

## NORTH HERTS COUNCIL

WEEK ENDING 25 FEBRUARY 2022

# MEMBERS' INFORMATION

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Produced by the Communications Team. Any comments, suggestions or contributions should be sent to the Communications Team at [pressoffice@north-herts.gov.uk](mailto:pressoffice@north-herts.gov.uk)

# NEWS AND INFORMATION

## AGENDA & REPORTS

### PUBLISHED WEEK COMMENCING 21 FEBRUARY 2022

Royston & District Area Committee – 8 March 2022  
Joint Staff Consultative Committee – 9 March 2022  
Letchworth Area Committee – 9 March 2022

### FORTHCOMING MEETINGS WEEK COMMENCING 28 FEBRUARY 2022

Council Tax Setting Committee – 28 February 2022  
Hitchin Area Committee – 1 March 2022  
Southern Rural Area Committee – 3 March 2022

### CHAIR'S ENGAGEMENTS WEEK COMMENCING 28 FEBRUARY 2022

Date	Event	Location
Tuesday 1 March 2022, 14.30	Visit of TRHs The Earl and Countess of Wessex	Resolve, Resolve House, 7 Openshaw Way, Letchworth

### VICE-CHAIR'S ENGAGEMENTS WEEK COMMENCING 28 FEBRUARY 2022

Date	Event	Location
	None	

### OTHER EVENTS WEEK COMMENCING 28 FEBRUARY 2022

Date	Event	Location
	None	

### Community Protection

#### Health and Wellbeing (inc. healthy hub) and Safeguarding

- The wellbeing sessions in Royston and Hitchin are now scheduled through until summer with a variety of sessions being delivered including family cookery and craft sessions, flower arranging, wellbeing talks and adult wellbeing activities. Further details were included in a recent [press release](#) and are available on the Hub website.
- A funding application for £100k has been submitted to the Health Protection Board for the Contain Outbreak Management Fund (COMF) to continue to deliver wellbeing projects covering four themes throughout 2022/23: Older people & social isolation; emotional wellbeing; food education; and families with young children.
- 24 older people attended a tea party in Letchworth in February hosted by the team to tackle social isolation. Invites have been distributed through the North Herts CVS and other distribution lists to invite community groups working with older people to contact us to arrange a tea party for their group. This information has also been released to the [press](#).
- A three-session pilot art project, in partnership with local organisation OpenArt Box, had an excellent first session and supported older people to produce collages. Further sessions have been planned for February and March 2022.
- Recruitment is underway for Health and Wellbeing apprentice to join the team.

#### Community Safety (excl. enviro-crime)

- The Community Safety Partnership 'Open Spaces' sub-group on ASB in public spaces have been tackling recent ASB at Howard Park Gardens. Street drinkers have become problematic and officers from NHC and police visited the park (Tues. 8<sup>th</sup> Feb) and issued 2 community protection notice warnings. Further investigations ongoing to identify further problem individuals.
- The Open Spaces sub-group will also investigate recent reports of alleged ASB at Hitchin market and Redhill Road in Hitchin.
- Council, ~~Police~~ and partners are also reviewing reports regarding alleged ASB and crime associated with The Lord Lister Hotel in Hitchin.
- There has been one further protest on Windmill Hill relating to the rising cost of living. The protest organised by the People's Assembly went without issue.
- The Community Trigger application from Baldock has been reviewed and concluded no further action required as all agencies have complied with their policies and procedures.

### Policy & Community Engagement

Throughout January the team have been busy with ongoing Community and Member support in addition to Herts County Council funds to support vulnerable groups and residents.

#### Community Engagement

- On-going Health Protection Board (HPB) grant panel meetings to assign HCC funds provided to the District Council in 2022.
- Distribution of supermarket vouchers to umbrella organisations as funded by the Household Support Grant from Herts County Council. This will support vulnerable and low-income families in the District.
- Successful hosting of the online Holocaust Memorial Day. The Holocaust Memorial Day attracted views and compliments from around the world including Australia, Canada, and Israel.
- Support of the Council's Good Causes Lottery launch for organisations within the District to accrue funding through tickets sales in addition to other traditional fundraising means.
- Assessment of Area Committee applications for the last meeting in the civic year cycle.
- Recruitment of new Assistant Community Engagement Officer.

#### Policy

- Support of various events/meetings and sign posting to external funding within the District including Eco festivals, renewal of Fair-Trade status for Hitchin, Baldock Beast, funding support for Royston Rockets for resurfacing project, Westmill Network Meeting and Barkway Market event.
- Queen's Platinum Jubilee preparatory work – alerting event organisers and voluntary groups to forthcoming event and necessary paperwork for street parties etc.
- Ongoing work to assess the Council's carbon omissions assessment (Part 3 includes the Council's remaining sites and buildings).
- Ongoing work to support the drafting of the Annual Governance Statement/Local code of Governance to align with the approved Statement of Accounts.
- Working with greenspace colleagues to align greenspace management strategy with Herts County Council Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan and Council's climate change strategy.
- Assessment of the Climate Emergency UK scorecards issued by the Climate Emergency Alliance and drafting briefing report for Leadership team.
- Two presentation sessions were held for Councillors on Climate/Environment legislation and actions within North Herts.

### Democratic Services

#### Elections

- Preparations continue for the upcoming scheduled elections in May, as well as for the Ashwell NPR to be held on 3 March and By-elections in Hitchin to take place on 10 March. The Elections project board has met again, and discussions involved staffing, postal vote opening sessions and the count, especially with regards to Covid risk assessments and safety measures which we feel will still need to remain in place.
- A significant amount of work has been done by the team to identify new polling stations in areas where regular stations are unavailable, either for the by-elections or for May. New stations were finalised and approved by council, with poll cards for the by-elections being despatched on 7 February.
- The annual Absent Voters signature refresh is well underway, with 3700 postal and proxy voters being asked to update their personal identifiers. An issue with printing meant that these were initially sent without the necessary reply envelope included. This has since been addressed and the correct letters sent out, however it has created a significant amount of additional work through phone calls/ emails and duplicate applications. Processing continues, with reminders to be sent out from next week.
- The team is also in the process of recruiting for the Electoral Services Assistant post with interviews to take place week commencing 21 February.
- The Local Government Boundary Commission for England has just confirmed that the Commission has agreed the proposed Council size figure approved by NHC on 20 January of 50. Work will now start on supporting the consultation for warding arrangements.

#### Committee, Member and Scrutiny Services

- Preparations for meetings in March are complete with a number of external venue bookings for area committees. Arrangements in the Council chamber aligned to the most recent risk assessment are under review and minor alterations are being made to ensure smooth running of meetings.
- The calendar of meetings for the civic year 2022/23 has been reviewed internally by senior officers and group leaders. During the pre-election period the team will focus on administrative preparation to deliver meetings on these dates. Work has been scheduled during PERP to bring the minute archive up to date for the start of the new civic year, with a view to instituting a new streamlined archiving system.
- The vacant CMSO post closed for recruitment on 7 Feb with no applications. Alternative avenues including secondment to be looked at.
- The Members' Induction Programme is under review and consultation with Learning & Development member champions will begin this month.

## **RECORD OF DECISION MADE UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY**

### **\*PART 1 – PUBLIC DOCUMENT**

Any interest to declare/ or conflict and any dispensation granted n/a

#### **SERVICE DIRECTORATE: LEGAL & COMMUNITY**

##### **1. DECISION TAKEN**

To award a contract from the Practical law/ Westlaw (law library services) framework procured by the Public Law Partnership (Supplier: Thomson Reuters). This a 4 year contract at a cost of £52,065 plus VAT.

##### **2. DECISION TAKER**

Jeanette Thompson, Service Director, Legal & Community

##### **3. DATE DECISION TAKEN:**

21.2.22

##### **4. REASON FOR DECISION**

4.1. The Council is part of the Public Law Partnership<sup>1</sup> ('PLP') – which provides legal services to the public sector. Legal teams require access to up to date legal precedents and research tools when working in house, and when attending Court. By their very nature, law libraries can be expensive and labour intensive to manage. For several years now online legal research and access to encyclopaedias have been made available to PLP members to order, using collective purchasing power to drive value.

4.2. As a result of this collective leverage, the PLP members can take advantage of up to date easily accessed and wide ranging law library products at discounted rates. The features of the offer under the framework present the best value for the Council (lawyers and support staff).

##### **5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

5.1. To seek to undertake our own procurement exercise. However, this is not seen as the most effective use of time or likely to result in savings as the leverage that can result from a joint procurement via PLP is collectively significant (for all partners savings of £1.26 million could be realised as a result of volume purchasing process).

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

6.1. As outlined, this is part of the overall PLP arrangements that the Council is party to. The Council has played an active role in the partnership and Board, with the decision maker Vice Chair of the Management Group (a role also previously held by the Managing Director when Head of Legal). The Partners are not obliged to sign a contract in this manner, however for the reasons outlined, it was represents the best way to engage in a procurement process and realise the best value to the Council.

