



INFORMATION MANAGEMENT BULLETIN

July 2007

NO. 103

News from the Information Management Unit

Research, Survey and Intelligence

Safety Camera Survey

A further survey relating to the public perception of safety cameras is currently under way and has been sent to 1 in 200 households around the County. The format of the questionnaire has been changed from previous years and two copies have been sent to each household to enable an additional response to be made if required.

For further information please contact:

Ted Burton on 01992 588861

Email: ted.burton@hertscc.gov.uk

Census

2001 Census maps

For those with access to Connect, the prototype map viewer for the Hertfordshire Observatory should be accessible. A selection of key statistics from the census is available for mapping at ward level. Navigate from the Connect home page, via Knowledge, Maps, ConnectMaps, to the Herts Observatory viewer. The viewer is provisional at present, but there will be promotion of the site over the next few months.

2007 Census Test

The test was conducted in four local authorities, and Neil Storer from Camden Borough Council has written an interesting account of the field work and preparation in the Camden test area in the June edition of BURISA magazine. He emphasises the importance of liaison with many aspects of the local authority, including the electoral registration office to identify potential low response areas, and the Local Land and Property Gazetteer, which identified many additional addresses. ONS have already emphasised the importance of local liaison in their plans for 2011, and the benefit for local authorities from maximising the quality of the census results.

Demography

Revisions to Mid Year Estimates

ONS have announced that all Mid Year Estimates from 2002 to 2005 will be revised when the estimates for 2006 are published in August this year. The changes reflect improvements to the way that international migration is assigned to local authorities. International migration has long been recognised as the weakest element in the estimating process. The changes have resulted from IMPS, ONS's programme to improve migration statistics. The changes are likely to result in an increase in Hertfordshire's population estimate of about 3,000. Most districts are likely to see increases in their estimates, although those for St Albans are likely to be reduced slightly.

All other statistics based on Mid Year Estimates will need to be revised. This will include small area estimates by HCC and ONS, population and household projections, and any statistics or indicators produced by users which are calculated as rates based on the population estimates. There is a fuller explanation of the changes and the likely outcomes on the Census Users Group extranet on the Hertfordshire Observatory, with a timetable for the revision of particular ONS statistics.

EERA Group 4 population and household forecasts based on the approved Regional Spatial Strategy

EERA Group 4 forecasts based on the approved East of England Plan will have to wait for the delayed ratification of the plan, which is now unlikely much before the end of 2007. The plan was originally to have been approved in June. The delays have been caused by the need to observe a habitat directive.

EERA are reviewing their demographic work programme, to assess the forecasts produced so far, and to prepare for the next review of the plan. To support the Regional Economic Strategy, the development agency are commissioning a model to link demographic and economic forecasting. First outputs from the model are expected in July.

For further information please contact

Mike Brennan on 01992 588862

Email: mike.brennan@hertscc.gov.uk

News from other Environment Department Units

Forward Planning Unit

Countywide Development Monitoring

Preliminary results of the update of the annual survey of Hertfordshire's Development Commitments show that, net of demolitions, **4308 dwellings have been built in Hertfordshire this monitoring year.** The district with the highest number of dwellings built is East Hertfordshire at 728. Broxbourne, Hertsmere and Watford have all built around the 250 dwellings mark. Preliminary results for Employment uses are being analysed.

This survey update concerns all planning permissions at 31st March 2007. It tracks Housing, Employment and other land use change, informing policy and monitoring processes for the Regional Spatial Strategy and Hertfordshire districts' Local Development Frameworks.

*For further information please contact:
Rob Wright, Information & Monitoring Team on
01992 555287
Email: rob.wright@hertsc.gov.uk*

News from the Districts

North Hertfordshire District Council

Baldock Town Centre Enhancement – Consultation under way..

Officer workshops were held at the end of March, followed by well attended public meetings on 31 March to "meet the designers" and again on 9 June to view the proposed designs. These proposals, for the enhancement of Baldock town centre, seek to create new public open space, rationalised car parking and a better pedestrian environment. The consultants, BDP will be starting work on the detailed design and tender documents shortly after that.

An exhibition of the proposals can be viewed at the Baldock Community Centre in Simpson Drive and also on North Herts District Council website. The exhibition runs until the end of the consultation period on 20th July.

We have had several meetings with stakeholder groups and there will be one more public meeting arranged for 7:30pm on Thursday 12 July at the Baldock Community Centre.

Comment forms are available at the exhibition and on the website or you can contact Helen Leitch on 01462 474513.

Watford Borough Council

A Planning Brief for the Leggatts Campus Site is currently being prepared and the draft will be available for consultation later in July 2007.

*For further information please contact:
Planning Policy on 01923 278263
Email: strategy@watford.gov.uk*

Dacorum Borough Council

The Council will be publishing in July its draft version of the open space study for key stakeholder consultation. The final version of the study is expected to be available by the end of August 2007.

*For further information about the study please contact
Simon Warner, Development Plans on 01442 228566.*

The Local Development Scheme (LDS) came into effect on 21 May 2007. This document replaces an earlier version that came into effect on 13 April 2005. The LDS sets out the Council's programme for production of documents that will make up the Local Development Framework (the replacement policies for the current Local Plan).

*For further information please contact Richard
Blackburn, Development Plans Manager 01442 228584.*

This Bulletin gives news of emerging facts and trends in the County, recently published and planned reports and progress on projects. Deadline for the next issue is 8th October 2007. Please send items with a contact name, phone number and email address to Barbara Murphy, Information Management Unit, Environment Dept HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL, County Hall, Hertford, Herts. SG13 8DN
Tel: 01992 555276 Fax: 01992 588676
Email barbara.murphy@hertsc.gov.uk

Information Management Unit
Environment Department
HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
County Hall, HERTFORD, Herts
SG13 8DN
Tel: 01992 555276 Fax: 01992 588676

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