



Didcot Garden Town

DIDCOT GARDEN TOWN
ADVISORY BOARD
MEMBERS

MARCH 2021



OUR COMMITMENT

In December 2015, the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) granted Didcot “garden town” status based on a bid to build 15,000 homes and deliver 20,000 jobs by 2031. It was one of the first existing towns to achieve this award.

New homes and facilities are being located in and around Didcot, with new neighbourhoods to the North, East and West of the town, each being fully integrated with existing communities in Didcot and nearby employment sites. The 20,000 new jobs will be delivered through the big strategic sites of Milton Park, Culham and Harwell.

An additional 92 hectares is being made available for employment growth to complement these business sites. The connection between the “Science Vale” and Didcot Garden Town is strong.



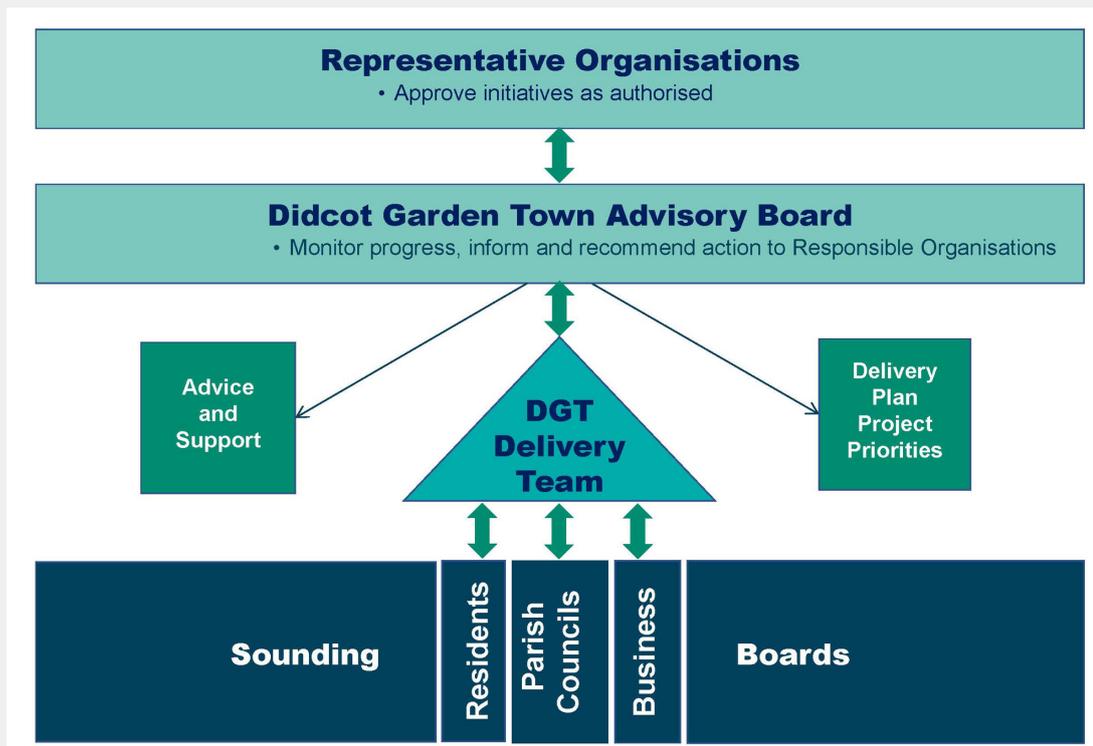
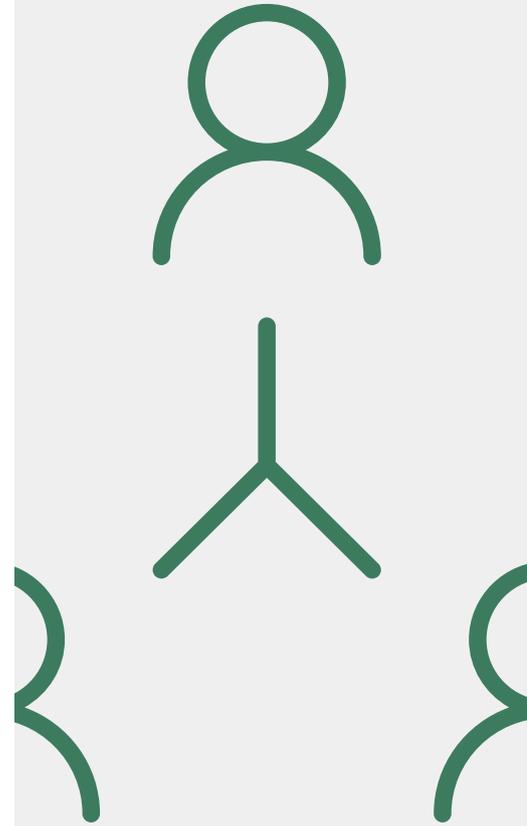
GOVERNANCE

During 2020, the DGT Advisory Board was opened to the public to participate. Due to COVID-19 restrictions the accessibility to watch the meeting was efficiently rolled out virtually.