6.2. The Leader, as Executive Member for Legal was consulted on the decision.

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<sup>1</sup> [PLP partners](#)

## 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 current three-year deal / contract that the Council has will end 31 March 2022, and on behalf of the PLP members and Board, Harlow Council initiated an open competition to seek new arrangements from 1 April 2022.
- 8.2. Harlow Council and PLP appointed a small project team, which included support from a professional law librarian, who helped shape the PLP requirements from the market, and supported evaluating tender responses and service offerings. A full set of the tender documents were made available for comment to the PLP Management team and PLP Board members prior to publishing.
- 8.3. On 4 October 2021 notice was placed on the find a tender service using the open procedure for a 48-month Framework for Suppliers of online legal library services and hard print encyclopaedias. The brief sought access to specialist legal library services for a wide range of public sector specialisms, accessible using a variety of devices. The tender included requirements for added and social value and made allowances for a multitude of Suppliers to be appointed to allow PLP members opportunity to select the best service offering for their teams.
- 8.4. Part of the process required Tenderers to complete a comprehensive selection questionnaire to confirm adherence to modern slavery requirements, anti-bribery processes and data privacy processes. During the tender period, 6 expressions of interest were received. 2 withdrew and 1 bid was submitted by 12 November 2021, being the closing date.
- 8.5. The Tender was evaluated on a 40% quality 60% price basis, being the agreed weighting from the PLP Board.
- 8.6. A four-year term was offered, commencing 1 April 2022. Contract terms settled included coverage of GDPR, Anti-bribery, Modern Slavery provisions and prompt payment clauses. Importantly the new pricing structure will not impose any penalty for decreasing of sites and or licenses. Notably, the new pricing structure does not require all parties to sign up to enjoy the discounted prices. Non-fee-earning staff residing in legal teams will enjoy free licenses, and professional clients (e.g., planners or environmental health teams) will benefit from the discounted prices secured. Free bespoke training has been offered for the full term.
- 8.7. Social value was central to the Suppliers offer. The Supplier is open to arranging talks and discussions with local schools, trainee lawyers, and newly qualified/ paralegals and trainee journalists. The offer of support for environmental projects, ethnic minority groups and social equality projects will be explored and utilised during the contract term.
- 8.8. The framework offer was presented to the PLP Board on the 14 January 2022 and approved, and as Harlow were the procuring authority on behalf of PLP (and due to the level of the overall value of the contract) this was reported through to Harlow's Cabinet on 27 January 2022 and approved.
- 8.9. The Council currently pays £13,685 plus VAT per year. This new arrangement would be a saving on that over the 4-year period of £2,675 plus VAT (assuming the current prices had *not* increased, which is highly unlikely). The option chosen also has enhancement to the current service provision and updated software, which if procured separately would in any event have been more expensive. Legal books would also have been circa 25% more expensive.
- 8.10. To avail itself of this offer, the Council needed to call off the contract from the framework by 28 February 2022.

## **9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 9.1. Service Directors have general in-budget authorisations under 14.6.4(a)(ii) “*Entering into contracts to carry out works and/or for the supply of goods and services within approved budgets (subject also to approval of the Service Director for: Customers in respect of software or hardware contracts);*”. The current contract is with Thomson Reuters and includes licensing pricing. The Service Director: Legal and Community has responsibility for Legal Services under 14.6.8(b)(xiii). This service is overseen by the Leader of the Council (as per that section).
- 9.2. The Council is a named PLP partner and the procurement framework allows call off by relevant partner organisations. Therefore under the Contract Procurement Rules (11), the Council is not required to undertake a full tendering procedure and can call off from an approved external Framework Agreement (CPR 11.1, 11.3) and shall follow the call off procedure.

## **10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 10.1. These are set out in the body of the delegated decision report.

## **11. RISK IMPLICATIONS**

- 11.1 Failure to have up to date legal resource would lead to an ineffective service. There would be significant operational and reputational risks. The Council also undertakes legal work for other authorities and it would not be feasible if the Council’s legal service did not have access to an up to date legal library resource.

## **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 As noted in the body of the decision, the procurement exercise undertaken by Harlow included social value offers, which can be access by partner organisations (including provisions to minority groups) as per 8.7.

## **13. SOCIAL VALUE IMPLICATIONS**

- 13.1 The Go-Local policy applies to all procurements up to £100K – however, in this situation it was not feasible to procure a specialist law library provision locally; there are few such specialist provisions within the UK and as demonstrated – even where the procurement is for a much larger group, the interest in such provision is limited. That said, as noted in the body of the decision, the procurement exercise undertaken by Harlow included social value provision, which can be access by partner organisations as per paragraph 8.7. It is unlikely that this would be available if the Council had undertaken its own procurement exercise and we will look to see if there are benefits for the local community going forwards.

## **14. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 14.1. There are no known Environmental impacts or requirements that apply to this decision, albeit that it is noted that the Supplier’s offer includes support for environmental projects as mentioned in 8.7 and these will be explored during the duration of the contract.

## **15. HUMAN RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 15.1 None.

## **16. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

16.1 None.

**17. APPENDICES**

17.1 None.

**NOTIFICATION DATE**

**25 FEBRUARY 2022**

**Signature of Executive Member Consulted ...**



**Date .....15.2.22**

**Signature of Decision Taker ...**



**Call-in does not apply to NON-EXECUTIVE DECISIONS, THIS IS A NON-EXECUTIVE DECISION.**

## **RECORD OF DECISION MADE UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY**

### **\*PART 1 – PUBLIC DOCUMENT**

#### **SERVICE DIRECTORATE: REGULATORY**

#### **1. DECISION TAKEN**

- 1.1 The procurement of Cornerstone Ltd as preferred contractor under the Council's Park Homes Insulation Scheme, which has been awarded funding from the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, under their Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery Phase 1b Scheme.
- 1.2 The procurement is by Direct Award through a Procurement Framework operated by Efficiency East Midlands Ltd (EEM).

#### **2. DECISION TAKER**

- 2.1 Ian Fullstone, Service Director – Regulatory

#### **3. DATE DECISION TAKEN:**

- 3.1 24<sup>th</sup> February 2022

#### **4. REASON FOR DECISION**

- 4.1 The Council was originally awarded £744,160 Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery Phase 1b (GHG LAD1b) funding from the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS). BEIS sent grant monies to the Council in March 2021. LAD1b schemes were originally to run until 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021. Following several setbacks outside of the Council's control, BEIS extended their scheme deadline to allow works to be completed by end of April 2022, with the potential in exceptional circumstances to request a bespoke plan and deadline (August 2022). The funding is now to be used to provide under floor insulation to 75 eligible Park Homes under the Council's Park Homes Insulation Scheme, to improve energy efficiency and reduce fuel poverty.
- 4.2 The delays to implementing the scheme meant that some grant was returned for recycling within the LAD1b program and therefore this decision concerns approximately £451,800 (including VAT), for capital and ancillary works to be carried out by the contractor. Some staff costs can also be reclaimed. BEIS have confirmed that there is scope to refund some of the original grant if demand permits.
- 4.3 The Direct Award enables the Council to act proportionately to implement the developed scheme and achieve the maximum number of installations possible in the remaining period for delivery of LAD1B schemes.

#### **5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 5.1 The grant award followed a detailed bid by officers and therefore can only be spent for the purpose identified unless a change request is accepted by BEIS. In this case the request has been accepted to fit underfloor insulation which is more practical to instal in the winter months and has less supply chain issues.

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

- 6.1 The Executive Member for Housing and Environmental Health, Cllr Gary Grindal and the Deputy Executive Member for Housing and Environmental Health, Cllr Sean Prendergast have been consulted since the grant application and award in March 2021 and have both been on-going in their support for officers to adapt the original scheme to ensure residents have the ability to apply for any insulation measure that will improve the quality of their home.
- 6.2 The Energy Hub for Hertfordshire, which has been awarded BEIS funding under their LAD2 scheme, has been consulted with regard the proposed works to ensure that future applications for additional works under this scheme are possible, and is supportive of this approach. Public consultation has been limited to liaising with site owners and managers.

## **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 background to the scheme was set out in some detail in the record of decision made under delegated authority on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2021. In essence, the government invited Local Authorities to bid for funding for schemes to improve energy efficiency and reduce fuel poverty. Officers submitted a proposal to install external wall insulation to 75 Park Homes. The bid was successful, and following submission of required project documentation, in March 2021 the Council received £744,160 from BEIS towards the scheme costs.
- 8.2 In March 2021, the decision was made to procure our chosen contractor through a Direct Award under the EEM Procurement Framework.
- 8.3 Officers consulted the Fire Officer after the grant was awarded about the scheme and proposed specifications, the Fire Officer supported the officers desire to use non-combustible insulation rather than the more commonly used polystyrene. This pushed the average unit cost above the BEIS limit of £10,000. BEIS agreed to the proposed change but would not increase the permitted average unit cost.
- 8.4 At its meeting of 29<sup>th</sup> June 2021, Cabinet agreed that £30,000 slippage from Private Sector Grants (HRAG) be used to finance the expenditure that is not covered by the BEIS grant.
- 8.5 Guidance for the implementation of new (PAS) retrofit installation rules, which were to be implemented from July, then caused LAD1 schemes for Park Homes to be halted, as they required multiple measures which would no longer be achievable nor affordable under the grant scheme. Feasibility studies were carried out into what could be deliverable, then BEIS arranged for the transition period for the rule change to be extended but did not extend the scheme deadline.
- 8.6 Preparations resumed for our single measure scheme, until our contractor advised that they were no longer in a position to sign the contracts. Due to the skewed market, caused by the proliferation of concurrent initiatives all competing for completion within three months, and pressures on a reduced pool of installers, they had lost our installation team and no longer had the capacity to deliver our scheme.
- 8.7 Due to the delays, it was no longer be possible to upgrade 75 homes as originally planned, but officers sought to find a suitably qualified contractor with capacity to upgrade as many homes as realistically possible before the end of September deadline for completion works.

- 8.8 The Record of Decision made under Delegated Authority dated 20<sup>th</sup> August 2021 to procure YES Energy Solutions by single tender sets out further details. Preparations began to complete approximately 15 installations, with slightly higher though broadly comparable costs to the original contractor, and comparable to approximate costs provided by another contractor, but whose specification of works was not acceptable.
- 8.9 Unfortunately the lead- in time for supply of mineral wool increased to 3 months due to market pressures, which was beyond the scheme deadline. Consideration was given to YES delivering mixed measures to general housing, but then another BEIS funded scheme was launched in Hertfordshire for that market.
- 8.10 Cornerstone then advised that a prominent independent assessor organisation was again lodging single measures on the necessary Trustmark database as being compliant with the new rules as part of a medium- term plan. BEIS approved a project 'change request' to install under floor insulation to Park Homes. After discussions with the assessor organisation, Trustmark, Cornerstone and BEIS, a proposal was agreed to install Under Floor Insulation to around 53 Park Homes. After further discussion and investigation, the opportunity arose to seek to increase this number to 75 homes with a further extension to the deadline.
- 8.11 Mindful of the short timescales and that further funding schemes may be available for additional measures, sites will be selected according to suitability of homes for this type of measure, and to maximise numbers of installations and benefit to householders.

