

NORTH HERTS COUNCIL

WEEK ENDING FRIDAY 22 NOVEMBER 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 18 NOVEMBER 2024

Planning Control Committee – 3 December 2024

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS WEEK COMMENCING 25 NOVEMBER 2024

Extraordinary Cabinet – 26 November 2024

Cabinet Sub-Committee (Local Authority Trading Companies' Shareholder) – 28 November 2024

Full Council – 28 November 2024

UPCOMING CHAIR'S ENGAGEMENTS FROM FRIDAY 22 NOVEMBER 2024

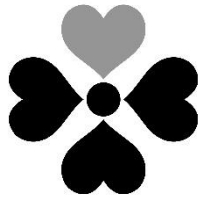
Date	Event	Location
	None	

UPCOMING VICE-CHAIR'S ENGAGEMENTS FROM FRIDAY 22 NOVEMBER 2024

Date	Event	Location
Wed 27 Nov 2024 @ 5.30pm	Light the World Orange	County Hall, Pegs Lane, Hertford, SG13 8DE

UPCOMING OTHER EVENTS FROM FRIDAY 22 NOVEMBER 2024

Date	Event	Location
25 November 2024 @ 2pm	Waste Communication Workshop	Buntingford
25 November 2024 @ 10am to 11.30am	White Ribbon Day Cake Sale	DCO Floor 1, Room 2



**North
Herts**
Council

STRATEGIC PLANNING & ENTERPRISE

MEMBERS INFORMATION NOTE

East West Rail

A non-statutory consultation on the preferred alignment for the East West railway line between Bedford and Cambridge has started and will run until **24 January 2025**. The railway will have no direct impact on North Herts as it will run through Bedford, Central Bedfordshire and South Cambridgeshire. It will however open up routes via a new Tempsford station on the East Coast Mainline between St Neots and Sandy. The attached Information Sheet from England's Economic Heartland sets out the wider context.

A notable change since the last consultation includes a commitment to electrify most or all of the railway line. EWR's preference is not to electrify some sections, to save costs and reduce visual impact, and run hybrid battery-electric trains. It is unclear how well this arrangement would work for freight locomotives.

Information about the consultation may be found at:
[East West Rail | Consultation 2024](#)

There is a virtual consultation room available online at:
<https://www.pinpointcloud.co.uk/eastwestrail/>

The in-person exhibitions closest to North Herts are:

- **Friday 22 November** - Shelford Rugby Club, Great Shelford
- **Saturday 30 November** - The Grand Hall (Bedford Sixth Form), Bedford
- **Tuesday 3 December** - Cambridge Belfry Hotel, Cambourne
- **Monday 9 December** - Bedford Swan Hotel and Spa, Bedford
- **Wednesday 11 December** - Wilden Village Hall, Wilden
- **Friday 13 December** - Stuart Memorial Hall, Tempsford
- **Tuesday 7 January** - St Neots Football Club, St Neots
- **Friday 10 January** - Comberton Village Hall, Comberton
- **Saturday 18 January** - The Clayton Hotel, Cambridge
- **Tuesday 21 January** - St Andrews Church, Cherry Hinton

If there are any points you would like North Herts Council to make in response to the consultation, please send these to Edward Leigh (email below) by **Monday 13 January**.

A further, statutory consultation is expected to be held late 2025 or early 2026, and the Development Consent Order application submitted approximately a year later.

Information note prepared by:

Edward Leigh, Senior Transport Officer
Tel: 01462 474 368
Email: edward.leigh@north-herts.gov.uk

East West Rail: a legacy for the region



“ A better transport system across the region: connecting people to job opportunities, skills and education, leisure, green spaces and sustainable communities, while regenerating existing places, reducing our impact on the environment, delivering biodiversity net gain and unlocking local prosperity and UK economic growth. ”

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A better transport system across the region...

East West Rail will transform journey times between the towns and cities in the region, meaning it will often be faster to use the train than jump in your car.

But it's not just about getting to the places directly on the line. By connecting with the UK's most important rail lines, East West Rail will completely open up the UK for those living in the region. By connecting at an East West Rail station (rather than travelling into London), journeys to the likes of Birmingham, Manchester, Newcastle, Bristol and Norwich will now be far easier by rail. Airports will also be within easier reach – including Luton, Stansted, Birmingham, Gatwick and East Midlands. And it will be a catalyst for wider transport improvements, including bus services and active travel.

In many ways, this is a case of the region going back to the future. The 'Varsity line', opened in 1846, had connected the region between Oxford and Cambridge, until its closure in 1968.

For the last 55 or so years, travelling by rail across the region has often required a change in London – making such journeys long, complicated and unrealistic. Yet, travelling by car is often also slow despite the relatively short distances involved.

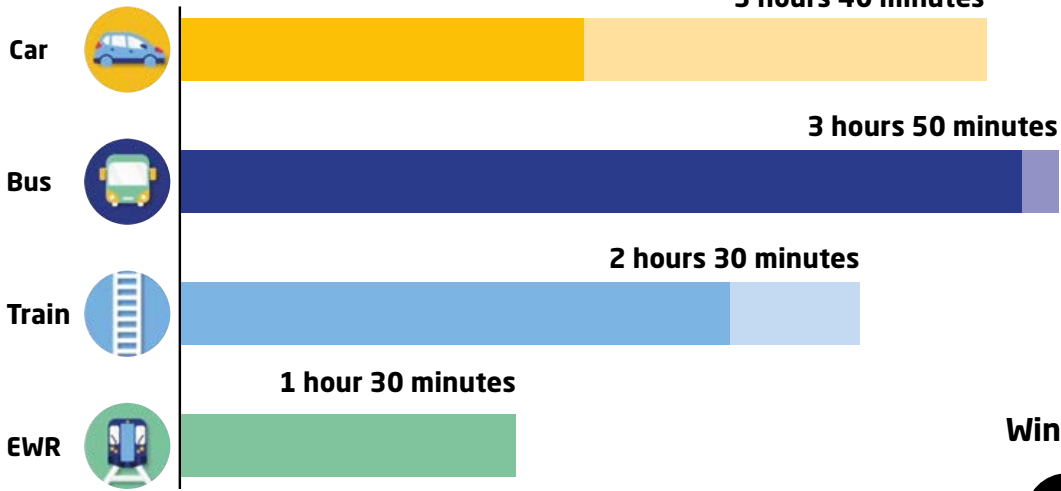
This means that, at peak times, a journey between Oxford and Bletchley, which in 1853 took 75 minutes by train, can in 2024 take more than 140 minutes, and even 90 minutes by car. East West Rail will reduce this journey to 40 minutes.

The end-to-end journey time between Oxford and Cambridge will be just 90 minutes, served by up to four trains an hour.



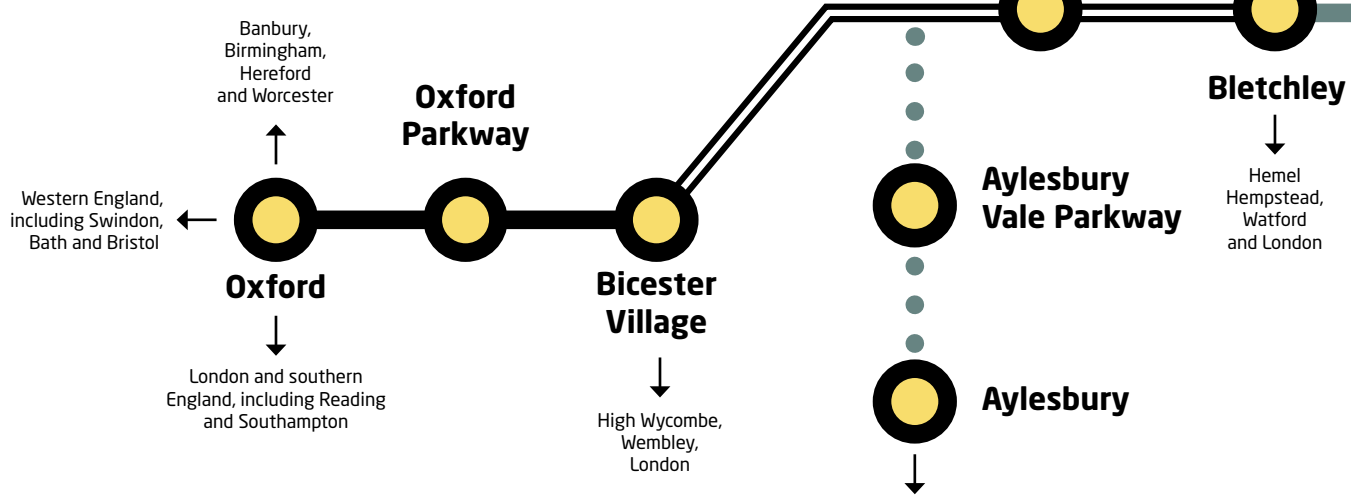
Oxford to Cambridge

Solid = Minimum journey time
Tinted = Maximum journey time
3 hours 40 minutes



Northampton, Birmingham and Glasgow

Milton Keynes Central



High Wycombe and London including Old Oak Common 'super hub' (the link between Aylesbury and Milton Keynes was part of the original scope for East West Rail but is not included within the East West Railway Company's current consultation. England's Economic Heartland continues to make the strongest case for its delivery)

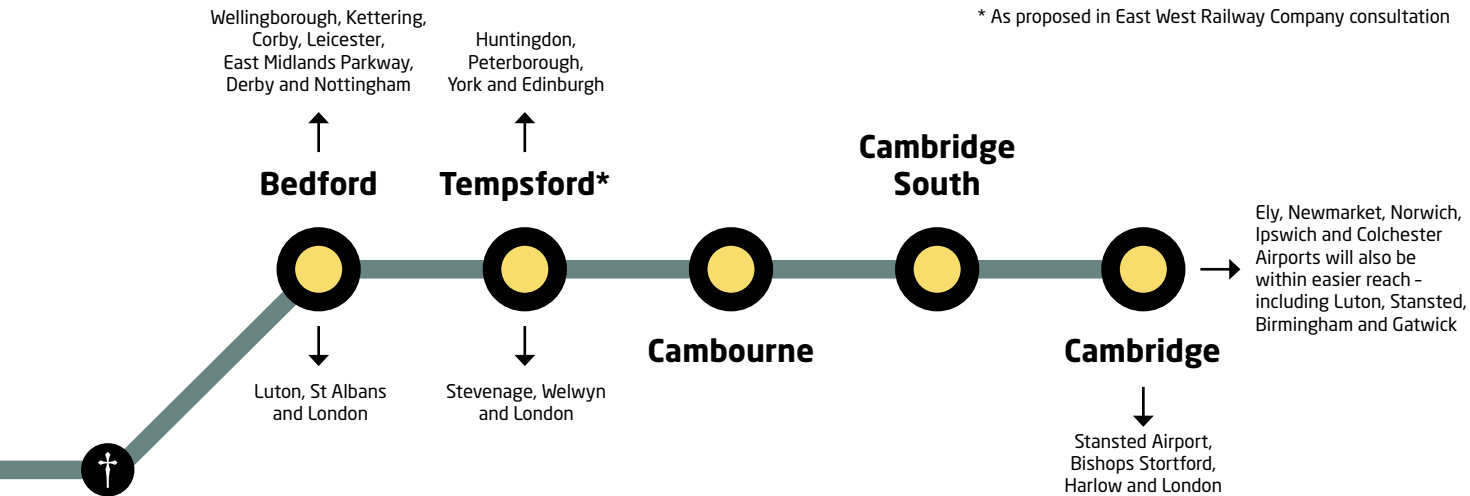
"My family lives in Oxford so I do go home quite a lot. [East West Rail would] be great because I normally get the coach [from Cambridge] which is longer or go across London and back up to Oxford, so it would be great to have something more direct."



