elapsed after the decision has been taken to allow for scrutiny call-in.

Call-in does not apply to NON-EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

RECORD OF DECISION MADE UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

PART 1 – PUBLIC DOCUMENT

Any interest to declare/ or conflict and any dispensation granted for the Officer or Executive Member
[NO]

Any conflict with any Member of the Panel and the bodies concerned [YES]

Items 1.1.7, 1.1.8 and 1.1.9 - Cllr Tina Bhartwas has provided funding for Khalsa FA, Letchworth Garden Shed and North Herts Minority Ethnic Forum from her HCC Locality Budget but not for these projects. She did not vote on these grants.

Items 1.1.9 and 1.1.13 - Cllr Ian Albert has previously funded North Herts Minority Ethnic Forum and Triangle Community Garden from his HCC Locality Budget but not for these projects, he did not vote on their applications.

Item 1.1.10 - Cllr Alistair Willoughby declared that he had been involved in helping to set up a North Herts Pride and did not vote on their application.

SERVICE DIRECTORATE: Legal and Community

1. DECISION TAKEN

1.1 The approval of the allocation **North Herts Prosperity Fund** funding of:

1.1.1 **£5,421** to BEEE CREATIVE towards the delivery of their Dance Re:Ignite 4.0 programme.

1.1.2 **£6,750** to CREATIVE CHEFS towards building a website.

1.1.3 **£6,000** to FC COMETS funding towards a mower that is suitable for the grounds in the autumn/winter months. ***On condition that three relevant quotes and robust safeguarding policy is received.***

1.1.4 **£8,000** to GROUNDWORK EAST towards Green Aiders project to help deal with the waiting list for their Green Aiders service, and to enable more households to access the service.

1.1.5 **£5,000** to HERTS MUSICAL MEMORIES funding to support the delivery of weekly singing sessions for elderly individuals with dementia.

1.1.6 **£12,225** to HITCHIN YOUTH ALLOTMENT to expand the project, to offer more opportunities to schools and community groups to take part in their activities. ***On condition of three relevant quotes having been received.***

1.1.7 **£6,100** to KHALSA YOUTH FOOTBALL ACADEMY funds for the hire costs of halls and drum displays for their futsal sessions and mini festivals.

1.1.8 **£5,500** to LETCHWORTH GARDEN SHED funding towards a tech recycling project. ***On condition of three relevant quotes having been received.***

1.1.9 **£19,134** to NORTH HERTS MINORITY ETHNIC FORUM towards Community Projects and Revitalise. ***On condition of three relevant quotes having been received.***

1.1.10 **£5,232** NORTH HERTS PRIDE towards hosting a charity gala.

1.1.11 **£6,589** ROYSTON SWIMMING CLUB towards swim meet costs and upgrading equipment.

1.1.12 **£8,119** STAND BY ME towards technology for group sessions. ***On condition of three relevant quotes having been received.***

1.1.13 **£20,000** TRIANGLE COMMUNITY GARDEN towards biodiversity, making plots more accessible and providing a kitchen area at the Triangle Community Garden

1.1.14 **£7,087** WALK THE WALK towards volunteer capacity building. ***On condition of three relevant quotes having been received.***

2. DECISION TAKER

2.1 Cllr Val Bryant, Executive Member for Community and Partnerships, in consultation with the Service Director – Legal and Community.

3. DATE DECISION TAKEN:

10 October 2024

4. REASON FOR DECISION

4.1 The **District Wide Community Facilities Capital & Revenue Grants Panel** meetings held on 3 and 4 October 2024 considered applications for the North Herts Prosperity Fund and recorded their recommendation to the Executive Member for Community and Partnerships for the formal commitment of North Herts Prosperity Fund monies via the delegated authority process.

5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 There are no other reasonable alternative options.

6. CONSULTATION (INCLUDING THE EFFECT ON STAKEHOLDERS, PARTNERS AND THE PUBLIC)

6.1 Consultation has taken place with the District Wide Community Facilities Capital & Revenue Grants Panel members in a closed meeting on 3 October and 4 October 2024. Members are in favour and recommend that the North Herts Prosperity Fund should be used for this purpose.

7. FORWARD PLAN

7.1 This decision is not a key Executive decision and has therefore not been referred to in the Forward Plan.

8. BACKGROUND/ RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS

8.1 The grant applications were considered by the District Wide Community Facilities Capital & Revenue Grants Panel on 3 and 4 October 2024.

8.2 This delegated decision confirms that the recommendations made by the District Wide Community Facilities Capital & Revenue Grants Panel members were accepted by the Executive Member for Community and Partnerships, and Service Director on applications 1.1.1-1.1.14.

8.2.1 With regards to the application in 1.1.3, funds to be released on condition of receipt of robust and adopted safeguarding policies.

