

Local Plan Tracker | Hertfordshire

September 2019

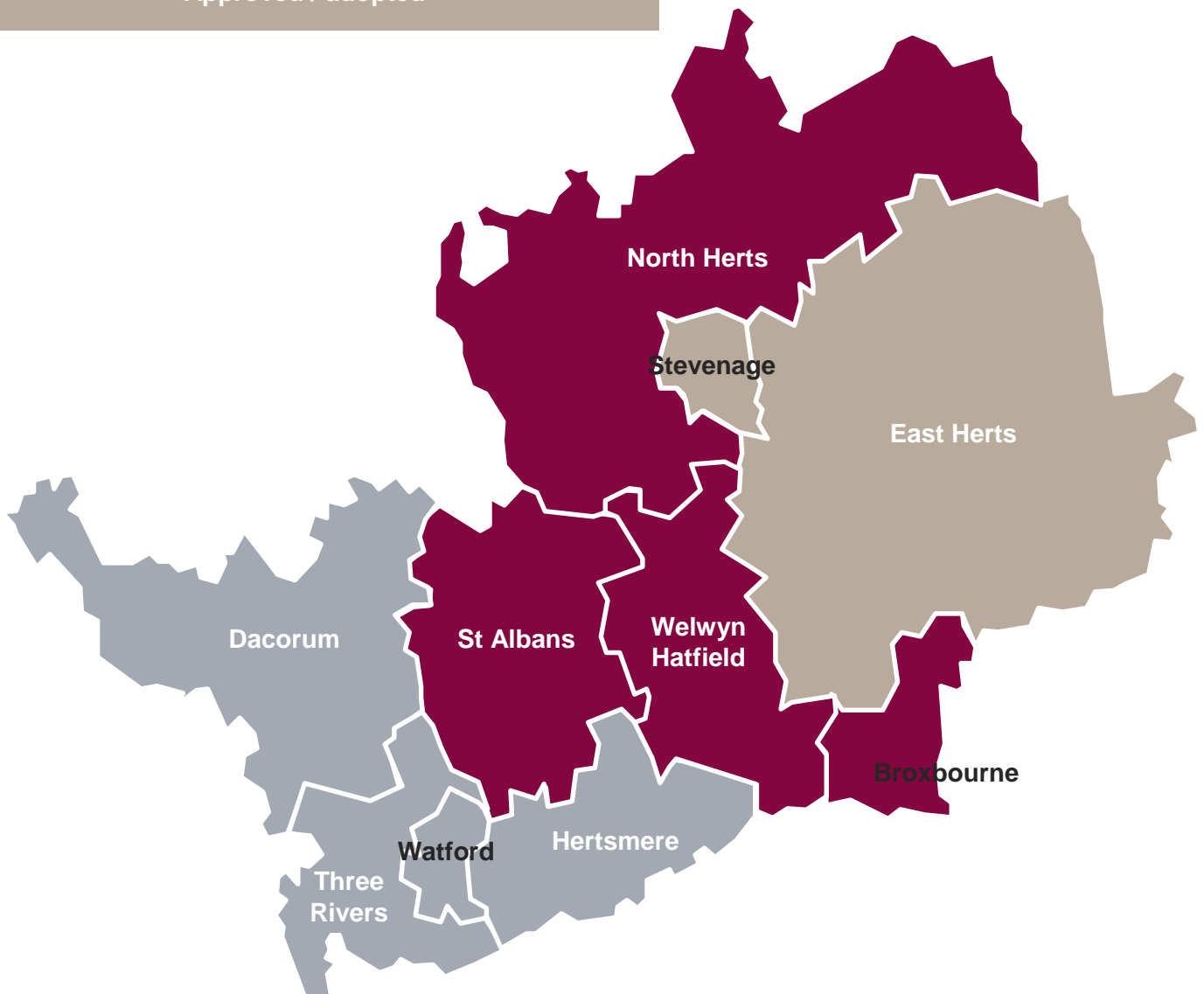
Regulation 18 – Public consultation

Regulation 19 – Publication of submission local plan

Regulation 22 – Submitted to Secretary of state

Regulation 24 – Examination

Approved / adopted



LOCAL AUTHORITY**CURRENT POSITION**

Broxbourne

- The Local Plan was submitted to the Secretary of State for Independent Examination on 15 March 2018.
- Hearing sessions took place in late 2018, and the Inspector issued a post-hearing advice note in December. Within this advice note, the Inspector set out concerns in respect of a proposed garden suburb at Brookfield, describing the policy as not justified, effective, or consistent with national policy; and inviting the Council to propose modifications.
- The Council published a response to the Inspector's Post Hearings Advice Note on 25 February 2019, with further modifications proposed to in respect of the Brookfield Riverside policy; traveller site policy; and requirement for new policy, management plan and concept plan in respect of Brookfield and Turnford Brook.
- Matter 6 was resumed at a Hearing Session took place on 11 June 2019 to discuss Policies & Proposals in Different Parts of the Borough (Brookfield).
- The Inspector published a note on 18 June detailing actions required following resumed Hearing Session Matter 6.1. It sets out a series of Actions Points requesting the Council to update the list of proposed main modifications published on 28 November 2018, and undertake Sustainability Appraisal and Habitat Regulations Assessment.
- On 31 July, the Council published a consolidated schedule of main modifications.
- It is now expected that the Inspector will review the proposed modifications to consider if they will make the Local Plan sound, before they are published for public consultation. The timescales for this are currently unclear.

Dacorum

- A revised LDS has extended the timetable for Consultation (Regulation 19) to May 2020, which effectively slips submission of the new Local Plan by 9 months to November 2020.
- The Council is working with St Albans District Council on proposals for the Hemel Garden Communities project, through which 10,000 new homes and jobs are anticipated to be delivered. The Council submitted a joint bid for Government support funding under the Garden Communities Fund in November 2018.
- Adoption of the Local Plan is anticipated for February 2022.
- In addition to the Council's own Local Plan, South West Hertfordshire Authorities (Hertsme St Albans City and District, Three Rivers and Watford) have begun work on a Joint Strategic Plan (JSP). The JSP remains in its early stages, but is intended to properly coordinate and deliver infrastructure alongside housing and employment growth.