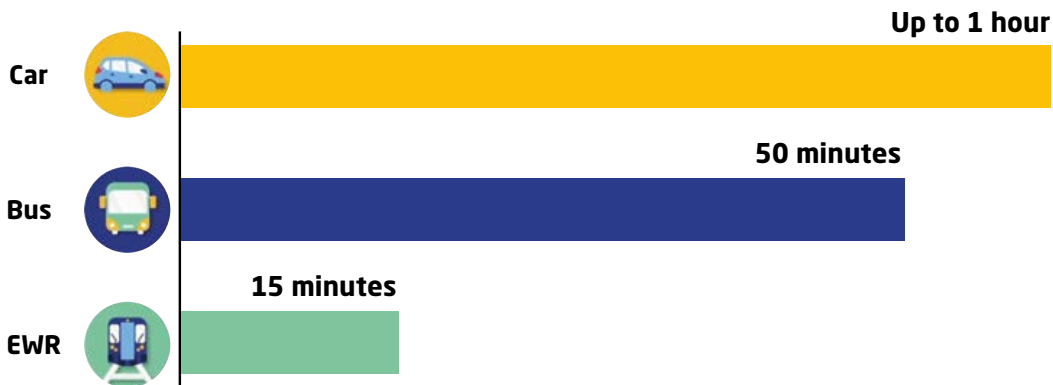
Key

- Line completed
- Due to open in 2025
- Route under consultation, with Bletchley-Bedford due to open by 2030, and Bedford-Cambridge in mid-2030s.
- Station configuration between Bletchley and Bedford to be confirmed by East West Railway Company

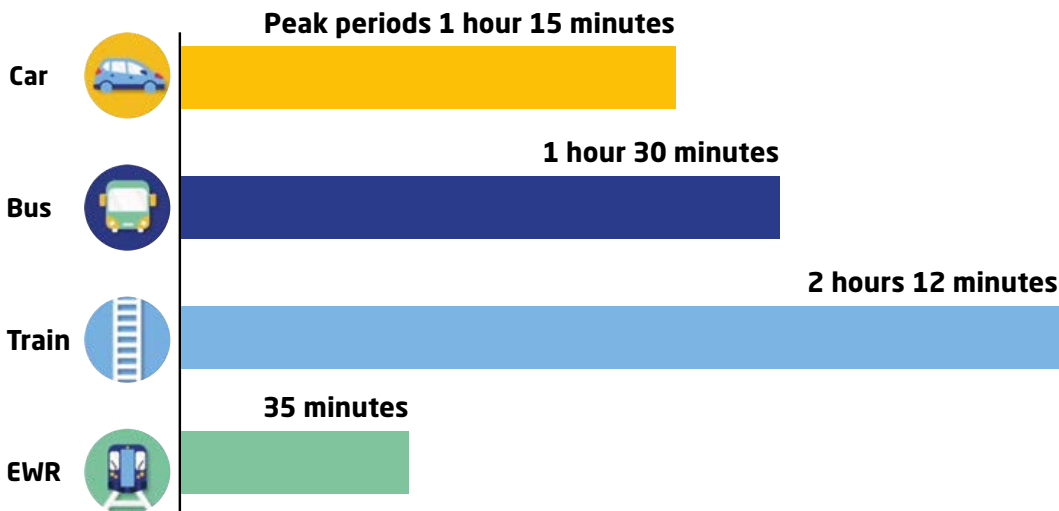
* As proposed in East West Railway Company consultation



Cambourne to Cambridge



Bedford to Cambridge



...connecting people to job opportunities...

East West Rail significantly expands the region's jobs market. Opportunities in places previously considered out of reach will very much now be in reach.

Faster, more productive and more affordable ways to travel will not only connect people to more jobs, but also to the widest possible choice of paths for their careers to take.

The region is home to some of the world's very best and most exciting industries and businesses at the cutting edge of technological and scientific development, including life sciences, advanced engineering, data and AI, and the creative sector. Now, those roles will be accessible to more people, especially those who cannot afford to live where the jobs may be located.


And again, it's not just those places on the line – centres of employment such as Northampton, Watford, Stevenage and Peterborough will also be within a single connection, as will the film studios such as Pinewood and Elstree in south Buckinghamshire and Hertfordshire.

There are 2.6 million jobs in the England's Economic Heartland region, including 25% of all England's life science roles, 12% advanced physics and engineering, and 10% digital and creative.

Those job numbers are only likely to further expand with businesses and investors supported and encouraged by East West Rail. There is a thriving start-up scene and many of the companies that start here grow fast and become thriving businesses. Whether it's the likes of Oxford Nanopore or AbCam in Cambridge, Oxford and Cambridge produce the same number of 'Unicorns' as Berlin and Paris.

Milton Keynes, at the heart of the region, is a testbed for AI innovation, with over 1,000 people with direct AI or machine learning skills and is home to over 6,000 software engineers and 4,000 data engineers, while Cambridge's rate of patent applications – a key indicator of innovation – is the highest in the UK, at over 12 times the national average.

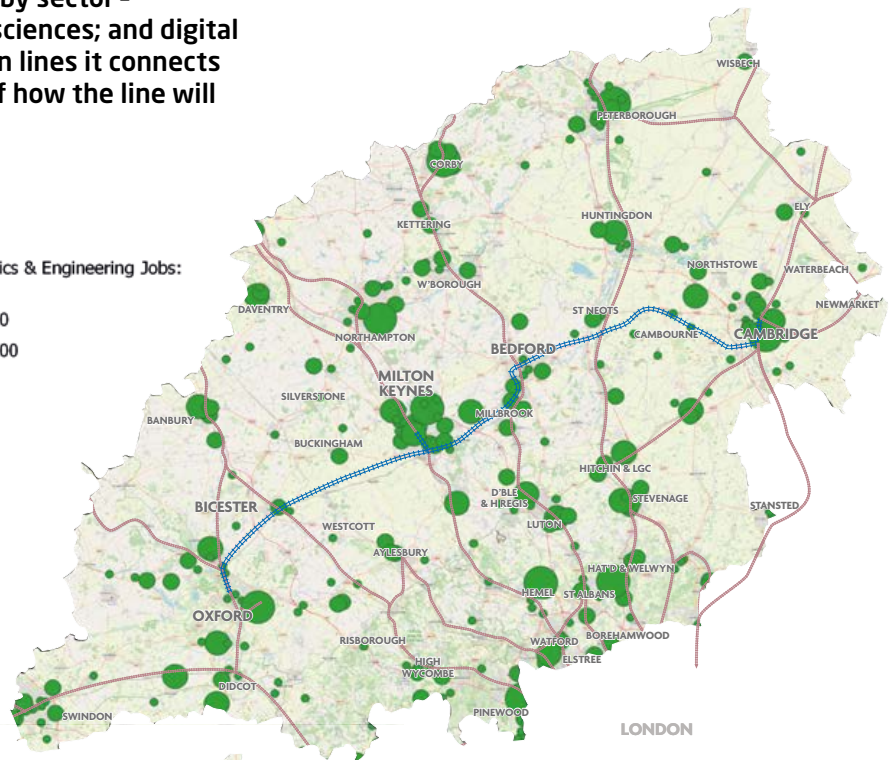
Moreover, with East West Rail, those businesses are more likely to locate throughout the region. With space in Oxford and Cambridge running out, the rail line will make it possible for businesses to grow by taking accessible and affordable space elsewhere along the railway line, much like Cambridge Medical Supplies has done by expanding into Ely. This will keep business growth in the region and spread the prosperity all the way along the East West Rail line.



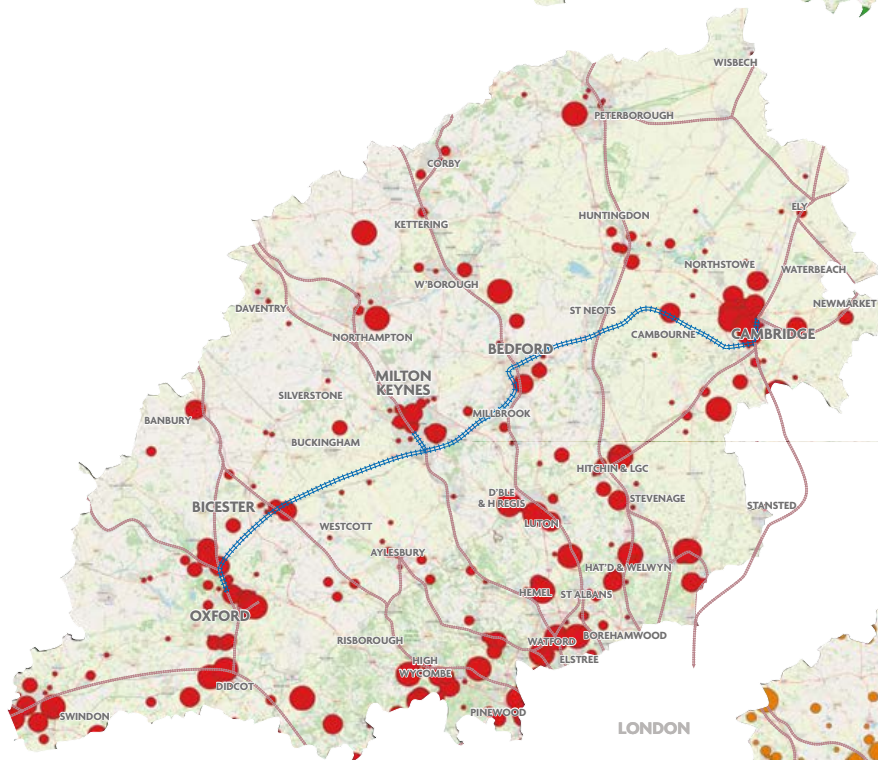
"I work daily in Milton Keynes so I think a faster service [from Bedford]... would be more direct and more convenient for passengers."

These maps shows the locations of jobs by sector - advanced physics and engineering; life sciences; and digital and creative. East West Rail and the main lines it connects into are also shown - a visual indicator of how the line will open up the jobs market in the region.

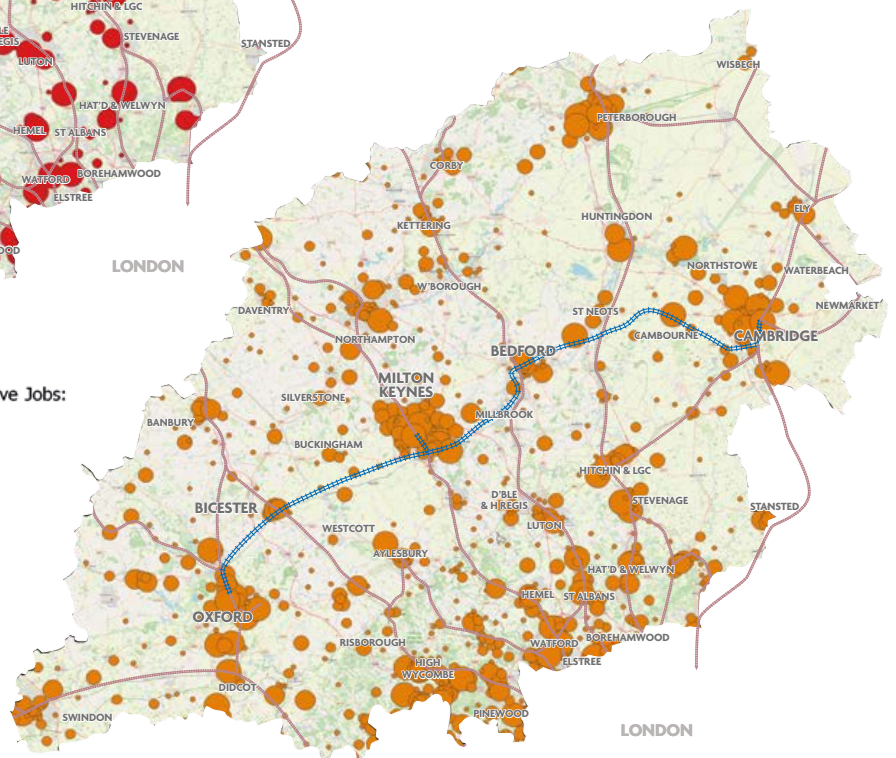
- EEH Area
- Advanced Physics & Engineering Jobs:
 - 200 - 500
 - 500 - 1000
 - 1000 - 2000
 - 2000+



- EEH Area
- Life Sciences Jobs:
 - 20 - 50
 - 50 - 100
 - 100 - 200
 - 200 - 400
 - 400+



- EEH Area
- Digital & Creative Jobs:
 - 20 - 50
 - 50 - 100
 - 100 - 200
 - 200 - 400
 - 400+



...skills and education...

East West Rail is opening access to the widest choices of vocational training, apprenticeships and academic courses.

This is particularly important to young people, students and low-income households for whom access to skills and education is so important, and who are less likely to own a car and so rely on public transport.

East West Rail provides access to the University of Oxford, Oxford Brookes University, the Open University, University of Bedfordshire, Anglia Ruskin University and University of Cambridge, while the likes of Cranfield and Buckingham universities only require a short connection by bus. Other institutions, such as University of Northampton and University of Bedfordshire Luton campus are also within reach via a single connection.

