

September 2025

An automated public-facing Call for Sites platform for East Herts Council

Digital Planning Directory Show & Tell:
Utilising Data for Better Planning Outcomes

About Cadcorp

Spatial insight

Providing meaningful and actionable intelligence with GIS software, data, and services



Integrated family of geospatial software comprising desktop, server, web and developer products



Spatial data and services, designed to support organisations with their geospatial strategy



Emergency Services



Energy & Infrastructure



Environment



Finance



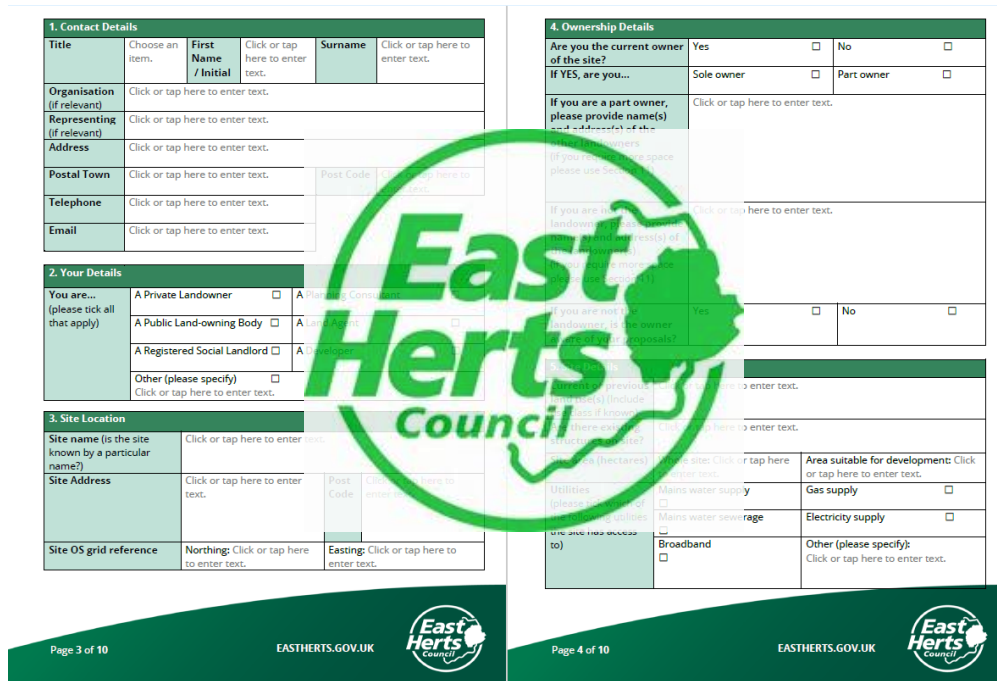
Government



Land & Property

The Problem

PropTech Innovation Fund Round 4



The image shows a screenshot of a web form for land assessment, divided into four sections: 1. Contact Details, 2. Your Details, 3. Site Location, and 4. Ownership Details. A large, semi-transparent green logo for East Herts Council is overlaid on the form. The logo features the text 'East Herts Council' in a stylized font, with a green outline of the council's geographical area behind it. The form includes various input fields, checkboxes, and dropdown menus for collecting information about the user and the site.

1. Contact Details	
Title	Choose an item. First Name / Initial Click or tap here to enter text. Surname Click or tap here to enter text.
Organisation (if relevant)	Click or tap here to enter text.
Representing (if relevant)	Click or tap here to enter text.
Address	Click or tap here to enter text.
Postal Town	Click or tap here to enter text. Post Code Click or tap here to enter text.
Telephone	Click or tap here to enter text.
Email	Click or tap here to enter text.

2. Your Details	
You are... (please tick all that apply)	A Private Landowner <input type="checkbox"/> A Public Land-owning Body <input type="checkbox"/> A Registered Social Landlord <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) <input type="checkbox"/>

3. Site Location	
Site name (is the site known by a particular name?)	Click or tap here to enter text.
Site Address	Click or tap here to enter text. Post Code Click or tap here to enter text.
Site OS grid reference	Northing: Click or tap here to enter text. Easting: Click or tap here to enter text.

4. Ownership Details	
Are you the current owner of the site?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
If YES, are you...	Sole owner <input type="checkbox"/> Part owner <input type="checkbox"/>
If you are a part owner, please provide name(s) and address(es) of the other owner(s)	Click or tap here to enter text.
If you are not the current landowner, is the owner a previous owner of the site?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
If you are not the current landowner, please provide name(s) and address(es) of the previous owner(s) (include dates if possible)	Click or tap here to enter text.
Area suitable for development:	Click or tap here to enter text.
Utilities (please tick all that apply)	Mains water supply <input type="checkbox"/> Gas supply <input type="checkbox"/> Mains water sewerage <input type="checkbox"/> Electricity supply <input type="checkbox"/> Broadband <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): Click or tap here to enter text.

