



SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY, 24 SEPTEMBER 2009

AGENDA AND REPORTS

South Cambridgeshire Hall
Cambourne Business Park
Cambourne, Cambridge
CB23 6EA

The law allows Councils to consider a limited range of issues in private session without members of the Press and public being present. Typically, such issues relate to personal details, financial and business affairs, legal privilege and so on. In every case, the public interest in excluding the Press and Public from the meeting room must outweigh the public interest in having the information disclosed to them. The following statement will be proposed, seconded and voted upon.

"I propose that the Press and public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following item number(s) in accordance with Section 100(A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that, if present, there would be disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in paragraph(s) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act."

If exempt (confidential) information has been provided as part of the agenda, the Press and public will not be able to view it. There will be an explanation on the website however as to why the information is exempt.

SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

TO: The Chairman and Members of the
South Cambridgeshire District Council

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the next meeting of the **COUNCIL** will be held in the **COUNCIL CHAMBER, FIRST FLOOR** at **2.00 P.M.** on

THURSDAY, 24 SEPTEMBER 2009

and I am, therefore to summon you to attend accordingly for the transaction of the business specified below.

DATED 16 September 2009

GJ HARLOCK
Chief Executive

The Council is committed to improving, for all members of the community, access to its agendas and minutes. We try to take all circumstances into account but, if you have any specific needs, please let us know, and we will do what we can to help you.

AGENDA

PRESENTATIONS

1.30pm Demonstration of new method for Councillors to access Council systems

The Head of ICT will demonstrate the new technology in the Council Chamber and distribute relevant log-in information and equipment to enable Members subsequently to access relevant Council systems.

2.00pm Presentation of badges to past Chairmen of the Council

At the Annual Meeting in May 2009, the Chairman of Council presented official badges to previous holders of office, advising that he considered it appropriate for past Chairmen of Council to receive small tokens in recognition of their periods of service, which they could wear at subsequent civic events. The Chairman has invited past Chairmen, who were unable to attend the Annual Meeting, to receive their badges at this meeting.

2.05pm Smoke-free Gold Award

The Council has achieved the Gold National Clean Air Award in recognition of its outstanding commitment in providing a tobacco smoke-free environment to protect the health, safety and well-being of all who enter Council premises. Councillor SM Edwards, Finance and Staffing Portfolio Holder, will formally present the award to the Chairman of the Council.

1. **APOLOGIES**

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

3. **MINUTES**

To authorise the Chairman to sign the Minutes of the meeting held on 16 July 2009 as a correct record (**attached**).

(Pages 1 - 12)

4. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

5. **QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS AND THE PUBLIC**

5 (a) **From Councillor Mrs CAED Murfitt to the Leader of the Council**

In the recent IDeA Members' Guide 'Top tips for making savings through better procurement in professional services', Members are told it is their role to ask three fundamental questions. The questions are as follows:

- What are we spending on temporary agency staff and consultancy?
- Do we have a co-ordinated corporate approach to procuring and managing these contracts?
- Are we collaborating with others, regionally and nationally, to gain efficiencies and implement best practice?

Please can the Leader of the Council advise whether answers are available for these questions and, if not, when Members can expect to receive satisfactory answers?

5 (b) **From Councillor Mrs FAR Amrani to the Leader of the Council**

With all the discussion of cutbacks we are hearing about in various Council meetings and the local press, everyone is aware that the Council is facing a huge financial crisis. Most householders know, when faced with debts, you can address the problem by reducing spending and increasing income. Can the Leader expand on what sustainable revenue raising measures the Council is planning to adopt to counterbalance the current spending-cut strategy?

5 (c) **From Councillor RE Barrett to the New Communities Portfolio Holder**

Please could the Portfolio Holder comment on the progress in obtaining off-site contributions towards recreation and public open space since the Public Open Space Supplementary Planning Document was adopted in January 2009?

5 (d) **From Councillor Dr SEK van de Ven to the Planning Portfolio Holder and the Chairman of the Planning Committee**

The Planning Portfolio Holder would agree, I am sure, that changes to Chairman's Delegation would affect all parishes and, consequently, all Members. Given that there has been no offer of a member workshop to discuss concerns or any new proposals, please would he and the Chairman of the Planning Committee therefore guarantee that all members' opinions will be heard either in person (or failing that in writing) at the Planning Committee meeting on 7 October 2009?

- 5 (e) From Councillor Dr SA Harangozo to the Leader of the Council**
Does the Leader intend writing to the Minister for Energy and Climate Change to support substantial and binding cuts in international CO2 emissions at the Copenhagen Climate Change summit and, if not, please could he explain why?
- 5 (f) From Councillor JD Batchelor to the Housing Portfolio Holder**
In view of local concerns over the decision to sell-off Council property at Frog End, Shepreth, has consideration been given to including an "up-lift" clause in any sales contract allowing the Council Tax payers of SCDC to benefit from the sale of any subsequent development?
- 5 (g) From Councillor DH Morgan to the New Communities Portfolio Holder**
Why has the recently-adopted Open Space Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) not made any reference to a requirement for a minimum separation distance between play areas and housing despite representations during the consultation on the draft policy that play areas were being built far too close to homes in new communities, in particular Cambourne, leading to numerous complaints received by the Parish Council, Housing Associations and Police from residents about the noise of children screaming and anti-social behaviour.
- 5 (h) From Councillor Mrs LA Morgan to the New Communities Portfolio Holder**
Would the responsible Portfolio Holder please explain why Cambourne was included in the options to be consulted on for the provision of a Gypsy and Traveller site but without a specific location being identified?
- 5 (i) From Councillor FWM Burkitt to the Leader of the Council**
Would the Leader of the Council agree that South Cambridgeshire District Council should play as active a role as possible in the current debate about traffic management in and around Cambridge?
- 5 (j) From Councillor PW Topping to the Housing Portfolio Holder**
Could the Portfolio holder for housing set out his assessment of the pressures faced by the Council's sheltered housing scheme, and its warden service in particular?

6. PETITIONS

To note all petitions received since the last Council meeting.

7. TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATION:

7 (a) BARRINGTON: Review of Community Governance Arrangements (Electoral Arrangements Committee, 17 September 2009)

The Electoral Arrangements Committee, at its meeting on 17 September 2009, will be requested to **RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL** that, having conducted a community governance review, the number of Parish Councillors on Barrington Parish Council

be increased from 7 to 9.

Any alternative recommendation will be reported to the Council.

The report and appendices to be considered by the Committee are available to view using the following [link to the Council's website \(www.scamb.gov.uk\)](http://www.scamb.gov.uk) - Agenda Item 4 refers. Alternatively, to obtain a paper copy, please contact Democratic Services, telephone (01954) 713016 e-mail democratic.services@scamb.gov.uk.

8. CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING GROUP ANNUAL REPORT

Council is invited to receive the annual report of the Climate Change Working Group **(attached)**.

(Pages 13 - 24)

9. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK (LDF) - NORTH WEST CAMBRIDGE AREA ACTION PLAN (JOINT PLAN WITH CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL) (Key)

The report of the Corporate Manager for Planning and Sustainable Communities is **attached**.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Council is invited to:

- (a) **RESOLVE TO ADOPT** the North West Cambridge Area Action Plan, as contained in Appendix 2, on 22 October 2009, subject to Cambridge City Council adopting the AAP on that day, and proceed in accordance with Regulations 35 and 36.
- (b) **RESOLVE TO ADOPT** the revisions to the adopted Proposals Map, as contained in Appendix 3; and
- (c) **NOTE** the Sustainability Appraisal Adoption Statement as contained in Appendix 4.

The appendices to the report are available to view with the electronic version of this Agenda, accessible via the following [link to the Council's website \(www.scamb.gov.uk\)](http://www.scamb.gov.uk). Paper copies are also available in the Members' Room or from Democratic Services, telephone (01954) 713016 e-mail democratic.services@scamb.gov.uk.

(Pages 25 - 34)

10. APPOINTMENT TO STANDARDS COMMITTEE OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEMBER 2009-2013

To note that, all parish and community councils and meetings in South Cambridgeshire having been invited to submit nominations for a representative to serve on the Standards Committee for the next four years, Stapleford Parish Council had nominated Mr Michael Farrar, who was returned unopposed and will serve a four-year term until 7 August 2013.

11. CAMBRIDGE CITY FRINGES (SECTION 29) JOINT COMMITTEE - APPOINTMENT OF SUBSTITUTE

The Council's representatives on this Committee are Councillors Dr DR Bard and RMA Manning (Conservative Group) and Councillor SGM Kindersley (Liberal Democrat Group).

At present, the Council has appointed one substitute from each group represented on the Committee, Councillors SM Edwards (Conservative Group) and Mrs HM Smith (Liberal Democrat Group).

The Order published by the Secretary of State, bringing the Committee formally into existence following the above appointments, provides for 'each constituent authority (to) appoint a substitute for each voting member it appoints.' The Conservative Group is therefore invited to nominate an additional substitute Member. Should the group wish for Councillor Edwards to act as substitute for Councillor Manning, the additional nominee shall act as substitute for Councillor Dr Bard. Should the group wish for Councillor Edwards to act as substitute for Councillor Dr Bard, then the additional nominee shall act as substitute for Councillor Manning.

12. UPDATES FROM MEMBERS APPOINTED TO OUTSIDE BODIES

The Chairman has expressed a wish that reports under this item should be submitted to Democratic Services for publication with the Agenda, not made at the meeting as verbal updates.

Councillor Mrs BZD Smith has submitted a report relating to her work as the Council's representative on the Children and Young People's Partnership **(attached)**.

(Pages 35 - 36)

13. NOTICES OF MOTION

13 (a) Standing in the names of Councillor Mrs EM Heazell and SGM Kindersley

Concern is mounting particularly amongst our sheltered housing residents and their families regarding our services provided for the vulnerable elderly. There is also rising public concern on this issue.

While many Council sheltered residents have found the emergency cover very satisfactory, and realise that service charges are very much lower than in the private sheltered sector, there are many apprehensions being voiced about the prospect of more change, less staff on-site hours together with increased charges / rents.

Council agrees to subject all services for the vulnerable elderly, whether provided by us or partners across the district, to a review. Such a review could be conducted by our own Scrutiny and Overview Committee, or as a pilot study by the county-wide Joint Accountability Committee.