8.2.2 With regards to the applications in 1.1.6, 1.1.8, 1.1.9 and 1.1.12-1.1.14, funds to be released on condition of receipt of relevant quotes.

9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 The Executive Member has delegated authority to make these Executive decisions under section 14.6.9(b)((ii)A 5 of the constitution, in consultation with the Service Director: Legal & Community. That decision will be subject to a five clear working day call-in period, following publication in the Members Information Service (MIS) and on the Council's website.
- 9.2 These grants have been assessed against the Subsidy Control Act 2022. Most of the proposals in this report are not subsidies as they do not relate to the supporting of goods or services that are also available commercially. For the Creative Chefs project, whilst there is a market for groups for parents/ carers and young children, the educational aspect means that it is not considered to be a subsidy. Support for the Green Aiders project is a subsidy as an alternative would be to use a commercial gardening service. Groundworks East (along with all the grant applicants) have confirmed that if their project is a subsidy, then MFA can be applied. This is because their total subsidy funding will fall below the required threshold.

10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1. The available North Herts Prosperity Fund budget is **£210,000**.
- 10.2. Of the £210,000 allocated there is a prescribed Capital/Revenue split on the funding. The proportion of spend will be £130,000 capital funding and £80,000 revenue funding.
- 10.3 When all grants that have been recommended and those that are tabled for recommendation are taken into consideration, they represent a split of £140,657.00 capital spend and £69,343.00 revenue spend. While this does not quite meet the prescribed split set out in paragraph 10.2, this has been reviewed in the context of spend against the overall UKSPF grant and this variance does not create a problem. This has been confirmed by the Economic Development Officer and S151 Officer.
- 10.4 The 14 grant applications in this delegated decision total **£121,157**. If the grants are awarded as outlined in 1.1.1-1.114, the remaining balance will be **£88,843**.
- 10.5 At the meeting held on 3 October 2024, a grant application for North Herts & Stevenage CVS was heard for **£14,622**. This recommendation is recorded in a separate delegated decision to be approved by the Leader of the Council due to the Executive Member for Community Partnerships having a registerable disclosed interest in NH&SCVS.
- 10.6 At the meeting to be held on 18 October, there are five grant applications to be heard that total **£74,221**.
- 10.7 If applications at all meetings are recommended, the amount recommended will total £210,000.

11. RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 Good Risk Management supports and enhances the decision-making process, increasing the likelihood of the Council meeting its objectives and enabling it to respond quickly and effectively to change. When taking decisions, risks and opportunities must be considered.
- 11.2 There is a requirement for allocated funds to be spent by the end of March 2025. Therefore, there is a risk that we will have to request the return of funds from applicants where projects have not been completed on time. This is assessed as unlikely, as the application process included an assessment of each applicant's

ability to commence their project as soon as funding is available and to progress work in a timely manner.

12. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 12.1 In line with the Public Sector Equality Duty, public bodies must, in the exercise of their functions, give due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation, to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- 12.2 North Herts Prosperity Fund monies are awarded to groups that clearly demonstrate positive impact on the community and wider environment. The projects outlined in this report seek to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations.

13. SOCIAL VALUE IMPLICATIONS

- 13.1 The Social Value Act and “go local” policy do not apply to the matters contained within this report, as there are no recommendations on procurement.

14. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 14.1 The Fund’s criteria enabled application for projects related to environment and climate. In addition to this, in further developing the criteria and scoring process applicants were asked to confirm which of the Council’s priorities their project supported. Therefore, applications which fulfilled the Council’s Sustainability priority were able to score an additional point for this, which could aid in boosting their overall score. Multiple projects recommended for funding in this report are planned to have positive impacts on climate and environment. For example, projects include refurbishing IT equipment so that it can be re-used and encouraging engagement with growing food and the natural environment.

15. HUMAN RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 15.1 The activities of the Community & Partnership team are covered by existing budgets.

16. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 16.1 Terms of Reference for the District Wide Community Facilities Capital & Revenue Grants Panel can be found on the Council’s website [Terms of reference](#)
- 16.2 [UK Shared Prosperity Fund Prospectus](#)
- 16.3 [North Herts Prosperity Fund Criteria](#)
- 16.4 [Community Grants Policy, 9th May 2023](#)

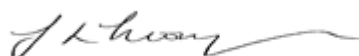
17. APPENDICES

- 17.1 See website links above.

NOTIFICATION DATE

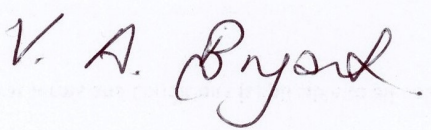
11 October 2024

Signature of Service Director Consulted



Date: 9.10.24

Signature of Executive Member for Community and Partnerships

Handwritten signature of V. A. Byard in black ink on a light blue background.