Colleges and business schools will also be far more accessible, from the Said Business School in Oxford to the Judge Business School in Cambridge, and Milton Keynes College to Bedford College.


...leisure...

The places served by East West Rail offer some of Britain's best culture, museums, shopping and family days out, from the modern attractions of Bicester Village shopping centre or indoor skydiving and skiing in Milton Keynes, through to the historic cities of Oxford and Cambridge.

Travelling to these places by car, however, can be stressful, time consuming and expensive, – and, of course, may not always allow people to experience nightlife to the full.

By rail, journeys to these destinations are simple. As East West Rail connects more people to these attractions, simpler travel will boost the region's leisure, hospitality and nightlife industries – meaning even more places to go and more things to do.

Within a single interchange are attractions such as the Harry Potter Studio Tour in Watford (change at Bletchley – or alight there first to visit the famous home of the Codebreakers), while Blenheim Palace is a bus journey from Oxford Parkway Station. Communities in Winslow, Tempsford and and Cambourne will also be able to access fast trains into London for the first time.



“For students I think it will mean quite a lot to have a rail service, being able to get the train from [Bedford to] MK or Cambridge, it’s a lot easier than driving lessons and cheaper than the cost of fuel at the moment.”

...green spaces...

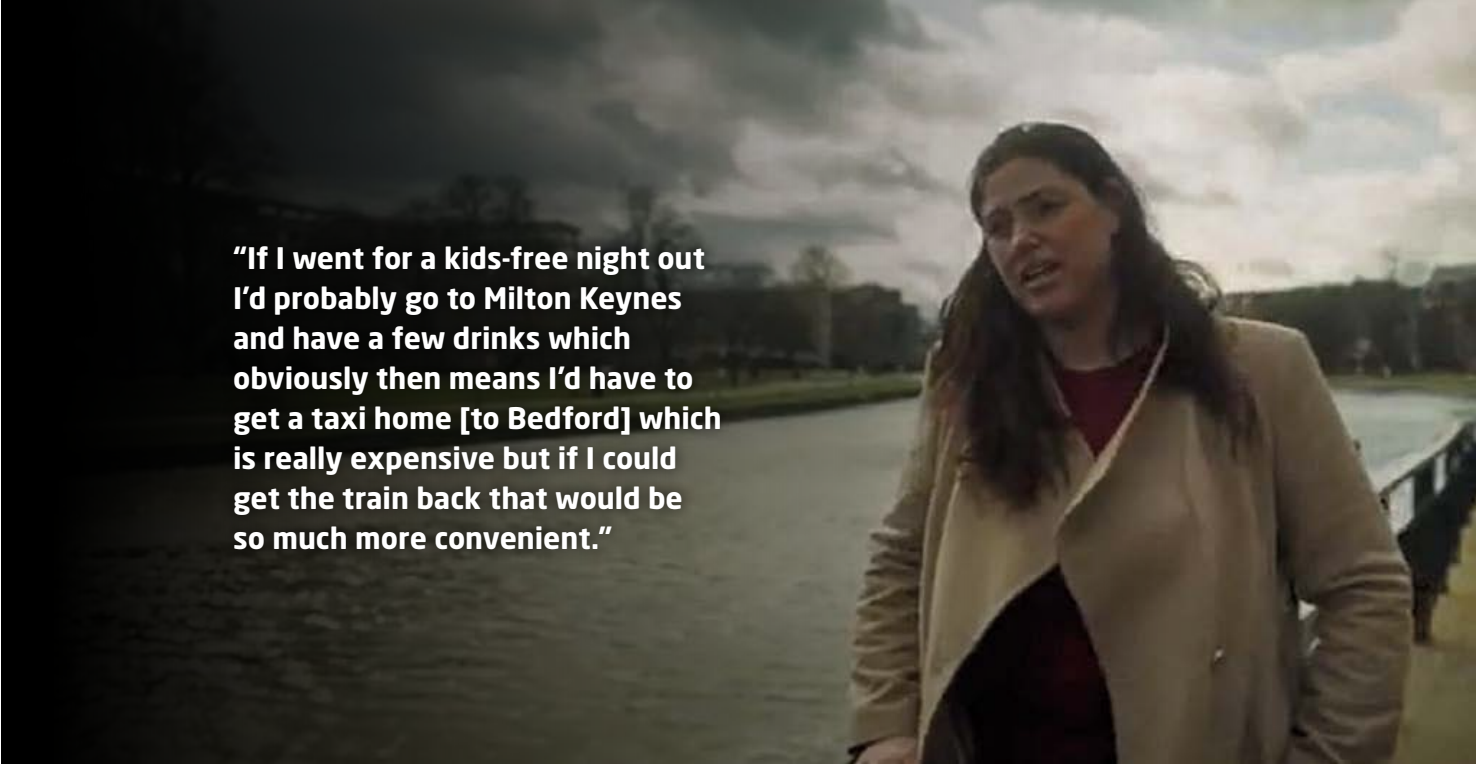
The East West Rail scheme will provide extensive opportunities for accessing existing green spaces as well as creating new spaces for local communities. This is a key consideration as part of the scheme's design, and East West Railway Company says it will work with local communities and partners to meet their needs and to establish ambitious targets for improving the region's quality of life through improving access to nature-rich green space in rural and urban areas, where appropriate, while maintaining a sense of wilderness and protecting species. A key enabling factor will be how the scheme links up the extensive network of rights of way across the region. The route will provide significant opportunities for meeting health and wellbeing ambitions, including the provision of access to areas for green social prescribing, and enabling greater access to leisure based enjoyment of nature, from pocket parks to biodiversity on our streets initiatives.

...and sustainable communities...

East West Rail has the potential to support sustainable communities, putting public transport at the heart of development and travel choices in the region. The proposed East West Rail route strongly aligns with allocated sites in local plans across the region, where house prices have become unaffordable for most of the population.

In Oxford and Cambridge, average house prices are 12 times more than average yearly earnings — compared to around eight times more nationally. This prevents many people from living in these areas and within a short commute of the available job opportunities. Many young people cannot see the region as their permanent and long term home, as they cannot afford to get on the housing ladder.

East West Rail will act as part of the solution to the region's housing problem by providing new connections from residential communities to the education and employment opportunities in the region's economic centres — and will unlock access to new affordable and sustainable homes, where increasing demand for the current supply is driving prices upwards.



“If I went for a kids-free night out I’d probably go to Milton Keynes and have a few drinks which obviously then means I’d have to get a taxi home [to Bedford] which is really expensive but if I could get the train back that would be so much more convenient.”

...while regenerating existing places...

Increased connectivity will drive urban renewal and town centre regeneration throughout the region by attracting new investment and new housing in other town centres along the route.

East West Rail will create opportunities to reframe local stations as the gateway to their towns and stimulate regeneration. In Bletchley, this has already accelerated plans to develop the iconic Brunel shopping centre. A brand-new station in Bedford will improve access to the local hospital.

Oxford, Milton Keynes and Bedford all contain neighbourhoods which are among the top 10% most deprived in the country.


...reducing our impact on the environment...

Emissions from surface transport per capita in the England's Economic Heartland region are currently 30% higher than the UK average. Often people drive because they simply have no other choice – but East West Rail will change this directly, and will also acting as a catalyst for wider improvements to sustainable transport.

Rail travel can reduce emissions by up to 66% compared to travel by car. By giving people a choice in how they travel, and enabling them to cut their everyday emissions, the positive environmental effects of East West Rail will accelerate progress to net zero.

Locally, the positive effects will be more immediately felt. Getting people off the road and onto rail will reduce congestion and improve air quality, so walking through, and existing in, our urban areas will be more pleasant.

Following years of campaigning by local leaders, East West Railway Company announced this autumn that the trains would be powered through 'discontinuous electrification' rather than dirtier diesel.



"We've noticed a difference with the cost of living crisis, it really has reduced people's spending but I think an increase in transport would definitely increase more people into the area."

...delivering biodiversity net gain...

By encouraging a modal shift from cars and lorries, East West Rail will reduce traffic congestion, improve air quality, promote environmental sustainability and support the UK's energy transition. East West Rail aims to be a net zero passenger railway and is exploring new technologies to power its trains that reduce carbon emissions and support the Government's ambitious climate agenda.

East West Railway Company says it is committed to finding ways to protect species development, so biodiversity is left in a better state than we found it. This includes through pledging a target of 10% biodiversity net gain for the route. The scheme's nine environmental principles are aligned to the regional principles, developed by the Oxford to Cambridge Pan Regional Partnership, and are being embraced by partners and the supply chain.

Creating sanctuaries for rare and protected species is a key commitment. East West Rail's first section between Oxford and Milton Keynes has already successfully established 20 Ecological Compensation Sites (ECS), designed to enhance connections between habitats and safeguard species across the route. These sites include 45 ponds, badger setts, over 70 bat boxes and more than 150,000 plants and trees have been planted. The sites have transformed previously low-diversity land into wildlife havens. Surveys conducted on the ECS to date demonstrate tangible successes and this is just the start.

...improving quality of life...


East West Rail will mean local people can spend less time stuck in traffic and more time focusing on what matters to them. Fast, stress-free, travel with lower carbon emissions mean happier residents and healthier communities. More efficient commuting routes open up affordable housing options in less well-served areas, supporting growth and investment. This will not only enhance the quality of life for residents and create access to jobs, it will also reduce costs for business, improve their productivity and drive growth.

...and unlocking local prosperity and UK economic growth.

With its knowledge-intensive sectors and world leading businesses, the Heartland region is uniquely placed to deliver economic advances quickly.

The connectivity East West Rail provides will enable Oxford, Bicester, Milton Keynes, Bedford and Cambridge to reach their full potential. The railway will ensure inclusive sustainable growth for everyone, including those areas that have fallen behind, while also unlocking economic growth for the whole of the UK. Better transport connectivity will make the region more attractive for international companies.

As they expand, so too will their investment in supply chains across the UK, just as AstraZeneca has shown with its further commitment to £650 million investment in the UK, which includes significant funding for not only this region but for England as a whole.



"If I'd got the train from Oxford to Cambridge today I could have worked on my laptop, it would have been more comfortable, more direct, and it also has a better impact for the environment."

**Legal & Community
Committee & Member Services**

MEMBERS INFORMATION NOTE

SCRUTINY INTRANET PAGES

We are delighted to announce that we have now launched scrutiny intranet pages to support you through your scrutiny journey!

These pages are the central resource where you can find key information, links to documents/guides and training. There are three pages - a generic landing page, Members page and Officers page:

- [Scrutiny](#)
- [Scrutiny: Members page](#)
- [Scrutiny: Officers page](#)

You can also navigate to the pages from The Hub homepage by selecting Our Teams> Legal & Community> Scrutiny

The pages will be continuously added to and developed to best suit the needs of both officers and members – let us know what you think so we can ensure that you have everything you need to actively partake in the scrutiny process.

Should you have any suggestions, questions or if you think you've got a piece of work that might benefit from the scrutiny processes, please email: scrutinyofficer@north-herts.gov.uk

White Ribbon Day
CAKE



Sale

to help end violence against
women and girls



25th November
10:00 – 11:30am
Floor 1, Room 2
(next to the Council Chamber)

North Herts Council is fundraising for
White Ribbon Campaign
& SADA



SADA



White Ribbon



LEGAL & COMMUNITY COMMITTEE & MEMBER SERVICES

MEMBERS INFORMATION NOTE

CORPORATE PARENTING SESSION

Hertfordshire County Council have organised two Member briefing sessions on Corporate Parenting.

The sessions will include:

- Raising awareness of Corporate Parenting.
- Understanding your legal duty towards Corporate Parenting.
- Learning how you can actively contribute to improving the lives of Hertfordshire children who are looked after and care leavers.

The sessions are online via Teams and have the same content with an expected duration of 45 minutes.

3 December at 11:30 [Join the meeting now](#)

6 December at 13:00 [Join the meeting now](#)

Committee Services

01462 474655

Committee.Services@north-herts.gov.uk

NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

DECISION SHEET

Meeting of the Cabinet held in the Council Chamber, District Council Offices, Gernon Road,
Letchworth, Herts, SG6 3JF
on Tuesday, 19th November, 2024 at 7.30 pm

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Tamsin Thomas.

2 MINUTES - 10 SEPTEMBER 2024

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 10 September 2024 be approved as a true record of the proceedings and be signed by the Chair.

