

Next stage for future planning

Thank you to everyone who responded on the Emerging Core Strategy consultation. We received over 3,500 responses to our draft strategy on the future planning of Welwyn Hatfield. We also had over 3,200 responses on the Land for Housing Outside Urban Areas document.

Four petitions were received, relating to proposals to allocate housing for Panshanger Airfield (Welwyn Garden City), North West Hatfield and Creswick (Welwyn Garden City) and also in support of a revised housing distribution strategy organised by the North Mymms Green Belt Society.

All comments received can now be viewed on our website:
www.welhat.gov.uk/localplan2012

A number of factors, including recent Inspectors' decisions taken nationally, new guidance from government, statistical data released as part of the Census 2011 and also the consultation responses received, have led us to take the decision to do further technical work, before we consider what changes need to be made to the Core Strategy.

This technical work includes:

- looking in more detail at what changes are required to address the impact on roads,
- reviewing household number projections,
- considering the significance of the historic environment of Panshanger Airfield,
- reviewing the impact on the Green Belt and its infrastructure, such as schools, and sewerage, and
- reviewing the needs of all parts of the community, including Gypsies and Travellers.

Once this work has been completed, councillors will then consider both the results of the consultation and the results of the technical work before deciding what changes need to be made to the Core Strategy.