Decision Taker

Please Note: that *unless urgency provisions apply* EXECUTIVE decisions cannot be implemented until 5 clear working days have elapsed after the decision has been taken to allow for scrutiny call-in.
Call-in does not apply to NON-EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

EAST TEAM

Application No.	Applicant/Agent Address	Location Address, Applicant Name & Proposal
Ashwell Parish Council		
24/02237/TCA	Mr Ewan Habben Hbn Trees 5 Walkdens , Station Road, Ashwell, England , SG7 5RU, United Kingdom	38 Back Street Ashwell Baldock Hertfordshire SG7 5PE Mr Ian Murton 4 x Plum - Reduce in height to suitable growth points by up to 1.5m
24/02253/TCA	Mr Fred Burkitt The Blue Tree Company 50 Bunyan Road, Hitchin, SG5 1NN	32 Ashwell Street Ashwell Baldock Hertfordshire SG7 5QD Smithson T2: Elder - Fell to ground
Baldock		
24/02029/FPH	Mr Harrison Gilling 18 London Road, Baldock, Hertfordshire, SG7 6JN	18 London Road Baldock Hertfordshire SG7 6JN Mr Harrison Gilling Provision of vehicular access to property via dropped kerb and vehicle crossover.
Barkway Parish Council		
24/01882/FP	Gateley Smithers Purslow Mr Ian Lapsley Glaston Hall, Spring Lane, Glaston, Oakham, LE15 9BZ, United Kingdom	2 Pledgers Place Barkway Royston Hertfordshire SG8 8DQ Mr John Swain Erection of one 3-bed dwelling including associated parking, landscaping and works following demolition of existing fire damaged 3-bed dwelling.
Barley Parish Council		
24/02158/FPH	The Planning Consultancy Ltd Mr C Hennem 2 Bradbury Farm Barns, B1368 North From Junc With Hare Str, Hare Street, SG9 0DX	The Gray High Street Barley Royston Hertfordshire SG8 8HU Mrs Elle Moore Single storey side and rear extensions and roof extension including raised ridge height, part hip to gable end and insertion of 3 no. rooflights and second floor side window to facilitate conversion of loft into habitable accommodation.

24/02211/TCA	Mr James Cantle Shire tree limited 1A, Trigg Way, Melbourn, Royston, SG8 6HX	Treetops Cottage High Street Barley Hertfordshire SG8 8JA Caroline Eastern T1: Yew - Crown reduce by 2.5-3ms to clear neighbouring property and over head BT lines
24/02246/TCA	Mr Geoffrey Wilkerson Homestall The Mount, , Barley, Royston, Herts, SG8 8JG, United Kingdom	Land Adjacent To Horseshoe Farm London Road Barley Hertfordshire SG8 8JE Mr Geoffrey Wilkerson T1, T2: Ash - Remove. T3: Mature Ash - Reduce by 1/2. T4: Mature Ash - Reduce size by 1/3rd.
Bygrave Parish Council		
24/02043/AG	Redshed Design Architects James Isaac 45 Hoo Road, Meppershall, Shefford, SG17 5LP, United Kingdom	Land At Manor Farm Church Lane Bygrave Hertfordshire Mr D Northern Erection of No.2 manure shelters to existing pig housing and breeding sheds.
Letchworth Garden City		
24/02123/FPH	Mr David Vickerstaffe 15 Sollershott West, Letchworth Garden City, Hertfordshire, SG6 3PU	15 Sollershott West Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 3PU Mr David Vickerstaffe Installation of garden veranda with clear glass to rear elevation of existing garage.
24/02212/TCA	Elizabeth Schofield 50 Broadwater Avenue, Letchworth, SG6 3HJ, United Kingdom	50 Broadwater Avenue Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 3HJ Elizabeth Schofield 7x Conifer - Remove
24/02238/TCA	Mr Mark Gibson 4Seasons Specialist Tree Surgeons Ltd 19 Tansy Avenue, Stotfold, Hitchin, SG5 4GJ	6 Baldock Road Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 3LB Mrs Jean Sartorius T1: Sycamore - Reduce by approx. 30% to suitable lateral growth points. T2, T3: Cherry Plum - Reduce by approx. 25% . T4, T5: Yew - Reduce by approx. 25%. T6: Laurel - Prune to shape. T7: Conifer hedge - Trim

24/02256/TCA	Mrs Denise Southam The Eco Arborist Limited c/o Absolute Accountants, Hatfield, Hertfordshire, AL9 5AX, United Kingdom	Old Trees Letchworth Lane Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 3ND
		Alison Baigent
		T013: 4x Hawthorn, 3x Common Holly - Cut back height and width up to 20-30%. 1.2-1.8m. T017: Common Hawthorn - Remove. T019: Beech - Removal of dead limbs at 4m. T030: Lawson Cypress - Removal of dead limbs up to 8m. T043: Japanese Cherry - Remove dead limbs at 2 and 6m. T007A: Sycamore - Remove.