3 NOTIFICATION OF OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business notified.

4 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- (1) The Chair advised that, in accordance with Council Policy, the meeting would be recorded.
- (2) The Chair reminded Members that the Council had declared both a Climate Emergency and an Ecological Emergency. These are serious decisions, and mean that, as this was an emergency, all of us, Officers and Members had that in mind as we carried out our various roles and tasks for the benefit of our District.
- (3) 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) The Chair advised for the purposes of clarification that 4.8.23(a) of the Constitution did not apply to this meeting.

5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation at the meeting.

6 ITEMS REFERRED FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

The Chair advised that the item referred from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee would be taken with Item 7 on the agenda.

7 MUSEUM STORAGE OPTIONS APPRAISAL

RESOLVED: That Cabinet:

- (1) Noted the current projected costs, advantages and disadvantages of each option.
- (2) Approved use of £30k of the allocated £4m budget in the current capital programme for this project to develop more detail on the costs of Option D and to acquire the necessary details for a planning application to be made.

- (3) Approved use of £20k of the allocated £4m budget in the current capital programme for this project to develop more detail on the costs of Option E, should a suitable property become available.
- (4) Considered and gave approval for officers to apply for grant funding towards the investigations mentioned in 2.2 and 2.3 and recognise the need to align investigations with grant funding timetables in this instance.
- (5) Resolved to discount options A, B and G and recommend that they are no longer developed or explored further.
- (6) Indicated that Options C, F and H outlined within the report should be pursued further.

REASONS FOR DECISIONS:

- (1) Officers do not have the capacity or financial budget to progress all 8 options to an advanced stage and some early decisions are required in order to focus time and budget on pursuing the most advantageous options based on the best information available to officers and members at the present time.
- (2) In addition, the pursuit of greater detail on a number of the options will require expenditure on external reports and consultants which officers are seeking Cabinets approval to progress. Estimated figures are included in the main body of the report which can be found in Appendix 1 and are summarised in the Executive Summary Grid in Appendix 2.

8 CODICOTE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

RESOLVED: That Cabinet approved that public consultation can be undertaken for the submission version of the Codicote Neighbourhood Plan.

REASON FOR DECISION: To enable public consultation on the proposed submission Codicote Neighbourhood Plan 2022 – 2035 to take place before the Neighbourhood Plan is submitted for examination by an independent examiner.

9 LAND NORTH-EAST OF GREAT ASHBY (GA2) STRATEGIC MASTERPLAN FRAMEWORK

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL: That the Strategic Masterplan Framework for the land North-East of Great Ashby (Local Plan site GA2), attached at Appendix A, is approved and adopted as a material planning consideration for relevant planning decisions relating to the site.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION:

- (1) To set an agreed design framework for the delivery of a strategic site within the Council's adopted Local Plan.
- (2) To accord with policy requirements of the Local Plan.

10 NORTH STEVENAGE STRATEGIC MASTERPLAN FRAMEWORK

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL:

- (1) Following the Full Council decision not to adopt the masterplan in July 2024, the additional information and clarification in this report is noted.
- (2) The Strategic Masterplan Framework for North Stevenage, attached at Appendix B, is approved and adopted as a material planning consideration for relevant planning decisions relating to the site.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

- (1) To facilitate the delivery of a strategic site within the Council's adopted Local Plan.
- (2) To accord with policy requirements of the Local Plan.

11 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the said Act (as amended).

12 EXTENSION OF PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT BETWEEN CARELINE AND HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL - PART 2

RESOLVED: That Cabinet noted the recommendations in Part 1 of this report.

13 EXTENSION OF PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT BETWEEN CARELINE AND HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL - PART 1

RESOLVED: That Cabinet:

- (1) Approved the extension of the agreement between Herts Careline and HCC for a period of five years to run from 01 April 2026 to 31 March 2031. This contract will be delivered by way of delegation from HCC to NHC.
- (2) Delegated the operational contractual arrangements and final sign off of the agreement to the Service Director Customers, in consultation with the Executive Member for Community and Partnerships.

REASON FOR DECISIONS: The existing partnership between Careline and HCC works very well. An extension of the contract will enable us to continue to build on the positive relationship to the benefit of service users across Hertfordshire.

NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

DECISION SHEET

Meeting of the Cabinet Sub-Committee (Council Charities) held in the Council Chamber, District Council Offices, Gernon Road, Letchworth Garden City, SG6 3JF on Tuesday, 19th November, 2024 at 6.30 pm

1 ELECTION OF CHAIR

RESOLVED: That Councillor Amy Allen be elected as Chair of the meeting.

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence received.

3 MINUTES - 14 NOVEMBER 2023

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 14 November 2023 be approved as a true record of the proceedings and be signed by the Chair.

4 NOTIFICATION OF OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business notified.

5 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- (1) 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.

6 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

7 ANNUAL RETURNS AND ACCOUNTS FOR COUNCIL CHARITIES 2023/2024

RESOLVED: That the Cabinet Sub-Committee (Council Charities):

- (1) Approved the information required by the Charities Commission for the four registered charities, so that the returns can be submitted prior to the 31st January 2025 deadline.
- (2) Notes the requirement for those charities with gross income of more than £25k in their financial year to have their accounts independently examined and, as this applies to King George's Field and Hitchin Town Hall Gymnasium and Workmans Hall, instructs this to be undertaken for those accounts for 2023/24. This will be undertaken by the Shared Internal Audit Service (SIAS).
- (3) Delegated to the Service Director: Resources, in consultation with the Chair of the Sub-Committee, authority to provide the required information to the Charity Commission to rectify the position in relation to the Mrs Howard Memorial Hall charity.

REASONS FOR DECISIONS:

- (1) To facilitate the submission of approved returns to the Charities Commission.
- (2) To rectify the position in relation to the Mrs Howard Memorial Hall Charity.

RECORD OF DECISION MADE UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

*PART 1 – PUBLIC DOCUMENT

Any interest to declare/ or conflict and any dispensation granted *[if applicable]; None*

SERVICE DIRECTORATE: *RESOURCES*

1. DECISION TAKEN

Agreement to suspend collection of £63,944.14 clawback in respect of the disposal of Property at 2, Orchard Way, Breachwood Green, Hertfordshire SG4 8NT to allow settle the opportunity to comply with the terms of an exemption namely applying the proceeds towards the provision of Social Housing or Community Benefit in the District of North Hertfordshire.

2. DECISION TAKER

Ian Couper, Service Director: Resources

3. DATE DECISION TAKEN:

19/11/2024

4. REASON FOR DECISION

To allow settle the opportunity to comply with the terms of the exemption by applying the funds to the development of Social Housing.

5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

The decision is in accordance with the protocol entered into between North Hertfordshire District Council (NHDC) and North Hertfordshire Homes (NHH), now known as settle, in respect of a proposed disposal by settle of an asset transferred under the Stock Transfer. Therefore, no other alternative options are applicable.

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

Settle have been consulted regarding the level of the potential clawback payment and the details of the social housing scheme to which the funds will be applied. There is no obligation on the Council to carry out any wider consultation.

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 NHH changed its name to settle in May 2018.

8.2 Settle have submitted a request to agree an exemption to clawback in respect of Property at 2, Orchard Way, Breachwood Green, Hertfordshire SG4 8NT for the proceeds from the disposal to be used for the provision of Social Housing or

Community Benefit in the District of North Hertfordshire. Settle are relying on exemption *xi* in the deed of covenant dated 31 March 2003 which imposes the obligation to pay clawback.

8.3 The proposed project to which the proceeds will be applied is the John Barker Place regeneration project. Whilst it is still considered appropriate to suspend payment of the clawback for three years to allow settle the opportunity to invest the proceeds into Social Housing, The Council cannot at this stage agree the specific details of the Social Housing provision as until the precise proposals for the later phases of the John Barker Place regeneration project is known the clawback cannot be committed to those projects. Once the detail of the Social Housing to be provided by the John Barker place regeneration is known, together with the financial modelling, then the Council will determine whether this clawback should be allocated to that scheme or an alternative scheme.

8.4 Clawback is 25% of the greater of the Disposal Gain or the Development Gain. In this transaction, there is no Development Gain to consider, so the only relevant calculation is the Disposal Gain. The clawback calculation for the property has been agreed between the parties as follows:

Property	Disposal Gain	Clawback @ 25%
Property at 2, Orchard Way, Breachwood Green, Hertfordshire SG4 8NT	£255,776.55	£63,944.14

9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 The Service Director: Resources has delegated authority for 'Approvals for any overage, claw back or similar arrangement pursuant to the Stock Transfer Agreement'.

9.2 The value paid by settle for the housing at stock transfer was based on its continued use as Social Housing. The deed of covenant provides compensation to the Council for property disposals by settle that are above the equivalent value at stock transfer. As the principle of this is to protect the volume of Social Housing in the District, there is an exemption that allows settle to reinvest this money into Social Housing or Community Benefit (as defined by the agreement) schemes within 3 years. The parties have entered into a protocol which governs how this exemption will operate in practice. The protocol permits the Council to suspend collection of clawback to allow settle the opportunity to comply with the terms of the exemption. As long as the request is reasonable then it should not be refused. So, this does not provide an opportunity for the Council to obtain additional funding.

10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

10.1 A significant amount of clawback has been suspended for use on the John Barker Place scheme. This clawback would take the total to £4,190,183.77. It has also been agreed that £1,760,000 of previously suspended clawback will be used on phases 1 and 2 of the John Barker Place scheme. Within its capital programme, the Council has also allocated £1.096 million towards this scheme. The overall value of the Social Housing within the scheme will need to be reviewed when a final proposal is in place. This will determine whether it is appropriate to confirm the use of the suspended clawback and also the use of the Council's own funding.

11. RISK IMPLICATIONS

11.1 No security is being sought to ensure payment of the clawback in the event that the social housing scheme is not delivered. Therefore, there is a risk that settle will not

have the funds to pay the clawback if they are unable to deliver the scheme. However this is considered unlikely.

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 decision.*

13. SOCIAL VALUE IMPLICATIONS

13.1 The Social Value Act and “go local” policy do not apply to this decision.

14. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

14.1. There are no known Environmental impacts or requirements that apply to this decision.

15. HUMAN RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

15.1 There are no HR implications arising from this decision.

16. BACKGROUND PAPERS

16.1 *None.*

17. APPENDICES

17.1 None.

NOTIFICATION DATE

22/11/2024

Signature of Executive Member ConsultedN/a.....

Date

Signature of 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

NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

DECISION SHEET

Meeting of the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee held in the Council Chamber, District Council Offices, Letchworth Garden City, SG6 3JF
on Wednesday, 13th November, 2024 at 7.30 pm

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Sean Nolan.

Having given due notice Councillor Daniel Wright-Mason substituted for Councillor Nolan.

2 MINUTES - 4 SEPTEMBER 2024

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 4 September 2024 be approved as a true record of the proceedings and be signed by the Chair.

3 NOTIFICATION OF OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business notified.

4 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.
- (3) The Chair advised that section 4.8.23(a) of the Constitution did not apply to this meeting.

5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation at this meeting.

6 SAFS ANTI FRAUD UPDATE

RESOLVED: That the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee noted the progress by Officers and the Shared Anti-Fraud Service to deliver the Anti-Fraud Plan for the Council.

7 SIAS PROGRESS REPORT 2024/25

RESOLVED: That the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee noted:

- (1) The SIAS Progress Report for the period to 25 October 2024.
- (2) The implementation status of the reported high priority recommendations.
- (3) The plan amendments to the 2024/25 Annual Audit Plan.

8 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2022/23 AND 2023/24

RESOLVED: That the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee:

- (1) Noted the 2022/23 Annual Statement of Accounts as set out in Appendix B.
- (2) Delegated to the Chair of the Committee the final approval of the 2022/23 Annual Statement of Accounts. This would include confirming that the Chair of the Committee can sign the Statement of Accounts to confirm that they have been approved by the Committee.
- (3) Noted that the Annual Governance Statement for 2022/23 was approved by the Committee in September 2023, and that nothing has been identified since that date that would require a change to that Annual Governance Statement.
- (4) Noted the progress made in the audit of the 2023/24 Annual Statement of Accounts.
- (5) Noted the additional audit fees that have been notified by KPMG in relation to ISA315r of £11,597, which will be subject to approval by PSAA.
- (6) Noted the completion report and the process that would be followed for the approval of the 2022/23 Accounts as detailed in paragraph 8.13 of the supplementary report.
- (7) Formally thanked Ernst and Young for their work and support to the Committee over the last eight years.

REASON FOR DECISIONS:

To ensure that the Council abides by the Audit and Account Regulations 2015, which require the approval and publication of audited Statement of Accounts. Furthermore, to meet the back-stop deadlines set out in the Accounts and Audit (Amendment) Regulations 2024.