14. CHAIRMAN'S ENGAGEMENTS

To note the Chairman's engagements since the last Council meeting:

July 19 th	Huntingdon Town Council Civic Service
July 21 st	Comberton Village College - Lord Coe - Elite Performers Grants Scheme
July 24 th	RAF Wyton
July 25 th	Opera in Wisbech, St Peter & St Paul's Church
Aug 1 st	Phoenix Open Day

Aug 8 th	Royston & District Angling Club Annual Charity March
Aug 19 th	Attended funeral of former SCDC employee Albert (Eddie) Wayman
August 28 th	VIP Launch of Crop Marks
Sept 4 th	Official Opening of Cancer Care Centre, Scotsdales
Sept 4 th	Abbots Ripton Hall - High Sheriff of Cambridgeshire
Sept 5 th	Chairman's Annual Reception - Scotsdales
Sept 5 th	Girlguiding Centenary Celebrations, Moller Centre
Sept 7 th	Cambridge Preservation Society
Sept 12 th	Melbourn Village College - Dedication of Anniversary window (50 th)
Sept 12 th	Wisbech Mayor's Charity Ball
Sept 13 th	Bridge the Gap Charity Walk
Sept 15 th	Plaque unveiling – Freestone Corner, Gt Shelford
Sept 18 th	Marshalls Centenary Celebrations
Sept 20 th	Godmanchester Town Council Civic Service
Sept 22 nd	Cambridge University Hospitals – Launch of Masterplan
Sept 23 rd	Opening of Discovery building at College of West Anglia
Sept 23 rd	Cambridgeshire Celebrates Age 2009 - Press Launch

GUIDANCE NOTES FOR VISITORS TO SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE HALL

While the District Council endeavours to ensure that visitors come to no harm when visiting South Cambridgeshire Hall, those visitors also have a responsibility to make sure that they do not risk their own or others' safety.

Increased hygiene at South Cambridgeshire Hall

In light of the swine flu pandemic, we have intensified our usual cleaning routines in council buildings. We have also introduced hand gel dispensers throughout the offices, including public areas. When visiting South Cambridgeshire Hall you are encouraged to use these facilities if and when required to help limit the spread of flu.

Security

Members of the public attending meetings in non-public areas of the Council offices must report to Reception, sign in, and at all times wear the Visitor badges issued. Before leaving the building, such visitors must sign out and return their Visitor badges to Reception.

Emergency and Evacuation

In the event of a fire, a continuous alarm will sound. Evacuate the building using the nearest escape route; from the Council Chamber or Mezzanine viewing gallery this would be via the staircase just outside the door. Go to the assembly point at the far side of the staff car park.

- **Do not** use the lifts to exit the building. If you are unable to negotiate stairs by yourself, the emergency staircase landings are provided with fire refuge areas, which afford protection for a minimum of 1.5 hours. Press the alarm button and wait for assistance from the Council fire wardens or the fire brigade.
- **Do not** re-enter the building until the officer in charge or the fire brigade confirms that it is safe to do so.

First Aid

If someone feels unwell or needs first aid, please alert a member of staff.

Access for People with Disabilities

The Council is committed to improving, for all members of the community, access to its agendas and minutes. We try to take all circumstances into account but, if you have any specific needs, please let us know, and we will do what we can to help you. All meeting rooms are accessible to wheelchair users. There are disabled toilet facilities on each floor of the building. Hearing loops and earphones are available from reception and can be used in all meeting rooms.

Toilets

Public toilets are available on each floor of the building next to the lifts.

Recording of Business

Unless specifically authorised by resolution, no audio and / or visual or photographic recording in any format is allowed at any meeting of the Council, the executive (Cabinet), or any committee, sub-committee or other sub-group of the Council or the executive.

Banners, Placards and similar items

No member of the public shall be allowed to bring into or display at any Council meeting any banner, placard, poster or other similar item. The Chairman may require any such item to be removed.

Disturbance by Public

If a member of the public interrupts proceedings, the Chairman will warn the person concerned. If they continue to interrupt, the Chairman will order their removal from the meeting room. If there is a general disturbance in any part of the meeting room open to the public, the Chairman may call for that part to be cleared.

Smoking

Since 1 July 2008, the Council has operated a new Smoke Free Policy. Visitors are not allowed to smoke at any time within the Council offices, or in the car park or other grounds forming part of those offices.

Food and Drink

Vending machines and a water dispenser are available on the ground floor near the lifts at the front of the building. Visitors are not allowed to bring food or drink into the meeting room.

Mobile Phones

Visitors are asked to make sure that their phones and other mobile devices are set on silent / vibrate mode during meetings or are switched off altogether.

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SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held on
Thursday, 16 July 2009 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillor CR Nightingale – Chairman
Councillor AG Orgee – Vice-Chairman

Councillors: Mrs FAR Amrani, Mrs VM Barrett, JD Batchelor, Mrs PM Bear, AN Berent, D Bird, NCF Bolitho, BR Burling, JP Chatfield, NS Davies, Dr DR de Lacey, Mrs SJO Doggett, SM Edwards, Mrs SM Ellington, Mrs JM Guest, R Hall, Dr SA Harangozo, Mrs SA Hatton, Mrs EM Heazell, JA Hockney, MP Howell, PT Johnson, SGM Kindersley, Mrs JE Lockwood, RMA Manning, RB Martlew, MJ Mason, RM Matthews, DC McCraith, DH Morgan, Mrs LA Morgan, Mrs CAED Murfitt, Mrs DP Roberts, NJ Scarr, Mrs BZD Smith, Mrs HM Smith, Cllr Mrs JEO Squier, JH Stewart, RT Summerfield, PW Topping, RJ Turner, Dr SEK van de Ven, Mrs BE Waters, TJ Wotherspoon and NIC Wright

Officers:	Catriona Dunnett	Principal Solicitor
	Steve Hampson	Executive Director, Operational Services
	Greg Harlock	Chief Executive
	Alex Colyer	Executive Director, Corporate Services
	Richard May	Democratic Services Manager

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Dr DR Bard, RE Barrett, TD Bygott, NN Cathcart, Mrs PS Corney, Miss JA Dipple, MB Loynes, A Riley and JF Williams.

23. PRESENTATIONS

Investors in People

Jane Elliott-Poxon, a member of the Investors in People (IiP) assessment team, presented the Investors in People certificate and Bronze Award to the Chairman of the Council.

Centre for Public Scrutiny Award

The Chairman of the Council presented an award for the Best Use of Scrutiny Resources, obtained at the Good Scrutiny Awards 2009, to the current Chairman of the Scrutiny and Overview Committee, Councillor JD Batchelor, and to the then Chairmen of the Committee and Orchard Park Task and Finish Group, Councillors Mrs EM Heazell and AG Orgee. The award recognised the work carried out by the Orchard Park Task and Finish Group during 2008.

24. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Mrs BZD Smith and SGM Kindersley declared personal non-prejudicial interests in Agenda Item 7 (Petitions) as personal acquaintances of residents who had signed the petition relating to Sheltered Housing Warden Provision in Gamlingay. Given that the interests were not prejudicial, and in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct for Councillors, they remained in the meeting and took part in the discussions and voting.

Councillors Mrs FAR Amrani, PT Johnson, Mrs HM Smith and RT Summerfield declared personal non-prejudicial interests in Agenda Item 8(a) (Cambridge Sports Lakes Trust – Request for Capital Grant Aid) as members of the Friends of Milton Country Park

organisation. Given that the interests were not prejudicial, and in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct for Councillors, they remained in the meeting and took part in the discussions and voting.

25. MINUTES

Council **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meetings held on 21 May (Annual Meeting) and 18 June (Extraordinary Meeting) 2009 be approved as correct records and signed by the Chairman, subject to the addition of the word 'seconded', and reference to the closing remarks by Councillor SGM Kindersley, within Minute 22 (Motion of No Confidence in the Leader and Deputy Leader).

26. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman advised that Catriona Dunnett, Principal Solicitor was attending her last meeting, as she would be leaving the Council in September 2009. The Chairman and Group Leaders wished Ms Dunnett the very best in her future career and expressed thanks for her service to the Council.

27. REPORT OF THE RETURNING OFFICER

Council congratulated Councillor Julia Squier on her election to the Council at the by-election for the Balsham Ward held on 4 June 2009.

28. QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS AND THE PUBLIC

28 (a) From Councillor FWM Burkitt to the Housing and Finance and Staffing Portfolio Holders

Councillor FWM Burkitt asked the Housing, and Finance and Staffing, Portfolio Holders, the following question:

Would the Portfolio Holders please comment on the announcement by John Healey, the Minister of State (Housing), on 30 June 2009?

Councillor MP Howell, Housing Portfolio Holder, advised that the Minister had announced a consultation reviewing the current system under which the Council paid around 50% of rent received from tenants to the government by way of negative subsidy. The review process was at a very early stage, and the Local Government Association had estimated that any proposals would take between 3-5 years to implement. Councils' historic housing debt to government of around £17 billion would still need to be allocated; if apportioned equally between authorities (which was not guaranteed), the Council's share would be in the region of £85 million. The effect of such a debt of the Council's finances would be dependent on the length of any repayment period.

28 (b) From Councillor PW Topping to the Environmental Services Portfolio Holder

Councillor PW Topping asked the Environmental Services Portfolio Holder the following question:

Please will the Portfolio Holder provide an update on the assessment being carried out by environmental health officers regarding the Formula 1 test days at the Imperial War Museum, Duxford?

Councillor Mrs SM Ellington, Environmental Services Portfolio Holder, stated, by way of background, that the Imperial War Museum had entered into an agreement with the Renault Formula One Car racing group to carry out 5 days of test driving its team cars. She stated that three of the test days had taken place, with a fourth scheduled for 29 July 2009. The fifth day had yet to be confirmed; it was anticipated to take place during the next few months.

Specialist noise analysis officers from the Environmental Protection Team had monitored the last two events, and it was proposed to monitor the next two events also. Council was advised that 26 complaints had been received regarding noise from the car testing days - 7 complaints regarding the testing on 20 May, 11 from the event on 27 May and 8 from 23 June 2009.

Following monitoring of the last two events, officers would analyse their findings and prepare conclusions regarding the level of disturbance and the issue of noise nuisance. Officers were working closely with managers at the Imperial War Museum and were receiving full cooperation. A questionnaire, distributed anonymously to households in Duxford, Whittlesford and houses in the immediate vicinity of the airfield, had resulted in 22 responses to the Divisional Environmental Health Officer - 11 were in favour of the car testing and 11 against.

Councillor Topping thanked the Portfolio Holder for her reply before stating that many local residents awaited the conclusions of the Environmental Protection Team with great interest, whether they supported or opposed the testing days.

28 (c) From Councillor BR Burling to the Sustainability, Procurement and Efficiency Portfolio Holder

Councillor BR Burling asked the Sustainability, Procurement and Efficiency Portfolio Holder the following question:

Could the Portfolio Holder please advise of the present position regarding the Tendering for the Awarded Watercourses Maintenance and the possible purchase of new or extra equipment?

Councillor Mrs SM Ellington, Environmental Services Portfolio Holder, answered the question in the absence of the Sustainability, Procurement and Efficiency Portfolio Holder. Councillor Ellington advised that tenders had been sought for the Awarded Watercourses Maintenance Contract in May 2009; those received had been verified and a report prepared, since published and made available on the Council's website, for consideration at a Portfolio meeting on Thursday 23 July.