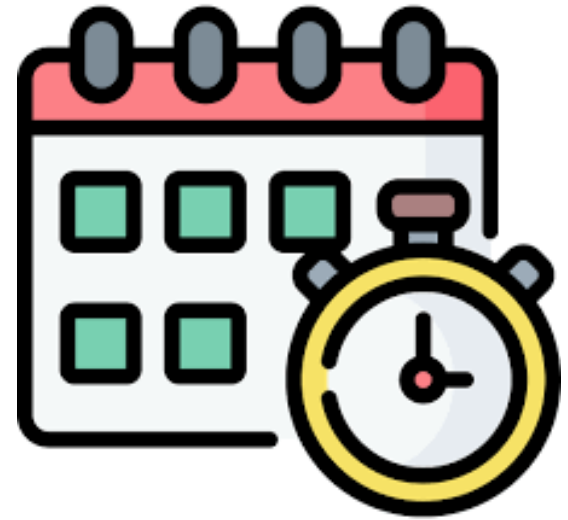


Aim:

To transform engagement with the plan-making process and improve the council's current approaches to land assessment and visualisation

The Challenge

- **June 2024 deadline**
 - Cadcorp contracted January 2024
 - EHDC Call for Sites launch planned for June 2024
 - General Election called 4 July 2024
 - Launched 5 July 2024
- **Met by:**
 - Agile development
 - Containerised cloud deployment
 - Staged UAT



The Solution: Cadcorp Call for Sites

The screenshot displays the 'Call for Sites' web application interface, which is developed by East Herts Council and Cadcorp. The interface is divided into two main sections: a left-hand sidebar with instructions and a main map area with a 'Site Details' form.

Call for Sites Sidebar:

- Plot Your Sites:** A section explaining the need for a digital representation of the site area and providing three methods for plotting.
- 1. Select:** Instructions on using existing map features to select a site area. A 'START' button is present.
- 2. Draw:** Instructions on digitizing a site's outline on the map. A 'START' button is present.
- 3. Upload:** Instructions on uploading a GeoJSON file to the map. 'BACK' and 'NEXT' buttons are present.

Site Details Form:

The 'Site Details' form is a modal window with a progress indicator at the top (steps 1-11, with step 5 highlighted). It contains the following questions and options:

- Is there direct access from a public highway?
 No
 Yes
- Is this highway a classified road?
 No
 Yes
- Is there public transport access to the site or in close proximity?
 No
 Yes
- Is there a public right of way to access the site?
 No
 Yes
- Is there a connecting bus service from the train station?
 No
 Yes

At the bottom of the form, there are two input fields:

- Site area: 2.8 (in hectares)
- Development area: 2 (in hectares)

The form includes 'BACK' and 'NEXT' buttons at the bottom.

Single PDF report including: Site maps

East Herts District Plan Review
Call for Sites 2024

Site Information	
Reference Number	4a68b568-2bc1-46ed-8773-5feb2d958ea
Contact Details	
Name	
Address	
Email	
Phone	
Organisation	
Representing	