9 CODE FOR STATUTORY OFFICERS (HEAD OF PAID SERVICE, SECTION 151 AND MONITORING OFFICERS)

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee noted the content of the report and Appendix A, and make any suggestions on future actions, particularly with reference to 7.6 and 7.7 of this report.
- (2) That the Code would be circulated as proposed under section 7.7 of the report.
- (3) That the Committee supported that the Council should formally adopt the Code as proposed.

REASON FOR DECISION: To ensure good governance within the Council.

10 POSSIBLE AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

The Service Director – Resources confirmed that the Half Year Risk Report would be brought to the next Committee meeting and that risk training would take place prior to that meeting.

RECORD OF DECISION MADE UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

***PART 1 – PUBLIC DOCUMENT**

Any interest to declare/ or conflict and any dispensation granted [if applicable] None

SERVICE DIRECTORATE: Resources

1. DECISION TAKEN

To approve the Council's annual Modern Slavery Transparency Statement for 2024 – 2025.

2. DECISION TAKER

Cllr Ian Albert, Executive Member for Finance and IT

3. DATE DECISION TAKEN:

15/11/2024

4. REASON FOR DECISION

The Modern Slavery Act 2015 requires that commercial organisations with a turnover of at least £36 million to publish a slavery and human trafficking statement on an annual basis. The Council does not meet the definition contained within the Act but considers that it is good practice to publish a Modern Slavery Transparency Statement.

5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

The Council could choose to not publish a slavery and human trafficking statement. However, the Council supports the principles of the Act, so has chosen to publish a statement. The Council is bound by other provisions of the Modern Slavery Act.

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

The Council's internal Contract and Procurement Group (which includes legal representation) have reviewed the proposed Statement.

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 has carried out the following actions in relation to Modern Slavery:

- Delivery of training to Officers and Councillors.
- Approved our first Modern Slavery Statement in June 2019 and updated each year since then.
- Approved becoming a signatory to the Charter against Modern Slavery in July 2019.

- Implemented actions to enhance our processes in relation to Modern Slavery, including use of a Modern Slavery Identifiers checklist (for all appropriate procurements) and a risk assessment tool (for higher risk contracts).
- 8.2 The changes for the 2024/25 Statement (compared with the 2023/24 version) mainly relate to updates to website links.
- 8.3 Following approval, as well as publishing on our website, we will also add our Statement to the Government register website.

9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 The Modern Slavery Act 2015 (MSA 2015) applies to England and Wales and includes the offences of human trafficking and slavery, servitude and forced or compulsory labour. The Act consolidated and simplified existing offences and establishes a legal duty under Section 52 for specified public authorities to notify the Home Office where there are reasonable grounds to believe a person may be a victim of modern slavery.
- 9.2 Section 54 of the MSA 2015 requires commercial organisations carrying out business in the UK, with a turnover of at least £36 million, to prepare and publish a slavery and human trafficking statement for each and every financial year. Whilst this does not apply to the Council, as detailed above we still choose to publish such a Statement.
- 9.3 The MSA created the role of the Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner (the Commissioner) whose role is to act in the interests of victims and potential victims by ensuring that the law enforcement response to modern slavery is coordinated. 1 <https://shivafoundation.org.uk/>
- 9.4 Section 43 of the Act states that specified public authorities (including borough councils) have a duty to co-operate with the Commissioner. The Commissioner may request a specified public authority to co-operate with the Commissioner in any way that the Commissioner considers necessary for the purposes of the Commissioner's functions. A specified public authority must so far as reasonably practicable comply with a request made to it under this section.

10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1. There are no financial implications relating to this decision.

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 The actions and measures taken in the Council's updated Modern Slavery Transparency Statement should help to reduce the Council's risks in relation to Modern Slavery.

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 The Modern Slavery Transparency Statement is a positive step to raising awareness amongst Officers, Councillors and suppliers delivering services on behalf of the Council. The Statement supports the Council's commitment to eradicate slavery in any form.

13. SOCIAL VALUE IMPLICATIONS

13.1 *The Social Value Act and "go local" policy do not apply to this decision.*

14. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

14.1. There are no known Environmental impacts or requirements that apply to this decision.

15. HUMAN RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

15.1 There are no direct HR implications that relate to this decision.

16. BACKGROUND PAPERS

16.1 *None*

17. APPENDICES

17.1 Modern Slavery Transparency Statement 2024-25.

NOTIFICATION DATE

22/11/2024

Signature of Executive Member Decision Maker 

Date15/11/2024.....

Signature of Service Director: 
Ian Couper, Service Director: Resources

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

Modern Slavery Transparency Statement 2024-2025

1. Introduction

The Council has a key role to play in tackling modern slavery, including identifying and supporting victims and working in partnership locally. The Council's role can be separated into four distinct areas:

1. Identification and referral of victims.
2. Supporting victims by safeguarding children and adults with care and support needs and providing housing/homelessness services.
3. Community safety and disruption activities; and
4. Ensuring the supply chains that the Council procures from are free from modern slavery.

Modern slavery intersects with many different areas that the Council is involved with, and a number of different officers might come across it while going about their everyday activities. Key examples, where officers might come across victims include housing and homelessness services, community protection work, licensing and customer services.

The procurement of services is an important part of the Council's expenditure. Understanding our supply chains and assessing the risk to those working in it, requires commitment, support, and collaboration. The Council is uniquely placed to be at the forefront of the fight against modern slavery. In line with best practice, and in compliance with Section 54 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015, this statement sets out the actions taken by the Council to understand, prevent and address modern slavery risks within its services and supply chains.

This statement sets out North Hertfordshire District Council's actions to understand the potential modern slavery risks related to its activities and to put steps in place to attempt to eliminate acts of modern slavery and human trafficking within its supply chain.

North Hertfordshire District Council are a signatory to the Charter Against Modern Slavery and support the principles of the Modern Slavery Charter.

2. NHDC's organizational structure & supply chains

North Hertfordshire District Council is a local authority in the north-eastern part of Hertfordshire, in the East of England region. The activities the Council undertakes are wide ranging in order to fulfil its duties to its residents. Its highest spend contracts are for the Household Waste Services and Grounds Maintenance. Its medium spend contracts are those spent on Carelines Services and IT Services. Its low spend contracts are for Repair

works.

The supply chains for the Council's activities are considered as only operating within the United Kingdom and the country's risk of slavery and human trafficking is therefore relatively low. However, the Council remains vigilant and will take all steps available to manage the risks presented. To assist, a check list of the modern slavery identifiers within supply chains has been produced for dissemination within the Council's service areas to increase awareness of identifying modern slavery risks within supply chains. The checklist is in line with the Government's PPN 02/23 recommendations. This checklist will be applied at the procurement stage of new contracts so that modern slavery risks can be managed at the outset of a contract. For existing supplier contracts, contract managers will be able to use the risk identifiers to highlight specific areas of risk for that good or service and then be able to seek further information from suppliers on the processes they have in place for mitigating that risk.

For high risk, high value procurement, suppliers will additionally be invited to complete the Government's Modern Slavery Risk Assessment tool. This tool is designed to help public sector organisations work with their suppliers in understanding where the risk of modern slavery exists within their supply chains.

3. Responsibility: who has responsibility for anti-slavery initiatives?

The Council believes that safeguarding is the responsibility of all employees, Members, volunteers, and organisations delivering services on our behalf. Everybody has a duty to safeguard children and adults in our local communities.

Our named Safeguarding Officer is our Service Director: Legal and Community. Designated Safeguarding Officers throughout the organisation support colleagues to respond and refer any concerns and a Corporate Safeguarding Group monitors current practice in relation to safeguarding and identifies key areas for development.

Responsibility for safeguarding sits with the Executive Member for Community and Partnership. An annual report is also made to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Each Service area is responsible for reviewing spend on their supplier contracts as part of their ongoing commissioning and budget setting process. As part of this process, whenever spend is reviewed, it is considered best practice to include consideration of modern slavery.

Specified public authorities have a duty to notify the Secretary of State of any individual encountered in England and Wales who they believe is a suspected victim of slavery or human trafficking. The 'duty to notify' provision is set out in Section 52 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and applies to local authorities in England and Wales which includes North Hertfordshire District Council. Guidance on the duty to notify is provided at: [Modern slavery - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/modern-slavery)

If an infringement of the Modern Slavery Act is suspected, the following reporting options are available:

- Telephone 999 for emergencies
- Telephone 101 for non-emergencies (Request the Modern Slavery Unit)
- Suspicions/concerns contact the 24/7 charity, Modern Slavery Helpline: 0800 12 700; <https://www.modernslaveryhelpline.org/>

- If you would like to receive support for yourself in Hertfordshire, contact the local charity Beacon, which provides a free and impartial service, on 03000 115555 (option 3) or email info@hertfordshirebeacon.org

4. Link to relevant policies

The Council's commitment to safeguarding children and adults at risk is outlined in our policies for safeguarding children and adults at risk that can be found on our website: [Safeguarding | North Herts Council \(north-herts.gov.uk\)](https://www.north-herts.gov.uk/safeguarding)

The Council has a wide range of policies and processes in place which support its commitment to preventing and tackling modern slavery throughout its operations. Associated and complimentary policies to enable our employees to better identify risks around exploitation such as modern slavery include:

- Equality & Diversity Policy
- Code of Conduct
- Whistleblowing Policy

5. What due diligence of suppliers is carried out?

For the appointment of new suppliers above the relevant threshold for services, the Council uses the Government Standard Supplier Selection Questionnaire for all appropriate procurements and requests confirmation that suppliers meet Modern Slavery Act 2015 requirements. This was recently updated in line with Central Government recommendations as per [PPN 03/24: Standard Selection Questionnaire \(SQ\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ppn-03-24-standard-selection-questionnaire-sq)

The Council will utilize the Government Modern Slavery Statement Registry which is a central system where suppliers can publish their Modern Slavery Statements. This will allow the Council to easily assess information in relation to suppliers' compliance with the Modern Slavery Act 2015. [Find modern slavery statements - GOV.UK \(modern-slavery-statement-registry.service.gov.uk\)](https://modern-slavery-statement-registry.service.gov.uk)

Any bidder who fails to evidence their compliance with the required legislation shall be excluded from participating further in the tender process. Incorporated within the Council's standard contract terms are clauses that specify the supplier's contractual obligation concerning Modern Slavery.

Any suppliers found not meeting the required standard will be asked to take action to improve; where this is not forthcoming the contract relationship will be terminated at the next opportunity, taking into account the contract terms and conditions.

6. Performance

The Council uses the following to measure how effective it has been to ensure that slavery and human trafficking is not taking place in any part of its business or supply chains:

- Investigating all allegations, complaints, whistleblowing reports received from employees, the public, or law enforcement agencies regarding modern slavery and human trafficking.
- At the outset of a procurement, where appropriate, Contract Managers will complete the Modern Slavery Identifiers checklist, which has appropriate actions based on a risk score. Contract Managers will be invited to complete the Government Modern Slavery Risk Assessment tool for high-risk contracts.

- All employees will be provided with mandatory Safeguarding training.

7. How we train NHDC staff on anti-slavery measures

In 2018/19, training on modern day slavery was identified as mandatory for all staff and briefings and e-learning was rolled out throughout the organization (including to elected Members). Going forward, all staff are required to undertake safeguarding training at a level relevant to their role. Introductory, basic, and advanced training is refreshed every three years. This training now includes modern slavery and human trafficking. Compliance with these training requirements is monitored by the Leadership Team and audited by the Hertfordshire Safeguarding Children Partnership and Hertfordshire Safeguarding Adults Board.

The Procurement Officer as part of their role is required to maintain current knowledge of the latest developments in tackling modern slavery through dialogue with Hertfordshire Modern Slavery Partnership and through their professional CIPS membership (including through the Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply, Ethical Procurement and Supply e- learning which will be retaken every 12 months.

This statement will be reviewed on an annual basis. This statement is made pursuant to section 54(1) of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and constitutes the North Hertfordshire District Councils modern slavery and human trafficking statement.

The statement covers the following financial year:
1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025.

RECORD OF DECISION MADE UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

Any interest to declare/ or conflict and any dispensation granted <i>[if applicable]</i>	
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SERVICE DIRECTORATE: PLACE

1. DECISION TAKEN

- 1.1 To approve a Saplings Parent and Toddler Group event using Priory Memorial Gardens on the 25th November 2024, 2nd, 9th and 16th December 2024 between 10.30 hrs and 11.30 hrs on each occasion.