East Hertfordshire

- The Local Plan was adopted on 23 October 2018.

Hertsme

- The Council opened an "engagement process" on the Council's Potential Site Document which ran until the 20 December 2018. This document was intended for 'engagement' rather than formal consultation.
- The Council is looking to agree their Pre-Submission Plan in Q1/Q3 2020.
- In addition to the Council's own Local Plan, South West Hertfordshire Authorities (Hertsme St Albans City and District, Three Rivers and Watford) have begun work on a Joint Strategic Plan (JSP). The JSP remains in its early stages, but is intended to properly coordinate and deliver infrastructure alongside housing and employment growth.

North Hertfordshire

- The Local Plan was submitted for examination on the 9 June 2017.
- Hearing sessions took place in November 2017 and ended in March 2018.
- Following the Hearing Sessions, the Inspector has published his proposed main modifications to the plan and the accompanying Sustainability Appraisal.
- Consultation on the main modifications ran from Thursday 3 January to 11 April 2019.
- In May 2019, it was confirmed that the Inspector was currently reviewing and considering the representations made in response to the main modifications; and that once this is complete he will indicate the way forward for the Examination and the likely timescales.
- The Inspector has since written to the Council to set out the next stages of examination. The letter dated 11 July 2019 set out a number of issues and reservations in relation to the ongoing Examination of the Local Plan, with the intention of holding additional hearing sessions on a range of matters.
- North Hertfordshire District Council responded to the Inspector's letter on the 18 July requesting that within 21 days of the receipt of the letter that the Inspector inform the Council on the likely completion and timescales of the Inspectors representation review exercise.
- On 9 August the Inspector raised a number of additional questions to the Council, having concluded his review of the representations. This included asking the Council to respond to concerns that a number of Regulation 19 representations have been lost and not published, and consequently respondents have been excluded from the examination process.
- The Inspector has confirmed he intends to issue a full list of matters on which additional hearing sessions are considered necessary, once the Council he has received a full response from the Council to matters raised.