## **9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 9.1 Paragraph 14.6.10(b)(vii) of section 14 of the Council's Constitution gives the Service Director - Regulatory the authority to exercise functions relating to, among others, housing grant and loans. The Executive Member for Housing and Environmental Health is responsible for the leadership, strategic planning and development, partnership working and decision making within the above listed service area under this paragraph 14.6.10.
- 9.2 The contract will be awarded by way of a direct award under the 'External and Internal Wall Insulation, Render Systems and Associated Works' framework agreement with Efficiency East Midlands Limited (EEM). Information on EEM's website confirms that the tender process for the framework is fully compliant with the Public Contracts Regulation 2015. Under Floor Insulation is within the Associated Works part of the framework.
- 9.3 A Members Agreement was required for the framework agreement to be available for use by this Council. Legal confirms that the Members Agreement was reviewed prior to execution and the terms are acceptable. Legal has also reviewed the terms of the Framework Agreement and confirm that they are acceptable.
- 9.4 Legal will assist officers in the preparation of the call-off contract under the Framework Agreement.

## **10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 10.1 None. The project is fully funded by the BEIS grant including the project officer costs. Considerable preparation work has taken place to deliver a scheme. Whilst this can be recovered from the BEIS award, it is considered preferable for this to also have achieved some reduction in fuel poverty, as proposed.
- 10.2 The contract sum is based on rates provided by the proposed contractor, to provide Under Floor Insulation, with associated costs and measures, to 75 park homes. The actual number of installations achieved and therefore total cost will depend on when works can begin on site, uptake, weather, any further extension in delivery time that might be allowed by BEIS, and which measure/s are chosen, i.e., whether to benefit from early Under Floor Insulation through this scheme, or to refer for other measures under different funding streams.

- 10.3 The quoted rates are higher than for similar works as part of the original scheme, but are consistent with rates for similar schemes underway in other local authorities. They are also higher than the average cost extracted from BEIS figures until end October 2021, but that is as expected, as costs increased nationally upon the introduction of new retrofit insulation rules at that time. Delivery and supply costs etc have also increased since the original bid, and the scheme rates are considered to be the best achievable.

## **11. RISK IMPLICATIONS**

- 11.1 The Risk Matrix is contained within the Memorandum of Understanding between the Council and BEIS.
- 11.2 PAS 2035 requires a whole house approach to retrofitting insulation. In Park Homes this can be difficult and expensive to achieve. Until revised guidance is published, current guidance has been interpreted by the assessor as allowing single measures to be carried out if identified as the first stage of a medium-term plan for the home. There is a risk that the new guidance will not agree with this interpretation, and thus works to Park Homes may again cease. Discussions with the contractor, independent assessor, BEIS, Trustmark and the Energy Hub have concluded that there is no risk to the Council's budgets from following this interpretation. The Council does not have to commit to funding further works; the householder merely has to agree they would like them done at some stage if possible.
- 11.3 However, it is understood that for Park Home schemes under LAD2, BEIS have advised the Energy Hub to wait for the outstanding revised guidance. To ensure best fit with alternative funding therefore, it is proposed to achieve what is possible now through this LAD1B funding, with a view to referring future works to the Energy Hub as appropriate.

## **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 direct 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. The framework provider at the time of establishing the framework made necessary considerations of the Social Value Act 2012.

## **15. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 14.1 The funding was awarded under the government's Green Homes Grant – Local Authority Delivery (LAD) Scheme. The LAD scheme aims to raise the energy efficiency of homes with low Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) ratings, including homes off the gas grid, occupied by low-income households. The scheme forms part of the government's package of Covid-19 economic stimulus measures. Delivery of the proposed scheme will help reduce fuel poverty and improve the insulation of some of our most energy inefficient homes. Carbon savings are a reporting requirement of the scheme.

## **15. HUMAN RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 15.1 There are no human resource implications directly related to this decision.

## 16. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 16.1 Record of decision made under delegated authority, March 2021.  
Record of decision made under delegated authority, August 2021.  
Report to, and decision of, Cabinet June 2021: Investment Strategy (Capital and Treasury)  
End of Year Review 2020/21  
Report of Service Directors of Resources, Legal and Community, and Regulatory, ID 22-21.

## 17. APPENDICES

- 17.1 None.

## NOTIFICATION DATE

*Date sent to all Members, put on website and appears in MIS – Committee, Member & Scrutiny Services can confirm this with you,*

**Signature of Executive Member Consulted:** *as per previous delegated decisions for this grant scheme Cllr Grindal has been supportive of the alternatives sought in order to deliver this grant.*

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**

## RECORD OF DECISION MADE UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

### \*PART 1 – PUBLIC DOCUMENT

Any interest to declare/ or conflict and any dispensation granted *[if applicable]*

#### SERVICE DIRECTORATE: RESOURCES

##### 1. DECISION TAKEN

*To extend the eligibility for applying for apprentice positions at the Council, so that applications will be accepted from anyone that is:*

- *Living in the North Herts district, or an adjoining District, at the time of their application*  
*OR*
- *Studying for a course at a local/ partner Further or Higher education establishment.*

*The applicant will still need to justify all other application eligibility criteria (e.g. a right to work in the UK).*

*The list of local/ partner Further and Higher education establishments will be regularly reviewed and agreed by the Council's Leadership Team. Job adverts will clarify to applicants the relevant establishments.*

##### 2. DECISION TAKER

*Ian Couper, Service Director Resources*

##### 3. DATE DECISION TAKEN:

*24 February 2022*

##### 4. REASON FOR DECISION

*To widen the pool of potential applicants and reflect the opportunities to support qualifications at local/ partner educational establishments. Balancing this against the desire to support local people to gain skills and employment, so still retaining some limits.*

##### 5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

*Considered retaining the current criteria of only recruiting those that live in the District, and considered having no limit on where applicants live. A limit based on distance from the District boundary was rejected as it could end up being subjective as to how the distance would be measured.*

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

*The Leader of the Council (as Executive Member for Human Resources) and the Deputy Leader have been consulted and they support the decision.*

##### 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 current apprentice application criteria were agreed by Cabinet in September 2012. In presenting that report the Chair of Cabinet detailed that HR policies would usually be an Officer delegated decision, but that it was being considered by Cabinet as it was a significant change to practice at the time.*
- 8.2 *The current criteria state that “any new funded Apprentice/Intern posts be available to North Hertfordshire residents only”. For the reasons set out in paragraph 4 this decision will widen those who are able to apply for apprentice positions.*

## **9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 9.1. *Whilst the initial Apprentice application criteria were considered by Cabinet, this decision is covered by the delegation to the Service Director: Resources under 14.6.11 (b) (v) of the Constitution, which includes “corporate employment policies”.*

## **10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 10.2. *There are no financial implications arising from this decision.*

## **11. RISK IMPLICATIONS**

- 11.1 *Increasing the pool of applicants helps to ensure that the Council will employ the best available candidate. This helps to contribute to minimising the risks the Council faces.*

## **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. The Council will welcome applications from all sections of the community. Disabled people who meet the person specification will be guaranteed an interview.*

## **13. SOCIAL VALUE IMPLICATIONS**

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

## **16. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 16.1. *There is a chance that someone may be successful in being employed for an apprentice post who lives further away than someone would have been under the previous eligibility criteria. That may then mean that they are travelling further when they need to work in the office or another location within the District. However that impact could be mitigated by the following:*
- *Widening the locations may make it more feasible to travel by public transport.*
  - *The Council allows Officers to work from home on a regular basis.*

## **15. HUMAN RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 15.1 *This notice describes the decision being made and therefore the HR implications.*

## **16. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 16.1 *Current apprentice criteria* [https://democracy.north-herts.gov.uk/Data/Cabinet/201209251930/Agenda/\\$att4533.doc.pdf](https://democracy.north-herts.gov.uk/Data/Cabinet/201209251930/Agenda/$att4533.doc.pdf)

**17. APPENDICES**

17.1 *None*

**NOTIFICATION DATE**

*Date sent to all Members, put on website and appears in MIS – Committee, Member & Scrutiny Services can confirm this with you,*

**Signature of Executive Member Consulted ...Cllr Elizabeth Dennis-Harburg.....**

**Date .....22/2/2022.....**

**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**

**EAST TEAM**

Application No.	Applicant/Agent Address	Location Address, Applicant Name & Proposal
<b>Baldock</b>		
22/00434/FPH	Cruxarch Limited Mr Adrian Mitchell Stable House, 50 West Street, Hertford, SG13 8EZ, United Kingdom	Beechview Roman Lane Baldock Hertfordshire SG7 6PN  Mr and Mrs Rob and Georgie McIntyre  Single storey side and rear extension
22/00443/FPH	CK Architectural Mr Josh Daniel 13, Hessle Road, Kingston Upon Hull, HU3 2AA, undefined	60 Salisbury Road Baldock Hertfordshire SG7 5BZ  Mr Ross Lithgow  Single storey side elevation garage following demolition of existing garage (as a resubmission of planning application 21/03261/FPH granted on 10.01.2022)
22/00490/FPH	PicklePlanning Stuart Judd 1 Sale Drive, Clothall Common, Baldock, SG7 6NS, undefined	1 Sale Drive Baldock Hertfordshire SG7 6NS  Mrs Cara Judd  Two storey side extension following demolition single storey side element.
<b>Barley Parish Council</b>		
22/00347/S73	Ashworth Parkes Architects Jeremy Ashworth Dales Brewery, Office F, Gwydir Street, Cambridge, CB1 2LJ, England	Churchfield Pudding Lane Barley Hertfordshire SG8 8JX  Mr & Mrs Tom & Juliet Day  Variation of condition 2 of previously approved planning permission 20/02419/FP granted 03/11/2020 to include reduction in footprint of proposed replacement dwelling; amendments to proposed rear (west) elevation; rearrangement of several windows and the addition of a catslide roof to rear.
<b>Letchworth Garden City</b>		
22/00415/FPH	Your Plans UK Mr Harrison Eales Suite A2, Stevenage, SG1 3UN	64 Whitehicks Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 4PZ  Mrs Elena Pascanu  Single storey side extension following demolition of existing detached garage