Reed Parish Council

24/02121/FPH	Articraftedgoods Mr Bradley Ryan 5 Hertford Road, Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire, en119jl, United Kingdom	1 Woodbine Cottages High Street Reed Royston Hertfordshire SG8 8AH
		Mr Kevin Bran
		First floor side extension to include side elevation Juliet Balcony.

Royston Town Council

24/02146/S73	Mr Morgan Bevan 15 Garden Lane, Royston, Hertfordshire, SG8 9EH, United Kingdom	15 Garden Lane Royston Hertfordshire SG8 9EH
		Mr Morgan Bevan
		Remove Condition Number(s): 3 (Obscure glazing) of planning permission reference 20/02656/FPH granted on 29/03/2021.

24/02148/LDCP	Survey Design (Harrow) Limited Mrs Angelika Worthington 93 Elm Drive, North Harrow, HA2 7BY	14 Kestrel Way Royston Hertfordshire SG8 7XW
		Mr And Mrs Hughes
		Rear box dormer and four front roof lights to facilitate conversion of loft space into habitable accommodation.

24/02164/LDCP	D.Chandler Architectural Design Ltd. Mr Daniel Chandler 61 Gernon Road, Letchworth, SG6 3HS, United Kingdom	39 Barkway Road Royston Hertfordshire SG8 9EA
		Mr & Mrs Peltier
		Insertion of roof lights to existing front roofslope and box dormer to existing rear roofslope to facilitate conversion of loft space into habitable accommodation.

Rushden And Wallington Parish Council

24/02060/FPH	Kay Pilsbury Thomas Architects Ms Melanie Meyer Honeylands, Radwinter, Saffron Walden, CB10 2TJ, United Kingdom	Julians Julians Park Rushden Buntingford Hertfordshire SG9 0TD	Mr Tim Millward	External alterations to Music Room and Service Wing. Partial conversion of Coach House (Home Farm) to residential annexe. Demolition of mid C20 Workshop and construction of Swimming Pool and Gym with link corridor together with erection of walled courtyard to south of new Pool and Gym. Demolition of 2no garage buildings (retaining early C18/early C19 wall and incorporated into the construction of replacement garage building). Reinstate loop driveway.
24/02061/LBC	Kay Pilsbury Thomas Architects Ms Melanie Meyer Honeylands, Radwinter, Saffron Walden, CB10 2TJ, United Kingdom	Julians Julians Park Rushden Buntingford Hertfordshire SG9 0TD	Mr Tim Millward	Internal and external alterations to Villa, Music Room and Service Wing. Internal alterations to former Coach House (Home Farm) at ground and first floor to facilitate partial conversion to residential annexe. Demolition of mid C20 Workshop and construction of Swimming Pool and Gym with link corridor. Demolition of the larger of 2no garage buildings (retaining early C18/early C19 wall to be incorporated into the construction of replacement garage building). Repairs to wall, pillars, and railings to Entrance Courtyard.

WEST TEAM

Application No.	Applicant/Agent Address	Location Address, Applicant Name & Proposal
Graveley Parish Council		
24/02118/FP	SBRice Ltd Mrs Deborah Rice St Jacobs Hall, Laxfield, Woodbridge, IP13 8HY	Land To The West Of High Street Graveley Hertfordshire SG4 7LE
		Bone
		Erection of weather shelter and dog play frame on dog walking field

Hexton Parish Council

24/02133/LBC	Intouch Planning Ltd Mr James Gran 4 Ennismore Close, Letchworth Garden City, SG6 2SU, United Kingdom	Hexton Manor Hexton Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 3JH Mr Reihmer Internal alterations to include installation of trench heaters to ground floor, replace existing hall floor, renovations to timber panelling in hall and dining room. Installation of plumbing, underfloor heating and electrical works to first and second floor and replace any damaged floorboards. Creation of wine room to lobby with stud walls and making some doors unusable. Remove and block up existing Chef's kitchen window to install cupboards.
Hitchin		
24/01926/FPH	Mrs Patricia Cook 13 Benslow Lane, Hitchin, SG4 9RE, United Kingdom	24 Benslow Lane Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 9RE Mrs Patricia Cook Replacement ground floor front bay window and window sill; first floor front window and ground floor rear window.
24/02057/FPH	Ms Heather Moye 1 Balmoral Road, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG5 1XG, United Kingdom	1 Balmoral Road Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 1XG Ms Heather Moye Change of use of existing detached garage/office to one self-contained 1-bed annexe ancillary to main dwelling. (Development already carried out).
24/02116/FPH	Mrs Claire Horobin 46 Wymondley Road, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG4 9PT	46 Wymondley Road Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 9PT Mrs Claire Horobin Increase in ridge height to facilitate conversion of loft into a habitable accommodation. Part two storey and part single storey rear and side extensions including rear balcony following demolition of existing garage and rear extension. Relocation of driveway including dropped kerb and installation of vehicular crossover (As a variation of previously approved planning permission 22/02406/FPH granted 02.05.2023). Erection of bin store in front garden.
24/02119/FPH	Mr Colin Rowe Mr Colin Rowe 38 Ferrars Avenue, Eynesbury, St Neots, PE19 2TZ	Hicca House 10 Russells Slip Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 2BJ Miss Bethany Kate Saunders Two storey side extension and part two storey and part single storey rear extension following demolition of existing conservatory

**NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
PLANNING CONTROL
COUNCIL OFFICES, GERON ROAD, LETCHWORTH, HERTS SG6 3JF**

**LIST OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED IN WEEK ENDING: 11/10/2024
DEADLINE FOR COUNCILLORS' CALL IN: 31/10/2024**

24/02165/LDCP	Rejig Homes Ltd Mr Abdul Haque 167 Heathfield Road, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG5 1TE	37 Bearton Road Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 1UE Dr Shuhua Cui Insertion of rear L shaped box dormer window and two front rooflights to facilitate loft conversion
24/02207/TCA	Mrs Allison Sparrow Arborcare Unit N, Shangri-La Farm, SG1 2JE	4 Hitchin Hill Path Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 9EU Dewar T1: Crab Apple - Reduce by 20% and shape. T2: Japanese Maple - Reduce by 20% and shape
24/02254/TCA	Mr Fred Burkitt The Blue Tree Company 50 Bunyan Road, Hitchin, SG5 1NN	52 Wymondley Road Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 9PT Ms Claudia Gore G1: Mixed Cypress group - Reduce in height by 5-6 m (approx 40% in height) and bring the sides into shape
St Ippolytts Parish Council		
24/02078/FP	Mr Edmund Wright Mr Edmund Wright The Barn, Preston Road, Gosmore, Herts, SG4 7QS	Land Adjacent To Calebs Cottage Stevenage Road St Ippolyts Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 7PE Mr Jonathan Erection of one self-build detached 1-bed dwelling including landscaping and parking
Wymondley Parish Council		
24/02143/LBC	Whitebrick Mr Colin Weatherall Morris 29B Hermitage Road, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG5 1BY	The Old Rectory Stevenage Road Little Wymondley Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 7HY Mr and Mrs Watts Internal partition alterations, bathroom and ensuite refurbishment and wall plaster repairs. New heating and hot water installation.

(Including Withdrawn decisions)

EAST TEAM

Application No: 24/01303/LBC	Location: 14 Ridge Road Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 1PN Applicant Name: Edward To Description: Replacement windows to rear elevation (as amended by drawing nos. 9608_1 V13-Item 1; - Item 2; - Item 3; - Item 4 and - Item 5 received on 25/09/2024 and revised Proposed Rear Elevation received on 02/10/2024).	Decision: Conditional Consent Decision Date: 08/10/2024
Application No: 24/01396/FPH	Location: 24 Jeffrey Close Royston Hertfordshire SG8 5DL Applicant Name: Mr Vasile Stanciu Description: Single storey rear extension following demolition of existing extension	Decision: Conditional Permission Decision Date: 08/10/2024
Application No: 24/01799/FPH	Location: 2 Willian Way Baldock Hertfordshire SG7 6JS Applicant Name: Mr Andrew Rock Teacher Description: Erection of a wooden log cabin to bottom of garden which is to the side of the house. (Development already carried out).	Decision: Conditional Permission Decision Date: 07/10/2024
Application No: 24/01841/FPH	Location: 2 Laxton Gardens Baldock Hertfordshire SG7 6DA Applicant Name: Mrs H Marshallsay Description: Single storey front extension and front canopy extension to car port	Decision: Conditional Permission Decision Date: 08/10/2024
Application No: 24/01866/LDCP	Location: 3 Hobbs Hayes Blacksmiths Lane Reed Royston Hertfordshire SG8 8AU Applicant Name: Mr P Hasell Description: Erection of double garage/store, fence, electric gate and extension to existing permeable gravel drive.	Decision: Granted Permission Decision Date: 07/10/2024
Application No: 24/01898/TCA	Location: Chestnut Tree Cottage Pedlars Lane Therfield Royston Hertfordshire SG8 9PX Applicant Name: Mr Michael McGloin Description: Sycamore - Pollard 50%	Decision: No Objection Decision Date: 03/10/2024
Application No: 24/01904/TCA	Location: King Edgar Yard Picknag Road Barley Hertfordshire SG8 8HW Applicant Name: Burch Description: T1: 10x Lime - Prune by 1m, crown to be raised by 2.5m	Decision: No Objection Decision Date: 04/10/2024
Application No: 24/01909/LDCP	Location: Hooks Green Barn Barley Mow Lane Clothall Hertfordshire SG7 6RF Applicant Name: Mr John Woodbridge Description: Provision of vehicular access onto the highway.	Decision: Granted Permission Decision Date: 03/10/2024
Application No: 24/01921/TCA	Location: 64 Lytton Avenue Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 3HY Applicant Name: Keogh Description: T1: Robinia - Crown reduce by removing up to 2m all round to shape and balance. G1: Hawthorn and Prunus - Reduce in height by 2-3m and shape the sides to balance. G2: Magnolia and smoke bush - Reduce to 1.5m.	Decision: No Objection Decision Date: 04/10/2024