After approvals by both South and Vale in early 2020, a new seat to represent the five parish councils within the DGT boundary was made available on the board. Cllr Rita Atkinson from Sutton Courtenay Parish Council was appointed.

We've successfully launched three sounding boards which include parish councils, residents and businesses. There was great participation in all three sounding boards with 80 residents and 34 business attending the relevant launches.

The boards represent local insight and knowledge to support delivering projects to meet local need. They also encourage stewardship within the garden town, and we look forward to the subsequent workstreams with all stakeholders moving forward.





Councillor Ian Hudspeth

Leader of Oxfordshire County Council, Chair of DGTAB

"I attend the Advisory Board to ensure that the county council can help deliver infrastructure that is required for good sustainable growth, particularly quality homes."

Ian was elected as a County Councillor in 2005, retaining his seat in 2009. In 2007, he became Cabinet Member for Transport. From 2009 to 2011 his portfolio was Growth & Infrastructure covering strategic planning including transport, housing waste and the green & clean agenda. He was elected Leader of the County Council in May 2012.



Councillor Sue Cooper

Leader of South Oxfordshire District Council

"I attend the Advisory Board because I am keen to hear the opinions and ideas of the people who live and work in Didcot and its surrounding areas, so we can improve life here."

Sue was first elected to South Oxfordshire District Council in 1991, then in 1995, she became involved with planning for the Orchard Centre, and later with the redesign of the front of the station and the cycle route. She has retained a strong interest in Didcot ever since.



Councillor Emily Smith

Leader of Vale of White Horse District Council

"I attend the Advisory Board because I represent residents across the Vale district. It means I can understand Didcot's specific needs and help ensure the Garden Town becomes a healthy and inclusive community."

Emily grew up in Abingdon and is married with two children who are at primary school. Emily is interested in supporting young people through the education system and into fulfilling careers. She has a professional background in Children's Services – in both the public and voluntary sector.



Councillor Mocky Khan

Leader of Didcot Town Council

"I attend the Advisory Board because I represent Didcot as a councillor and live in the town. It helps me understand and influence decisions made that will have an impact on our community, business and residents. It is about time Didcot had a voice."

Mocky moved 6 years ago to Didcot due to the great transport links. As Mocky settled in the town, he saw residents needing help, areas for improvement and he wanted to support. He stood for Didcot Town Council and got elected in 2017. Since then he has been re-elected and is currently the Leader of Didcot Town Council and the Deputy Mayor.



Councillor David Rouane

Cabinet Member of South Oxfordshire District Council

"I attend the Advisory Board because I am the cabinet member for Didcot Garden Town. This means I can ensure that what we are doing at South Oxfordshire District Council, alongside other partners contributes towards achieving the Garden Town vision."

David has lived in Didcot for over 30 years and has worked as a director of several national charities, most recently for a climate change campaign. He has been a town councillor for many years and is now South's cabinet member for Housing & Environment and Didcot Garden Town. In his spare time he set up Didcot Film Club which 'shows the films that Cineworld doesn't' on the big screen at Cornerstone.



Councillor Judy Roberts

Cabinet Member for Vale of White Horse District Council

"I attend the Advisory Board because I'm responsible for the Vale implementation of the DGT masterplan. I attend these meetings so I can hear the ideas put forward and the response to our plans from all sectors of the Didcot community."

Judy has worked for 20 years in the NHS as a Biochemist. Judy has been a Vale of White Horse District Councillor for 14 years as well as a Cumnor Parish Councillor and a County Councillor for 4 years. Judy has been involved in playground installations and community centres, planning committees and transport projects. She is also the Vale portfolio holder for the Didcot Garden Town.



Councillor Rita Atkinson

DGT Parish Councils Representative

"I attend the Advisory Board because residents of the surrounding villages are important stakeholders in the development of the vision. This is an opportunity to include the perspective of Didcot's rural neighbours to enhance the benefits of a Garden Town for all."

Rita has been a member of Sutton Courtenay Parish Council since 2003. In July 2020, she was made Parish Council Representative for the Didcot Garden Town Advisory Board. Prior to retirement, Rita worked at the Harwell Campus as a scientist. She is a Trustee of the Abingdon DAMASCUS Youth Project and a Trustee and Governor of the Ridgeway Education Trust. Rita was awarded an MBE in 2004 for her voluntary work.



Nigel Tipple

Chief Executive of Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnerships

"I attend the Advisory Board because personally and organisationally, I want to see the communities and businesses of the area supported. In doing so maximising their individual potential to engage in and benefit from this significant place focused regeneration programme which will be promoted."

Nigel joined OxLEP in June 2013 and has made his mark with energetic and inspiration leadership. Nigel has over 20 years experience in the formation, development, operation and management of organisations throughout the public and private sectors.



Catherine Turner

Head of High Growth and New Settlements

"I attend the Advisory Board because I care about good design. I enjoy working with partners who have ambitious proposals like here in Didcot, which are rooted in sustainability proposals and exemplify high quality design and placemaking."

Catherine is the Head of the High Growth and New Settlements team which is in the Market Places and Partners directorate at Homes England. She previously was the Head of the South West Land team.