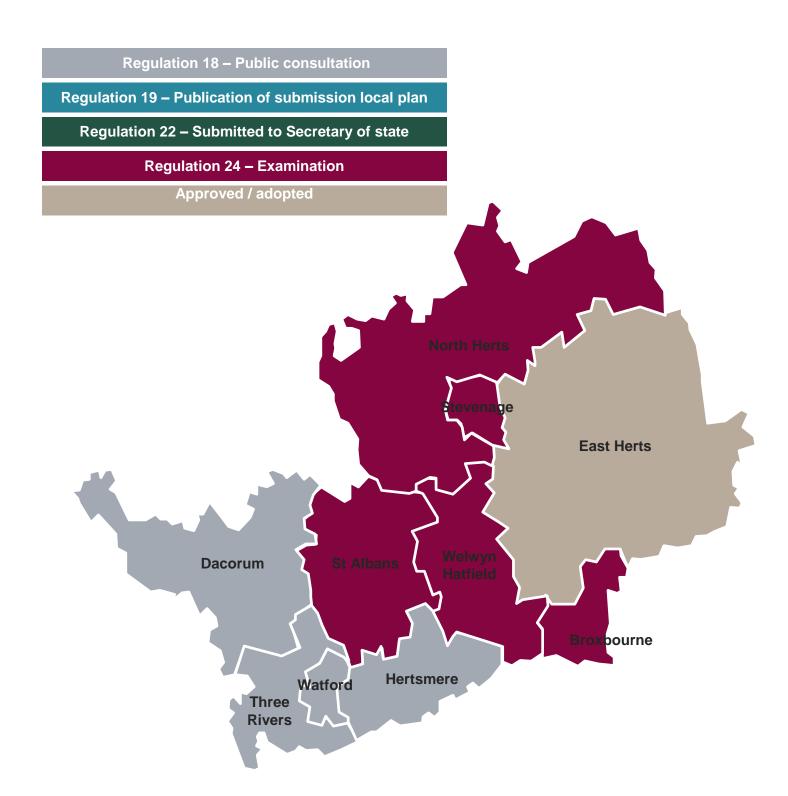


# Local Plan Tracker | Hertfordshire

May 2019





## LOCAL AUTHORITY

## **CURRENT POSITION**

### **Broxbourne**

- The Local Plan was submitted to the Secretary of State for Independent Examination on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2018.
- Hearings 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<sup>th</sup> 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.
- Additional hearing sessions to consider proposals are scheduled for June 2019.

## **Dacorum**

- Publication of the proposed submission (Pre Submission) plan for representations (Reg. 19) was due for September 2018. This document has not yet been published and is now scheduled for consultation August 2019.
- 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 December 2020.
- 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.

## **East Hertfordshire**

The Local Plan was adopted on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2018.

## **Hertsmere**

- The Council opened an "engagement process" on the Council's Potential Site Document which ran until the 20<sup>th</sup> December 2018.
- This document was intended for 'engagement' rather than formal consultation.
- The Council are looking to agree their Pre-Submission Plan in Autumn 2019.
- 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.

## **North Hertfordshire**

- Emerging Local Plan was submitted for examination on the 9<sup>th</sup> 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<sup>rd</sup> January to 11<sup>th</sup> April 2019.
- The next steps in the examination of the Local Plan to be determined by the Inspector.



#### St. Albans

- Council approved a new Draft Local Plan (Regulation 19) on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2018 for publication and subsequent consultation took place between 4<sup>th</sup> September and 17<sup>th</sup> October 2018.
- The Council submitted their 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<sup>th</sup> April 2019 asking the Council to respond by 24<sup>th</sup> May 2019, raising a number of concerns and citing missing information. The Council's response is awaited.
- 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.
- Adoption of the Plan is currently scheduled for Spring 2020.
- 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.

## Stevenage

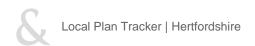
- Following examination of the Local Plan, the Inspector's Report was published on the 17<sup>th</sup> October 2017. However, a holding direction was issued by the Secretary of State on the 13<sup>th</sup> November 2017, preventing adoption of the plan.
- The Holding Direction was lifted by RT Hon James Brokenshire, Secretary of State for Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) as confirmed in a letter dated 25<sup>th</sup> March 2019. The letter confirms the direction is lifted subject to a number of actions expected of Stevenage Council.
- These include: preparation of timetable for a statutory Action Plan for Stevenage 'Station Gateway' area; publication of a Masterplan for Stevenage Town Centre sites TC5 and TC2 for consultation; designate a lead councillor and lead official to be responsible for progression and implementation of the Area Action Plan; provide monthly updates to MHCLG on the preparation of the Area Action Plan and; removal of references to a new train station before adoption from the Local Plan.

## **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 ran from 26<sup>th</sup> October until the 21<sup>st</sup> December 2018.
- Publication of the Draft New Local Plan is scheduled for Autumn 2019.
- 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.

# Watford

- Issues & Options consultation ran until 19<sup>th</sup> 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 emerging Local Plan was submitted for Examination in May 2017.
- The Secretary of State appointed Melvyn Middleton as the Inspector to carry out an independent examination of the New Local Plan.
- Examination Hearing Sessions stage one and two were held between September and October 2017 with the stage three held in 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2018.
- Stage 4 Hearing Sessions took place on the 26<sup>th</sup> June 2018.
- Stage 5 of the hearing sessions took place in the Council Chamber at the Welwyn Hatfield Council offices on Tuesday 6 November and Wednesday 7 November.
- The Hearing Sessions examined the Green Belt Study Stage 3 and did not include discussion of individual site allocations. These sessions finished 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<sup>th</sup> February 2019.
- The Inspector sent a letter to Colin Haigh, Head of Planning at Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council requesting a more detailed revised Local Plan timetable be provided.
- A revised Local Plan timetable was agreed by Cabinet Planning & Parking Panel (CPPP) members on 7<sup>th</sup> March and sent to the Inspector in a letter dated 11<sup>th</sup> March. The Council proposed the examination hearing sessions be moved forward to w/c 18<sup>th</sup> November and w/c 25<sup>th</sup> November 2019, as set out in a letter to the Inspector dated 27<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

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