22/00420/FP	Turley Ms Sophie Pain 8 Quy Court , Colliers Lane, Stow Cum Quy, Cambridge, CB25 9AU	Units 6 And 7 Business Centre East Avenue One Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 2HB  Garden House Hospice  Change of use from commercial/business to storage and distribution and siting of a storage container and gazebo.
22/00435/FPH	Charlotte Fausset Architect Charlotte Fausset 41 Bunyan Close, Pirton, Hitchin, SG5 3RE, Undefined	School House Willian Church Road Willian Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 2AQ  Mr Boorman  Single storey extension to existing detached shed to facilitate conversion of shed into garden office
22/00482/FPH	First Home Improvements Mr Gordon Parfitt Station Road Industrial Estate, Lenwade, LONG STRATTON, NR9 5LY, United Kingdom	239 Glebe Road Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 1DZ  Mr & Mrs Nguema  Replace existing front and rear fenestration
22/00503/FPH	Ms Heather Moye Ms Heather Moye Corner House, 1 Balmoral Road, Hitchin, SG5 1XG, United Kingdom	20 Wheat Hill Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 4HJ  Mr Fattouche  Rear extension including rear dormer window and raised ridge height of existing roof to facilitate loft conversion.
22/00505/TCA	Mr Richard Ground R Ground Landscapes 16 Francis Road, Hinxworth, SG7 5HL	34 Sollershott West Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 3PX  Mrs Philippa Parker  T1 Beech - Reduce by 50%
<b>Royston Town Council</b>		
22/00323/FP	Home Extension Designs Mr S Cook HED House, 60A Bridge Road East, WELWYN GARDEN CITY, AL7 1JU, United Kingdom	14 Ostler Court Royston Hertfordshire SG8 5FH  Mr. V. Mitchell  Change of use of existing amenity land to residential land and formation of vehicular access onto the highway

22/00433/FP	Partners In Planning And Architecture Ltd Mr Adrian Bussetil Suite 2 Clare Hall, St Ives Business Park, Parsons Green, St Ives, PE27 4WY, United Kingdom	1 Roysc Grove Royston Hertfordshire SG8 9EP	Mr Ben Lewis	Erection of one 4-bed dwelling and detached double garage including creation of vehicular access onto Roysc Grove
22/00479/FPH	Mike Easton Michael Easton 21 Shrubbery Grove, Royston, SG8 9LJ, United Kingdom	The Cottage 40A Heathfield Royston Hertfordshire SG8 5BN	Mr Steve Hanson	Erection of front porch, two storey front/side elevation extension with hip to gable roof extension to link existing roof to the extension, and insertion of rooflights to side elevations of existing roof following demolition of existing detached garage
22/00487/FPH	Space+ Mrs Adri Visagie 21 Nortfield, Girton, Cambridge, CB3 0QG, undefined	49 Redwing Rise Royston Hertfordshire SG8 7XU	Mr & Mrs David & Deborah Butterfield	Two storey side extension with open carport on ground floor level and single storey rear extension (revision of previously approved planning permission 21/02699/FPH granted 22.11.2021).
<b>Therfield Parish Council</b>				
22/00483/TCA	Mr Michael McGloin Chestnut Tree Cottage, Pedlars Lane, Therfield, Royston, SG8 9PX, United Kingdom	Chestnut Tree Cottage Pedlars Lane Therfield Royston Hertfordshire SG8 9PX	Mr Michael McGloin	3 x Elm - Re Pollard. Conifer - Fell. Ash - Fell. Chestnut - 20% Thinning.
22/00496/TCA	Mr Brian Somerville Lyndhurst, Pedlars Lane, Therfield, Royston, Hertfordshire, SG8 9PX	Lyndhurst Pedlars Lane Therfield Royston Hertfordshire SG8 9PX	Mr Brian Somerville	Conifer - Fell to ground level

**WEST TEAM**

Application No.	Applicant/Agent Address	Location Address, Applicant Name & Proposal
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22/00491/TPO Mr Ben Waterman Waterman Tree Co.1 Cherry Tree Gardens  
26 Passingham Avenue, Hitchin, SG4 Hitchin  
9LD, United Kingdom Hertfordshire  
SG4 9FL

Mr Ben Waterman

G1 - 3 x Beech - Reduce by up to 3m

**Codicote Parish Council**

22/00465/FP First Home Improvements Ltd Mr 7 The Ridgeway  
Gordon Parfitt Codicote  
Station Road Industrial Estate, Hitchin  
Lenwade, Long Stratton, NR9 5LY, Hertfordshire  
United Kingdom SG4 8YP

Miss Bacon

Replacement windows

22/00480/FP Clague Architects Ms Clare Old Orchard  
Butterworth Danesbury Park Road  
Clague Architects, 2 Kinsbourne Welwyn  
Court, Luton Road, Harpenden, AL5 Hertfordshire  
3BL, undefined AL6 9SH

Mr Andrews

Erection of one detached 4-bed dwelling including associated hard and soft landscaping

**Great Ashby Community Council**

22/00468/FP Divine Design Consultants Ltd Mr 26 Mendip Way  
Divine Great Ashby  
49 Queens Crescent, Stevenage  
MARSHALSWICK, St. Albans, AL4 Hertfordshire  
9QQ, United Kingdom SG1 6GE

Mr Dammon Ghanizadeh

Erection of entrance porch, alteration to front garden including erection of boundary fence, paved parking area, hardstanding, landscaping and creation of vehicular crossover

**Hitchin**

22/00341/FPH Mr Sebastian Leal-Bennett 5 Chiltern Road  
5 Chiltern Road, Hitchin, Hitchin  
Hertfordshire, SG4 9PL Hertfordshire  
SG4 9PL

Mr Sebastian Leal-Bennett

Replace existing front elevation slate roof, where possible, with recessed solar panels. Move/replace side and front boundary wall including corner pillar, using bricks from existing wall and rebuild existing light well to cellar.

22/00491/TPO	Mr Ben Waterman Waterman Tree Co.1 Cherry Tree Gardens 26 Passingham Avenue, Hitchin, SG4 Hitchin 9LD, United Kingdom	Hertfordshire SG4 9FL	Mr Ben Waterman  G1 - 3 x Beech - Reduce by up to 3m
<b>Codicote Parish Council</b>			
22/00465/FP	First Home Improvements Ltd Mr Gordon Parfitt Station Road Industrial Estate, Lenwade, Long Stratton, NR9 5LY, United Kingdom	7 The Ridgeway Codicote Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 8YP	Miss Bacon  Replacement windows
22/00480/FP	Clague Architects Ms Clare Butterworth Clague Architects, 2 Kinsbourne Court, Luton Road, Harpenden, AL5 3BL, undefined	Old Orchard Danesbury Park Road Welwyn Hertfordshire AL6 9SH	Mr Andrews  Erection of one detached 4-bed dwelling including associated hard and soft landscaping
<b>Great Ashby Community Council</b>			
22/00468/FPH	Divine Design Consultants Ltd Mr Divine 49 Queens Crescent, MARSHALSWICK, St. Albans, AL4 9QQ, United Kingdom	26 Mendip Way Great Ashby Stevenage Hertfordshire SG1 6GE	Mr Dammon Ghanizadeh  Erection of entrance porch, alteration to front garden including erection of boundary fence, paved parking area, hardstanding, landscaping and creation of vehicular crossover
<b>Hitchin</b>			
22/00341/FPH	Mr Sebastian Leal-Bennett 5 Chiltern Road, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG4 9PL	5 Chiltern Road Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 9PL	Mr Sebastian Leal-Bennett  Replace existing front elevation slate roof, where possible, with recessed solar panels. Move/replace side and front boundary wall including corner pillar, using bricks from existing wall and rebuild existing light well to cellar.

22/00351/FP	AMA Chartered Architects Voytek Romaniak Suite 30, Sheraton House, Castle Park, Cambridge, CB3 0AX, United Kingdom	St Andrews C Of E Primary School Benslow Lane Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 9RD
		Voytek Romaniak  Re-surfacing of existing car parking and pedestrian paths. Creation of No.7 car parking spaces, No.5 cycle stands and installation of waste bin enclosure. Re-modelling of existing retaining brick wall. Replacing the existing entrance/exit gates with automated gates to provide means of access for disabled. Replacing existing timber fence to metal fence. Installation of lighting on back wall of car parking area. Installation of No.3 car charging points.
22/00421/FP	Wastell & Porter Architects Ltd Mr Mark Scott Bancroft House, 34 Bancroft, Hitchin, Herts, SG5 1LA	Unit 1 Cadwell Lane Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 0SA
		Candy Developments (Hitchin) Ltd  First floor front extension, increase height of roof to side building, conversion of new upper floor to office, subdivision of spaces to create additional unit, internal alterations and upgrading of building insulation with addition of insulated metal cladding.
22/00450/FP	Cooley Architects Gebina Ham 123 Aldersgate Street, London, EC1A 4JQ, United Kingdom	6a Bucklersbury Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 1BB
		Mr Saif Gilson  Subdivision of existing two storey maisonette flat into two self-contained studio flats.
22/00451/LBC	Cooley Architects Gebina Ham 123 Aldersgate Street, London, EC1A 4JQ, United Kingdom	6a Bucklersbury Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 1BB
		Mr Saif Gilson  Internal and external repairs and alterations to facilitate subdivision of existing two storey maisonette flat into two self-contained studio flats.
22/00452/FP	Cooley Architects Gebina Ham 123 Aldersgate Street, London, EC1A 4JQ, United Kingdom	8a Bucklersbury Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 1BB
		Mr Saif Gilson  Subdivision of existing two storey maisonette flat into two self-contained studio flats.

