Landscape considerations

Context & principles

The landscape at East Hemel is rich and varied, with natural features that will shape how the area evolves. The masterplan must work sensitively with the land—respecting its topography, green spaces, and the wider setting of Hemel Hempstead—to create a sustainable, well-balanced, and characterful place for people and nature. The maps on this panel highlight key landscape considerations, from existing green corridors to natural constraints. These factors, along with policy guidance, environmental studies, and community input, will help shape the design principles that guide the masterplan's evolution.



Role of greenspace

Green spaces will be at the heart of East Hemel, shaping its character and ensuring a healthy environment for both people and nature. A network of open spaces will provide places to relax, play, and connect with the landscape, while also supporting biodiversity, climate resilience, and local ecology. The aim is to create a thriving green

East Hemel landscape principles

ecology. The aim is to create a thriving, green environment where wildlife can flourish alongside vibrant new neighbourhoods, aligning with the East Hemel vision guiding principle of 'Nurturing the natural environment'.

Workshop ideas

Support walking, cycling, and horse riding with wellintegrated routes, improved Shape neighbourhoods around green spaces, fostering gathering,

Nickey Line links, and repurposed quiet lanes.

recreation, and local services within a biodiverse setting

Multifunctional open spaces designed inclusively for all to enjoy

Identify opportunities for exposing chalk to create nationally scarce chalk grassland Create landscaped buffers, and treat new and existing communities sensitively

The round table discussions did help us to understand what might be possible in the resulting design.

THE CROWN ESTATE

East Hemel