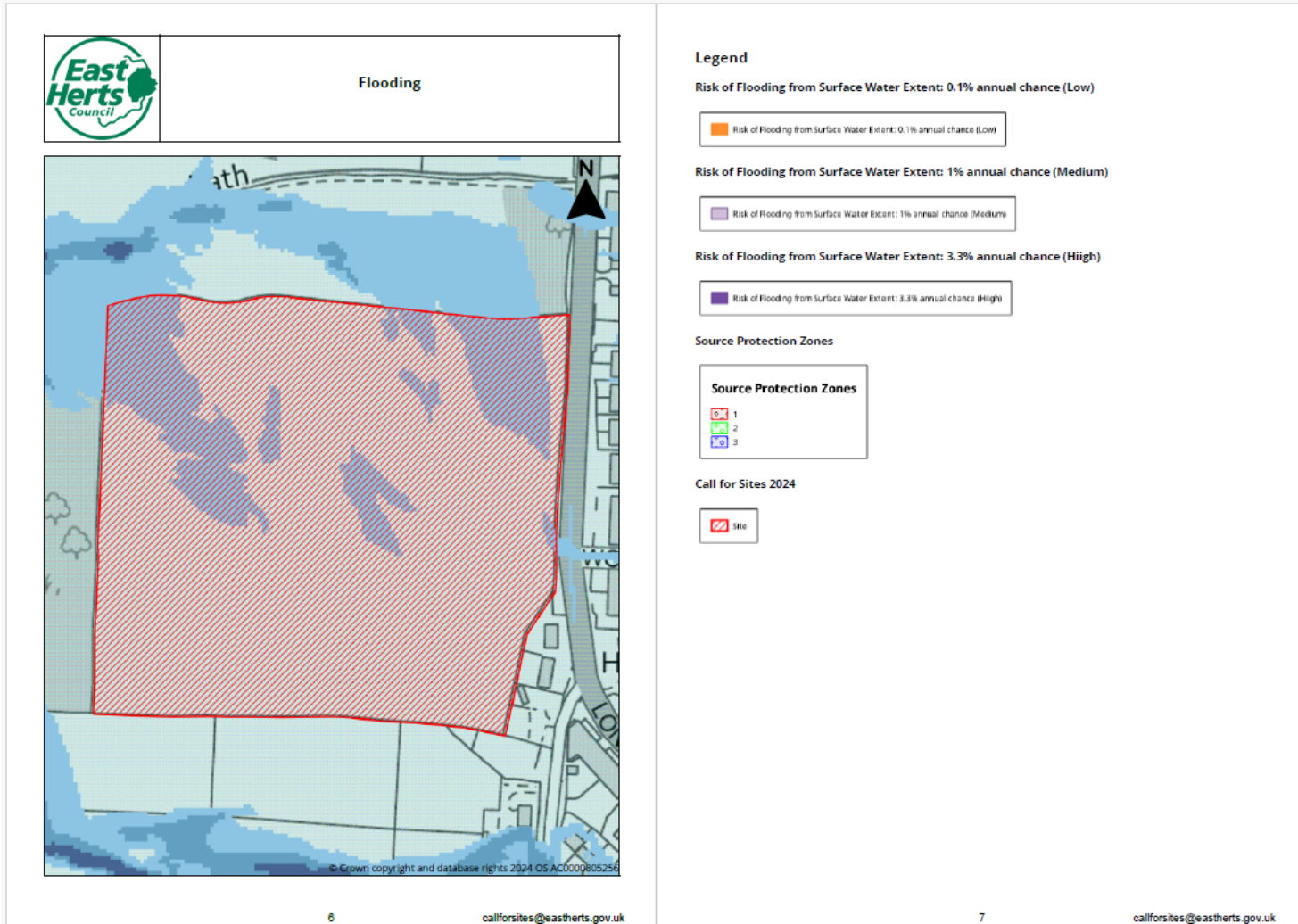
1 callforsites@eastherts.gov.uk

Aerial Photography

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2 callforsites@eastherts.gov.uk

Single PDF report including: Site constraints



Single PDF report including: Textual data and spatial queries

Site Interest	
Site Interest	PrivateLandOwner
Site Location	
Site Name	
Address	
Site Ownership	
Site Owner	True
Site Status	Part owner
Site Interest	
Part Owner	
Land Owner	null
Land Owner Aware	False
Site Owner Evidence	True
Site Details	
Current Landuse	Intensively managed agricultural field for hay crop, identified as being of limited ecological value and not suitable for arable cultivation
Existing Structures	Large Feed Hopper
Total Area (ha)	5.45
Development Area (ha)	5.45
Utilities	Water, Sewage, Broadband, Gas, Electricity
Utilities: Other	
Access	Public Highway, Public Highway Classified, Public Transport
Access: Proposal	Access from London Road, Hertford Heath
Planning History	None
Local Character	site is adjacent to and connected to the existing built up area and settlement boundary.
Site Constraints	
Ransom	no
Access Issues	no
Legal Covenants	no
Environment	No. The impact of development on any landscape features would be limited due to the enclosed nature of the site. The site is located near to two protected sites: Balls Wood Plantation on Ancient Woodland Site (PAWS) and Local Wildlife Site (LWS) 59/008, located 98m west of the site, and the associated Meadows East of Balls Wood LWS 59/044 adjacent to the south of the proposal. Expert advice indicates that the development would have no impact on the LWS and the proposed buffer zone, with its combination of species-rich grassland, scattered trees, and a SuDS basin, will significantly enhance the site's ecological value and wildlife connectivity. The development could effectively integrate into the surrounding landscape, particularly benefiting the adjacent Local Wildlife Sites and wildlife connectivity. There are no protected species on the site. There are group TPOs along the northern and eastern boundaries of the site, of which the development of the site would not affect these trees or their root zones. A highways study has shown that a new access road which meets Hertfordshire Highways standards could be created without the removal of any TPO trees and would not effect their root zones.
Heritage	no
Physical Constraints	no
Agricultural Land	The soils are classified as sandy clay loam to clay loam with adequate structure but moderate to high stone content. They have varying pH levels and are generally deficient in organic matter and some nutrients. While they could potentially be used for agriculture, their limitations place them in the "Poor" category. No contamination, and the site is flat.
Relocation	No