With respect to the purchase of new and extra equipment, the Portfolio Holder apologised for the late withdrawal of the report on this subject from the last Cabinet meeting and the inconvenience this had caused to Members, especially Councillor Mason, who had attended the meeting specifically for that item. She assured Councillor Mason that the report had been withdrawn following the receipt of new information which neither she nor officers had discovered until shortly before the meeting. A report recommending the approval of funding for replacement equipment had also been submitted to the meeting on Thursday 23 July for consideration.

28 (d) From Councillor JA Hockney to the Leader of the Council

Councillor JA Hockney asked the Leader of the Council the following question:

Please can the Leader say what he is doing or intends to do to improve the working relations between all Members taking into account the vote on Housing Futures and the debate on the Motion of no confidence?

Councillor RMA Manning, Leader of the Council, stated that political opposition could be constructive or destructive. He wished for the Council to move on from arguments regarding recent issues such as the Housing Futures project, to work more closely with opposition Members. He particularly hoped for active opposition involvement in policy development in terms of championing the needs of all residents and the potential to harness good ideas. This could be achieved through the development of the task and finish model of working, which had been successful in bringing forward recommendations in respect of Orchard Park and the Council's financial planning. The Leader also stressed that Portfolio Holders' meetings also provided opportunities for meaningful input by opposition spokespersons and all non-executive members.

Councillor Hockney thanked the Leader for his response, stating that he particularly welcomed comments relating to the good work undertaken by task and finish groups. By way of a Supplementary Question he requested that the Leader call a meeting with opposition group leaders to seek ways in which to develop more positive future working relationships.

The Leader of the Council replied that he would be happy to convene such a meeting or attend meetings of the Major and Minor Opposition Groups for this purpose, if required.

28 (e) From Councillor NS Davies to the New Communities Portfolio Holder

Councillor NS Davies asked the New Communities Portfolio Holder the following question:

Having noted a potential grant of £261,000 for the Cambridge Sports Lakes Trust towards the extension and improvements to the Milton Country Park Visitor Centre I would ask the Portfolio Holder if:

- a) The Council's established policy of considering capital grants of between 15-50% of total costs for village community projects has changed, and that all applicants must explore and exhaust all other areas of funding;
- b) The Council has changed its policy of making such grants out of revenue funds;
- c) He could assure Council that all grant applicants must be financially viable and have sustainable futures?

Councillor RMA Manning, Leader of the Council, advised that the Council's established policy had not changed – funding was between 15-35% of the overall cost of community schemes, and up to 50% in respect of play and youth sport facilities. The Leader stated that the request by the Community Sports Lakes Trust (CSLT) related to a one-off capital project which had not been considered under the community facility grants policy.

Council was advised that the award of grants from revenue funds was established practice adopted following Council Tax capping, but was not official policy.

In terms of the applicant's viability, CSLT had made a detailed presentation to Cabinet outlining its business plan, and had produced more detailed financial projections than the Council usually sought in respect of grant applications.

By way of a supplementary question, Councillor Davies asked, in the context of the CSLT application, how the Cabinet intended to support villages elsewhere in the district in their desire to provide excellent facilities for their communities.

The Leader of the Council stated that the grant request by CSLT would be a matter for Council to determine later at the meeting. In the event of Council supporting the request, funding would be allocated from reserves, therefore other grant budgets would not be directly affected.

28 (f) From Councillor SGM Kindersley to the Housing Portfolio Holder

Councillor SGM Kindersley asked the Housing Portfolio Holder the following question:

In relation to future Housing work programmes, would the Housing Portfolio Holder please outline the various ways in which non-executive Members will be involved in the planning and decision making processes?

Councillor MP Howell, Housing Portfolio Holder, stated that he looked forward to receiving the continued valuable input of Opposition Spokesperson and Scrutiny and Overview Committee Monitors into deliberations at his meetings. The Council's Housing Service faced some tough decisions in respect of cutbacks and service alterations, and a number of work streams had been established to develop and implement this programme. Each work stream was likely to carry out its work through the establishment of focus groups, into which the contributions of tenants and all Members would be welcomed.

Councillor Kindersley stated that he looked forward to working together with the Portfolio Holder on this issue. By way of a supplementary question, Councillor Kindersley asked whether the Portfolio Holder intended to establish a tenant participation management board with Elected Member representation. Councillor Howell replied that he did not.

28 (g) From Councillor AN Berent to the Finance and Staffing Portfolio Holder

Councillor AN Berent asked the Finance and Staffing Portfolio Holder the following question:

In view of the widespread budget constraints facing this Council, what steps are being taken by the Executive to maintain and improve workforce morale and confidence?

Councillor SM Edwards, Finance and Staffing Portfolio Holder, stated that the Council's employees were experiencing an extremely challenging period; however, it was still possible to make positive changes to improve staff morale and customer satisfaction, principally through the involvement of staff in service reviews to allow them to bring forward improvements to working practices. Councillor Edwards went on to outline a number of initiatives currently underway to maintain and enhance staff capacity and morale – these included the development of a management development programme, support groups taking forward key actions identified in the last Staff Survey, staff social events and a free employee assistance programme.

By way of a supplementary question, Councillor Berent asked what specific initiatives would be put in place in respect of staff within the Housing Service.

The Portfolio Holder advised that there were no specific initiatives relating to the Housing Service; however, the services outlined in his previous answer were open to all staff, and he would work with the Housing Portfolio Holder if advised of particular staffing issues within this service.

28 (h) From Councillor RT Summerfield to the Finance and Staffing Portfolio Holder

Councillor RT Summerfield asked the Finance and Staffing Portfolio Holder the following question:

I understand that the Council's income is very much reduced by the loss of credit interest, planning and building control fees in the first quarter of the year. Given that this situation is likely to worsen, how does the Cabinet plan to balance this year's Budget?

Councillor SM Edwards, Finance and Staffing Portfolio Holder, stated that projections presented at his last meeting indicated lower income for 2009-2010 in the services identified in the question, as a direct consequence of the economic downturn. Consideration would be given to the short-term redeployment of staff to areas of higher demand within the organisation; should the reduction in income prove a longer term phenomenon, consideration would be given to staffing cuts. The Portfolio Holder stated that the Planning Delivery Grant could be used to assist with mitigating against shortfalls in income, whilst the Building Control Service aimed to break-even over a three-year period, making it better able to absorb a temporary reduction in income.

Interest on the Council's balances had reduced due to lower interest rates and the use of tighter criteria to select lower-risk organisations in which to invest. The Portfolio Holder advised that he would be asking the Executive Director (Corporate Services), once in post, to update the Council's Treasury Management Strategy; however, his preference was to maintain a low-risk approach to investment.

In response to a supplementary question by Councillor Summerfield, the Portfolio Holder advised that an updated Medium Term Financial Strategy had yet to be produced.

28 (i) From Councillor Mrs PM Bear to the Planning Portfolio Holder

Councillor Mrs PM Bear asked the Planning Portfolio Holder the following question:

The Council promotes itself as a "Listening Council" and highlights engagement with Parish Councils as very important. When will Parish Councils be able to attend and address the Planning Committee Chairman's Delegation meetings?

Councillor NIC Wright, Planning Portfolio Holder, stated that the Council had listened to parish councils' concerns regarding the Chairman's Delegation process and that he had attended several parish council meetings at which these concerns had been expressed directly to him. As the delegation meetings involved issues within officers' delegated powers, the Portfolio Holder had received legal advice that it was not possible to permit public involvement.

Independently of representations from the parishes, the Standards Committee had instructed the Council to carry out a review of Chairman's Delegation meetings in response to a recent Code of Conduct hearing. The review was underway, and it was intended to submit a report and recommendations to the Planning Portfolio Holder's meeting on 1 September 2009 and Planning Committee on 7 October 2009.

28 (j) From Councillor JD Batchelor to the Planning Portfolio Holder

Councillor JD Batchelor asked the Planning Portfolio Holder the following question:

Recently South Cambridgeshire District Council voted not to support any bid to the Transport Innovation Fund (TIF). According to the Cambridgeshire Horizons Risk

Register, the development of Cambridge East is conditional on a successful TIF bid. To which Parishes does the Cabinet intend to allocate those thousands of homes currently allocated to Cambridge East?

Councillor NIC Wright, Planning Portfolio Holder, stated that the Cabinet had expressed opposition to the proposal to introduce congestion charging, not to the principle of the Transport Innovation Fund.

Councillor RMA Manning, Leader of the Council, answered the question in his capacity as a Council representative on the Cambridgeshire Horizons Board. The Leader reminded Council that the risk register, referred to in the question, was a private working document. He had attended the last meeting of the Joint Strategic Growth Implementation Committee at which it had been reported that Heads of Terms were being prepared in respect of Marshalls's relocation. It was anticipated that this would be resolved by September 2009, in order to inform the subsequent development of the Cambridge East site and review of the Regional Spatial Strategy. As such, the question of reallocating thousands of homes from Cambridge East should not arise.

Councillor JD Batchelor stated that the construction of 12,000 homes on the Cambridge East site would not be sustainable without major investment in infrastructure. By way of a supplementary question, Councillor Batchelor asked whether it was likely the Cambridge East programme would proceed should Transport Innovation Funding not be secured due to local objections to one element of the bid.

The Leader of the Council stated that the Cambridge East development had at no stage been conditional on approval of a congestion charging scheme; it had been brought forward as part of the development planning process well in advance of TIF funding being announced by the Government. The Cambridgeshire County Council continued to accept that the successful major development of Cambridge East was dependent on major investment in local transport infrastructure, regardless of the success or failure of TIF bids.

28 (k) From Councillor MJ Mason to the Sustainability, Procurement and Efficiency Portfolio Holder

Councillor MJ Mason asked the Sustainability, Procurement and Efficiency Portfolio Holder the following question:

Please could the Portfolio Holders advise who will be responsible for drafting and submitting a response to the Government Draft Flood and Water Management Bill now out for consultation until 23 July?

In introducing his question, Councillor Mason took the opportunity to thank the Environmental Services Portfolio Holder and to accept her apology, made earlier in the meeting, for the late withdrawal of the report relating to replacement watercourses equipment from the Cabinet Agenda, and to the Chief Executive and Leader of the Council for similar apologies made before the meeting.

Councillor SM Ellington, Environmental Services Portfolio Holder, answered the question in the absence of the Sustainability, Procurement and Efficiency Portfolio Holder. She advised that the Portfolio Holder would be asked to approve a consultation response on behalf of the Council at his next meeting on 23 July 2009, the reports for which had been published and were available by the usual means.

By way of a supplementary question, Councillor Mason asked the Portfolio Holder to

confirm whether the Council's Drainage Manager had attended the initial consultation meeting in respect of the Bill, held recently by the County Council. The Portfolio Holder undertook to do so.

29. PETITIONS

Council noted the receipt of a petition from the residents of Avenells Way and Grays Road, Gamlingay, in respect of their Warden Service. The Chairman drew Members' attention to additional information from the lead petitioner, which was referred to in the covering letter but had not originally been enclosed. The information had since been received, and had been circulated to Members at the meeting.