EAST TEAM

Application No: 24/02006/LDCP	Location: 14 Greenway Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 3UG Applicant Name: Mrs Asa Herbert Description: Replace existing garage doors with windows and insertion of bi-fold doors to rear elevation to facilitate conversion of attached garage into habitable accommodation.	Decision: Granted Permission Decision Date: 07/10/2024
Application No: 24/02013/LDCP	Location: 45 Abbots Road Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 4UU Applicant Name: Ms Thayakaran Description: Hip to gable roof extension and insertion of rooflights to front and dormer window to rear roofslope to facilitate conversion of loftspace into habitable accommodation.	Decision: Granted Permission Decision Date: 07/10/2024
Application No: 24/02115/DOC	Location: The Nook North Road Baldock Hertfordshire SG7 5DW Applicant Name: Mr Ryan Long Description: Details reserved by Condition 3 (Rear extension materials) of planning permission reference 23/01904/FPH granted on 12.10.2023.	Decision: Approval of Details Decision Date: 04/10/2024
Application No: 24/02138/TPO	Location: 2 Downlands Royston Hertfordshire SG8 5BY Applicant Name: Mr Andy Brogden Description: T1: x 3 Horse Chestnut - Strong re-pollard to previous established size, shape and balance. T2: Lime - Crown reduce by 20-30%. Through pruning, dead wooding and overall reduction.	Decision: Conditional Consent Decision Date: 04/10/2024
Application No: 24/02172/TCA	Location: 221 Nevells Road Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 4TZ Applicant Name: Mr Darren Minshall Description: T2: Field Maple - Pollard 1m below the old pollard points shape and balance	Decision: No Objection Decision Date: 07/10/2024

WEST TEAM

Application No: 24/00551/FPH	Location: 2 Storehouse Lane Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 9AB Applicant Name: Mr Stephen Chown Description: Insertion of dormer window to existing rear roofslope and window to existing second floor side elevation to facilitate conversion of loftspace into habitable accommodation.	Appeal Decision: Appeal Dismissed Decision Date: 08/10/2024
Application No: 24/01368/LDCP	Location: Winch Hill House Winch Hill Road Luton Hertfordshire LU2 8PB Applicant Name: Mr Eldridge Description: Erection of 2no detached quadruple garage blocks	Decision: Withdrawn Decision Date: 04/10/2024
Application No: 24/01603/FP	Location: 204 Whitehill Road Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 9JE Applicant Name: Ms Brid Kelly Description: Erection of one self-build detached 2-bed dwelling following demolition of existing garage.	Decision: Refused Decision Date: 08/10/2024
Application No: 24/01647/DOC	Location: Land To The North And East Of Great Wymondley Arch Road Great Wymondley Hertfordshire Applicant Name: AGR Solar 4 Limited Description: Details reserved by condition 22 (Mitigation Strategy) of planning permission reference no 21/03380/FP granted 11.03.2024	Decision: Approval of Details Decision Date: 03/10/2024
Application No: 24/01663/DOC	Location: 15 Wadnall Way Knebworth Hertfordshire SG3 6DU Applicant Name: Mrs Katie Florez JBK Estates Ltd Description: Details reserved by condition 3 (Landscape Details) of planning permission reference no 19/03022/FP granted 30.03.2020	Decision: Approval of Details Decision Date: 07/10/2024

