

Greater Cambridge Biodiversity Draft Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) Statement of Consultation - June 2021

1. Introduction

1.1 Under Regulation 12 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 a local planning authority is required to prepare and make available a Consultation Statement setting out:

- the persons the local planning authority consulted when preparing the supplementary planning document;
- a summary of the main issues raised by those persons; and
- how those issues have been addressed in the supplementary planning document.

1.2 This statement is a record of consultation undertaken during the production stage of the Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) prior to formal public consultation. The document will be updated prior to adoption of the Greater Cambridge Biodiversity SPD.

2. Background

2.1 The Greater Cambridge Biodiversity Draft SPD has been prepared to assist with the implementation of policies within the adopted Local Plans covering the Greater Cambridge area, namely the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan (September 2018) and the Cambridge Local Plan (October 2018). The document expands and provides guidance on the application of policies specifically relating to the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity. Once adopted, the SPD will supersede the South Cambridgeshire Biodiversity SPD 2009.

3. Preparation of the draft SPD

3.1 In preparing the draft SPD, informal consultation has been carried out with a range of officers from within the Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service including representatives from Development Management, Built and Natural Environment and Policy teams. Once drafted, sections of the SPD were reviewed by

relevant technical officers within the service, with suggested amendments incorporated into the draft document.

4. Public consultation on the Greater Cambridge Biodiversity draft SPD

4.1 To actively engage with the local community and key stakeholders, it is proposed the draft SPD will be subject to a 6-week public consultation during the period 19 July 2021 to 30 August 2021, in accordance with the [Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Statement of Community Involvement \(2019\)](#), (including the [Updated Addendum December 2020](#) prepared in response to restrictions related to the Coronavirus pandemic). During the consultation period the draft SPD and associated supporting documents will be available to view on the Greater Cambridge Shared Planning website. For those without access to the internet, it will be possible to arrange to view copies of the documents at Council offices, by telephoning the Planning Policy Team on (01954) 713183.

4.2 The associated supporting documents to be made available with the Draft SPD are:

- Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) & Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Screening Report
- Consultation Statement (Draft SPD stage)
- Equalities Impact Assessment

4.3 In accordance with the [Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Statement of Community Involvement \(2019\)](#), (including the [Updated Addendum December 2020](#)), a range of specific and general consultation bodies and other relevant stakeholders will be directly notified via email of the consultation arrangements for the draft SPD. In summary the organisations and bodies to be contacted will include, but are not limited to:

- Local Parish Councils
- Local Members
- Specific Consultation Bodies
- Cambridgeshire County Council
- Greater Cambridge Partnership
- Adjacent Local Authorities
- Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority
- Delivery partners, including infrastructure and transport providers
- Community organisations

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- General Consultation Bodies, including groups which represent the interests of different diversity groups based upon age, race, religion, disability.

4.4 A full list of the key organisations directly notified of the consultation arrangements is attached at Appendix A.

4.5 In addition to statutory consultees and organisations, over 400 individuals who have expressed a wish to be kept informed of Planning Policy consultations via the Greater Cambridge Planning Service Opus 2 Consultation database will be informed of the consultation via email. A copy of the email is attached at Appendix B.

4.6 To engage more widely with residents and businesses in the Greater Cambridge area, a public notice will be published in the Cambridge Independent newspaper and the consultation will be publicised on both Council's webpages and on social media platforms.

5. Consultation Methodology

5.1 Consultation on the Greater Cambridge Biodiversity Draft SPD will take place from: 9 am on Monday 19 July 2021 to 5pm on Monday 30 August 2021.

5.2 The draft SPD to be made available to view at the following locations:

- On the Greater Cambridge Shared Planning website at: [Greater Cambridge Shared Planning \(greatercambridgeplanning.org\)](https://greatercambridgeplanning.org).
- At South Cambridgeshire Hall, Cambourne Business Park, Cambourne, Cambridge, CB23 6EA (by appointment only, telephone the Planning Policy Team on (01954) 713183 in the first instance).
- At Cambridge City Council's Customer Service Centre at Mandela House, 4 Regent Street, Cambridge, CB2 1BY (by appointment only, telephone the Planning Policy Team on (01954) 713183 in the first instance).

5.3 Alternative formats of the consultation documents will be made available upon request (e.g., braille, translations into other languages and large print).

5.4 Representations can be made using:

- the online survey on the Greater Cambridge Shared Planning website at: [Greater Cambridge Shared Planning \(greatercambridgeplanning.org\)](https://greatercambridgeplanning.org);
- by completing a consultation response form. Completed forms should be emailed to: localplan@greatercambridgeplanning.org or posted to:

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Planning Policy Team, South Cambridgeshire Hall, Cambourne Business Park, Cambourne, Cambridge, CB23 6EA or Planning Policy Team, Cambridge City Council, PO Box 700, Cambridge, CB1 0JH.

5.5 Respondents can request to be notified of the adoption of the SPD.