St. Albans City and District

- The Council is working with Dacorum Borough Council on proposals for the Hemel Garden Communities project, through which 10,000 new homes and jobs are anticipated to be delivered. The Council submitted a joint bid for Government support funding under the Garden Communities Fund in November 2018.
- The Council approved a new Draft Local Plan (Regulation 19) on 11 July 2018 for publication and subsequent consultation took place between 4 September and 17 October 2018.
- The Council submitted its Local Plan for examination in March 2019 with Inspectors Louise Crosby MA MRTPI and Elaine Worthington BA (Hons) MTP MUED MRTPI appointed by the Secretary of State.
- The Inspectors issued their Initial Questions on 17 April 2019, a number of concerns and citing missing information. The Council responded to the Inspectors Initial Questions and provisional hearing sessions were scheduled for w/c 14 October and w/c 21 October 2019 with the confirmation of the Programme and Inspectors' Matters Issues and Questions to be provided at least 6 weeks before the first hearing session.
- However, on 2 July 2019 the Inspectors wrote again to the Council, requesting further information and setting out a number of questions. The Council responded to the Inspector's questions through a letter dated 11 July, and formally submitted their response to the Planning Inspectorate on 6 August 2019.
- On 14 August the Inspectors set provisional dates for the Hearing Sessions, w/c 20 January and w/c 3 February 2020.
- Adoption of the Plan is currently scheduled for Spring 2020, but delays appear highly likely.
- In addition to the Council's own Local Plan, South West Hertfordshire Authorities (Hertsmere St Albans City and District, Three Rivers and Watford) have begun work on a Joint Strategic Plan (JSP). The JSP remains in its early stages, but is intended to properly coordinate and deliver infrastructure alongside housing and employment growth.



Stevenage

- The Stevenage Borough Local Plan 2011-2031 was adopted on 22 May 2019. The Local Plan replaces the District Plan (Second Review).

Three Rivers

- Issues & Options and Call for Sites Consultation took place from 28 July 2017 until 8 September 2017.
- The Council ran a further potential sites Consultation from 26 October until the 21 December 2018.
- As a result of this consultation a further 27 sites were submitted and will be included in the Strategic Housing and Employment Land Availability Assessment informing the emerging Local Plan
- Publication of the Regulation 19 (pre-submission) iteration of the Local Plan is scheduled for autumn 2019; with submission early 2020; and examination spring / summer 2020. The Council has scheduled adoption for late 2020, but we consider this ambitious.
- In addition to the Council's own Local Plan, South West Hertfordshire Authorities (Hertsmere St Albans City and District, Three Rivers and Watford) have begun work on a Joint Strategic Plan (JSP). The JSP remains in its early stages, but is intended to properly coordinate and deliver infrastructure alongside housing and employment growth.

Watford

- The Local Plan Issues & Options consultation ran until 19 October 2018.
- The First Draft Local Plan is due for consultation in autumn 2019.
- The Final Draft Local Plan is due for consultation in summer 2020.
- Adoption of the plan is scheduled for summer 2021.
- In addition to the Council's own Local Plan, South West Hertfordshire Authorities (Hertsmere St Albans City and District, Three Rivers and Watford) have begun work on a Joint Strategic Plan (JSP). The JSP is still in its early stages, but is intended to properly coordinate and deliver infrastructure alongside housing and employment growth.

**Welwyn Hatfield**

- The Local Plan was submitted for Examination in May 2017.
- A number of examination hearing sessions stage have been undertaken between September 2017 in December 2018.
- Following a request from the Inspector, and concerns that the Green Belt had not previously been reviewed at a sufficient scale to conclude full development needs could not be met, the Council is currently exploring if there is any scope for additional housing sites to be identified. As part of this process, a Call for Sites exercise was held until the 4 February 2019.
- Over 140 potential sites have been suggested for new housing, employment, mixed use or other developments. The Council invited comments on the sites promoted through the Call for Sites 2019, over a six-week consultation period from 7 May 2019 – 18 June 2019. The consultation period is now closed.
- The Council is due to report their comments to Cabinet Planning and Parking Panel in September 2019.
- The new Local Plan timetable states that examination hearing sessions are due to take place in November 2019.
- An Addendum to the Stage 3 Welwyn Hatfield Green Belt Study was prepared on 12 June 2019 in response to consultation on the consistency of the scorings and subdivision of parcels within the Welwyn Hatfield Stage 3 Green Belt Assessment (2018).
- The Green Belt Addendum, prepared by LUC following the hearing sessions, has been submitted to the Examination.
- In July 2019, the Council submitted documents on the Economy, Household and Population Projections and Employment Land, with the Inspector consulting all Regulation 19 Respondents until 21 August 2019.
- Provisional dates for the Stage 6 hearing sessions have now been arranged and set for w/c 9 December and w/c 16 December 2019.
- The Council received a letter from the Planning Inspectorate on 8 August highlighting the failure on the Council's part to prepare and submit additional information requested by the Inspector within the proposed timeframe. The Inspector requested for a revised timetable setting out realistic time periods and milestones for the conclusion of all outstanding tasks, including the Hearings.
- The Council has a target adoption date of June 2020.

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