

Part A

Report to: Cabinet

Date of meeting: Monday, 5 October 2020

Report author: Group Head of Democracy and Governance

Title: Joint Committee for the Herts Growth Board

1.0 Summary

- 1.1 Attached at appendix 1 is a detailed report prepared on behalf of all the councils in Hertfordshire and the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) recommending to each authority and the LEP the setting up of a formal Joint Committee and Scrutiny Committee to manage and oversee the work of the Herts Growth Board.

2.0 Risks

2.1

Nature of risk	Consequence	Suggested Control Measures	Response (treat, tolerate, terminate or transfer)	Risk Rating (combination of severity and likelihood)
Cabinet and Council do not agree to the setting up of the Joint Committee and Scrutiny Committee	Watford does not participate in the Growth Board and therefore potentially does not benefit from any funds obtained from Government under a Growth Deal	Cabinet and Council agree to participate in the Joint Committee	Treat	2
Other councils in Hertfordshire do not agree to the setting up of the joint Committee and Scrutiny Committee	The Joint Committee and Scrutiny Committee are not constituted and the Government does not agree to fund a Growth Deal for Hertfordshire	Watford agrees to participate	tolerate	4

3.0 Recommendations

That Cabinet recommends to Council:

- 3.1 That it agrees to the establishment of the Growth Board and Growth Board Scrutiny Joint Committees (to hold their inaugural meetings in December 2020 and then HGB Scrutiny February 2021) for the Hertfordshire Growth Board and that the Council becomes a member of both.
- 3.2 That the Council adopts the Growth Board Integrated Governance Framework into its own constitutional framework.
- 3.3 That it nominates a member and substitute member as its representative to the Scrutiny Committee. (Nominees must not be members of the Executive).
- 3.4 That it notes that the Elected Mayor is nominated as the Council's representative on the Joint Committee and that the Elected Mayor has delegated authority to nominate a substitute representative as required.
- 3.5 That Cabinet nominates the Elected Mayor as the Council's representative on the Joint Committee and that he be entitled to nominate a substitute from other members of the executive to attend meetings in his absence.

Further information:

Carol Chen
carol.chen@watford.gov.uk
Tel: 01923 278350

4.0 Implications

4.1 Financial

- 4.1.1 The Shared Director of Finance comments that the funding for the Growth Board and its projects comes from funding from Government.

4.2 Legal Issues (Monitoring Officer)

- 4.2.1 The Group Head of Democracy and Governance comments that the Local Government Act 1972 and the Local Government Act 2000 allows councils to establish joint committees.

4.3 Equalities, Human Rights and Data Protection

- 4.3.1 Having had regard to the council's obligations under s149, it is considered there are no equalities implications.

Appendices

- Joint Hertfordshire Growth Board Report

Background papers

No papers were used in the preparation of this report.