Following comments by the Local Ward Members and Leader of the Council, Council noted that the petition had been referred to the Cabinet meeting on 10 September 2009 for consideration.

30. TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS:

30 (a) Cambridge Sport Lakes Trust: Request for Capital Grant Aid (Cabinet, 2 July 2009)

During debate of this item Council resolved unanimously, in accordance with Standing Order 22.1, to suspend Standing Order 12.5 for the duration of the item to allow debate to exceed thirty minutes.

Councillor RMA Manning moved and Councillor MP Howell seconded the recommendation of the Cabinet that a revenue grant of £261,000 be awarded to Cambridge Sports Lake Trust (CSLT) towards the cost of an extension and improvements to the Visitor Centre at Milton Country Park.

In moving the recommendation, Councillor Manning set out the background to the application for grant aid by CSLT. During the discussions which had led to the transfer of the park to CSLT, it had been established that the visitor centre required improvement; however, the Council had not been able to make any financial commitment to support this work at this stage. The Cabinet considered that CSLT had provided a realistic and robust business plan and that its application should be supported to enable the Council to contribute to the provision of a successful and sustainable recreational facility for the occupants of major developments. Councillor Manning provided an update on discussions which had taken place since the Cabinet meeting which, he was pleased to report, had resulted in a proposal by the Cambridgeshire County Council, as part-owners of the park, to match-fund any contribution by the district council. Such match funding would have the effect of reducing the Council's contribution to £130,500.

In anticipation of match-funding being formally made available by the Cambridgeshire County Council, Councillor SM Edwards moved and Councillor Mrs SM Ellington moved an amendment in the following terms (additional words marked in ***bold italics***):

'That a revenue grant of ***up to*** £261,000 be awarded to Cambridge Sports Lake Trust (CSLT) towards the cost of an extension and improvements to the Visitor Centre at Milton Country Park.'

In accordance with Council Standing Order 14.6(b), the mover and seconder of the original Motion gave consent for the amendment to be incorporated within it, consequently the original Motion stood altered and the amendment withdrawn.

Councillor D de Lacey moved and Councillor MJ Mason seconded a procedural Motion under Council Standing Order 13(d) that the matter be referred to the Scrutiny and Overview Committee for further examination before being resubmitted to Council with full relevant documentation. Members speaking in support of this Motion considered that there were several significant questions which required satisfactory answers before Council could consider itself in a position to make an informed decision on the grant request, specifically those relating to the proposed match-funding arrangement and CSLT's future viability.

The Procedural Motion, on being put, was declared lost, with 15 Members voting in favour, 30 against and two abstentions.

During debate of the substantive Motion, some Members welcomed the prospect of match funding by the Cambridgeshire County Council and considered that it was appropriate for the Council to support an important community facility which was valued by residents and which contributed to the provision of an important green wedge to the north of Cambridge. Even in the event that the park reverted to the Council's ownership in future, the proposed investment in this capital scheme would mean that the Council had control of a high-quality facility which could generate significant future community benefit.

Other Members considered that making an award of up to £261k to CSLT would constitute an inappropriate use of the Council's limited resources, especially to an organisation which had already received a payment of £250k from the Council at the time of transfer, and whose long-term viability was questionable. The award of such a substantial sum of money to a single project sent a negative message to communities around the district who wished to apply to the Council for grant funding through established procedures.

The view was expressed that this award, if approved, should be the last made to CSLT. In response to these concerns, the Leader of the Council stated that Cabinet intended this award to be the last made to CSLT, and that no future applications for funding would be entertained.

Council was advised that the CSLT's accounting year ended 30 September 2008, and that the organisation would submit its accounts within the statutory deadline of 31 July 2009.

The proposal, on being put, was declared carried, the voting being recorded as follows:

FOR: (30)

JD Batchelor	Mrs PM Bear	AN Berent
D Bird	NCF Bolitho	JP Chatfield
SM Edwards	Mrs SM Ellington	Mrs JM Guest
R Hall	Dr SA Harangozo	Mrs EM Hezell
JA Hockney	MP Howell	PT Johnson
SGM Kindersley	Dr JE Lockwood	RMA Manning
DH Morgan	Mrs LA Morgan	CR Nightingale
AG Orgee	Mrs BZD Smith	Mrs HM Smith
RT Summerfield	PW Topping	RJ Turner
Mrs BE Waters	TJ Wotherspoon	NIC Wright

AGAINST: (12)

Mrs VM Barrett	BR Burling	NS Davies
D de Lacey	Mrs SJO Doggett	Mrs SA Hatton

RB Martlew
Mrs CAED Murfitt

MJ Mason
Mrs DP Roberts

RM Matthews
NJ Scarr

ABSTAIN: (4)

Mrs FAR Amrani
JH Stewart

DC McCraith

Mrs JE Squier

It was therefore **RESOLVED** that a revenue grant of up to £261,000 be awarded to Cambridge Sports Lake Trust (CSLT) towards the cost of an extension and improvements to the Visitor Centre at Milton Country Park.

30 (b) Food Safety Service Plan 2009-10 (Cabinet, 2 July 2009)

Councillor Mrs SM Ellington moved, Councillor MP Howell seconded and Council **RESOLVED**, with none voting against, that the Food Safety Service Plan 2009-10 be adopted.

30 (c) Review of Financial Regulations (Corporate Governance Committee, 29 June 2009)

Councillor PW Topping moved, Councillor NCF Bolitho seconded and Council **RESOLVED**, with none voting against, that the post of Finance Project Officer be added to paragraph 6 (Operation of Bank Accounts) of the Financial Regulations within Part 4 of the Council's Constitution.

31. CHANGE TO THE COUNCIL'S REPRESENTATION ON THE CAMBRIDGE FRINGES JOINT DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE

Council **AGREED** the appointment of Councillor DC McCraith to the Cambridge Fringes Joint Development Control Committee in place of Councillor AG Orgee.

32. CHANGE TO THE CONSERVATIVE GROUP'S REPRESENTATION ON THE SCRUTINY AND OVERVIEW COMMITTEE

Council **AGREED** the appointment of Councillor Ms JE Squier to the Scrutiny and Overview Committee in place of Councillor Ms JA Dipple.

Councillor JD Batchelor, Chairman of the Scrutiny and Overview Committee, thanked Councillor Dipple for her contribution to the work of the committee whilst in membership, before welcoming Councillor Squier as her replacement.

33. APPOINTMENT TO THE CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING GROUP

Council **AGREED** the appointment of Councillor TD Bygott to the Climate Change Working Group to fill the vacancy created by the resignation from the group of Councillor JA Hockney.

34. APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (CORPORATE SERVICES)

The Interim Executive Director (Corporate Services) left the meeting during consideration of this item.

Councillor AG Orgee moved, Councillor SM Edwards seconded and Council **RESOLVED**, with none voting against, that authority be delegated to the Appointment Panel of the Employment Committee:

- (1) To make an appointment to the position of Executive Director (Corporate Services) following interviews to be held on 20 July 2009, the detailed terms and conditions to be agreed by the Chief Executive.
- (2) To designate the successful candidate as Chief Finance Officer of the Council in accordance with the requirements of Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972.
- (3) To designate the successful candidate as the Council's Lead Officer in respect of Risk Management, Procurement and Electronic Service Delivery, the future designation to these roles to be delegated to the Chief Executive as an operational staffing matter.

35. PROCEDURE FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF THE PRINCIPAL SOLICITOR

Councillor AG Orgee moved, Councillor SM Edwards seconded and Council **RESOLVED**, with none voting against, that the appointment of the Principal Solicitor be reserved to the Employment Committee and that the relevant sections of Parts 3 (Table One: Responsibility for Council Functions) and 5 (Officer Employment Procedure Rules) be amended as required.

36. UPDATES FROM MEMBERS APPOINTED TO OUTSIDE BODIES

Councillor MJ Mason drew Members' attention to the following update, copies of which had been tabled at the meeting:

'Further to my report at the May meeting of Council, the Ely group of Internal Drainage Boards have continued in co-operation with the Association of Drainage Authorities (ADA) to produce a detailed response to the Government's Draft Floods and Water Bill. In ADA's draft response they make the point that the consultation period is very short and the price (at over £40) of the consultation printed document is excessive, which may discourage smaller boards from responding to this vitally important new bill. It should be remembered that Cambridgeshire has the largest number of IDB's of any County in England. (over 50). The Ely Group Engineer informed me that they had not been invited to the initial consultation meeting, set up by the County Council new Floods Group as the lead local authority under the new legislation. Having spoken to the officer concerned, the omission was rectified and County staff will visit the Drainage Office at Prickwillow in order to get acquainted with IDB operation and management. It is somewhat disturbing to think that IDBs had been left out in the first instance and emphasises the need for greater and closer co-operation between County, District, IDBs and Environment Agency in future.'

37. NOTICE OF MOTION

37 (a) Standing in the names of Councillors JA Hockney and PT Johnson

Councillor JA Hockney moved, Councillor PT Johnson seconded and it was **RESOLVED**, with one Member voting against, that this Council believes that a 10% tax on Mobility Scooters is fundamentally wrong. The tax will hit many vulnerable people in South Cambs. Council resolves to write to the Government Minister concerned stating its objection in the strongest possible terms.

38. CHAIRMAN'S ENGAGEMENTS

Council noted the list engagements attended by the Chairman since the last meeting, and was advised that the Chairman had also opened the Bar Hill Summer Fete on 4 July

2009.

Councillor RM Matthews expressed thanks to the Chairman and other Members who had attended the Sawston Village College Cinema Club event on Thursday 2 July 2009.

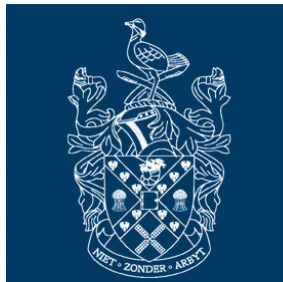
Councillor SM Edwards expressed thanks on behalf of the residents of Rampton for the Chairman's attendance to open new play equipment on Tuesday 14 July 2009.

The Chairman thanked Members who had attended to contribute to the success of the Cambourne 10th Anniversary Tea Party, held at the Council Offices before the meeting. He also took the opportunity to thank the parish council representatives who had accepted his invitation to visit the offices and observe the meeting.

The Meeting ended at 9.20 p.m.

Climate Change Working Group

Annual Report 2008/09



South
Cambridgeshire
District Council

September 2009

Introduction

This is the second annual report of the Council's Climate Change Working Group. In considering the format for this year, Members were anxious that the report do more than simply list the elements of the ground they have covered over the 12 months of 2008/09. The urgency and imperatives of the climate change agenda are now so serious that there is little time for gentle reflection. It was felt that it is now more important than ever to pick up and push forward and that the Annual Report to Council should reflect this position¹. The approach adopted over the following sections is a more narrative one: drawing upon the year's evidence collection and deliberation to emphasise how the focus of the Council's approach is changing to become more:

- **integrated** – for example, through stronger Local Strategic Partnership and other partner links;
- **comprehensive** – cross-cutting all service areas and aspects of life in South Cambridgeshire;
- **tailored** to local circumstances and the concerns of residents;
- **progressive** – pressing on from the limitations of passive awareness-raising to more active local engagement and delivery on the ground, and;
- **tangible**, as new indicators and targets make tackling climate change a more approachable and more readily grasped task.