22/00453/LBC	Cooley Architects Gebina Ham 123 Aldersgate Street, London, EC1A 4JQ, United Kingdom	8a Bucklersbury Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 1BB	Mr Saif Gilson	Internal and external repairs and alterations to facilitate subdivision of existing two storey maisonette flat into two self-contained studio flats.
22/00466/TPO	Mr Chris Cook Smart Home Enterprises Limited 3 Colwyn Close, Stevenage, SG1 2AT, United Kingdom	Land Adjacent To 3 Robins Hill Hitchin Hertfordshire	Mr Chris Cook	3x Yew - Prune lower lateral branches to a height of 2m
22/00481/FPH	Mr Paul Volske 24 Dale Close, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG4 9AS	24 Dale Close Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 9AS	Mr Paul Volske	Two storey side extension, and part two storey part single rear storey extension following demolition of existing detached garage
22/00488/LDCP	Godden And Grimshaw Limited Mr Shane Tyler 3 South Park Crescent, Ilford, Essex, IG1 1XU	12 Stormont Road Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 1SJ	Mr & Mrs Warren	Roof extension to form gable end. Insertion of rear dormer window including Juliet balcony and front velux windows to facilitate loft conversion.
22/00489/LDCP	Godden And Grimshaw Limited Mr Shane Tyler 3 South Park Crescent, Ilford, Essex, IG1 1XU	1 Stormont Road Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 1SJ	Mr And Mrs Hayes	Roof extension to form gable end. Insertion of rear dormer windows and front velux windows to facilitate loft conversion
22/00493/FPH	Allen Smith Associates Allen Smith Fitzroy House, 32 Market Place, Swaffham, PE37 7QH, United Kingdom	2 Bearton Green Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 1UN	Mr R Day	Part two storey and part single storey rear extension; first floor side extension; single storey front extension and single store front garage extension.

22/00495/NCS	Vision Structures Ltd Mr Nigel Hills 20 Watermans Road, Waterbeach, Cams, CB25 9RP	192 Cambridge Road Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 0JW
		Kirsty Legget  Single storey rear extension (following the removal of attached single storey rear store) with the following dimension: Length as measured from rear wall of original dwelling - 3.84 metres
22/00498/FPH	PicklePlanning Stuart Judd 1 Sale Drive, Clothall Common, Baldock, SG7 6NS, United Kingdom	107 Ninesprings Way Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 9NX
		David Hailey  Single storey side extension to include attached garage and formation of bay window to existing rear elevation. Roof extension and insertion of front velux windows to facilitate conversion of loftspace into habitable accommodation following demolition of existing side elevation porch and garage.
22/00500/FP	Miss Emma Runesson Terriers House, 201 Amersham Road, High Wycombe, HP13 5AJ, United Kingdom	65 Bury Mead Road Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 1RT
		Miss Emma Runesson  Erection of four 3-bed dwellings, access, bin store, parking and landscaping
22/00502/FPH	Improve It Design Ltd Mr John Williams 9 Broadstone, Dartmouth, TQ6 9NR, United Kingdom	203 Whitehill Road Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 9HY
		Dr M Khan  First floor front extension. Replacement raised roof including front and rear dormer windows to facilitate loft conversion.
<b>Kimpton Parish Council</b>		
22/00478/FPH	CROE Architects Mr Joe Reader Suite 10, 18 Walsworth Road, Hitchin, SG4 9SP, United Kingdom	Michaelmass Lawrence End Road Peters Green Luton Hertfordshire LU2 9QD
		Mr And Mrs Dacres  Replace existing first floor side (south east elevation) window with two smaller windows, insertion of rooflights and dormer to existing front roofslope and insertion of large dormer to existing rear roofslope to replace existing rear dormer window, to facilitate conversion of loftspace into habitable accommodation. Single storey rear extension following demolition of existing rear conservatory.

**Knebworth Parish Council**

22/00437/FPH	Derek Lofty & Associates Mrs Lisa Dias The Lodge Studio, Copthorne Road, Croxley Green, Rickmansworth, WD3 4AQ, undefined	40 Gun Road Gardens Knebworth Hertfordshire SG3 6EB	Mr Dean Adam	Two storey side, part two storey and part single storey rear extension and alterations to existing doors and windows.
22/00467/FPH	Oakwood Design Mr Dibden Ground Floor, Unit 2, Warren Court, Chicksands, Shefford, SG17 5QB, United Kingdom	56 Broom Grove Knebworth Hertfordshire SG3 6BQ	Emma	Single storey side extension and partial conversion/partial demolition of existing detached garage
<b>Offley Parish Council</b>				
22/00444/FPH	Hart Of The Home Mrs Donna-Christine Ball Millhouse Business Centre, Station Road, Castle Donnington, Derbyshire, DE74 2NJ, United Kingdom	94 Mangrove Green Cockernhoe Luton Hertfordshire LU2 8QE	Mr Craig Thorpe	Single storey side and rear extension following demolition of existing rear conservatory
<b>Pirton Parish Council</b>				
22/00518/S73	Charlotte Fausset Architect Charlotte Fausset 41 Bunyan Close, Pirton, Hitchin, Sg5 3re	12 Davis Crescent Pirton Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 3RB	Black	Variation of condition 2 (amendments to proposed office as shown on revised plans DAV03-10-001-Model and DAV03-10-015AModel) of planning permission 20/00529/FP granted 06/07/2020.
<b>Wymondley Parish Council</b>				
22/00439/LBC	Wastell & Porter Architects Ltd Mr James Porter Bancroft House, 34 Bancroft, Hitchin, SG5 1LA	3 Wymondley House Stevenage Road Little Wymondley Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 7JB	Freeman	Internal alterations to facilitate reorganisation of rooms and enlargement of WC to accommodate a shower

(including Withdrawn decisions)

**EAST TEAM**

<b>Application No:</b> 21/02443/FPH	<b>Location:</b> 5 Sun Street Baldock Hertfordshire SG7 6QA  <b>Applicant Name:</b> Mr Sean Miller <b>Description:</b> Erection of single storey rear extension following demolition of existing lean-to and installation of replacement stable door and window to side elevation (as amended by plan received 01 February 2022).	<b>Decision:</b>  Conditional Permission <b>Decision Date:</b> 23/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 21/02444/LBC	<b>Location:</b> 5 Sun Street Baldock Hertfordshire SG7 6QA  <b>Applicant Name:</b> Mr Sean Miller <b>Description:</b> Erection of single storey rear extension following demolition of existing lean-to and installation of replacement stable door and window to side elevation (as amended by plan received 01 February 2022).	<b>Decision:</b>  Conditional Consent <b>Decision Date:</b> 23/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 21/02801/FPH	<b>Location:</b> 2 The Alms Houses Queens Road Royston Hertfordshire SG8 7AP  <b>Applicant Name:</b> Mr Marc Sims <b>Description:</b> Replace existing front door and modify existing rear slope by introducing through-eaves gable to facilitate conversion of loft space into habitable accommodation (as amended by drawing no. ROY/CB/21/01 Rev A received on 14/01/2022).	<b>Decision:</b>  Conditional Permission <b>Decision Date:</b> 22/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 21/02860/FP	<b>Location:</b> 1 The Street Wallington Baldock Hertfordshire SG7 6SN  <b>Applicant Name:</b> Mr and Mrs Jaksic <b>Description:</b> Change of use from agricultural land to residential garden land	<b>Decision:</b>  Conditional Permission <b>Decision Date:</b> 21/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 21/02939/FPH	<b>Location:</b> 41 Lawrence Avenue Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 2EY  <b>Applicant Name:</b> Mr Nicol <b>Description:</b> Part single part two storey side and rear extensions and insertion of solar panels to existing front and rear roof slopes following demolition of existing rear conservatory (as amended by plan no. L-02 Rev E received 10th February 2022).	<b>Decision:</b>  Conditional Permission <b>Decision Date:</b> 21/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 21/03490/FP	<b>Location:</b> 55 Station Way Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 3SB  <b>Applicant Name:</b> Mr Christopher Gerard <b>Description:</b> Change of use of existing domestic garage to catering kitchen.	<b>Decision:</b>  Withdrawn <b>Decision Date:</b> 21/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 21/03522/FPH	<b>Location:</b> 3 Holroyd Crescent Baldock Hertfordshire SG7 6EH  <b>Applicant Name:</b> Mr A Battell <b>Description:</b> Single storey front porch extension, single storey side extension to link existing garage/store to main dwellinghouse, including replacing existing front elevation garage door with a window to facilitate conversion of garage into habitable accommodation together with the erection of a bin store positioned in the front garden as amended by plans received on 18 February 2022	<b>Decision:</b>  Conditional Permission <b>Decision Date:</b> 21/02/2022

