

North Dorchester Governance Arrangements

The Dorset Councils Partnership has previous experience of planning for a major urban extension, of 1,800 homes at Gillingham in North Dorset. Arrangements included a Growth Board of officers and stakeholders from a variety of organisations, early and successful public engagement through an Enquiry by Design process, and regular meetings between the council portfolio holder, officers, and the developer consortium, chaired by the local MP. We will be setting up a similar structure for the North of Dorchester development to steer progress. The Council sees this development as critical to the future economic and social success of Dorchester and the surrounding area, and wishes to take a strong leadership of the process in order to ensure that proposals are developed in a collaborative way, and that full account is taken of the sensitivity of the area. A place-making, masterplan-led approach is essential, building on the success of Poundbury and creating a high quality new community of which Dorchester can be proud in future. The Council sees its role in this process as wider than its statutory town planning function, and key to its activities in economic development, accelerating home building, and health and wellbeing.

At a higher level the project would be overseen by the Western Dorset Growth Area Board. This includes member representatives of Dorset County Council, North Dorset District Council, West Dorset District Council, Weymouth & Portland Borough Council and the Dorset Local Enterprise Partnership, responsible for the implementation of the jointly adopted Western Dorset Growth Strategy. Growth in the Dorchester-Weymouth-Portland corridor is one of the ambitions of the Strategy and this development will play a very major role as the largest development allocation in the area.

Western Dorset Growth Area Board

Dorset County Council, West Dorset District Council, Weymouth & Portland
Borough Council, North Dorset District Council, Dorset LEP



North of Dorchester Board

West Dorset District Council
Dorset County Council

Historic England
Natural England
Environment Agency
Highways England
Homes England
Dorset Wildlife Trust

Dorchester Town Council
Stinsford Parish Council
Charminster Parish Council
Dorchester Civic Society

Development
Consortium