WEST TEAM

Application No: 24/01666/SO	Location: Land To The South Of Wymondley Substation And South Of Sperberry Hill St Ippolyts Hertfordshire Applicant Name: Nick Roberts Axis Description: Proposed solar farm measuring 35.5 hectares with associated battery storage and ancillary infrastructure	Decision: Not Required Decision Date: 04/10/2024
Application No: 24/01677/LDCP	Location: 22 Victoria Road Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 2LS Applicant Name: Mr Garry Burdett Description: Erection of detached rear garden room including home office, gym and attached shed storage.	Decision: Granted Permission Decision Date: 03/10/2024
Application No: 24/01688/FPH	Location: 28 Manor Crescent Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 9LY Applicant Name: Gopinath Ramaswamy Inthumathy Jayaban Description: Single storey rear and side extensions following demolition of existing attached garage. Insertion of solar panels to existing rear flat roof and erection of rear outbuilding (as amended by plans received 04/10/24)	Decision: Conditional Permission Decision Date: 07/10/2024
Application No: 24/01782/FPH	Location: 63 Ninesprings Way Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 9NS Applicant Name: Mrs Anne Piggott-Brown Description: Single storey rear extension following demolition of existing detached garage (as amended by FRA documents received on 07/10/2024).	Decision: Conditional Permission Decision Date: 08/10/2024
Application No: 24/01784/DOC	Location: 1 Manor Cottages Church Lane Graveley Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 7BN Applicant Name: Ms Elaine Southern Description: Details reserved by condition 3 (Main Roof Tiles) of planning permission reference no.18/03243/FPH granted 31.01.2019	Decision: Approval of Details Decision Date: 03/10/2024
Application No: 24/01822/FPH	Location: 63 Benslow Lane Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 9QZ Applicant Name: Mrs Helen King Description: Single storey rear extension following demolition of existing conservatory.	Decision: Conditional Permission Decision Date: 07/10/2024
Application No: 24/01830/FPH	Location: 60 Ninesprings Way Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 9NU Applicant Name: Mrs Laura Sabri Description: Two storey side extension. Alterations to existing garage roof and fenestration to facilitate the conversion of garage to self-contained 1-bed annexe ancillary to main dwelling	Decision: Conditional Permission Decision Date: 08/10/2024
Application No: 24/01844/FPH	Location: 11 Garden Fields Offley Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 3DF Applicant Name: Mr & Mrs Wells Description: Two storey side extension and single storey rear extension. Insertion of rear dormer window to facilitate loft conversion. Alterations to fenestration	Decision: Conditional Permission Decision Date: 08/10/2024
Application No: 24/01857/TPO	Location: 88 Symonds Road Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 2JL Applicant Name: Frost Description: T1: Silver Birch - Fell to ground level.	Decision: Conditional Consent Decision Date: 07/10/2024
Application No: 24/01868/S73	Location: Glencoe Villa Snailswell Lane Ickleford Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 3TS Applicant Name: Mr & Mrs A Del Basso Description: Removal of condition 9 of planning permission 23/00505/S73 granted 20.04.2023 for the erection of one detached four bedroom dwelling with associated access, car parking and hard and soft landscaping following the demolition of existing structures and hardstanding.	Decision: Refused Decision Date: 08/10/2024

WEST TEAM

Application No: 24/01887/AD	Location: 16 Bancroft Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 1JQ Applicant Name: Gail's Ltd Description: Installation of externally illuminated fascia lettering, to be installed to right side of fascia band and Installation of a metal awning box and retractable fabric awning with lettering to valance.	Decision: Conditional Consent Decision Date: 04/10/2024
Application No: 24/01888/LBC	Location: 16 Bancroft Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 1JQ Applicant Name: Gail's Ltd Description: Installation of a metal awning box and retractable fabric awning and repainting of shopfront. Internal alterations	Decision: Conditional Consent Decision Date: 04/10/2024
Application No: 24/01893/TCA	Location: 17 Graveley Road Great Wymondley Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 7EX Applicant Name: Settle Housing association Maria Free Settle Housing Description: 3x Evergreen - Remove	Decision: No Objection Decision Date: 03/10/2024
Application No: 24/02014/TCA	Location: The Village Green High Street Gosmore Hertfordshire Applicant Name: Mr Dudley Jooste Maydencroft Description: T4 289: Goat willow - Remove to ground level. T5 2398: Myrobalan plum - Remove 2 x failed limbs; Pollard remaining stem to just above union at 2.5m height. T6 2397: Myrobalan plum - Remove limb growing across lane back to main stem	Decision: No Objection Decision Date: 04/10/2024
Application No: 24/02128/TPO	Location: 5 Standhill Close Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 9BW Applicant Name: Mrs Karen Theakstone Description: T1, T2 Horse Chestnuts - Reduce back to previous pruning points, approx 1.5m. Remove epicormic growth.	Decision: Conditional Consent Decision Date: 04/10/2024
Application No: 24/02136/TCA	Location: Knebworth Golf Club Deards End Lane Knebworth Hertfordshire SG3 6NL Applicant Name: Mr Arran Johnson Description: 3 x Leyland Cypress - Remove in sections to ground level	Decision: No Objection Decision Date: 07/10/2024
Application No: 24/02139/NMA	Location: 18 Oakfields Road Knebworth Hertfordshire SG3 6NS Applicant Name: Alex and Helen Garrick Description: Configuration of rear extension roof amended; workshop footprint reduced with fenestration changes and solar panels added (as Non-Material Amendment to planning permission 23/01869/FPH granted 27.09.2023)	Decision: Agreed Decision Date: 08/10/2024
Application No: 24/02147/TCA	Location: 29 The Chilterns Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 9PP Applicant Name: Mr Callum Armstrong Description: T1: Hornbeam - Reduce by 3 to 4m.	Decision: No Objection Decision Date: 07/10/2024
Application No: 24/02151/NMA	Location: 34 Royal Oak Lane Pirton Hertfordshire SG5 3QT Applicant Name: Mr and Mrs Weatherall Morris Description: Omit basement (as Non-Material Amendment to planning permission 23/02622/FPH granted 22.01.2024)	Decision: Agreed Decision Date: 08/10/2024
Application No: 24/02155/TCA	Location: Old Hall Court 1 Horn Hill Whitwell Hertfordshire SG4 8AS Applicant Name: James Penfold Old Hall Court (Whitwell) Ltd Description: 3x Hornbeam - Reduce approx 2-3ft	Decision: No Objection Decision Date: 07/10/2024