**EAST TEAM**

<b>Application No:</b> 21/03537/FPH	<b>Location:</b> 1 Kestrel Walk Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 2TB  <b>Applicant Name:</b> Mrs Aman Dhar <b>Description:</b> Part two/part single storey front extension, first floor over existing garage extension and erection of detached garden office following demolition of existing front elevation porch (as amended by plans received 21st February 2022).	<b>Decision:</b>  Conditional Permission <b>Decision Date:</b> 22/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 22/00008/FPH	<b>Location:</b> Lynton Fore Street Weston Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 7AS  <b>Applicant Name:</b> Miss Anne Turner <b>Description:</b> Single storey side extension	<b>Decision:</b>  Conditional Permission <b>Decision Date:</b> 21/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 22/00010/TCA	<b>Location:</b> 5 Gernon Walk Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 3HW  <b>Applicant Name:</b> Mr Stuart King Gernon Properties Ltd <b>Description:</b> Sycamore - Remove	<b>Decision:</b>  No Objection <b>Decision Date:</b> 21/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 22/00011/PNQ	<b>Location:</b> Radwell Bury Farm Radwell Lane Radwell Baldock Hertfordshire SG7 5ES  <b>Applicant Name:</b> Northern Of Radwell Mr Jake Northern <b>Description:</b> Conversion of existing agricultural barn to provide one 4-bed dwelling	<b>Decision:</b>  Prior Approval Not Required <b>Decision Date:</b> 22/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 22/00045/FPH	<b>Location:</b> 9 Wheat Hill Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 4HH  <b>Applicant Name:</b> Mrs Jane Robson <b>Description:</b> Single storey rear extension and insertion of rooflights to existing side and proposed rear roofslope to facilitate conversion of loftspace into habitable accommodation (as amended by plans received 20th February 2022).	<b>Decision:</b>  Conditional Permission <b>Decision Date:</b> 21/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 22/00067/FPH	<b>Location:</b> 32 Chauncy Gardens Baldock Hertfordshire SG7 6SZ  <b>Applicant Name:</b> Mr Ayal Soffer <b>Description:</b> Single storey side extension with rooflight to front and dormer to rear elevation roofslope to facilitate conversion of loftspace into habitable accommodation following demolition of existing single storey side extension	<b>Decision:</b>  Conditional Permission <b>Decision Date:</b> 21/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 22/00081/TCA	<b>Location:</b> 28 Hodwell Ashwell Baldock Hertfordshire SG7 5QQ  <b>Applicant Name:</b> Mrs Susan Greenbank Greenbank & Appleton Garden <b>Description:</b> Various Tree works	<b>Decision:</b>  No Objection <b>Decision Date:</b> 21/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 22/00097/DOC	<b>Location:</b> Land At Windmill Close Barkway Hertfordshire  <b>Applicant Name:</b> Mr. Dominic Jones Beverley Homes Limited <b>Description:</b> Condition 3 - Samples of materials to be used on all external elevations and the roof of the development (as discharge of condition relating to planning permission 20/02779/FP Granted 11.01.2022).	<b>Decision:</b>  Approval of Details <b>Decision Date:</b> 21/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 22/00098/TCA	<b>Location:</b> Land Adjacent To 28 Hodwell Ashwell Hertfordshire SG7 5QQ  <b>Applicant Name:</b> Mrs Susan Greenbank Greenbank & Appleton Garden <b>Description:</b> T11 Sycamore - Remove	<b>Decision:</b>  No Objection <b>Decision Date:</b> 21/02/2022

**EAST TEAM**

<b>Application No:</b> 22/00128/FPH	<b>Location:</b> Smith End Farm Smiths End Lane Barley Royston Hertfordshire SG8 8LL <b>Applicant Name:</b> Dr Lee Harland <b>Description:</b> Internal and external alterations, including insertion of roof lights to existing rear roof slope and to side extension, rebuild existing side extension flint wall, insertion of new window and door to existing side extension and insert door to side elevation of existing garage (as amended by plans received 17th February 2022).	<b>Decision:</b> Conditional Permission <b>Decision Date:</b> 22/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 22/00129/LBC	<b>Location:</b> Smith End Farm Smiths End Lane Barley Royston Hertfordshire SG8 8LL <b>Applicant Name:</b> Dr Lee Harland <b>Description:</b> Internal and external alterations, including insertion of roof lights to existing rear roof slope and to side extension, rebuild existing side extension flint wall, insertion of new window and door to existing side extension and insert door to side elevation of existing garage (as amended by plans received 17th February 2022).	<b>Decision:</b> Conditional Consent <b>Decision Date:</b> 22/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 22/00145/FPH	<b>Location:</b> 35 Barkway Road Royston Hertfordshire SG8 9EA <b>Applicant Name:</b> Mr & Mrs Lemons Golding <b>Description:</b> Single storey rear extension	<b>Decision:</b> Conditional Permission <b>Decision Date:</b> 21/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 22/00231/TCA	<b>Location:</b> 43 Back Street Ashwell Baldock Hertfordshire SG7 5PF <b>Applicant Name:</b> Terry <b>Description:</b> T1 Prunus - Remove diseased stem and reduce remaining crown by up to 3m back to good growth points where possible.	<b>Decision:</b> No Objection <b>Decision Date:</b> 22/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 22/00280/PNW	<b>Location:</b> Bygrave Lodge Farm Royston Road Wallington Baldock Hertfordshire SG7 8QX <b>Applicant Name:</b> Mr N Collingridge <b>Description:</b> Formation of farm track and access onto Cat Ditch Road, linking agricultural land in Wallington and Sandon	<b>Decision:</b> Refused <b>Decision Date:</b> 21/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 22/00272/EC	<b>Location:</b> Land Opposite 49 Dunlin Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 4TJ <b>Applicant Name:</b> Harlequin Group <b>Description:</b> Installation of 1x DSLAM equipment cabinet	<b>Decision:</b> No Objection <b>Decision Date:</b> 21/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 22/00324/NMA	<b>Location:</b> Land Between A505 And York Way York Way Royston Hertfordshire <b>Applicant Name:</b> Kiafield Properties Ltd . Kiafield Properties Ltd <b>Description:</b> Amend condition 2 to include the list of approved plans/documents to read: The development hereby permitted shall be carried out wholly in accordance with the details specified in the application and supporting approved documents and plans including: 113-423-P-3.1; 113-423-P-3.2; 113-423-P-3.4; 113-423-P3.5; 113-423-P-3.6; 113-423-P-3.7; 113-423-P-3.8; 113- 423-P-3.9; ROYS-WSP-12-XX-DR-0001 P03 113-423-P-3.3D (as Non-Material Amendment to Planning Permission 18/02892/FP granted 19.08.2019).	<b>Decision:</b> Agreed <b>Decision Date:</b> 21/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 22/00425/TCA	<b>Location:</b> Melverley Pixmore Way Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 1QP <b>Applicant Name:</b> Mr Richard Balley <b>Description:</b> Lime - Remove	<b>Decision:</b> No Objection <b>Decision Date:</b> 21/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 22/00428/TCA	<b>Location:</b> Wickets Church Lane Reed Royston Hertfordshire SG8 8AS <b>Applicant Name:</b> Mrs Caroline d'Ayala <b>Description:</b> Sycamore - Remove	<b>Decision:</b> No Objection <b>Decision Date:</b> 22/02/2022

**WEST TEAM**

**WEST TEAM**

<b>Application No:</b> 19/01275/OP	<b>Location:</b> Wrights Farm Shillington Road Pirton Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 3QJ <b>Applicant Name:</b> n/a Hertfordshire County Council (Property) <b>Description:</b> Erection of four dwellings following demolition of existing farmhouse and associated farm buildings (all matters reserved except access) (amended description and plans received on 01/07/20 and 10/07/20).	<b>Appeal Decision:</b> Appeal Dismissed <b>Decision Date:</b> 22/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 21/02878/FPH	<b>Location:</b> 5 Dower House Hitchin Road Preston Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 7TZ <b>Applicant Name:</b> Mr Edward Pakenham <b>Description:</b> Development A: Erection of single storey store outbuilding (as amended by plans received 16 February 2022). Development B: Erection of a single storey office outbuilding.	<b>Decision:</b> Split Decision <b>Decision Date:</b> 23/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 21/03032/FPH	<b>Location:</b> 20 Ninesprings Way Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 9NN <b>Applicant Name:</b> Mr Cerie <b>Description:</b> Single storey side and rear extensions, erection of side elevation garage doors and insertion of dormer windows to existing front and rear roofslopes to facilitate conversion of loftspace into habitable accommodation following demolition of existing detached side elevation garage and existing rear conservatory	<b>Decision:</b> Conditional Permission <b>Decision Date:</b> 22/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 21/03043/FP	<b>Location:</b> Little Orchard Nursery Rabley Heath Road Codicote Welwyn Hertfordshire AL8 9UA <b>Applicant Name:</b> Wheatley Group Developments LTD <b>Description:</b> Erection of three detached 4-bed dwellings following demolition of existing building including creation of vehicular access off Rabley Heath Road.	<b>Decision:</b> Conditional Permission <b>Decision Date:</b> 22/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 21/03088/FP	<b>Location:</b> Land At The Rear Of 1 Stockens Green Knebworth Hertfordshire SG3 8DG <b>Applicant Name:</b> Mr Gilbert <b>Description:</b> Erection of one detached 2 bedroom dwelling (as amended by plans received on 12/01/2022).	<b>Decision:</b> Conditional Permission <b>Decision Date:</b> 21/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 21/03236/FP	<b>Location:</b> Thistley Lodge Half Hankerchief Lane Gosmore Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 7BW <b>Applicant Name:</b> Mr Ashley Wells <b>Description:</b> Change of use of existing storage building to create one 2-bed dwelling including the laying of hardstanding, boundary treatments, minor external alterations and associated works	<b>Decision:</b> Conditional Permission <b>Decision Date:</b> 23/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 21/03378/FP	<b>Location:</b> The Fox 37 High Street Pirton Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 3PS <b>Applicant Name:</b> Michael Newland Star Pubs and Bars <b>Description:</b> Installation of slabs to existing patio area, new pathway to existing boundary gate and replace existing paving slabs with stone slabs	<b>Decision:</b> Conditional Permission <b>Decision Date:</b> 22/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 21/03440/FPH	<b>Location:</b> 34 Blackhorse Lane Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 9EG <b>Applicant Name:</b> Mr Nishan Silva <b>Description:</b> Single storey side and rear extension and insertion of rear dormer window and two front velux windows to facilitate loft conversion as amended by plans received on 22 February 2022.	<b>Decision:</b> Conditional Permission <b>Decision Date:</b> 23/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 21/03451/FPH	<b>Location:</b> 55 Ickleford Road Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 1TS <b>Applicant Name:</b> Mr Richard Whiteley <b>Description:</b> Roof extensions and alterations including insertion of front dormer window and velux windows to facilitate loft conversion (as amended by plans received on 17/02/2022).	<b>Decision:</b> Conditional Permission <b>Decision Date:</b> 21/02/2022

