

LAND USE

Indicator 1: Land Used for Urban Activities

The map in the summary report shows the land use change to urban activities in the county between April 1998 and the end of March 1999. The following table shows the figures used.

Town	Urban Area (Ha)	Change 1995-6 (Ha)	Change 1996-7 (Ha)	Change 1997-8 (Ha)	Urban area 1998	Change 1998-9 (Ha)	%	Urban Area 1999
Abbots Langley	224.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	224.08	0.00	0.00	224.08
Baldock	238.80	0.25	0.00	0.00	239.04	0.00	0.00	239.04
Berkhamsted	521.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	521.13	0.00	0.00	521.13
Bishops Stortford	878.37	17.36	0.00	0.00	895.73	20.33	2.27	916.06
Borehamwood	713.51	0.70	0.00	0.00	714.21	0.00	0.00	714.21
Broxbourne	268.62	8.20	0.00	0.00	276.82	0.00	0.00	276.82
Bushey	350.36	0.00	0.00	0.00	350.36	0.00	0.00	350.36
Cheshunt	685.92	3.94	1.43	7.86	699.15	10.10	1.44	709.25
Chorleywood	175.38	0.00	0.00	0.21	175.59	0.00	0.00	175.59
Croxley Green	263.76	0.00	0.00	0.00	263.76	0.00	0.00	263.76
Harpenden	792.88	0.11	0.00	0.37	793.36	0.00	0.00	793.36
Hatfield	797.97	1.80	0.00	0.00	799.77	0.00	0.00	799.77
Hemel Hempstead	2137.92	0.00	0.00	0.75	2138.68	1.52	0.07	2140.20
Hertford	550.35	4.92	0.00	0.00	555.27	0.00	0.00	555.27
Hitchin	814.20	0.98	0.00	0.32	815.50	0.00	0.00	815.50
Hoddesdon	504.34	0.00	0.00	0.00	504.34	0.00	0.00	504.34
Letchworth	956.09	0.00	0.00	0.00	956.09	0.00	0.00	956.09
London Colney	150.62	0.00	0.00	0.00	150.62	0.00	0.00	150.62
Potters Bar	516.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	516.80	0.00	0.00	516.80
Radlett	287.36	0.00	0.00	0.00	287.36	0.00	0.00	287.36
Rickmansworth	563.45	0.00	0.00	0.00	563.45	0.00	0.00	563.45
Royston	378.47	4.41	0.00	0.00	382.88	0.00	0.00	382.88
Sawbridgeworth	169.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	169.25	0.00	0.00	169.25
South Oxhey	191.24	0.00	0.00	0.50	191.74	0.00	0.00	191.74
St Albans	1576.90	0.00	0.00	0.67	1577.57	0.00	0.00	1577.57
Stevenage	2267.45	6.98	8.00	0.52	2282.95	19.52	0.86	2302.47
Tring	267.70	0.00	0.00	0.25	267.95	0.00	0.00	267.95
Waltham Cross	230.87	0.00	0.00	0.00	230.87	0.00	0.00	230.87
Ware	350.60	1.46	0.00	0.24	352.30	0.00	0.00	352.30
Watford	1949.17	0.00	0.00	0.47	1949.64	0.00	0.00	1949.64
Welwyn Garden City	1237.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	1237.02	0.00	0.00	1237.02
County	21010.60	51.11	9.43	12.16	21083.29	51.47	0.24	21134.76

The urban areas shown are towns with a population of over 7000.

The 12 months since April 1998 has seen a total of 51.47 hectares change in Hertfordshire, a considerable increase on the two previous years' figures of 12.16 and 9.43 hectares.

This total comes mainly from the change of agricultural land to housing on the edges of Stevenage Great Ashby (19.5 ha.), West Cheshunt (10 ha.) and Bishops Stortford St Michael's Mead (15 ha.). Other changes include the development of a distribution centre at Hemel Hempstead Punchbowl Lane (1.5 ha.) and interestingly, in Bishops Stortford, relocation of the urban football ground to the edge of the town (5 ha. site) and development of the in-town ground for housing.

Two further changes to urban use, separate from these urban boundaries, are not included in the total. These are St Margaret's Farm, Stanstead Abbots to housing (0.93 ha.) and the Arsenal training ground at London Colney (16.8 ha.).

Land use change is only recorded when development is started, in this case prior to 1st April 1999.

Indicator 2: Number of Households

The 1991 Census showed that there were 380,900 households in Hertfordshire. By 1997, this had increased by 8.3% to 412,400 households according to the Hertfordshire Mid Term Population Survey. Over the same period, Hertfordshire's population had grown by 2.5% from 988,700 in 1991 to 1,024,800 in 1997, resulting in the continuing reduction in average household size.

The latest DETR household projections suggest that between 1996 and 2021 there will be a growth of 89,000 in the number of households in Hertfordshire. 70% of these are expected to be single person households. The mean household size for the county is projected to fall from 2.44 in 1996 to 2.21 in 2021.

Structure Plan

The current Hertfordshire Structure Plan was adopted in April 1998 and covers the period 1991 - 2011. The County Council has commenced technical work on reviewing the Plan for the period to 2016, and the first public consultation document is likely to be published in 2001.