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Greenbelt	Yes
District Planning	The village of Hertford Heath is category 1 village, required to find a suitable site(s) for a minimum of 84 dwellings, a 10% increase of the village. An Aecom assessment scored the site as being, available, suitable and deliverable and the only viable option to meet the full housing allocation for Hertford Heath
Neighbouring Landuses	No
Other Site Constraints	No
Site Infrastructure	
Interventions	No, we have a suite of professional evidence to support the site for development with the assessment indicating that the site contributes in only a limited way to the beneficial uses of the Green Belt being a relatively small area of land with no public access. The boundaries to the site are well defined by existing landscape features which provide containment and allows the opportunity to enhance the landscape and Green Belt with additional planting.
Infrastructure	No, The site can be connected to all infrastructure
Hindrances	No
Proposed Development	
Proposed Use	Residential, Affordable Housing, Community Facility, Leisure & Recreation, Retail, Employment, Greenspace, Mixed Use
Site Availability	
Marketed	No
Development	No
Option To Develop	A number of National House builders are ready to purchase the site if allocated in the call for sites.
Timescale	Available immediately
Timescale Reason	The site has been promoted with public consultation with several National Houses builders ready to purchase the site with a view to develop the site immediately upon the allocation of the site with both owners willing to sell .
Timescale Completion	
Site Assessment Visit	
Consent Contact	
Appointment Contact	
Access Issues	
Comments	
Further Comments	The site's suitability for inclusion in the call for sites is supported by a comprehensive suite of expert assessments, including a Landscape and Visual Appraisal, Arboricultural Constraints Report, Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey, and a Biodiversity report. These documents, along with technical drawings and an Indicative Layout Plan, demonstrate the site's potential for development while addressing environmental and infrastructural considerations. Public consultation has occurred, showing public support for the project.
Keep Updated	True

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Singular Queries

Unclassified

- 1: This site does not intersect with Flood Zone 2
- 2: This site does not intersect with Flood Zone 3
- 3: This site intersects with Flood Zone 3b
- 4: The site has a risk of flooding from Surface Water Extent: 0.1% annual chance (Low)
- 5: The site does not have a risk of Flooding from Surface Water Extent: 1% annual chance (Medium)
- 6: The site does not have a risk of Flooding from Surface Water Extent: 3.3% annual chance (High)
- 7: The site contains at least one Tree Preservation Order
- 8: The site does not intersect with defined Open Spaces
- 9: The site does not intersect with a Protected View

Linked Queries

Unclassified

- 1: The site is not within 800m of a Special Area of Conservation
- 2: The site is not within 800m of a Special Protection Area
- 3: The site is not within 800m of a RAMSAR site
- 4: The site is within 800m of a SSSI
- 5: The site is not within 800m of a National Nature Reserve
- 6: The site is within 800m of some Ancient Woodland
- 7: The site is not within 800m of a Local Nature Reserve
- 8: The site intersects with a Wildlife Site
- 9: The site is not within 800m of an Archaeological Site
- 10: The site is not within 800m of Registered Parks and Gardens
- 11: The site is within 800m of a Scheduled Monument
- 12: The site is wholly within the Green Belt
- 13: The site is outside an Air Quality Management Area
- 14: The site is over 800m from the nearest bus stop
- 15: The site is over 800m from the nearest railway station
- 16: The site is over 800m from the nearest employment area
- 17: The site is over 800m from the nearest defined District Centre
- 18: The site is less than 800m from the nearest Village Hall or Civic Building
- 19: The site is over 1600m from the nearest Day to Day Shop
- 20: The site is less than 800m from the nearest Social Facility
- 21: The site is between 800m and 1600m to the nearest Health facility
- 22: The site is less than 800m from the nearest Primary School

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Results & Impact



The Cadcorp Call for Sites application has saved us on average, 6 hours in staff time per site submitted.

Claire Sime, Service Manager – Planning Policy, Design & Conservation
East Herts District Council

What's Next?



- Usability improvements from feedback
- Calculations
 - Developable Area
 - Residential Density
- Next East Herts Council Call for Sites planned Spring 2026

Contact us

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