Report to the Council

Committee: Cabinet

Date: 31st January 2024

Subject: Place Portfolio

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Nigel Bedford

Recommending:

That the report of the Place Portfolio Holder be noted.

Harlow and Gilston Garden Town (HGGT)

EFDC officers continue to liaise with key stakeholders across the five Harlow and Gilston Garden Town (HGGT) authorities and relevant site promoters. This is undertaken in the context of wider Garden Town activities. Key updates in terms of the Garden Town are:

- Inter Authority Agreement for a Joint Committee has been agreed by all parties and is in the process of being implemented.
- The Laton Priory Design Code public consultation has concluded and is being updated in response. It is programmed to be brought to March 2024 Cabinet for endorsement as a material consideration in planning decisions.
- Officers are currently engaged with the promoters of the Water Lane masterplan and it is anticipated that the masterplan will be developed further throughout 2024.
- The East of Harlow masterplanning guidance Supplementary Planning Document consultation has concluded and officers are working with Harlow Council officers on the review and updating of the document. The final Supplementary Planning Document is programmed to be brought to March 2024 Cabinet for endorsement as a material consideration in planning decisions.

Other Strategic Masterplans

The public consultation on the draft North Weald Bassett Strategic Masterplan Framework concluded on 16th January 2024. Feedback is currently being reviewed and amendments made to the masterplan. The final Strategic Masterplan Framework is programmed to be brought to March 2024 Cabinet for endorsement as a material consideration in planning decisions. A planning application for an element of the masterplan has now been received and is under consideration by officers. Determination of this application will have due regard to the final endorsed Strategic Masterplan Framework.

The site promoters of the South Epping masterplan are engaged with Council officers on the development of a Strategic Masterplan for the site. It is currently anticipated that consultation on a draft masterplan will take place in summer 2024.

The developers of the Waltham Abbey North masterplan are engaged with officers and receipt of a draft Strategic Masterplan Framework document is currently awaited.