2. DECISION TAKER

- 2.1. Andrew Mills, Service Manager Greenspace

3. DATE DECISION TAKEN:

- 3.1 19th November 2024

4. REASON FOR DECISION

- 4.1 To support the organisers to provide this event for the whole community.

5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 5.1 The organisers have approached North Herts Council to host this event. Other locations have been considered by the organisers that are outside North Herts.

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

- 6.1 Consultation has been undertaken with colleagues in the Safety Advisory Group.

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 organisers have approached NHC for approval to use this location for their event.

9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 The authority has an obligation to ensure that the public open spaces it maintains are at a standard that are safe for everyone to use. Additionally, the authority has an obligation to ensure that any environmentally sensitive environment is not damaged due to actions or intentions of others.

10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 There are no financial risks as this opportunity is generating income.

11. RISK IMPLICATIONS

11.1 There are no risk implications. However, risk assessments have been considered to endeavour that this is a safe event.

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 Central Government and national groups have expressed the continued importance of public Green Space in the health and well-being of communities. From April 2013 local authorities at county level are required to take on the statutory duty to improve the health of their communities as required by the Health and Social Care Act 2012 and with it, to acquire many of the public health services currently the responsibility of the NHS. The use of open spaces, parks, playgrounds, and relevant leisure facilities are promoted in terms of reducing the impact of obesity on long term health, the importance in the management of wellbeing and in aiding relaxation, as well as sensory' enjoyment.

13. SOCIAL VALUE IMPLICATIONS

13.1 The event is open to everyone.

14. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

14.1 There are no known Environmental impacts or requirements that apply to this event.

15. HUMAN RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

15.1 This item of work is contained within the Place Directorate existing work programs.

16. BACKGROUND PAPERS

16.1 Application form and supporting documents.

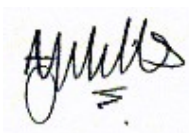
17. APPENDICES

17.1 None

NOTIFICATION DATE - 22nd November 2024

Signature of Executive Member ConsultedNot Applicable.....

Date19th November 2024.....



Signature of Decision Taker

EAST TEAM

Application No.	Applicant/Agent Address	Location Address, Applicant Name & Proposal
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Ashwell Parish Council

24/01651/FP	Stour Valley Design Mr Simon Tankard Swan Corner, Mill Lane, Bradfield, Manningtree., Essex, CO11 2UT, United Kingdom	Hare Park Farm Royston Road Slip End Baldock Hertfordshire SG7 6SL Miss Sandra Hall Erection of detached kennel block.
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24/02584/TCA	Mr Fred Burkitt The Blue Tree Company 50 Bunyan Road, Hitchin, SG5 1NN	5 Silver Street Ashwell Baldock Hertfordshire SG7 5QJ Mr Peter Goodwin T1: Silver Birch - Crown reduce to previous points to leave viable growth where possible. This will amount to 1 - 1.5m
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Baldock

24/02568/FP	Mr Neil Gaskell Architects Neil Gaskell 37 Whitehorse St, Baldock, SG7 6QF, United Kingdom	Vintage Court Hitchin Street Baldock Hertfordshire SG7 6AQ Mrs A Bassett Insertion of fire escape door to north east elevation following removal of existing window
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24/02569/LBC	Mr Neil Gaskell Architects Neil Gaskell 37 Whitehorse St, Baldock, SG7 6QF, United Kingdom	Vintage Court Hitchin Street Baldock Hertfordshire SG7 6AQ Mrs A Bassett Insertion of fire escape door to north east elevation following removal of existing window
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Letchworth Garden City

24/02550/FPH	D.Chandler Architectural Design Ltd. Mr Daniel Chandler 61 Gernon Road, Letchworth, SG6 3HS, United Kingdom	50 Broadwater Avenue Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 3HJ Mr Will Beverley Single storey rear extension and hard landscaping works following demolition of existing detached garage
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24/02574/TCA	Mr Mark Gibson 4Seasons Specialist Tree Surgeons Ltd 19 Tansy Avenue, Stotfold, Hitchin, SG5 4GJ	Arana 6 Hitchin Road Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 3LL
		ELIZABETH BUNKER
		T1: Apple - Remove dead stems and remaining canopy reduced by approx. 20-25% to suitable growth points. T2: Conifers - Remove to ground level. T3: Horse Chesnut - Dead limb to removed back to the stem. T4: Hazel - Reduce by approx. 25-30% T5: Persian Ironwood - Shorten lateral growth back to suitable growth points and crown lifted over the Magnolia. T6: Yew - Prune to clear the phone lines.
24/02599/TCA	Mr Mark Gibson 4Seasons Specialist Tree Surgeons Ltd 19 Tansy Avenue, Stotfold, Hitchin, SG5 4GJ	8 Cashio Lane Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 1AX
		Mr Alan Haigh
		T1: Beech - Reduce by approx. 25-30% to suitable lateral growth points.
24/02612/TPO	Mrs Allison Sparrow Arborcare Unit N, Shangri La Farm, SG1 2JE	5 Oaktree Close Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 3XY
		Braham-Everett
		T3, T4 & T5: Sycamore - Fell
24/02620/TCA	Mrs Karen Stockhill John O'Conner 2, Great North Road, Welwyn, Hertfordshire, AL6 0PL, United Kingdom	Ivy Cottage Letchworth Lane Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 3ND
		Mr Darren Griffin
		BEQT010: Lawson Cypress - Crown lift 2.5m above ground, and 5.2m over highway.
24/02622/TCA	Mrs Apryl Goodwin Settle Blackhorse Road, Letchworth, Letchworth Garden City, SG6 1HA, United Kingdom	26 Jackmans Place Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 1RH
		Mrs Apryl Goodwin
		T1: Large Sycamore - Pollard, remove deadwood and diseased leaves
24/02644/TCA	Mrs Karen Stockhill John O'Conner 2, Great North Road, Welwyn, Hertfordshire, AL6 0PL	Ivy Cottage Letchworth Lane Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 3ND
		Mr Darren Stockhill
		BEQT002, BEQT003: Sycamore - Crown lift 2.5m above ground, and 5.2m over highway.

24/02317/FP GC Planning Partnership LTD Mr Stephen Connell
BEDFORD I LAB, Priory Business Park, Stannard Way, Bedford, MK44 3RZ, United Kingdom
Glebe House
Church Lane
Reed
Hertfordshire
SG8 8AL

Mr & Mrs Harrison

Siting of solar panel array 30x 500w panels (six rows)

Royston Town Council

24/02478/FP Fairfax REIM Mr Benjamin Budd
10 Westbourne Apartments, 5 Central Avenue, London, London, SW6 2GP, United Kingdom

24/02629/TPO Mr James Cantle Shire Tree Limited
1A Trigg Way, Melbourn, Royston, SG8 6HX
82 King James Way
Royston
Hertfordshire
SG8 7EF

Sue North

T1, T3: Hornbeam, T2, T4, T5: Hawthorn - Fell and remove stump.

Sandon Parish Council

24/02431/TCA Colin Mitchell
Roebury Cottage, Roe Green, Sandon, Buntingford, Hertfordshire, SG9 0QG
Roebury Cottage
Roe Green
Sandon
Buntingford
Hertfordshire
SG9 0QG

Colin Mitchell

x 6 Sycamore and Beech - Reduce by 50%. Plum - Remove

WEST TEAM

Application No.	Applicant/Agent Address	Location Address, Applicant Name & Proposal
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Codicote Parish Council

24/02517/FPH RLS CAD Solutions Mr Roy Smith
27 Crays view, Billericay, Essex, CM12 9QX, United Kingdom
Maran Cottage
145 High Street
Codicote
Hertfordshire
SG4 8UB

Mr Darren Patel

First floor rear extension over existing rear extension to include gabled roof. Insertion of rooflight to existing rear roofslope. Front canopy, alterations to fenestration, external cladding and replace front boundary wall.

Hitchin

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

**LIST OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED IN WEEK ENDING: 22/11/2024
DEADLINE FOR COUNCILLORS' CALL IN: 12/12/2024**

24/02270/FPH	Mr Dan Ramsey 13 Tristram Road, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG4 0BH	13 Tristram Road Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 0BH Mr Dan Ramsey Erection of detached shed in rear garden (development already carried out)
24/02283/AD	Mr Haaron Nasir Samuel Ryder House, Barling Way, Nuneaton, CV10 7RH	116 Bancroft Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 1LS Mr Haaron Nasir Installation of internally illuminated fascia sign and projection sign
24/02463/FPH	Rejig Homes Ltd Mr Abdul Haque 167, Heathfield road, Hitchin, SG5 1TE	30 Uplands Avenue Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 9NH K & I Shelverton & Elliott Two storey rear extension following demolition of existing outbuilding. Insertion of rooflights to existing front element roofslope to provide storage space at first floor level. Timber side storage and alterations to fenestration.
24/02479/FP	Rapleys Ms Ella Yates 66 St James Street,, St. James, London, SW1A 1NE, United Kingdom	Service Station Bedford Road Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 2UG BP Pulse Installation of two electric vehicle charging bays with a charging unit, two lighting columns and associated electrical equipment. (Development already carried out).
24/02491/FPH	Be Informed! Mr Charles Speakman 8 Broadmeadow Ride, Hitchin, SG4 7ST, United Kingdom	29 Convent Close Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 1QN Mr Edward Hook Single storey rear extension including awning following demolition of existing conservatory.
24/02520/FPH	BBR Design Mr Ryan Albone 7 Paynes Park, Hitchin, SG51EH, United Kingdom	9 Halsey Drive Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 9QH Mr Miah Single storey front extension.

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

**LIST OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED IN WEEK ENDING: 22/11/2024
DEADLINE FOR COUNCILLORS' CALL IN: 12/12/2024**

24/02521/LDCP	ELA Design Mr Chris Ellerbeck Beechcroft, Riverside Avenue, Broxbourne, EN10 6RA	40 Whitehill Road Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 9HP Mr Chris Ormerod Insertion of two side box dormer windows to facilitate loft conversion into habitable accommodation
24/02523/FPH	MSAD Architectural Design Ltd Mr Mark Scott Bancroft House, 34 Bancroft, Hitchin, SG5 1LA	14 St Johns Road Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 9JP Mr R Hadkins Part two storey and part single storey rear extension following demolition of existing rear element
24/02542/FPH	Mr. Cengiz Ozdemir 124 Wymondley Road, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG4 9QG	113 Ninesprings Way Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 9NX Mr. Cengiz Ozdemir Single storey rear and side extensions. Alterations to roof including hip to gable roof extension and insertion of rear box dormer and front rooflights to create habitable space at first floor level.
24/02564/FPH	Arcicon Mr Raja Sekaran 42 Brudenell Close, Amersham, HP6 6FH	43 Halsey Drive Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 9QR Pinder Two and single storey side and rear extension, front porch, alterations to opening, and demolition of outbuilding
24/02565/LDCP	ELA Design Mr Chris Ellerbeck Beechcroft, Riverside Avenue, Broxbourne, EN10 6RA	62 Ickleford Road Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 1TS Mrs Helen Davies Insertion of rear L shaped box dormer window and two front rooflights to facilitate loft conversion.
24/02578/TCA	Mr Tom Briercliffe 13 The Chilterns, Hitchin, SG4 9PP, United Kingdom	13 The Chilterns Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 9PP Mr Tom Briercliffe Hazel - Remove selected stems and reduce the retained stems by 2m to a manageable height. Cherry Laurel - Reduce over all height by 2m, growth over neighbouring fence and resolve crossing branches in lower canopy. Cotoneaster - Reduce over all height by 2m, growth over neighbouring fence and resolve crossing branches in lower canopy.