**WEST TEAM**

<b>Application No:</b> 21/03478/FPH	<b>Location:</b> 28 Ninesprings Way Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 9NN  <b>Applicant Name:</b> Mr and Mrs Bearman <b>Description:</b> Single storey side/rear extension following demolition of existing detached garage	<b>Decision:</b>  Conditional Permission <b>Decision Date:</b> 21/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 21/03529/DOC	<b>Location:</b> The Farmhouse At Redcoats Stevenage Road Redcoats Green Little Wymondley Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 7JR <b>Applicant Name:</b> Mr H Nye <b>Description:</b> Condition 3 - Details of the flat roof material (as Discharge of Condition of Listed Building Consent 21/02380/LBC granted 12.11.2021).	<b>Decision:</b>  Approval of Details <b>Decision Date:</b> 23/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 21/03530/FPH	<b>Location:</b> 119 Cleveland Way Great Ashby Stevenage Hertfordshire SG1 6BU <b>Applicant Name:</b> Mr Marian Orlik <b>Description:</b> Single storey side extension and insertion of No. 2 rooflights to existing front and dormer to existing rear roofslope to facilitate conversion of loftspace into habitable accommodation (as amended by plans received on 11/02/22).	<b>Decision:</b>  Conditional Permission <b>Decision Date:</b> 21/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 21/03535/FPH	<b>Location:</b> 4 Raymond Cottages Upper Green Ickleford Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 3YE <b>Applicant Name:</b> Mr & Mrs Kevin and Josie Macnamara <b>Description:</b> Two storey rear extension following demolition of existing single storey rear extension	<b>Decision:</b>  Conditional Permission <b>Decision Date:</b> 21/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 22/00006/LDCP	<b>Location:</b> 36 Pondcroft Road Knebworth Hertfordshire SG3 8DB <b>Applicant Name:</b> Mr And Mrs Gray <b>Description:</b> Insertion of dormer window in rear roofslope to facilitate existing loft conversion.	<b>Decision:</b>  Granted Permission <b>Decision Date:</b> 21/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 22/00014/DOC	<b>Location:</b> The Farmhouse At Redcoats Stevenage Road Redcoats Green Little Wymondley Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 7JR <b>Applicant Name:</b> Mr H Nye <b>Description:</b> Condition 6 - A 1:5 or 1:10 elevation/section detail of the cornice (as Discharge of Condition of Listed Building Consent 21/02380/LBC granted 12.11.2021).	<b>Decision:</b>  Approval of Details <b>Decision Date:</b> 23/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 22/00031/FPH	<b>Location:</b> 9 Bearton Green Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 1UN <b>Applicant Name:</b> Mr & Mrs Willis <b>Description:</b> Single storey rear extension	<b>Decision:</b>  Conditional Permission <b>Decision Date:</b> 22/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 22/00036/FPH	<b>Location:</b> 54 Burford Way Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 2UZ <b>Applicant Name:</b> Mr Tarik Johnston <b>Description:</b> Replace front elevation utility room door with a window and two storey rear extension	<b>Decision:</b>  Conditional Permission <b>Decision Date:</b> 21/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 22/00043/FPH	<b>Location:</b> 24 Millard Way Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 0QE <b>Applicant Name:</b> Mr Silvio Marabese <b>Description:</b> Single storey rear extension, raise roof pitch height, hip to gable roof extension and insertion of dormer window to existing rear roofslope to facilitate conversion of loftspace into habitable accommodation following demolition of existing rear conservatory	<b>Decision:</b>  Conditional Permission <b>Decision Date:</b> 22/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 22/00046/FPH	<b>Location:</b> The Bungalow Standhill Road Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 9AE <b>Applicant Name:</b> Mr Sean Egan <b>Description:</b> First floor extension to create a two storey dwelling and re-rendering of existing facade (as a resubmission of planning permission 21/02426/FPH granted on 04.10.2021)	<b>Decision:</b>  Conditional Permission <b>Decision Date:</b> 23/02/2022

**WEST TEAM**

<b>Application No:</b> 22/00050/LDCP	<b>Location:</b> 83 Thirlmere Great Ashby Stevenage Hertfordshire SG1 6AQ <b>Applicant Name:</b> Mrs Anna Bourne <b>Description:</b> Single storey rear extension following demolition of existing conservatory.	<b>Decision:</b> Granted Permission <b>Decision Date:</b> 21/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 22/00086/FP	<b>Location:</b> Sootfield Green Charlton Road Preston Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 7TB <b>Applicant Name:</b> Alison And Jeremy Ward <b>Description:</b> Change of use and conversion of existing agricultural barn into one detached 2-bed dwelling including erection of single storey rear extension and associated hard and soft landscaping.	<b>Decision:</b> Conditional Permission <b>Decision Date:</b> 22/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 22/00078/LDCP	<b>Location:</b> 90 London Road Knebworth Hertfordshire SG3 6HB <b>Applicant Name:</b> Mrs Parsons <b>Description:</b> Insertion of rear dormer window to facilitate loft conversion.	<b>Decision:</b> Granted Permission <b>Decision Date:</b> 22/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 22/00079/FPH	<b>Location:</b> 134 Old Hale Way Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 1XT <b>Applicant Name:</b> Mr Martin Brown <b>Description:</b> Two storey side and rear extension and insertion of rooflights to existing front and dormer to existing rear roofslope to facilitate conversion of loftspace into habitable accommodation following demolition of existing detached garage/store	<b>Decision:</b> Conditional Permission <b>Decision Date:</b> 23/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 22/00084/TCA	<b>Location:</b> Avenue Farm Maydencroft Lane Gosmore Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 7QD <b>Applicant Name:</b> Carolyn Battersby <b>Description:</b> T1 Horse Chestnut - Crown reduction by 30% (2-3m). T2 Horse chestnut - Fell to ground level. T3 Oak - Light crown balance to reduce weight on the longest limbs and achieve clearance from the lights.	<b>Decision:</b> No Objection <b>Decision Date:</b> 23/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 22/00109/FPH	<b>Location:</b> 51 Stotfold Road Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 0QW <b>Applicant Name:</b> Mrs Gillian Green <b>Description:</b> Provision of vehicular access to property via dropped kerb and vehicle crossover	<b>Decision:</b> Conditional Permission <b>Decision Date:</b> 23/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 22/00125/FPH	<b>Location:</b> 48 West Hill Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 2HY <b>Applicant Name:</b> Mr Martyn Berry <b>Description:</b> Insertion of rooflight to existing front roofslope, insertion of window to existing first floor side elevation and insertion of dormer and rooflight to existing rear roofslope to facilitate conversion of loftspace into habitable accommodation.	<b>Decision:</b> Conditional Permission <b>Decision Date:</b> 22/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 22/00158/DOC	<b>Location:</b> The Bell Motel 65 High Street Codicote Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 8XD <b>Applicant Name:</b> Matt Melvin <b>Description:</b> Condition 3 - A sample panel indicating brick type, bond and mortar mix shall be erected on site and shall either be inspected by the Local Planning Authority (as discharge of condition relating to planning permission 20/01764/FP granted on 05.11.2021).	<b>Decision:</b> Approval of Details <b>Decision Date:</b> 21/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 22/00202/NCS	<b>Location:</b> 2 Green Lane Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 0BU <b>Applicant Name:</b> Amir Hossein Akbari <b>Description:</b> Single storey rear extension with the following dimension: Length as measured from rear wall of original dwelling - 6.0 metres	<b>Decision:</b> Prior Approval Not Required <b>Decision Date:</b> 21/02/2022