The period 2008/09 can be viewed as the year in which the feet of local councils' across the country touched bottom in the depths of what was required of them in effectively tackling climate change. The water was deep, but not enough to drown in. Baselines were established and firmer footings secured. It was a crucial period that now stands as the point of departure for the next two to five years which, from the global to the local and back again, will be pivotal to an effective response to the climate change agenda.

¹ For reference, a summary listing of the items considered by the Working Group over their 6 formal and 2 informal meetings can be found in the Appendix at the end of this report – with full background papers and minutes available through the usual Democratic Services and on-line channels.

This report will inevitably include some itemisation of the authority's activities in this field under the direction of Council, Cabinet, portfolio holder and the advice and guidance of the Working Group. This will, however, be in the context of changing approaches as outlined above. Approaches designed to highlight, manage and deliver against what is probably the greatest challenge of the modern era, i.e. to simultaneously:

- dramatically reduce atmospheric concentrations of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases;
- rapidly manage the transition from fossil fuel based energy supply to one that is secure, affordable and sustainable, and;
- make sure that we are prepared for and adapting to the levels of climate change to which we are already committed.

The following section revisits the background to the climate change conundrum – Members already familiar with this may wish to skip forward to the next section.

Background: the problem with climate change

The climate change agenda is more than a future challenge it is a real and present danger – for us all today and generations to come. The consensus of scientists from over 130 countries is now overwhelming: human activities are causing global climate change². Human action has increased CO₂ concentrations by 35% since pre-industrial times (CO₂ being the main greenhouse gas) and global temperatures are now 0.74°C higher than 100 years ago. The weather may continue to look variable, and in the UK our weather patterns often make it hard to see a clear thread of 'change', but the scientific evidence remains robust – on the current trajectory the climate is changing towards a warmer world at a rate that the ecosystems and socio-economic arrangements upon which we all depend will not be able cope with. Beyond a 2°C increase in global temperatures above pre-industrial levels is considered especially 'dangerous' – a threshold beyond which changes to ecosystems may well 'tip' past a point where the control of CO₂ concentrations no longer remains in our control. To head this off, global emissions will, at minimum, need to peak by around 2016 and then decrease year on year by at least 3-4%. This should deliver a global reduction in emissions of over 50% by 2050 (which for developed nations such as ours equates to a reduction of at least 80%).

Despite these physical realities and scientifically supported predictions, the motivating of an effective global response is proving a mammoth challenge. The remedy is clear to see – reduce our greenhouse gas emissions down to level where they no longer threaten to change our climate to a far less tolerable state. Acting on this to the scale required is more than hard for a range of reasons: climate change is not that obviously detectable against the hubbub of

² Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, 2007, *Fourth Assessment Report*

everyday life; uncertainty remains over the extent of the impacts and when they will have greatest effect (there is even an indication that some 'natural' processes may suppress this warming affect for the next five to ten years but, if true, this only means that it will hit harder once the masking effect fades); responses tend to sit uncomfortably with the conventional model of economic growth and its vested interests; there is a big upfront cost attached to comprehensively moving away from fossil fuels and developing alternative sources; it is a global problem requiring individual action and responsibility; the benefits of change today will not be felt for many years to come and possibly not by those that made the changes; there seem to be other more immediate problems; and the list goes on. This has meant that tackling the 'inconvenient truth' of climate change or what Sir Nicholas Stern refers to as "the greatest market failure the world has ever seen"³ has been difficult to grasp and has become beset by procrastination and circular arguments along the lines of 'I will if you will'.

Things are changing however. The Climate Summit in Copenhagen this December will be looking to establish new agreements on global and international reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and the conservation of 'carbon sinks' (e.g. forests and woodland). World leaders are showing more commitment to tackling climate change. The past 12 months have seen big strides taken in UK policy with cross-party support. The landmark Climate Change Act (2008) has set present and future governments the target of reducing our carbon emissions by 80% by 2050. This activity has included a strengthening of responsibility and accountability downward to local councils – "the Government wants to encourage and empower local authorities to take additional action in tackling climate change...It believes that people should increasingly be able to look to their local authority not only to provide established services, but also to co-ordinate, tailor and drive the development of a low carbon economy in their area, in a way that suits their preferences".⁴

Where are we now?

There are two principle facets to the climate change agenda. The first is referred to as 'mitigation' and covers the means by which we can stabilise (and probably need to reduce) the current concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. The second is referred to as 'adaptation' and covers the steps we take to ensure that we are prepared for the negative impacts of the weather related events to which the current concentration of greenhouse gases has already committed us. Both are important although mitigation, in terms of cause and effect, is clearly of greater priority at this point in time: while the ability to keep temperature rises within a manageable range still appears to be within our capabilities.

³ The Stern Review, 2006, *The Economics of Climate Change*, HM Treasury & Cabinet Office

⁴ Her Majesty's Government, 2009, *The UK Low Carbon Transition Plan*

The working group has therefore devoted nearly all of its time this year to issues of mitigation. 2008/09 has seen new peaks reached in the production of Central Government policy and consultation on climate change related matters. The drivers for this work have been the commitment within the Climate Change Act (December 2008) to reduce the UK's greenhouse gas emissions (expressed as tonnes of CO₂) by 80% by 2050 and the recommendation from the Climate Change Committee, which has since set an interim target of at least a 32% reduction by 2020. A great deal of the consultation outputs around renewable energy, transport, heat and energy saving, a low carbon economy and zero-carbon development can be found usefully summarised within *The UK Low Carbon Transition Plan (national strategy for climate and energy)* that was published in July this year. Where time has allowed, the Working Group has responded to these national consultation exercises.

The key instruments for change, with direct implications or development potential for local authorities, that have emerged through policy and regulation are:

- production of 15% of all the UK's energy consumption from renewable sources by 2020 (this will include 30% of the UK's electricity supply);
- the introduction of feed-in tariffs to more readily facilitate the smaller scale selling of renewable electricity to energy suppliers (from April 2010);
- the introduction of a 'renewable heat incentive' to subsidise the cost of renewable heat generation (from 2011);
- maintaining subsidies on home energy efficiency measures;
- the use of Energy Performance Certificates for all buildings;
- using the Building Regulations to deliver zero-carbon homes from 2016 (and 2019 for all other buildings);
- continuing support for the European Emissions Trading Scheme and introduction of the Carbon Reduction Commitment as cap and trade mechanisms for the largest of the UK's organisational carbon emitters;
- strengthening of climate change objectives through the land-use planning system and the introduction of the eco-towns concept;
- support for the transition to a green economy.

There is little doubt that the policies (and associated targets) emerging from Central Government are setting new standards, direction and guidance. How these usefully and realistically translate to change on the ground across the villages, businesses and landscape of South Cambridgeshire is another matter. The increasing references to local authority responsibilities, community-based approaches and exemplar local schemes all indicate that expectations on local councils is high.

The integration of Central Government targets with the public administration of South Cambridgeshire has come through the new performance framework for local government. This includes three climate change specific national indicators, two of which have been adopted within the countywide Local Area Agreement (with targets to be achieved by April 2011) and the other is now drafted for inclusion as a key Council priority (separate local target). This puts all three very firmly in the spotlight. The Working Group has therefore taken a keen interest in their reporting and progress.

Table 1: Formally measuring climate change performance – the national indicators

Indicator	Measuring	Reported value and commentary
NI 185	Annual CO ₂ emissions from the Council's operations (excludes Council housing stock and commuting)	1862 tonnes CO ₂ for 2008/09 (baseline). Target value for 2009/10 being calculated
NI 186	Annual average per capita CO ₂ emissions from South Cambridgeshire residents	Baseline figure is 10.1 tonnes CO ₂ /annum/capita. This is the 2005 figure. There is currently an 18 month time lag in reporting from DEFRA. 2006 figure was 10.2 tonnes. LAA target is an 11% reduction on baseline by April 2011.
NI 188	Level of preparedness for weather-related impacts of climate change	This is a 'process' indicator. SCDC is currently at Level 0. LAA targets were Level 1 by April 2009, repeated for April 2010 and then finally Level 2 by April 2011. Target missed for 2009 but will be achieved for 2010, keeping Council on track for final 2011 target

All local authorities should presently be seeking to develop their positions, capacity and available resources to progressively improve their performance for each of these indicators. As Members have homed in on the importance and relevance of each of these indicators so the Working Group, portfolio holder(s) and Cabinet have sharpened their support, advice and direction. From this, a range of cross-cutting and strategic responses have been brought forward as rapidly as possible to strengthen the Council's ability to act within its sphere of influence. The priority has been to understand where and how we can most effectively make a difference – generating genuine additionality over what would have happened in a 'business-as-usual' scenario. To this end the following (re. Table 2) have been progressed with the long-term view in mind – i.e. making the most of the Council's enabling, facilitating and place-shaping functions to deliver significant carbon savings in the transition to low carbon living in a low carbon economy across South Cambridgeshire.

Table 2: Strategic and long term delivery measures to cut carbon emissions
(responding to NI 186)

Getting a grip – understanding and quantifying the challenge

Renewable energy: Commissioning an assessment and analysis of South Cambridgeshire’s renewable energy resources with a particular emphasis upon options for developing capacity at the community level (supporting parish level sustainable energy work – see below).

The final report concluded that “South Cambridgeshire has a pressing need and also the opportunity to develop renewable energy projects. As the District is largely rural, its energy consumption is higher than surrounding areas. Larger houses and greater transport distances than in an urban environment are the main explanation for this. However, the rural context provides a greater access to renewable energy resource compared with urban areas”.

Modelling carbon reduction options: Working up, with consultancy support, a detailed modelling tool that allows us (at the residential and community scale) to convert local carbon reduction targets into scenarios for local realities (supporting parish level sustainable energy work – see below).

Assessing industrial and commercial emissions: Commissioning research and analysis of the carbon emissions arising from the district’s industrial and commercial sector and bringing forward a mitigation options appraisal (supporting Climate Change Charter work – see below).

Delivering

South Cambs Sustainable Parish Energy Partnership: Applying for and securing £200k of LPSA Reward Grant funding, via the South Cambs Local Strategic Partnership, for a 3 year project to establish a Sustainable Parish Energy Partnership in the district.

This high profile project is designed to develop a partnership of parish councils and local environmental groups to initially develop the capacity for, and installation of, energy conservation and efficiency measures as a precursor to bringing forward and implementing 2 high impact community renewable energy schemes.