PRESS RELEASE

PR 3885

8 October 2024

Good vibes at North Herts Museum!

Get some 'Good vibes' at North Herts Museum this Black History Month with an exhibition remembering Hitchin's house parties and sound systems from the 1960s to 1990s, and how this fun and fascinating local cultural scene began and evolved.

The exhibition, on show until **27 October**, shares the stories of those who were there, of how migrants from the Caribbean arrived in Hitchin with customs and traditions to build community togetherness through socialising at house parties. Rejected from pubs and social venues by the racism of many owners and customers, the new Black community decided to continue their traditions in the front rooms and sometimes basements of their homes, creating an opportunity for people to enjoy food, drink and music together.

Matt Platt, Assistant Curator at North Herts Museum, said: "The exhibition combines, stories, pictures and objects assembled by the community, highlights some key figures from the house party and later sound system scene. Remembering popular parties hosted by people like Miss Lou at her home on Dacre Road and Mr and Mrs Johnson's parties in Periwinkle Lane."

The exhibition also shares the ingenuity of how some members of this community created their own sound systems, featuring towering speakers and amps. Hear from people like Clint Bucknor of Amegus Downbeat about how sound systems really put Hitchin on the map, with different 'sounds' and their followers coming from places as far away as Birmingham to do musical battle in town.

North Herts Museum is located on Brand Street, Hitchin, open Tuesday-Saturday 10.30am-4.30pm and Sunday 11am-3pm, and this exhibition in The Arches and general admission to the museum is free.

ENDS

For more information please contact Anna.Cotton@north-herts.gov.uk / 01462 474403.

PRESS RELEASE

PR 3856

09 October 2024

North Herts Council serves up nearly £4,000 to support vital community projects

North Herts Council is thrilled to announce the allocation of nearly £4,000 of grant funding to two community groups*, supporting local initiatives that make a real difference to residents. Following recommendations from the Royston and Baldock Community Forums, the grants will empower these groups to continue providing valuable services.

Creative Chefs CIC has been awarded £1,940 from Royston Committee and £1,612 from Baldock committee to deliver their fun and educational cooking sessions for children. These hands-on workshops teach children how to make healthy food choices, cook a main meal to take home, and explore seasonal ingredients. With over 550 children already benefitting from these sessions across North Herts, Creative Chefs CIC is helping to reduce health inequalities and inspire the next generation of young chefs.

Angie Marshall, Founding Director Creative Chefs CIC, said: "I am absolutely delighted to be able to offer my Creative Chefs programme to the children of Baldock and Royston. The funding will be used to deliver fun healthy cooking sessions, to make cooking accessible to all and to inspire the next generation to be healthy eaters. In addition, part of the funding will be used to show children how to put together a lunch for when they are on school holidays and do not have school meals to fall back on. A huge thank you to North Herts Council for these very needed funds."

In addition, **Royston & District Parkinson's Group** will receive £1,092 towards venue hire and card readers, helping them expand their vital "Staying Active with Parkinson's" sessions. These events include singing, Pilates tasters, research presentations, and much more, providing crucial support for those living with Parkinson's in the area. As the group grows, these funds will make it easier for attendees to access the sessions and help the group thrive in the future.

David Bance, Treasurer of Royston and District Parkinson's group, said: "I am delighted to receive, on behalf of the local Parkinson's committee, the community grant which will ensure we can maintain a source of support for our Parkinson's, community."

Jeanette Thompson, Service Director for Legal & Community at North Herts Council, said: "We're proud to support these fantastic community initiatives that enrich the lives of local residents - we're excited to see them continue to grow and succeed."

The next Royston Committee will take place on 4 December 2024 and Baldock Committee on the 2 December, offering more opportunities for local groups to apply for support.

*grants are subject to the completion of the necessary formalities.

ENDS

For more information please contact Sarah.Jenkinson@north-herts.gov.uk / 01462 474210.