24/02579/FPH Whitebrick Mr Colin Weatherall Morris 37 Ninesprings Way
29B Hermitage Road, Hitchin, SG5 Hitchin
1BY Hertfordshire
SG4 9NR

Mr Hamilton

Insertion of rear dormer window including Juliet balcony and two roof lights to facilitate loft conversion

24/02633/TCA Mr Fred Burkitt The Blue Tree 58 Fishponds Road
Company Hitchin
50 Bunyan Road, Hitchin, SG5 1NN Hertfordshire
SG5 1NS

Mr David Morris

T1: Silver Birch - Reduce in height by approx 3m to viable growth points and bring the sides into shape. T2: Field Maple - Reduce in height by approx 2-3m to viable growth points and bring the sides into shape. T3 : Magnolia - Reduce overlong branches to match the average outline of the canopy. Remove excessive weight

Holwell Parish Council

24/02546/FPH Mrs Vikki Murray 40 Holwell Road
40 Holwell Road, Holwell, Hitchin, Holwell
Hertfordshire, SG5 3SG Hitchin
Hertfordshire
SG5 3SG

Mrs Vikki Murray

Creation of vehicular access off Holwell Road

Ickleford Parish Council

24/02563/S73 DLA Town Planning Ltd DLA Town Land At Turnpike Lane And Adjacent To 4 Manor Close
Planning Ltd Turnpike Lane
5 The Gavel Centre, Porters Wood, St Ickleford
Albans, AL3 6PQ, United Kingdom Hertfordshire

Mr R Grantham

Variation of condition 2 (revised plans) of planning permission 24/01031/S73 granted for erection of eight dwellings comprising of 3 pairs of semi-detached dwellings (6 x 3-bed) and two detached 4-bed dwellings including integral garages (plots 1 and 8) with a new access spur from the Lodge Court, on-site parking, landscaping.

Kimpton Parish Council

24/02613/TCA Mr Jonathan Franks Franks Forestry Kimpton Bury
Contractors Ltd High Street
64 Dalkeith Road, Harpenden, AL5 Kimpton
5PW Hertfordshire
SG4 8RH

Mrs Bevan

T1: Acacia - Removal of 3 stems, severe lvy at base and crown clean.

Knebworth Parish Council

24/02343/FP	Warner Planning Sophie Cairns office 2, 13, Bodmin place, Milton Keynes, MK10 7DP, United Kingdom	Church Wood Three Houses Lane Codicote Hertfordshire D&A Architectural & Structural Change of use of existing site from agricultural to use Class B8 (Storage and Distribution). Extensions and alterations to existing barns; erection of detached temporary structure of three years and supporting substation and concrete base. Installation of hardstanding for outside storage and parking and installation of electric front entrance gates. (Development has commenced).
24/02518/S73	Forge Design Studio Mr Michael Harrison The Forge, Cowesfield, Whiteparish, Salisbury, SP5 2RB	Odyssey Health Club Old Knebworth Lane Knebworth Hertfordshire SG2 8DU Mr Stephen Aucott Variation of condition 2 (revised plans) of planning permission 21/03362/FP granted 22.04.2022 for Erection of main members entrance, foyer and disabled access; outdoor swimming pool with associated sun-terraces; reconfigured and extended tennis courts, fencing and floodlighting; heat experience extension to existing building and outdoor training experience area.
24/02539/LDCP	Plans For Building Mr Tim Percival The Old Granary, Green End, Dane End, Ware, SG12 0NX	Craiglithy Gipsy Lane Knebworth Hertfordshire SG3 6DJ Mr Mark Williamson Erection of detached garden room
Pirton Parish Council		
24/01824/S73	Mr Lee Butler Mr Lee Butler The Old Coach House, 3 Villa Gardens, High Street, Flitwick, MK45 1DS, United Kingdom	Pirton Hall Shillington Road Pirton Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 3HB Hudson Variation of condition 2 (revised plans) of planning permission 21/01273/FP granted 17.01.2022 for Conversion and extension of redundant barn to create one 2-bed dwelling.
24/02537/FPH	MDP Architects Mr Simon Day 65 Hermitage Road, Hitchin, SG5 1DB, United Kingdom	81 High Street Pirton Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 3PU Mr & Mrs Collins Two storey rear extension and alterations to fenestration
Preston Parish Council		

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

**LIST OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED IN WEEK ENDING: 22/11/2024
DEADLINE FOR COUNCILLORS' CALL IN: 12/12/2024**

24/02628/TCA Mr Carl Gordon Canopy tree specialists
60 Station Road, Blunham, Bedford, MK44 3NX, United Kingdom

Church House
Chequers Lane
Preston
Hitchin
Hertfordshire
SG4 7TY

Mr David Keast

T1: Oak - Re pollard as previous. Reduce large limb past pollard point by 2.5-3m to reduce the overhang to the property.
T2: Hawthorn - Remove one low limb over grass, reduce height and spread by approx 1m to re shape.
T3: Japonica - Crown lift over the to approx 3m from ground level over the drive.

St Ippolyts Parish Council

24/02333/FP Axis Mr Jonathan Maginness
Camellia House, 76 Water Lane,
Wilmslow, SK9 5BB

Land Between Priory Farm And Wymondley Substation
Blakemore End Road
Little Wymondley
Hertfordshire

Mr Luke Rogers

Electrical connection between the approved Priory Farm Solar Array (application reference: 21/03380/FP) and Wymondley Substation, Blakemore End Road, St Ippolyts

Wymondley Parish Council

24/02524/AD S R SIGNS Miss Victoria Jackson
Wortley Moor Lane, Leeds, LS12
4HX, United Kingdom

The Green Man
Arch Road
Great Wymondley
Hitchin
Hertfordshire
SG4 7EU

Admiral Taverns

Installation of illuminated and non-illuminated external signs; five flood lights and two car park entrance signs and associated works

(Including Withdrawn decisions)

EAST TEAM

Application No: 23/02374/FPH	Location: 28 Pasture Road Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 3LR Applicant Name: Mr Neil Thakrar Description: Single storey rear extension, first floor rear extension and front porch canopy. Raise ridge height of main roof and insertion of rear dormer to facilitate conversion of loftspace into habitable accommodation. Alterations to fenestration including insertion of front bay windows, external alterations to facade and external materials following demolition of existing rear extension. Erection of detached outbuilding for use as a hobby studio following demolition of existing shed.	Decision: Conditional Permission Decision Date: 19/11/2024
Application No: 24/01454/FPH	Location: 62 Ridge Road Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 1PN Applicant Name: Mr & Mrs Mohammad and Rabina Gul Description: Replacement roof and replace 2 windows (development already partially carried out).	Decision: Conditional Permission Decision Date: 19/11/2024
Application No: 24/01455/LBC	Location: 62 Ridge Road Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 1PN Applicant Name: Mr & Mrs Mohammad and Rabina Gul Description: Replacement roof and replace 2 windows (development already carried out).	Decision: Conditional Consent Decision Date: 19/11/2024
Application No: 24/01611/FP	Location: Land South Of Flint House North End Kelshall Hertfordshire SG8 9SD Applicant Name: Mr Challis Description: Erection of one detached 5-bed dwelling and detached double garage.	Decision: Conditional Permission Decision Date: 14/11/2024
Application No: 24/01804/LBC	Location: 28 Ridge Road Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 1PN Applicant Name: Mr Ben Wall Description: Replace existing timber double-glazed windows with timber double-glazed windows, some with a variation in the method of opening (as amended by plans received on 12/11/2024).	Decision: Conditional Consent Decision Date: 14/11/2024
Application No: 24/01919/LBC	Location: Belfry Manor Farm Church End Barley Royston Hertfordshire SG8 8JW Applicant Name: Mr Richard Inglis Description: External alterations including glazing to Utility door and 2no. roof lights to front elevation and 1no. roof light, 4no. single casement windows and pair of French doors to rear elevation. Internal alterations. (as amended by drawing nos. 1508_G2_P001-Rev A; - P006-Rev A; - P007-Rev A; - P008-Rev A; -P009-Rev A; P010-Rev A and -P011-Rev A received on 14/11/2024).	Decision: Conditional Consent Decision Date: 19/11/2024
Application No: 24/02027/TCA	Location: 53 Gernon Road Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 3HS Applicant Name: Mr Richard Adderely Description: Ellwoodii Conifer - Fell.	Decision: No Objection Decision Date: 19/11/2024
Application No: 24/02066/FPH	Location: 1 Sells Close Cottages High Street Barley Hertfordshire SG8 8HY Applicant Name: Mr & Mrs Hedges Description: Insertion of 2No. conservation rooflights to existing rear roofslope to facilitate conversion of loftspace into habitable accommodation.	Decision: Withdrawn Decision Date: 19/11/2024

EAST TEAM

Application No: 24/02067/LBC	Location: 1 Sells Close Cottages High Street Barley Hertfordshire SG8 8HY Applicant Name: Mr & Mrs Hedges Description: Internal alterations to include insertion of staircase to loft, partition walls to first floor, alterations to existing first floor internal door position, repairing existing first floor ceilings and insertion of loft floor.	Decision: Withdrawn Decision Date: 19/11/2024
Application No: 24/02121/FPH	Location: 1 Woodbine Cottages High Street Reed Royston Hertfordshire SG8 8AH Applicant Name: Mr Kevin Bran Description: First floor side extension to include side elevation Juliet Balcony.	Decision: Withdrawn Decision Date: 14/11/2024
Application No: 24/02123/FPH	Location: 15 Sollershott West Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 3PU Applicant Name: Mr David Vickerstaffe Description: Installation of garden veranda with clear glass to rear elevation of existing garage.	Decision: Conditional Permission Decision Date: 14/11/2024
Application No: 24/02222/FPH	Location: 33 Lytton Avenue Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 3HU Applicant Name: Mr And Mrs Markham Description: Erection of detached garage and bin store following demolition of existing garage.	Decision: Conditional Permission Decision Date: 19/11/2024
Application No: 24/02256/TCA	Location: Old Trees Letchworth Lane Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 3ND Applicant Name: Alison Baigent Description: 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.	Decision: No Objection Decision Date: 18/11/2024
Application No: 24/02273/TCA	Location: Land Adjacent To 15 Field Lane Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 3LF Applicant Name: Mr Matt Jones Letchworth Garden City Heritage Found Description: Various works including felling	Decision: No Objection Decision Date: 14/11/2024
Application No: 24/02322/LDCP	Location: Valentine House Partridge Hill Ashwell Baldock Hertfordshire SG7 5QZ Applicant Name: Mr David Cook Description: Erection of detached stable/storage block.	Decision: Granted Permission Decision Date: 14/11/2024
Application No: 24/02324/NMA	Location: Glebe House Church Lane Reed Hertfordshire SG8 8AL Applicant Name: Mr & Mrs Paul & Alison Harrison Description: Increase width of the south elevation glazing on the extension from 3200 mm (approved plans 690-09) to 3800 mm (new plans BR38), including amending the glazing from 4 panels to 3 panels across. It is also proposed amend the glazing on the dining room from 4 panels (approved plans 690-08) to 2 panels (BR35). In addition, the overall number of roof lights on the extension (south elevation) will be reduced from 4 to 3. (as non-material amendment to planning permission 22/03262/FPH granted on 02.02.2023).	Decision: Agreed Decision Date: 19/11/2024
Application No: 24/02490/TCA	Location: Poplar Cottage Southern Green Rushden Buntingford Hertfordshire SG9 0SY Applicant Name: Mr Nigel Willetts Description: T1: Beech - Reduce by up to 1.5m to nearest suitable growth points. T2: Cherry - Reduce limbs extending over pond. T3: Ash - Reduce limbs extending over pond and deadwood. T4: Yew - Crown lift to 1.5m. T5: Cypress - Reduce by 3m.	Decision: No Objection Decision Date: 14/11/2024

WEST TEAM

Application No: 24/00472/FP	Location: 59 Kings Hedges Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 2QH Applicant Name: Mrs Mei Ling Foo JBE Description: Erection of one self-contained 1- bed following demolition of existing garage.	Appeal Decision: Appeal Dismissed Decision Date: 19/11/2024
Application No: 24/01175/OP	Location: Recreation Ground Orchard Close St Ippolyts Hertfordshire Applicant Name: Susan Mears St Ippolyts Council Description: Erection of sports pavilion following demolition of existing changing rooms (all matters reserved) (amended by plans received 25/09/24 and 07/10/24)	Decision: Conditional Permission Decision Date: 14/11/2024
Application No: 24/01519/FPH	Location: West Wing St Ibbs London Road St Ippolyts Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 7NL Applicant Name: Mr Michael Collins Description: Alterations to existing roof and Insertion of rooflight to northwestern roof pitch. External alterations	Decision: Conditional Permission Decision Date: 19/11/2024
Application No: 24/01520/LBC	Location: West Wing St Ibbs London Road St Ippolyts Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 7NL Applicant Name: Mr Michael Collins Description: Alterations to existing roof and Insertion of rooflight to northwestern roof pitch. Internal and external alterations	Decision: Conditional Consent Decision Date: 19/11/2024
Application No: 24/01773/FPH	Location: 19 Stockens Green Knebworth Hertfordshire SG3 6DQ Applicant Name: Mr R Stokes Description: Part two storey and part first floor rear extension. Single storey side extensions following demolition of existing detached garage and alterations to fenestration.	Decision: Withdrawn Decision Date: 18/11/2024
Application No: 24/01775/S73	Location: Land Rear Of Gothic House Oak Lane Graveley Hertfordshire Applicant Name: Mr A Jennings Description: Variation of condition 8 (composite windows) of planning permission 22/03299/FP granted 14.04.2023 for erection of 4 detached dwellings (2 x 3-bed and 2 x 4-bed) including parking,landscaping and creation of vehicular access off Ashwell Common (as amended by plans received 6th April 2023 and 12th April 2023).	Decision: Conditional Permission Decision Date: 19/11/2024
Application No: 24/01913/FPH	Location: 38 Highbury Road Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 9SA Applicant Name: Mr Shoebottom Description: Alterations to existing single storey extension roof and fenestration. (revised plans received 08/10/2024)	Decision: Conditional Permission Decision Date: 19/11/2024
Application No: 24/01926/FPH	Location: 24 Benslow Lane Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 9RE Applicant Name: Mrs Patricia Cook Description: Replacement ground floor front bay window and window sill; first floor front window and ground floor rear window.	Decision: Conditional Permission Decision Date: 19/11/2024
Application No: 24/01967/FPH	Location: Gleniffer Lucas Lane Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 2JA Applicant Name: Mr M Hernon Description: Two storey side/rear extension, storm porch, roof lantern and replacement pitch roof above existing rear element. Alterations to existing external materials, windows, doors, fascias and guttering and alterations to existing external hard landscaping (revised plans received 10/10/2024) .	Decision: Conditional Permission Decision Date: 15/11/2024