This is a major project and relatively unique in its approach towards working with parish councils. The first year take-up has been higher than anticipated with 10 parishes signing-up. To support the project, which at this start-up phase is especially labour intensive, the Council has recruited a part-time Parish Energy Project Officer (from Aug 2009). The project is making good progress after its first six months of operation. It is hoped that a further groups of parishes can be brought on board in years two and three – progressively increasing impact and coverage.

The Cambridge Climate Change Charter: Applying for and securing an additional £30k of LPSA Reward Grant funding to work in partnership with Cambridge City Council (who have also secured £30k of LPSA funding) in commissioning a two year programme of practical help to businesses and other organisations in tackling the climate change agenda – saving energy and reducing emissions. This is being delivered through promoting the shared objectives of, and encouraging signing up to, the Cambridge Climate Change Charter.

An additional important item of strategic work has been completed to support progress on climate change adaptation. This was commissioned in partnership with the county council and other districts and involved an assessment of high impact weather related events over the past ten years as an important pre-cursor to assessing and developing preparedness to the anticipated effects of climate change at the local level.

Each of the above items strengthens South Cambridgeshire's response to the climate change agenda from a combination of strategic understanding and a growing body of locally tailored delivery experience. As introduced above these items of work represent a shift to the long view - recognising that carbon mitigation and climate adaptation are developing fields and will remain the central responsibilities and accountabilities within the field of environmental sustainability for the foreseeable future. As this is increasingly accepted, so the impact of climate change will be felt in the broader arms of sustainability which also embrace economic and equity issues.

Alongside helping to develop and bring forward these more comprehensive and integrated approaches, the Working Group has continued to fulfil an advisory and supportive brief for the narrower but still important initiative-based work arising from specific service areas within the Council. These specifically include procurement, planning, travel for work and sign-posting around grant-funding for energy saving and renewable energy measures, internal office-based recycling and energy use, and climate-proofing service delivery and other project work. These items often do not get as far as Working Group agendas due to the need to carefully prioritise the meeting time available, however their status may often be raised by the Chair and Vice-Chair in the process of pre-meeting agenda sifting.

Progress in these areas has tended to move in fits and starts depending upon individual service priorities and resource availability. However, in recent months several of these have begun to step up a gear:

- the procurement strategy now has a section on carbon and life-cycle assessment – although training on this has yet to be rolled out;
- a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) is being drafted to include a specific section on sustainable design and construction;
- member training on sustainable design and construction is proceeding with the imminent release of the new interactive 'workbook';
- work on the viability assessment of site-wide renewable energy options for Northstowe has continued to make some progress despite a marked slowing of the planning application process;
- the recently inspected Area Action Plan for North-West Cambridge has set new standards for environmental sustainability in the growth areas;

- the internal SCDC Travel for Work Plan (Travel Link) is now progressing well into implementation;
- a small pot of funding made available through Home Energy Conservation in Environmental Health to grant support domestic solar hot water and photovoltaic panel installations is experiencing significant interest and take-up and is now almost fully allocated for 2009/10;
- individual referrals for CERT (Carbon Emissions Reduction Target) funded/subsidised home insulation continue at a steady but still relatively slow rate – the Sustainable Parish Energy Programme and work on fuel poverty (under NI 187) are both specifically looking to significantly improve local take-up;
- SCDC office accommodation work around energy saving and recycling is about to commence. This will look to incorporate the Travel Link delivery work to create one integrated internal sustainability stream of work and officer support group;
- climate change has been included within the guide on corporate cross-cutting issues for the 2010/11 round of service planning. It will also be included within a project quality check for LSP funded work.

Moving On...

The Council, the Local Strategic Partnership and the members of the Working Group have for some time accepted that to generate the required impact they must take more active steps to reduce carbon emissions across the district. 2008-09 has done this, setting a firm evidence base for action: whilst moving beyond initiating the process of awareness raising into committed engagement and on towards delivery.

Experience has proved that impersonal sign-posting and one-size-fits-all information dissemination is rarely enough to create the level of activity required in the transition to low carbon living in a low carbon economy. In seeking to encourage agency, greater agency is required from the enabling body (be this the district council or local strategic partnership or any other public sector partner). This has been well illustrated in the sustainable parish energy work to date – the broad objectives and outcomes maybe shared but each parish is different: different contexts, geographies, issues, willing individuals and ways of wanting to do things. This means the enabling work must be flexible, tailored and very accessible from all perspectives. A high level of hands-on enabling support is therefore a necessity, and not just at the officer level – where direct Ward Member encouragement has been included it has proved invaluable.

The importance of leading by example is also acknowledged and this requires additional agency within the enabling organisation to ensure that it can provide working examples of good practice. In order to generate an integrated impact across all the Council's services, all service areas will need to internalise carbon reduction and climate adaptation. It can no longer be a bolt-on or acknowledged on a 'fits where it touches' basis. The Council recognises this and will be reviewing and updating its practices where appropriate over the coming months.

The next eighteen months look to be very busy ones for the Climate Change Working Group as the Sustainable Parish Energy Partnership continues to develop and move forward into its stronger delivery phase, and the work the district's industrial, business, other public sector and voluntary organisations to reduce carbon emissions begins to deliver under the auspices of the Cambridge Climate Change Charter.

Internal work within the Council itself, in relation to service delivery, procurement, facilities management and travel for work will also be coming together to ensure that the authority is leading by example.

The growth agenda can also be expected to increase its demands as the drive to maximise carbon reduction, include site-wide renewable energy solutions and secure climate change resilience become increasing necessities.

Alongside commercial and domestic, transport is the third sector of major contribution to carbon emissions in the district and one that is in need of careful review.

All of these elements will be brought together within a new South Cambridgeshire Climate Change Action Plan (to replace the existing Climate Plan) that will guide activity over the next three to five years. The Working Group will play an essential reference and advisory role during the drafting of this plan which should be in place by March next year.

An afterword on delivery

In almost every issue that the Working Group has considered it has had to assess the District Council's role and potential as an agent in tackling the climate change agenda. This is important if the authority is to be effective and make the most of its position, resources and capacity. Experience has shown, and continues to show, that there is tremendous strength and untapped potential in making the most of existing delivery channels (such as the county-district-parish route, community group membership, longstanding partnerships and well established national agency and regional structures).

The temptation with much delivery-focused climate change work is to try to create new delivery channels and new networks for well-intentioned programmes when, in fact, there is already

something established in place. Unfortunately, with short-term funding (often two or three years at most) these projects expend a tremendous amount of resource in trying to open a new channel to get to their target audience. This can severely curtail the time and resources available to realise that all important delivery on the ground. Over the past twelve to eighteen months we have seen the casualties of this approach as planned programmes of change have simply become short-lived 'initiatives' with limited delivery and next to no legacy or exit strategy to the mainstream.

It has not always been immediately obvious, but for those items that the Working Group has considered, the ones that generate the most interest, appeal and excitement are working along existing channels of communication and activity (the South Cambs Sustainable Parish Energy Partnership being a particular case in point).

The reason for this is, perhaps, that responding to climate change can never have a single one-off solution (at least not with the technology likely to be around for the next 30 years) that can be delivered with a one-off programme (as was largely the case with the hole in the ozone layer). Fossil fuels are engrained into every aspect of our lives (the source of the energy itself tends to be secondary to its application) powering our homes, cars, businesses and lives in general. Tackling climate change will have to work on all these energy requirements and in all the different ways we use energy as individuals, groups and communities. All the access channels are there – we just need to identify the best ones and make the most of them until having your house properly insulated is as 'normal' as redecorating, or having solar hot water installed is as 'normal' as having a satellite dish, or swapping to a quality green energy tariff is as 'normal' as swapping over your mobile phone service provider.

There is therefore an argument that, to create new 'normals' we may find it far more productive to work down the 'normal' channels. Innovation can and will need to abound but should look to identify and make the most of tried and tested delivery channels for getting things done. This approach to engagement and delivery picks up on Professor Mike Hulme's train of thinking that, rather than asking 'how do we solve climate change?', flip the question around and ask 'how do the requirements for tackling climate change alter the way we arrive at our personal aspirations and our collective social goals?'.

Appendix A:

Climate Change Working Group: principle activities listing 2008/09

The listing below is a summary of the work carried out by the Working Group for 2008/09. It has been broken down under the 'drivers of change' headings of regulation, technology and behaviour.

Supporting regulatory measures

- i.) Working through the planning system to secure optimal carbon savings in the South Cambridgeshire growth areas.
- ii.) Considering and responding to Government policy consultation documents: i.) UK Renewable Energy Strategy, ii.) A Definition of Zero Carbon, and iii.) Home Energy Saving Strategy.
- iii.) Taking a reference and scrutiny role for the reporting and performance improvement of the three climate change national indicators NI185, NI186 and NI188.

Promoting and assessing sustainable energy technology solutions

- iv.) Developing and considering the best use of renewable energy resources in South Cambridgeshire.
- v.) Visiting and reporting on the Kingspan/Potton Lighthouse at the Building Research Establishment in Watford.
- vi.) Reporting on the retro-fitting of air-source heat pump technology to replace oil-fired heating in a council-owned property in Elsworth.

Enabling and facilitating behaviour change

- vii.) Making the case and securing funding to develop and establish the South Cambridgeshire Sustainable Parish Energy Partnership.
- viii.) Developing an approach to climate change accountability in project and policy work.
- ix.) Bringing forward and evaluating the commissioning brief for a survey and analysis of carbon emissions from the South Cambridgeshire business and commercial sector.
- x.) Reviewing and supporting a joint project with the City Council that will offer practical support for carbon reduction to local businesses and organisations.
- xi.) Establishing working links with organisations such as the Energy Saving Trust, the East of England Development Agency, Cambridgeshire Together, Renewables East and Cambridge Carbon Footprint for the benefit of Council operations and the residents of South Cambridgeshire.
- xii.) Acting as the reference group for the Energy Saving Trust's One-to-One support programme with the Council.

Appendix B

Climate Change Working Group Terms of Reference and Membership 2008/09

The Climate Change Working Group was established by Council on 28 September 2006 with terms of reference agreed on 25 January 2007.

It is a 'Task and Finish' body, consisting of nine District Council Members, appointed on a proportional basis, supported by relevant Council officers, and by independent experts co-opted as and when required, and detailed to present its report to Council within a set period (this Annual Report). The membership of the group includes a representative from the Local Strategic Partnership.

Terms of Reference:

- To identify activities and processes within South Cambridgeshire that could be considered as contributing to climate change, and to encourage residents to adopt practices that minimise or eliminate any adverse impact.
- To consider how the District Council can best achieve its corporate objectives and priorities so as to minimise or eliminate any adverse impact from climate change by considering, among other things, the design and construction of new housing and public buildings.
- To consider how Members and staff of South Cambridgeshire District Council can contribute as individuals to the reduction or elimination of any adverse impact from climate change.
- To evaluate the effectiveness of energy management within South Cambridgeshire Hall, the Waterbeach Depot, and sheltered housing schemes, and identify any way in which improvements could be made that would reduce the Authority's carbon footprint.
- To address environmentally-friendly transport issues in relation to the Council's vehicle fleet, including its staff car leasing scheme, and to encourage 'green' commuting by Members, staff and residents.
- To examine the benefits of climate change mitigation measures in the context of their financial implications.
- To advise on actions to be undertaken under the Nottingham Declaration on Climate Change.