**WEST TEAM**

<b>Application No:</b> 22/00220/DOC	<b>Location:</b> The Bell Motel 65 High Street Codicote Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 8XD <b>Applicant Name:</b> Matt Melvin <b>Description:</b> Condition 4 - The roofs shall be covered with a clay plain tile, a sample of which shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority prior to the commencement of the roof-tiling (as discharge of condition relating to planning permission 20/01764/FP granted on 05.11.2021).	<b>Decision:</b> Approval of Details <b>Decision Date:</b> 21/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 22/00235/TCA	<b>Location:</b> 43 Upper Tilehouse Street Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 2EE <b>Applicant Name:</b> Catalyst Housing Ltd <b>Description:</b> T1 Conifer - Reduce lateral overhang back to boundary or suitable points removing up to 2m	<b>Decision:</b> No Objection <b>Decision Date:</b> 21/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 22/00253/NMA	<b>Location:</b> 186 Whitehill Road Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 9HY <b>Applicant Name:</b> Rosie Smith <b>Description:</b> Amendments to fenestration on rear elevation (as Non-Material Amendment to Planning Permission 21/03242/FPH granted 05.01.2022).	<b>Decision:</b> Agreed <b>Decision Date:</b> 21/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 22/00274/EC	<b>Location:</b> Land Outside 40 And 56 Oakfield Avenue Hitchin Hertfordshire <b>Applicant Name:</b> Prashant Bhakuni British Telecommunications PLC <b>Description:</b> Installation of two 10M poles	<b>Decision:</b> No Objection <b>Decision Date:</b> 21/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 22/00312/EC	<b>Location:</b> Land Opposite 8 Walsworth Road Hitchin Hertfordshire <b>Applicant Name:</b> BT Openreach S Dhanasekar <b>Description:</b> Installation of 10M pole	<b>Decision:</b> No Objection <b>Decision Date:</b> 21/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 22/00313/EC	<b>Location:</b> Land At Woodside Barn Walsworth Road Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 9SP <b>Applicant Name:</b> BT Openreach S Dhanasekar <b>Description:</b> Installation of 10M pole	<b>Decision:</b> No Objection <b>Decision Date:</b> 21/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 22/00340/TCA	<b>Location:</b> Land Opposite 20 The Chilterns Hitchin Hertfordshire <b>Applicant Name:</b> Mr Jeremy Coombs The Chilterns (Hitchin) Owners Re <b>Description:</b> T1, T2, T3, T4, T5 Lime - Remove dead and crossing branches and mistletoe.	<b>Decision:</b> No Objection <b>Decision Date:</b> 21/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 22/00394/TCA	<b>Location:</b> Land Outside 29 And 31 The Chilterns Hitchin Hertfordshire <b>Applicant Name:</b> Mr Jeremy Coombs The Chilterns (Hitchin) Owners Re <b>Description:</b> T6 White Hornbeam - Light crown clean, removal of dead, damaged and diseased timbers, resolving crossing branches. T7 Horse Chestnut - Pollard major branches, cut back to form a framework for re-growth.	<b>Decision:</b> No Objection <b>Decision Date:</b> 21/02/2022
<b>Application No:</b> 22/00395/TCA	<b>Location:</b> 28 The Chilterns Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 9PP <b>Applicant Name:</b> Mr Jeremy Coombs The Chilterns (Hitchin) Owners Re <b>Description:</b> T8 large Hornbeam - Crown clean throughout the canopy, removing dead, damaged and diseased limbs.	<b>Decision:</b> No Objection <b>Decision Date:</b> 21/02/2022

# PRESS RELEASE

**PR 3647**

**21 February 2022**

## **Jay Blades to share his story at business event**

Businesses in North Herts will have a unique opportunity to hear from the nation's favourite furniture up-cycler and star of *The Repair Shop*, Jay Blades MBE, at a special online event on 9 March.

Jay has teamed up with all local authorities in Hertfordshire to talk about his experiences as a business owner and his unconventional path to success. Starting in 2017, Jay has hosted BBC1's primetime heart-warming show *The Repair Shop*. The show has run for seven series, following the stories around a workshop filled with expert craftspeople bringing treasured pieces of family history and the memories they hold back to life.

In addition to presenting, Jay spends a large amount of time working on furniture projects for commercial and individual clients, running workshops and motivating disadvantaged people in the community. Jay will talk through the obstacles he overcame – including undiagnosed dyslexia, racism and homelessness – to become one of the country's most loved entrepreneurs and TV personalities.

Funded by the Hertfordshire Health Protection Board, the free session takes place online on 9 March from 12.30-1.30pm, including a Q&A session.

Jay Blades said: "My path to success may not have been straightforward, but those experiences made me stronger and more motivated to go onto what I've achieved in business and in TV.

"I look forward to sharing my story in a way that I hope will give businesses in Hertfordshire an entertaining break away from the day to day, to boost morale and inspire fresh thinking as we continue to rebuild after the pandemic."

Ian Fullstone, Regulatory Service Director which includes economic development, added: "We're thrilled that Jay is taking the time to speak to businesses in the district and county. We know they've had a hard time in the pandemic, and we're sure that if anyone can, Jay can inspire them, and show us how the most difficult challenges can often lead to great success. We expect the session to be hugely popular so please book early to avoid disappointment."

For further information and to register your place visit: <https://bit.ly/3uVGgDJ>

**ENDS**

For more information contact [Anna.Cotton@north-herts.gov.uk](mailto:Anna.Cotton@north-herts.gov.uk) / 01462 474403.

# PRESS RELEASE

**PR 3648**

**21 February 2022**

## **Creating history at Hitchin Town Hall**

A time capsule has been placed beneath the new floor at Hitchin Town Hall, as a memento for future generations, when the floor is next replaced in many years to come.

Wanting to demonstrate what life is like in February 2022, the box included a disposable face mask and notice asking people to wear one, a rainbow flag to signify February as LGBT+ History Month, a current issue of *The Comet*, as well as a plan of the Museum and Town Hall, menu for the museum café, and a letter from Museum Curator Keith Fitzpatrick-Matthews to the future curator.

During work to replace the floorboards on the sprung dancefloor in the hall, an old packet of Woodbine cigarettes was found. They are impossible to date accurately, as the design remained the same from the 1880s through to the 1960s, but were probably dropped (or even left behind deliberately!) by one of the workers in the 1950s, when the floor was last replaced.

The old floorboards were made from a south-east Asian hardwood, no longer an environmentally-friendly timber, which had been re-sanded so many times that the wood was becoming very thin. They have been replaced with English oak.

Keith Fitzpatrick-Matthews, Curator at North Herts Museum, said: "We were excited to put together a time capsule for people to discover in years to come, a snippet of life in 2022, as well as a link to the past – we included a printout of the Facebook post about the cigarette packet from the 1950s.

"As a listed building, we had to apply to change the floor. It's so important to preserve our heritage but we also have to move along with the times, it's a careful balance."

Work is being completed this week, with the sprung dancefloor back in use for Common People, a 90's indie disco, on Saturday, 26 February – a flyer for the event was also included in the time capsule.

For more information about Hitchin Town Hall or North Herts Museum, please visit the council's website – [www.north-herts.gov.uk](http://www.north-herts.gov.uk)

**ENDS**

For more information contact [Anna.Cotton@north-herts.gov.uk](mailto:Anna.Cotton@north-herts.gov.uk) / 01462 474403.

# PRESS RELEASE

**PR 3650**

**23 February 2022**

## **All the colours of rainbow couscous!**

A fantastic first session of the Heathy Hub in Letchworth took place this week (Tuesday), with children making a nutritious rainbow couscous.

A total of 10 kids attended the session, with their grown-ups and some with younger siblings, to make the colourful dish which they took away with them for lunch.

Facilitated by Creative Chefs, firstly they were given some couscous and warm water to pour over, followed by a selection of vegetables including sweetcorn and spinach. Next, they had pepper and mushrooms to chop up with special knives for children, and lastly, they were offered a taste of pesto which they could pour over the top.

Sessions take place every fortnight and offer different activities for both adults and children and are completely free. Numbers are limited so please book your place – email [healthyhub@north-herts.gov.uk](mailto:healthyhub@north-herts.gov.uk) or call 01462 474111.

## **Letchworth, Mrs Howard Memorial Hall**

- 8 March, 9.30am – Pottery painting for adults
- 8 March, 11.30am – Sleeping well for adults
- 22 March, 10am – Flower arranging taster session for adults
- 5 April, 9.30am or 10.45am – Creative craft session for under 5s

## **Hitchin, Westmill Community Centre**

- 7 March, 10am or 11.30am – Fun with food for under 5s
- 4 April, 10am or 11.30am – Easter fun with food (up to 10years old)
- 9 May, 10am – Movement and music for under 5s
- 11.30am – Low impact exercise for adults

Jeanette Thompson, Legal and Community Service Director, said: "We know times have been tough for many residents through the pandemic, and some will continue to struggle with the rising costs of living. We urge those who feel they aren't coping, who might just need a cuppa and a chat, or those who might need more practical help and support to improve their physical or mental health, to come along.

"You don't have to commit to more than one session but you do need to book your place beforehand. Most activities would cost money elsewhere, including your refreshments, but at these sessions everything is free."

**ENDS**

For more information contact [Anna.Cotton@north-herts.gov.uk](mailto:Anna.Cotton@north-herts.gov.uk) / 01462 474403.

# PRESS RELEASE

**PR 3650**

**24 February 2022**

## **Do you need business support or advice?**

Business advice and support grants are available through a new grant scheme to help local businesses recover and move forward following the pandemic.

Grants of up to £10,000 are available to businesses based in North Herts, for specific and general business advice provided by Hertfordshire Growth Hub.

Jo Dufficy, Service Director for Customers, explained: "This is the latest grant scheme to become available to businesses in the district, to aid their recovery adapting and moving ahead following Covid restrictions and the general downturn.

"We are pleased to work with Hertfordshire Growth Hub on this scheme, which can provide a range of business packages. We continue to urge local businesses to come forward and see what grant scheme may help them."

Hertfordshire Growth Hub is the county's flagship business support provider, powered by Hertfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP).

## **Other support schemes available:**

**Covid Additional Relief Fund (CARF)** – maximum of 25% relief for qualifying rate paying businesses for the current financial year 2021-22, criteria applies.

**New premises grants** – up to £5,000 to reimburse costs of preparing and moving into a new commercial premise within North Herts (the move must have taken place after 1 April 2021, and the costs incurred/invoice date after 1 July 2021).

**Omicron hospitality and leisure grants** – one-off payment of either £2,667, £4,000 or £6,000 (dependant on rateable value) for businesses which offer in-person services within a fixed business rate-paying premises.

**Additional restrictions grants (ARG)** – similar to previous ARG schemes, business rate-payers that don't qualify for the Omicron hospitality and leisure grants can apply for discretionary grants. If successful grants will be awarded by the end of March.

For more information and to apply for any of the business support schemes, please visit [www.north-herts.gov.uk/businessgrants](http://www.north-herts.gov.uk/businessgrants)

**ENDS**

For more information contact [Anna.Cotton@north-herts.gov.uk](mailto:Anna.Cotton@north-herts.gov.uk) / 01462 474403.