WEST TEAM

Application No: 24/01987/S73	Location: The Manor House Bancroft Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 1JW Applicant Name: Mr S Parker Description: Variation of Condition 2 (revised plans) of planning permission 19/00395/FP granted 23.05.2019 for Change of Use and conversion of antique showroom to 2-bed dwelling (development already carried out).	Decision: Unconditional Permission Decision Date: 14/11/2024
Application No: 24/02105/FPH	Location: High Trees Lucas Lane Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 2JA Applicant Name: Mr and Mrs Stocks Description: Roof extension including raised ridge height, hip to gable ends, rear roof extension with apex window and insertion of 2no rooflights to front elevation to facilitate loft conversion. Alterations to existing fenestrations	Decision: Refused Decision Date: 20/11/2024
Application No: 24/02119/FPH	Location: Hicca House 10 Russells Slip Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 2BJ Applicant Name: Miss Bethany Kate Saunders Description: Two storey side extension and part two storey and part single storey rear extension following demolition of existing conservatory	Decision: Conditional Permission Decision Date: 18/11/2024
Application No: 24/02143/LBC	Location: The Old Rectory Stevenage Road Little Wymondley Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 7HY Applicant Name: Mr and Mrs Watts Description: Internal partition alterations, bathroom and ensuite refurbishment and wall plaster repairs. New heating and hot water installation (as amended by revised Heritage, Design and Access Statement and drawing nos. 2411_01A and 2411_02A received on 19.11.2024).	Decision: Conditional Consent Decision Date: 20/11/2024
Application No: 24/02156/FPH	Location: 30 Shillington Road Pirton Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 3QL Applicant Name: Fausset Description: Single storey rear extension. Removal of two garage doors and replace with windows and insertion of two rooflights to existing garage to facilitate garage conversion into art studio. Alterations to fenestration of main dwelling and garage. Erection of detached shed in side garden	Decision: Conditional Permission Decision Date: 20/11/2024
Application No: 24/02163/LBC	Location: The Manor House Bancroft Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 1JW Applicant Name: Mr S Parker Description: Removal of Condition 4 (Full details as to the method of mechanical extraction to the kitchen) of Listed Building consent 19/00396/LBC granted on 23.05.2019 for Internal alterations to facilitate change of use and conversion of antique showroom to 2-bed dwelling.	Decision: Conditional Consent Decision Date: 14/11/2024
Application No: 24/02387/DOC	Location: Gothic House Pondsides Graveley Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 7LG Applicant Name: Mr A Jennings Description: Details reserved by condition 9 (Dormer Window Details) of planning permission reference no 22/03299/FP granted 14.04.2023 (as amended by plan received 12th November 2024).	Decision: Approval of Details Decision Date: 19/11/2024
Application No: 24/02423/TCA	Location: Dower House The Hoo Codicote Road Whitwell Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 8HN Applicant Name: Ms Maureen Pekenc Description: T1: Yew - Reduce the height up to 6m to the point of the top of the rose growing within. Shape and balance the crown. Remove larger parts of the rose where it has died. T2: Cherry - Re pollard to the old point removing the newer shoots. This will reduce the height by 3-4m. T3 & T4: Dead Birches - Fell to ground level.	Decision: No Objection Decision Date: 14/11/2024

PRESS RELEASE

PR 3895

20 November 2024

Who goes above and beyond in your community?

Do you know someone special in your community who has gone above and beyond and made a real difference in the district of North Herts?

Someone who has made a big impact on a person, family or group in the community? Someone who has improved the health and wellbeing of people in North Herts? An eco-warrior or maybe an exceptional young person? We want to hear from you as we launch [North Herts Heroes 2025](#), sponsored by Altro, John O'Conner, Lovell Homes, Nyaradzo Group, Rewind Media Ltd and The Comet.

The deadline for nominations is **5 January**. Please seek permission from the person you are nominating. They don't have to live in the district but the work they carry out must largely benefit residents of North Herts. Judging and filming of winners' stories is due to take place before an award ceremony at our Civic Event on 28 February. Winners will receive an engraved trophy and gift voucher.

The judges of the awards include:

- Cllr Clare Billing, Chair of the Council
- a representative from North Herts Council for Voluntary Service (NHCVS)
- a representative from each of the sponsors
- Georgia Barrow, editor of The Comet, as media sponsor

Cllr Clare Billing, Chair of the Council, said: "We know there are some fantastic people out there who give up their time to help other people and communities, and really make a difference to their lives. Sometimes this means they are passionate about a certain issue and are actively making North Herts a better place to live. These awards are a small way the council can recognise this amazing work and thank these special people, who don't do it for the glory. We want to acknowledge their contribution – it very often inspires others to think about how they could get involved and help others too. [This year's winners](#) blew us away, I can't wait to read your nominations and meet with winners next year."

The award categories are:

Caring Award sponsored by Nyaradzo Group

Do you know someone who has really gone the extra mile over the past year? Maybe someone has helped do your shopping week in, week out, supported you through a tough time or gone above and beyond for the community. Help us celebrate them.

Dedication Award sponsored by Rewind Media Ltd

You might know someone who has dedicated their time on a regular basis for many years to help their community, the sort of person who is just always there to help out, come rain or shine. This is the sort of person we are looking to celebrate with this award.

Green Award sponsored by John O'Conner

Has a person or group made the community a better place to live? Has someone been key in organising litter picks, gardening projects, tree planting, walking buses or community recycling drives? This award is for them.

Health Award sponsored by Altro

Has one of your friends shared healthy recipes or started a walking club? Has a PE teacher gone above and beyond their usual role? Does someone spring to mind who has really supported others to get their mental health back on track? We'd love to celebrate them.

Young Star Award (19 or under) sponsored by Lovell Homes

Do you know a young person who has contributed to their community, inspired others or given back? Someone who has transformed their own life, overcome challenges to reach their goal or positively impacted the lives of others? Let's give them the recognition they deserve! We will be emailing all schools about this category.

More information: www.north-herts.gov.uk/heroes

ENDS

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

PRESS RELEASE

PR 3896

20 November 2024

A lesson in democracy

The council's chamber was filled with students aged 16 to 18 last week, to help mark the annual UK Parliament Week (18-24 November).

On Thursday (14 November), around 35 young adults from local schools, visited the main council offices in Letchworth to meet local councillors, hear from local MPs and learn about the importance of local democracy. The day included input from Chris Hinchliff MP for North East Herts and Alistair Strathern MP for Hitchin, as well as the High Sheriff of Hertfordshire Annie Brewster JP.

A council overview and information on what happens at an election count was given, and students were split into smaller groups to enable them to get to know and ask questions directly to a cross-party group of district and county councillors. And to really help the young people get to grips with democracy, a council-style debate was held on whether the railways should be re-nationalised - and following a vote an informal motion was proposed that railways should be renationalised with funding ringfenced to support investment in services.

Cllr Val Bryant, Executive Member for Community & Partnerships, said: "It was great to host so many young people and see them get involved with all the activities we planned. The feedback has been very encouraging and I particularly enjoyed hearing what they had to say about re-nationalising the railways. It's so important for young people to learn about and become involved in local democracy – so they can appreciate how it affects their everyday lives and how it fits into the national picture."

Comments from attendees included:

- "I loved the debate, contributing was scary but worth it"
- "Very informational"
- "Learnt lots of new things, I liked the High Sheriff a lot"

- “Using voting buttons was a good experience”
- “Was very fun getting a chance to debate an issue and having an experience of what a council debate is like”
- “Good to ask about how and why councillors came to their posts, and their priorities”

Pupils came from five schools – Fearnhill in Letchworth, Knights Templar in Baldock, Hitchin Boys and Girls and Priory.

ENDS

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

Press release

21 November 2024

Local couple prove age is just a number in competitive athletics

While many their age are settling into retirement, Tim and Joy Saunders-Mullins are still actively competing in masters athletics.

At 70 and 71 years old respectively, the Letchworth couple continue to participate in national competitions, proving that athletic achievement knows no age limit.

Tim specialises in throwing events like hammer, discus and shot put while Joy competes in sprinting, javelin and shot put.

The pair train four times a week at the North Herts Leisure Centre, which is managed by Everyone Active in partnership with North Herts Council, where they've been members since the 1980s.

Their comprehensive training regime includes use of the gym, pool and sauna facilities. Tim focuses on power and strength training to support his throwing events, while Joy's programme combines speed, endurance, strength and power work for her track and field disciplines.

"I started running when I was 15 in school, and worked my way right up - juniors, seniors, and now masters. I was the 400m world champion record holder at the 2003 World Masters Athletics Championships in Puerto Rico," Joy said.

Joy and Tim compete through the British Masters Athletic Federation (BMAF), which organises age-group competitions starting from 35 years old in five-year increments.

"There's no age limit - we have people in our athletics that are over 85. There really is no limit to keeping active," Tim explains. He emphasises that the benefits extend beyond physical fitness, noting, "It calms me down, helps my anxiety. I feel more relaxed and can cope with things better."

Joy encourages others to start wherever they are. She says: "If you're completely new to fitness, there's plenty you can do from home. Even while sitting down, you can exercise your arms and legs. Then if you want to go further, you can visit the gym to meet like-minded people, or join a club if you're feeling adventurous."

The Saunders-Mullins couple are being featured as part of Everyone Active's "Age is Just a Number" campaign, which aims to challenge aging stereotypes and encourage seniors to embrace new activities.

Chris Williams, Everyone Active's area contract manager, said: "Tim and Joy are fantastic examples of how age shouldn't be a barrier to staying active and competitive. Having been members here since the 1980s, they're proof that maintaining an active lifestyle can be a lifelong journey. Their continued participation in masters athletics shows others that it's never too late to pursue their sporting passions."

Cllr Mick Debenham, North Herts Council's Executive Member for Leisure, said: "Tim and Joy's commitment to staying fit and competing in athletics well into their 70s is both impressive and inspiring. They're living proof that being active isn't just about keeping fit—it's about boosting your mood, staying connected, and embracing life to the fullest. We're proud to have facilities and programmes in North Herts that support residents of all ages to keep active."

Tim is currently recovering from a shoulder injury but Joy has her sights on the indoor and outdoor championships in 2025.

For more information about the "Age is Just a Number" campaign, visit:
www.everyoneactive.com/promotion/ageisjustanumber/

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Everyone Active

Everyone Active is the trading name for Sports Leisure Management Ltd (SLM), which operates leisure facilities in partnership with local councils across England.

SLM is the longest-established leisure operator in the UK, having formed in 1987. At the time, it managed just one leisure centre in the Midlands, whereas today it has grown to operate more than 230 leisure facilities and cultural services across the country in partnership with over 69 local authorities.

Its influence reaches as far as Sunderland in the north to Chichester in the south, and Mid Suffolk in the east to Plymouth in the south west. SLM's growth is due to its ability to deliver well-managed leisure facilities and activity services that offer great value for money. Its aim is to increase local people's participation in sports and leisure activities by advocating that all adults achieve a minimum of 30 minutes exercise five times per week.

www.everyoneactive.com