2008/09 Membership

- Cllr Dr Stephen Harangozo (Chairman)
- Cllr Peter Topping (Vice-Chairman)
- Cllr Tom Bygott
- Cllr Simon Edwards
- Cllr Dr David Bard
- Cllr Anthony Berent
- Cllr Roger Hall
- Cllr Dr Douglas De Lacey
- Cllr Mrs Bridget Smith

Principal Officer support:

- Richard Hales – Strategic Sustainability Officer (Ext. 3135)
- Ian Senior – Democratic Services Officer (Ext. 3028)

SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT TO:	Council	24 September 2009
AUTHOR/S:	Corporate Manager (Planning and New Communities) / Planning Policy Manager	

**SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK:
ADOPTION OF NORTH WEST CAMBRIDGE AREA ACTION PLAN****Purpose**

1. The North West Cambridge Area Action Plan (AAP), a key document of the South Cambridgeshire Local Development Framework and prepared jointly with Cambridge City Council, is now at the end of the plan making process, the binding report of the independent Inspectors having been received. This report recommends the Area Action Plan now be adopted.
2. This is not a key decision but the Council's constitution and the Local Government Act 2000 require that Council must adopt statutory Development Plan Documents forming part of the Local Development Document. It was first published in the August 2009 Forward Plan.

Executive Summary

3. The North West Cambridge Area Action Plan (AAP) was subject to an independent public Examination between November 2008 and June 2009. The Inspectors' Report was received on the 24 August 2009. The AAP has been found to be 'sound' and the City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council should adopt it subject to a number of binding changes (as summarised below). The Inspectors' Report is included in Appendix 1 of this report. The AAP sets out policies and allocates land for development for predominantly Cambridge University-related uses. Any land not required for development by 2016 will be safeguarded for the period post-2016 to meet the longer-term development needs of the University. The AAP for Adoption amended in line with the Inspectors' binding changes, is included in Appendix 2 of this report. On its adoption, the AAP will replace policies contained within the Cambridge Local Plan 2006. There are no corresponding policies in the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan 2004.
4. It is necessary for both Councils to formally adopt the AAP. The District Council is considering the matter at this Council meeting. Subject to the meeting resolving to adopt the AAP, it will be for Cambridge City Council to also decide to adopt the AAP, on the recommendation of the Executive Councillor for Climate Change and Growth. The City Council will be recommended to adopt the AAP on the 22 October 2009. In order for both Councils to adopt the AAP on the same day, the recommendation before Council is to resolve that the AAP is adopted on 22 October 2009.

Background

5. The North West Cambridge site (land between Madingley Road and Huntingdon Road) was first formally proposed for Green Belt release to meet the development needs of the University of Cambridge through the Structure Plan process in 2001. It was included in the adopted Structure Plan in 2003 after being tested at an

Examination in Public before an independent Government Panel of Inspectors. The part of the site which lies within the City was allocated for development through the Cambridge Local Plan. This was adopted in 2006 following a Public Inquiry held by independent Government Inspectors.

6. As the North West Cambridge site involves land in both Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire District Council areas, the two authorities have worked together to produce a joint Area Action Plan to ensure a comprehensive, high quality development. Work on the Area Action Plan began in 2005, and the document was subject to a Public Examination between November 2008 and June 2009. Prior to this Examination, there had been four rounds of public consultation on various drafts of the document, with the AAP formally submitted to the Secretary of State for Examination in May 2008. A further round of public consultation on a site option identified by the Inspectors took place in March and April 2009.
7. The purpose of the Public Examination was to ascertain whether or not the AAP could be considered to be 'sound'. A number of issues were considered during the Examination, including the University's need for development, the viability of the development and mix of uses including enabling development, Green Belt, site footprint and strategic and local open space issues, transport, housing trajectory and phasing, the Traveller's Rest Pit SSSI, climate change and sustainable design, monitoring and other matters including provision for education and waste.

The Inspectors' Report

8. The draft Inspectors' Report was received on 30 July 2009 and confirmed that the AAP is 'sound' and could be adopted, subject to a number of changes. In accordance with normal practice, officers had until 13 August to carry out a fact check in order to ensure clarity of the Report; this fact check did not provide an opportunity for officers to respond to any of the Inspectors' conclusions. The final Inspectors' Report was received on 24 August and is included within Appendix 1 of this report.
9. The Inspectors' Report contains a number of changes that need to be made to the AAP in order to ensure that it is 'sound'; these changes are binding on the Councils and must be incorporated into the AAP prior to its adoption. The City Council's procedure requires the Executive Councillor to recommend that Council adopt the AAP, which it can do on its meeting on 22 October 2009. South Cambridgeshire District Council is being recommended to resolve to adopt the plan on this date at its Council meeting on 24 September 2009. An Adoption Statement will be published shortly afterwards by advertisement in the local press, on our websites and by written notification in accordance with regulations.
10. Officers have prepared the final AAP for adoption, which has been included in Appendix 2 of this report, while the Inset Proposals Map for adoption is included in Appendix 3. The amendments made to the AAP are in line with the changes required by the Inspectors to ensure that the AAP is 'sound' as summarised below.

Inspectors' Changes To Make The Plan Sound

The addition of an explanation of the establishment of need by the University.

11. The Inspectors have concluded that the University's need for the land to be released from the Green Belt for development is a very weighty consideration, and that, in order to justify land release, specific wording should be included in the Area Action Plan. The Inspectors have recognised that the need for affordable key worker

housing for the University is both immediate and urgent, while the need for academic and research uses is longer term but of great significance in view of the University's educational and economic importance to both the Cambridge and UK economy.

Clarification of the requirement to establish need for individual applications and phasing of development.

12. The Inspectors have recommended that the Area Action Plan be made clearer on the fact that the strategic need for development at North West Cambridge has been accepted and that need is only to be demonstrated for specific uses as applications come forward to ensure effective use of the land. The Inspectors have acknowledged that, at this stage, it is difficult to determine the phasing of housing development and where development would start. The Inspectors' enlarged site footprint has implications for this, with the possibility that the first phase might be around and include development of the local centre. This would have the advantage of providing necessary community facilities from the outset.

Enlargement of the site footprint to the west (closer to the M11) and reduction of the central area of open space.

13. The Inspectors have concluded that this area is of substantial value to the setting of the City and several other Green Belt functions, including separation with the village of Girton. However, the need to retain and if possible increase the educational, intellectual and economic roles of the University as shown by the evidence submitted to the examination are of greater weight than the Green Belt functions of the land. They have concluded that the overall effects of this type of development would be harmful to the setting of the City regardless of whether development was restricted to the plateau or was allowed to spill down the slope towards the M11. They conclude that that the development boundary suggested by the University would not result in a material increase in the harm to the setting of Cambridge, and would enable the development to make a greater contribution to meeting important needs.
14. The enlargement of the development area also involves a reduction in the size of the central open space. The Inspectors have noted that this central open space would still be about 300m wide, having considerable visual and environmental impact and allowing for large open space uses, such as sports pitches, to be located within it. The Inspectors also note that a substantial area of open space would be available between the footprint and the M11, and that other open space provision could be made throughout the developed area and potentially on the western fringes of the site, subject to investigations into air quality and noise.
15. With regards to the Traveller's Rest Pit SSSI, evidence presented to the Examination by Natural England, has pointed towards the need to revise the boundary of the SSSI in light of new geological evidence that shows geological interest to the west and south of the existing site. As such, the Inspectors have concluded that the Proposals Map should be changed to show the indicative boundary of the new areas of geological interest, including a 10m buffer to ensure that access to the SSSI is retained. A formal revision to the SSSI boundary will be a matter for Natural England to pursue under separate legislation.

Air Quality and Noise Effects

16. The Inspectors felt that these were matters that can be accommodated during detailed masterplanning of the site. They have included additional wording for the Area Action Plan to ensure that masterplanning and the detailed planning application

process takes account of the need to determine the appropriate disposition of uses, location and design of buildings and mitigation measures required to overcome these issues.

Housing Provision

17. Given the larger site footprint, the dwelling capacity at North West Cambridge has been increased from 2,000 – 2,500 to approximately 3,000, of which 50% are to be for University key workers. The provision of associated community facilities including a local centre and primary schools, accommodation for 2,000 students and employment and academic facilities has also been accepted. The Housing Trajectory, which has been based on information from the University's Masterplan Framework, provides a dwelling split between the districts, which equates to 1,550 dwellings within Cambridge and 1,450 in South Cambridgeshire (225 by 2016, and therefore counting towards the housing shortfall in the district identified by Inspectors for the Site Specific Policies DPD Examination).

Climate Change and Sustainable Design

18. Policy NW24 on Climate Change and Sustainable Design and Construction has been upheld. This policy requires the highest level of sustainability in residential development of any of the plans yet adopted through the application of the Code for Sustainable Homes, with the majority of the housing required to achieve the ambitious Code Level 5. The Inspectors have also supported the requirement for decentralised energy to be utilised to serve the whole of the development site, again noting the characteristics of the site that are likely to result in opportunities for decentralised energy. The form of the decentralised energy system to be used will be determined on the basis of minimising carbon and greenhouse gas emissions. The Inspectors have retained the viability clause within the policy, which takes account of cost and technical difficulties in meeting the required standards.

Travel

19. Policy NW14, which requires a road to be provided from Madingley Road to Huntingdon Road has been upheld. This link road will primarily serve the development and will be designed for low vehicle speeds and will give priority to provision for walking, cycling and public transport, including segregated bus priority routes (Policy NW16).
20. In terms of access from the Madingley Road to Huntingdon Road link onto Huntingdon Road, the Inspectors have added new wording to the AAP to make clear that this would be on the western side of the Strategic Gap to provide a staggered junction with the approved NIAB site access. The Inspectors have also concluded that the wording of the AAP should be amended to indicate the possibility of provision of a secondary access from Madingley Road, the precise location of which would be determined through masterplanning.
21. The Inspectors have concluded that given the evidence base, the modal share of no more than 40% of trips to work by car (excluding car passengers) should be achievable. The Inspectors have recognised the opportunities for non-car travel that this site presents, in terms of the location of educational and other facilities on the site and that the majority of the dwellings on site are intended for those studying or working at the University of Cambridge. The role of residential travel planning is also recognised.

Retail Provision

22. In terms of retail provision, the Inspectors have recommended that the glossary definition of a local centre be amended to include reference to a 'small supermarket'. This change is required to ensure that the local centre definition conforms with national planning policy in the form of Planning Policy Statement 6 (PPS6). PPS6 defines a supermarket as having a trading floorspace less than 2,500 sq m net. A small supermarket would therefore be some way below 2,500 sq m net floorspace, but no size is specified in the AAP.
23. Whilst not part of the Inspectors' Report consideration, for information, an assessment of existing foodstores in Cambridge shows that all of the foodstores in the City Centre and the District and Local Centres are well below 2,500 sq m net. For example, the Sainsbury's store in the centre of Cambridge has a net sales area of 1,326 sq m net, Budgens at Arbury Court is 789 sq m net, while Aldi on Histon Road is 697 sq m net. The Co-op and Tesco Express stores found in many of the local centres are much smaller, in the range of 139 to 514 sq m net sales area. Of the larger foodstores in Cambridge, the Tesco store on Cheddars Lane is 4,993 sq m net sales area while the Sainsbury on Coldhams Lane is 4,266 sq m net sales area (which would have increased to 6,531 sq m net if the recent application had not been refused).
24. Also for information, there is no consideration in the Inspectors' Report of the University's indication to the Councils that it is considering a larger supermarket of potentially 2,600 – 3,250 sq m net floorspace. However, in the light of potential developer proposals for a main supermarket in this part of Cambridge, the Councils have jointly commissioned consultants to carry out a retail study to supplement the Cambridge Sub Region Study published in October 2008, to focus on the North West quadrant of Cambridge as a whole, in order to identify whether there is capacity for additional convenience floorspace in this area given the greater amount of housing to be allocated on the edge of Cambridge in this location since the publication of the Study (ie. the Inspectors' larger site footprint and the allocations at NIAB Extra and Orchard Park to address a housing shortfall in South Cambridgeshire). If capacity is identified, the study will then test the relative merits and impacts of a foodstore or foodstores in each of the University, NIAB and Orchard Park sectors, including the impact it would have on the local centre in which it is located, and other local centres proposed. It will provide recommendations on the most appropriate nature, scale and location of further convenience provision in North West Cambridge.

Other Matters

25. Education – given the scale of development proposed, the Inspectors have requested that the AAP be amended to make reference to the need for two primary schools in order to effectively meet the educational requirements of the new community. Whilst the local education authority does not require a secondary school to be located in this development, the Inspectors make clear that a new school to meet the needs of new development in the north west quadrant of Cambridge as a whole, would not accord with Structure Plan policy given that this valuable land is to be released from the Green Belt only because of the University's needs, and for predominantly University-related uses.

Next Steps

26. Once adopted, the North West Cambridge AAP will become part of the statutory development plan for both the City and South Cambridgeshire and will entirely supersede the following policies and proposals of the Cambridge Local Plan 2006:
- Policy 9/7 – Land between Madingley Road and Huntingdon Road;
 - Proposal Site 9.07 – Madingley Road/Huntingdon Road; and
 - Proposal Site 9.11 – 19 Acre Field and land at Gravel Hill Farm

The Proposals Maps for the Cambridge Local Development Framework and South Cambridgeshire District Council Local Development Framework will be updated as required.

27. Once the Councils have adopted the AAP we must, as soon as reasonably practicable, accord with Regulations 35 and 36 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004 and the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2008, which in summary require:

Regulation 35

- The local planning authority must publish the Inspectors' recommendations and reasons;
- Make a copy of the Inspectors' Report available for inspection at the Councils' offices during normal office hours and at the places at which the pre-submission proposal documents were made available under Regulation 26(a) of the 2004 Regulations and place it on the Councils' websites;
- Inform those who requested to be notified of the publication of the Inspectors' Report.

Regulation 36

- Prepare an Adoption Statement;
- Prepare a Sustainability Statement, setting out how the sustainability appraisal process has been taken into account during the plan making process;
- Advertise that the DPD has been adopted, and the places where it can be inspected;
- Make the adopted DPD, Adoption Statement and Sustainability Statement available for inspection during normal office hours at the places at which the pre-submission proposal documents were made available under Regulation 26(a) and place them on the Councils' websites (the adopted AAP will also be available to purchase);
- Send a copy of the Adoption Statement to those who wished to be notified of adoption;
- Send a copy of the adopted DPD and Adoption Statement to the Secretary of State;
- Publish a copy of the final Sustainability Report and place it on the website.

28. The final Sustainability Report remains as published in May 2008 alongside the Submitted AAP. A supplementary assessment of the Inspectors' Larger Site Footprint was also carried out as part of the consultation carried out in March and April 2009. This appraisal made no changes to the final Sustainability Report. No changes to the Sustainability Report were identified by the Inspectors to be necessary in making their binding recommendations. A Sustainability Statement,

describing the sustainability appraisal process that supported the preparation of the AAP, will also accompany the adopted Plan (Appendix 4). A Habitats Regulations Screening Assessment has also been carried out for the AAP, and this remains as published in May 2008.

29. Following on from adoption of the AAP, the University and its consultancy team will prepare a Masterplan for the site, working in collaboration with officers from Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council, Cambridgeshire County Council and other relevant stakeholders. The Masterplan will be submitted with the outline planning application for the development, and will show the general disposition of development, roads, servicing, open space and landscaping.

Options

30. There are no acceptable alternative options to put before Members at this stage.

Implications

31. Financial	The work required to implement Council’s resolution can be carried out from within existing budgets.
Legal	Any legal challenge to the High Court during a six-week period after adoption could have financial implications if the Court sustains the challenge. Any such challenge can only be lodged on the grounds that: (a) The document is not within the appropriate power; or (b) a procedural requirement has not been complied with. It is considered that the plan-making process has met these requirements in full.
Staffing	None specific.
Risk Management	The effect of any slippage to the timetable could be significant to meeting the Structure Plan development strategy for the Cambridge area, in particular the urgent needs of Cambridge University.
Equal Opportunities	An Equalities Impact Assessment has been carried out for the AAP.

32. The development of North West Cambridge will provide for the long term development needs of Cambridge University, including affordable housing for University Key Workers, and homes built to Lifetime Home Mobility Standards as well as community facilities and local services that will benefit both the new and existing communities. As such, development can be expected to have positive equal opportunity implications.

33. There are no procurement implications.

34. The environmental implications of the proposal have been assessed throughout the process of preparing the AAP. Where appropriate and necessary, mitigation measures will be required to overcome any environmental impacts.

Consultations

35. There have been a number of consultations with the public and key stakeholders throughout the preparation of the plan and the plan was amended by the Council up to the Submission stage and subsequently the Inspectors following independent Examination, to take account of relevant issues raised.

Effect on Strategic Aims

36.	Commitment to being a listening council, providing first class services accessible to all.
	The Council considered representations made during the plan making process. Following independent Examination, the plan once adopted will provide a clear planning policy framework for determination of planning applications.
	Commitment to ensuring that South Cambridgeshire continues to be a safe and healthy place for all.
	The AAP includes policies to ensure that planning permission will not be granted for an unsustainable form of development which does not ensure a safe and healthy environment for residents. A Health Impact Statement is also required.
	Commitment to making South Cambridgeshire a place in which residents can feel proud to live.
	The AAP includes policies to ensure a high quality development is created both in terms of design, provision of services and facilities and sustainable design of the development, which will be at the forefront of sustainable development.
	Commitment to assisting provision for local jobs for all.
	The AAP includes policies for employment development in University related uses that could provide local employment.
	Commitment to providing a voice for rural life.
	This is an urban extension to Cambridge, but the relationship of the development to Girton village and community engagement in the planning process will be key considerations.

Recommendations

37. Council is invited to:
- (a) **RESOLVE TO ADOPT** the North West Cambridge Area Action Plan, as contained in Appendix 2, on 22 October 2009, subject to Cambridge City Council adopting the AAP on that day, and proceed in accordance with Regulations 35 and 36.
 - (b) **RESOLVE TO ADOPT** the revisions to the adopted Proposals Map, as contained in Appendix 3; and
 - (c) **NOTE** the Sustainability Appraisal Adoption Statement as contained in Appendix 4.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 - Final Inspectors' Report
- Appendix 2 – Area Action Plan for Adoption
- Appendix 3 – Inset Proposals Map for Adoption
- Appendix 4 – Sustainability Appraisal Adoption Statement

Background Papers: the following background papers were used in the preparation of this report:

- Equalities Impact Assessment of the North West Cambridge Area Action Plan, Stage 1 – Initial Screening, September 2006
- North West Cambridge Area Action Plan, Development Plan Document Habitats Directive Assessment, April 2007
- North West Cambridge Area Action Plan Sustainability Appraisal, April 2008
- North West Cambridge Area Action Plan, Submission Draft, May 2008
- Equalities Impact Assessment of the North West Cambridge Area Action Plan, Stage 2 – Partial EIA, February 2009
- Sustainability Appraisal Addendum of the Inspectors' Larger Site Option, February 2009
- Inspectors' Larger Site Option consultation, March 2009
Inspectors' Report on the Examination into the North West Cambridge Area Action Plan Development Plan Document, 24th August 2009

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REPORT FOR COUNCIL (24 September 2009) ON THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PARTNERSHIP (CYPP) FROM CLLR BRIDGET SMITH

(This report represents my personal impressions of the meeting as it relates to South Cambridgeshire DC and are not official minutes).

Agenda Item 3: Children's Trust.

This may be the last meeting of CYPP before it becomes a trust in line with Government expectations. It was reported that CYPP has been functioning like a trust and therefore the transition should be relatively easy. The only difference will be the significant role of Children's Trusts in commissioning and delivering services. The current working groups have been working very hard for some time to develop the model the trust will adopt. This was agreed in July but still needs a bit of fine tuning e.g. what scrutiny/ accountability measures will be put in place. The proposed structure of the trust is quite complex but will consist of a Children's Trust Board made up of councillors, non exec directors, governor and VCS reps. Under this will be the Children's Trust Executive consisting of officers, heads from education and VCS reps and leaders of a number of sub groups representing the key targets of the Every Child Matters agenda.

Agenda Item 4: Report from CYP Services Scrutiny Member Led Review of Mental Health Services for Children and Young People.

This extensive review focused on the existing services for 0-19 year olds and the priority recommendations from The Big Plan 2. Key to this is the now recognised importance of early intervention throughout the age range. The report makes a huge number of recommendations mainly aimed at the County Council and Health and Social Care providers; however, one is particularly relevant to South Cambridgeshire DC:- that new communities and new schools are designed to ensure that the environment promotes good emotional health and well being, for example through including adequate facilities for play.

Agenda Item 5: Ofsted Inspection

Cambridgeshire CC has just received 2 weeks' notice of an Ofsted report on safeguarding and looked after children. It underwent an unannounced inspection of social care in July, which highlighted improvements needing to be made in its integrated children's services.

Agenda Item 6: Children's and Young People's Plan.

This was a verbal report which highlighted the necessity of starting to implement the recommendation of The Big Plan 2. Quite a lot of this is relevant to district councils.

Agenda Item 7: Summary Reports

There are currently 4 serious case reports being prepared in our region relating to the deaths of children. In the past the purpose of these was to identify areas that needed to be improved. Nowadays they are far more about apportioning blame.

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